

What if **What if**

could become

What Is?



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Proposed Addition For:
**Southport United
Methodist Church**
1947 E Southport Road



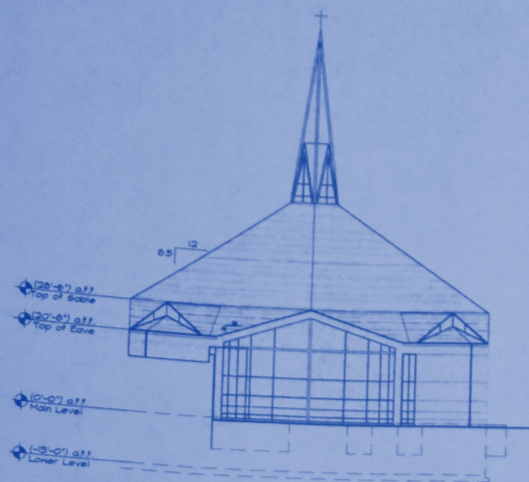
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION
*** DESIGN DEVELOPMENT SET ***
*** 100% COMPLETE ***

ISSUE DATE:
September 15, 1998
REVISION: 04/99

PROJECT NO. 96-
SHEET NO.

DD4

Building Elevations



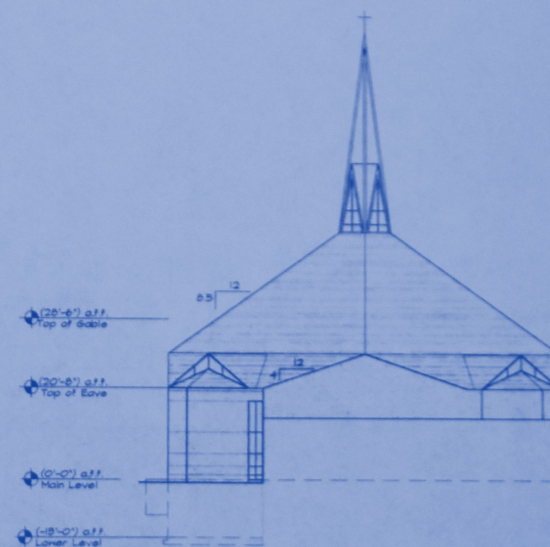
4 Nave South Elevation
SCALE: 1/16" = 1' - 0"



3 Nave East Elevation
SCALE: 1/16" = 1' - 0"



2 Nave North Elevation
SCALE: 1/16" = 1' - 0"



1 Nave West Elevation
SCALE: 1/16" = 1' - 0"

What if **What if** *could become* **What Is?**

WHAT IF?

What if Southport United Methodist Church in Indianapolis was able to reach the potential to which God has called us?

What if, for example, we made the expensive but necessary technological updates and improvements to allow more people to experience our dynamic worship and receive the saving message of Jesus, not only onsite and in person but online and around the world?

What if we invested the resources to touch the lives of ever-increasing numbers of children and youth in our community?

What if we deepened our commitment to our neighbors in need with new efforts to: provide addiction recovery programs; teach basic life, job and financial skills; pay off suffocating medical debt; and offer free meals to the community?

What if to do all this and more we could eliminate the burden of a mortgage that has been draining our resources?

A few years ago, the church built up a significant debt. It allowed us to physically transform the sanctuary into the beautiful worship center we value today, to remodel and reconfigure the Gathering Place and church offices for more practical use, and to build the West Wing to welcome growing numbers of children to our church and Imagination Station.

But ongoing monthly payments have weighed us down for some years now and kept us from seizing other opportunities that God might be calling us to. We have slowly chipped away at it but it remains a significant payment we must make each month.

What if we paid that mortgage off to free ourselves from this burden and allow us to explore new opportunities that offer grace and hope to everyone we can?

What if What If could become What Is?

Be part of our What If? Campaign and find out.



For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

Who We Are



Since 1849, the message of Southport United Methodist Church has been constant. "...to share Jesus Christ's Grace, Love, Forgiveness and Salvation through Christian Community and Outreach."

Our mission & vision statement reads as follows:

Everyone is sharing God's grace and hope through Jesus Christ in their 24x7 lives. So that...we are making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world.



