



The Heart *Of the* Matter

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024

GREETINGS

"Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it."
-1 Corinthians 9:24

Dear Southport UMC,

I pray these words find you and your families well. Thank you so much for the warm welcome that my family and I have received. I am glad to see that my dancing and love of electronic dance music has not scared anyone away...yet :) I am also very thankful for the opportunity to get to know so many of you through our meet and greets with a very special thank you to all of our hosts. We are truly blessed to be part of this community and we can not wait to see how God will bless our time together.

The Paris 2024 Summer Olympics are well underway and we have not been disappointed! Ever since the Atlanta 1996 Summer Olympics I have been hooked. Yes, I was alive for others but Atlanta was the first Olympic Games that I can remember...for good reasons!

I will never forget the dramatic and emotional start when the cauldron was lit by sporting legend Muhammad Ali. As a kid, I was confused and frightened by the video clips of the aftermath of the terrorist bomb that exploded in the Centennial Olympic Park, resulting in the death of two people and the injury of 110 more. I was amazed by the speed of U.S. Olympian Michael Johnson, who became the first man in Olympic history to run and win both the 200m and 400m.

Above all these memorable moments, there was one moment that stood above the rest for me; Kerri Strug. Kerri was part of the "Magnificent Seven" that made up the 1996 United States Olympic women's gymnastics team that won the first-ever gold medal for the United States in the women's team competition. The team won because Strug stuck the landing of a vault while injured. If you have not seen the video, you have to check it out.

The Olympics, as competitive as they may be, are an incredible sign of unity and perseverance. Think about it. An Olympic athlete must fully commit to their sport and be willing to overcome multiple obstacles along the way. Chloe Dygert, a USA Olympian medalist from Brownsburg, IN will compete in her third Olympics as a cyclist after coming back from a terrible crash in 2020 and multiple other setbacks.

Even if you are not a super fan of the Olympics, there are always stories and moments that inspire, encourage, and drive us to be better versions of ourselves. There are several Olympic references in the Bible and during the month of August, we will utilize these references to inspire and encourage us to "Go for the Gold."

Blessings,
Rev. William G. Nickrand

AUGUST

First Friday Family Fun Night
Southport United Methodist Church

MOVIE NIGHT

MONSTERS, INC.

AUGUST 2, 2024
6:30PM

UPCOMING EVENTS:
SEPTEMBER 6TH - GAME NIGHT
OCTOBER 4TH - TBD
NOVEMBER 1ST - MOVIE NIGHT "THE STAR"
DECEMBER 6TH - COOKIE DECORATING

CHECK OUT SUMC.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

TRANS CROSS

11:45 am—1:45 pm

AUGUST 11

1st—6th graders & guardians

Food—Faith—Fun

DMJ Summit

August 17, 2024

University United Methodist Church
3959 Grandview Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46228

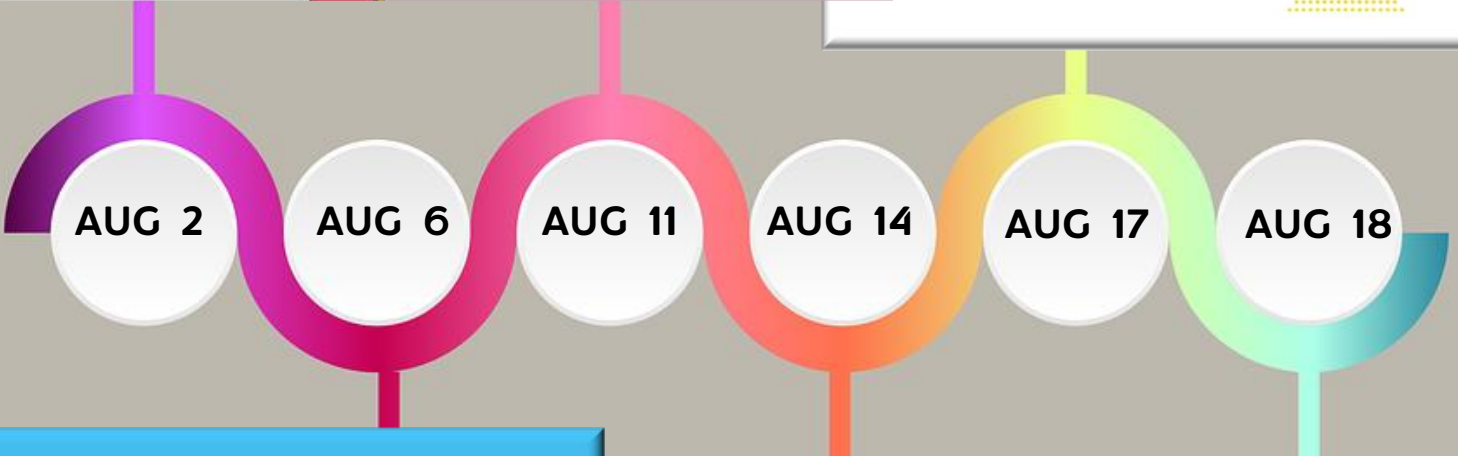
RESOURCE, NETWORK,
AND LEARN MORE
ABOUT APPLYING OUR
COLLECTIVE WORK IN
YOUR LOCAL CONTEXT

