



November 2026



What Does It Mean to Thrive?

We often think of thriving as having more: more energy, more success, more opportunities, more things going right. But life does not always look like that. Sometimes thriving looks less like everything going according to plan and more like discovering that God is still present, still working, and still giving us reasons to hope.

November gives us a beautiful opportunity to remember that. We begin the month with All Saints Day, when we pause to remember the people whose lives have shaped our faith and whose love continues to shape us. We celebrate Thanksgiving by naming the gifts we sometimes overlook. And throughout the month, we will explore what it means to thrive—not simply to get through life, but to live deeply rooted in God, connected to one another, and open to the life God is still creating in us.

Then, as November comes to a close, we turn toward Advent and our series Home for Christmas. We will hear again the ancient promises of a God who meets us in our longing, leads us toward hope, and comes to make a home among us.

Perhaps thriving is not about having a perfect life, but about learning to recognize the gifts of God even in imperfect seasons. This November, I invite you to slow down, give thanks, remember those who have gone before us, and notice the ways God is helping us thrive right where we are. May we discover that even in the ordinary moments of life, there is more grace, more hope, and more to be thankful for than we sometimes realize.

Blessings,
Rev. William G. Nickrand

Challenge for the Month:

This November, keep a simple “thriving list.” Each day, write down one thing that is helping you live with gratitude, hope, connection, or purpose. At the end of the month, look back and notice how God has been present in the ordinary gifts of your life.



INSIDE WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

Upcoming Events

Financial Report

Women's News





This three-week series focuses on what it means to truly thrive as individuals and as a community of faith. Using Scripture as our guide, we'll explore how to live intentionally, invest in God's kingdom, and cultivate lives marked by purpose, generosity, and spiritual growth.

Thrive	NOV 5 & 8	Choosing to Thrive Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
	NOV 12 & 15	Investing in the Kingdom Matthew 25:14-30
	NOV 19 & 22	Living a Life that Thrives Matthew 25:31-46



Communion Schedule
November 5th, 8th
December 3rd, 6th



Join us for "The Way Cafe" every month for fellowship, refreshments, and message in a cafe setting! Service begins at 6:30 p.m. Join us for our upcoming cafes:
November 5th,
December 6th



JUBILEE CHRISTMAS - A BUSY NOVEMBER

Our list of Homecroft families is growing each week and we are delighted to see how many children and their families will have a joy-filled Christmas this year. Each SUMC host has gathered information on their family's needs and the wishes their children have for toys or gifts.

Join the Jubilee Team at the next steps table in the Gathering Area and see the many ways you can participate in providing a special holiday for twenty families

Thursdays and Sundays; November 12/15, 19/22, 29 and December 3/6

Opportunities for You

Shop for toys and gifts online with the Amazon link

Choose a tag from the board and shop for a variety of needs

Make a financial donation to have gifts and toys purchased

Bake cookies for Jubilee Christmas Day, December 12

Be a Helping Hand prior to or on Jubilee Day

Questions? The Team will be happy to help. Please continue to pray for our Jubilee Families and their daily needs so that they will feel they have experienced God's love.



Southport UMC Turkey Dinner

**Saturday
November 21st**

Southport United Methodist
4:00pm - 7:00pm

**Free Turkey
Dinner with sides
and dessert.**



A NEW FUN TIME MINISTRY IS HAPPENING SOON!

SECOND SATURDAY SHENANGIANS

Starting in January of next year 2027 and every second Saturday forward we are going to have a fun night at church.

