

SEPTEMBER
2023



Marshall United Methodist Church

The Circuit Writer

NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY MESSAGE from the PASTOR

*¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God
has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 3:13

Well, beloved, summer is over, and the children have officially started back to school. The days are starting to get shorter and soon the weather will get colder. Hopefully not too cold, but colder. I am ready for the leaves to change colors, sweatshirt weather, and campfires.

For this fall, I want to issue a challenge. Let's make this a year of PERSEVERENCE. We all have things that are fighting for our attention. There are more things to do than we have time for, and that stops us from reaching our goals. In the scripture (above), Paul's goal is perfection, but he has not reached it yet. He uses an analogy of a runner, running a race, and links it to the motivation of his spiritual goal.

To be successful at something, one must concentrate. Just like a runner doesn't allow any outside forces to disrupt their race, Paul is concentrating on Jesus and not allowing others to interfere with that. He is keeping his eyes forward on the prize. Just like a person who plows a field, if they look back to see what they have done, they will start to go crooked and not on a straight path toward their goal.

Beloved, what is your prize? What is your goal? Are you so focused on the past and other outside forces that you forget to look where you are going? Are there too many distractions keeping you from concentrating on what your goal is? I understand, because I feel the same way. I get too focused on the past that I forget about the present and future.

So, this year, we will persevere. We will look ahead to Jesus, keeping our eyes fixed on Him. If we can remember to do that each day, then, when we reflect on this year, we will be able to smile and say, "In God, I persevered." I cannot wait to be able to say that with you. I pray that you had a great summer and have an even better fall. Be on the lookout for all the wonderful things that we have planned i.e., movie nights, Bible studies, Homecoming, and more. These are ways for us to remain focused on God. Beloved, continue to remain in Him. Remember, God loves you and so do I.

Blessings - PJ

*"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can,
at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." John Wesley*

Pastor John Rowe . 703-357-5446 . johnrowe@vaumc.org . www.marshallumc.org . www.facebook.com/MarshallVAUMC



MUMPS - PRESCHOOL POST

Could there any be more excitement in the air, like a rainbow exudes newness, as we prepare for another fabulous school session after last year's accomplishments?!

The Open House on Thursday 8/31 kicked things off. People were brightened by the kaleidoscope of creativity in our rooms, halls, bulletin boards, and walls. We enjoyed meeting and giving previews to the incoming and returning students and families as our preschool continues to thrive and grow.

Our growth will accommodate a new classroom! This year MUMPS is offering a 2 year old program in addition to the 3 and 4 year old classes.

2 MUMPS 2 year old teacher will be **Francine Bushrod** with **Millie Carroll** as aide.

3 **Katie Rogers** will teach the 3 year olds, and **Jenn Emery** will return as her aide.

4 For the 4 year olds, we have returning teacher **Kezia Glascock** with **Deb York** to assist her.

In addition to serving as the preschool director, I will be teaching science, art, library, and music. Pastor John will lead Chapel on Tuesdays for the students.

Please extend warm welcomes, support, and encouragement to our new and returning teachers and assistants as they nurture our MUMPS students. The staff is all looking forward to an amazing school year!



- Everyone can continue to use the QR code here to replenish supplies throughout the year in support of our educational missions.
- Collaboration with the MUMPS board is invaluable too; our next meeting will be held at 6pm on Thursday 9/21.
- Thanks to Smokey for getting the 10 yards of playground mulch and to all who helped spread it.
- Thanks to all the summer helpers too; we couldn't have done it without you!
- We appreciate the continual help and prayers from all!



*Kezia Glascock
(with family)
Teacher of the 4s*



*Deb York
Aide for the 4s*



*Jenn Emery
(with sons)
Aide for the 3s*

The first day
of the
MUMPS
school year
is Tuesday
9/5!

Blessings, *Michelle Rowe*
Preschool Director



*Francine Bushrod
Teacher of the 2s*



*Millie Carroll
Aide for the 2s*



*Katie Rogers
(with family)
Teacher of the 3s*



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



- With FISH backpacks packed and prizes won during bingo fun, women bid farewell to summer and look forward to planning our traditional fall activities and some new ones too.
- Thanks to Debbie Machamer for hosting the recent game night at her home full of fellowship, food, and festivity.
- Our September meeting is postponed until the second Saturday 9/9 at 9am to accommodate for the Labor Day holiday weekend and allow us to help with the Pop-Up event at our church to be presented by The Potter's House on 9/2; come about 8am if you want to help set up and be involved.
- We will be active getting ready for Homecoming this month on Sunday 9/17 with Leah DeLong.
- Next month, we'll have our Fall Yard Sale on 10/14, so save the date and get ready to donate and participate.
- Plus everyone can eagerly anticipate our delicious annual chili batches for the first football Sunday! Quarts are to be available on Saturday after our meeting or Sunday after church.
- We deeply appreciate all the female leadership, fellowship, dedication, and participation as we execute all our missions of faith, hope, and love - in action!

