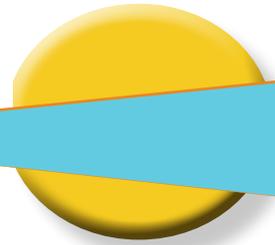




First Wayne Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
uplifting. inspiring. downtown.



September 2022

GOOD NEWS

HOPE AND MISSION

Sermon series explores what it means to be UMC

In 2007, Bishop Reuben Job authored a book that makes the rich theological heritage of the United Methodist Church easier to understand. In his book, "Three Simple Rules," Bishop Job does a fantastic job of explaining what it means to be a United Methodist. The theological wisdom of John Wesley teaches us that a healthy way to follow Jesus is to abide by these three rules: 1) do no harm, 2) do good, 3) stay in love with God.

Right now, the United Methodist Church is going through a painful, yet hopeful schism.

Congregations have been voting to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church in response to assumed action that will take place at our next General Conference regarding issues of human sexuality. While there are other issues leading congregations to disaffiliate, issues of who can serve and who can get married within our churches is at the forefront and therefore receives the most press.

I refer to this schism as painful and yet hopeful. Harm has been done as misinformation has spread and divisive lines have been drawn. While separation is painful, it can also birth hope. I believe that we will have new expressions of our Wesleyan heritage and theology birthing around the globe.



Churches remaining United Methodist will have the opportunity to fully live into their calling. Churches disaffiliating will have the opportunity to fully live into their calling. We should not see one another as the enemy. We should not proclaim moral or theological superiority over one another. We should pray for, bless and encourage one another to do all we can to continue following those three simple rules.

Throughout the month of September, we will explore some of the reasons the United Methodist Church is a great place to be. I believe that when we get past the difficulties challenging our denomination today, the United Methodist Church will experience a vibrant renewal. I believe our

denomination and our local congregations will experience healing, strengthening and a renewed missional purpose. Our commitment to being in ministry with and for all people to give hope to those who are searching for meaningful connection with God and God's followers.

We will talk about our unique mission as United Methodists, our theology and doctrine, our views on grace, our commitment to both social justice and personal holiness, and many other reasons that cause me to be proud to be a United Methodist. I am encouraged. I am hopeful. I am excited to see what God desires to do next at First Wayne Street. And, I hope you are too!

FWS recognizes Cesar for 20 years

Facilities manager Cesar Anzaldua has been nicknamed “St. Cesar” by Pastor Jason Morris.

While his work ethic and involvement in the life of the church are exemplary, his nickname comes from his ability to transform the building.

From helping during the rummage sale to setting up the sanctuary for holidays and outside events, he creates a welcoming, clean space for members and guests.

This month, Cesar will celebrate his 20-work anniversary at First Wayne Street UMC. To celebrate this milestone, members are encouraged to show their appreciation. There will be a basket outside the sanctuary on Sept. 11 where you can place cards for Cesar.

(Fun fact: His birthday is also in September — Sept. 11.)

“Cesar will have been an indispensable part of our church family for 20 years,” writes the Staff Parish Committee. “His unending kindness, hard work, and many talents have blessed this congregation



tremendously.”

July is a big month for important activities at First Wayne Street United Methodist Church. There is the rummage sale, which occupies part of the main floor of the church for weeks and then all of Fellowship Hall and the narthex for almost a week. A week later is the ice cream social which also requires a lot of organization and preparation. But when Sunday morning arrived after each of

those events, it was worship as usual with everything in its accustomed place.

The committee points to his effort to maintain the building during July, when the church hosts events around the Three Rivers Festival.

As facilities manager, Cesar handles routine maintenance around our building and outdoor space. In addition, he helps address problems when they arise and coordinates with outside contractors.

Music ministry

WOWS concert line-up

Oct. 5: Lisa Gerstenkorn, contralto. She will perform a program of arias and art songs, accompanied by Geoffrey North

Oct. 12: The Purdue Fort Wayne Treble

Choir is a select choir of treble (soprano and alto) voices. They will perform choral music under the direction of Emily Bird.

Oct. 19: Violetta Todorova, violin. She will perform a program of music by Bach, Pärt,

and Kreisler, accompanied by Geoffrey North.

Oct. 26: Geoffrey North, piano. First Wayne Street’s own Dr North will perform the five Metamorphosis by Philip Glass.

Let’s connect

FACEBOOK

Connect with First Wayne Street. Our Facebook page is the place for current events, inspiration, and more. It’s also a way to share our church with your connections. Go to Facebook.com and search First Wayne Street.