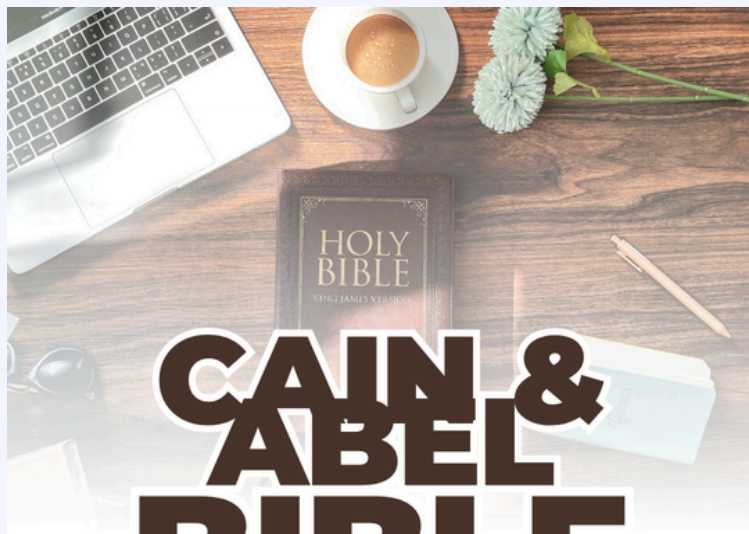
Called "**Second Saturday Shenanigans**" put together by Joe Howell and Jerry Kidwell.

We will start at 6:00 pm and end time will be 9:00 pm.

There will be Euchre tournaments, board games, card games, etc.

This is open to all ages. The catch is you will need to bring a snack to share.

Any questions call Joe Howell (812) 569-2052 or Jerry Kidwell (317) 440-8663



CAIN & ABEL BIBLE

Study

A Bible study class using the Cokesbury adult Bible study series. The study takes place in the music room every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Contact Bill Lindstrom or email office@sumc.org if you have questions. *All are welcome.*

Every Sunday

10:30 AM



Christmas Cookies & Carols

DECEMBER 4TH
6:30PM

SOUTHPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sumc.org




Join us at SUMC for day of teamwork and making a difference around the church! There are a variety of projects so there is something for everyone. It's a great way to connect, grow, and serve!

Sign up now.

NOVEMBER 28TH, 2026

9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

FREE POPCORN • FREE DRINKS • MOVIE NIGHT

MOVIE *Night*



FRIDAY
NOV 6TH

NOV 6TH 2026 | 6:30PM

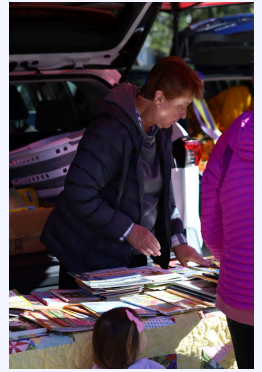
317-784-9508
CALL IF ANY QUESTION

1947 E. SOUTHPORT RD.
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46227

FREE
EVENT

Fall Festival 2026

What an incredible success our 5th Annual Fall Festival was! We are so grateful for everyone who came out, volunteered, donated, and helped make this special day possible. Events like this are about so much more than food, fun, and fellowship—they are an opportunity for us to be the hands and feet of Christ, serving our neighbors, building relationships, and giving back to the community we are blessed to call home. Thank you for helping us share God's love through service and community. We can't wait to see what the next Fall Festival brings!



OUTPORT
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
CONNECT | GROW | SERVE | GIVE | GO

JOIN US FOR OUR
**CHRISTMAS
EVE
Service**

Dec. 24th at 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Jesus' Birthday Party!
Dec. 24th at 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Family Service
Dec. 24th at 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Contemporary Service
Dec. 24th at 11:00 p.m. - 11:45 p.m. Traditional Service

The annual Women's Tea was an absolute triumph, bringing our community together for a morning filled with inspiration, connection, and joy. An event of this scale requires a village to succeed, and we are overflowing with gratitude for everyone who poured their heart into making this day unforgettable. Here is a heartfelt thank you to the incredible individuals who made it all possible:

- **Our Gracious Hosts:** Thank you for your beautifully decorated tables, setting such a welcoming tone, and making every single attendee feel at home the moment they arrived.
- **Our Wonderful Guests:** Thank you for your vibrant energy, your laughter, and your presence. You are the heart of this event, and your enthusiasm is what drives us to gather year after year.
- **Our Inspiring Speaker:** Thank you for sharing your wisdom and empowering words. Your insights moved us deeply and left us all motivated to reach new heights.
- **Our Gifted Musicians and Sound Manager;**

Thank you for providing the perfect soundtrack to our morning. Your beautiful melodies elevated the atmosphere and added a touch of magic to the room. We also owe a huge thank you to our **sound manager**, who worked behind the scenes to keep the audio flawless so that every note and spoken word could be heard perfectly.

