



# FIRST WAYNE STREET

United Methodist Church

**GOOD NEWS**

July 2023

## Choose joy, don't steal it

There's a fairly popular contemporary Christian song by Zach Williams called "Old Church Choir." In the lyrics, Williams proclaims that he will not let anyone steal his joy. In fact, he proclaims, "There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy!"

There are so many distractions in our world today that attempt to steal our joy. From the 24-hour news cycle, to the challenges presented in daily life, we are constantly confronted by people, events and circumstances that can steal our joy.

I found an anonymous quote while searching "joy stealers" that I found to be a helpful reminder when it comes to joy. "Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day."

We have to make a conscience effort to be people who embrace, embody and extend joy!

Joyce Meyer encourages

us to, "watch out for the joy-stealers: gossip, criticism, complaining, faultfinding, and a negative, judgmental attitude." Gossip, criticism, complaining, faultfinding, and negative judgmental attitudes are the enemies of joy. These are not necessarily outside forces, but things that come from within... and can steal our joy. Yes, we can steal our own joy!

In Galatians 5:22-23, we find the fruits of the Spirit, which are "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

Rather than gossip, criticism, complaining, faultfinding and negative, judgmental attitudes, we Christians should be known by the fruits of the Spirit. That takes effort. That requires us to make a daily choice to choose joy.

I believe one of the ways we can choose joy is to commit ourselves to practicing

Ephesians 4:32, "Be kind, compassionate, and forgiving to each other, in the same way God forgave you in Christ."

When we can gossip, choose kindness. When we can criticism and complain, choose compassion. When we can find faults and are tempted to lead with our negative, judgmental attitudes, choose forgiveness.

As we choose joy, we will find that we are less likely to steal others joy – and instead create an environment of joy. It's my hope and prayer that First Wayne Street will be a church known by its joy!

"I got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul

I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful

I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored

There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy." (Zach Williams, "Old Church Choir")

## Father's Day 5K

Members of First Wayne Street participated as a team in the annual Associated Churches Father's Day 5K. The team brought home the trophy for the Best Church.

We look forward to making this an annual event! So, be sure to join our team next year!



## Children, Families, and Youth

### Help us make the annual rummage sale a success

Mark your calendars! Our Annual Rummage Sale will take place on Saturday, July 8. To ensure the success of this event, we are calling upon the support and dedication of our wonderful church community.

There are several ways in which you can contribute!

Initial set-up: On Sunday, July 2, we invite everyone to stay after church and lend a helping hand with the initial setup of the Rummage Sale. We'll be bringing items out of storage rooms and hallways and setting up in Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary entryway. Lunch will be provided.

Daytime volunteer sessions:

Additionally, we'll be organizing Rummage Sale setup sessions during the daytime from July 5 to July 7.

Rummage sale event help:

On the day of the Rummage Sale itself, we need volunteers to work shifts in the morning and

afternoon. You can choose a time that suits you best. We will have signup sheets available soon, but if you're eager to learn more or have any questions, contact Robin Hermann or Linda Allen, our Rummage Sale Chairs.

### Ice Cream Social July 15

Come join us for our biggest outreach event of the year and enjoy ice cream and fireworks at the same time! Ice Cream will be served from 8:30-9:30 p.m., followed by 3 Rivers Fireworks in the parking lot. Youth and adult volunteers needed to help set-up, serve ice cream, and clean up afterwards. Contact Kim or Audra to volunteer.

This event is open to the public, but we will also have some fun family activities for our congregation beforehand!

Schedule:  
6:30-7:00 picnic  
7:00-8:00 magic show in sanctuary  
8:30-9:30 Ice Cream Social  
10:00 fireworks

### Save the date: Family pool party

All families are invited to come and have a fun afternoon of swimming and sunshine!

The Tracey family will host the party beginning at noon Sunday, Aug. 13.

Hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish/dessert to share. Contact Audra or Ally Fortman for more details.