YOUTUBE

Stream our weekly worship service. Previous sermons and concert events are also available. Go to YouTube.com and search First Wayne Street UMC and be sure to subscribe so you don’t miss an upload.

WEBSITE

Stay up-to-date with the news at First Wayne Street, as well as learn more about the congregation and building. From the website, you can also access the pastor’s blog, event calendar, and online giving platform. Our church website is at FWSUMC.org.

Ready to Gather: Join us in September

There is something for everyone on Wednesday nights at First Wayne Street UMC.

Our programming, known as Gather, will resume on September 7.

Gather is a time to enjoy friends, family, fellowship and food.

A light dinner is served from 5 to 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. There is no cost for the meal but a freewill donation is encouraged.

Programming for children, ages 3 through fifth-graders, begins at 6 pm. Children participate in the elementary choir, which is led by Phyllis Boester. This choir sings periodically throughout the year in our church services.

Following choir, children have the opportunity to participate in fun-filled activities including crafts, games, and

FAITH SHARE RESUMES

As Christians we view the Bible as a foundation for our faith, but it is a book which can at times puzzle us and disturb us.

Pastor Adam Hamilton has written a book called "Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today," which can help us understand this book better. The Faith Share group will resume September 7. The group meets at 4 pm Wednesdays in room 115 and will be reading and discussing this book together.

New members are always welcome! If you wish to join the group, please let Ann Kreamer or Audra Reinders know so we can order enough books.

service.

At 6 pm, a casual worship service will be led by Pastor Jason Morris. Adults can participate in a conversation about faith and more following the music.

Youth programming begins at 6:15 pm. This fall, youth will live "The Good Life." The teens will explore what it means to be

happy and how Jesus taught us to search for, find, and hold onto the good life.

But youth programming is more than just study! There is also time for games and treats. Youth periodically take trips to Insomnia Cookies and Sweets on Main.

Activities end at 7:30 pm.

Family ministry

SS Teachers needed

Children/Youth SS returns on Sunday, September 11.

We are still looking for regular Sunday School teachers and people willing to be put on a Sunday School substitute list.

Please contact Audra for more information on this important and rewarding ministry.

Fright Night weekend: Volunteers needed!!

We will again be partnering with the YMCA for Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 15!

We will be taking candy donations outside of the church office throughout September and October up to the event.

We would like to have as many cars as

possible to participate (hand out candy) in this fun event! Last year we had around 800 children come trunk-or-treating!

River City Rat Race

In addition to Trunk or Treat, FWS will also be partnering with the YMCA by providing volunteers for the River City Rat Race on Sunday, October 16.

This is a charity race that supports the Central YMCA's Annual Fund Drive, which gives financially challenged children and adults an opportunity to utilize all of the programs that the YMCA has to offer. Best of all, the race takes place right in our front yard in Downtown Fort Wayne!

There are many ways that volunteers can participate, including handing out water, helping out in the food tent, race

pointers, and more.

All information is listed on the SignUp Genius page:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4EA5A723A0F49-trunk1>

About youth and children ministry

We think learning about and serving Jesus should be fun. Children and youth are a priority to us, and we are doing all we can to build into children a love for God, the Church, the Bible, and the World.

Our ministries offer opportunities for faith, fellowship, and service.

There are activities for youth and children during Wednesday night Gather, as well as events planned throughout the year.

Congregational Life

Mission offering

Redemption House is about a fresh start in life. It is a network of transition homes for women who desire to redeem their lives from past destructive behavior by developing a faith-based lifestyle and by gaining the skills necessary to achieve and maintain success.

Women residents are assigned to Redemption House by the courts as an alternative to jail. During a six-month residency at Redemption House, women work to develop job skills, find freedom from addictions, and mend broken relationships. As a Christian community, the residents grow together in faith and positive lifestyle choices.

Last month Redemption House Ministries celebrated their 10 year anniversary of serving in our Fort Wayne community.

Food cart

The Food Cart in the Narthex is for food item donations for the East Wayne Street Center's food pantry. In July, we collected 55.76 lbs. of food and 16 lbs. of personal hygiene items.

Prayer concerns

Our sympathies to Dona Lou Imler on the death of her husband Rev. Bill Imler, who passed away on Sunday, July 31. This was also Carol Jackson's father.

Our sympathies to family of Marge Smith who passed away on Friday, August 5.

Service for Rev. Bill Imler

The memorial service for the Rev. Bill Imler will be Saturday, September 10, 2:00 p.m. at Angola United Methodist

Church; 220 W. Maumee Street; with visitation at 1:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts for Bill Imler can be directed to Angola United Methodist Church, 220 W. Maumee Street, Angola, IN 46703 Or to Africa University Development Office P.O. Box 340007 Nashville, TN, 37203 The Africa University memorial gifts will go to an endowed scholarship in the name of William and Dona Lou Imler for a student attending the university in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe.

