



# FIRST WAYNE STREET

United Methodist Church

**GOOD NEWS**

October 2025

## A SEASON OF SONG

*WOWs is back with free concerts in October*

Music is at the heart of life at First Wayne Street, and this fall we're thrilled to welcome back the Wednesdays on Wayne Street (WOWS) concert series!

Each Wednesday in October, join us at 12:15 pm in the sanctuary for a free, 30-minute concert that will lift your spirit in the middle of the week.

Can't be here in person? Every performance will also be livestreamed on our YouTube channel so you can experience the music wherever you are.

This fall's lineup includes:

### October 8

Cassandra Lee Petrie, mezzo soprano & Geoffrey North, piano

Opera singer Cassandra Lee Petrie joins First Wayne Street's own Dr. North for an afternoon of classical favorites.

### October 15

Jane Heald, cello & Eric Clancy, piano

Fort Wayne Philharmonic cellist Jane Heald and jazz pianist Eric Clancy perform a mix of classical crossover, pops, and jazz.

### October 22

Kenneth Jiang, piano

A WOWS favorite, Kenneth Jiang will present piano transcriptions of superhero movie music.

### October 29

Andrew Danielson, organ

PFW senior Andrew Danielson closes the series with an eclectic program on the Beckerath organ, including a suite based on sea shanties.

Join us on Wednesdays this October — either in person or online — for a great lineup of

music.

### Support the music ministry

Purchasing and maintaining a fine pipe organ is very costly. A new organ like ours would easily cost in the millions of dollars.

Though well built and in excellent condition, our Beckerath pipe organ will need some extensive, yet routine maintenance, in the future. If you are interested in making a financial contribution towards the long-term maintenance of the instrument, please make a gift to the Loessi organ fund. Checks can be made out to First Wayne Street with a designation in the memo line.

The Beckerath organ has been a wonderful gift to the congregation, inspiring many to greater love for God and a deeper Christian faith.

## Congregational life

### Mission focus

The mission focus for October will be the Mission Guatemala scholarship program.

Mission Guatemala, founded by Indiana United Methodist pastor Tom Heaton has been dedicated to uplifting the communities of San Andrés Semetebaj and beyond since its inception in 2009.

One of Mission Guatemala's most transformative programs, "Becas con Misión" (Scholarships with a Mission), aims to break barriers and provide educational opportunities to deserving students who lack the financial resources to continue their education beyond the 6th grade. Through the "Becas" program, Mission Guatemala identifies students with determination and excellent grades, offering them scholarships that cover expenses such as tuition, school supplies, uniforms, and access to Mission Guatemala's medical clinic.

For an average monthly cost of just \$25 for middle school students and \$50 for high school students, we have the power to make a lasting impact on the lives of these students.

### Gather cooks needed

We are looking for volunteers to help prepare our Wednesday night meals. This can be done ahead of time (food can be dropped off to the church to be frozen and/or warmed up the day of), or volunteers are welcome to prepare food that afternoon.

All food supplies will be paid for by FWSUMC. Menus can be as simple as you would like!

If you have any questions,



### Mark your calendar: Friendsgiving

We will have our annual Friendsgiving event after church on November 16. Please plan to attend church and stay after for food, fun, and fellowship.

FWS will provide turkey, gravy, stuffing, rolls, mashed potatoes, and drinks. All families are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

We also need volunteers to help setup, serve, and (most importantly) clean up after the event. More information will be coming soon.

please contact Audra.

### Church-wide work day

Mark your calendars! First Wayne Street UMC will partner with NeighborLink for a church-wide Workday on Saturday, November 22, 2025.

This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our community together, strengthen connections, and make a difference in the lives of our neighbors. More details on projects and sign-ups will be shared soon.

### Church holiday bazaar

The holidays might be a couple of months away, but we're already feeling the spirit here at First Wayne Street!

Mark your calendars for these special dates: November 23, December 7 and December 14.

The Holiday Bazaar will feature handcrafted items, baked goods, and holiday decorations.

Sign-up sheets to donate goodies and crafts will be available this month.

Proceeds will benefit church programs.

# Calling all cars - and candy!

Everyone is invited to participate in our annual Trunk or Treat event in collaboration with Downtown Fort Wayne Fright Night.

It will be noon to 3 p.m. Oct. 18.

This has quickly become one of our biggest community outreach events, and the more cars we have participate, the better! This is always a fun time not only for the children who come to get candy, but for all the volunteers as well. While it is not required, volunteers are welcome to wear costumes and decorate their cars as much or as little as possible.

We will have a chili lunch for all of our volunteers!

We are asking all people to be at the FWS Sanctuary parking lot no later than 11:30 am in order to have sufficient time to setup.



Signup sheets are in the church hallway.

## Candy collection

As we prepare for Trunk or Treat, please consider donating candy for this event.

We need LOTS of candy to help

make this event a success.

The collection box is outside of the church office. If you can't make it to the store to purchase candy but would like to donate cash towards a candy purchase, please contact Audra. Thanks in advance for your help!

## Youth ministry

### Coffee & Conversation

Our first outing takes place Sunday, October 19. After worship, we'll walk together over to Crescendo Coffee & More for casual conversation, fellowship, and a chance to try something new. Friends are always welcome!

### Special events

October 15: Baking cookies

for Charge Conference—help us share sweet treats with our church family!

October 18: Fright Night Trunk or Treat

Youth will have their own tent at Trunk or Treat, even if parents aren't able to participate. We'll decorate during Wednesday night so everything is ready to go, and afterward, we'll celebrate our efforts with a sweet stop at

Insomnia Cookies!

Nov. 7–9: Youth Retreat at Epworth Forest

Dec. 30: Cookie Trail continues with a trip to Dirty Dough and lunch

Alongside these events, our weekly gatherings will continue to provide space for connection, fun, and faith.

# 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](mailto:FirstWayneStreet@fwsumc.org)  
Website: [www.fwsumc.org](http://www.fwsumc.org)  
[Facebook.com/FirstWayneStreet](https://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, Alex and Hunter Moss