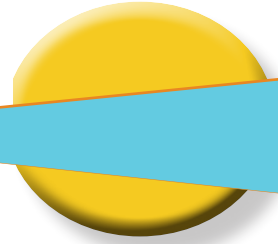




**First Wayne Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
uplifting. inspiring. downtown.



May 2021

## GOOD NEWS

# GO, LOVE, TOGETHER

As I've been praying about where God is leading First Wayne Street UMC, three words keep coming to mind: go, love, together.

As United Methodists, we have a call to "go and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." That is our mission. That is our call. So, what will that look like at First Wayne Street?

In a time when an increasing number of people are finding the Church to be irrelevant, there simply is not a quick fix. Therefore, we have to ask ourselves a few questions:

Are we willing to do the hard work?

Are we willing to become uncomfortable?

Are we willing to give up some of our familiar traditions in order to make space for others?

In his book "unChristian," author David Kinnaman shares some insights of what those outside the Church think about Christianity. Here are the words used to describe Christians, "hypocritical, anti-homosexual, sheltered, too political, judgmental."

While stereotypes are often unfair, they also often contain a healthy dose of truth. That's why it's vitally

important that we followers of Jesus commit to embodying and extending God's love and grace.

So, as I pray about where God is leading us, I find myself wrestling with our vision. Our vision represents how we will live out our mission. I believe the three words that keep coming into my mind (go, love, together) will be wrapped into God's vision for us today and into the future.

These three words stem from three foundational passages of Scripture.

**GO!** In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus challenges His followers, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Jesus calls us to go and gives us the comforting reminder that He will be with us as we go.

**LOVE!** In Mark 12:28-34, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. He answers in verses 30-31, "you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The

second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Jesus makes it clear that love is the greatest call of His followers. So, we are called to "go" and "love."

**TOGETHER!** In John 17, Jesus prays for Himself, His followers, and those who will come to believe in Him. It's a beautiful and powerful prayer. Within that prayer, Jesus prays that His followers would "they would be one as you (God) and I are one" (verse 11 and again in verse 21). The idea of "being one" is that we would recognize that we're all in this together. When we "go" in "love" we should be "together."

I believe God is calling us to go, love, together! I also believe that as we go, love, together, God will help us connect with others in our community and help them see that maybe we aren't like the stereotypes David Kinnaman highlights. As we go, love, together, others might become curious about why we go, love, together and desire to join us on the journey.

I'll be sharing more about where I believe God is calling us in the future! In the meantime, let us be people of love and grace as we go, love, together!

## Congregational Life

### Mother's Day Fundraiser

In lieu of homebaked goods, we will be doing a Rise'n Roll Fundraiser for Mother's Day! All proceeds go towards VBS. You have the option to purchase their famous caramel donuts by the dozen or purchase boxes of donut holes!

Prices:

1 Dozen donuts: \$15 each

One box of Donut Holes: \$9 each

Order forms are available in the church office. Order Deadline: All orders and money must be turned into the church no later than Tuesday, May 4. Donut orders will be available for pickup at church on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9. Call Audra if you need additional information.

### Youth Volunteer Opportunities

On May 1, the youth will participate in a service event through the YMCA.

We are scheduled to spread mulch at Lion's Park (at the intersection of Carew Street and Hazelwood Avenue). Meet at the park at 9 am.

Congregation members are invited to join the youth on this work day.

Equipment is provided by the Parks Department.

On May 22, the Beyond the Walls summer service series will kick off. Youth will work from 9 am to 3 pm at Epworth Forest. Lunch will be provided.

Please sign up by May 15 so that Kim can plan transportation.

Other Beyond the Walls dates are: June 16, July 21 and Aug. 8.

Each event will cost \$10 per youth.

### Families on Wayne: Annual Zoo Day

Join us for our Annual Zoo Day and

picnic on Sunday, May 16. If you don't have a zoo pass, the Children's Fund will pay your way. After church, head to the zoo with your packed lunch, and meet at the picnic area in front of the zoo.

After we eat, we will all head in together for a fun afternoon at the zoo! Please call or email Audra to RSVP.

### 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.

The theme will be "Great Big Beautiful World." Children will explore, celebrate, and discover God's love for all of creation!

### VBS Volunteers Needed

VBS Volunteers needed! Help make and grow disciples of Jesus Christ as a VBS volunteer. Youth and Adults are needed in all areas, including worship, music, crafts, group leaders, and more. Please consider finding a volunteer position that fits your interests and schedule!

