

A Message From...



Ashley Moreland

Campus Pastor-St. Joe @ Y

It started because one day I sat in the lobby of the Jackson R Lehman YMCA at the Prayer Table for a solid 2 hours...and not one person came up to talk to me. Now maybe you're thinking "Pastor Ashley, if you are sitting at the Prayer Table for 2 hours and no one came up and talked to you, maybe *you* should have initiated conversation." That's a fair assessment. But hopefully you know me well enough to know I just do not want to force myself onto people or interrupt something that they are doing and it's not a lack of ambition or initiation. Regardless, this (silent) 2 hours proved to be valuable.

I just started seminary, my family was busy, I was learning how to be a pastor and I thought: "This is nuts, I can't keep doing this. Is 2 hours of sitting at this table with no interaction worth my time? I don't have time for this." (Yes, pastors are human and sometimes wonder about these types of things just like anyone else.)

There's a reason we have different Chaplains sitting at the Prayer Table: because we are all different, we have the opportunity to see members from different points of view. Our more outgoing Chaplains think like and connect with those Y members who are a little more outgoing. Our more introverted and private Chaplains think like and connect with those who Y members might need more privacy. We are better together as a team because we can serve everyone more effectively.

So it occurred to me that if I were really struggling with something in my life: would I as a fairly private and introverted person walk up to a stranger and in the middle of the lobby where anyone could hear my deepest struggle and share that prayer request?

No. I wouldn't.

Now, let me say, there are those who would (and do!) walk up to the prayer table and share with a perfect stranger their deepest struggle for prayer. That's great. There are Chaplains who sit at the Prayer Table who initiate conversations with anyone and everyone. That's great.

But it made me think: if I were a Y member, what would attract me? Well, a

little more privacy for one, I thought. JRL has a beautiful prayer chapel right inside the front door. Second, I wouldn't necessarily share my deepest struggle with someone I didn't know, which would mean I would have to have a relationship that I have built with this person. Therefore: how do I get people into the prayer chapel at JRL and start building just every day relationships ("What's your name?" "Where do you work?" "How many kids do you have?" "What do you like to do at the Y?") so that maybe one day that person would trust me enough to tell me what's going on in their life that I can pray for.

Like any good Methodist, "Candy Bars" was my first thought. Who would refuse a free candy bar? "Hmmm...that's going to get expensive real quick. And they came to work out and a candy bar might undo everything they just did on the treadmill."

I had listened to a podcast less than a year before that posed this question: "What can you do that no one else can do? How can God use the talents you have to reach people?" And so it hit me.

A coffee bar. My first job out of high school was a barista. I could make mochas, lattes, coffee, and tea in my sleep. A free cup of coffee? That sounds pretty enticing.

And so I cleared it with the Executive Director of the Y at the time and Pastor Glenn and bought a very small espresso machine, a couple flavorings, found a cart upstairs at the church that wasn't being used and cleaned it up, and started "Coffee with Pastor".

Over the past year and a half, I've upgraded my espresso machine, added a couple of options for drinks I didn't have before, and bought a nicer cart to hold it all. The cart itself is stored in the kitchen at JRL and I pull it out throughout the week. We have a small dorm size fridge space in the kitchen at JRL and I store my different milks in there. When Austin and the band come to JRL once a month to sing worship music in the lobby, I pull out my coffee cart to create an atmosphere where people might stay and listen.

But over the past year and a half, it's where I've built the most relationships. If I miss a regular time of when I pull my coffee cart out, members will ask staff where I am...not because they are missing their cup of coffee, but because we've built a relationship where they are concerned that something is wrong.

As most of you know, these past few months have been challenging for me with family situations that required more of my attention. It gave me time to reflect on how I spend my time personally and professionally. As I considered the coffee cart, I thought, "This has been one of the most impactful ministry outreaches we've done in a while at the Y, how do I give the gift of what I've received through this ministry away to others in the congregation?" My solution: what if I pull out my coffee cart out into the lobby like I do when Austin and the band comes, it will get a lot more visibility...but I cannot do it by myself, this would be a great way to invite others to join me."

Let me tell you about one Thursday night when Austin and the band was playing in the lobby and I had my cart out. I needed to leave by 7:20p at the very latest for family commitment. At about 7:05-7:10p, I considered packing it up. But then one middle-schooler came up to ask for a hot chocolate. And then another. And then another. And then another. And the line grew: now it

wasn't just middle-schoolers coming up asking for coffee, it was parents, other children, etc. Before I knew it, it was 7:33p and I eventually had to turn people away because I *needed* to leave. In the last 20 minutes, I had made probably 20-25 different drinks. And I wasn't just drowning in chocolate and milk and espresso: I was drowning in people with no chance to actually talk to them or learn their names. It was just: pump the chocolate, heat the milk, pull the espresso...rinse and repeat and try to get everyone's orders right.

