



**May 2026**

**“LIGHT FROM THE HILL”**

*The Presbyterian Church of Marion*  
 206 High Street/PO Box 178, Marion Center, PA 15759  
 Phone: Church Office: 724-397-8110  
 Secretary Email: [pcmarionsecretary206@gmail.com](mailto:pcmarionsecretary206@gmail.com)  
 Secretary: **Beth Turner**  
 Financial Secretary: **Bev Gatskie**  
 Treasurer: **Heather Hood**  
 Capital Fund Treasurer: **Debbie Frankoff**  
 Moderator: **Dr. Angel De La Cruz 724-669-5675**

**Sunday Worship:** 10:30 a.m.  
**Church Website:** [www.pcmarion.org](http://www.pcmarion.org)  
**Find us on Facebook:** The Presbyterian Church of Marion

**The Session**

<b>Carol Fry</b>	<b>Jennifer Frederick</b>	<b>Janis Baun</b>
<b>Shawna Stanley</b>	<b>Debbie Hill</b>	<b>Dave Meese</b>
<b>Fred Turner</b>	<b>Melissa Leasure</b>	<b>Sheri Repine</b>

**The Board of Deacons**

<b>Bobbie Farren</b>	<b>Shawnee Armstrong</b>	<b>Lynette Clawson</b>
<b>Paige Faris</b>	<b>Calvin Farren</b>	<b>Linda Glasser</b>

**AMAZING GRACE**

Acts 9:1-18

The grace of God. How many times have we heard this phrase before? The word grace is a common word used every day. There are times we use it as a form of prayer before we eat. There are times we use it when referring to what we should do when being harsh.

There are people that don't believe in the grace of God. There are those who believe that God does not exist; so to further say God's grace does not exist is no new thing. How can God give grace (which is unmerited favor by the way) to those who don't deserve it? We know people in our own lives that no grace should be given to. Yet, we see God pour grace upon his people when they don't deserve it. We see God pour his grace upon the children of Israel. We see God pour his grace upon the disciples. And we definitely see God pour his grace upon Paul in our passage. What do we see about the grace of God in Paul's conversion? Let's dive a little deeper and find out.

**No Sinner is Beyond God's Grace.....**

Not many of us are "breathing threats and murder" against our opponents. However, we have all been on wrong paths that have been injurious to ourselves and others. We have all been headstrong, stubborn, blinded to our own ambition, selfish to meet our own need, caught in addictive behaviors, and oblivious of the true cost to others or to ourselves. Here are some examples: The hard-driving businesswoman who is so determined to get a promotion that she loses her marriage. The teenager, angry and hurt, who cannot forgive a parent's error. The man who is so locked up in his emotions that he cannot express his love for his spouse. The ever-pleasing wife who is so accommodating as to allow her husband's alcoholism to destroy their children. The revengeful lover who would do harm rather than seek reconciliation. The employer whose cultural values prevent him from promoting women equally. The partisan political leader incapable of compromise. The hard, demanding parent who cannot give a child a break. There is no sinner beyond the grace of God. If God can save Paul, he can save you.

(continued on next page)

## **God Will Meet You Where You Are.....**

God met Paul where he was. If you look at the text, Paul was on his way to persecute the church in Syria. Christ met Paul on the road to Damascus and spoke to him the grace of God. Paul was angry and full of hate for the church. Yet, Christ met him where he was. Christ will meet us where we are.

## **A Life Saved by Grace Is Noticeable.....**

It is easy to identify with Ananias in this story. When the Lord tells him in a vision about what is going on with Paul, Ananias is dubious, to say the least. "You must be kidding! This guy is out to get us." Experience teaches us to be cautious about peoples' ability to change. It is hard "to teach old dogs new tricks." However, a consistent theme in the Bible is that when God is the agent of change, all things are possible. This story is a helpful reminder that conversion is not primarily about us, but about God. Let's remember this, there is no one religious experience that fits all. What happened to Paul on the Damascus Road was dramatic and had a significant impact on the church. Our task is to remain open to what God is doing in and around us. When Christ comes to our life, we change for the better. The roads to Christian faith are as varied as the people who profess it. A life saved by grace is noticeable.

Finally, when the scales fell from our eyes, we saw life and others through Christ's vision. When Christ saves us, he gives us a new perspective on life. He puts love in our hearts for those difficult to love. He provides a new way to look at our neighbor. Christ even brings a new perspective on how we view ourselves. God's grace is amazing and we are the beneficiaries of His grace. Continue to live out and in the grace of God.

