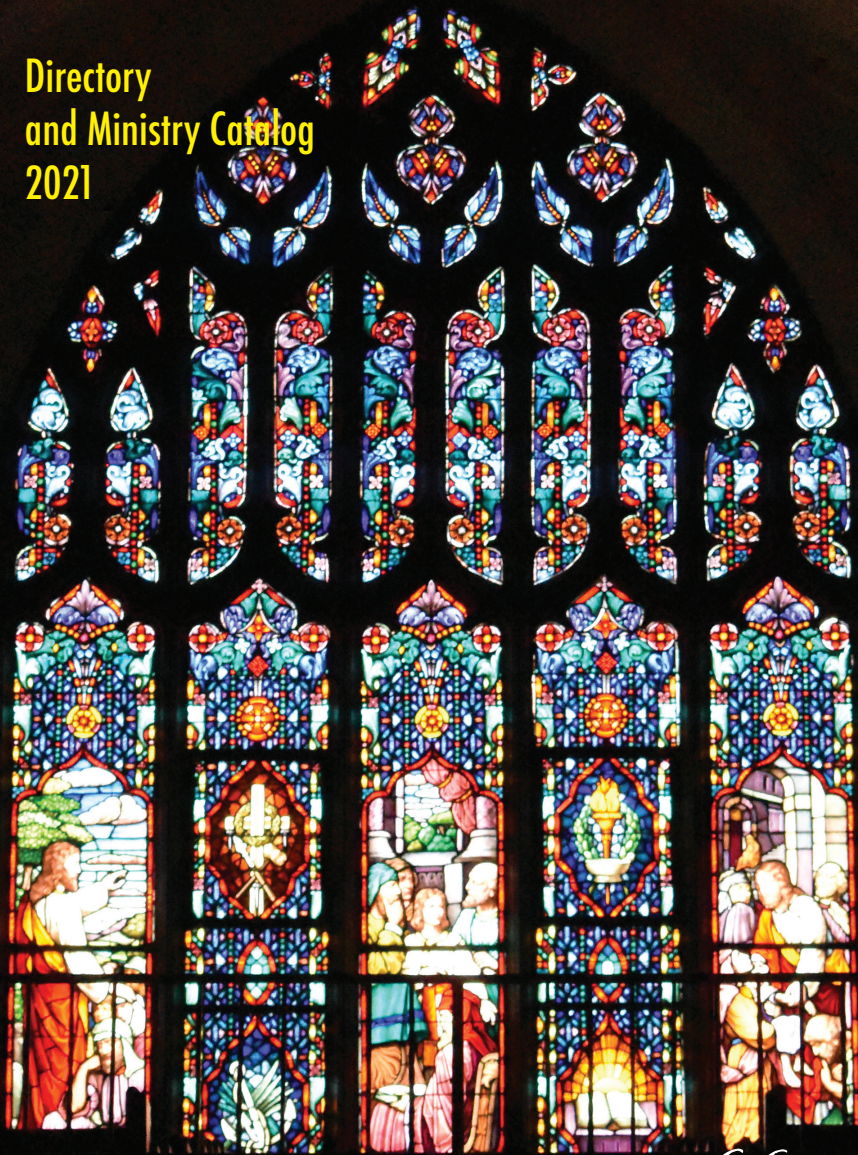


Directory  
and Ministry Catalog  
2021



*Gary and Winfield*

*Affiliated in Mission and Ministry*





## Gary United Methodist Church

In mission since 1853

224 North Main Street, Wheaton, Illinois 60187

Phone/Fax (630) 668-3100/668-8279

Email: [office@garychurch.org](mailto:office@garychurch.org)

Website: [www.garychurch.org](http://www.garychurch.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/garyumc](https://facebook.com/garyumc)



## Winfield Community United Methodist Church

OS347 Jefferson, PO Box 359, Winfield, Illinois 60190

Phone/Fax (630) 668-8970/668-1086

Email: [office@winfieldumc.org](mailto:office@winfieldumc.org)

Website: [www.winfieldumc.org](http://www.winfieldumc.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/winfieldcommumc](https://facebook.com/winfieldcommumc)

# Gary United Methodist Church

## An Invitation to Grow, Serve, Belong!

Welcome to Gary United Methodist Church, a vibrant place of mission and ministry with deep roots in the community going back to 1853, when the Gary and Wheaton families founded the church. If you are looking for a community where you can grow in faith, share your passions, explore your questions, and express your beliefs in action, we invite you to be part of our family of faith.

