

The Heart Of the Matter



SOUTHPORT
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

NEWSLETTER
MAY 2024

General Conference

Dear Friends,

As I am writing this here toward the end of April, something called the General Conference of the United Methodist Church is happening. It is a meeting of the entire denomination, and it is taking place in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Ordinarily, the General Conference meets every 4 years, but because of Covid and the restrictions and difficulties of international travel for some delegates, the General Conference originally scheduled for 2020, was postponed not once, or even twice, but three times. Finally, with the postponement in 2022, it was determined that the next General Conference would take place at the regularly scheduled place and time in 2024.

However, during that spring of 2022, some United Methodist leaders and churches were upset over the postponement of General Conference, because some real issues about the future of the denomination, principally related to homosexuality, were not being considered and decided, and many churches left the denomination to form a new church called the Global Methodist Church.

So the long-delayed General Conference is finally taking place from April 23-May 3. There is a lot to be discussed and decided and celebrated with regard to the United Methodist Church. You may be hearing a few things from various sources about what has happened during those 10 days, but you may want to hear more, and make sure that you are getting information from reliable sources.

One informative session to let you know all about General Conference and answer any questions you might have is being held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at Meridian Street United Methodist Church, 5500 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46208, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This is part of the larger Lay Speakers Academy that day at the same location that Brandon has helped to organize. (He is also teaching one of the courses!) You can choose to take one of these excellent courses and learn more about General Conference or go to one event or the other.

So, there are things happening in the United Methodist Church, all of which are interesting, and some of which you might feel are critical to the future. And here is one chance for you to learn more about it – at Meridian Street United Methodist Church, 5500 North Meridian Street, on May 11, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Grace and Hope to you,

Pastor Duane

SUMC Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who has participated in donating your time, your talent, and/or your financial donations to the fundraisers we have had this year, so far. Each of you is a blessing to SUMC and to the community, and we could not have raised donations to help pay off our mortgage debt without you.

Here are the fundraisers we have had already this year and the donation amounts received:

Pancake Dinner - \$1200

Chocolate Peanut Butter Easter Eggs - \$1220

Easter Festival - \$2000

Upcoming fundraisers and opportunities for everyone to participate are listed below. So mark your calendars.

Penny Sunday (start saving your change) - September 8

Sponsor a Night at City BBQ - September 19

Chili Festival and Trunk n Treat - October 19

If you have any questions about these fundraising opportunities or want to be part of the committee, please let us know.

Thanks,

Kevin Bennett, Mindy Bennett, Pam Clough, Brandon Collins, Kelley Lego, Zach Lego, Sandy Lewis, Jan Shaffer, and Jerrie Snell

Connecting

others to Christ
through relationships

Growing

faith in Christ by
connecting God's story
to your story

Serving

Christ by
blessing others

Giving

in celebration of
God's generosity in
Jesus Christ

Going

into the world with
Christ's message of
love and grace



SUMC Handbell Choir

The SUMC Handbell Choir will be ringing for more services this year! The next date will be Sunday, June 30. If you are interested in joining us, please contact our Music Director, Rhonda Collins, at rhonda@sumc.org or 317.258.6743. Ages 12 and up are welcome!



CHILDREN'S Church

Every Sunday at
10:30 a.m.



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!



Thank you so much for being a part of our Easter festival! We had so many incredible volunteers to make this a special event for the community. We cannot wait to plan it again next year!

Upcoming

We are excited for Pastor William to join us at SUMC. His first day will be July 1. His first Sunday to preach will be July 14 and we will welcome him and his family with a picnic/cookout after the 10:30 worship service.

Pastor William and his family would like to meet everyone at SUMC. We are planning an in-home visit with about 10-12 people at each home starting the week of July 8.

We are asking for anyone interested in hosting a group at your home to contact the church office or email at kathy@sumc.org.

We will need around 15 hosts. It will not last more than 2 hours. The host will pick a date and time that works for them, daytime or evening, and we will have people sign up for the time that fits their schedule. The Host is asked to provide a light snack and drinks.

Thank you for considering being a host and for signing up for a group gathering if you cannot be a host. This will give everyone a chance to meet Pastor William and his family.

Blessings,

SUMC Leadership Team and Staff

LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY OF SOUTHPORT INDIANA

Help us celebrate Southport Library's 50th birthday by joining us to hear some highlights about how the city of Southport went from a sparsely populated wilderness to the bustling city we know today. Presented By: Barry Browning of the Perry Township/Southport Historical Society

June 1, 2024
10:30AM-11:30AM
Southport Library
2630 East Stop 11 Road

COFFEE & DONUTS WILL BE PROVIDED

The
INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC
Library
indypl.org



Vacation Bible School!

When: June 9—13

Where: Southport UMC

Ages: K-6th Grade

Contact: 317-784-9508

www.sumc.org

Dinner will be served!



