



# Strength in Unity

At one time in our history, Marvin and Grovetown churches were a two-point charge, which means they shared one preacher. They also shared providing the pastor's parsonage, Easter Sunrise service, and fellowship over the years.

This month the two faith communities join together again to feed the needy in Grovetown. This Thanksgiving Day tradition, organized by Marvin for years, provides dinner to older residents and families in Grovetown.

## **Making New Memories Together**

The two Methodist churches will once again unite this Thanksgiving in mission to their communities. This is how Methodist churches have worked together through the years rather than going it alone. That is the value in being a connectional church.

Connectional Groups, organized in the UMC for a year, encourage pastors and

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***All the believers were united and shared everything . . . They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone.***

*Acts 2:44, 46-47 CEB*

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congregations to work together. Pastors Elizabeth Ackerman (Marvin) and Sandy Heslop (Grovetown) share the enthusiasm for this connection as churches in mission to the world.

According to Rev. Heslop, Grovetown is anxious to get involved with more mission projects. "In the Methodist spirit, we work alongside Marvin and others who share our commitment to service."

## **You Can Help, Too**

Donate turkeys, vegetables, other fixins', or money beginning the first of November. Some may choose to bring cooked turkeys while others come out to cook, serve, and wash dishes at the church on Thursday morning beginning at 6 a.m.

Mary Eash, Marvin's Mission Coordinator, has led this Food Preparation Team for 10 years. Volunteers from other churches and groups in the community stop by to help. "All are welcome," says Mary.

By 11 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day the Grovetown public safety departments will pick up the boxed dinners and deliver them to the city's residents. Last Thanksgiving the Marvin Team expanded to include its homebound members and their caregivers.

Let us know if there is a member of either church who may need a Thanksgiving meal, by calling 706-863-0510.

## *Pastor's Ponderings*



We are called to rethink church ... to look outside our walls and see how we can connect with the community. Rethinking Church takes a willingness to talk about loving everyone everywhere, trusting that God is big enough to handle our most challenging questions, and inviting all to know Christ.

Marvin is already a church of ALLs— all cultures, all ages, all abilities and disabilities, and all economic levels. We have done what few churches have dared to do— we have opened our hearts and doors to all. We imagine Marvin Church looking like the world we live in.

Now, how will we embrace that understanding and connect with others to share our vision of Church? We are united through our belief in Jesus Christ. We are of one heart, one mind, and one spirit through Jesus Christ. We are followers of The Way of Christ.

For the next few months we will invite you to sit around the table with each other with no fear of expressing our differing opinions and understandings as we rethink church.

Outside our doors is a world thirsty for living water and hungry for the Word. We have stories that bear witness to God's active presence in our lives and the world.

Take one of the classes being taught on Spiritual Gifts so that you can identify your gifts, understand your passion, and recommit to the ministry God equipped you to support.

Let's pray!

Let's study!

Let's talk!

Let's all have a laser focus on God's agenda!

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"Is your heart right, as my heart is with your heart? ... If it is give me your hand."

2 Kings 10:15

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## PEOPLE OF HOPE

# Marie Glenn: Stitching Life Together

*By Alex Eash*

If you have been to a church function or two, you've probably tasted Marie Glenn's soup, sandwiches, or baked goods. She has been attending Marvin since arriving in Augusta in 1967, and has been deeply involved in our United Methodist community ever since.

### Acts of Mercy

It was a group of Marvin women, including Marie, who founded Columbia County Cares in the church pantry. After the county took over this food pantry, Marie served on its board for many years.

### Administrative Tasks

She has also served as church secretary and cooked Wednesday Night Supper for several years.



Marie Glenn continues to sew school bags and baby shirts for UMCOR, which serves those in need around the world

### Church Historian

Marie can recall the history of Marvin since the 1960s and identify people in black-and-white photos. She has even saved every Homecoming program for many years. She remembers so much because she visited with the homebound and helped the church doors to swing open wide to welcome our guests.

### Service to the World

Today, Marie is still deeply involved in church activities. Beyond cooking for events and gatherings, she has also made prayer quilts for church members and continues to represent Marvin by making school bags and diaper shirts for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) which is based at Sager Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana.

