

The Heart Of the Matter

OUTHPORT
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

UPCOMING Sermons

June 30, July 3

"Present at the Creation"

Joshua 4:1-7

July 7, 10

Signs for the Journey: New Road Layout Ahead"

Hebrews 11:1, 13-22

June 14, 17

"Signs for the Journey: No Left Turn"

Hebrews 1:11, 23-29;

Exodus 14:21-31

July 21, 24

"Signs for the Journey: Do No Enter"

Hebrews 11:1, 30; Numbers

13:25-33

July 28, 31

"Signs for the Journey: One Way"

Hebrews 11:1, 31; Joshua

2:1-24

SEE YOU IN THE "PEW"

If you read a recent email from me, you know that as I began my journey to become an appointed Local Pastor, I read a book called "From Pew to Pulpit." I indeed went from sitting in the pew – comfy chairs here at Southport – to preaching from the pulpit.

Now that my days of being an appointed pastor are over (with my retirement), I am going from pulpit back to pew. As I return, I am glad that they are comfy chairs my wife Bernie and I are returning to – and not hard, wooden pews. 😊

As I leave the official capacity of appointed pastor, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you. I am thankful to the pastors of the recent past (Pastor Mark, Pastor Derek, and Pastor Duane) who gave me an opportunity to pursue my calling and to share with you from the pulpit. I thank the staff for the work they do each day to provide ministries through SUMC. As I have delivered the message, I have had others help me with announcements and prayers – thank you. I thank the many of you who have given me uplifting words of affirmation and encouragement as I was on my journey. The warm smiles and greetings as you departed from service each week – thank you. And I thank those that have mentored me along the way. I thank our musicians (choir and bands) for providing uplifting music each and every week. I also greatly thank my wife Bernie for her support over these years of ministry.

Most of all, I thank God for calling me and equipping me and giving me the privilege of proclaiming His word.

And finally, I thank you all in advance for your future support as I continue to "press on" and "run the race" of following Jesus as His disciple, "from the pew."

Bernie and I are looking forward to the next chapter in our lives as retired folks, participating with grandkids, and traveling (a little) - whenever we want, and continuing to be followers of Christ.

If I quote someone else, I don't have to make up words myself – right? So, in closing, let me quote the apostle Paul, his closing to the letter to the church at Ephesus (Ephesians 6:23-24, NLT):

²³ Peace be with you, dear brothers and sisters, and may God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you love with faithfulness. ²⁴ May God's grace be eternally upon all who love our Lord Jesus Christ.

Have hope in the Lord, now and always!

Christ's servant, Doug (formerly known as Pastor Doug)

July Newsletter 2022

Thank You!



I am writing this the day after my last Sunday as an appointed pastor and after the very nice and gracious celebration you had for Bernie and me.

Thanks to Pastor Duane and the Leadership Team members for the very nice words shared during worship. And thanks to all of those that helped to organize the celebration.

What a terrific send-off on my last days of preaching as a pastor. I greatly appreciate your greetings before and after service, the affirmations, warm wishes, gifts and cards, cake, cookies, and some retirement advice 😊 as we change our roles for the future. I also appreciate the many recipes I received and look forward to trying them in retirement.

And I thank all of you and the church for the tremendous "love gift" given to us.

Finally, thank you for receiving me as your appointed pastor over the last 4 ½ years. I will also thank you in advance for welcoming me back to the pew as Bernie and I plan to continue to worship at Southport UMC in retirement. We love the church, and we love all of you. We greatly appreciate all of you and look forward to continuing in God's mission in the future with you as well.

Doug

Garden Ministries

We believe growing is a critical part of our discipleship path here at SUMC. Now this generally refers to deepening our knowledge and understanding and of scripture so that we can live more Christ centered lives, but why not add on gardens too. Our ministries include a community garden maintained by people from the church and community, an educational garden where Imagination Station children are taught faith lessons and that getting dirty is OK, and a Harvest Table where we freely share the bounties that God has given us. Because we are a congregation that "grows" the Indiana United Methodist Conference has awarded us the 'Anathoth Award' for investing in growing. This award included recognition at this year's annual conference and a \$1,000 cash prize that will be used to help us continue to grow. Thank you all for being a community that connects, **GROWS**, serves, gives, and goes.