I'll admit. I walked away frustrated: That I had to leave. That I was late for that commitment. That I didn't have the chance to actually get to know any of them. While yes, I served a lot of drinks that night: did I serve *the people* I was attempting to connect with?

I wouldn't get the answer for another couple of months.

I had been back from leave for a couple of weeks and trying to get my feet back under me. I sat in the prayer chapel at the Y waiting for a meeting to start when one of the Managers On Duty at the Y, one of the people I've gotten to know, came in to say hi and asked how I was doing. His name is Mike.

I can't remember how we got on the topic. But we started talking about St. Joe @ Y, the nights that Austin and the band come to play in the lobby, and other church-related topics. I know Mike to be a minister at his church and that one of his outreaches is that he connects with the teens and youth at the Y and sees it as part of his ministry. I complimented him on this. And then he asked when the next time Austin and the band would be back to play. I told him when. And he asked if I was going to be there with my coffee cart. I said I wasn't sure. He replied with, "You know, those teens. They ask when the next time the music and the 'coffee lady' are going to be back." I smiled. He continued, "I asked them, 'what do you get out of those nights?'" The teens said, "That God loves us."

And that friends: is why we do what we do. That's what I'm inviting you to be a part of. I can teach you how to work the espresso machine, I can tell you some good passages of Scripture to look at, I can tell you some good spiritual disciplines to engage in.

...but what I *can't* do is be in two places at once. I can't hand someone a cup of coffee *and* learn their name. I can't refill the milk jug *and* ask how someone's week went. I can't steam milk for twenty people *and* sit with one person who needs to be seen and heard.

But we can.

That's the vision. A team of people—not all baristas, not all preachers—just every day people who love God and are willing to be present. People who believe a cup of coffee can be an open door, and a smile can be a first step toward healing. People who are willing to learn the names, hold the space, and maybe even pull a few espresso shots along the way.

So here's your invitation: would you consider being part of the Coffee Cart ministry at the Y? You can help make drinks. You can simply be a warm presence while the drinks are being made—offering a listening ear, a kind word, or even just a cheerful "Good morning!" You'll be trained. You won't be alone. But you *will* make a difference.

There's a sign up for specific days and times that I've committed to already being at the Y BUT if one of those doesn't work, let's talk and find a time that does for both of us. Let's keep showing up with coffee, compassion, and the kind of quiet courage that lets people know: God sees them. God loves

Church Wide Announcements



☐ Let's Support the Chancel Choir! ☐

Join us as we cheer on the Chancel Choir when they sing the National Anthem at the TinCaps game on Friday, June 28th! We've reserved a block of seats so we can sit together as a church family and enjoy a fun evening at the ballpark.

☐ Tickets are just \$15 each—don't miss out on this great night of music, fellowship, and baseball. We hope to see you there!

Register **HERE** for Tincaps tickets. Orders close June 15th.

[Watch Past Key 3 Announcements](#)

St. Joe at the Y



NOW BREWING

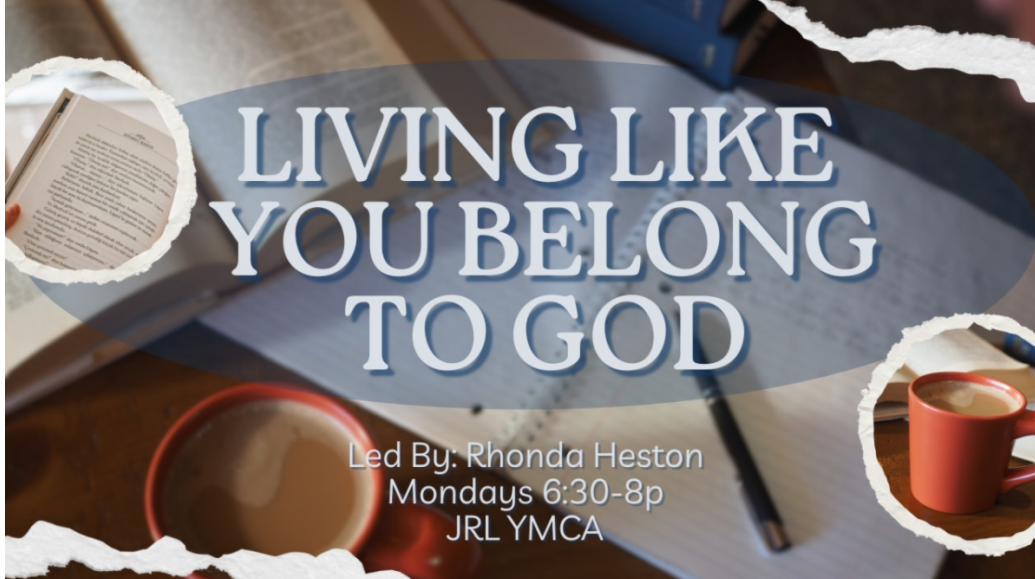
DO YOU LIKE COFFEE? LATTE? MOCHA? TEA?

