FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARION, Ill. (April 7th, 2022) – The Marion Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating milestones and our business community at its 101st annual awards celebration on June 24th, 2022 at the Pavilion in Marion. The program will feature presentations by the Chamber, elected officials, and our 2021 award winners. This event was originally scheduled for January 14th, but postponed due to COVID.

Members of the Marion Chamber of Commerce were asked to submit nominations in October for the Award of Excellence. The Award of Excellence is given to an individual or group has gone above and beyond to serve the Marion community. This year’s award is sponsored by SouthernTrust Bank and Campbell Insurance.

We are excited to announce the 2021 Award of Excellence in Fostering Fellowship winner is Cornerstone Church.

Cornerstone is a church with passion, vision, and a strong desire to “Help People Follow Jesus.” Michael Nave was called as Lead Pastor in 2007 and believes God has called him to commit his life to the ministry of this church.

Cornerstone desires to equip and inspire people to be the hands and feet of Jesus in their communities, which is illustrated by their generosity as well as the popularity of projects and community partnerships, such as “ServeSoILL”, a region-wide service project. The restorative ministry of Cornerstone’s Renew: Secondhand Stores (in Marion and Carbondale), is another great example of Cornerstone’s community involvement. These stores provide low-cost items to area citizens, while also funneling their profits right back into their communities. One of the ministries funded by Renew is called Kingdom Builders, which is comprised of volunteers...
who can do construction-related jobs, with the most popular project request being constructing wheelchair ramps for individuals who need accessible entrances to their houses.

Cornerstone Church is honored to be part of the vibrant community in Marion. This recognition of their efforts is received with humility by the leadership of the church with the knowledge that none of this would be possible without God, volunteers from the church, and strong relationships with local partners.

This year's Award of Excellence winner will be celebrated at the 101st annual Marion Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet & Auction ceremony on Friday, June 24th at the Pavilion in Marion. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. and tickets are available at www.marionillinois.com or calling 618-997-6311.

The first Award of Excellence was given in 1994 to Leo Dingrando for Service to Youth. Last year’s winners were Shawn Vincelette, Laborer’s Local 773, and Karen Mullins. Past winners of the Award of Excellence can be viewed at www.marionillinois.com/award-winners.

For more information, please contact the Marion Chamber of Commerce at 618.997.6311, visiting marionillinois.com or emailing director@marionillinois.com.