

BUILT ON THE WORD

June 2026 Newsletter of Southport United Methodist Church

Built to Last: Building Our Lives on the Word of God

June has a way of making us all feel a little lighter. The days grow longer, the grills come out of hibernation, kids enjoy summer break, and somewhere in Indiana, someone is already saying, “It’s not the heat, it’s the humidity.” Officially, summer begins on June 21 this year, but if you’ve stepped outside lately, it already feels like flip-flop season has arrived!

This month at Southport United Methodist Church, we’re beginning a new worship series called Built on the Word. Throughout June, we’ll explore the power, reliability, and authority of Scripture and ask an important question: What foundation are we building our lives on? In a world filled with opinions, trends, hot takes, and “life hacks,” it can sometimes feel like everyone has advice about how we should live. One voice says happiness comes through success. Another says it comes through comfort, control, or endless self-improvement. Yet Scripture reminds us that the deepest and strongest foundation for life is found not in the shifting sands of culture, but in the unchanging Word of God.

As United Methodists, we believe the Bible is inspired by God and contains everything necessary for salvation. We don’t worship the Bible itself, but we do believe God speaks through it, teaches through it, challenges through it, and transforms lives through it. Scripture shapes how we love, how we forgive, how we serve, how we parent, how we lead, and even how we rest. God’s Word is not just meant to sit on a shelf collecting dust between Sundays. It is meant to take root in our hearts and guide our everyday lives.

I was reminded of this recently while watching someone try to assemble a backyard firepit kit. You know the kind: a giant box with 9,000 pieces, bolts you’ve never seen before, and instructions that somehow manage to be both too detailed and not detailed enough at the same time. At first, they confidently ignored the instruction booklet. “I’ve got this,” they said. About an hour later, the firepit looked less like a peaceful summer gathering spot and more like modern art. Pieces were backward. Important supports were missing. Extra screws somehow appeared out of nowhere. Eventually, with a sigh of defeat, they picked up the instructions and started over from the beginning.

Honestly, life can feel a lot like that sometimes. We try to build marriages, families, careers, priorities, and identities without paying attention to the One who designed life in the first place. We improvise. We guess. We follow the crowd. And eventually we find ourselves spiritually exhausted, frustrated, or wondering why things feel unstable. Scripture is God’s loving instruction for life—not to restrict us, but to help us build something lasting.

That’s part of why I’m so excited for June. During Vacation Bible School, we’ll welcome children from our church and community to experience the love of God in joyful, energetic, unforgettable ways. We’ll celebrate Father’s Day and give thanks for the men who help shape and guide us. And through it all, we’ll continue returning to this central truth: when our lives are built on the Word of God, we discover a foundation strong enough to hold us through every season.

So this summer, before schedules fill up completely and calendars become packed with vacations, cookouts, and pool days, I invite you to make room for Scripture. Read it. Wrestle with it. Reflect on it. Let it speak into your life. Because while summer eventually fades, the Word of God never does.

Blessings,
Rev. William G. Nickrand

Challenge for the Month:

This June, spend at least 10 minutes a day in Scripture. Read a chapter, reflect on a verse, or simply sit quietly with God’s Word before reaching for your phone or turning on the TV/technology. Let’s build our lives on something stronger than opinions, trends, or temporary distractions—and discover what God wants to say to us this summer.

Built on the Word

June 7	Hebrews 4:12; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Ephesians 6:17	The Power of Scripture
June 14	VBS Sunday Celebration	
June 21	Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:18; Psalm 119:89-91	The Reliability of Scripture
June 28	2 Peter 1:20-21; Matthew 22:29-32; John 10:35	The Authority of Scripture

Description:

Explore the transformative power, reliability, and authority of Scripture. This series emphasizes why the Bible is foundational for faith and life, equipping believers to engage, understand, and live out God's Word in daily decisions and spiritual growth.

VBS Sunday Celebration

June 14 Psalm 104:24-25 God's Wonder in Creation

Description:

As Vacation Bible School concludes, we celebrate the wonder of God's creation and the joy of learning about faith. This service highlights the beauty and creativity of God's world and invites families and children to marvel at the divine handiwork in everyday life.



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Communion Schedule
June 4th, 7th
July 2nd, 5th



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:
Thursday, June 4th
Thursday, August 6th

May Events

May brought lots of exciting events here within our community and Church. Enjoy some photos from Prayer in the Park, Community Taco Dinner, and our preschool graduation!





**CAMP
IMAGINATION**
Summer Camp at Imagination Station

**OUTHPORT
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**
CONNECT | GROW | SERVE | GIVE | GO

GET READY FOR A GREAT
ADVENTURE!

JUNE 1ST - JULY 24TH
1947 E. SOUTHPORT RD.

REGISTRATION IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!
TO ENROLL, CALL US AT:
(317) 780-4624

**Hands-on learning, outdoor and water play,
themed days, walking field trips, and so much
more!**



**GAMES IN
THE
GATHERING
PLACE**

JUNE 5TH 2026
6:30PM

**OUTHPORT
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

START FINISH

We have openings for table host for our 2026 Annual Tea. If you are interested in hosting this year please stop by the Next Steps table. The cost is \$10 per person.

This year our guest speaker is Lindy Ruth Rader from Isaiah House and she will share their vision “Changes the Way Foster Care Begins”. We will continue the brunch menu of Quiche Lorraine, Banana Muffing, and Waldorf Salad.

Southport UMC Annual Tea
Lindy Ruth Rader—Isaiah House
“Changes the Way Foster Care Begins”

Saturday, October 10, 2026
11—1

Stop by the Next Steps Table June 14, 18, or 21
To sign up as a host, server, or kitchen team.