Our many programs and ministries provide opportunities to develop a deeper relationship with Christ, build caring relationships with others, and share Christ's love in the world. Wherever you are in your faith journey, we invite you to take a look at this ministry catalog and our website to find ways to get connected. We welcome you to contact one of our staff members to let us know your interests.

### **What does it mean that we are a United Methodist Church?**

Begun by John Wesley in 1729, today the United Methodist Church is a 12.3-million-strong global church and the second largest Protestant denomination in the United States. As a United Methodist congregation we affirm the faith shared by all Christians, with particular emphasis on God's grace and putting Christian faith into action. Grounded in scripture yet willing to ask questions and wrestle with difficult issues, we continue in the tradition of living out our faith by sharing Christ's love in the world.

### **Our Values**

At Gary United Methodist Church, our values are rooted in God's unconditional love and our desire to love God and love our neighbor. We are deeply committed to helping those in need locally, nationally, and globally; to providing opportunities for all ages to grow in faith; and to fostering caring relationships in our faith community. These core values are reflected in our mission statement.

## Mission Statement

**Grow** in faith, knowledge and understanding of Christ as Lord  
and Savior

**Serve** our community and the world by sharing time, gifts, talents

**Nurture** one another through worship, fellowship, love

**Demonstrate** our discipleship to Christ

**Proclaim** God's grace and Good News

# Our Staff

Senior Pastor .....	Rev. Dr. Chris Pierson
cpierson@garychurch.org	
Part-Time Associate Pastor .....	Rev. Brian Jones
bjones@garychurch.org	
Children’s Ministries Director / Adult Education Coordinator	
.....	Carey Bebar
cbebar@garychurch.org	
Director of Youth Ministries .....	Daniel Lee
dlee@garychurch.org	
Director of Music / Choir Director .....	Jennifer Whiting
jwhiting@garychurch.org	
Organist .....	Kevin Lange
klange@garychurch.org	
Business Administrator .....	Deb Evans
devans@garychurch.org	
Office Administration.....	Debra Hafner
office@garychurch.org	
Director of Communications .....	Janet Mathis
jmathis@garychurch.org	
Electronic Communications .....	Becky Lemna
blemna@garychurch.org	
Print Communications .....	Pam Keller
pkeller@garychurch.org	
Preschool Director.....	Kirsten McCluskey
preschool@garychurch.org	





## Worship Opportunities

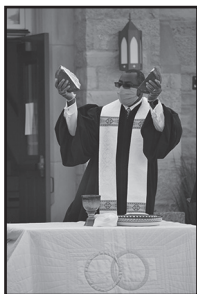
Our Sunday morning service is traditional in style and includes readings, prayers, a sermon, vibrant music, and a children's message. At the time of printing, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our services are livestreamed from our Sanctuary at 9 a.m. each Sunday and can be viewed at our website, [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org). A recording of the service is available throughout the week.

**We invite you to visit our website, [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org), for updates on our worship schedule and current information on the ministries listed below.**



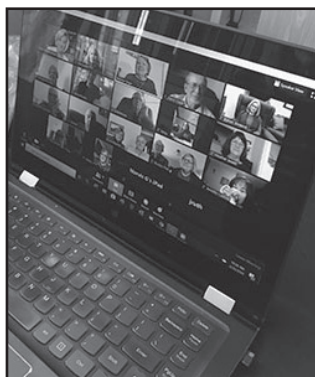
## Adult Christian Education and Discipleship

Gary Church offers a variety of Adult Christian Education opportunities to help nurture our growth as Christians, connect with a smaller group of folks within the larger congregation, and build relationships. We are intentional in offering practical and innovative opportunities through Bible study, book discussions, special speakers, and topical issues. These offerings are intended to provide places for us to be challenged, think deeper about Christian life, and engage in conversation with others who have similar and differing viewpoints as we walk the journey of faith together. Additionally, fellowship groups provide an opportunity to be part of smaller gatherings to get to know others and grow closer as a community of faith.



