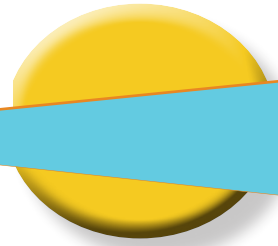




**First Wayne Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
uplifting. inspiring. downtown.

March 2021



## GOOD NEWS

# A GENTLE NUDGE

*Help others discover the love, hope of Jesus*

One of my childhood heroes was Christian Hosoi. He was considered by many to be the best skateboarder in the world (he was a contemporary of Tony Hawk, which may be a more familiar name to non-skateboarders!). In many ways, Christian was the rock star of skateboarding.

He skated with great skill, authority, power and style. He had a wild fashion sense. He indulged in the rock star party lifestyle. He was a regular in the LA celebrity party and club scene. He was known for a trick called the “Christ Air”, where he posed like Jesus on a cross while soaring above the ramp. He had fortune. He had fame. He had everything he desired.

Christian’s lifestyle of excess also led to addiction. For the most part, while struggling with addiction, Hosoi was able to maintain his skateboarding success. Eventually, a reckless lifestyle caught up to him and he found himself falling behind in the rankings.

As his career began its downward spiral, his addiction was also raging out of control. In early 2000, Hosoi found himself in prison.

Upon entering prison, his wife said, “We need God.” Initially, Hosoi dismissed the idea of “needing God.” However, while in prison, he started reading the Bible and his life was changed.

In his book, “Hosoi: My Life as a Skateboard Junkie Inmate Pastor”, Christian writes, “It’s not as if God’s been silent over the years. Jen’s uncle Chris, the pastor, has been reaching out to her forever, since long before we left

California. Even after she started going to church with her grandmother she remained unconvinced, and I’m not even listening. Here we are, a stripper doing drugs and a strung-out pro skateboarder. In the world’s eyes, and in hers and mine, that’s about as far from God as it gets. In God’s eyes, however, she and I are no different from some nice tea-drinking husband and wife who do good and productive work and coach their kid’s soccer team on the weekends.”

Hosoi’s reflection reminds us that no one is beyond the redemptive love and grace of God.

The season of Lent is a reminder of our own need for God’s redemptive love and grace. Lent reminds us that, whether we consider ourselves worthy or unworthy, God loves us!

Lent is also a wonderful opportunity to reach out to those around us who may consider themselves to be “about as far from God as it gets.” Extending an invitation to join us for worship (in-person or online) might be the gentle nudge someone needs to discover the love, hope and grace of Jesus.

I pray that our church will be known as a place where all are welcome, loved and accepted...whether they are “about as far from God as it gets” or “some nice tea-drinking husband and wife”.

Upon his release from prison, Christian Hosoi returned to a career in professional skateboarding, while also becoming the Outreach Pastor at The Sanctuary Church in Orange County, California.

# Re-launching in-person worship

On Sunday, March 7, we will re-launch our in-person worship gatherings! We will continue to livestream our services for those who are not yet able to join us in person.

We will continue requiring the use of masks inside the building. We will provide hand sanitizing stations around the building. We also ask that people maintain appropriate physical distancing between

individuals and families not from the same household.

In case you were wondering, Cesar has determined that keeping a distance of 3 sanctuary chairs between individuals/groups is the appropriate amount of spacing.

On Sunday, March 21, we will resume our children's ministry and Sunday school opportunities. Please be in touch with

your class leaders or Audra Reinders to find out if your class will meet virtually or in-person.

In the event that Allen County returns to the "red" category for the coronavirus, our in-person gatherings will be suspended until we return to "yellow."

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time!

## Weekday Weather Policy



In the event of inclement weather, First Wayne Street follows the Fort Wayne Community Schools schedule. If FWCS cancels in-person learning, the church office will be closed. If FWCS operates on a delay, the office will also open on a delay. If FWCS moves to a remote learning day, the office will close and our staff will work remotely. If FWCS cancels evening activities, we will also cancel our evening activities.

## New office hours begin in March 1

In an effort to be wise stewards of our resources, First Wayne Street will be changing our office hours effective Monday, March 1st.

With technological advancements, the way we lead and work in ministry has changed over the years. This shift in hours will enable our staff and volunteers to more effectively and efficiently utilize their time for ministry.