The family thanks the church for prayers and cards.

New library titles

New to the FWS library are two books dealing with fear and anxiety, featuring many helpful Bible verses for encouragement and meditation:

"Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times" by Adam Hamilton.

"Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World" by Max Lucado.

UWF meeting

The UWF Executive Meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 6 in Room 115.

Good News deadline

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

Lost and found

Below is a list of items in our Lost and Found drawer. The Lost and Found drawer

is located in the bottom drawer of the credenza in the front office (where the coffee maker is).

Please check to see if anything there is yours:

Chicago Cubs baseball cup

Baseball Tycoon board game

Devotionals available

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

Letters to Maleah Hermann

Recent graduate Maleahn Hermann has safely arrived at Marine Corps basic training. If you wish to mail her words of encouragement, you can send them to:

RCT Hermann, Maleahn N

4th RTBN PLT 4052 Co N

PO Box 16445

Parris Island, SC 29905-6445

Address changes

Are you moving or have new contact information? Call the church office (260) 422-4681 and let us know.

Dan & Barb Arnold; 9802 Foxwood Passage; Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Brian & Karen Francisco; 2896 W. Riverwalk Circle, A318; Littleton, CO 80123

Greg Krouse; P. O. Box 252; 200 Mt. Zion Road; Montandon, PA 17850-0253

Susan Smith Bryden; sdsb3@outlook.com

Monthly Calendar

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

9:30 am Water Ministry at Farmer's Market

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

9 am Travelin' Toms Coffee Truck
10 am Outside Worship

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Labor Day – Office Closed

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

9:30 am UWF Exec. Meeting

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Sunday school programming resumes

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

6 pm Staff Parish Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

11:30 am Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

7:30 am Finance Committee Meeting

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

United Women in Faith Sunday
11 am Youth Meet

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

6:30 pm Trustees Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

1 pm Stephen Ministry
5:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

6 pm Youth Clean, Eat and Bowl

WEEKLY EVENTS

WEDNESDAY

4 pm FaithShare
5 pm Gather – Dinner
6 pm Gather programming

SUNDAY

8:45 am Preschool Child Care
9 am Sunday School
10 am Worship (in-person and online)

ANNIVERSARIES

September 2: Don & Jerrine Warner
September 7: Rob & Cindy Nolot
September 13: James & Cynthia Gardner
September 14: John and Pat Lee
September 15: Matt & Kristy Wynn
September 19: Ron & Elaine Marker
September 23: Justin & Carrie Hogle
Max & Sandy Robison
September 25: Keith & Holly Niner,
Jamie & Miranda Wilkins
September 29: Joe & Danielle Vaccaro

BIRTHDAYS

September 1: Sandra Billingslea, Cathy Norton
September 2: Kate Moor

September 3: Carolyn Parrot
September 4: Michael Hall
September 5: Anya Reinking
September 7: Linda Davis, Eloise Guy,
Chris Lahr
September 8: Vivian Miller
September 9: Lucas Hogle
September 10: John McKay, Connie Phillips
September 11: Cesar Anzaldua
September 12: Marilyn Moran-Townsend
September 13: Sherrill Colvin, Jenna Moor, Sara Reinking
September 14: Dawn Tracey
September 15: Andy Holbrook, Melanie Miller, Jacob Redding
September 17: Christopher Dodds, Berry

Weaver
September 18: Nancy DiNovo
September 21: Becky Coldren, Xavier Holbrook, Justin Pose, Logan Weaver
September 22: Andrew Johnson
September 23: Luana Haskell
September 24: Sharon Lundquist, Caroline Lutz
September 25: Christopher Lutz, Cindy Pond
September 26: Marilyn Moon, Geoffrey North
September 27: Brent Weinert
September 28: Owen Wuest
September 29: Zack Hermann, Keith Niner

GOOD NEWS

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



First Wayne Street UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE

FIRST WAYNE STREET STAFF

Senior Minister: Rev. Jason Morris

Visitation Pastor: Rev. Barry Belknap

Executive Director of Alive Community Outreach:
Rev. Angelo Mante

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

Facilities Manager: Cesar Anzaldúa

Security Officer: Kenneth "Bart" Bartholomew

Communications Coordinator: Kim Truesdell

Audio Visual Media Director: Barclay Hall

Alive Community Education Coordinator: Chris Lahr

Childcare Providers

Jane Daniels, Brooke Orellana,
Angi Reinking, Carrie Hogle