

**Marion
Reformed
Presbyterian
Church**

Congregational Meeting 2020

2020 Annual Meeting

Proposed Agenda

OPENING

Welcome	Jason Camery, Pastor
Praise	Psalm 92
Prayer	Jason Camery, Pastor
Roll Call	Scott Hunt, Session Clerk
Adoption of Agenda	Scott Hunt, Chairman
Election of Officers	Scott Hunt, Chairman

Reports

Session Report	Scott Hunt, Clerk
Pastor Report	Jason Camery, Pastor
2019 Budget Report	David Morgan Jr. Treasurer
2020 Budget Proposal	David Morgan Jr. Treasurer

Business

Adoption of 2020 Budget	David Morgan Jr. Treasurer
-------------------------	----------------------------

Closing

Adjournment	Congregational Chairman
Prayer	Greg Fisher, Elder
Praise	Psalm 133A

Session Report

*Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and named it Ebenezer, saying,
“Thus far the LORD has helped us.” - 1 Sam. 7:12*

Numerous times over the past year this verse and the accompanying sermon Rev. Edward (Ted) Donnelly preached many years ago were a great encouragement and comfort to the Session. The Lord was reminding His people that from the time He brought them out of the land of Egypt to this very point in the ministry of Samuel, the Lord had been Israel's help. The message that Israel was to take away from the stone is that if the Lord had been with them this up to this point, they could have full faith and confidence that the Lord would continue to be Israel's help – don't lose heart, I did not bring you here to abandon you.

To say that 2019 was an easy year for the Session or the Congregation would not be an accurate statement. To say that the Session and the Congregation saw the great hand of the Lord at work in our midst in uncertain and difficult times would be accurate. It was during these time, though, that the Session was able to recall this wonderful promise - “Thus far the LORD has helped us.” And He has.

When Pastor Camery approached the Session in April about his need for a reprieve and to consider his call to the work in Marion, we had to trust in the Lord to be our help. When we had our congregational meeting in May to consider the Pastor's request for some time off, you responded by graciously giving him more time than he even requested. You also knew the burden this would place on the Session and so all of you, in one way or another, made the sacrifices necessary to see that everything that had to be done was done. You did it cheerfully, you did it joyfully. You were a reminder of that gracious promise – “Thus far the LORD has helped us.” And He did so in abundance. In the midst of this time the Session was able to see great signs of strength and unity in the congregation as we gathered for prayer and fellowship often during these months. And as we heard the great news of the confirmation Jason had to continue to labor in Marion, we rejoiced at the LORD's goodness. Be assured that you, congregation, have been a great source of encouragement for the Session this past year.

Despite beginning the year with the loss of a dear Husband, Father, Grandfather, and brother in Christ, we rejoice that by the end of the year we had seen several new members join our congregation by transfer or profession. Though a dear family who had been a part of the Marion work from its very inception had to relocate, we celebrate that the Lord has brought us new families and add to our existing families.

One of the wonderful privileges the Session has is to meet together as a Court of Christ's church in order to meet with you, to pray for you, to counsel you, and to witness the Lord's work in your life. The Session met in constituted court on eight occasions this past year, and an untold number of times informally. We were able to celebrate the Lord's Supper twelve times this past year as well.

The session would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to each of you for your many acts of sacrifice and service for the Body of Christ. You have selflessly hosted lunches, cleaned up after the evening fellowship times, supported one another throughout the day by day, and encouraged one another in both word and deed. You have been a great example of what the Church should look like and how the people of God should act. The Lord has been our help in 2019. We know he will be our help in 2020.

Respectfully Submitted, Scott J. Hunt

Clerk of Session, Marion Reformed Presbyterian Church

Pastor's Report

*May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, Selah
that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! ¹*

In June of 2012, Burk Parsons wrote an article for *Tabletalk* magazine about evangelism under the heading “The Theology of Evangelism.” In the article, Parsons stated:

“Worship is ultimate, not evangelism. Evangelism isn’t the end but a means to the end, which is God’s glorious rescue of His people to know Him truly, worship Him purely, enjoy Him fully, and glorify Him eternally. We evangelize in order that God might gather for Himself worshipers from every tribe, tongue, and nation for His glory. Evangelism is a temporary necessity, but worship abides forever. Although we certainly need to be a disciple in our knowledge of the gospel and equipped to proclaim the gospel, we must not forget that gospel proclamation isn’t first and foremost a program, it’s a way of life. It’s not something we only do on a particular day of the week when our schedules allow it; it’s something we do every day of our lives.”²

This last year I had to consider what was essential and refocus my mind and life on those things. Since the loss of my father and seeing him promoted to glory, the quote above has been hugely significant to me. As I traveled around the country for the first time in my life, the Lord began to show me that Worship is the most essential aspect of my existence. I was able to see the worship of all kinds of things in my adventure. You can not travel to Las Vegas and not see a variety of worship everywhere you turn. I am not talking about the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Las Vegas but the city and people in which that congregation finds themselves ministering to. There were other more pleasant discoveries along the journey like finding an active worship filled experience in an United Reformed Church in Boise, Idaho.