- **Our Dedicated Kitchen Crew:** Thank you for the culinary masterpieces. From the perfectly brewed tea to the delicious brunch spreads, your hard work behind the scenes tasted absolutely divine.
- **Our Flawless Servers:** Thank you for your attentiveness, warm smiles, and seamless service. You kept the morning running smoothly and took exceptional care of every table.

Save the Date for Next Year!

Because of the overwhelming success of this year's gathering, we are already looking ahead. Mark your calendars and save the date for our next annual Women's Tea brunch, taking place on **Saturday, October 2, 2027**.

We cannot wait to gather again, celebrate each other, and create even more beautiful memories. See you next year!

Your Tea Planning Team and we welcome new members,
Melissa Hendricks
Kim Kidwell
Maggie Lucas
Kathy Smith
Margaret Trammell



The Southport United Methodist Church
will be closed Thursday, November 26th
and Friday, November 27th for
Thanksgiving.

WOMEN'S NEWS

The United Women in Faith (UWF) Rebekah Circle will be meeting on November 10th at 1 p.m. in the Gathering area. We will be Celebrating World Thank Offering Program. All women are welcome to come join us for this event. After the meeting we will enjoy fellowship, friendship and food.

We are collecting items in:

NOVEMBER--collecting for Fletcher Place Christmas Give-Away...**DUE by November 29th**

Needs for the little ones are 3 outfits and PJ's for both boys and girls sizes 0-6 months, 9-12 months and 18-24 months. We need to get at least 18

These items may be placed in the tote in the coat hallway.

DECEMBER--collecting items for the Lebanon Children's Home---**DUE in December**

A list of needed items will be posted on the board above the grocery cart and copies will be in the cart seat for you to take as a reminder.

Pick one up and help these students have a Joyous Love filled Christmas. DUE date for DECEMBER will be in the December newsletter.

HUNGER, Inc FOOD PANTRY

The Pantry is always in need of volunteers. The need is greater and the clients are many. Your help is greatly appreciated. We have jobs that need to be filled each week. We are open on

TUESDAY 10-1 THURSDAY 4-7 AND SATURDAY 10-1

You can be trained on the day you are serving by a staff member. One day a month would be wonderful. We hope and pray for more helpers as our volunteers are getting worn out trying to keep up with the incoming clients. It is a very joyful way to see the smiling faces that God puts in the pantry's service.

We are getting school donations now and are very thankful for the help. So, due to all the other donations needed, we can take a break for November collections..Thank you SUMC for a great 2026.

FEED A NEED (FAN)

The next opportunity to help the unhoused individuals in our city and state will be the bagging of the 50 meals on Thursday, November 12th at 1 pm in the Gathering Area. We do an assembly line activity to fill the items going in the bags. The items are: a foil packet of tuna, crackers, a cup of fruit, a cup of vegetables, chips, a granola bar, cookies, fruit gummies, a couple of crackers, some candy, and a bottle of water. The bags are then delivered to the ministry called, TEAR DOWN THE WALLS". This ministry helps with jobs, and shelters when needed. Our church is finishing our 6th year of this blessing for others in need. If interested in helping, come join us on November 12th.

CREATION CARE

The next free shredding event in Beech Grove is November 7th. It is done at City Hall located at 806 Main Street from 9 AM-12 PM. Arrive early and get in line and it will be a quick event. You do not need to get out of your car. They will unload it all for you. Items to take are : papers for shredding, metal appliances drop off, Hearing aid recycle, unused syringes, and unused meds,

At church we recycle eyeglasses, pill bottles and other items in bins on the East wall of the Gathering Area. We love the grocery bags for Hunger, Inc. food pantry. Thank you for caring for Our EARTH.

