

*The*  
Heart  
*Of the*  
Matter

Dear Southport Family,

Happy New Year! As we step into 2025, I can't help but feel a buzz of excitement for what lies ahead for our church family. The start of a new year is a chance to recalibrate our hearts, deepen our faith, and align our steps with God's direction. Much like the Magi who followed the star to Jesus, we're invited to seek the Light that guides us closer to God.

That theme—seeking the Light—is woven beautifully throughout January's worship services. As we begin with Epiphany Sunday on January 5th, we'll reflect on the Magi's journey and receive our very own Star Gifts: a single word to inspire and guide us throughout the year. Imagine how transformative it could be to focus on one word, letting it draw us deeper into God's presence.

From there, we'll flow into Baptism of the Lord Sunday on January 12th, where we'll reconnect with the waters that mark us as God's beloved. Just as Jesus' baptism affirmed His identity, we'll be reminded of our own belonging in Christ—a truth that anchors and propels us into the world with purpose.

The second half of the month introduces our new sermon series: Walking the Path of Justice: Living Out Micah 6:8. We'll explore God's call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly. Through scriptures like Isaiah 1:16-17 and Zechariah 7:9-10, we'll wrestle with what it means to live out our faith in practical, impactful ways—acting with compassion, building relationships marked by mercy, and living humbly under God's vision for justice.

If you're feeling inspired to take these themes into your week, here's a quick illustration: Imagine standing at the start of a path with three signposts ahead—Justice, Kindness, and Humility. Which one are you drawn to first? Which feels the most challenging? God doesn't ask us to sprint to the finish but to walk faithfully, step by step, trusting Him to guide us.

I encourage you to make worship a priority this month. Join us for Epiphany Sunday to start the year under the light of the star, reconnect with your baptism on January 12th, and dive into our justice-focused series starting January 19th. Each service will be a chance to grow, connect, and set our hearts on the incredible journey God has for us in 2025.

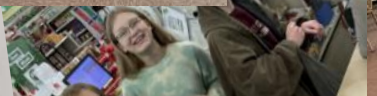
Let's start this year with open hearts and eager spirits, ready to follow wherever God's Light leads.

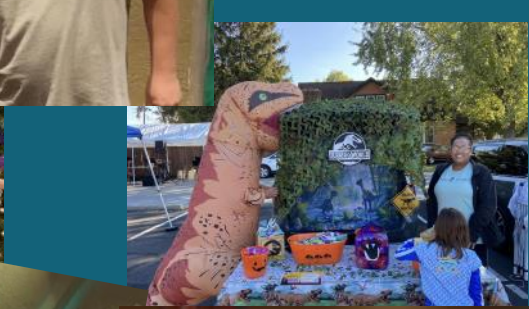
Blessings and Happy New Year,  
Rev. William G. Nickrand

# 2024: A YEAR IN PHOTOS



...surrender all  
...my blessed  
...surrender all





TRAINING  
CRONING

11:45 am—1:45 pm

Join Us!

JANUARY 12

1st—6th graders & guardians

Food—Faith—Fun



**COAT & GLOVE**  
*Collection*

Southport 6th Grade academy is in need of gently used boys and girls winter coats and gloves. Sizes children's 12 through adult Small.

Please contact Jo Ann Weber for more info and arrangements for drop off/pick up of items.  
Call or Text: 317-361-2664  
Email: [jweber2664@gmail.com](mailto:jweber2664@gmail.com)



Church  
Work  
Day



January 25, 2024 9a.m.—1p.m.

### Caring After Christmas

A lot of assistance and programming is available around Christmas, but what about after Christmas? The days and weeks after Christmas can hit hard for those barely making ends meet. Maybe, someone was able to scrap together enough money to have a nice Christmas meal and a few gifts, but it may take weeks to recover. So, this January Southport United Methodist Church and our community partners want to show we still care even after Christmas. We will be putting together and delivering care packets that include food and household necessities to those in our community that could use a little boost. Come help us assemble and deliver these gifts on **Saturday, January 18th from 3 to 6pm.**

If you want to help but can't make it on the day of the event a financial contribution to the Pastor's Ministry fund will help fuel this project.