### Mother of the Church

Marie has two daughters and one grandson, and will also proudly boast that she has a much larger family in the Marvin community, complete with children, grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren.

### Nonagenarian

Marie celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, making her one of our celebrated, but it hasn't slowed her down one bit. If she is not at her sewing machine using her gifts to serve others in and out of our immediate community, she can often be found solving crosswords or jigsaw puzzles.

Marie keeps stitching life together for us!

*"As she [Lydia] listened with intensity to what was being said, the Master gave her a trusting heart—and she believed!"*

*Acts 16:14 MSG*



# Boomers & Beyond

## What Will Be Our Legacy?

Boomers are the generation born after World War II, 1946-1964. Boomers grew up in a time of upheaval and change in the 1960s and '70s—Vietnam, sexual revolution, space race, civil rights movement, Cold War, Watergate, and Earth Day.

Boomers consume more goods and services because they received peak incomes, remained active and physically fit, and outnumber other generations. Their lifestyle has earned them the reputation of being excessive.

Research about church participation reveals that Boomers are *missing in action*. Why? They are different from older generations of mature adults born before 1946. Boomers retire to an active life which may be more self-focused. But do not give up on them; they grew up in the middle of change and still want to help change the world.

By 2015, those 65 and older will represent 45% of the population. This is Marvin's generation that makes up our Boomers & Beyond Ministry.

Which Boomers can you invite to church? Just do it!

## Keeping Active

### Line Dancing

Mon, 2-3 p.m., Family Life Center.  
*Open to the community*

### Low-Impact Exercise

Wed and Fri, 2-3 p.m., Family Life Center. *Open to the community*

## It's a Wonderful Life

Come with us to see the "It's a Wonderful Life" matinee at the Abbeville, SC, Opera House on Sunday, Dec. 7, immediately following church. Carpool for the 90-minute ride. Bring your own lunch. We'll be stopping for dinner on the way back to Martinez. *\$18 per person, reservations required.*

## Thursday Potluck Lunch

with Laura Adams who makes the Nativity come to life, Dec. 18.

Lunch at 11 a.m., dramatization at noon. Bring a dish for potluck. *All are welcome.*

## More for You in 2015 ...

- \* Getting your personal records in order
- \* Caring for loved ones
- \* Identifying your Spiritual Gifts
- \* Bible studies and small groups

***Look for the calendar each month!***

*Source: William B. Randolph, Director, Office of Aging, GBOD, 2014 presentation*





# Generations X & Y

## Can We Exist in the Same Space?

Make room for the next generation at Marvin. The 20-and-30-somethings in the church are carving out their niche in this community that makes room for all ages.

The advantage we have at Marvin is our intergenerational connection. Generation X (1965-1980), Generation Y (1981-2000), and Millennials (after 2000) join the Boomers & Beyond with church-wide mission projects.

In addition, the younger adults have begun planning social events, volunteer and community service projects, and studies of their own. Child care and evening hours that work around work and school schedules characterize the needs of these generations.

Jennifer Byrd and Jayme Thompson are the co-chairs of the Younger Adults at Marvin. Together they bring a combination of experiences from long-time member (Jayme) and the perspective of a newer member (Jenn).

Marvin is a “serving” church that takes its missions seriously. We want to establish a Volunteer Force that includes all willing to help those in need. Together we can make a difference in our local community and around the world.

**...YES! With the help of God!**

## Sunday Lunch

Plan to have lunch and get acquainted with each other on Sunday, Nov. 23, Hemphill Hall, immediately following the 11 a.m. service. Child care with a pizza lunch for kids in the Marye Garrett Room.

## Sunday School Class Kickoff

On Nov. 30, we will ignite our study and faith conversations. While children are in Sunday School with Miss Margie, our age group will imaginatively explore central topics of Christianity. Jenn Byrd will facilitate the group.

## Face-to-Face

Our first social event will be Bowling Night on Saturday, Dec. 6 at Brunswick National Lanes on Washington Road.