That distills down simply to being

A church offering **GRACE & HOPE** *to everyone.*

CONNECT

We believe that Jesus extends grace to everyone and that we should follow in his steps. No matter where you're coming from, you'll find you fit in here. We are a caring community for people of all places in life.

GROW

We believe God wants us to have a relationship with him. In keeping a close relationship, we become more like him. Prayer, study, and fellowship with believers help us to grow in that relationship with him.

SERVE

We believe what we do is all about Jesus. We believe he asks us to care for and serve others. We share the love of Christ through these actions. We invite you to come alongside us.

GIVE

We believe God blesses us in many ways: our treasure, our talents, and more. We believe a portion of our talents and treasure belong to him. It is a privilege to return some of what he has given us in the form of tithes, gifts, and offerings.

GO

We believe Jesus asks us to share what we have found in our relationship with him and to be available to go out to share his grace and hope with anyone and everyone.



This is our discipleship path. We use it as a guide to help us grow deeper in our faith.



How We Operate

Our Past

The Southport Methodist Episcopal Church located on Main Street was dedicated.

1849



1869

A new building was erected at the present location on Southport Road.

1883

The building was destroyed by a tornado. Seven area farmers donated \$1000 each to rebuild on the existing foundation.



In 1936, the building was remodeled and expanded including a partial basement (we now affectionately refer to this as “the Underground”). After a new pastor was appointed in 1937, the congregation added an annex adjoining the sanctuary and a basement beneath the annex. This part of the building has been used for many years by scouts and Alcoholic's Anonymous. It is also used as a staging area for ministries such as Jubilee Christmas and Ronald McDonald House as well as storage for many of our ministries.

1936-
1937



Construction was completed on a new Education Wing that was connected to the existing parsonage. This project cost approximately \$70,000 of which \$50,000 was borrowed. That entire amount was paid off by 1967. This is the bulk of the east wing of our current building. It is where 3 to 5 year old's learn and grow in Imagination Station childcare ministry. It is also home to our Youth Group. It is also the current meeting place for AA. Several other ministries make use of the space to meet regularly and have special events including our men's group, Band of Brothers.

1956



Points To Our Future

A new fellowship hall was dedicated.

Although it bears little resemblance to its original form, this is the space we currently call the Gathering Place.



A Christian education and daycare program began at SUMC. That program continues today as Imagination Station.

The education wing known as the West Wing opened. It has continuously housed part of Imagination Station as well as Children's Church. It has also housed adult Sunday school and weekday classes designed to help us grow in our faith.



The Worship Center, Gathering Place and offices were remodeled. This allowed for more fellowship opportunities and provided flexibility in our worship services. The current building serves a dynamic community of faith known as Southport United Methodist Church.



1985

1989

1999

2006

1973

Our current Worship Center was built. Money was raised through donations to a building campaign, a loan for \$225,000, fundraisers and an auction.



1990s

A contemporary worship service was added.



Worship

We believe that worship is the energizing center from which we go into the world to share the love of Christ. We believe it is important to recharge ourselves so that we can be a light to others. That is why we offer several worship options including contemporary and traditional, in person and virtual, and even an opportunity to worship during the week (Thursday Teaching service).



In response to the needs of our community we also host a Burmese congregation, the Indiana Myanmar Christian Assembly.

Children & Youth

We recognize the importance of a strong foundation in faith from an early age. That is why you will see a focus on children and youth both in what happens inside of our building and the efforts put forth in our community.

We offer both in person and virtual Sunday school opportunities for all age ranges. We also are the home to Imagination Station, our weekday childcare ministry, which offers faith based preschool and childcare.

We have a strong partnership with Homecroft Elementary School. We have a ministry which provides tutors as well as frequently collecting school supplies and uniforms. We also financially support the Perry Township Religious Education program, which offers Bible lessons through the schools in our community.



Southport United Methodist Church has and continues to be a very active congregation. We are constantly engaged in our community sharing the love that Christ has shown us. Many activities resonate from our building to offer grace and hope.

