

A Message From...



Glenn Knepp

Lead Pastor

We still keep an old-fashioned habit as a family. Most nights it is still possible to have most of our family sit down for dinner together. This always has been something that was important to my wife Amy and it is something I am grateful she insisted on when we began our life together. It's a great way to catch up with the kids. It's a great time, typically, to lift everyone's mood a little. It's the best opportunity we have in a regular way to plan what is coming next together.

I'm sure our children won't remember every meal we share, but I am confident that they will remember that we share them often. I hope their memories on the whole are grand. Our hope the history we've made inspires their futures.

It's odd to say, but history can be made over dinner in just this way. Perhaps this is why at the heart of our Christian practice is the meal of communion, a meal in which God comes to us and places before us the promise of a future in relationship with God, because of the broken body of Christ. Big or small, memorable or habitual, grace is discovered. We don't treasure these times only because we want to feed ourselves, but rather because we are with one another. History happens over dinner.

This Sunday we are going to make some history. It will happen in ways that you might not expect- ***over dinner together at 12:15 pm in the Worship Center at St Joe UMC.*** The main dish will be lasagna and pasta. I would encourage you to bring favorite side dishes, desserts, and other carry-in classics. I'll award a special prize for the best deviled egg or jello salad!

During and after dinner we'll discuss the **For the Future** ministry plan and potential campaign. This will be available via the facebook livestream if you can't make it in person. You will be able to ask questions, offer opinions, and discuss together if this is the future God has for us.

If you don't want to wait until then, you can join tonight for a time of ***prayer at St Joe UMC at 6:30p.m.***

I love history because it is the place from which the future comes. The future only can happen because of things that happen in the past and present. Situations that in our time can seem sure to have a specific outcome (think of the American Revolution or the Civil Rights movement) didn't seem sure at the time! Fearless

people helped these events unfold to birth the promise of our present moment. The past became our prologue. The present rolls on in eternal moments of opportunity. History gives birth to the future. If the actions of those in the past influence us- then our actions can influence those who will come after us. Hopefully they will find us to have been faithful, fearless, and fruitful- all for Jesus- and all "For the Fort"! Hopefully it all starts over dinner!

Church Wide Announcements



ST. JOE UMC FOR THE FUTURE

Town Hall Meetings

- January 28, 6:30p, St. Joe UMC
- February 2, 12:15p, St. Joe UMC
 - (Carry In, Childcare provided)
- February 11, 6:30p St. Joe UMC

Townhall Meeting This Sunday!

Join us this Sunday at 12:15 PM in the Worship Center for an important Townhall Meeting. This is your chance to hear some exciting plans about the future of St. Joe and be part of the conversation!

Lunch: Carry-in style—bring a side or dessert! The main dish will be provided.

Childcare: Available for those who need it.

We'd love for you to join us as we look ahead together. See you there!

Our last townhall meeting will be on Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30pm.



FOCUS

**GOD SHOW ME THE WAYS I LOSE SIGHT
OF YOU AND WORSHIP OTHER THINGS.**



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**](#)

St. Joe @ the Y



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

[Get the SJ @ Y Newsletter](#)

Keystone
Seniors For the Fort



TOUR OF FORT WAYNE COURTHOUSE

Here's another chance to learn something new about our local community with a tour of the Allen County Courthouse, led by St. Joe's own Mary Seberger.

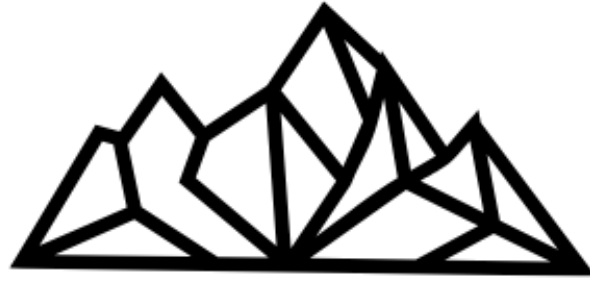
February 7 | 12:30p | Meet at the Courthouse

Register at stjoemin.com/events

[Register Courthouse Tour](#)

[Get the Keystone Newsletter](#)

For Families



ELEVATE

ST. JOE YOUTH RETREAT
2025

St. Joe UMC Youth Ministry will be leading an adventurous, faithful weekend in Michigan for students 6th-12th grade at Michindoh Conference Center in Hillsdale, MI on Friday, February 21, 2024 through Sunday, February 23, 2024. Sign up will close February 5th, 2025 so make sure to get your child signed up sooner than later!

[Elevate Retreat Sign Up](#)

[Get the Families \(Children's\) Newsletter](#)

Faith In Motion



"Painting the Studio RED!"

This week, I'd love to talk about our RUBY!!! We are SO happy to have Ruby back in dance classes this session after a few sessions off. She came to us as a toddler in 2019, alongside her sisters and cousin. From there, Ruby moved on to try hip-hop and tap... and she rocks at both! Over the years, we have watched Ruby move from the toddler class to level 1 classes, and now, level 2 classes! We all love to have Ruby in class. She greets her instructors with a hug before every class. One of my favorite things about Ruby is how she supports others in dance. Over the summer when Elly and I were working on our Christmas tap duet, Ruby would come along to watch from time to time. I will never forget when Ruby looked at Elly and I and said, "Wow, it kind of seems like you two were meant to dance together!" Just this past week, Ruby came to dance before her class and took it upon herself to record part of her younger sister's dance class so her sister could practice at home. Now that her younger brother is in the toddler class, Ruby loves to watch and support him, too! When I was walking around and popping in classes last Monday, seeing Ruby in the front row of the hip-hop routine made me smile. We are so glad to have this sweet and spunky redhead back!!

[Get the FIM Newsletter](#)



[Read Most Recent Prayers](#)

BY THE NUMBERS

For January 26
Weekly Income Received: \$15,430

St. Joe UMC

In Person Attendance

- 9a: 64
- 11a:164

Online Attendance

- 9a: 28
- 11a: 3

St. Joe @ Y

In Person Attendance

- 10a: 55

Online Attendance

- 10a: 2

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

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