Who should come to the Summit?
Anyone who is involved in, interested in, or connected with the work of diversity, anti-racism, missions, outreach, or social justice.

Join us!

The Diversity, Missions, and Justice Summit will take place on Saturday, August 17, 2024, at University UMC (5959 Grandview Drive, Indianapolis) from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (ET). This is a free event and lunch will be provided. Our special guest for the DMJ Summit is Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington. He comes to us from Baltimore, Maryland, and is known as "The Engagement Specialist." Dr. Jamie will move us past book studies and donations and into the mindset of what comes next.

Scan here or visit sumc.org/dmj24 to register by August 10!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

- FOOD
- GAMES
- PRIZES
- FUN
- MORE

National Night Out is an annual event that brings our community together to strengthen police-community partnerships and foster neighborhood camaraderie. Join us for an evening of fun, food, and activities designed to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

Southport Park

SOUTHPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

6901 Derbyshire Road
Southport, IN 46227

TUNES AT THE TABLE

Live Music

Free Food

2nd Wednesday of each month
(while Harvest Table is open)

6pm to 7pm

SOUTHPORT UNITED METHODIST YOUTH SPONSORED

FREEDOM SPRINGS

AUGUST 18TH 3-6 PM

BRING A FRIEND, BOTH GET IN FREE.

ALL ARE WELCOME

6TH GRADE + CAN STAY WITHOUT AN ADULT AS LONG AS THEY HAVE A SIGNED PERMISSION SLIP

ADMISSION PRICE - ADULT \$9 CHILD \$7

Contact Kelley for more information
Kelley@sumc.org

August 2 & 4
August 8 & 11
August 15 & 18
August 22 & 25

The Pursuit
Training
Teamwork
Perseverance

1 Corinthians 9:24-25; Philippians 3:13-14
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 10:24-25; Galatians 6:2
James 1:2-4; 13-16; Romans 5:3-5; Hebrews 12:1

This summer, the attention of the entire world has turned to Paris, France, as our greatest athletes compete in the 2024 Summer Olympic Games. For these athletes, journeys filled with years of dedication, training, and perseverance bring them to the coveted Olympic competition. The scriptures are filled with Olympic themes and metaphors encouraging followers of Christ to use the commitment of an athlete to be what God would have us to be. Join us on August 4th for a fun sermon series that offers insight and lessons from ancient and modern Olympic athletes for our journeys of faith.



PROMOTION & PENNY SUNDAY

Sunday, August 25



Children will be collecting pennies on Promotion Sunday, so start collecting your change! We will be handing out Bibles to our third and sixth graders this day as well.



The HARVEST TABLE

Harvest Table Hours:

Sunday:

10:00am-12:00pm

Wednesday:

6:00pm-7:00pm

Thursday:

6:00pm-7:00pm

GROW CORNER

Thanks to everyone who prepared a display and to everyone who took the time to look at one.

YOU ARE INVITED AND WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE MINISTRIES OR GROW GROUPS! Contact Jerrie (317.869-7676) or Maggie (317.513.5492) who will get you in touch with the ministry leader.



SUNDAY MORNING GROUPS:

Cain & Abel, 10:00 am Music Room CONTACT: Bill Lindley
A comprehensive Cokesbury Bible study series.

Deeper Connection, 9:00 am W103 CONTACT: Steve Ritter
Bible study and discussions based on Andy Stanley video lessons. New participants are always welcome.

MONDAY GROUPS

Roof Crashers (women), 9:30 am CONTACT: Debbie Dunn
Gathering Place

Women's Bible study with group discussion. Current study is based on FIERCE by Jennifer Cowart. You are welcome to join at anytime.

Band of Brothers, 6:30 pm CONTACT: Jerry Kidwell
The Underground
Men's accountability group involving relationships, study and service.