In The Life



Outreach & Missions

Our focus begins with our community. We provide food through ministries like Ronald McDonald House, God's Will Breakfast, and the Harvest Table. We partner with Interfaith Hospitality Network to provide the homeless with a place to stay. We partner with Kairos prison ministries to take hope to those in prison.

These are just a few of the ways we reach out to our community and beyond to share God's love.

Growing in Our Faith

There is always a new opportunity to grow in your faith through SUMC. We are constantly offering study & group opportunities to develop a deeper understanding of our faith and the word of God. Numerous ongoing studies are offered through the week and on Sundays. We also offer special churchwide studies to bring us together in the Word.

Goodwill

We make ourselves available to help our neighbor. We offer financial support for needs such as rental assistance, help with utilities, bus passes and gas cards, and maintain an onsite emergency food pantry.

Of The Church

This is not an inclusive list. There is so much going on in the life of the church that it does not come close to fitting on these two pages. Just know that when we say we want to offer grace and hope to everyone, we mean it.

Our Goal

We are conducting a focused debt-elimination campaign to remove a key obstacle that currently hinders us from achieving the maximum potential God has for us.

By eliminating our debt we will create greater financial flexibility to position ourselves to grow in new and innovative ways and to spread grace and hope for generations to come.



What if **What if** could become **What Is?**

ADDITION TO SOUTHPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SOUTHPORT, INDIANA.

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Why Now?

We are approaching our 175th anniversary. That's right, Southport United Methodist Church has been bringing grace and hope for nearly 175 years, and we want to make sure we are doing it for at least 175 more. We feel that one of the best ways to do this is by putting an end to our debt. We also have learned from the events of the last year that you never know what may happen and we want to make sure generations to come do not have a debt hindering them from pursuing our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world.



<p>NOTE ALL EXISTING CONDITIONS MUST BE VERIFIED IN THE FIELD</p>	<p>NOT PLANNED ALL RIGHTS RESERVED EXCEPT FOR USES EXPRESSLY PERMITTED IN WRITING, INFORMATION SHOWN OR INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SOLELY THE PROPERTY OF BOHLEN MEYER GIBSON AND ASSOCIATES, INC.</p>	<p>STATE OF INDIANA No. 2805 MICHAEL E. ROSS REGISTERED ARCHITECT CERTIFIED BY Michael E. Ross</p>	<p>REVISIONS</p>	<p>bm architecture interior design bohlen, meyer, gibson & associates, inc. 6435 castelway drive, suite 104 indianapolis, in 46250 317 842 4981</p>	<p>ADDITION TO SOUTHPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SOUTHPORT, INDIANA EXISTING SITE PLAN</p>	<p>SHEET NO. SP-1 OF 11 DATE 5-23-84 PROJECT NO. 8309</p>
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FAQs

Q1

What are we doing?

A:

The church is conducting a special finance campaign to reduce or eliminate our mortgage debt.

Q2

Is this the right time to pursue this?

A:

Yes. We have learned many new things this past year. We want to be able to position ourselves better financially to adjust to changes and possible crisis situations.

Q3

What is the amount of our current mortgage debt?

A:

About \$865,000

Q4

How did the church acquire this debt?

A:

The building construction of the West education wing, property repairs and maintenance, and the refurbishing of our Gathering Place, Worship Center, and offices.

Q5

What is our current mortgage payment?

A:

\$3576 every two weeks. That's \$92,970.02 per year.

Still have questions?

Reach out to us at office@sumc.org

Q6

How much money will the church save by paying off the mortgage early?

A:

Approximately \$48,000 each year in interest.

Q7

What have we done in the past to pay down the debt?

A:

Previous finance campaigns, refinancing the loan agreement terms, and a large gift from a member.

Q8

What are the expected start and stop dates of this finance campaign?

A:

April 2021 to October 2024 (the 175th Anniversary of SUMC).

Q9

How can I give to this campaign?

A:

The church will set up multiple options for giving: weekly, monthly, etc., or you can make a one time gift. Go to page 16 for more about this.

Q10

What happens if the church has a large capital expense need (e.g. new roof, new HVAC units, resurfacing the parking lot)?

A:

Money will be set aside and available for those expenditures if needed.

