

# October 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**
***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**
**Find us on Facebook:** **The Presbyterian Church of Marion**

***The Session***

***Carol Fry*** ***Jennifer Frederick*** ***Janis Baun***
***Shawna Stanley*** ***Dave Meese***
***Fred Turner*** ***Melissa Leasure*** ***Sheri Repine***

***The Board of Deacons***

***Bobbie Farren*** ***Shawnee Armstrong*** ***Lynette Clawson***
***Paige Faris*** ***Calvin Farren*** ***Linda Glasser***

## "Shortcomings"

2 Peter 1: 5-7
*But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.*

Isn't it easier to see the fault of others rather than your own? We are very quick to point out the shortcomings of others rather than look at ourselves and realize we need a lot of work.

Our text for October is important because Peter instructs the people of faith to seriously consider adding virtue to their faith. The word "virtue" is defined as the excellence of a person or thing that enables it to achieve its end or purpose. This definition of "virtue" concerns moral excellence.

God is teaching us that we should intend to have moral excellence. Living out the gospel every day is the Christian's life purpose. We are to commit ourselves daily to the pursuit of gospel morality with sincere hearts. God gives us the power to live virtuous lives through the Holy Spirit. Our lives are supposed to stand out in the crowd because of the way we live. Commit yourself to being intentional about living a morally excellent life.

To live a virtuous Christian life, we must add faith. The life we live should drip with faith. Faith is a strong confidence in the ability of someone greater than yourself. This is the moment to make certain decisions that commit us to the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is the moment we conclude certain staples of faith that are not up for negotiation. Living in faith is the standard.

(continued on next page)

While we may see others' faults or shortcomings, it is very important that we turn our eyes inward and develop an intent to change for the glory 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.

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## OCTOBER WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS




**October 4, 2026**
Denny Weaver
The Lord's Supper will be served
as we come together to take part in
World Communion Sunday

**October 11, 2026**
Pastor Doug Snyder

**October 18, 2026**
Eric Longwell

**October 25, 2026**
Randy Stear

**Active Member…**




The Book of Order states, "An active member of a particular church is a person who has made a profession of faith in Christ, has been baptized, has been received into membership of the church, has voluntarily submitted to the government of this church, and participates in the church' s work and worship. Only active members are eligible to hold a church officer position or to vote in congregational meetings. An in-active member of a particular church is one who does not participate in the church's work and worship."

Our Presbyterian Church of Marion has determined that an active member is one who:

1) Takes part in the worship of the church and/or church-organized study of the Scriptures at least four times a year.
2) Supports the work of the church through the giving of time, talents or money.

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**Church Officers….**




Is God calling you to step up and be a leader in our church?
The nominating committee will be meeting soon to begin the search for officers for the 2027. We will be looking for three elders, two deacons and an auditor. Each of these positions are three-year terms. If someone from the committee approaches you about serving, please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to take on a more active leadership role in our church.

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**October Harvest Fest….**




Join us on Saturday evening, **October 3rd** for a good old fashion Harvest Fest.

Don't miss out on the food, fun, games, fellowship and a bon fire.
This event is for kids of all ages…the young… the young at heart….and those that may not feel young; we want you to join us too! Take part in the activities or bring a lawn chair and take it all in.

**The evening begins at 5:00 p.m.** Bring a sweatshirt and a lawn chair and invite your friends and family. Let's celebrate Fall with a little fun and fellowship




**We are planning on starting our evening with a hay ride.**
The tractor leaves shortly after 5, so please don't be late as we need to make sure, we are back before it gets too dark to be on the road.

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**Pastor Appreciation Month…** October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Although we may not have a permanent pastor, God has truly blessed us with people that have not only filled our pulpit but have been there for our members in their time of need and their time of celebrations. God is good and we thank Him for those who have been with us during 2026.




Dr. De La Cruz, our moderator
Pastor Doug Snyder
Rev. Katelyn Hendrickson
Eric Longwell
Randy Stear
Donna Yarnal
Denny Weaver

If you would like to drop a note of appreciation to any of those listed, simply place your card or note in the basket located on the table in the Narthex.

**Mission Outreach for October….. Operation Christmas Child**

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. They ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.

It's as simple, as 1 – 2 – 3 – 4

- Pick up a shoebox up from the Narthex
- Take a label that corresponds if you would like to send to a boy or girl and then mark the age your box is best suited for
- Pack your box with 1 special "wow" item and then fill the rest of the box with school supplies, hygiene items and other small toys or games.
  **no soap, liquids, toothpaste or candy/food
- Return your box along with $10 for shipping to the church by **November 8th**

**Want to know where your box goes?** You can follow your box by paying your shipping on-line. Scan the QR code on the label or enter the nine-digit code at website listed on your label.

**Hey, do you like to shop from home?**

Did you know you can do a shoebox on-line?