Women in Prayer, 6:30 pm Contact: Margaret Trammell
The Gathering Area
Accountability group involving relationships, study, and service with focus on prayer for members, community and the world. There are also those who only participate only in the prayer aspect of the group and are kept up to date via text messages.

Women in Christ Bible Study, 6:45 pm CONTACT: Jerrie Snell
Music Room
Various DVD-based study materials, open discussions, personal reflections, drawing closer to Jesus and building relationships.

TUESDAY GROUPS

WINGS (women), 7:00 pm CONTACT: Peggy Boyll
1st and 3rd Tuesdays,
Music Room
Accountability group where members actively work to grow their faith through study and discussion of various materials throughout the year

Spiritual Strengthening (Yoga), 6:00 pm CONTACT: Janet Davis
The Underground.
This is a "gentle" yoga class focusing on stretching and toning. Anyone can do it. Our class is led by a certified yoga instructor. There is no charge for the class.

Rebekah Circle, 1:00 p.m. CONTACT: Barb Emmack
2nd Tuesday, 1:00—3:00 pm
September—May
A Women of Faith program focused group with mission collections for Fletcher Place.

SATURDAY GROUPS:

Peace Web Group. CONTACT: Kim Kidwell
A connectational group meeting monthly, building and strengthening personal relationships through events during April through December.



We had a wonderful prayer time at a recent worship service where we blessed the backpacks of students returning to school this fall. We pray for a safe and successful year for all students, teachers, school staff, and guardians!

An *Invite* from the Discipleship Path Coordinators!

Discipleship Corner

The Connect Tree is almost complete in the hallway and the path to the ministries are your gifts, talents, passions and ministry roles. Jerrie and Maggie look forward to sharing with you how equipping ministries can guide you to your ministry calling.

Freezer Clean-out

It's that time! Let's get the inside looking as great as the outside by August 9. Please have your items removed from the kitchen freezer, or marked with purpose and date, so that it isn't repurposed. Thank you!

Communion Opportunity

Would you like to be involved in communion? We have opportunities for preparation, serving, and setting up.

Please reach out to Maggie (317.513.5492) or Jerrie (317.869.7676).

We look forward to helping.



SAVE THE DATE!

We will be updating our church directory within the next few months. Please contact the office with updated contact information. Portraits will be taken in the Gathering area on **October 3 & 4, 2024**. We will have a link for sign ups very soon. Contact the office if you have questions now.

YOUTH

Southport United Methodist

Our Youth had a wonderful turnout for their lock-in last month!



Choir Opportunity

The SUMC Choir is looking to recruit people who love to sing! We sing at the 9:00 am traditional service and for special events like Christmas, Easter, and the 175th Anniversary Celebration on October 27! All are welcome (13 and up) and no auditions are required. We rehearse on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am and you get advance access to the songs for self-preparation. Please contact our Music Director, Rhonda Collins, if you would like to join us this fall!

rhonda@sumc.org
317.258.6743

1849

MAJOR EVENTS

Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery.

Abraham Lincoln is the only United States president to hold a patent. During his brief experience as a ferryman on the Mississippi River, Lincoln was stranded twice on riverboats that had run aground. His invention, "the adjustable buoyant air chambers," could be attached to the sides of a boat and then be lowered into the water and inflated to lift it over water obstructions.

People around the United States with gold fever, mostly men, borrowed money, mortgaged their property or spent their life savings to make the difficult journey to California. They left their families and hometowns in pursuit of the kind of wealth they had never dreamed of having.

The safety pin is invented.



SOUTPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IS FOUNDED

Celebrating our 175th Anniversary on Thursday, October 24 and Sunday, October 27, 2024.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE....ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD!

WOMEN'S NEWS

Thanks to all who helped collect kids items for the U Mission ministry that goes to the Indianapolis Women's Prison baby unit.

The **Rebekah United Women of Faith Circle** will be meeting on September 10th at 1 p.m. in the gathering area. It will be our first meeting back from the summer vacation. We would love to welcome new women to our gathering. This will be our meeting where we celebrate World Thank Offering Service. Come see what this is all about.

Before the September meeting join us for :

CONNECTION GATHERING

August 10, 2024

10:00 am - 3:00 pm (ET)

Lawrence UMC, Indianapolis IN

If you haven't already, please register at this link: <https://inumc.swoogo.com/CG81024>

It is time for us to be seen together, worship passionately, and be inspired as United Methodists. We will have Great Worship; **Great Learning with Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund (Leadership and Mental Health)**; Fellowshiping with Lunch provided; and Great Breakout sessions for practical ministry application. Will you secure the time on your calendar, register, and invite a friend to join the SUMC Group attending.