If you need to meet with or contact our pastors or staff outside of our office hours, please schedule an appointment or contact our staff by phone or email. In the event of an emergency, please contact Pastor Jason at 765-212-6791.

**FWS Office Hours:**  
Monday – Thursday:  
9am-3pm  
Friday: 9am-noon

# You are loved

BY AN INFINITELY LOVING GOD

# A season of reflection, preparation

## Lenten Fishes & Loaves

We are collecting cans of tuna, mackerel, salmon, and boxes of crackers for the East Wayne Street Center for Lent. The collection will go through April 4.

## Easter Flowers

It's time to order Easter flowers. Order form is in this newsletter. Additional forms are in the church office. Please fill out the form, attach check or cash, and return to the church office. Deadline for orders will be Wednesday, March 3.

## Easter Candy Needed

Please help us out by donating individually-wrapped Easter candy for our Easter egg hunt. You can leave the candy in the container outside the office door now. We will continue collecting through March 26.



Pastor Jason and Pastor Dan offered a "drive-through" service on Ash Wednesday, distributing communion and offering the imposition of ashes.

## Children and Family Ministry

### Camp is Happening!

Summer Camp registration is starting for Summer 2021. There are safety guidelines in place to make sure that all campers have a fun and safe experience! First Wayne Street is offering 50% tuition discount to all interested families. The discount code to enter at registration is: Wayne577 (this code is case sensitive and contains no spaces). If you are needing additional help this year for the cost of camp, we have a limited number of 100% tuitions available; please contact Audra if needed.

More information and registration is available [Impact2818.org/camps](https://www.impact2818.org/camps).

### Sunday School to Resume

Sunday School for Children and Youth will be starting again this year on Sunday, March 21 at 9:00 a.m. We hope you can join us!

### Easter Egg Hunt

We are so happy to announce that we will be doing an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday this year! More information will be coming soon. Hope to see you there!

### Save the Dates!

Our annual rummage sale will be happening this summer on Saturday, July 10. All proceeds directly benefit Youth and

Children programming. We will be needing lots of volunteer help before, during, and after to make this event the best it can be. If you are interested, please contact Audra, Robin Hermann (co-chair), or Linda Allen (co-chair) to find out more information. Also, please start thinking about saving items that you would be willing to donate!

**Ice Cream Social:** We will be having a safe and fun Ice Cream Social this year on Saturday, July 17. More details to follow, but please mark your calendar! All proceeds directly benefit Youth and Children Programming.





## ANNIVERSARIES

March 1: Kim & Teresa Tracey  
March 16: Dan & Deb Metzger  
March 19: Allen & Kenna Davis  
March 20: Andy & Peg Candor

## BIRTHDAYS

March 1: Al Gross, Ben Hermann,  
Donna Hochstetler, Brooke  
Miller  
March 4: Ethan Oman  
March 5: Ashlee Miller  
March 6: Dwight Thomas  
March 7: Katie North

March 9: Stephen May  
March 13: Avery Schiffl  
March 16: Kate Schmidt, Justin Hogle  
March 17: DeWayne Schmidt, Elizabeth  
Schmidt  
March 18: Bill Hatlem  
March 20: Dillon Redding  
March 21: Andy Candor  
March 23: Walter Gilliland  
March 24: Bryan Orellana  
March 25: Lainey Dodds, Blair Phillips  
March 28: Max Robison  
March 30: Joseph Pose, Max Smith  
March 31: Dan Bellinger

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## Monthly Calendar

### TUESDAY, MARCH 2

9:30 am UMW Exec. Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

6:45 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal

### FRIDAY, MARCH 5

World Day of Prayer

### SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Communion Sunday  
Third Sunday in Lent  
9:30 am Preschool Child Care  
10 am Worship

### TUESDAY, MARCH 9

11:30 am Staff Meeting — Virtual

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

6:45 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, MARCH 11

5:30 pm Outreach Committee Mtg —  
Virtual

### SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Daylight Savings Time Begins  
4th Sunday in Lent  
9:30 am Preschool Child Care  
10 am Worship

### MONDAY, MARCH 15

6 pm Trustees Meeting — Virtual

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

St. Patrick's Day  
6:45 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal

### MARCH 21, SUNDAY

5th Sunday in Lent

8:30 am Preschool Child Care  
9 am Sunday School  
10 am Worship

### TUESDAY, MARCH 23

Good News Folders (pm)  
11:30 am Staff Meeting-Virtual

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Good News Mailers (am)  
6:45 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal

### SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Palm Sunday  
8:30 am Preschool Child Care  
9 am Sunday School  
10 am Worship

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

6:45 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal

## Congregational Life

### Mission Offering

UMCOR Sunday (formerly called "One Great Hour of Sharing") supports the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. This special offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business." While most non-profit agencies deduct a small amount of each dollar given, your support through this special offering ensures that 100% of the gifts given in the event of a disaster will go to help those who need it most. Through UMCOR, the United Methodist Church can respond quickly with funds to address immediate needs and grants to support long-term disaster recovery.

### Food Cart

The Food Cart in the Narthex is for food item donations for the East Wayne Street Center's food pantry. In January, we collected 65.56 lbs. of food, which included 24 cans of soup for Souper Bowl of Caring.

Souper Bowl of Caring Total – We collected 43 cans of soup. A big thank you to all who contributed.

### Prayer Concerns

Our sympathies to Rev. Dan Bellinger and family on the death of his grandpa, Donald Busfield, who passed away on Thursday, January 21.

Our sympathies to family of Connie Shideler. She died on Tuesday, January 26.

Our sympathies to Luana Haskell on the death of her son, Darrell, who passed away on Tuesday, January 26.

Our sympathies to Tom Hufford on the death of his wife, Mary, who passed away on Sunday, January 31.

Our sympathies to Stan and Connie Phillips on the death of Connie's father, Paul Rider, who passed away on Thursday, February 11.

### Praises

Thank you for your donation and support of our organization (in 2020). 2020 was a challenging year for us, as it was for all in our community. Thanks to the generosity of individuals like you, we were able to consistently serve our residents and our community with excellence. We finished the year strong and we strive to make an even bigger impact in our community in 2021.

Sincerely,

*Tom Cardin, Exec. Director  
Redemption House*

I'm very grateful to all members of First Wayne Street United Methodist Church who prayed and expressed concerns for my son, Darryl Haskell, who was on the prayer list for 15 months as he fought Stage 4 cancer. He put up a good fight but passed away January 26, 2021 surrounded by his loving family. As the hymn says, "The strife is o'er the battle done the victory of life is won." He is greatly missed by so many. As our great grandson, Luis Fernando said, he is now with his dad. Amen.

*Luana Haskell*

### Devotionals Available

The Upper Room devotionals are available in the literature rack by the coat racks. If you would like us to mail you a copy, just call the church office (422-4681) and let us know.

### Good News Deadline

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

### Address Changes

Glenn & Janellyn Borden; (winter address thru 4/30) 21380 Pelican Sound Drive, Unit 202;

Estero, FL 33928

Peg, Andy & Austin Candor; (winter address thru 4/30) 409 Villas Drive; Venice, FL 34285

Sherrill & Sarah Colvin; (winter address thru 4/30) 4751 Bonita Bay Blvd., #1903; Bonita Springs, FL 34134

Barbara Jones; bajfw7@frontier.com

Keith & Wilma Lake; 2537 Covington Commons Drive; Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Pat Lee; (winter address thru 4/15) 26868 Wedgewood Drive, #101; Bonita Springs, FL 34134

Mike & Kay Ann Mannen (back in town); 2364 Hamlet Court; Fort Wayne, IN 46818; rockytop171@comcast.net

Margaret McKay; same place but Room 109

Pastor David Michel; 13232 Whistler Hill Pl; Fort Wayne, IN 46845-9803; damichel@aol.com

Stan & Connie Phillips: winter address thru 5/1) 21 S. Forest Beach Drive, #437; Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

### Daylight Saving Begins March 14

Don't forget to turn your clocks FORWARD one hour before bed on Saturday, March 13.

# GOOD NEWS

FIRST WAYNE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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MARCH 2021 ISSUE

### FIRST WAYNE STREET STAFF

Senior Minister: Rev. Jason Morris

Visitation Pastor: Rev. Dan Bellinger

### 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 Manager/Bookkeeper: Connie Boren

Facility Manager: Cesar Anzaldua

Security Officer: Kenneth "Bart" Bartholomew

Communications Coordinator: Kim Truesdell

### Childcare Providers

Jane Daniels, Brooke Orellana,

Angi Reinking, Carrie Hogle