Because we all have unique giving capabilities, we cannot simply divide the total needed by the number of families in our church to determine an “average” gift. Following is a model of the distribution of gifts that it will take for us to be successful. This also underscores the biblical principle of giving in proportion to what we have – and that’s going to be different for all of us!

# of Gifts	Gift Level	Total at Level
1	\$100,000	\$100,000
3	\$50,000	\$150,000
5	\$25,000	\$125,000
10	\$15,000	\$150,000
12	\$10,000	\$120,000
15	\$5,000	\$75,000
20	\$2,500	\$50,000
25	\$1,000	\$25,000
100	Miscellaneous	\$20,000
Fundraisers		\$50,000
		\$865,000

What will it take for
God
to provide

\$865,000

for our
What If?
Campaign?

All who believe are called to give.

Giving is a universal practice. Paul told the Corinthian believers, “Follow the same procedure I gave the churches in Galatia.” He told the Corinthians to give the same way the Galatians did. Every church should do this as it’s asked of every believer.

Giving is to be done consistently and regularly

“On the first day of the week,” Paul said in 1 Corinthians 16:2, “each of you is to set something aside and save in keeping with how he prospers, so that no collections will need to be made when I come.” In other words, consistently take a portion of your income and set it aside for God’s purposes. As you do this, you’ll be able to invest it in God’s kingdom.

Giving is a personal act

In verse 2, notice that Paul said, “Each of you is to set something aside...” God calls each one of us to individually set aside an amount to give. Even children can be taught this principle. Giving to God is a personal act for every believer.

We’re to prepare ourselves to invest in God’s work

Paul told believers to “set something aside and save in keeping with how he prospers.” We’re to prayerfully consider how much to give and prepare it in advance. Giving shouldn’t be a last-minute, flippant practice. And not all our gifts will be equal, but our sacrifice can be. Our giving is to be in proportion to what we earn. It’s an opportunity to be an obedient Christ-follower. We’re to take giving seriously and to give cheerfully.

God’s Word says a lot about giving and the promises attached. We’re told it’s both a responsibility and a privilege. In **1 Corinthians 16:1-2**, Paul states four biblical principles related to giving.

Here’s how a small weekly commitment can make a difference

Weekly	Monthly	Annually	36-Month Total
\$6.50	\$28	\$333	\$1,000
\$16	\$69	\$833	\$2,500
\$32	\$139	\$1,667	\$5,000
\$64	\$278	\$3,333	\$10,000
\$96	\$417	\$5,000	\$15,000
\$160	\$694	\$8,333	\$25,000
\$321	\$1,389	\$16,667	\$50,000
\$641	\$2,778	\$33,333	\$100,000

The bottom line is we have a debt of about **\$865,000**, and every year that we carry this debt **\$92,970.02** goes to paying off that debt instead of going to share grace and hope.

In 2020 alone, **\$44,290.51** of that \$92,970.02 was interest. That is money that is just lost, and the longer we carry this debt the more money we will lose.

Here's the bottom line. If we achieve our goal of being debt free by our 175th anniversary, October of 2024, we will save nearly **\$200,000 in interest**. We will pay off our loan 19 years early. That means that is \$92,970.02 for 19 years that we do not have to commit to servicing debt.

If we would pay off our debt by the end of **2021** we would save even more: **\$374,315 in interest** that could go directly to ministry and missions.



The Bottom Line

Impact

In 2020 interest cost us \$44,290.51.

What else could we have done with \$44,290.51?

Pay **ALL** of our utilities

\$44,290.51 would have paid for all of the church's utilities in 2020. That includes gas, electric, water, and trash services.



Provide Christmas for 142 families

Every year we provide Christmas including gifts, food, and other essentials for families through Jubilee Christmas. Most years we provide for 15-20 families. With \$44,290.51 we could provide Christmas for 142 families.



Nearly triple our budget for outreach & missions

In 2020 we spent \$23,774 on our outreach & missional efforts. If we had an additional \$44,290.51 to add to this we could nearly triple our efforts!



