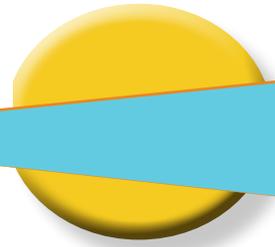




First Wayne Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
uplifting. inspiring. downtown.



February 2021

GOOD NEWS

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

Living like Jesus means helping community

My morning routine includes mass quantities of coffee and the morning news. Before I utter a word, I prepare my coffee and turn on the local news. My family has learned to make sure that I have had a sip or two of coffee before attempting to engage in conversation. Yes, I really am that stereotypical grump who desperately needs coffee to function.

This morning routine can be both beautiful and depressing. It's beautiful because I believe coffee is "proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy." It can be depressing when I realize I've run out of coffee beans and have to settle for the subpar coffee pods until I can replenish my supply of beans. It's beautiful because there are times the local news shares inspiring stories of good work being done in our local community. It can be depressing because the news also features stories of loss, division, uncertainty and cold weather.

Each morning, as I drink my coffee and watch the news, I am reminded of the importance for Christians to live and love like Jesus.

What does it mean to live like Jesus? There are two passages of Scripture from the Gospel of Matthew that help us understand what it means to live like Jesus.

Matthew 22:37-40 reveals the two great commandments. In replying to a question regarding which commandment was most important, Jesus responded, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and

the prophets." In order to live like Jesus, we must love God with all that we are and love our neighbors.

Matthew 25:34-40 paints a picture of what it looks like to love our neighbors. In teaching about those who will inherit the Kingdom, Jesus says, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'"

Living and loving like Jesus includes meeting the needs of our neighbors in practical and tangible ways. Feed the hungry. Clothe the naked. Welcome the stranger. Visit the sick and imprisoned. This is what love in action looks like.

Author Bob Goff gives a simple four-word summary of what it means to live and love like Jesus. Goff encourages us to "go love everybody, always."

It is my hope and prayer that we will make the world beautiful, by striving to live and love like Jesus as we "go love everybody, always."

Update on worship gatherings

The Bishop has renewed the directive to continue the suspension of in-person gatherings. Bishop Trimble stated, "COVID-19 cases continue to increase in Indiana, and we continue to hear that hospitals across the state are struggling to keep up with the healthcare demands. As your Bishop who cares for you and the well-being of all of our families and communities, he asks you to stay the course with an abundance of caution.

We all know it has been difficult not meeting in gathered sanctuary worship.

Even so, you are strongly encouraged to move forward for the foreseeable future using adaptive ways of connecting. Bishop Trimble has said it this way. "I believe it to be the better part of wisdom to continue to not meet in person at your churches. It may be months down the road, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. God is able even in dark times."

This effort to "do no harm" requires patience, perseverance and grace. Our Conference Superintendent has encouraged churches to close or remain

closed when our county is in the "orange" or "red" category.

We encourage you to continue joining us in virtual worship. We thank you for your continued support and generosity. We ask you to join us in praying for healing and relief. We encourage you to consider getting the vaccine, wear your mask when in public, and practice physical distancing.

Together, we will make it through and gather together to celebrate in worship!

Music director celebrates 10 years

First Wayne Street UMC is a congregation known for its music. We are so blessed to have the ministry led by Dr. Geoff North.

Dr. North celebrated 10 years with FWSUMC in 2020.

Through the years, his talents and efforts have benefited the congregation. Whether at the piano, in the choir loft, or directing the choirs, Dr. North helps bring our faith to life through music.



Thank you for your commitment to excellence, Dr. North. Congratulations on your anniversary!

To celebrate 10 years at the church, we asked Dr. North a few questions.

Coffee or Tea?

Coffee!!

Appetizers or Dessert?

Appetizers, but I do love my sweets... can I say both?

Favorite worship song/hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is #138. Beautiful poetry and a gorgeous tune!

Spring, summer, fall or winter

Fall! I love fall fashions, bonfires in the evening, all the good stuff that comes with fall!

Which biblical person do you relate to the most?

Probably doubting Thomas! Because I'm full of doubts.

If you could choose anywhere, where would

you live?

Probably in Halifax, where I'm from! It's an awesome city, in an amazing province.

Three things you believe about God.

I believe that God loves us.

I believe that God wants us to love each other.

I believe that God wants us to take care of each other and the planet.