*God is within her.
she will not fall.*

PSALM 46:5

Special September Upcoming EVENTS:

- Pop-Up Market here on 9/2 @ 9am presented by the Potter's House
- Bible Study resumes 9/13, every Wednesday at 7pm, starting with "The Book of Acts"
- HOMECOMING w/Leah DeLong 9/17
- Senior Trip on 9/20 leaves 10:30am
- Outdoor Movie Night on 9/22 @ 7pm

Senior-Community LUNCHEON:

Join us Thursday 9/7 at 12noon for good food, fellowship, fun, song, and prayer! Bring a friend, a dish, a smile, or all!!

MEMORIALS Update:

We have received \$1,400 toward our new security system in memory of Fred Strahley. Many thanks to everyone who donated.

God bless!

Doris Edmonds

Memorial Chairman

CELEBRATING MARSHALL

Celebration of 225 years of Marshall's history continues. Catch a couple of the events around town, culminating on Saturday the 30th!

Marshall Day will be a free, fun outdoor community family event on Saturday **9/30** from 12noon-4pm at the Community Center. There will be games, arts & crafts, demos, food, a bounce house & more courtesy of Parks & Rec.

More activities will be offered on Saturday **9/30**:

Historic self-guided walking tour from 10am-4pm starting with directions from the Fauquier Heritage & Preservation Foundation at 4132 Winchester Rd.

Historic Black Churches Tour from 10am-4pm. Reserve a spot at marshallvirginia.com.

Book Sales from 9am-4pm at the Gott Library & 12noon-4pm at the Marshall branch public library.

Fall Festival & Live Music from 12noon-4pm at 8374 West Main Street.

The Fireman's Carnival will feature games, rides, and food for purchase at these times:
9/28 from 5-9pm
9/29 from 5-10pm
9/30 from 2-10pm.

Visit marshallvirginia.com for even more events!

A Taste of Marshall

For bites from Field & Main, the Whole Ox, and Blue Pig BBQ on Thursday 9/28 from 6-8pm, make reservations at marshallvirginia.com. A \$10 donation is also suggested.

Last History Talk

One lecture remains! Beginning at 2pm on Sunday **9/10** in our sanctuary followed by a Q&A time with refreshments in Fellowship Hall, enjoy **Darryl Jenkins** & his documentary on Fauquier County Poorhouses. More info is available at the Fauquier Heritage & Preservation Foundation at 4132 Winchester Rd or <https://www.thegottlibrary.org/>

Calling All Young Artists!



Your Masterpiece should be 8x10 or smaller

On the back write your name, age, school and phone number

Drop off your piece by Friday, September 22nd to the Marshall Community Center, 4133 Rectortown Road

Artwork will be displayed in local business windows along Marshall's Main Street from Monday, September 25th through Saturday, September 30th

Artwork will be available for pick up at the Marshall Community Center Beginning Wednesday, October 4th

Questions call Michelle at 540-422-8892



HOMEcoming

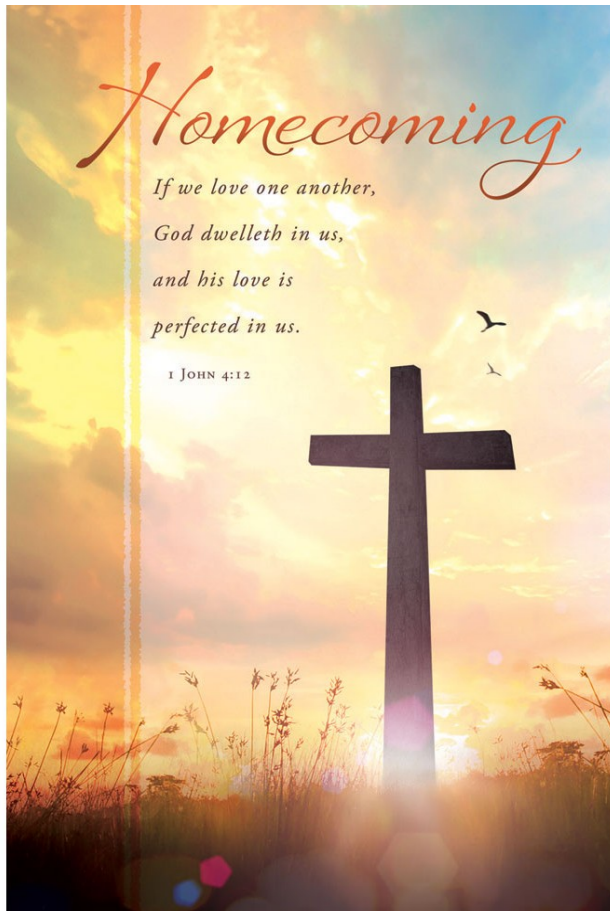
contributed by Cathy Harris

It's that time of year, again...cooler weather, leaves turning colors and falling to the ground, pumpkin spice everything, and our church's Homecoming!

