

The Heart *Of the* Matter

Anticipation and Expectation

Dear Friends,

Even though it's often more hectic than usual, Christmas, and the whole season leading up to it, is one of my favorite times of the year.

To me, it is the sparkle of curiosity and joy in the eyes of a child. It's the atmosphere of anticipation and expectation that seems to pervade everything. It's the offering of new birth and new life. This truly is the season of Hope!

I have to say that I love it even more now that we are part of Southport United Methodist Church. I love that we do things like "Jubilee Christmas" and "Operation Christmas Transformation" to help people in our community.

I love the friendly and warm nature of the people of this church, which just seems to grow even more so during this period between Thanksgiving and Christmas. My mother always did say this was the friendliest church she'd ever been in, and at 87, she'd been in quite a few.

And I love our worship: the quality of our music, no matter what the service, and the depth and richness and meaning of our time together in praise and prayer.

I invite you to share all this church has to offer during this season. If you're on Facebook, share any posts from the church with your friends. Invite the people you care about to worship or to our Advent study on Wednesday night. Tell everyone you know what great things your church is up to.

This season of anticipation and expectation is just too overflowing here at Southport United Methodist Church to keep to ourselves.

Grace and Hope to you,

Pastor Duane

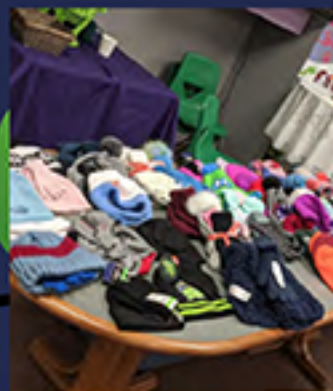
Celebrating Jubilee Christmas 2021

It's not too late to support Jubilee Christmas. If you haven't had a chance to grab items off of the tagboards in the Gathering Place or purchase items through the Amazon Wishlist, that is OK, you can still support this hope bringing program by contributing to the Jubilee Fund.

You can do this by giving to the Jubilee Fund through online giving or simply by making a note on your check of what portion of your gift is to go to Jubilee Christmas.

Support in this way is always helpful as every year there are a few odds and ends that need purchased. Also, it helps us plan for next year as sometimes the Jubilee "elves" have been known to nab up a bargain or two and store them for the next holiday season.

Your generous support of Jubilee Christmas is making a difference in the lives of 18 families from our community. Thank you!



One of the ways we can share God's love is by helping those in need. Every year we help with utility bills, make rent payments, provide gas cards, and much, much more. So far this year we have helped over 50 people with various needs. We can do this because of your support through Operation Transformation. Please purchase a poinsettia picture to honor a loved one or maybe in honor of someone you would love to see join our church family. And know that in doing so, you will be showing God's love to someone else with your financial gift too. You may do this by giving online to Operation Transformation and in the memo write the info for your poinsettia picture. We also have Operation Transformation Envelopes if you would rather pick one up from the church. Below is the info that we will need!

Operation Christmas Transformation

☐ I would like to make a donation of _____ for Operation Christmas Transformation.

☐ I would like to recognize the following person (people) with a poinsettia picture.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

From: _____ Phone: _____

(Please print clearly)




THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

As the calendar year draws to a close and we have completed the last Blood drive for 2021, I would like to share the outcome of the last blood drive. On November 13, the blood drive yielded:

- 10 donors
- 1 was deferred
- 1 was a first time donor
- 8 units of whole blood and 1 unit of double red were collected. This equals 10 units total.
- Potentially, 30 Indiana lives were impacted with this drive alone.

In total for 2021:

- 30 units were collected
- 114 Indiana lives were potentially impacted.

THANK YOU SUMC! You should be very proud for making such a statewide impact.

SAVE THE DATES:

- February 26, 2022
- April 30, 2022
- July 30, 2022
- November 19, 2022

NOTE TIME CHANGES FOR BLOOD DRIVES
WILL BE 8:30 AM-11:00 AM

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a special called Charge Conference of Southport United Methodist Church on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 7:00 PM, here at the church. Usually there is only one Charge or Church Conference a year at a Methodist Church in the fall, but this special Charge Conference is to discuss and deal with certain matters relating to the bankruptcy of the Boy Scouts of America and the implications this may or may not have for our church as a Charter organization for many years. This will be in-person here at the church, but we will use ZOOM to connect with our District Superintendent and other churches. So again, this is a special called Charge Conference for our church on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 7:00 PM. I know this will interrupt the flow of the Advent Bible study that same night, but we will have both meetings going at the same time. Thank you.



Creation Care



Just a reminder to recycle your Christmas wrapping paper, and boxes. Big recycle bins are provided by the city and are located at the corner of Madison Avenue and Edgewood Avenue. We can always use these bins for all your recycling needs. The city changes out the bins each Tuesday since they get filled over the weekends. So, Tuesday later in the day is a good time to drop off items.

Food Collection

Hunger, INC thanks you for all the laundry soap, dish soap, diapers, and wipes that you provided for the pantry in November.

