

# The Heart Of the Matter

Monthly Newsletter of  
Southport United Methodist Church:  
June 2021

## Study of Revelation

Dear Friends,

Do you remember the year 1999, when the experts were saying that all the computers might crash, and with them the economy and so many other things about our lives, because the computers hadn't been programmed to be able to flip to the year 2000? On the last Sunday of the year, I preached a sermon with the title, "Is the End Near?"

Everything turned out okay, and it seems like a long time ago now. But in some ways, we have been asking ourselves that question for centuries and millennia, based on some of the earliest writings of our faith. *Is the end near?* is a question that is posed in *Daniel* from the Old Testament and even in places in the Gospels. But it really comes to the fore in the last book of the Bible, *Revelation*.

We're going to be looking at the book of *Revelation* over the coming 6 weeks. It will be the sermon topic on Sunday morning in worship, and it will also be looked at a bit more in-depth on Thursday evenings. For now, Thursday worship has become what we are calling our "Teaching" service, where we do dig just a little deeper into the same biblical text as on Sunday morning. So it's possible for you to come on both Thursday evening and Sunday morning and get something different, but meaningful and significant, out of each.

We'll get started on our 6-week *Revelation* series on Thursday, June 3, at 6:30 in the evening, and on Sunday morning, June 6, at 9 (traditional) or 10:30 (contemporary).

There's actually more to *Revelation* than just the question, "Is the end near?" A lot more, as it turns out. I hope you'll come and join us and bring a friend and find out.

Grace and Hope to you,

Pastor Duane

## UPCOMING Sermons

June 3, 6

"The Book of  
Revelation: Apocalypse  
Pretty Soon"  
Matthew 24:36-44

June 10, 13

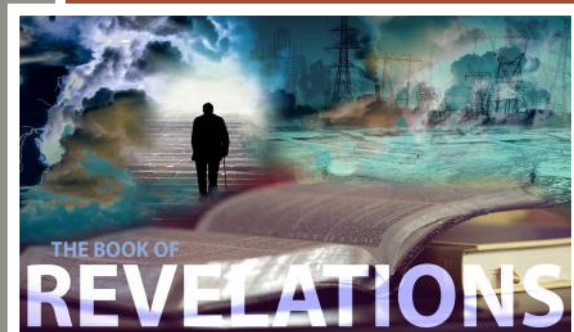
"The Book of  
Revelation: You Never  
Forget Your First"  
Revelation 2:1-11

June 17, 20

"The Book of  
Revelation: Being  
Lukewarm in Hot or  
Cold World"  
Revelation 3:7-22

June 24, 27

"The Book of  
Revelation: In the Eye  
of the Perfect Storm"  
Revelation 6:1-8; 7:9-17





## Feed A Need

In May, UMW women gathered to bag 50 sack meals for the "Tear Down the Walls Ministry" to deliver to the homeless downtown.

We bag meals before the second Saturday of each month. In each bag are: a protein, a fruit, a small can of veggies, a granola or snack bar, water, chips and small candies. Then these bags are delivered to the TDTW ministry house downtown to be delivered to the homeless camps on the second Saturday.

This ministry is part of the Faith Promise budget monies that is supported by your donations. An example of how much more we can do once the mortgage is paid off.

## Women's News

United Methodist Women circles are back in attendance at church.

Rebekah Circle meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the church.

Leah Circle meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

Coming up in July is the Mission U zoom activity. One of the speakers is our past pastor, Derek Weber. Let the church know if you are interested in joining in (paperwork will be provided).

We will be collecting baby items for the "Breann Leath baby unit" at the Indiana Women's Prison.

If interested in helping, pick up a list at church.

We will start collecting items June 13-July 18. Items collected will be placed in the white wooden bins in the coat room area.

Thanks for the support.



## Food Pantry Donations

The Hunger, INC food pantry is still servicing the Perry Township area families and outside the area as well. The pantry is located at the corner of Madison Avenue and Epler Avenue. So donated items are always needed. The need is always dish soap and meats like lunch meats, chicken, sausage, smoked sausage, and ground beef. SUMC has been the hands and feet of Jesus through all the donations from SUMC members thought out all the last year when the need was great. Thanks for your support!



## PERRY TOWNSHIP RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

I am writing to you as President of Perry Township Religious Education Association (PTREA for short). Southport UMC has been a long-time supporter of PTREA. As a congregation, SUMC has provided financial support through Faith Promise. SUMC has provided teachers for classes as well as PTREA Board members. Thank you so much!

