

## Marion (Iowa) Free Methodist Church History

The very first Marion Free Methodist Church building was constructed circa 1878 on the corner of 7th St and 4th Ave.

Rev. W. C. Thompson, who was pastor of the Cedar Rapids Free Methodist Church, also became pastor to the new Marion Society. Services were first held in the home of John Holman, next in a Seventh Day Adventist Church, and as growth continued a building was purchased and placed on the corner of 7th St and 4th Ave in Marion. Services and activities were organized from that site until the late 1960's when the church doors were closed, the building sold, and the work declared "...under the superintendent."

The Free Methodist Church in Marion lay dormant for about the next decade until 1977, ninety-nine years after the organization of the first society, when the work began again under the leadership of the Toddville pastor, Rev Donald L. Brail, and the Iowa conference Superintendent, Rev. J. Wesley Wilson. In 1978 using land donated by Thomas E. McGowen, construction began on the new church building.

Today....



Marion Free Methodist Church



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<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Years</u>
Peter Shaw	2015 - Present
Delmar Bear	1999-2014
Lonnie Thoms	1998
Doug Morris	1997
Max Harms	1994-1995
Don Thompson	1993
Daniel Waite	1992
Garth Betry	1991
Delmar Bear	1982-1990
Kenneth Wilson	1978-1981
Donald L Brail	1977
under superintendent	1969-1976
Ronald Miers	-1968

1972-1976—contact Cedar Rapids pastor, Wayne Ryan

1966-1968—Ronald Miers

1965—to be supplied

1964—under Cedar Rapids pastor, H. T. Rasche

1958-1963—Howard Potter (Maquoketa, IA, only in 1958)

1957—Marion & Maquoketa to be supplied

1950-1956—J. P. Knepper (Maquoketa, IA, with Marion during his pastorate)

1948-1949—Rex L. Odermann

1947—Howard Potter

1946—C. M. Cunningham  
1943-1944—C. B. Patrick; Margaret Patrick, Assistant  
[No Yearbooks 1935 through 1942]  
1933-1934—H. M. Williamson  
1932—Mark Shockey  
1930-1931—No Yearbooks  
1927-1929—C. M. Cunningham [Edgewood, Ia, with Marion in 27 & 28  
1924-1926—Charles O. Monroe [however, I have no 1925 Yearbook]  
1923—W. J. Trimble  
1921-1922—H. R. Eveland  
1920—to be supplied  
1917-1919—T. M. Fenwick; “Superannuated” in 1920  
[I have no 1916, Yearbook]  
1915—D.T. McClure  
1914—F. H. Urwin  
[I have no 1912, 1913 Yearbooks]  
1911—T. M. Fenwick & David Fenwick  
1910—E. A. Clark [listed “Under Appointment” in the oldest book I have]