Do you have children or know children that would love VBS? Scan the QR code to the left to register. Spots are filling quick!



Love gift for Pastor Duane

We will be celebrating Pastor Duane's last Sunday with us on June 30. We have some envelopes available for you to give Pastor Duane a "Love Gift". We ask that you bring them or mail them to the church office so we can present Pastor Duane with a basket full of gifts and cards after the 10:30 Worship Service on June 30. We will have a luncheon following the presentation for everyone in the Gathering Place.

Corabelle Hite, Greenwood Community High School
Jenifer Smith, Anderson University
Alyson Riddle, University of Southern Indiana
Kayleigh Holsapple, IUPUI
Madison "Maddie" Dobbs, Franklin Central High School
Hannah Dobbs, U of Indy
Sarah Hill, IUPUI
Ava Copeland, Triton Central HS
Lucy Hiller, Southport High School
Bekah Hiller, Stanford University
Charlie Kidwell, Beech Grove HS

Congrats to all the graduates! What an accomplishment!

Discipleship Path Corner

The Faith Promise booklet was recently distributed, and we are grateful for each of you. Please let us know if you are ready to take the next step with the equipping ministry opportunities. These are many ways we serve today.

-Maggie & Jerrie

Serve					
Partnership		Communal		Connectional	
Emmaus Community	One Mission Society	Children's Ministry	Harvest Table	Audio-Visual	Communion
Family Promise	Perry Township Religious Education	Community Garden	Harvest Tea	Beautification Team	Equipping Ministry & Discovery
Habitat for Humanity	Perry Township Senior Services	Cross Training	Jubilee Christmas	Bereavement Dinners	Greeters/Guest Services
Hunger, Inc	Ronald McDonald House Meals	Feed-A-Need	Student Ministry	Card Ministry	Music Ministry
Kairos Prison Ministry	Second Helpings	FestivalProjects	Vacation Bible School	Coffee Fellowship	Ushers
Mission Projects	United States Chin Coalition	God's Will Breakfast	Adult Studies	Web Groups	

Southport United Methodist Church Ministries were once more easily denoted as Partnership, Communal or Connectional. We have found that our ministries frequently cross the lines as a ministry moves from connectional to more communal as well as from partnership to more communal.

Partnership – most of our partnerships are mutual ministry between SUMC and the local community, but may be the world community.

Communal – members serve in a way that reaches out to the community so that others might connect go God through Jesus Christ. These service areas reach into places where people may never attend a church but may just need a caring presence and a Christian example.

Connectional – comprises several vital ministries active at SUMC.

Jubilee In July

A Jubilee in July event is our way to begin planning and preparing for Jubilee Christmas 2024. We hope you can attend worship service July 18th/21st and 25th/28th. This is an opportunity for "Information, Input, and Invitation."

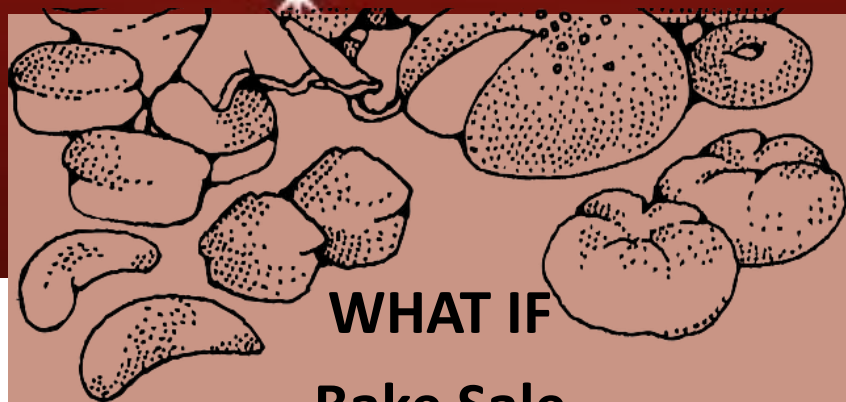
INFORMATION – whether Jubilee Christmas is a new experience for you or you are familiar with the ministry, the Jubilee Team will be available to share the scope of this outreach and answer questions. Who do we serve? What are the ways to participate? What does it mean to host a family?

INPUT – we are eager to hear your thoughts on how participating in Jubilee Christmas works best for you. What are the shopping and support options? Do you enjoy shopping online or in the store? What are the ways to contribute to the ministry (cash, gift cards, through your church account)?

INVITATION - July is a great time to stock up on all those needs for back to school and it is a good time to buy the types of things all children need (underwear, socks, blankets, etc.). We hope to take advantage of the sales. At the Next Steps area in the Gathering Place, we will provide a few tags for shopping. Any items bought at this time will be made available to the children as needed and for Jubilee Christmas.