Harvest Table

We have added an extra day for the Harvest Table! The Harvest Table will now be open Thursday afternoons from 6pm to 7pm in addition to Wednesdays from 6pm to 7pm and Sundays 10am to noon.

We are very thankful for those who are helping distribute produce at the table and providing produce from their gardens. Your efforts have been very fruitful, literally, we have already given away over 350 lbs. of produce to our community this year.



Harvest Table Hours:

Sunday: 10:00am-12:00pm
Wednesday: 6:00pm-7:00pm
Thursday: 6:00pm-7:00pm

*Wednesday Harvest Table hours may be delayed a week or two depending on availability of produce.



Facebook is a great way to follow everything happening at SUMC! Make sure to Like and Follow!

Subscribe to SUMC on YouTube to keep up with all of our online services and special videos!

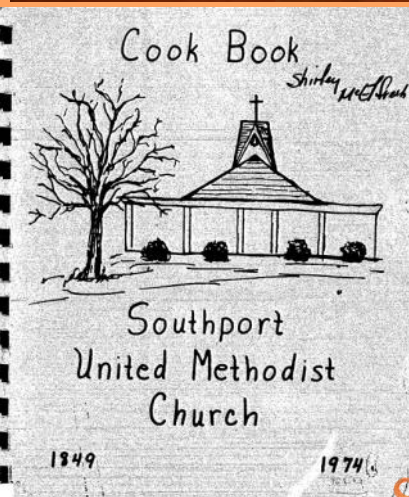


SAVE THE DATE!

September 24, 2022

Save the date for a fall tent revival! A message of hope, food, and music!

We can't wait to have you there.



History



Pictured: SUMC Pitch-Ins from the past!

TACO NOODLE BAKE Helen Dallas

8 oz. pkg. noodles (finely cut)	1 tsp. oregano
1 lb. ground beef	
1 can taco sauce (8 oz.)	3 T. sugar
1 green pepper	Parmesan cheese
1 (16 oz.) can stewed tomatoes	1 small onion (chopped)

Cook noodles in salt water as directed on pkg. Brown onion and beef, put noodles and beef in baking dish, add taco sauce, green pepper (chopped), tomatoes, sugar, and oregano. Stir until mixed. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake at 350° for 20 to 30 minutes.

Enjoy this recipe!

Faith Promise Mid-Year Update

We are halfway through 2022. I can't believe I am saying that already! We have been very busy here at SUMC. Here is what has been happening because of your generosity to **Faith Promise**.

The **blood mobile** has already visited us twice this year. Mark these dates for the next two blood drives coming up: **July 30, 2022 and November 19, 2022**. Remember time for the blood drives are 8:30 am- 11:00 am.

Feed A Need (F.A.N.) continues to partner with **Tear Down The Walls Ministry** in Indianapolis. Fifty sack meals are made monthly and dropped off so they can be distributed the second Saturday of each month to people in need.

God's Will Breakfast still serves breakfast on the third Thursday of the month. This group is looking for a few people who are willing to help with this ministry. If you think this is something you would like to explore, contact the church office.

Harvest Table is back this year. They kicked off their season on Mother's Day with seeds and plants but quickly moved to having delicious strawberries, lettuce, spinach and lots of radishes. **Harvest Table** hours are Sunday 10:00 am-12:00 pm and Wednesday 6:00 pm-7:00 pm. We are looking to expand the hours to include Thursday evening from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm. If you are willing to help on Thursday evenings, please contact the church office. As in past years, we continue to take any leftover produce to **Hunger, INC.** Sunday afternoon so their clients can enjoy fresh produce as well. **Faith Promise** was able to help the **Harvest Table** purchase some new items this year. With your generosity to **Faith Promise**, funding was available to purchase a cart for transporting produce, tables for displaying produce, raised beds for more growing space and the gazebo area for having a shaded area for the **Harvest Table**. We are all very excited to see how the gazebo area gets utilized by other groups as well. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this beautiful area a reality in such a short period of time.