## Are You a 20- or 30-Something?

Be certain we have your name and contact information. Please email your name and phone number to [mumc1891@knology.net](mailto:mumc1891@knology.net). Help us identify younger adults who have gotten lost in the past few years.

What are you looking for in a church?

How can we connect with you and be companions on our journey?



MARVINUNITEDMETHODIST  
Follow us on Instagram!

# Marvinites: Faithful Servants



Wanda Lewis, Tyler Ashley,  
Jayme Thompson, and  
Jennifer Byrd

More 2015 church leaders have been preparing through training and commitment to study faithfully, pray without ceasing, and give generously.

**Wanda Lewis** takes over leadership of the United Methodist Women in January. Wanda has served as chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, sung in the choir, helped with the Clothes Closet, and now chairs the Evangelism and Volunteer Team. She helped start the Women's Bible Study and attends the Seekers' Sunday School Class.

**Tyler Ashley** will serve on the Church Council as the youth representative. Tyler is actively engaged with youth group and on Sundays operates the projector for 11:00 worship. Tyler will give voice to the concerns of Marvin youth beginning January 2015.

**Jayme Thompson** co-chairs the Young Adult Ministry. Jayme has grown up in the church and has been an active part of the youth program. After graduating from high school she took on the shared leadership of young adults. Jayme has a servant spirit volunteering at Vacation Bible School, River of Life, and other mission and outreach activities.

**Jennifer Byrd** chairs the Stewardship Journey Team and now joins Jayme as co-chair of Young Adult Ministry. Jennifer wears many hats from Sunday School teacher to Acolyte Coordinator. She will take these off to concentrate on bringing life to our young adult ministry and its missions and outreach.

## Cudos & Accolades

Last month, **Julie Merritt** read pumpkin stories to 357 preschoolers and kindergartners from public and private schools. Some ate lunch at the Patch while others just enjoyed the experience of discovery—swan-shaped, elf house, or white pumpkins, gourds, and squash.

Three generations of Leathers maintain the Marvin Cemetery: grandfather **Ed**, son **Steven**, and grandsons **Tanner** and **Parker**. They are joined by **Gary Pringles**. The families of those buried in the cemetery appreciate their service.

## More Great People

The Women's annual Golf Tournament in September was a success with 67 golfers at Gordon Lakes. Tournament Chair **Sandy Leathers**, UMW President **Margaret Olmstead**, and members **Amanda Story** and **Sue McMillan** organized the event. This year **Phil Hendrickson** joined the women in sponsoring and promoting the tournament. The Mickey Fund, which helps sponsor youth volunteers and chaperones at River of Life, will receive a portion of the proceeds.

Many thanks to this year's volunteers at the Pumpkin Patch and Pumpkin Patch Festival. **Richard Albert**, UMM president, and all their members made this a record breaking year. This church-wide effort to raise funds for missions attracts repeat customers who enjoy the pumpkin harvest and fellowship with our spirit-filled volunteers.

Remember our nursing home and homebound: **Dot Adkins**, **Ray Usry**, **Jackie Schank**, and **Libbie Nichols**.

# Youth

November kicks off with “Being Hope.” This 4 week mission and discussion-based study engages students in service to the community. Wednesday’s Campfire, 6-7:30 p.m.

- Nov 2** Packing bags of supplies for War Veterans. 6 p.m.
- Nov 9** Trip to deliver bags and love of Christ on Veterans’ Day weekend. 1-6 p.m.
- Nov 12** Launching “Imagine No More Malaria” fundraiser to end malaria in Africa.
- Nov 16** Movie Night with Deacon-led Dialogue: “Noah” 4-8 p.m.

**Christmas Choir Begins** Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. Add your voice to “Hope Was Born This Night,” to be presented Dec. 21, 11 a.m.

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## Sermon Series

Our earliest remembrance of Psalm 23 is the psalmist declaring, “The Lord is my shepherd.” Throughout the Bible that imagery of the shepherd helps us understand our relationship with God. The shepherd provides food and water, rescues the lost, defends against attackers, and brings peace to the whole flock.

