



From Pastor John

I can't tell you how excited I am for where we are and what we're looking for in the future. This Summer we're going to be seeing many changes outside of the church in preparation for more changes that we'll be making on the inside. We're working on a garden, we've got a playset coming, and more plans still for our "backyard." And that is just the beginning.

While I think some of us knew what we needed on one level, the last year has brought some things into focus. Often, we think of the church as being mostly contained by the building, and then the people are the ones who go out from there into the community. However, with what we're doing now, we have the chance to take the building out into the community in a way that we couldn't before. In turn, that will give us as the people an even bigger opportunity to reach out.

We've started the work of understanding that opportunity by using the prayer below. It's a breakthrough prayer that asks God how we can be the spiritual heart of our community.

Come Holy Spirit, come show us how we can be the spiritual heart of this community, Amen

If you were to think about our community, what would you say is its spiritual heart? The quick answer, and the one that we'd be tempted to give, is to say the church. But, when you stop to think about it, that's not as true a statement as it would have been 50 years ago. Today there are many other options, but one of the things that we have discovered in the last year is the need for a spiritual heart that gives us comfort in times of trouble and helps make our joy greater in times of celebration.

The church is the natural place for that to happen, but are we ready for it to happen? Just recently Gallup released the results of its annual poll looking at religion in America. At just about every level religion has been on the decline in the US and has fallen to new levels. But this is a time when we need faith the most.

To do that, we have to take steps into places that we haven't for a while, and we have to begin to rethink how we live the life of a faith community. The prayer above is a first step in that journey. It declares our hope to be the spiritual heart of our community. The steps we are taking this Summer say we are working in that direction.

We are creating a backyard space that takes the church outside. It provides a place that is open and easier to access for folks from around our community. It also gives us a chance to do things in a new way. We've already got ideas for how we can open ourselves up. The goal is that instead of seeing a church building with a parking lot, that the church encompasses the building and parking lot, and that ministry happens in all of those places.

But that is just the first step. Before the pandemic set in we were already looking at the work we needed to do inside the church. Our plan at the time was to do a reset to the interior of the church so that it would be up-to-date and ready to use. What we have since discovered is that we need to rethink how we use the space in the church, and what that means for any of our plans.

We know that the Sanctuary needs a lot of work; that hasn't changed. What we do in the rest of the building needs to be rethought so that we are set to be able to be in ministry in a new time. Through this Summer we'll be gathering to think through what that means. Important in doing this work is that we remember the goal, to be the spiritual heart of our community, and that we are inviting others to be in a faith community with us.

I am looking forward to seeing where this journey takes us, and I am glad to be on it with you.

Peace,

Pastor John

Sharing Table

We will begin the Sharing Table in the sanctuary entryway the first Sunday in June through the last Sunday in September. You are invited to donate plants, fresh produce and baked goods any Sunday. The items donated will be sold for a donation which is given to eight Missouri based service agencies.

Card Shower

Recently Marilyn Mears moved out to Pioneer. We'd like to help her transition to there and let her know that we're thinking about her. If you want, you can send a card using address below. Let her know that we're thinking of her and all the folks out at Pioneer.

Marilyn Mears
c/o Pioneer
1500 S. Kansas Ave.
Marceline, MO 64658

Monthly Calendar

Mondays

7am-7:30am Scripture Reading on KDWD 99.1

Tuesdays

4pm Centering Prayer Live on our Facebook Page facebook.com/marcelineumc

5:00pm Prayer Group in the downstairs Sunday School classroom ***NEW TIME!***

Fridays

7am-7:30am Scripture Reading on KDWD 99.1

Sundays

Online Worship on our website marceline.com/worship (click on the link for Sunday's date)

9am Facebook Worship facebook.com/marcelineumc

10:10am Worship in the Sanctuary

Other Church Events

5/3: 3pm-5pm Food Pantry in the Fellowship Hall

5/6: Noon - National Day of Prayer Ripley Park

5/7: May Friendship Day

5/9: Mother's Day

5/9: 6pm Baccalaureate at 1st Baptist

5/12: 1:30pm Orpha Circle

5/16: Graduation Sunday

5/17: 3pm-5pm Food Pantry in the Fellowship Hall

5/23: Pentecost Sunday

5/31: Memorial Day

Office Hours

Beth: Thurs-Fri, 8am-1pm

Pastor John: Monday all day, others by appointment (or stop in)

Camp Jo-Ota

Family Camp at Jo-Ota For Adult(s) + any age(s) child or youth

Family Camp offers a chance to disconnect from the outside world and re-connect with family and friends while experiencing Christ's amazing love! Enjoy games, crafts, worship, campfires, and lots of great family time while reconnecting with each other and God.