SIGN UP WITH THE LINK BELOW AND LEARN HOW TO MAKE A DELICIOUS CUP OF COFFEE AND GET TO KNOW THE PEOPLE AT THE Y. GREET EVERYONE WHO COMES BY AND CHAT WITH THOSE WAITING.

[Coffee Sign Up](#)

[Watch Past Key 3 Announcements](#)

United Women in Faith



☐ Women's Bible Study with Rhonda Heston
Rhonda Heston's Bible study is off to a great start—and there's still room for you!

This all-women's book study features work by BJ Lawson, David E. Lawson, and Kay Arthur, offering a meaningful opportunity to dive deeper into Scripture and grow in community.

- ☐ Mondays | 6:30–8:00 p.m.
- ☐ Chapel at the JRL YMCA

Come join us—you're always welcome!

[Women's Study Sign Up](#)

[Get the UWF Newsletter](#)

Keystone

Seniors For the Fort

KEYS TO WISDOM

Sometimes our prayers cannot be put into words, but our hearts want to speak. Whether you call yourself an artist or decidedly don't, you will find expressing your prayer through paint can create a new connection with God. this is not an art lesson, it's a prayer expression. Open to all ages.

"June's Topic: Prayer Painting
with Lorelei VerLee

JUNE 26 | 6P

Register at stjoemin.com/events



Lunch Bunch



3rd Sunday
of the Month

June:
Harlan Cafe

[Get the Keystone Newsletter](#)

For Families

Summer Sundaes

Praise Park
June 8 & 29
7p-8p

For People



FEB 7-14
2026

We're Sending a Team to Guatemala!
Save the Date: February 7 - 14, 2026

Pastor Luke and Valerie Rumble, along with Erica and Chuck Gray, will be leading the group as they spend a week with Mission Guatemala. This is a work trip for people of all ages and skills levels. Let us know if you are interested by contacting the church office or emailing Pastor Luke at lucas.rumble@inumc.org.

There will be an informational meeting held following our ONE Service on July 6, 2025 at Praise Park.

Faith In Motion

SUMMER COMMUNITY DANCE CLASSES



**Faith in
Motion**
Dance Studio

JUNE 9TH:

6PM - LEVEL 3 TECHNIQUE / ALL AGES POMS

7PM - LEVEL 1&2 TECHNIQUE / ADULT & LEVEL 3 HIP-HOP

JUNE 16TH:

6PM - LEVEL 2&3 TAP / LEVEL 1 HIP-HOP

7PM - LEVEL 1 TAP / LEVEL 2&3 HIP-HOP

JUNE 23RD:

6PM - LEVEL 2&3 JAZZ / ALL AGES DISNEY CARDIO

7PM - LEVEL 1 JAZZ / DANCE TEAM PREP

JUNE 30TH:

6PM - LEVEL 1&2 TECHNIQUE / LEVEL 3 TAP

7PM - LEVEL 3 TECHNIQUE / LEVEL 1&2 TAP

JULY 7TH:

6PM - LEVEL 1 JAZZ / LEVEL 2&3 HIP-HOP

7PM - LEVEL 2&3 JAZZ / LEVEL 1 HIPHOP

JULY 14TH:

6PM - LEVEL 1 BALLET / BOY BAND ADULT CARDIO

7PM - LEVEL 2&3 BALLET / ALL AGES POMS

JULY 21ST:

6PM - LEVEL 2&3 HIP-HOP / ALL AGES WORSHIP WORKOUT

7PM - LEVEL 1 HIP-HOP / LATIN ADULT CARDIO

JULY 28TH:

6PM - LEVEL 3 TECHNIQUE / ADULT LINEDANCING

7PM - LEVEL 1&2 TECHNIQUE / ADULT & LEVEL 3 HIP-HOP

**MONDAYS
6PM & 7PM
FREE**

LEVEL 1: PRE K - 2ND
GRADE
LEVEL 2: 3-5TH GRADE
LEVEL 3: 6-12TH GRADE

Drop-In Dance Classes Start Soon!

Join us beginning June 9th for our regular drop-in classes—plus a brand new technique class we're thrilled to offer to everyone!

Classes will be held on Mondays and are a great way to get moving and have fun as we gear up for Dance Camp starting July 30th.

Don't miss out—we can't wait to dance with you!

Dance Camp Sign Up

Get the FIM Newsletter



[Read Most Recent Prayers](#)

BY THE NUMBERS

For June 1
Weekly Income Received: \$17,267

St. Joe UMC

In Person Attendance

- 9a:62
- 11a: 140

Online Attendance

- 9a: 22
- 11a: 20

St. Joe @ Y

In Person Attendance

- 10a: 46

Online Attendance

- 10a: 4

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

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