That imagery is continued in the New Testament with the words of Jesus Christ in John 10:11—“I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.”

Our November sermon series looks closely at God’s call for Joshua to have strength and courage; David’s desire for a clean heart; and eternal life in Jesus.

What does it take to be faithful followers of God in Jesus Christ? Do we have the strength and courage to face opposition and tough situations? Will you stand up for justice? When God looks into your heart, can it stand the scrutiny? Is your heart truly clean?

When judgment day comes and the sheep are separated from the goats (right from wrong), where will you stand?

# Kids Only

*Growing Thanks-Living Heartitudes*

## 9:45 Sundays with Miss Margie

Jehosephat, 10 Lepers, King David’s Temple offering, and Israel’s thanksgiving feast show us how our Thanks-Living heartitudes make God happy.

## 10:45 Nursery with Miss Danielle

Infants and toddlers to age 4 grow in the love and nurture of the Lord.

## 11:20 Children’s Church

Children up to grade 3 are released to hear Psalm 100 Heartitude message in their own language this month.

## 6:00 Wednesday Campfire Kids

Children K to grade 5 gather ‘round for songs, stories, games, and major Heartitude mission work.

**Nov 5** Packing 160 War Veteran gift bags to be delivered Veterans’ Day weekend

**Nov 12** Swatting out Malaria effort begins

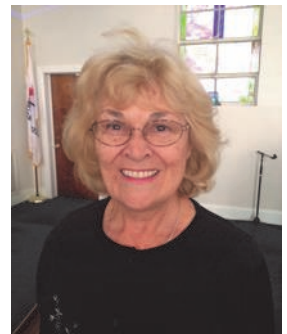
**Nov 19** Creating our Thanks-Living wreaths

**Safe Sanctuary Training**, Nov 2, 4-5 p.m.

For parents and volunteers 18 years and over who work with Marvin children and youth, including during the summer.

## Meet Miss Margie

Marjorie Leak teaches kindergartners to 5th graders how to know, love, and serve God. We are so thankful for her care and wisdom in guiding our children’s Sunday School class!



# November @ Marvin

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>2</b> All Saints Day 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship	<b>3</b> 9:30 UMW mtg 2 Sr. line dancing 4 Girl Scouts 6 UMM mtg	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 2 Sr. Exercise 4 Prophecy Study 5:15 Dinner 6 Prayer 7 Choir Practice	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 2 Sr. Exercise	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship	<b>10</b> 2 Sr. line dancing	<b>11</b> 10 Women of Christmas Study 7 Finance mtg	<b>12</b> 2 Sr. Exercise 4 Prophecy Study 5:15 Dinner 6 Prayer 7 Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 7 Trustee mtg 7 SPRC mtg	<b>14</b> 2 Sr. Exercise	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship	<b>17</b> 2 Sr. line dancing 4 Girl Scouts	<b>18</b> 10 Women of Christmas Study	<b>19</b> 2 Sr. Exercise 4 Prophecy Study 5:15 Dinner 6 Prayer 7 Choir Practice	<b>20</b> 12 Sr. potluck lunch	<b>21</b> 2 Sr. Exercise	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship	<b>24</b> 2 Sr. line dancing	<b>25</b> Bring thawed, uncooked turkeys to be cooked	<b>26</b> Bring cooked or canned foods	<b>27</b> 6 Cooking begins <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	<b>28</b> Church Office closed	<b>29</b> <b>Tomorrow</b> Younger Adult Sunday School begins
<b>30</b> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship 1 Decorating for Christmas/Advent						

## Decorating the Chrismon Tree

Help is needed Sunday, Nov. 30, 1 p.m., to hang the greens (decorate) for the holidays. All are invited to hang the Chrismons, symbols of Christ, on the tree.

## Abbeville Opera House Christmas "It's a Wonderful Life"

Sunday, December 7, immediately following church. Bring your bag lunch as we travel to the Abbeville Opera House to see its Christmas play, "It's a Wonderful Life." Everyone is invited to attend but we must reserve seats as early as possible. \$18 per person. Contact the Church Office at 706-863-0510 to make reservations.