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS JULY 26 TH 2026	THE
DATE	

Join SUMC and Imagination Station as we walk in the 2026 Southport Independence Day Parade

4th of July

SOUTHPORT INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

— ★ ★ ★ —
JUNE 27TH, 2026
STARTS AT 10:00AM

MEET AT SOUTHPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
@ BLUE CHEVY TRUCK
TSHIRT ORDERS DUE JUNE 7TH, 2026



VBS

New friends, amazing experiments, creative games, fun snacks, surprising adventures, incredible music!

Location: Southport United Methodist Church

Date: June 7-11, 2026

Time: 5:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Call 317-780-4624 for more information or visit our website to register!

C R O S S T R A I N I N G

Cross Training

This opportunity for interaction between the various cultures represented at Southport UMC is specifically designed for our 1st-6th grade students and their guardians. We participate monthly in an event providing Food – Faith – Fun to all attending.

Our next training is June 14th from 11:45-1:45 in the Gathering Place.



Pine Creek Camp is in need of male
volunteer counselors!
June 27th-July 3rd
Middle School Week
Contact Lacie Rader at
lhacker@gmail.com



Magnificent Margaret

Margaret Trammell was honored at Fuller Farm's with a hen house named after her. Margaret has spent many hours in volunteering at Fuller Farms and was pivotal in getting a hen house for them.



Thank you so much for returning the bags with food in it for our HOPE families. This really helps get meals out to our families! We still have opportunities to serve on July 11th at our HOPE breakfast. Please reach out to Sharon Grayson @ sharon.k.grayson@gmail.com or call the SUMC office staff for more information.



The HARVEST TABLE
Harvest Table Hours:
Sunday:
10:00am-12:00pm
Wednesday:
6:00pm-7:00pm
Thursday:
6:00pm-7:00pm



WOMEN'S NEWS

The Rebekah Circle is not meeting for the months of June, July, and August. Our fall meeting in September will be on the 8th. We will be traveling to the Indiana Methodist Children's Home in Lebanon, IN for an Informational tour. If you are interested in attending this activity, please let the church staff know and you will get a call for the details.

HUNGER, Inc. FOOD PANTRY

Again this month, we are not collecting food in June or July for the pantry since we are busy feeding the families for HOPE ministry at the church. We will resume collection for the Hunger, Inc pantry in August. The pantry has been very blessed with many donations.

HOPE (HELPING OUR PEOPLE EAT)

Thank you to all the volunteers that have signed up to help feed our Jubilee Families. And thank you to all who helped fill the meal Target bags. There are still a few meal bags in the grocery cart by the Women's bathroom door if you are interested in helping.

Our families will be well taken care of through your generosity. We will be feeding the families every Saturday in June and July 11th and 18th from 10:30-12.

CREATION CARE

Recycling event in Beech Grove on June 6th from 9-12 at City Hall 806 Main St. They offer shredding, medicine disposal, and used syringe disposal.

The church collects glasses, pop top tabs, egg cartons, and grocery bags for the pantry.

FYI for the month of June.....Reduce WASTE before you buy. Everything you use or buy will affect the environment. The copy and writing paper used across the US each year could build a wall 12 feet high from LA to NY!!! Are we using both sides of the papers we copy off??

FEED A NEED

The FEED A NEED or FAN team will be bagging the 50 meals on June 11th at 1 pm in the gathering area. If interested in helping come and see how this ministry is supported. It is a fast and fun activity.

Finance

Church	Apr-26	2026 YTD
Income		
Offerings	\$46,077	\$182,170
Other	\$1,481	\$4,153
Imagination Station "Tithe/offering"	\$7,214	\$25,198
Church Expenses		
Conf. & Dist. Support	(\$5,771)	(\$22,161)
Administration	(\$13,242)	(\$55,825)
Maintenance & Utilities	(\$18,974)	(\$67,633)
Connect, Grow, Serve	(\$22,944)	(\$91,632)
Youth & Child Ministry	(\$3,083)	(\$9,461)
Net	(\$9,242)	(\$35,191)
Imagination Station		
Income	\$51,718	\$188,369
Expense	(\$44,727)	(\$130,228)
"Tithe/offering" to Church	(\$7,214)	(\$25,198)
Net	(\$223)	\$32,943
All Together		
Total Incomes	\$99,276	\$374,692
Total Expenses	(\$108,741)	(\$376,940)
Net	(\$9,465)	(\$2,248)

As I reflect on the many blessings our church has experienced, one thing stands out clearly, none of it would be possible without the faithful generosity of this faith community. Every contribution, whether large or small, has played a meaningful role in advancing our mission, strengthening our ministries, and serving our community.

Your giving has allowed us to continue providing worship services, outreach programs, youth ministries, community assistance, and spiritual guidance to countless individuals and families. Because of your support, our church remains a place of hope, encouragement, and compassion for all who walk through our doors.

Financial stewardship is more than simply meeting a budget. It is an expression of faith, trust, and commitment to God's work. Time and again, this congregation has demonstrated an extraordinary willingness to invest in the ministry and future of our church.

Your generosity helps fund critical building maintenance, support local outreach initiatives like the Taco meal, provide resources for children and youth programs like VBS and Camp Imagination, and expand opportunities for fellowship and discipleship like The Way Cafe.

In moments when needs arise unexpectedly, our church community has a history of responding with kindness and unity. These acts of giving have touched lives in ways that extend far beyond what can be measured financially.

Thank you for your kindness and support. We look forward with gratitude and anticipation to all that we will continue to do together to share the love of Christ with our community and world.

Pastor Brandon



LEADERSHIP TEAM

Connie Klipsch
 Kathy Smith
 William Nickrand
 Rebecca Hamm
 Sherry Davis
 Pat Hulfachor
 Travis Miller

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

*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*