



FIRST WAYNE STREET

United Methodist Church

GOOD NEWS

June 2024

Finding strength in differences

As we journey together in our faith, we often find ourselves celebrating our unity in Christ. Yet, it is equally important to acknowledge and embrace our diversity, particularly when it leads to disagreement. In these moments, our togetherness becomes even more crucial.

In a world that frequently emphasizes division, our church stands as a witness to the strength found in unity. The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, reminds us that we are one body and one Spirit (Ephesians 4:4). This helps us transcend our differences, urging us to seek harmony and understanding.

Disagreements are a natural part of any community. They can arise from different interpretations of scripture, varied life experiences, or simply from our unique personalities. However, these disagreements should not drive us apart. Instead, they should be seen as opportunities for growth and deeper understanding. By engaging in respectful dialogue and listening with open hearts,

we can learn from one another and strengthen our collective faith.

Consider the early church described in the Book of Acts. The believers were diverse, yet they shared their lives and resources, breaking bread together with glad and sincere hearts (Acts 2:46). Their commitment to togetherness, despite their differences, allowed the Holy Spirit to work powerfully among them. The early church serves as a reminder that we are better together!

Our congregation can draw inspiration from this early model. When we come together, especially in times of disagreement, we embody Christ's call to love one another as He has loved us (John 13:34). This love is not passive; it is active, patient, and kind. It seeks to understand rather than to be understood, to comfort rather than to be comforted.

In practical terms, this means making space for open discussions within our church. It means showing grace and

patience when we encounter differing viewpoints. It means

prioritizing our relationships over being right. By doing so, we create a safe and welcoming environment where everyone feels valued and heard. And, it provides a powerful witness to a world that continues to encourage division over unity.

Let us also remember the power of prayer in fostering unity. When we pray together, we invite the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds towards peace and reconciliation.

Prayer helps us to see beyond our differences and focus on our common goal: to glorify Jesus and spread His love.

As we continue to grow as a community, let us commit to being together, even when we disagree. Let us be a church that reflects the unity and diversity of God's Kingdom. In our togetherness, we will find strength, joy, and the profound beauty of being the body of Christ.

— Pastor Jason Morris

Congregational life

Mission offering

Backpacks for Charis House is the FWS Outreach focus mission for June.

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 2024 – 25 school year. Most of the children will also need new clothing to meet their school's dress code requirements.

Our FWS 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 accompany these small shopping groups to provide

appropriate guidance and budget training.

Volunteer opportunity

Please consider volunteering for a couple of Saturday mornings this summer to be a member of our FWS Hospitality Team at the Barr Street Farmers' (YLNI) Market.

A signup sheet is available in the hallway as you approach the atrium.

The serving cart and coolers filled with chilled water will all be prepositioned in the narthex, so please just show up a bit before 9:30 and we will quite often be out of water before our 2-hour scheduled event! Meet old and new friends at Fort Wayne's favorite farmers' market!

This year we are offering a "Senior Special." Senior citizens

can signup for just a one-hour shift from 10:15 to 11:15!

Family camp

Registration is open for Family Camp, which will take place from June 20-22 at Camp Lakewood. This event is open to families of all ages. Camp and registration information can be found here:

<https://impact2818.org/events/>

Remember all FWSUMC families attending camp can receive 50% off their tuition using our camp code at checkout: Wayne528

Good News deadline

DEADLINE for the July Good News is June 15. Items should be e-mailed to Kim Truesdell, our newsletter Editor, at kim@fwsumc.org.

Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

12:15 pm WOWs Concert Series

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

7:30 am Henderson mission team departs

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

Noon Staff meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

12:15 pm WOWs Concert Series

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

8 am Associated Churches 5k

MONDAY, JUNE 17

6:30 pm Trustees meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

1 pm Stephen Ministry meeting
5:30 pm Outreach team meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

12:15 pm WOWs Concert Series

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

Noon Staff meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

12:15 pm WOWs Concert Series

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

6:30 pm Alive Support Group

WEEKLY EVENTS

WEDNESDAY

4 pm FaithShare

SUNDAY

8:45 am Preschool
Child Care
10 am Worship (in-person and online)
11 am Canvas worship

Summer sounds at First Wayne

First Wayne Street is thrilled to announce our summer concert series, Wednesdays on Wayne.

WOWs will feature four exceptional musical performances throughout the month of June. The concerts are free and open to the public and will take place at the church, located at 300 E. Wayne Street, Fort Wayne.

Each recital will begin at 12:15 pm and will last about a half-hour. Following the musical

performances, a delicious luncheon will be available for purchase at a small fee.

The WOWs concerts are a perfect opportunity for music lovers to enjoy some great performances and fellowship over a meal.

The schedule for the concert series is as follows:

June 5: Dr Geoffrey North, Germanfest organ recital, featuring the magnificent Beckerath organ followed by a

meal of German food.

June 12: Dr Jonathan Young, PFW piano professor, in a program of classical and romantic favorites.

June 19: Stephen Stachofsky, baritone, sings Scheumann's gorgeous Dichterliebe, accompanied by Dr. North

June 26: Lisa Gerstenkorn, contralto, sings an eclectic program of classical and contemporary repertoire, accompanied by Dr. North

Children and family ministry

Rummage sale donations

Are you doing some spring cleaning and sorting? Please keep us in mind when you do! We will start collecting new and gently used items to sell in our Rummage Sale which will take place on Saturday, July 13. Items can be dropped off anytime after Memorial Day weekend through July during church office hours or Sundays. If you need to schedule a drop-off time outside of those designated hours, contact Audra to make arrangements.

The Rummage Sale is our biggest fundraiser of the year and 100% of the proceeds directly benefits our Youth and Children's programming.

Volunteers needed

The Rummage Sale will take place on Saturday, July 13. We

need lots of volunteers to make this event as successful as possible.

If you are unavailable to help out at the actual Rummage sale, we have plenty of other opportunities to sort and price items in the days prior. This is a HUGE event and we can't do it without the help of our wonderful congregation.

Please watch for volunteer signups coming soon. Direct any inquiries to Linda Allen and/or Robin Hermann, Rummage Sale co-chairs.

Ice Cream Social

The Ice Cream Social will take place on Saturday, July 20. We have a fun-filled schedule of events for that night, which are open to members of our congregation.

6:30-7 pm: FWSUMC cookout

7-8 pm: "All God's Creatures" animal show presented by Indiana Wild (sanctuary)

8:30-9:30 pm: Ice Cream Social
10 pm 3RF Fireworks show (parking lot)

Save the Date: FWSUMC Tincaps Game

FWSUMC is having our annual Tincaps game and everyone is invited! Add the Sunday, August 18 game to your calendar and plan on a fun afternoon of fellowship and baseball.

The game will be at 1:05 pm.

Ticket order forms will be available outside of the sanctuary in early July. Contact Audra for inquiries.

All youth and family tickets will be paid for by the Children's Fund.

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

Email: FirstWayneStreet@fwsumc.org
Website: www.fwsumc.org
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FIRST WAYNE STREET STAFF

Senior Minister: Rev. Jason Morris
Visitation Pastor: Rev. Dr. 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, Erikka Hall