Your Brother because of Jesus,  
Angel

(Article written by Dr. Angel De La Cruz, our moderator)

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***Dear members and friends of the Presbyterian Church of Marion. You are encouraged to keep the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) in your frequent prayers. If you don't know what to be praying for, here is a prayer you can use that has been culled from several sources:***

Most gracious and loving God, having accepted the invitation to work together to seek out and prayerfully discern the person who, even now, is being called to serve, lead, and journey with the Presbyterian Church of Marion, we ask you to come to the PNC's assistance.

As it is written in Psalm 139, "... you have searched us out and known us; you discern our thoughts from afar; you follow our journeys and are acquainted with all our ways ..." Be with them now, Father. As they continue in this search process, be present among them, and guide each step they take. Guide them in all their doings, Gracious God.

Build unity among them, guard them from distractions, and help them to welcome different viewpoints and perspectives as opportunities to hear, understand, and grow. Father, teach them to listen. But also, allow them some Holy rest when rest is needed.

Inspire not only their minds but also their hearts, allowing one to form the other, within each individual, and among all participants in this work. Open their hearts and minds to your presence, Lord Jesus.

Quicken the heart of the person begin called to serve as our next pastor. Remove any obstacles that might stand in the way of this call. Reveal the path and lead the way, as we all know you as The Way, The Truth, The Life.

Lord, may the PNC offer themselves as fertile ground through which your work may be done. And when their tasks are complete and the search is done, grant them quiet minds and confident hearts that, guided by your wisdom, they will have accomplished what you have asked them to do. And then let them rest, be still, and know that you are God.

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.



## MAY WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

### May 3, 2026

“Perfect Alignment”

Eric Longwell

The Lord’s Supper will be served

### May 10, 2026

Rev. Katelyn Hendrickson

### May 17, 2026

Pastor Doug Snyder

### May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday

**Wear Red to Church**

Donna Yarnal

### May 31, 2026

Randy Stear



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## SOLD!!

On April 29, 2026, the sale of the manse was officially closed.

We appreciate all those who helped in the clean-up, maintenance, surveillance, snow removal and mowing before and while the property was on the market. The church has owned the lot since 1866, which created some interesting challenges.



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### May 7<sup>th</sup> - National Day of Prayer...

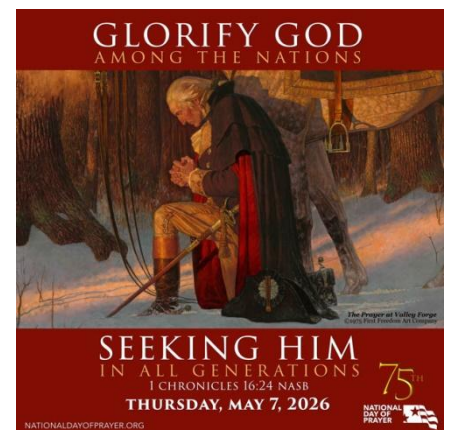
This date is a national day set for us to come together as a nation for a day of prayer. The National Day of Prayer exists to mobilize unified public prayer for America. This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the National Day of Prayer.

We are partnering with our friends at The First Methodist Church of Marion Center and New Life Lutheran Church in order to pray for our nation for 24 hours! If you would like to join our prayer vigil you may sign up for a 30-minute time slot by clicking the link below.

Prayer changes things! Join us as we pray for the people in our community, our state and our nation.

Here is the link to sign up to pray: <https://tinyurl.com/ndp2026signup>

If you would like to pray but cannot sign up on-line you can contact Sheri Repine, sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex or email the church office at [pcmarionsecretaryt206@gmail.com](mailto:pcmarionsecretaryt206@gmail.com) and we will gladly sign-you up and send you the prayer guide.



*"Tell of His glory among the nations,  
His wonderful deeds among all the peoples."  
1 Chronicles 16:24 NASB*

Ladies, mark your calendars  
and invite your friends

*Ladies Brunch*  
*May 9<sup>th</sup>*  
*11:00 a.m. - 1:00p.m.*



*Presbyterian Church of Marion*

*206 High Street  
Marion Center, PA 15759*



*“J.J. - Jonah’s Daughter”  
The story of a reluctant missionary*

*Special Biblical Presentation*

*by LuAnne Baker*

*LuAnne brings Biblical women to life using costume and story-telling.*

**No cost to attend, but a love offering for LuAnne will be accepted the day of the brunch.**

Please RSVP by May 4<sup>th</sup> to  
Beth Turner 412-289-6821

*Wear your favorite hat*



*Bring your favorite tea cup*



*Don't have either.....  
just come for the food, fellowship and  
A Ladies Day Outing!*

**\*\*gluten free foods will be available\*\***

**Graduate Bibles...**

What is your go-to-verse? What words of scripture are most meaningful to you? Each year we give our graduates a *Life Application Bible*. We would like to give these Bibles with verses/passages commended by congregational members. These are verses that give us encouragement, comfort, peace or direction in our times of searching and need.

