



SOUTHPORT CHRISTIAN

Serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the Earth

The Journey

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NEW CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Spiritual Food for Your Journey Through Lent . . .

During the season of Lent, we often think of that time of year as a time to grow closer to God through prayer and study. To help us grow in our faith this year during Lent, you are all invited to be a part of a six-week intergenerational adult Sunday morning study that will focus on the five things that God uses to grow our faith as we go through life. *"Imagine how different your outlook on life would be if you had absolute confidence that God was with you. Imagine how differently you would respond to difficulties, temptations, and even good things if you knew with certainty that God was in all of it."*

If you are interested in growing your faith during this six week class, we would love to have you be a part of our Lenten studies. Classes will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. taught by John Kixmiller, and at 10:15 a.m. taught by John Kixmiller, beginning February 26th and concluding on April 1st. Please us the bulletin insert to register for classes or call the church office.

Sunday Evening Roundtable

This will be a freewheeling conversation among the folks in the building during Sunday evening youth and music programs. We will have as much or as little content oriented program as the group decides, and the group will choose the topics. Bob Shaw and Susan McNeely will facilitate, and are willing to prepare the program, or are willing to have the group rotate leadership. Our vision is to use about 15-20 minutes for some kind of presentation followed by another 15-20 minutes of discussion. We want to leave plenty of time for people to enjoy the casual and unstructured fellowship they currently enjoy.

If you have an idea of an educational opportunity you would like to see offered at Southport, contact a member of the Christian Education Team: John Kixmiller, Shannon Sedgwick, Cody & Kalen Jones, Joan Bennett, Bill Bass or Nina Eads.

Southport Christian

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www.southportchurch.org



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Childcare Coordinator

Sue Dykes

Organist

Join Us for Worship

9:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship and
Christian Education

10:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship and
Christian Education

Just A Thought...

by Rev. Doug Lofton

What if...?

Much of our lives are spent wondering about the "what ifs" that either have or haven't happened. The "what if" game can dominate our thoughts and eat up a lot of our time with worry or frustration. "What ifs" have, at times, consumed my waking hours and kept me awake at night. "What ifs" are great intellectual exercises, but they do little to resolve the very real and pressing issues in our lives unless we are willing to act on them. And we rarely do.

I think about "what ifs" with regards to the church all the time. Most of them are big ones and I am not sure what we would do if they actually happened. "What if we had all the resources we needed to do the work of the church?" "What if all of our worship services were overflowing with committed people who were looking for ways to serve God?" "What if Southport became a place where all people felt welcomed and began to reflect the diversity of the world around us?" "What if...? (you can add your own endings to this question).

Sometimes "what ifs" lead to real change, while at other times they become a barrier to real opportunity happening.

Over the last 5 years we have been putting into place a structure that gives permission to do ministry rather than a barrier to it. In most churches by the time you get through the hoops

to do something new, too much time has gone by and the energy has been depleted. In our current structure we want people to dream "what if" and then begin to work on it. We offer a simple process for permission and support in one place, Oversight. If you can dream it, we can help you launch it.

In the last few months some of your fellow church members have been asking "what if" about several parts of our church life together. More and more of you are stepping up and saying that you will try to turn some of our "what ifs" into "we can and we did." From supporting existing programming to developing new and exciting ministries, many of you have begun to say "we can." For Southport to have the kind of future we all hope and dream is possible, it takes this kind of faithful response to make it happen.

It is my prayer, that as we look back on 2012, we will begin to see this year as the time when we stopped saying "what if" and began living "we can." I am excited about what is happening in our church and I look forward to great days of ministry together in 2012 and beyond.



Lenten Series to Deal with the Last Week of Jesus' Earthly Ministry

During Lent this year we will take a long look at the last week of Jesus' ministry: from his triumphal entry, through his encounters and teachings, to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and finally Easter.

We are very aware of the scriptures surrounding the key events but rarely look at all of the other material during Jesus' final week of earthly ministry with his disciples and followers. With the added emphasis of the crucifixion being just days away, it is important to see what Jesus felt was critical information that he needed to reinforce before his departure.

The schedule for this series "Only 7 Days" is as follows:

Feb. 26	The Palm Sunday Paradox	Mark 11:1-11
Mar. 4	Monday lessons: Marriage and Taxes	Mark 12:13-27
Mar. 11	Tuesday lessons: Last Days	Mark 13:1-13
Mar. 18	Wednesday: A Day of Encounters	Mark 13:3-9; Luke 21:1-4
Mar. 25	Maundy Thursday	Mark 14:12-31
Apr. 1	Good Friday: The Ugly Day	Mark 15:1-20
Apr. 8	Easter: The Wonderful Day	Mark 16:1-8

We will set up this series with a sermon on February 19th with Jesus beginning to consider his final journey to Jerusalem. We will follow up this series with a sermon on April 15th about Peter taking over as the new leader of the church and the early days of this movement without Jesus.

