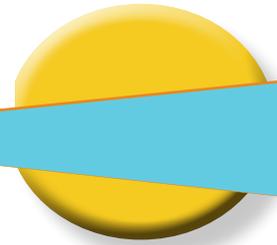




First Wayne Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
uplifting. inspiring. downtown.

July 2021



GOOD NEWS

LEADING A LIFE OF LOVE

As I prayerfully consider where God is leading our ministry at First Wayne Street, three words have come into focus. Go. Love. Together. God is calling us to go into our community and world to share the love of Christ with all, together. Last month, I used this article to share about the importance of going — and how wherever we find ourselves, that's where Jesus is calling us to be His witness through word and deed.

Acts 1 reminds us of our call to be Christ's witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. Essentially, Jesus is calling us to witness in our neighborhood, our city, in the places we would rather avoid — and wherever we find ourselves.

I believe that we provide our best witness for Jesus when we embrace a lifestyle of love. Unfortunately, as I've shared before, Christians are becoming less known by our love and more known by characteristics we should not be proud of ...

In his book "unChristian," David Kinnaman shares research that shows how those outside the Christian community view Christians. This is how, according to Kinnaman's research, Christians are known...

We are known for being hypocritical, hyper-focused on conversion, anti-homosexual, sheltered, too political and judgmental. In his follow up book, "You Lost Me", Kinnaman points out that in addition to those characteristics, we Christians are known for being overprotective, shallow, anti-science, repressive and exclusive.

So, is that really how we want to be known? I hope we're all in agreement that this is NOT how we desire to be known. I believe that's why leading lives of love is so vitally important for the church.

Yet, if I'm being honest, I also know that Kinnaman's assessment rings true. In an era of American Christianity where we are known more for what we stand against, than what we stand for — we can't be surprised by this point of view. Our amazing, wonderful, mysterious faith has been boiled down into catchy slogans, bumper sticker theology and passionate keyboard warriors advocating for a couple of hot-button political issues.

I believe one step towards leading lives of love is a radical commitment to keep Jesus the main thing. Too often, we get distracted by denominational,

political, relational and financial issues and Jesus gets lost in the mix. I'm not saying those issues aren't important — they are — but we have to keep Jesus at the center of it all.

Over the last year, we've seen both the best and the worst sides of people. We have seen followers of Jesus on the front lines demanding their rights ... rather than sharing, we hoarded, rather than serving, we resisted, rather than supporting and encouraging, we threatened and demeaned.

Jesus said, "They will know you are mine by the way you love one another."

In Matthew 22:36-40, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. In answering the question, Jesus boils the entire law down to one word... LOVE. "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."

Who, exactly, does Jesus call us to love? Well, everyone!

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Family and Youth

Beyond the Walls

On July 21, youth are invited to serve God beyond the walls of First Wayne Street.

This multi-church service event will be 9 am to 3 pm, and lunch will be provided.

The service project will be in conjunction with the YMCA's Be a Good Neighbor week and benefit Neighborlink.

The cost to attend is \$10, and it covers any materials and a T-shirt.

For information about how to register, contact Kim Truesdell.

More details about the project will be available as the date approaches.

Youth Trip to Cedar Point

Current and rising members of the youth ministry are invited to "Ride On" into the school year with a trip to Cedar Point.

The trip will be Friday, August 6. Youth will leave at 7 am from the church parking lot and return about 10 pm.

The cost to attend is \$25, and youth should plan to bring spending money.

Please RSVP by July 23 so transportation can be reserved.

Adult chaperones are also needed.

Batter's Up

We are so excited to be offering two opportunities to attend a Tin Caps game with First Wayne Street this summer!

You have the option to attend either an evening game (with fireworks!) on Saturday, August 14, an afternoon game on Sunday, August 15, or both!

This is a church-wide event and everybody who is interested is encouraged to attend. More information (ticket prices, seating areas, etc.) will be coming very soon.

Money from the children's council fund will cover the cost of one game for families with children.

Call Audra for more information.

Sign Up now for Vacation Bible School

Are you ready to explore? God's "Great Big Beautiful World" is ready to welcome you.

The Children's Ministry program is

excited that this important program is back for summer 2021. VBS will be 6 to 8 pm July 19 to 22.

Through worship and drama, Bible study, nature-themed art projects and snacks, active games, and science explorations, children will discover God's love for all of creation. They will be challenged to care for God's world in tangible ways - both during VBS and at home.

We are so excited to have a fun program this year for children ages Pre-K through 5th grade.

To sign up, click on the event link on our Facebook page or contact Audra for information.