PTREA, if you don't know, provides Christian religious education to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders in Perry Township. Perry Schools has been very supportive of PTREA for many years. Even in the midst of the pandemic starting over a year ago, Perry Schools continued to permit PTREA classes to occur. We of course needed to follow all the protocols for keeping students and teachers safe. And for the school year that is currently ending, all of the classes needed to be before or after school, in the school building. But PTREA was still able to share the gospel message of Jesus Christ with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Next year, for those elementary schools where it is possible, PTREA is allowed once again to take students during the day (lunch and recess) to nearby trailers or churches and share the gospel with the students. This is good news! We find that more students will participate during the day than before/after school.

How can you help?

Are you interested in teaching? Are you interested in becoming a PTREA Board member? I'd be glad to chat with your sometime.

And one more thing. Pray that PTREA will continue to reach students, families, and school staff within Perry Township for years to come!

Blessings,

Pastor Doug  
President, PTREA



## Congratulations 2021 Graduates!

- Nick Heilman graduates from Ball state University with a Bachelor's in Communications, an emphasis in digital video production, and a minor in screenwriting.
- Daniel Hiller graduates from Southport Highschool and plans on attending Purdue University this fall.
- Stephanie Burdsall graduates from Perry Meridian and plans on attending Ivy Tech this fall.



# Harvest Table

## HARVEST TABLE HOURS

Sundays: 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Thursdays: 10:00 am-12:30 p.m.



# SUMC Blood Drive

**Impact:** Because each individual donation can save up to 3 separate lives, **36 Indiana lives** will potentially be saved due to your efforts with this blood drive!

Great job! We are still working to recover our blood inventory, but thanks to drives like SUMC's we have made great progress. ALL blood drives in the next month are important to helping us recover and sustain the community blood supply as we move into the summer months. **THANK YOU** for your hard work and dedication.

SUMC's next drive is for **Saturday, July 31**. Mark your calendar.



We wish Rhys the best of luck on his future endeavors!

# Job Openings !

Our wonderful **Maintenance and Tech Assistant**, Rhys, has been accepted into a full time position and will be leaving his position here at SUMC! We are so happy for him and he will be missed. We are looking to fill his part-time position with the right candidate! Please contact the office for more information.

Imagination Station is also currently hiring full-time and part-time **Child Care Teacher** positions for the summer. If you love working with children or know someone that does, please call the office at 317-780-4624! You can also drop in during office hours to fill out an application at any time!

# Thursday Teaching Service

Our Thursday Teaching Service is going well!

What is the Thursday Teaching Service?

- First and foremost, it is a worship service containing music, prayer, and a message.
- Second, it offers expanded teaching on the Scripture being taught that week. (We are still finished in 60 minutes or a little less.)
- Third, it provides for opportunities for interaction.
- Fourth, it is a way for those present to connect with God and each other.
- Fifth, it is a way for those at home to be together with those in the building (via Zoom).

We hope you will join us any and every Thursday. Starting in June, we will have a short, six-part sermon series on "The Book of Revelation."

*June 3, 6*

"The Book of Revelation: Apocalypse Pretty Soon"

Revelation 1:1-8; Matthew 24:36-44

*June 10, 13*

"The Book of Revelation: You Never Forget Your First"

Revelation 2:1-11

*June 17, 20*

"The Book of Revelation: Being Lukewarm in a Hot or Cold World"

Revelation 3:7-22

*June 24, 27*

"The Book of Revelation: In the Eye of the Perfect Storm"

Revelation 6:1-8; 7:9-17

*July 1, 4*

"The Book of Revelation: Fleeing the Wrath to Come"

Revelation 20:1-15

*July 8, 11*

"The Book of Revelation: Why We Need Heaven"

Revelation 21:1-7; Ecclesiastes 3:9-14

Don't let the title of the sermon series scare you.

Spoiler alert! Ultimately, in the end, God wins! And so do we!

Pastor Doug

# Upper Sand Mountain Parish

Upper Sand Mountain Parish is an annual mission trip that SUMC takes to Section, Alabama.

While there, we do a variety of mission work. Some years we have worked inside their resale stores, including restocking shelves, painting walls, or even tearing up flooring. While other years, such as last year, we demoed part of a house, remodeled a bathroom, installed paneling, ceiling fans, and even windows. Along with this, we have made jam in the cannery, sorted school supplies, and many other 'smaller' tasks.

Besides doing mission work, we spend a lot of time in the community. Most of our dinners are provided by the community. Dutton invites us to their church for a potluck (the young adults think it is THE best food they've ever had!) Along with Dutton, we go to another church where they provide a meal and have a church service that we attend. In 2019, Pastor Woody, who is in charge of the parish and the pastor of a church within the parish, 'stole' all the young adults to spend time with his youth group at the church.

The dates for the trip in 2020 are June 21st to the 27th. We leave early Sunday morning usually around 8 am and return Saturday afternoon. If interested in attending the trip or more information, contact the church office.