Call Audra or sign up online at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4EA5A723A0F49-vbsjuly>

### 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.

### ANNIVERSARIES

April 15: Barclay & Erikka Hall

May 1: Bob & Linda Floyd, Mike & Barb Harris

May 3: Eric & Mary Ehlers, John & Diane Kinnaley

May 5: Gary & Ann Carnes

May 8: Gary & Greta Hall

May 9: Keith Mooneyhan & Jane Brauchla-Mooneyhan

May 17: Joe & Pam Reese, Tyler & Cayla Walchle

May 18: Adam & Audra Reinders

May 19: Ryan & Shari Stark

May 23: Mel & Donna Hochstetler

May 27: Jim & Margaret McKay

May 30: Dan & Jane Daniels

May 31: Berry & Christine Weaver

### BIRTHDAYS

May 1: Linda Floyd

May 3: Dick Bugher, Deb Metzger

May 4: Jackson Davis

May 5: Sarah Colvin

May 6: Nathan Hofherr, Shirley Horton

May 8: Jan Hyde, Joshua Schmidt

May 11: Melissa Norton

May 12: Christine Weaver

May 14: Kristen Bayman

May 15: Jacoby Mooneyhan

May 16: Allyson Fortman, Tracie Hoffman, Jonathan Miller

May 17: Linda Allen, Phillip Clelland, Brent Leuthold, Jason Schiffli

May 18: Spencer Bailey

May 19: Cindy Ford, Dick Moon

May 22: Mae Belle Havens

May 23: Samantha Morris

May 24: Lois Huffer, Isabella Wynn

May 26: Annabel North

May 28: Kay Robbins, Matt Wynn

May 29: Emily Morris, Judy Overholt, Michael Redding

May 30: Brayden Hogle, Deb Holbrook

May 31: Bryan Gibson

## Congregational Life

### May's Mission Offering

Wellspring's Youth Summer Camp will resume this summer and is FWS's Outreach focus mission for the month of May. Children and youth, primarily those living in the West Central neighborhood, are offered this day camp for free. Daily activities include: Math, Reading, Arts/Crafts, Music, Yoga, Field Trips, Guest Speakers, Library Visits, and Recreational Games. Lunch is provided for the campers.

### Food Cart

The Food Cart in the Narthex is for food item donations for the East Wayne Street Center's food pantry. In March, we collected 65.93 pounds of food.

During the Lenten Fishes & Loaves Collection, we collected the following:

Tuna: 94 cans  
Mackerel: 2 cans  
Salmon: 6 cans  
Sardines: 2 cans  
Crackers: 15 boxes

Thank you to all who participated.

### Prayer Concerns

Our sympathies to Donna Shady & family on the death of her husband, Lynn, who passed away on Thursday, March 18.

### Praises

Dear Seekers Sunday School Class,

We thank you for the Easter cards and special care packages filled with so many snacks and candy. All of these treats will help us as we approach our weeks of finals. A special appreciation and thank you to Walt and Marilee Gilliland for delivering the thoughtful Easter wishes and packages.

Sincerely,  
Ben and Emma Bailey

### Address Changes

Pat Burtnette; same address except Memory Care, Room 2

Dorothy Driver; 1717 Maplecrest Road, Unit 214; Fort Wayne, IN 46815-7674

Barb Harvill; bharv84736@aol.com

Shirley Horton; The Towne Square; Towne House Retirement Center; 2209 St. Joe Center Road; Fort Wayne, IN 46825-5061

### May/June Devotionals

The Upper Room devotionals are available in the literature rack by the coat racks.

### Good News Deadline

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

## Monthly Calendar

### TUESDAY, MAY 4

9:30 am UMW Exec. Meeting

### MONDAY, MAY 10

6 pm Staff Parish Meeting

### TUESDAY, MAY 11

11:30 am Staff Meeting

Noon UMW Spring Luncheon

### THURSDAY, MAY 13

5:30 pm Outreach Committee — Virtual

### MONDAY, MAY 17

6 pm Trustees Meeting

### SUNDAY, MAY 23

Pentecost Sunday

### MONDAY, MAY 24

6 pm Ad Council Meeting

### TUESDAY, MAY 25

Good News Folders (pm)

11:30 am Staff Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Good News Mailers (am)

### MONDAY, MAY 31

Memorial Day – Office closed

## 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

# GOOD NEWS

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

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MAY 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