### FWS at the TinCaps

FWS is once again heading to the Tincaps game!

Everyone is invited to the ballpark on Saturday, August 19 at 6:35 p.m. Stay after for the postgame fireworks!

Ticket order forms are available outside of the narthex or in the church office. All order forms will be due no later than Sunday, August 6. This is an all-ages event, and families and youth tickets will be paid for by the Childrens Fund. Contact Audra for more information.

# GriefShare group to meet this fall

First Wayne Street United Methodist is pleased to announce that a new GriefShare group will begin this fall. The group will meet 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays from September 16 to December 16.

This program is being offered in partnership with the Alive Community Ministries, the Central YMCA, and the Skyline

YMCA.

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways

of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way in a faith based environment.

Want to know more about this program? Contact Rev. Barry Belknap at 260-750-3538 or [barrybelknap@gmail.com](mailto:barrybelknap@gmail.com). Are you ready to register? Go to <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/168880>.

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## Congregational Life

### Mission focus

Backpacks for Charis House will again be the FWS Outreach focus mission for July.

Because women and children are not long-term residents of Charis House, there is a need every school year to purchase new backpacks filled with the school supplies that the children at Charis House will need for the 2023 – 24 school year. Most of the children will also need some new clothing to meet their school's dress code requirements.

Our FWS July focus mission asking is purely a financial asking to provide the funds (gift cards) that Charis House resident parents and children "shoppers" will need to purchase these items. The staff at Charis House will be accompany these small shopping groups to provide appropriate guidance and budget training.

### UWF news

First Wayne Street United Women in Faith is hosting a

summer picnic luncheon and all are invited. Picnic fare will be served in Fellowship Hall at noon Tuesday, July 11 - hot dogs, sloppy joes, baked beans, fruit kabobs. This will be a social time and also a fund raiser for East Wayne Street Food Pantry. You may bring food items or a monetary donation. RSVP to the church office by Saturday, July 7; call 422-4681.

UWF will sponsor a Back-to-School Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, August 5, 9:00-10:30am, in Fellowship Hall. This breakfast is open to all and includes staff at Indian Village School. Come enjoy a continental breakfast with those who want to pray for our students, parents, grandparents, and school staff for a positive, safe school year. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

### Support Rising Stars

Back-to School items are arriving in stores! Our partner school in the Associated Churches Rising Stars program

is Indian Village Elementary, and your help is needed in providing school supplies for the upcoming school year.

The following school supplies are needed: colored pencils, crayons, broad tip/thin line markers, pink erasers, dry erase markers, Play-Doh, sidewalk chalk, sticky notes, tissues, socks, underwear, folders with prongs, glue sticks, hand sanitizer, loose leaf notebook paper, pencil boxes, disinfectant wipes, plastic storage bags and reusable water bottles

Donations are being collected at the hot pink box in the hallway near the sanctuary. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Also, tutors for one-on-one help with students at Indian Village are needed.

Won't you consider helping out this coming school year? Call Ron Marker (755- 0220) for further details. Your contribution of one hour per week could be the most rewarding thing you will do.

# Summer adventures for youth

Calling all adventurers!  
Summer is finally here, and we couldn't be more excited about the amazing events we have planned for our church youth group!

Whether you're a regular member or new to the group, we invite you to join us for

these incredible summer events. Don't miss out on the fun and excitement!

RSVP to Kim (kmtruesdell@gmail.com) so we can arrange adequate transportation.