Jenny and I will be forever thankful to you all for allowing us time off to be refreshed and rekindled in our Lord. The Sabbatical taught me a lot of things, but the most critical piece is how we worship our Lord, it is the center of our existence. Parsons is right when he points out evangelism is “temporary, but

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. (2016). (Ps 67:1–3). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

² Parsons, B. (2012). *Coram Deo—Before the Face of God: Evangelism for God’s Glory*. *Tabletalk Magazine, June 2012: The Theology of Evangelism*, 36(no. 6), 2.

worship is enteral.” The Book of Revelation demonstrates this without question when John, the writer, is turned to Heaven in chapter 4, and he sees worship in Heaven.

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!” And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”³

The RP church stands in distinction from most reformed and evangelical congregations in this country. We take worship seriously. We try to the best of our ability to worship our Triune God as He has prescribed without adding our systems or prescriptions to it. For some, this could allow the belief that we will always be small in number and thought of as an oddity among the churches of today. I don’t see it that way at all; I believe that there is a whole host of people in Grant County that desire to worship God, and they need to know how. That is our call to proclaim the gospel. The gospel proclamation comes out of our lives lived in worship! People will be attracted to your desire and love for Christ but also your love for one another. I encourage all of you to worship God in all you do and see how He will make you a “fisher of men.”

I am looking forward to our journey together in 2020! Watching to see how the Lord will bond our hearts closer together in the worship of Him every week. We should be excited about the opportunity we have to serve the Lord in Marion, Indiana. While we are not promised tomorrow, let us make every day count as we worship the one and only God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In Christ,

Pastor Jason

³ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. (2016). (Re 4:8–11). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

**Marion Reformed Presbyterian Church
2019 Spending Report Through December 31,
2019**

Income:	2019 Proposal	2019 Actual	2020 Proposal
Tithes & Offerings	85,000.00	76,295.44	93000.00
Gifts		10,000.00	
RPM+M		284.50	
Interest	0.00	36.43	
RPCNA Vital Funds	0.00	1950	
Other Income	0.00		
Preschool Rent	19,500.00	21,325.00	28,000.00
Special Collections		100.00	
Transfer from Savings account		4,858.52	
Total	104,500.00	114,849.89	121000.00
200s MRPC Administration			
201 - Administration	2,000.00	699.60	2000
202 - Christian Education	350.00	202.46	350
203 - Pulpit Supply	900.00	3,200.00	750
204 - Pastor Expense	1,000.00	614.98	500
205 - MISC.	300.00	305.77	300
206 - Nursery	300.00	0	300
208 - Media & Website	2,400.00	2379.18	2400
Total Administration	7,250.00	7,401.99	6600
210s MRPC Building			
211 - Mortgage	6,655.20	6,655.20	6655.2
212 - Set-up	0.00	0.00	
213 - Maintenance	10,000.00	7,066.75	7,500.00
214-Grounds and Parking		3951.18	2,500.00
215 - Supplies	2,000.00	719.21	2,000.00
216 - Utilities	17,500.00	17,961.16	17,500.00

217 - Insurance	4,900.00	4,959.00	4,960.00
Building Improvements	0.00	11,916.98	
Total Building	41,055.20	53,229.48	41,115.20
220s MRPC Ministries			
221 - Fellowship & Hospitality	1,500.00	768.03	1,500.00
222 - Outreach/Evangelism	1,000.00	570.00	1,000.00
223 - Mercy	1,000.00	105.00	1,000.00
224 - India Mission	500.00	490.00	500.00
225 - Grant County Rescue Mission	250.00	0	250.00
226 - Atlanta Mission	250.00	0	250.00
227 - Synod Assessment	1,500.00	2322	2,400.00
228 - Presbytery Assessment	800.00	1,064.17	1,000.00
Total MRPC Ministries	6,800.00	5,319.20	7,900.00
230s Pastor Camery			
231 - Housing	24,500.00	29,069.00	31980
232 - Salary	10,500.00	13,551.30	21,320.00
233 - Pension	10,500.00	4,450.00	4500
234 - Health Insurance	3,000.00	3,300	7200
235- Health Expense		1,273.13	
236-Pastor Education		343.55	
Total Pastor Expenses	48,500.00	51,986.98	65000
Grand Total Expenses	103,605.20	117,937.65	120,615.20