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) continues to be on hold for 2022. But that doesn't mean we are not active with **Family Promise of Indianapolis**. **Faith Promise** continues to support the ministry annually. Thanks to Paul and Maggie Lucas, SUMC hosted a *Night Without a Bed* to bring awareness to the homeless situation. We are going to be hosting **IHN** here as soon as the program is in host churches. Until then SUMC will continue to find ways to support this ministry.

Ronald McDonald House (RMH) is being served about every other month. A team has gone in and served January, March and May of 2022. This ministry has changed since covid and RMH has hired a professional chef to write the menu and do the shopping. The team goes in and cooks and serves the families.

Faith Promise sponsored family time together at the movie Family Camp. A block of tickets was purchased in May and 25 people went to AMC theater and enjoyed an afternoon of fun family entertainment. It was a great time for all who attended.

We are looking into partnering with **Habitat for Humanity** this year as well. There is a build located on 19th street that will consist of approximately 24 homes. We are considering putting a team together. If you are interested in any capacity, please contact the church office.

Some more events to look forward to are in the future:

Blood Mobile: July 30, 2022, 8:30 am-11:00 am

Tent Revival: September 24, 2022, 3:00pm -5:00pm

Blood Mobile: November 19, 2022, 8:30 am -11:00 am

Jubilee Christmas 2022

Again, thank you all for continuing to support **Faith Promise**. As you can see, we continue to **CONNECT, GROW, SERVE, GIVE AND GO!**

HUNGER, INC FOOD PANTRY NEWS

We are having many clients show up at the pantry indicating that the need is very large due to the cost of food in the stores so your help in providing food is so appreciated.

Hunger, INC pantry is located at Madison Ave and Epler Ave. behind Kim's Kakery, Bakery, and Deli. It is a small pantry, but a very busy pantry. Food is handed out 3 days a week. The days are Tues 10-1, Thurs. 4-7, and Sat. 10-1.

The **Meijer Food Campaign is still going on until July 2** at the Southport Meijer Store. Your donation of \$10 can become \$20. On June 18 Southport donated \$200 that became \$600...way to go Southport. This is the store the pantry uses to get huge food purchases from.

Some of the food needs are packets of mashed potatoes, rice packets, pancake mix/syrup, and peanut butter. If you want to donate these items, we will collect them between July 3rd -- July 10th.

Thanks for all the support you give to be the hands and feet for Jesus.

Welcome Phil!!!

Phil Whisner has joined the church staff as our Building & Grounds technician. Phil is very handy to have around as he possesses many skills that are helpful in taking care of our facilities. Even more importantly he possesses a kind, caring spirit and is willing to help out in about any situation.

Phil has a leadership position in the Knights Templar of Indiana. His wife Connie and He are avid Colts fans, and when the Colts are playing at home can be seen running out of the church restroom with blue face paint on (just Phil, not Connie) to get to the game. He can also often be found at the Harvest Table giving away free produce and conversation.

Phil is a leader, both inside and outside the church, that leads not only with his words but also with his actions. When you see Phil, be sure to thank him for all the work he does to keep our facility in good shape so that this can be a place where grace and hope are offered freely to everyone.



YOUTH
Southport United Methodist



Youth Sponsored Family Day at Freedom Springs

Open to All Families and Friends

Shelter #4

JULY 17th from 3-6pm

Day Pass Admission Rates

Greenwood Resident - \$4 Adult - \$3 Child

Non-Resident Adult - \$5 Adult - \$4 Child

Children under 2 are Free

For more information or concerned about admission price
please reach out to Kelley Lego. Kelley@sumc.org or 304-634-5480

Throwback photo of the Kidwells!