We celebrate homecoming every year as a time of looking back at the blessings of past years and looking forward to what God has in store for us. It is a time for those who have been part of our church family to come home and celebrate their time as a part of our congregation.

Our homecoming date is September 17, 2023, and the service starts at 10:30am. Our speaker is Leah DeLong. Leah was our pastor from 2014-16. A potluck lunch will be served after the service with our women's group providing chicken.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for this special occasion! Invite family, friends, and neighbors. We would love to see everyone here!



SEPTEMBER birthdays & anniversaries

4-Helen Ballard
5-Carly Macdougall
14-Steve Thorpe
15-Bill Arbogast
18-Bob Lambert
22-Elizabeth Glascock
23-Kyle Kowalczyk
23-Gilbert Lane
24-Amy Glascock
24-Kevin & Kristin McCullough
25-Mike Taylor

As updates to our celebration rosters are underway, please email any **OCTOBER** birthdays or anniversaries you'd like posted next month to admin@marshallumc.org.



Covenant Discipleship at Marshall UMC initiated by Terri Hill

John Wesley, founder of the Methodist denomination, was a great believer in small groups. Through his sermons, we understand this concept was very important for him. Wesley taught that these groups should be small, supportive, trusting, and prayerful.

The purpose for a covenant discipleship group is to hold one another mutually accountable for their discipleship. Members are to encourage and lift each other up through all the ups and downs of daily life.

The groups should focus on 4 main areas of life: Acts of Compassion, Acts of Justice, Acts of Worship, and Acts of Devotion - in keeping with the General Rule of Discipleship (to witness to Jesus Christ in the world and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit).

After recently taking the online Servant Leadership class and hearing some comments from several people in our church family, I think this is something we need and could greatly benefit from.

There are only a few guidelines to get this going:

1. Find 3-7 people to be in the group.
2. Find a day and time convenient for everyone.
3. Create a covenant, based on the 4 Acts of Compassion, Justice, Worship, and Devotion.
4. Share where you saw God in the 4 Acts or where you did not see Him.
5. Pray for one another earnestly!

The UMC website (umcdiscipleship.org) states that Covenant Discipleship groups are where Christians "watch over one another in love" by giving each other a weekly compass heading. The mutual accountability and support that happens provides the regular compass headings that help us to make course corrections necessary to keep us on the way of Jesus that leads to our desired destination – or what Wesley called "Christian perfection." We work together to become the people God created us to be.

This Sunday when you come to church, look around at those sitting near you. These might be people you want to invite to be in your group. Or find those with similar work schedules to invite. Let me know if you want to be involved, and we will assemble groups for everyone who is interested. I think God has put this on my heart as the next step for our church this year; from weekly prayer meetings to monthly prayer partners to Covenant Discipleship groups. I hope we can continue to have all these interactions as we move forward together.

Check the UMCDISCIPLESHIP.ORG web site, talk to Pastor John or me, or just get a group together and talk it over. The main guideline is to keep the 60-90 minute meetings focused on the Acts of Compassion, Justice, Worship, and Devotion – share and encourage one another on what God is doing in your life, and encourage those in your group to do the same. I hope this will help us all grow our faith and our leadership abilities at Marshall UMC. I am always available to help work through getting started or in any other way I can assist. I can see only benefits from this experience if we stay focused on God and give Him the Glory.



MISSION & OUTREACH

GIving

Please remember that our church's missions and expenses require your support! You can *mail* in your donations to the church at MUMC PO Box 144, Marshall, VA 20116; or simply leave gifts in the *offering plate* at services. The "give" button on website is under repair.

We routinely donate 10% of general funds received to local non-profit charitable organizations as we "*share God's gifts.*" Thanks to everyone's generosity in the congregation, contributions have a high impact in our community. Check out the SGG bulletin board outside the sanctuary to see notes of appreciation recently received.

PRAYers

If have or you are aware of prayers to be shared outside of Sunday services, please direct them to:

Pastor John Rowe at johnrowe@vaumc.org or 703-357-5446; and/or prayers@marshallumc.org.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

MISSION

Don't forget about
Fauquier FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help)!

Please continue dropping donations in the bins outside the glass doors of the church to help prevent hunger in our own community.

Suggested items include:

dry pastas
cereals
canned fruits, vegetables, and soups
jars of meatless pasta sauce
peanut butter
or pet food.



SERVING in SEPTEMBER!