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/>

Congregational Life

Work Anniversary

Each Sunday, as we members of First Wayne Street United Methodist Church walk into our church building, we are met with the strong presence and friendly greetings of Kenneth Bartholomew, known to us as Bart. He has served our congregation as a security officer for 5 years, since June 26th, 2016. Please let him know how much you appreciate his service with us.

New Faith Share Session

We are living right now in a world that seems to be seething with anger and hate. Bishop Michael Curry, the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church and a descendant of slaves, has written a book called *Love is the Way*. One of the reviews of this book says "Drawing on his own life and experiences, he shows us that, time and again, when love is threatened by circumstances - be it poverty, racism, violence, injustice or the abuse of power - that same love has the power to shine

through."

A Faith Share group will be reading this book together, beginning July 28th. We will meet at 4:00 Wednesdays in the church building, but will also make it possible for people to join online with Zoom. If you would like to read and discuss this challenging and inspiring book, please let the church office know. Audra Reinders can order the book for you, or it is available on Kindle and Nook. If you have questions, contact Ann Kreamer.

Congregational Life

Mission Offering

The focus mission for July will again be Backpacks for Charis House.

Because women and children are not long-term residents of Charis House, there is a need every school year to provide new backpacks filled with the school supplies that the children will need. The staff at Charis House provides a listing to our FWS Outreach committee as to how many backpacks and the items that are needed to properly fill the backpacks.

Our focus mission asking is purely a financial asking to provide the funds that our FWS committee “shoppers” will need to purchase the backpacks and the school supplies to fill them prior to our Service of Blessing the Backpacks and delivering them.

(If you see a great buy on school supplies in July, please consider putting them in the “Shocking Pink” box on the information table to support the Koinonia class’s project to help the Indian Village Elementary School.)

Food Cart

The Food Cart in the Narthex is for food item donations for the East Wayne Street Center’s food pantry. In May, we collected 66.88 lbs. of food.

Mission Guatemala 2022

If you are interested in learning more about the Mission Guatemala trip in 2022, join Pastor Jason on Sunday, July 25 at 9am or on Sunday, August 15 following our worship service. If you are planning to join us on the trip, please reserve your spot with a \$100 deposit no later than

September 1, 2021.

Water Bottle Ministry

The water bottle hospitality will go through Saturday, Sept. 4. We provide cool bottles of free water to those shopping at the farmer’s market on Barr Street from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. or until the bottles run out. Look for the sign-up sheets on the hallway table and please help us show some First Wayne Street Radical Hospitality.

Koinonia Class

The Koinonia Class will resume in person meetings on Sunday, July 11th.

The adult Sunday school class will do a Bible study called “Faith in the Margins.”

It will be a self-contained study every week in which we work our way through the Bible, comparing notes we’ve written in our Bibles over the years.

Prayer Concerns

Our sympathies to Fran Foster on the death of her husband, John, who passed away on Thursday, May 20. They were long-time members at First Wayne Street.

Our sympathies to Wilma Lake on the death of her husband, Keith, who passed away on Wednesday, May 26. The funeral was at Nine Mile UMC yesterday. This was also Dianne May’s father.

Our sympathies to family and friends of Clifford Friend who passed away on Friday, June 4.

Our sympathies to Marilyn Gross on the death of her husband, Al, who passed away on Tuesday, June 8. This is also Twyla Hunter’s father.

Praises

Dear First Wayne Street UMC,

Thank you so much for investing in the men, women, and children served at The Rescue Mission. Your support of this mission is incredible! Giving is not just about donating – it is about making a difference.

Because of your support, you are making a brighter future possible for your community members who are experiencing a homeless crisis. Thank you once again for your kindness and generosity you put into changing lives.

God bless,

Rev. Donovan A. Coley, Sr.
CEO, Senior Pastor

Address Changes

Pam Musick; 1701 Summit Reserve Drive;
Fort Wayne, IN 46814-8879

Devotionals

July/August Devotionals Available The Upper Room devotionals are still available in the literature rack by the coat racks.

Good News Deadline

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

UMW lunch to benefit residence home

First Wayne Street United Methodist Women is sponsoring a Summer Social & Lucille Raines Residence Benefit.

The event will be from noon to 2 pm Tuesday, July 13, 2021, in Fellowship Hall.

The luncheon will be a time to enjoy a meal, relax, reconnect, and learn about how UMW supports the Lucille Raines Residence in Indianapolis; a recovery/support environment for adults in need.

Lunch will be hot dogs, baked beans and other picnic fare.