The Bibles will be available on the table in the narthex along with highlighters and pens to highlight, underline or bracket verses. You may include your name, initials or leave anonymous. These will be presented on graduate recognition Sunday.

Everyone is encouraged to participate. If you would like to suggest a verse but are unable to mark the Bible yourself, please list the verse on the 3X5 card on the table and place it in the basket or email Beth with the verse. Someone from the M&M committee will mark the Bible for you.



## The May Mission Outreach is the Baby Bottles, Change for Life that supports the Life-Way Families.

Lifeway has two locations, one in Indiana and one in Latrobe.

Services they provide include: pregnancy & birth education, help with maternity clothes for expecting moms, provide adoption support and help with referrals, provide parenting education, help with infant and toddler clothes, provide nursery supplies, offer fatherhood lessons, life skills training and support, offer Healthy Roots Classes with focus on goal setting, budgeting and wellness and sexual risk avoidance education.



In 2025 here are a few numbers they have shared with us through their newsletter:

- \*416 Pregnancy appointments
- \*1007 Parenting education appointments
- \*23 Beautiful babies born
- \*328 Opportunities to help with nursery supplies, diapers, clothing and bedding
- \*9 Filled dressers were given to families.

Life Way depends on donations and their biggest donation campaign is their Baby Bottle Change for Life. You may ask “How can one little plastic baby bottle help?” Well, it definitely can and does help in huge ways! Each year between 1500 to 2000 bottles are distributed and the average amount raised per bottle is \$15. **Their 2025 Baby Bottle campaign raised \$32,043.**

Bottles will be available for pick-up, beginning Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and they can be filled and dropped off anytime during the month of May. Keep in mind if you don't want to count your change, you can also place paper currency in the bottles or write a check made out to Life-Way and place in your bottle.

**Our church contributed \$519.91 from our 2025 collection of baby bottles. Let's see if we can hit \$600 this year!**

### Sunday, May 24th is Pentecost Sunday.....

Pentecost is a significant event in Christian tradition, commemorating the day when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples in Jerusalem, marking the beginning of the Christian Church. It occurs 50 days after Easter and is often considered the birthday of the Church. **Red is associated with Pentecost as a symbol of the Holy Spirit's fiery presence, so dig out your favorite red clothes and wear them to celebrate Pentecost!**



### Deacon Social....

As we celebrate our graduates on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, the deacons invite you to join them for a social following worship. It is always a good time of fellowship and they always have plenty of yummy things to eat!



### Vacation Bible School...

Summer is not far away and with summer comes Vacation Bible School!

This year VBS will be held July 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> and will take place at our church.

Kids ages 4 through 6th grade are invited for an illuminating time as we explore who Jesus really is!

You can register on line at the following link or pick up a registration form at the church.

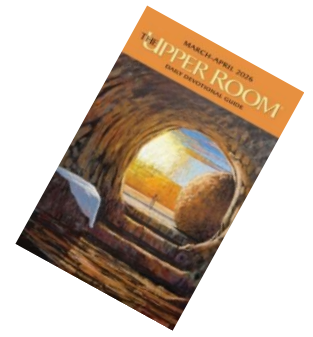
<https://tinyurl.com/vbs26reg>





## Daily Devotionals

Looking for a way to connect with God on a daily basis?  
Located in the narthex are two devotionals,  
***Our Daily Bread*** and ***The Upper Room***.  
Both are free and available in regular or large print.  
Please help yourself to these free resources.



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## Prayer Requests

**Rest Home Folks:** The Fountains of Dubois - Doris Glasser      **Active Military Service:** Louis Good

**PNC Committee:**

Calvin Farren, Lorrie Gallo, Natalie Gatskie, Chuck Glasser and Tonya Watkins

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### ***ELDER OF THE MONTH***

Shawna Stanley

### ***DEACON OF THE MONTH***

Bobbie Farren

### ***MAY BIRTHDAYS***

- 1 Sue Botsford
- 4 Lois Repine
- 5 Ethan Miller
- 12 Kim Kester
- 23 Linda Feulmer
- 27 Miranda Leasure
- 28 MacKenzi Kanouff  
    Melissa Leasure  
    Tonya Watkins
- 29 Ron Olson  
    John Repine
- 31 Emma Armstrong



### **Anniversaries**

- 5-21 Larry & Joy Miller - 60<sup>th</sup>
- 5-21 Ed & Jurie Turner - 10<sup>th</sup>
- 5-22 Pastor Chris & Susie Enoch - 44<sup>th</sup>



*May 10<sup>th</sup>*



*May 25<sup>th</sup>*