Worship Leaders:

September 3 - Betty West
September 10 - Candy Glascock
September 17 - Doris Edmonds
September 24 - Cathy Harris

Communion Stewards:

Robert & Candy Glascock

Counters:

September 3 -
Laurie Bersack & Cheryl Kowalczyk
September 10 -
Debbie Machamer & Betty West
September 17 -
Cathy Lambert & Joe Bersack
September 24 - Bob Lambert & Wendy Emery



As a new school year is beginning



Praise to all the teachers, school staff, volunteers, parents, guardians, mentors, tutors, and others who help educate our precious youth.

Prayers for students.

Lord give our children a thirst for knowledge, wisdom and understanding. May their hearts be ready to learn this year, at home, school, and church. Open their ears. May they crave knowledge and seek it out. (Lauren Gaines)

Prayers for School Staff.

Teachers and school staff are all so very critical to our children's growth, and the time and effort they put in to facilitate our youth in learning are much appreciated by so many. These prayers are for these everyday heroes asking God to give them strength, guidance, wisdom, and rest in the school year ahead.

Prayers of Encouragement.

We know that the school year can be a stressful and anxiety-ridden time for kids, parents, and school staff, but God's intervention can bring peace to every situation. Praying for peace, newness, purpose, and joy should serve as an encouragement to everyone in the coming year.

Adapted from:
<https://www.southernliving.com/culture/school/back-to-school-prayers>

Have a safe
and happy
Labor Day!



2023 Marshall Leadership

Church Council Chair: Bob Lambert

SPRC Chair: Terri Hill

Lay Leaders: DeAnna Taylor, Joe Bersack

Recording Secretary: Candy Glascock

Worship Chair: Cathy Harris

Finance Chair: Debbie Machamer

Finance Committee: Amy Glascock, Jeff Machamer, Joe Bersack,
DeAnna Taylor, Bob Lambert, Cheryl Kowalczyk, Terri Hill

Trustee Chair: Jeff Machamer

Trustee Committee: Rick Kowalczyk, Rich Umbel, Jeff Machamer, Phil Harris

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Michelle Rowe

District Steward: Wendy Emery

Young Adult Ministries:

Older Adult Ministries, Memorials: Doris Edmonds

Children's Ministry:

Education Lead: DeAnna Taylor, Terri Hill

Family Life Ministries: Kezia Glascock

Mission Leads: Cathy & Bob Lambert

Outreach Lead: Laurie Bersack

Communications Lead: Terri Hill

Nominations Chair: Pastor John Rowe

Nominations Committee: Smokey Jacobs, Mo Lawrence, Bonnie Murphy,
Joe Bersack, DeAnna Taylor



Serve.



Marshall United Methodist Church
8405 West Main Street
Marshall VA 20115
mailing:
PO Box 144
Marshall VA 20116
contacts: 540-364-2506
admin@marshallumc.org

OPEN
HEARTS.
OPEN
MINDS.
OPEN
DOORS.

Fellowship & Coffee Time
• 10:30 - 11:30am
Worship Service
location:
8405 West Main Street
Marshall VA 20115
mailing:
PO Box 144
Marshall VA 20116
contacts: 540-364-2506
admin@marshallumc.org

Marshall United Methodist Church
Sunday School (Adults & Kids)
• 10 - 10:30am
• 9 - 10am

Marshall United Methodist . Circuit Writer Newsletter . September 2023 Calendar

SUN 27	MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI Sep 1	SAT 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Sunday School (Adult&Kids)10am Fellowship/Coffee Time10:30am Worship Service		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6:30pm ESL Beginners7:30pm Choir Practice		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6pm MUMPS Open House		<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Pop-Up@MUMC by Potter
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Sunday School (Adult&Kids)10am Fellowship/Coffee Time10:30am Worship Service	LABOR DAY	MUMPS First Day of Preschool <ul style="list-style-type: none">6:30pm ESL Beginners7:30pm Choir Practice		<ul style="list-style-type: none">12pm Monthly Luncheon		<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Women's Mtg
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Sunday School (Adult&Kids)10am Fellowship/Coffee Time10:30am Worship Service2pm Marshall History Talk		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6:30pm ESL Beginners7:30pm Choir Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">7pm Weekly BIBILE STUDY			
HOMECOMING <ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Sunday School (Adult&Kids)10am Fellowship/Coffee Time10:30am Worship Service		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6:30pm ESL Beginners7:30pm Choir Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10:30am Senior Trip leaves7pm Weekly BIBILE STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">6pm MUMPS Board Mtg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">7pm Movie Night	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Sunday School (Adult&Kids)10am Fellowship/Coffee Time10:30am Worship Service		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6:30pm ESL Beginners7:30pm Choir Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">7pm Weekly BIBILE STUDY	Marshall 225th Celebration <ul style="list-style-type: none">7pm Finance & Council Mtgs	Marshall 225th Celebration	Marshall 225th Celebration