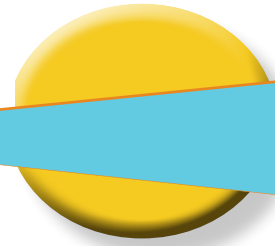




First Wayne Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
uplifting. inspiring. downtown.

April 2021



GOOD NEWS

HOPE IN RESURRECTION

KIMBERLY TRUESDELL

I like to joke that my grandma was an old-school Catholic. But, to be honest, I'm not sure what that even means. Yes, there was a picture of Jesus or Mary (more likely, though, both) in every room of her house ... including the bathroom. We were not allowed to rest our bums on the pew as we knelt during Mass. She unrolled the waist of my uniform skirt when I tried to test the definition of "finger-tip length."

And, we certainly didn't dare to eat between meals on Ash Wednesday. Or, you didn't tell her that you stopped through the Dunkin Donuts drive-through on your way home from Key Club.

There wasn't a Good Friday that she didn't become a meteorologist. "It always storms between noon and 3 p.m.," she declared as we sat quiet.

Those who knew my grandma, though, knew her as a woman of strong faith, devotion, and steadfast love. She was a woman who said the rosary every day, often went to Mass several times a week, and had unwavering trust in God.

And so I couldn't help but draw the parallel that the one-year anniversary of her death fell on Good Friday in 2019.

For months, the weight of losing my grandmother had been with me. I felt heavy yet hollow as I tried to navigate this new life without her. It seemed so hard to move forward much less continue to put one foot in front of the other for a run.

But on that day, April 19, 2019, I laced up my running shoes and walked out my front door. Without a plan, without expectation. My only hope was to find the space and peace I would need to get through that day.

I headed out on a familiar route through Foster Park. But as I took a slight detour, I felt like I couldn't do it any more. I was running too fast. My heart felt like it was going to explode.

But as I shifted my attention from how I felt, I was struck by my surroundings. There was bark peeling from a sycamore tree as fresh grass sprouted from the earth. The birds were chirping and squirrels were playing.

After such a horrible winter, there was promise of new life.

It was like that day, Good Friday. After Jesus' suffering and death on the cross, there is hope and promise of Resurrection. His sacrifice means that we can live.

At my grandma's funeral, I quoted the lyrics of a contemporary Christian song — "Whole Heart."

Your love

It comes with no conditions

You give us Your whole heart

My hope

Is in the blood of Jesus

I know who I am

Because of who You are

We are who we are because Jesus sacrificed himself on the cross. Through his crucifixion and resurrection, we are able to be called from out of sin. Out of darkness.

Even in the hardest moments, we are shown unconditional love and mercy. We are able to have hope. We are able to see the green leaves, and the light through the trees.

Christ has risen. He has risen indeed!

Congregational Life

April's Mission Offering

Alive Community Outreach is our focus mission for April. Pastor Angelo Mante is the executive director for this ministry. The ministry's mission is to cultivate a community of nonviolence through relationships and education. Providing support to families affected by violence and educating youth and youth-serving organizations in nonviolence is the focus of the ministry. Rooted in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s philosophy of nonviolence, Alive works to equip our next generation with skills to navigate conflicts peacefully and a framework for transforming the underlying conditions that continue to produce violence. "Together, we can build a Beloved Community free from the cycle of violence."

Food Cart

The Food Cart in the Narthex is for food item donations for the East Wayne Street Center's food pantry. In February, we collected 33.5 lbs. of food.

Lenten Fishes & Loaves

We are collecting cans of tuna, mackerel, salmon, and boxes of crackers for the East Wayne Street Center for Lent. Collection will go through April 4.

Prayer Concerns

Our sympathies to Art & Phyllis Boester on the death of Art's grandson, Jason Vroom, who passed away on Thursday, February 25.

Our sympathies to Carol Maxwell on the death of her husband, Rev. Kent Maxwell, who passed away on Monday, March 1.

'Art This Way' Mural Project

The Administrative Council is seeking a limited number of volunteers to form a committee and work with Art This Way to explore the potential of having a mural painted on the East side of our building that faces Lafayette St.

Art This Way is responsible for many of the incredible murals that have come to grace building facades all around downtown in

recent years.

Members of Ad Council are enthusiastic about this opportunity and are interested in seeing what it can become.

Please contact Chris Ford via e-mail at cmford@gmail.com if you would like to participate. This process could lead to a wonderful addition to FWS and the entire community we are called to serve.