## TAKING DOWN THE GREENS

January 5, 2025

11:30 a.m. after services

Join us to take down all of the Advent Decorations in the building. Light refreshments will be served.

Join us for our first two First Friday Family Fun Nights of 2025!



**MOVIE NIGHT**  
Yes Day  
FRIDAY JANUARY 10TH  
6:30PM  
Southport United Methodist Church

Illustration of a movie clapperboard, a red and white striped bucket of popcorn, and two blue soft drinks.



**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
Family  
First Friday Family Fun Night  
FEBRUARY 7TH 2025  
Southport UMC  
6:30PM  
Prizes  
Categories for all ages  
Contact Kelley Lego



#### WOMENS NEWS

Our next **United Women of Faith** is **Tuesday, January 14th at 1 pm in the Gathering Area at church.** It will be our first meeting of the new year. **Happy New Year!!** We have our Pledge Service where we learn about all the mission projects that we support in United Women of Faith around the world and locally. Locally we support Fletcher Place Community Center. Fellowship of Least Coin (Church Women United locally), Lucille Raines Residence, and Lebanon Children's Home. All are welcome to join in the Faith Activity, Fun, and Food. Mark your calendar for the February meeting on 11th same time and same place.

#### FOOD PANTRY

Southport has been supporting the **Hunger, Inc Food Pantry for many years.** It is located at 1416 E. Epler Ave. ( behind the Kakery and Bakery). **We want to thank YOU for your \$550 combined donations** for the pantry going to the Meijer Simply Give Campaign on December 14th. That amount was double matched and will help the pantry to be strong in their ability to give out food all 3 days each week the pantry is open. We buy food each month from Meijer to fill the shelves for our clients to shop. Help is always needed to get these supplies in as groceries are rising up in cost. If interested in volunteering, let the church staff know and you will be contacted by the pantry president.

**Mathew 25:35 "I was hungry and you fed me.."**

#### FEED A NEED

We are starting our 5th year for the FAN bagging meals for the needs of the downtown nonpermanent residents given out by the ministry, TEAR DOWN THE WALLS. We bag every month on the Thursday before the second Saturday. Our bags of food have veggies, fruit, tuna, mayo packet, crackers, chips, granola bars, cookies, and candy and a bottle of water.

Bagging days coming up are **January 9th at 1 pm in the gathering area at church, February 6th.** Mark your calendars and come join the group.

#### CREATION CARE

Just a reminder that there are bins and baskets in the Gathering Area on the wall by the Kitchen for many items to be recycles. Check it out some time. We are the caretakers of this world that God gave us.

# YOUTH

*Southport United Methodist*

## Youth Ice Skating event

PERRY PARK · JAN 26TH 1-3 PM  
 GRADE 6TH -12TH · ADMISSION \$8  
 BRING A FRIEND AND WE WILL PAY FOR BOTH OF YOU.

If you're interested in attending Winter Jam, please contact Kelley Lego or Joe Howell!

# WINTER JAM 25

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7  
**INDIANAPOLIS, IN**  
 GAINBRIDGE FIELDHOUSE

**\$15 DONATION AT THE DOOR**  
*No Tickets Required!*

**SKILLET**    **ANNE WILSON**    **KB**  
**COLTON DIXON**    **NEWSONG**    **MICAH TYLER**  
**ZANE BLACK**    **DREAM**  
SPEAKER

JOIN THE NATION FOR FREE & EARLY ADMISSION, EXCLUSIVE T-SHIRT, ARTISTS Q&A, & MORE! RESERVE YOUR SPOT AT [JAMTOUR.COM](http://JAMTOUR.COM)

SEU WORSHIP    THE BAND TABLE    WE ARE VESSEL



# Let's WORSHIP!

## CASUAL SERVICE:

THURSDAY 6:30 P.M.

## TRADITIONAL SERVICE:

SUNDAY 9:00 A.M.

## CONTEMPORARY SERVICE:

SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

WORSHIP ONLINE ANYTIME AT  
**WWW.SUMC.ORG**



## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pat Hulfachor  
William Nickrand  
Karen Decatur  
Sherry Davis  
Doug Lewis  
Travis Miller  
Margaret Trammell  
Kathy Smith  
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 the transformation of our community and the world.*