Simply go to: Build Your Shoebox Online! - Operation Christmas Child

You can build your own box or have them build it for you for just $30; this price includes your shipping!



Build a Shoebox Online

**Is your box just a Christmas gift? NO! It is SOOOO much more!**

Every box that is shipped has gospel material telling about Jesus. Each box has a booklet entitled *The Greatest Journey*. These booklets are printed in the language specific to the country receiving them. Children are then invited to attend a 12-lesson study to learn more and if they complete the 12 lessons, they receive a certificate and a Bible!

**Help us pack our church boxes**...The items collected through the summer months will be assembled and boxes packed during the **October 25th social.**

**Our goal this year is 70 boxes!** We can do it! Let's spread the love of Jesus around the world!!

Just a note for those doing on-line boxes: We can't track those boxes, so if you do an on-line box be sure to let Beth Turner know so we can add it to our tally!

**The shopping, the packing, the shipping, the sharing of the gospel…..It's all in the name of Jesus!**



**Deacon's Social on October 25th …**
Join us after worship on Sunday, November 2nd as the Deacons host their fall social. Come enjoy some goodies and enjoy a time of fellowship. If you want to get in the Christmas Spirit, you can help us back up our church shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.




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**Trunk or Treat…** Marion Center Boro, together with the school PTA, will be hosting a trunk or treat **Saturday, October 31st.** The event will start with a parade beginning at the Y in Marion Center at 1:00 p.m. The kids will walk down main street and end at the Park Hall.




We will be taking our popcorn machine down and filling bags of popcorn and giving out candy. We also will have a table with bibles, the pumpkin prayer and other outreach material. We are in need of some help that from Noon to 3. Please see Beth if you would like to help.

We also need bags of the small miniature candy to hand out. If you would like to donate a bag or two, please drop it off at the church by **Oct. 18th.**



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**November 1st, All Saints' Day…**
When someone passes, you might hear the phrase, "they have entered the Church Triumphant". You might also hear, "well done good and faithful servant". All Saints' Day is a day to remember those who have moved on to the church triumphant and were servants and disciples that shared God's message and led, guided and helped us grow in our faith.




We invite you to join us on November 1st as we have a special time of remembrance in our service to recognize and remember those that have had a part in our faith journey. Give some thought, I'm sure we can all name more than one person that has had an impact on our life; it might be a grandparent, a Sunday school teacher, a pastor or a special friend or neighbor who took the time to share about Jesus. **Let's remember those saints and honor them together on November 1st.**

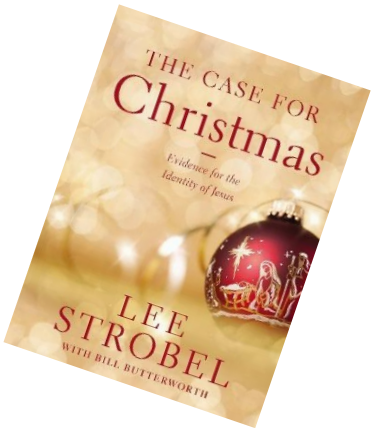
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**Advent Study….**
We will be offering a DVD Advent Study that will begin on **Sunday, November 30th**. We will be meeting **in the sanctuary beginning at 9:30 a.m.** There is a study guide book that goes along with the study that we need to order before we begin. If you would like to join us for this study, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Listed below is information regarding our Advent study.

***The Case for Christmas* by Lee Strobel**
Bestselling author Lee Strobel, investigates the story of Jesus' birth and provides compelling evidence as to why we can know the bible's accounts are true.

In this four-session study, Lee reveals what he discovered as he sought to separate the holiday from the holy day, the facts from the fantasy, and the truth from the tradition.

Lee invites you to look beyond the familiar traditions of the season, challenges you to examine the evidence for yourself and consider why Christmas really matters.



**It's right around the corner, mark those calendars….**

**Daylight Savings Time ends….**Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Saturday night, **November 1st**. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!




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## ***Prayer Requests***

**Rest Home Folks:** St. Andrew's – Elaine Edwards

**Active Military Service:** Louis Good

**PNC Committee:**
Calvin Farren, Lorrie Gallo, Natalie Gatskie,Chuck Glasser and Tonya Watkins

***OCTOBER ELDER OF THE MONTH***
Janis Baun

***OCTOBER DEACON OF THE MONTH***
Lynette Clawson

***OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS***




2 Calvin Farren
4 Julie Kellar
Joy Miller
9 Shawna Stanley
10 Sharon Ackerson
13 Paige Repine
16 Ron Leasure
17 Bob Henry
20 Morgan Chichy
24 Doug Mouser Jr.
25 Warren Frederick
Beth Turner
27 Dee Donald
30 Shawnee Armstrong

***MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES***
10-10 Ted & Barb Banks - 31st
10-18 Nate & Paige Faris - 1st