Please bring an item from the list below to help with Lucille Raines needs:

- Twin sheet sets (regular length)
- Toilet paper
- Pillows
- Shampoo & conditioner



- Shower Curtain Liners (heavy)
- Body Wash (especially for men)
- Shower Curtain Rings
- Laundry Detergent
- Hygiene Products
- Monetary Donations
- Your prayers
- Your time

RSVP to the church office by Friday, July 9, if you plan to come; 422-4681.

The UMW is the largest denominational faith organization for women with approximately 800,000 members whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice.

ABOUT LUCILLE RAINES RESIDENCE

Lucille Raines Residence is a facility owned and operated by the United Methodist Women of Indiana. Many of those living at LRR, are actively engaged in rebuilding their lives after substance abuse. They share in learning to function independently in day-to-day life. Many are finding Christ to be the source of successful recovery.

Located in downtown Indianapolis, LRR has been around since 1977. It houses up to 49 individuals, recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. LRR's 12-step recovery program helps residents rebuild their lives and relationships with God. LRR offers a safe, clean and sober environment for residents given the opportunity to work on a "self help" program.

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Jesus calls us to love, not only those who love us, but even our enemies. In other words, Jesus calls us to be inclusive in our expression of love. Those we are tempted to exclude are the very ones Jesus is calling us to love.

In Matthew 25:31-40, Jesus gives us an idea of what it looks like to lead lives of love. "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats

at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, '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.'"

Love looks like leading lives of humble service. Love looks like being consumed with how we can meet the needs of our neighbors in practical and tangible ways. Love looks like feeding the hungry, providing a drink for those who thirst, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, caring for and visiting the sick and imprisoned, recognizing that when we serve others, we are serving Jesus.

We demonstrate our love for God in the way we love others. What will it look like for you and I to put love into action today? It just might be in some of the simple things we do for others.

Monthly Calendar

MONDAY, JULY 5

Office Closed

5:30 pm Rummage Sale Set-Up

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

9 am Rummage Sale Set-Up

THURSDAY, JULY 8

9 am Rummage Sale Set-Up

6 pm Outreach Committee Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 9

9 am Rummage Sale Set-Up

2 pm Rummage Sale Pre-Sale

SATURDAY, JULY 10

8 am Rummage Sale

9:30 am Water Ministry at Farmer's Market

MONDAY, JULY 12

6 pm Staff Parish Meeting

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

8:30 am Preschool Child Care

9 am Adult Sunday School

10 am Service (in-person and online)

TUESDAY, JULY 13

11:30 am Staff Meeting

Noon UMW Luncheon & Meeting

SATURDAY, JULY 17

9:30 am Water Ministry at Farmer's Market

8 pm Ice Cream Social

10 pm TRF Fireworks

MONDAY, JULY 19

6 pm Vacation Bible School

6:30 pm Trustees Meeting

TUESDAY, JULY 20

6 pm Vacation Bible School

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

6 pm Vacation Bible School

THURSDAY, JULY 22

6 pm Vacation Bible School

SATURDAY, JULY 24

9:30 am Water Ministry at Farmer's Market

TUESDAY, JULY 27

Good News Folders (pm)

11:30 am Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

Good News Mailers (am)

SATURDAY, JULY 31

9:30 am Water Ministry at Farmer's Market

ANNIVERSARIES

July 1: Matt & Sara Mroczkowski

July 2: Bill & Dona Lou Imler

July 7: Walter & Marilee Gilliland, Eric & Katie Nau

July 9: John & Carolyn Ach, Dave & Carol Jackson

July 10: John & Vivian Bickley, Dave & Susan Stouder

July 13: Justin & Jennifer Pose

July 16: C. David & Barbara Jones

July 21: Kyle & Sara Reinking

July 23: Dale Lutz & Virginia Creamer-Lutz

July 26: Matt & Candace Landry, John & Victoria Rogers

July 28: Cesar & Luz Anzaldua

July 31: Bill Townsend & Marilyn Moran-Townsend

BIRTHDAYS

July 1: Greta Hall, Darren Palmer

July 3: Virginia Daniel, Erikka Hall, Debra Pollom

July 5: Cindy Richter, Jan Schwartz

July 6: Judy Peiserich

July 7: Ron Luebcke, Miles Truesdell

July 8: Kyle Stark

July 10: Dennis Shields

July 11: David Allen

July 12: Bob Floyd

July 14: Kori Coffman, Marilee Gilliland, Brian Redding, Natalie Stark

July 16: Sandy Robison, Chad Tracey

July 18: Jim Webber

July 22: Maria Treace

July 24: Mary Ehlers, Meghan Weaver

July 28: Luz Anzaldua, Claire Selig

July 30: Phyllis Boester, Becky Wieser

July 31: Kay Ann Schmidt, Marge Smith

GOOD NEWS

FIRST WAYNE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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JULY 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