Favorite room in your house and why?

Oh, this is a tough one! Bedroom, because of the comfy bed for sleeping? The kitchen, because food, and I love food? Or living room, because of the comfy couch, the cozy ambience and the TV and PlayStation? I guess probably the living room!

Youth to host hygiene supply drive

As part of a Cool to Be Kind challenge, the youth ministry will be collecting hygiene supplies for Redemption House.

A FWSUMC ministry partner, Redeption House is a transition home for women. The programming is an alternative to incarceration.

This drive will help supply the women with basic care items that will help them feel their best. A small donation can have a big impact on the women's health and well-being.

Suggested items include shampoo and conditioner, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, cotton swabs, deodorant, lotion, hand sanitizer, and feminine products.

Donations of full-size items are preferred.

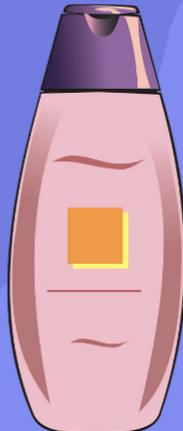
Cool to Be Kind is a bingo-style game that is challenging youth to be encouragers in the community. The bingo squares include helping family, reaching

FWSUMC Youth Ministry

Hygiene Supply Drive

As part of a Cool to be Kind challenge, the youth ministry will be collecting hygiene supplies for Redemption House. Donate an item and help support this valuable ministry. If you have questions, email kmtruesdell@gmail.com.

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Feminine products
- Hand sanitizer
- Cotton swabs



For Redemptiton House

A FWSUMC ministry partner, Redeption House is a transition home for women. The programming is an alternative to incarceration.

out to friends, and donating gifts to the community.

If you have questions, email kmtruesdell@gmail.com.

Annual Conference seeks lay to serve

The Equalization Members Willingness to Serve Form is a process, which aligns with our other practices within the Indiana Conference to gather names of those who are willing to serve the Annual Conference (please reference General and Jurisdictional Willingness to Serve, and Conference Nominations' Volunteer Form).

The Equalization Members Willingness to Serve process provides for an equitable

means of communicating this opportunity broadly throughout the Indiana Annual Conference to provide a catalog of names for District Operational Teams to select persons who will represent their district as delegates to the Annual Conference Session.

The Equalization Members Willingness to Serve process does not guarantee anyone the opportunity to serve (even if you have served in this capacity in

prior years). The process provides an opportunity for District Operational Teams to make a well-informed decision regarding those who will serve to represent the diversity of their district.

Questions? Contact Lisa Timmerman lisa.timmerman@inumc.org or Ruth Ellen Needler ruthellen.needler@inumc.org.

The deadline to apply is February 14.

Family Ice Skating

Members of the Children and Family Ministry enjoyed an afternoon at the Headwaters Park skating rink. Thank you to everyone who attended. We look forward to gathering together safely in the future.



Monthly Calendar

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

10 am Worship - virtual

virtual

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

6 pm Staff Parish Meeting - virtual

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

10 am Worship - virtual

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Good News Folders (pm)

11:30 am Staff Meeting - virtual

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

11:30 am Staff Meeting - virtual

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Good News Deadline

6:30 pm Trustees Meeting - virtual

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Good News Mailers (am)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

5:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting -

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

10 am Worship - virtual

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

10 am Worship - virtual

ANNIVERSARIES

February 23: Tim & Connie Boren

February 9: Holly Niner

February 10: Aubree Leuthold

February 11: Art Boester, John Lee, Angi Reinking

February 12: Ray Doyle, Becky Norton

February 13: Adam Coffman

February 14: Miranda Wilkins

February 15: Becky Schmidt

February 16: Mary Hufford

February 17: Janet Holloway, Danielle (Burch) Vaccaro

February 18: Barbara Jones, Mike Musson

February 21: Seth Schiffli

February 22: Gabby Gamble

February 23: Mark Redding

February 25: Jonas Coffman

February 26: Ruby Bultemeyer, Lynne Gilmore

February 27: Noelle Knight

February 28: Carol Maxwell

February 29: Peg Griffin

BIRTHDAYS

February 3: Norma Bloom

February 5: Dale Stahl

February 6: Bill Imler, Macie Ireland, Adam Reinders

February 7: Jim McKay, Cayla Walchle

February 8: Kathy Abraham

Congregational Life

Prayer Concerns

Our sympathies to Carolyn Welch on the death of her husband, Chuck, who passed away on Thursday, December 17.

