

A Message From...



Glenn Knepp

Lead Pastor

“You never get a second chance to make a first impression.” - Will Rogers

Almost everyone knows how important a first impression can be. This is no less true in the mission of the church than it is in our personal lives. Did you know that most first-time visitors to churches make a decision about returning for worship again in the first 7-10 minutes they are on the property? Before they hear the sermon or the first song they have made a decision based on the friendliness of the people and the feeling of the facility ([click here for more about that](#)).

One of our members recently experienced this difference while on vacation. They experienced a warm welcome and a contemporary, welcoming space right as they entered the building. It was such a pleasant welcome experience she sent pictures.





Of course, while we're talking a lot about how we renovate and welcome these kind of spaces and greetings aren't the only ways we make a first impression.

This Sunday we will confirm 8 new members of St Joe UMC! They are youth who have completed the confirmation class with me. We will be welcoming at least 2 of them in every service and celebrate communion with their assistance to mark this milestone. Let's welcome these youth into our faith community well and make a strong first impression!

We also have the gift of being able to help welcome baby's to the community in which we live by helping to provide Diapers through our annual "Diaper Dash". Your gifts of Diapers or money supports A Baby's Closet at St Joe UMC. A baby's closet is a ministry of Associated Churches and helps to provide diapers and other essential items to families in need. If you worship at St Joe @ the Y your giving helps provide support to families that utilize child-watch. In both cases St Joe UMC and St Joe @ the Y lead the way in welcoming new births in Fort Wayne and making a strong first impression of the kind of city we want to be! Give this week in person or online!

No matter what you do- no matter if it is renovation, diapers, or simply sharing the

Church Wide Announcements



JOIN US IN PRAYER USING WEEKLY PROMPTS PRESENTED IN WORSHIP, AVAILABLE ONLINE, IN THE BULLETIN, AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

REFLECT ON THE THEME WORD, PRAY OVER THE PROMPT, AND READ THE SCRIPTURE AS YOU LISTEN FOR GOD'S VOICE.

ENGAGE INDIVIDUALLY, IN SMALL GROUPS, OR AT PRAYER GATHERINGS LISTED BELOW WITH A MEMBER OF OUR PASTORAL TEAM.

SHARE WHAT YOU HEAR THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, THE WEEKLY EMAIL, QR CODE BELOW, OR AT THE DESIGNATED SPOTS AT ST. JOE UMC AND BETHANY UMC.

PRAY FOR THE FUTURE!

St. Joe UMC
6:30p

JAN. 16 & 30
FEB. 13 & 20
MAR. 13 & 20
APR. 10 & 17

St. Joe @ Y
6:30p

JAN. 23
FEB. 27
MAR. 27
APR. 24



Bethany UMC
6:00p

FEB. 5
MAR. 5
APR. 2



□ Pray for the Future – Tonight at 6:30 PM

Join us tonight at 6:30 PM in the Reading Room as we come together to Pray for the Future. This will be a time to listen to what God is speaking into our hearts, reflect on His guidance, and be in conversation with Him.

Come with an open heart as we seek His wisdom and direction together. We hope to see you there!



LISTEN

**TAKE SOME TIME IN SILENCE THIS WEEK.
LISTEN FOR GOD. WHAT IS HE SAYING
THAT YOU HAVE BEEN IGNORING? TOO
BUSY TO HEAR?**

As part of the For the Future Capital Campaign, we're launching a prayer initiative called Pray For The Future. This effort invites everyone to join in weekly prayer prompts and participate in dedicated times of gathering to seek God's guidance and blessings for our church. Together, we'll pray with hearts that are faithful, fearless, and fruitful, aligning our vision with God's will.

[Watch Past Key 3 Announcements](#)

FOR Our Neighbors



□ Diaper Dash is Happening Now! □

The Mission Team is excited to host this year's Diaper Dash! Help support A Baby's Closet by grabbing a diaper tag, purchasing the listed item, and returning it to St. Joe by February 23. Want to make an even bigger impact? The Mission Team is also accepting monetary donations to help purchase car seats and high chairs for families in need.