Thanks,  
Kathy Smith



## Southport Flag Retirement Ceremony

**June 14 (Flag day)**

**7:30 p.m.**

**2110 E Southport Road**

Participate in a 40 minute ceremony where hundreds of flags will be retired. There will be a Color Guard entrance, an Armed Forces

Medley, playing of "Taps" at conclusion, and refreshments.

**Please bring a lawn chair.**



# Creation Care News

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

In his hands are the depths of the earth and the mountain peaks belong to him.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker

for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care." Psalm 95

This says it all and we are thankful for the summer that all can share in caring for the earth.

Farm markets are available including SUMC's. You growing your own gardens are a way to thank our God for this wonderful Earth we live on.

So, shout and sing for joy as we move through the summer.

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## Yard Sale

The first fundraiser SUMC will be participating in is a Yard Sale. It is scheduled for Saturday, August 14 from 8 AM to 1 PM in the back parking lot. We are asking for our SUMC groups (Jubilee, Band of Brothers, Bible Study Groups, Youth, etc.) and families to help with this fundraiser.

Start cleaning out closets, attic spaces and garages for items that you may want to put in the yard sale. **Don't bring your items into the church.** Each group/family will be responsible for selling their items during the yard sale, clean-up and then give a donation back to the church. (Remember we are a nonprofit organization.)

We plan to have sign-ups in July, so we will know who will be participating and how much space is needed in the parking lot. We will be advertising our yard sale so expect many patrons. Looking forward to seeing the parking lot being full with your unwanted items.



## What If Campaign Fundraising

Pastor Duane has mentioned fundraising as part of the What If Campaign. To get started we want to share some information if a ministry group wants to lead a fundraiser activity, which we strongly encourage.

Fundraising should be beyond each individual/family What If campaign pledge

- Each ministry group will need to complete the electronic (Google) form with information about their fundraiser idea (form can be found on SUMC's website)
- All fundraising ideas will be approved by pastor(s), leadership and fundraising team
- All fundraising ideas need to show how we can give back to the community, city, state, nation, or world
- Tithe 10% of the fundraiser donations to Faith Promise first, then the remaining amount to debt reduction
- All earnings from a fundraiser will be given a donation because SUMC is a nonprofit organization

Here are some fundraising ideas to get you started:

- **Shoe Drive** - happening soon
- **Yard Sale** - August 2021
- Car Wash
- Pennies from Heaven
- Bake Sale
- Wrapping Gifts at Christmas

If you have any questions about fundraising, please contact Sandy Lewis.

# IMAGINATION Station



The Preschool children had a lot of fun on their last day making crafts and playing outside!



**CHILDREN'S**  
*Church*

&



We have had a wonderful turn out for Children's Church since opening. We are very thankful for Debbie and Jerry Kidwell for teaching our classes. The children are having a blast!

Make sure to tune in online for Children's Church if you are unable to make it in! We still have Preschool and Elementary episodes every Sunday morning at [sumc.org](http://sumc.org).

Youth Sunday School Every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Underground.

Youth Group is meeting every 4th Sunday of the month from 3-5 p.m. at the church.

All upcoming 6th-12th grade are welcome!

A huge congrats to Daniel Hiller on graduating from Southport High School! We love you!

Lesla Cook



# Finance

Church	Apr-21	2021 Year to Date
<b>Income</b>		
Offerings	\$61,393	\$217,191
Other	\$70	\$582
Imagination Station "Tithe/offering"	\$3,194	\$10,936
<b>Church Expenses</b>		
Conf. & Dist. Support	(\$9,124)	(\$24,177)
Administration	(\$16,157)	(\$59,188)
Maintenance & Utilities	(\$10,621)	(\$45,796)
Connect, Grow, Serve	(\$22,354)	(\$86,768)
Youth & Child Ministry	(\$1,020)	(\$4,346)
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$5,381</b>	<b>\$8,434</b>
<b>Imagination Station</b>		
Income	\$29,828	\$114,733
Expense	(\$26,065)	(\$91,468)
"Tithe/offering" to Church	(\$3,194)	(\$10,936)
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$569</b>	<b>\$12,328</b>
<b>All Together</b>		
<b>Total Incomes</b>	<b>\$91,291</b>	<b>\$332,506</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$85,341)</b>	<b>(\$311,743)</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$5,950</b>	<b>\$20,762</b>

This chart shows how much we have been able to pay towards our debt since we began the "What If" Campaign!



## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Duane Thompson  
 Connie Whisner  
 Jim Cooney  
 Sherry Davis  
 Karen Decatur  
 Joy Eder  
 Suzy Heilman  
 John Klipsch  
 Phil Sell  
 Brad Wiseman



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.- Teaching 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.*