July 8: Rummage sale  
volunteer opportunities

July 15: Ice cream social  
volunteer opportunities

July 16: Pine Lake Trip (11 am to 4 pm)

Aug. 20: Ziplining (11 am to 4 pm)

Sept. 17: Kayaking trip (11 am to 4 pm)

## Upcoming sermons

### JULY 2

*Communion Sunday*

Scripture: Galatians 1:6-9

Sermon title: Title: FWS Summer

Playlist: Still in America (Lecrae)

### JULY 9

Scripture: Proverbs 18:21;

Ephesians 4:29

Sermon title: FWS Summer

Playlist: Sticks and Stones (Kings Kaleidoscope)

### JULY 16

Scripture: Romans 8:1-17

Sermon Title: FWS Summer

Playlist: Jesus Was an Only Son

(Bruce Springsteen)

### JULY 30

Scripture: Psalm 19:1-5

Sermon Title: FWS Summer

Playlist: My Church (Maren Morris)

## Calendar

### TUESDAY, JULY 4

Fourth of July holiday

Office closed

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

9 am Rummage sale volunteers

### THURSDAY, JULY 6

9 am Rummage sale volunteers

### FRIDAY, JULY 7

9 am Rummage sale volunteers

### SATURDAY, JULY 8

8 am Rummage sale

### MONDAY, JULY 10

6 pm Staff Parish meeting

### TUESDAY, JULY 11

Noon Staff meeting

Noon UWF picnic

### SATURDAY, JULY 15

6:30 pm Church picnic

8:30 pm Ice Cream Social

### SUNDAY, JULY 16

11 am Youth trip to Pine Lake

### MONDAY, JULY 17

6:30 pm Trustees meeting

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### SATURDAY

9:30 am Water bottle ministry

### SUNDAY

8:30 am Preschool Child Care

9 am Sunday School

10 am Worship

### TUESDAY, JULY 18

5:30 pm Outreach meeting

### TUESDAY, JULY 25

Noon Staff meeting

# Called together to serve God

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner, and this year we have a thrilling adventure awaiting all the young heroes in our congregation! Get ready to embark on an unforgettable journey with our theme, "Hero Hotline," where children will discover the hero within themselves.

During this four-day adventure, children will embark on a journey to discover their unique superpowers. From heartwarming Bible stories to exciting games, music, crafts, and teamwork, every child will be equipped with the tools they need to become a true Hero for Christ. We want them to know that they have the power to make a positive impact in their families, schools, and neighborhoods.

FWS is partnering with Faith UMC and Trinity UMC for Vacation Bible School this summer!

## When

VBS will be July 17 to 20. Dinner for children and their families will be served at 5:30 p.m. The VBS program will be 6 to 8 p.m.

## Where

First Wayne Street will host the programming.

## Registration

The program is open to children 3-years-old



through fifth-graders. Sign up at: <https://faith-first-wayne-street-trinity-umc.mycokesburyvbs.com>

## Join the team

We believe that VBS is not just for children; it's an opportunity for our entire church community to come together and create lasting memories. We need your help to make this program a success! We are calling on all volunteers, young and old, to join us in this heroic mission.

Whether you have a talent for storytelling, a knack for crafts, or simply a passion for working with children, we have a place for you in our VBS team. You can make a difference in the lives of our young heroes by sharing your time, skills, and love.

## About the program

In the depths of a colorful underground cave is the beating heart of the hero community: the Hero Hotline Headquarters where everyone's gifts are valued and every hero has a role to play. Our team of heroes will explore the ultimate Hero Handbook -the Bible- to discover how all Heroes can follow the examples set by a cast of supporting Bible Heroes in stories from the Old and New Testaments, who work together to bring peace, build each other up, and share the great story of God's love for us where they are and with the whole world.

As kids experience these stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they'll learn that Heroes are called to Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together, Listen to God, and Show Grace!

# Good News

First Wayne Street United Methodist Church  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**FIRST WAYNE STREET**  
United Methodist Church

Email: [FirstWayneStreet@fwsumc.org](mailto:FirstWayneStreet@fwsumc.org)  
Website: [www.fwsumc.org](http://www.fwsumc.org)  
[Facebook.com/FirstWayneStreet](https://www.facebook.com/FirstWayneStreet)

## 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

Office Assistant: Jill Harris  
Facilities Manager: Cesar Anzaldua  
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,  
Carrie Hogle