Thank you for your generosity and support! □

Keystone Seniors For the Fort



♠ ♦ Euchre is Still On for Tonight! ♣ ♥

Euchre is happening tonight as planned! Please use your best judgment when deciding if it's safe for you to come out.

If you haven't registered yet, we'd appreciate it, but it's not required—this just helps us get a headcount. Bring a snack to share, and we'll see you soon for a great night of cards and fellowship!

Mark your calendar! Our next Euchre Night will be March 13th.

A promotional graphic for 'Lunch Bunch'. The background is a collage of various dishes including salads, bread, and soups. The text 'Lunch Bunch' is written in large, bold, orange letters at the top left. Below it is the logo for 'keystone Seniors For the Fort', which features a stylized 'K' made of three colored triangles (orange, blue, teal) above the word 'keystone' in a bold, sans-serif font, and 'Seniors For the Fort' in a smaller, italicized font below it. At the bottom of the graphic, there is an orange rounded rectangle containing the text '3rd Sunday of the Month' in white. The graphic is decorated with blue and orange dots and a stylized orange flower.

Join the Keystone Group for Lunch!

Every 3rd Sunday of the month, the Keystone Group comes together for a great lunch and even better conversation. This month, we'll be meeting at Lakeside Café at 12:30 PM. It's a wonderful time to eat, meet new people, and enjoy fellowship.

Sign up **HERE** so we can get a headcount of how many will be joining us. We can't wait to see you there!

[Get the Keystone Newsletter](#)

For Families



CHURCH Summer CAMP

Scholarships
available

High School:
Epworth Forest

Elementary/Family:
Camp Lakewood



fun &
creative
outdoor
activities

outdoor games,
water activities,
rock climbing,
zip-lining,
bible time, and so
much more!

Summer Camps Are Here!

Get ready for an unforgettable summer! We're excited to offer a variety of camps for all ages this year:

- Middle/High School Camp at Epworth Forest: July 13-18
- Elementary Camp at Camp Lakewood: July 20-23
- Family Camp at Camp Lakewood: July 19-21

Scholarships are available for those in need, so don't let finances stop you from attending! If you're interested in a scholarship, please reach out to Teah at taldredash@stjoemin.com.

We can't wait to make this summer one to remember!

Get the Families (Children's) Newsletter

Faith In Motion



"Our Budding Ballerina"

This week, I am thrilled to share about our very own BRIELLE! Though Brielle is new to our dance family, she comes to us with MUCH dance and gymnastic training. With a background in all styles of dance, Brielle has been a perfect fit in Jazz 3 and Ballet 3. Within her first session of ballet, Brielle was up on pointe! It was beautiful to watch her dance on pointe alongside Karly at our holiday performances! Brielle's turns and jumps are amazing and really added something special to the jazz routine as well. Brielle is confident, which makes her such a strong performer overall. In class, she is both serious about learning AND fun to be around. She participates in equal parts of perfecting dance skills and joking with her peers. I love hearing that Brielle works on the routines outside of class time with some of the other dancers in her classes. During this time, I have heard she offers constructive criticism that helps the dancers grow and improve as a group. One of the most heartwarming things to watch is Brielle be a big sister to Caitrin (who is in the toddler class). Watching them get their dance pictures taken together was so sweet! As you can see from the February weekly e-mails, they turned out beautifully and really show how Brielle looks over Caitrin as well as how Caitrin looks up to Brielle. When Miss Erika was out last week, Brielle happened to be walking through the hallways during Ballet 2. She saw that I was struggling to lead warm-ups, and the girls were struggling to remember the order of all the stretches and steps to practice. Brielle jumped right in and led the group! As she led

all of the warm-ups, she gently offered tips to help the girls. I was so proud of her leadership! We are so glad Brielle is a part of our Faith in Motion family!

[Get the FIM Newsletter](#)



[Read Most Recent Prayers](#)

BY THE NUMBERS

For February 9
Weekly Income Received: \$9,853

St. Joe UMC

In Person Attendance

- 9a: 47
- 11a:87

Online Attendance

- 9a: 22
- 11a: Live stream issues

St. Joe @ Y

In Person Attendance

- 10a: 43

Online Attendance

- 10a: 8

Saint Joseph United Methodist Church | 6004 Reed Road | Fort Wayne, IN 46835 US

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