Because of your generosity we were able to serve 15 families and over 60 children and youth in 2023. We continue to have a great need in our community. With 2-5 additional hosts we will increase our outreach. Please mark your calendar for Jubilee in July, we invite you to bring your questions and offer your input.

The Jubilee Ministry Team



WHAT IF

Bake Sale

Sunday, May 5th

**Join us before and after
services for a bake sale put
on by our Web Group!**



**The HARVEST TABLE
will begin after Mother's
Day! Keep a look out for
details soon!**

Harvest Table Hours:

Sunday:

10:00am-12:00pm

Wednesday:

6:00pm-7:00pm

Thursday:

6:00pm-7:00pm

UPCOMING HANGOUT DATES FOR SUMY



MARCH 10TH, 2024* - CANVAS PAINTING



APRIL 21ST, 2024*- ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

MAY 5TH, 2024*- LUNCH AND MINI GOLF AT OTTE'S GOLF & FAMILY FUN CENTER

MAY 19TH, 2024 - RECOGNITION (DURING 10:30 SERVICE) AND RECEPTION FOR CLASS OF 2024. THE RECIPIENT FOR THE MARY LYNCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE ANNOUNCED THIS DAY.

JUNE 2ND, 2024* - SNOW CONES AND YARD GAMES

JULY - MONTH OFF OR POSSIBLE SCHEDULE A LOCK IN

AUGUST 18TH 2024*- FREEDOM SPRINGS - BRING A FRIEND & YOU BOTH GET IN FOR FREE

REST OF THE MONTHS WILL BE DECIDED IN NEAR FUTURE.

*DATES COULD CHANGE IF NEEDED - NOTHING IS SET IN STONE YET.

AS ALWAYS I'M ALWAYS OPEN TO SUGGESTION FOR ACTIVITIES.

YOUTH
Southport United Methodist



MARY LYNCH
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

2024

APPLICATIONS ARE
DUE 05/5/2024

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!
APPLICATIONS ARE LOCATED IN THE
YOUTH INFORMATION AREA

ANY QUESTIONS
CONTACT KELLEY LEGO
KELLEY@SUMC.ORG

WOMEN'S NEWS

The May Friendship Day theme comes from Matthew 5:7 "God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy." This event is **Friday, May 3, 2024**. It is at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 1535 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Avenue. Beginning at 11:00 am and includes **a salad luncheon (no charge)**. We will be honoring Young Church Women and have our Fellowship of Least Coin. For more information or transportation contact Elizabeth Harmon at 317 888-5442.

The **Rebekah Circle** will be meeting for a pitch-in dinner on **May 14th at 1 pm in the Gathering Area at church**. All women are welcome to attend. Come see what the circle is all about and how you can help with the purpose:

Our PURPOSE:

The organized unit of the United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

The Mission U Event is July 12-14 at Franklin College. A new option of One Day is Saturday Aug. 3rd. at University MC at 5959 Grandview Dr., Indianapolis, IN. More information will be in the June newsletter. We have scholarships for new members to attend these events. Let the church know if you are interested in attending.

FEED A NEED (FAN)

Our next **bagging activity** is **May 9th in the church Gathering area at 1pm**. We bag fifty meals for a service called *Tear Down The Walls*. This service group takes our meals and distributes them to the downtown hungry needing food. They also offer services for housing, mental illness, drug use, and finding jobs. Anyone wanting to help may call the church for information or join us on May 9th and help.

PANTRY NEWS

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR HELPING WITH DIAPERS LAST MONTH.

This month we are collecting the following items from Thurs. May 2nd ---Sun.

May 12th : Rice packets and noodle packets (like Knorr or store brands)

Mashed potato packets or boxes of potatoes (like AuGratin or Scalloped)



We are now averaging around 50+ clients each day we are open.

The pantry is open 3 times a week: Tuesday 10-1 Thursday 4-7 and Saturday 10-1

The pantry is always in need of grocery bags to pack items in after the clients shop. If you have bags to offer, place them in the coat hallway in the last cubby. Hang them on a hanger and they will be collected to take to the pantry...thank you.



CREATION CARE



Remember we have a recycle center in the Gathering Area for many items that can be recycled like plastics, cans, glasses, flags (flag ceremony in Southport in June) and more. Check out the area. The collection area is located on the East wall of the Gathering Area near the Kitchen.

There is also a collection area on Madison Ave. north of the church in front of the small mall area on the corner of Edgewood. This area takes larger items and is sponsored by the city.

There is a free shredding event coming up on Saturday, July 22nd from 10-2 at the Irvington Library Branch. They will take paper and electronics. Mark your calendars.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pat Hulfachor
Duane Thompson
Karen Decatur
Sherry Davis
Doug Lewis
Travis Miller
Margaret Trammell
Kathy Smith
Jeff Horne
Kathy Campbell



1947 E Southport Road
Indianapolis, IN
Phone: 317-784-9508
Email: office@sumc.org
Website: www.sumc.org

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.*