On Saturday mornings there are great programs on CBS that are educational and informative. The one that speaks about helping our Earth is called the Visioneers with Zay Harding. It is on at 10:30-11 a.m. Check it out along with others on the same channel.



Join us Sunday, December 13th
for our next cross training!
This is a fantastic opportunity
for interaction between the
various cultures represented at
SUMC. This is specifically
designed for our 1st-6th grade
students and their gaurdians.
This monthly event provides
food-faith-fun to all who
attend!

Faithful Giving, Lasting Impact

Church	Sep-26	2026 YTD
Income		
Offerings	\$48,856	\$446,134
Other	\$0	\$4,987
Imagination Station "Tithe/offering"	\$6,191	\$54,976
Church Expenses		
Conf. & Dist. Support	(\$3,863)	(\$50,36)
Administration	(\$13,034)	(\$119,91)
Maintenance & Utilities	(\$13,834)	(\$135,52)
Connect, Grow, Serve	(\$22,588)	(\$200,13)
Youth & Child Ministry	(\$1,844)	(\$20,74)
Net	(\$116)	(\$20,58)

Imagination Station		
Income	\$43,779	\$401,387
Expense	(\$34,225)	(\$322,43)
"Tithe/offering" to Church	(\$6,191)	(\$54,97)
Net	\$3,363	\$23,97

All Together		
Total Incomes	\$92,635	\$852,508
Total Expenses	(\$89,388)	(\$849,12)
Net	\$3,247	\$3,38

Designated Funds Summary:

2026 YTD September	Giving	Expenses	Balance
Pastors' Benevolent Fund	\$9,230	\$9,756	\$6,99:
Church Improv/Expansion	\$50,345	\$148,340	\$28,54:
Capital Stewardship	\$29,456	\$17,850	\$56,48:
Faith Promise Missions	\$26,713	\$22,349	\$8,90:
Pastor's Ministry Fund	\$2,941	\$5,746	\$2,62:
All Other Designated Funds	\$9,250	\$6,652	\$10,68:

As we reflect on the financial health of our church, we do so with grateful hearts and a deep sense of appreciation for the generosity of this congregation. Your continued support and commitment make it possible to live out our mission to make disciples and extend Christ's love into our community.

While financial health is important, it is never simply about numbers or balancing the budget. It is about being purposeful with the resources God has entrusted to us. Our ultimate goal is to share the love of Christ, reach those who need to experience His grace, and make disciples who will carry His message into their homes, workplaces, neighborhoods, and beyond.

As we look to the future, we believe God still has much more in store for us. There are more lives to touch, more opportunities to serve, and more ways to reach out and make a difference in our community. God continues to open doors for ministry and create opportunities for us to be Christ's hands and feet in the world around us. Our desire is to remain faithful, willing, and prepared to follow.

Continued and sustained financial support is essential to maintaining the strength of our existing ministries while also allowing us to embrace new opportunities God places before us. Consistent generosity allows us to plan responsibly, meet ongoing commitments, invest in ministry, and respond when God opens doors for greater impact. Our giving is not simply about sustaining what we have today; it is also about preparing for what God wants to accomplish through us tomorrow.

Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for your faithfulness. Most importantly, thank you for being part of what God is doing through this church. We are grateful for where God has brought us, but we are even more excited about where God is leading us. Together, through faithful giving, willing hearts, and a shared commitment to God's purpose, we can continue to make a lasting impact not just within the walls of our church, but throughout the community and beyond.

Gracias,
Pastor Brandon

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Connie Klipsch
Kathy Smith
William Nickrand
Rebecca Hamm
Sherry Davis
Pat Hulfachor
Travis Miller
Margaret Trammell
Jeff Horne
Kathy Campbell



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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 their transformation of our community