Our sympathies to Angi Reinking and family on the death of Angi's first cousin, Greg Pressler, who passed away on Monday, March 1.

Our sympathies to Gene Evans & family on the death of Gene's wife, Shirley, who passed away on Friday, March 12.

Praises

Dear First Wayne Street UMC,

This year – perhaps more than any other – we are grateful for your tithes and offerings. Thank you. Because of your faithfulness, our Connection is stronger, and lives are being changed.

May God bless you abundantly for your generosity. Wishing you a blessed Easter as we celebrate that Jesus is risen!

Be encouraged,
Bishop Julius C. Trimble

Address Changes

Al Kuelling, 4705 Prospect Street;
Littleton, CO 80123

April Devotionals Available

The Upper Room devotionals are 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.

Hospitality Volunteers needed

We would like to bring back donuts and coffee before services, but want to do it in the safest way possible. We are looking for volunteers to serve coffee and donuts in the atrium before church on Sunday mornings. Responsibilities would include making and serving coffee and handing out donuts. Super easy! This can be a one-time commitment or on a more regular basis if desired. Please contact Audra if interested in helping.

Good News Deadline

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

Congregational Life

Easter Egg Hunt

At 9 am Easter Sunday, children will meet in the atrium to decorate their Easter bags and hear the Easter story. Afterwards, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt on the third floor. Cookies and juice will be served to families.

Please note: There will be no Sunday School for Youth or Children on Easter Sunday.

Vacation Bible School July 19-22

Please save the date for Vacation Bible School this Summer! We are so excited to have a fun program this year for

children ages Pre-K through 5th grade. As always, lots of volunteers are needed to make this event happen, so please consider volunteering! More details to come!

Rummage Sale Saturday, July 10

We are starting to collect items for the Rummage Sale. As you do your spring cleaning, consider donating items to the church! Proceeds from the sale benefit Youth and Children's Programming. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact Audra, or Robin Hermann or Linda Allen (Rummage Sale co-chairs) for more information.

Monthly Calendar

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Maundy Thursday

6 pm Virtual Maundy Thursday Devotion and Communion

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Good Friday

7 pm Good Friday Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Communion Sunday

Easter Sunday

9 am Easter Egg Hunt

MONDAY, APRIL 5

Easter Monday — Office closed

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

9:30 am UMW Executive Meeting

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

6 pm Outreach Committee Meeting — Virtual

MONDAY, APRIL 12

6 pm Staff Parish Meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

11:30 am Staff Meeting — Virtual

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

5 pm Cassandra Stith's Senior Recital

MONDAY, APRIL 19

6 pm Trustees Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

7:30 am Finance Committee Meeting — Virtual

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Good News Folders (pm)

11:30 am Staff Meeting — Virtual

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Good News Mailers (am)

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

8:30 am Preschool Child Care

9 am Sunday School

10 am Service (in-person and online)

WEDNESDAY

6:45 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal

ANNIVERSARIES

April 15: Barclay & Erikka Hall

April 22: DeWayne & Kay Ann Schmidt

April 24: Philip & Karen Clelland

April 28: Mike & Mary Musson

April 30: Max & Gayle Smith

BIRTHDAYS

April 2: Marie Murdock

April 4: Mel Hochstetler

April 6: Janellyn Borden, Sam Schwartz

April 7: Brayden Irelan

April 8: Bernie Havens

April 9: Pam Reese, Jana Powell, Bill Townsend

April 10: Posey Dodds, Silas Truesdell

April 13: Marilyn Gross, Michael Schmidt, Anna Zartman

April 14: Pat Gamble, Ella Miller

April 15: Gayle Smith

April 17: Keith Mooneyhan

April 18: Jane Hanson, Victoria Rogers

April 19: Dianne May, Jamie Wilkins

April 20: Greg Krouse, Susan Stouder

April 21: Carrie Hogle

April 23: Daphne Coffman, Janet Helfrich

April 26: Al Fishburn

April 27: Alison Schmidt

April 30: Richard Sanders

GOOD NEWS

FIRST WAYNE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
300 EAST WAYNE STREET
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46802

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APRIL 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

Head Custodian: Cesar Anzaldua

Security Officer: Kenneth "Bart" Bartholomew

Communications Coordinator: Kim Truesdell

Childcare Providers

Jane Daniels, Brooke Orellana,

Angi Reinking, Carrie Hogle