Cost \$100 for each adult, plus \$75 for youth (age 12-18), \$50 for child (age 6-11). Child age 0-5 is free.

Friday, May 28 at 6 p.m. to Sunday, May 30 at 10 a.m.

Led by Rev. Meghan Reigerix (Bucklin/Mt. Zion UMC)

Register at www.campjo-ota.org. Registration deadline is May 13.



Orpha Circle **MARCELINE UMC**

Orpha Circle will meet on May 12th at the church at 1:30pm. Cheryl has the devotion, Georgia has the program and Cheryl is the hostess. We are collecting for Festival of Sharing Kits, please bring:

1pkg of dental floss or floss picks.

The congregation is invited to join us in this project. We collect one item a month for a kit. We usually send 20 kits to them in September. It would be wonderful if we could send more. Other items needed are:

- 4 child size toothbrushes
- 1 tube of fluoride toothpaste
- 2 adult soft toothbrushes.

Put your donations in the pie room marked for Orpha. Thank you.

May Birthdays

- 1 - Brooke Teeter
- 1 - Brenda Moore
- 3 - Patrick Blomquist
- 4 - Linda Bond
- 5 - Susan Mosier
- 5 - Gary Carlson
- 6 - Becky Lowrey
- 6 - Rebecca Pope
- 7 - John Huffman
- 8 - Katie Lauhoff
- 12 - Daniel Newman
- 14 - Carter Vandeloecht
- 15 - Thomas Wellman

- 16 - Max Lauhoff
- 17 - Katie Fotenos
- 17 - Joe Cupp
- 19 - Cassie Mora
- 23 - Bethany Marcum
- 26 - Kellie Tarpenting
- 27 - Amelia Robinson
- 29 - Scott Brycen Stallo

Anniversaries

- 7 - Steve & Julie Tarpenting
 - 12 - Dale & Susan Mosier
 - 26 - Chris & Krista Lofstrom
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Prayer List

Breakthrough Prayer: Come Holy Spirit, come show us how we can be the spiritual heart of this community

Goals: Grow in faith, Understand our role in the community, Listening for God's voice daily

Groups: Church: Denomination, Conference, Area UMC's, Area Churches

Schools: Students, Teachers, Administrators, Employees

Young Adults, Newcomers, Unchurched

Government: Leaders, Local, County, State, National

Situations: Covid-19 Pandemic, Racism, Economic Disparity

Individuals: Pammie Birch, Ron Chrisman, Gene Liebhart, Linda Sterbenz, Leona Schaefer, Pam Epperson, Gary Carlson, Janet Barter, Kyle Lake, Bryant Dunn, Linda Ewigman, Gene Taylor, Kara Robinson, John Christy, Colt Parris, Johnny Helton, Gary Taylor, Kenny Bailey, Angie Builder, Bob & Pat Magee, Pearl Miller, Zoe Tolliver, Amber Carmichael, Nathan Cook, Sarah Cavanah (married to Brad), Joan Sportsman, Shane Cavanah, Dan Brooks, Wayne Heins, Ruth Farris, Linda Korte, Mary Saylor, Lynn Fellmann, Mark Ewigman, C.A. Lain, Thomas Wellman

Pioneer: Mabel Worley, Marilyn Mears

Bristol Manor: Annie George

Lenoir Woods: Ed McLachlan

Military Service

Patric Munson, Nick Cain, LTC John Casey Welch, Tyler Nanneman, Jeffrey Tucker, Kelly Tucker, Brandon Wellman, Heath Floray, Steve Graves, Michael Pyrtle, William Leukenotte, Kerry Lowrey