Our sympathies to family of Betty Schorr. Betty died on Saturday, December 19.

Our sympathies to Margaret Mayflower on the death of her husband, Chester, who passed away on Sunday, December 20.

Our sympathies to Janet Rough on the death of her husband, Thomas, who passed away on Wednesday, December 30.

Our sympathies to Kim Sedery on the death of her boyfriend, Mel Jones, who passed away on Monday, January 4.

Our sympathies to Pastor Greg Enstrom and family on the death of his brother, Alan, who passed away on Thursday, January 7. He was 68.

Praises

Friends,

I'd like to express my sincere thanks for your prayers, cards and messages as I fought my difficult battle with COVID. You were so generous with your love. And a special thank you to our fabulous youth who made me be bracelets and prayed over them. I wore them day and night every single day of my recovery. You touched my heart each time I saw or felt them on my wrist.

With love, Pam Musick

To the Seekers Class:

Thank you for the end-of-semester treat box. I appreciate you remembering me while I am away at college.

Christopher Lutz

Seekers Sunday School Class,

Thanks so much for the care packages!

All the goodies were absolutely wonderful! It means a lot to us that our church family is thinking of us and cares so much. You all are the BEST and a blessing to us! Looking forward to when we can see all of you again. God Bless you ALL!!

Jacob, Dillon and Michael Redding

The family of Charles Welch would like to thank everyone for their prayers and expressions of caring and concern during Chuck's lengthy illness and his passing.

We are most appreciative and extend our love to you, our church family.

Carolyn Welch, Bob and family, Mike and family

Mission Offering

The Allen County Jail Chaplaincy is an ecumenical partnership that provides a spiritual Christian witness to those who are incarcerated at the Allen County Jail. The chaplains and volunteers conduct worship services, Bible studies and offer counselling and classes for both inmates and their families. The chaplaincy's MISSION is:

Be a spiritual support to those who are incarcerated.

Be of help to pastors and churches who offer spiritual support to their members in jail.

Be a living witness of Jesus Christ to the inmates, their families, the churches, and the community.

The program receives no federal or state funding, but is solely supported by donor and organizational/foundation gifts.

Food Cart

The Food Cart in the Narthex is for food item donations for the East Wayne Street Center's food pantry. In December, we collected 65.5 lbs. of food.

Covid Vaccines

To schedule an appointment for vaccines through Parkview North, call the Miro Center at 877-651-0748. They are giving the Pfizer vaccine.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 7, is Super Bowl Sunday. We are asking that you drop off cans of soup as the food collection.

We'll have the cart set up by the office entrance. Let's see how many we can collect for the food pantry at East Wayne Street Center!

Devotionals Available

The Upper Room devotionals are still available in the literature rack by the coat racks. If you would like us to mail you a copy, just call the church office (422-4681) and let us know.

Partners in Prayer

Our congregation has a Prayer letter that is put together once a week and is sent out to members of the congregation that would like to be a part of this ministry.

Some prefer to receive this by mail & others receive this by email. If this is a ministry that you would like to be a part of, contact Karla Hofherr at 260-705-1215 or by email: karlahofherr@gmail.com.

You may also call the church office and let Connie Boren know. If you are receiving the prayer letter and see something that needs to be updated, please contact us.

Good News Deadline

DEADLINE for the MARCH Good News is Monday, February 15. Items should be e-mailed to Kim Truesdell, our newsletter Editor, at kmtruesdell@gmail.com.

GOOD NEWS

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FEBRUARY 2021 ISSUE

FIRST WAYNE STREET STAFF

Senior Minister: Rev. Jason Morris

Visitation Pastor: Rev. Dan Bellinger

Ministry Staff

Director of Music & Organist: Dr. Geoffrey North

Director of Congregational Life & Nurture:
Audra Reinders

Children's Choir Director: Phyllis Boester

Youth Director: Kim Truesdell

Support Staff

Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Connie Boren

Facility Manager: Cesar Anzaldua

Security Officer: Kenneth "Bart" Bartholomew

Communications Coordinator: Kim Truesdell

Childcare Providers

Jane Daniels, Brooke Orellana,

Angi Reinking, Carrie Hogle