CHILDREN'S *Church*

Children's Church
begins every
Sunday at 10:30
a.m. for ages 3 up
to 5th grade!

IMAGINATION Station



**NOW
HIRING**
APPLY TODAY

Now Hiring:
Part-Time Preschool Teacher

Individual would work with 3,4
and 5 yr. olds.

Monday through Friday 8:30 to 12:30.
Preschool follows Perry Township
schedule (summers off)

Must love children, Dependability is a
must!

Willing to train. Opportunity to work
towards a CDA (Child Development
Associates Credential)

If interested or know of someone that
may be, please contact Allyson Ball at
317-780-4624 to set up an interview.
Please be sure and specify you are
interested in preschool position.



Pictured: Throwback of Ms. Ball with preschool students in the early 2000s. Sydney Lemler, who currently works for I.S. as a teacher and attends here at SUMC, is the one waving in the purple tub!

Church	May-22	2022 Year To Date
Income		
Offerings	\$68,142	\$261,485
Other	\$318	\$856
Imagination Station "Tithe/offering"	\$5,425	\$20,015
Church Expenses		
Conf. & Dist. Support	(\$4,766)	(\$28,679)
Administration	(\$14,518)	(\$79,814)
Maintenance & Utilities	(\$9,573)	(\$65,999)
Connect, Grow, Serve	(\$22,510)	(\$114,348)
Youth & Child Ministry	(\$1,156)	(\$5,530)
Net	\$21,362	(\$12,014)
Imagination Station		
Income	\$23,591	\$197,624
Expense	(\$30,259)	(\$146,692)
"Tithe/offering" to Church	(\$5,425)	(\$20,015)
Net	(\$12,093)	\$30,916
All Together		
Total Incomes	\$92,051	\$459,965
Total Expenses	(\$82,782)	(\$441,062)
Net	\$9,269	\$18,902

I want to share a verse of Scripture with you. This comes from 2 Corinthians. It was written by a guy named Paul and addressed to a church congregation, maybe a lot like ours. Here's what Paul says in 2 Corinthians 8:7.

"But as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in the love we have kindled in you– see that you excel in this act of grace also." 2 Corinthians 8:7

I love that. Paul tells this church that they are doing a great job in so many things. That's how I feel about our church. I'm so proud to be a part of a church that cares about the community, that does all she can to reach God's children, to feed people, and is a safe place for people to hear about the life-changing message of Jesus.

Then Paul challenges this church to excel in the area of giving. One chapter later, Paul encourages the church with this verse:

"Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." – 2 Corinthians 9:7

I hope you have never felt guilty into giving, not here. Paul actually says that we shouldn't give reluctantly or because someone forced us. A pastor shouldn't try and scare people into giving – which is a tactic that works, but doesn't honor God. Instead, people should give cheerfully. The Bible says this because generosity isn't just something you do – it's an attitude. God wants us to have a generous spirit, and a generous attitude.

It's not that you have to give...it's that you GET to give. When it comes to giving to this church, I hope that's how you feel... I hope you are honored to be able to join God in what He is doing here, and are happy to give cheerfully.

Think about that. Are you giving without guilt? Are you giving freely and without reluctance? Are you giving out of a generous heart?

Thank you for giving,

Brandon

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Duane Thompson
 Karen Decatur
 Jim Cooney
 Sherry Davis
 Suzy Heilman
 Pat Hulfachor
 John Klipsch
 Margaret Trammell
 Connie Whisner



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SERVICE TIMES

Online

Sunday @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday

9:00 a.m.-Traditional

10:30 a.m.- Contemporary

Thursday

6:30 p.m.– Casual Service

*Everyone is sharing God's love and grace through Jesus Christ in their everyday, 24 x 7 lives.
 So that... we are making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world.*