How You can Give

What if *could become* What if



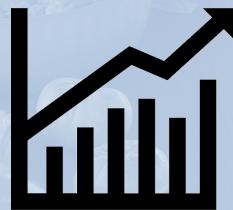
One time contribution

You can give a one time gift at any time and using any giving option. Just note that it is to go to the **mortgage elimination** campaign.



Periodic contributions

If you would like to give weekly, monthly, or quarterly that is no problem. You can give this way online, automated, by check, or by cash.



Stocks or other Assets

We can accept non cash gifts as well. If you have a non cash gift you would like to donate please email **office@sumc.org**.



Questions?

Please email us at **office@sumc.org** or give us a call at **(317) 784-9508**.

Prayer Path

The most important step in this campaign is to bathe it in prayer. If it is not placed in the hands of our Father, our efforts will not succeed. As such, we will be putting together a 28 days of prayer booklet.

*"Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think."
(Ephesians 3:20)*

As we embark on our What If journey together we want to use prayer as our guiding focus. You are invited to pray this simple prayer daily as we move through the campaign:

"God, what is it You are asking me to do during SUMC's What If campaign?"
"How can I be in prayer for and in service to others?"

Be open to hearing from God about how God can use you to help SUMC position itself to move confidently into the future God has in mind for us.

Generosity is...grounded in gratitude, revealed in prayer, and lived in faith!

State of the Church

Be sure to watch Pastor Duane's "State of the Church" message (on our website) to hear more about where we are as a church and where we're going?

Commitment Sunday

Sunday, April 18, 2021, is our Commitment Sunday, when we return our commitment cards and celebrate what God is doing in our Church.

Town Halls—Stewardship

Stewardship is about more than paying off our debt. It is about maintaining and using wisely what God has bestowed on us. That being said, helping everyone become better stewards of what God provides us is an instrumental component to our campaign. Keep your eyes out for several Town Halls that will be available to help keep you informed about how the campaign is going, and ask any questions and provide input. We are kicking off our campaign in March, 2021, and will work toward completely eliminating our debt by October, 2024 (the 175th Anniversary of SUMC).

Other Resources



Dear Friends,

When Brenda and I first arrived here at Southport UMC as your Senior Pastor in July, 2019, we remarked to each other just how beautiful and functional the church building was. From the magnificent and intimate worship center to the wonderful and useful flow of the Gathering Place, the ideal layout of the West Wing for children's ministry and Imagination Station, and even the unique beauty of the East Wing for classes of various ages and the "Underground" for our youth group.

A church is all about the people, I know, but you need a great building to facilitate disciple making and ministry for people, and we have that here. I feel so fortunate to have inherited such an amazing space to be able to work with a special congregation as God leads us into the future.

Of course, it took some hard work to get us here, to organize and build and maintain it all. Some of you have been an integral part of that over the years.

And there has been a financial cost to having this wonderful complex we enjoy today. Some of that cost is still with us in the form of a mortgage, in the amount of \$865,000, on which we pay principal and interest each month. At the current rate at which we're paying, it would be another 15 years or so before we are completely debt free.

When I first learned of this mortgage, I thought, *Well now, that figures. A church sometimes has to go into debt in order to finance the building and ministry to which God is calling it.*

But then I thought, *What if we could pay that debt off, or pay it way down? Would there be something else that God might want us to do with those resources? What might the future be if we didn't have that monthly obligation? Who could we help? What difference could we make in our community?*

I've had a team working on these questions over the past year, and this has led us to the launch of our "What If?" campaign. I hope you'll stay open to what the possibilities might be for our church if we could completely eliminate this debt. I hope, as you hear more about it that you'll want to participate and be part of *What if?*

Grace and Hope to you,

Pastor Duane



What If...

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Total 36-month commitment

I/We plan to fulfill this commitment in installments given: \$ _____

_____ Weekly or _____ Monthly or _____ Quarterly or _____ yearly or _____ A one time gift

What Is?

You could make What if

Lord, I present this commitment to you, acknowledging that everything I have and everything I am is a gift from you. I pray that you will grant me wisdom and strength and that you will bless and use the gifts that I humbly present to you. **Amen**

Please return on Commitment Sunday, April 18, 2021

What if **What if** *could become* **What is?**