Since the pantry is collecting many thousands of pounds of food products from the local school drives, we will be able to skip donations for December. We will resume collections starting in January. **The collection dates are Sunday, January 2-Thursday, January 6.**

Items needed will be crackers, laundry soap, dish soap, and diapers/wipes. Again, these are the most asked for items that are not bought by the pantry or brought in as donations. No schools bring these items in as donations. Thanks for your help in serving those coming to the pantry. The pantry is located at Epler Avenue and Madison Avenue. They are open three days a week on Tuesdays from 10-1, Thursdays from 4-7, and Saturdays from 10-1.

Feed A Need News

The Feed A Need (FAN) ministry has been going on for a year now. The group we work with is called Tear Down the Walls Ministry. We deliver 50 meals each month to be handed out on the second Saturday. We are always in need for delivery people, buyers or baggers, if you are interested please let the church staff know and you will be called.

Women's News

ARE YOU SAVING SHOES?

Yes, UMW is still having a drive to collect **new or useable** shoes, slippers, flip-flops, for a company that will pay the church money to help with the "WHAT IF CAMPAIGN"!

So, we need your help. We need lots of shoes.

December is a great time to collect them. Are you cleaning out the cupboard of old shoes to get ready for new Christmas shoes or just getting rid of the old to bring in the new?

Please let neighbors, family, and friends know you need help with this project. We will be collecting them at church after the Christmas season is over. You can put your shoes in bags in the bins in the Coatroom area in **JANUARY!**

Ask any United Methodist Woman if you need help.



Let's Worship

Here is a look at a few of our worship services!



YOUTH!

The youth are doing well, our bonfire was a success with 39 people in attendance. We even had a special visit from our friends and prior student ministry director, Lesa, what a great surprise it was to see her back in Indianapolis. We have several fun events coming up in the next few months. Please reach out with any questions Kelley@sumc.org.



Upcoming events

12/19- Live Nativity (if interested in participating please reach out to Kelley)

12/19 – SUMY Christmas party- During Sunday School – There will be a 5 Dollar gift exchange for those students that would like to participate.

1/28/2022- Winter Jam – More information will be shared on this later. If your student is interested in joining us for this event please reach out to Kelley

2/20/2022 – Cocoa and Canvas – Again more information will be coming soon.

Advent & Christmas Eve Worship

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. Family Service

8:00 p.m. Contemporary Service

11:00 p.m. Traditional Service

December 26 Service

10:00 a.m.

Office will be Closed

Christmas Eve day and Monday,

December 27 and Friday, December 31

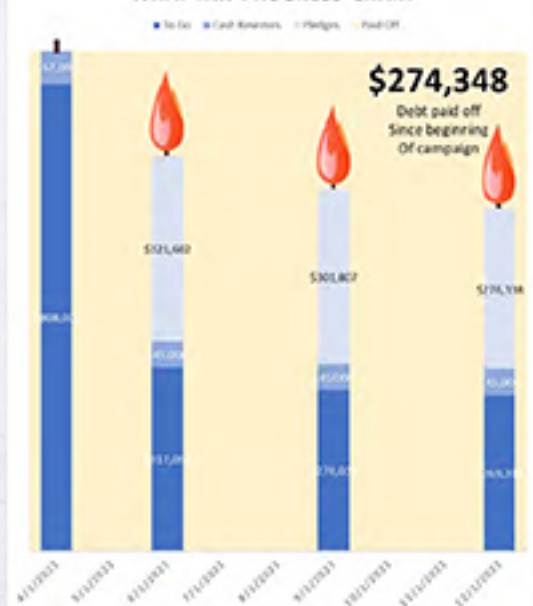
Office Hours December 28, 29 and 30

8:00 a.m. to Noon



Finances

WHAT IF... PROGRESS CHART



Church	Oct-21	YTD 2021
Income		
Offerings	\$48,348	\$526,390
Other	\$190	\$1,835
Imagination Station Tithe	\$3,239	\$30,135
Church Expenses		
Conf. & District Support	(\$6,894)	(\$61,094)
Administration	(\$13,276)	(\$149,406)
Maintenance & Utilities	(\$13,730)	(\$114,740)
Connect, Grow, Serve	(\$22,024)	(\$219,874)
Children & Youth	(\$1,290)	(\$9,393)
Church Net	(\$5,437)	\$3,853

Imagination Station		
Income	\$32,373	\$309,266
Expense	(\$31,743)	(\$237,719)
Tithe to church	(\$3,239)	(\$30,135)
School Net	(\$2,609)	\$41,412

All Together		
Total Income	\$80,911	\$837,491
Total Expense	(\$88,957)	(\$792,226)
Net Total	(\$8,046)	\$45,265

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Duane Thompson

Connie Whisner

Jim Cooney

Sherry Davis

Karen Decatur

Joy Eder

Suzy Heilman

John Klipsch

Phil



1947 E Southport Road

Indianapolis, IN

Phone: 317-784-9508

Email: office@sumc.org

Website: www.sumc.org

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

9:00 a.m. @ Online

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.