



FIRST WAYNE STREET

United Methodist Church

GOOD NEWS

May 2024

Celebrating togetherness

As May blooms with its vibrant colors and gentle breezes, we are reminded of the beauty of togetherness. This month, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the blessing of sharing our journey of faith as a unified congregation.

In a world often marked by division and discord, the value of coming together as a community of believers cannot be overstated. Our shared experiences, joys, and challenges knit us together in a tapestry of love and support that strengthens each of us individually and collectively.

The importance of togetherness resonates deeply within the fabric of our faith. From the early gatherings of believers in Acts to the encouragement found in Paul's letters to the churches, the message is clear: we are called to walk this journey of faith hand in hand, lifting each other up along the way.

In our gatherings, whether in person or virtually, we find comfort in the familiar faces of our brothers and sisters, and we



draw strength from the collective wisdom of our community. We share in moments of celebration, rejoicing in each other's victories, and we stand together in times of trial, offering our support and prayers.

Being together is not merely about physical proximity; it is about fostering deep connections and genuine relationships. It's about listening with empathy, offering a helping hand, and embodying the love of Christ in all that we do.

As we navigate the complexities

of life, let us never underestimate the power of being together. Let us cherish the moments we spend in fellowship, knowing that in each interaction, we have the opportunity to reflect God's love to one another.

This May, let us recommit ourselves to the beauty of togetherness. Let us seek out opportunities to deepen our bonds with one another and to build a community that shines brightly as a beacon of hope and love in a world longing for connection.

Congregational life

Graduation Sunday

First Wayne Street will honor all members graduating from high school and college during our worship service on May 19..

All graduates will be acknowledged and receive a small gift from the church. A reception will follow worship.

Graduates and/or their families should send a photo, graduation information, and future plans to our youth director, Kim Truesdell, at kim@fwsumc.org

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, please 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.

Family picnic

All families are invited to join us for a fun family picnic event at Buckner Park on Sunday, May 19 after church.

FWSUMC will provide hotdogs, chips and drinks, and everyone is asked to bring along a side dish or dessert to share.

Everyone is welcome; bring a picnic blanket and be ready to have a fun afternoon at the park.

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 information 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

Again, we are trying something new and offering the Family Camp experience in lieu of traditional VBS this year, and we would love as many families as possible to participate.

Father's Day 5K

We are excited to share with you that Associated Churches is hosting its annual Father's Day 5K on June 15. This year, proceeds from the event will go towards supporting Military Families, A Baby's Closet, and programs of Associated Churches.

As a local church, First Wayne has the opportunity to create a team for this event. We believe that this event is a great opportunity for us to come together as a faith community to support a good cause.

If you are interested in participating in the Father's Day 5K, you can join the First Wayne team by registering

for the event at <https://www.associatedchurches.org/2024fd5k>. When you go to the link, you will be directed to the first registration page where you can select the "Join a Team" option, and the First Wayne Street team name will pop up.

Save the date

Celebrate summer with ice cream and fireworks! Our annual Ice Cream Social will be July 20.

After ice cream, set up a chair and watch the Three Rivers fireworks from our parking lot! More information coming soon.

Youth are encouraged to volunteer to help with set-up and scooping.

Volunteer opportunity

The 30th National Association of Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is Saturday, May 11.

This yearly food drive helps Associated Churches of Fort Wayne and Allen County supply food to the 21 food pantries in the Neighborhood Food Network.

For information, contact Kelley Bawmann at Associated Churches. Call 422-3528 or email kelley@associatedchurches.org.

Good News deadline

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

Church announces WOW artists

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

Calendar

SUNDAY, MAY 12

Mother's Day

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Graduation Sunday

11:30 am Youth serve & swim

11:30 am Family picnic at

Buckner Park

MONDAY, MAY 20

6:30 pm Trustees meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 21

11:30 am Church Foundation meeting

1 pm Stephen Ministry meeting

5:30 pm Outreach team meeting

THURSDAY, MAY 23

6:30 pm Alive Support Group

MONDAY, MAY 24

Memorial Day

Church offices closed

TUESDAY, MAY 28

11:30 am Staff meeting

1 pm Bridge

WEEKLY EVENTS

WEDNESDAY

4 pm FaithShare

SATURDAY

10 am GriefShare

SUNDAY

8:45 am Preschool Child Care

9 am Sunday School (adults and youth)

10 am Worship (in-person and online)

11 am Canvas worship

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
[Facebook.com/FirstWayneStreet](https://www.facebook.com/FirstWayneStreet)

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