## Care Ministries

At Gary Church there are many opportunities to care and be cared for during the joys and challenges of life. If you, or someone you know, is in need of a listening ear, helping hand, or words of encouragement, we would like to come alongside you in prayer, care, and love. Contact the Church Office if you could use the support of one of our care teams or would like to serve in care ministries.



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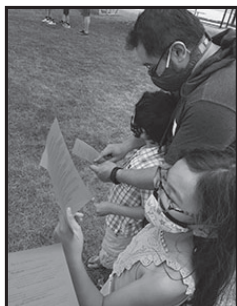
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## Gary Kids



Children are a vital part of our faith community. Our goal is to partner with families to share the love of God with children and nourish life-long relationships with his son, Jesus. Or, as we put it, to help kids **grow in faith**.



## Gary Youth



At Gary Church, we believe that Christian education is a high priority for all of us—children, youth, and adults alike. We want to provide every opportunity for our youth to grow in love for one another and God.



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## Music Ministry

*Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord.*

~ Ephesians 5:19

Methodists have always been a “singing people.” Music in worship gives praise to God, expresses our faith, comforts our souls, and nurtures our community. We invite musicians of all ages and all levels to explore God’s gifts through music at Gary.



## Mission and Outreach

Gary’s Mission and Outreach supports a variety of local, regional, and international organizations, enabling individuals to live their faith through prayer, hands-on work, financial support, donations of needed items, companionship, and/or systemic change. In addition to these missions, many of which arose from the interests and passions of our congregation, we support other causes of the United Methodist Church, allowing us to combine our offerings with those of other United Methodists nationally and globally to enact change around the world.





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## **Preschool and Parents' Morning Out**

Gary United Methodist Preschool has been providing classes for 3 and 4-year-olds and pre-K since 1969. Classes run September through May. Additionally, a Parents' Morning Out Program is offered for children 18 months–3 years. The school complies with all DCFS regulations, and the staff is approved by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Information on class schedules, curriculum, and fees can be found on the Gary Preschool page of [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org) or by contacting Preschool Director Kirsten McCluskey at [preschool@garychurch.org](mailto:preschool@garychurch.org) or through the Church Office.

## **Scouting Ministries**

Gary Church sponsors Cub Scout Pack 335 and Boy Scout Troop 35. Various Girl Scout and Brownie Troops also meet at Gary. For more information contact the Church Office.

## **Baptisms and Weddings**

Contact the Church Office or visit our website for more information.

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## **The Affiliation of Gary and Winfield Community United Methodist Churches**

In 1997, Gary United Methodist Church and Winfield Community United Methodist Church joined together in a unique and exciting ministry. We share resources, blessings, and gifts and—in the spirit of Christian community—understand that we are stronger and more effective together than either can be apart. In an address to Annual Conference, the Bishop called the Gary/Winfield affiliation “one of the Shining Lights” in the Northern Illinois Conference and called on more churches to engage in non-traditional ministries to better serve God and God’s people.



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# Winfield Community United Methodist Church

## Our Staff

Winfield UMC Pastor..... Rev. Bruce Anderson  
pastorbrucea@gmail.com  
Director of Music / Choir Director / Pianist ..... Olive Aliga  
Print Coordinator ..... Pam Keller  
pkeller@garychurch.org

## Worship Opportunities

Sunday Worship Services are at 10:30 a.m. For updates to the schedule, please visit [winfieldumc.org](http://winfieldumc.org).

## Vision Statement

The mission of Winfield Community United Methodist Church is to create an environment that nurtures persons as they seek to understand and spread the Good News of the unconditional love of Jesus Christ through serving the local and world communities.

## Missions and Outreach

### West Chicago Food Pantry

The need to help the hungry has no day or week. Donations of non-perishable food may be brought to the basket in the Narthex. Donations are taken regularly to the West Chicago Food Pantry.

### Winter Hats, Mittens, Gloves, and Scarves Drive

Our annual drive helps to give children in need some protection and comfort from the cold weather in the winter. Donations are delivered to area grade schools.

### Rainbow Covenant

By giving to this program of the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church, Winfield Church supports local, regional, and international missions.