During the registration process select one workshop:

Reconnecting with the Community: Communication Best Practices

Reconnecting with Resources: Grant-writing

Reconnecting with Mission: Serving Our Neighbors Meaningfully

Reconnecting with God: Embodied Prayer Practices

We are part of Central District so YOU are invited. Spread the Word!

We Look Forward to seeing you there!!

HUNGER, Inc FOOD PANTRY

For the month of July, Southport UMC has donated 193lbs of food and produce to the pantry. **WAY TO GO SUMC!!!**

We know that the clients are enjoying the fresh produce now that the gardens are in the height of production.

Thanks to all members that donated and gardeners that also donated to the Pantry.

For the **month of August, the food pantry is in need of :**

canned mixed vegetables

canned peas

pasta packets or boxes

beans dried or canned

and always Diapers sizes 1-6 in regular bags not big boxes please.

Donations are due between Thursday, August 1 through Sunday, August 11. Thanks! The pantry is located on Epler at the corner of Madison Ave. behind Kim's Kakey and Bakery on the corner. The need is always in big demand and the supplies are little in the summer.

FEED A NEED (FAN)

The Feed a Need group will be filling the 50 meal bags on Thursday, August 8th at 11:00 am. This is a new time, so mark your calendars if you are interested in joining us. When done we deliver the 50 sack meals to the *Tear Down The Walls Ministry* to feed the unhoused in downtown Indianapolis. Southport had been doing this for 4 years now each month of the year. So come join us in the gathering area to help fill the bags.

CREATION CARE

Do YOU Know?

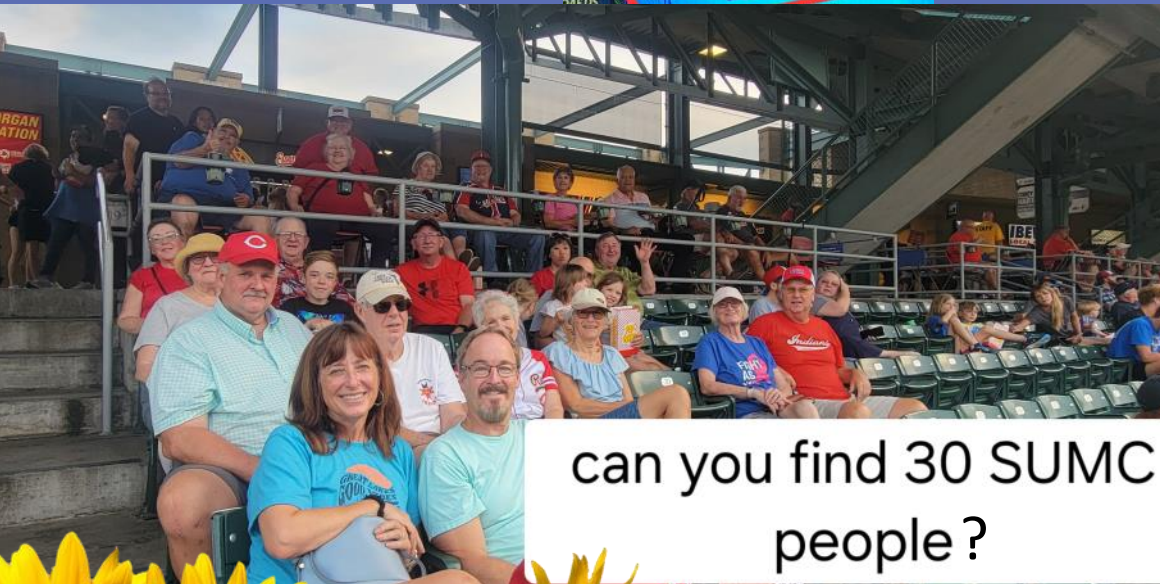
Our church collects many items for recycling. These items include, grocery store bags, and a **new item:** pill bottles!!! These are the brownish bottles that your meds come in, that are clear and clean of all labels and have lids. The Lion's Club has a way of getting them recycled. We also have other items collected on the far East wall in the Gathering Area by the kitchen. Take a stroll back there to see what other items we collect that you can donate to.

Do YOU Know?

Using our Harvest Table produce will help cut down the use of produce packaging.

Remember our goal is to take Care of the beautiful world God gave us.

Our Web Group met up at an
Indians Game recently!
What a great turnout!



can you find 30 SUMC
people?



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!



LEADERSHIP TEAM

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

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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

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.*