Additional Worship Opportunities

Wednesday, Feb. 22	Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 5	Maundy Thursday Worship
Friday, April 6	Good Friday Worship
Sunday, April 8	Easter Worship at 7:00 a.m.; 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

2012 Lenten Devotional

Greetings! Once again, this year we are doing a Lenten devotional. Similar to the 2011 Advent devotional, the devotional is going to be made available online as well as in print. The devotional will be in more of a blog format this time, allowing for comments and online conversations about the teachings.

We are in need of 10 Lenten devotional writers for the following date ranges/Holy days:

- February 22 (Ash Wednesday)
- February 26 - March 3 (Week 1)
- March 4 - March 10 (Week 2)
- March 11 - March 17 (Week 3)
- March 18 - March 24 (Week 4)
- March 25 - March 31 (Week 5)
- April 1 (Palm Sunday)
- April 5 (Maundy Thursday)
- April 6 (Good Friday)
- April 8 (Easter Sunday)

Writers are only required to write ONE devotional for the date or week of their choosing. Please choose a scripture verse to correlate with the reading.

If you are interested in writing, please contact Heather Dickerson at heatheradickerson@gmail.com. ENTRIES ARE DUE NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 19.



Momentum Seed

Is this who SCC is?

Our ministers don't claim to have all the answers or tell us what to believe. We're challenged to engage the Spirit, read the Word, and follow our own journey of faith, while respecting other's journeys as well.

Is this who we want to be?

The Annual Indianapolis CHORAL FESTIVAL

Sounds of Faith: Indianapolis Choral Festival

Sunday, February 19th 6:30 p.m.
East 91st Street Christian Church
6049 East 91st Street 46250

The Annual Indianapolis Choral Festival celebrates our Savior through song as many choirs from the area gather to perform individually. Finally, everyone joins together in a beautiful mass choir combined with the

E91 Covenant Symphony for a beautiful evening of worship and music. **Southport's Chancel Choir will once again participate in this festival.** This is an event that you won't want to miss.



Take a Hike!

We are calling all hikers and people who like to walk and exercise! Our First Tuesday Fellowship group is inviting everyone to join us for our Tuesday,

Feb. 7th meeting. Mary Ann Layman of

the Indianapolis Hiking Club will be our presenter and will discuss the hiking club's opportunities and current hiking schedule, tell us about neat places to hike in Indiana, and suggest how to dress for hiking outdoors.

If exercising more is part of your 2012 resolution or you enjoy our great outdoors, this program is for you!

Please join us and bring your own sack lunch. Dessert and drinks will be provided by our hosts, Bob and Bev Heid. Devotions will be provided by Sandy Hayes. Our meeting begins at 11:15 a.m., followed by lunch and the program. We hope to have a great turnout!

Pancake Breakfast!

FFF Committee invites you to enjoy a pancake breakfast with friends and family at SCC! If you enjoyed December's Omelette Sunday, you'll LOVE Pancake Sunday! Specialty toppings will be available for a true make-your-own experience!

Who: You!

What: Pancake Sunday, from FFF

When: February 26, from 8:00am - 10:30am

How Much: \$2 for 2 large flapjacks

We hope to see you there!

SCC Film Festival

Popcorn, soda, snacks, a cartoon and movie...what more could you want for a Friday night? Join us each Friday evening in February at 7:00 p.m.



February 10

"My Name is Bill W." from 1989. This stars James Woods and James Garner in the inspiring story of how Alcoholics Anonymous got started.



On February 17

"Searching for Bobby Fischer" from 1993. This warm-hearted movie is about a young chess prodigy and his parents' struggle to deal with his unforeseen genius.



Women's Fellowship

meets Monday, February 14 at 9:30 a.m. Men...you are also invited to attend. Our guest speaker will be Linda Todd, a member of Nashville

Methodist Church who has also been active in informing residents of Indiana about human trafficking. She will do what it is and how to keep it from spreading in our city.

BOARD NOTES

The SCC Board met in the Gathering Space on the evening of January 19, 2012. Cindy Ploughe offered the opening reflection by reading a prayer by Trappist Monk Thomas Merton. The prayer expresses the difficulty in discerning God's will but asserts our belief that God is pleased if we simply seek to please God. We trust that we never walk alone.

The Board was happily informed that SCC ended 2011 in the black, that our mortgage arrearage was caught up, and that we were able to continue paying back to the restricted funds. Concerning the mortgage, the Board was aware that we are in the final six months of a three-year capital campaign and that traditionally that time in a mortgage repayment creates arrearages. Chair Jim Ream and Vice-chair Dean Phelps plan to meet with representatives of Church Extension to discuss ways that may help prevent such arrearages in the coming months.

We also learned how well Shannon Sedgwick is doing with the youth and children. There is excitement in her ministry with our younger folks. Be sure to thank her when you see her for the splendid job she is doing.

The Board also did some cleaning up in the By-laws. It was recently discovered that the amendments from September of 2011 inadvertently created some inconsistencies in the By-laws. Specifically, those amendments provided that the chairs of the Elders, Diaconate, and Oversight are not automatically members of the Board. Rather, those ministry teams are permitted to select their own representative. The problem, however, was that other areas of the By-laws said otherwise. The Board corrected these inconsistencies by simply removing the later language. The September amendments stating who represents the Elders, Diaconate, and Oversight remain in force.

There was additional discussion about the Verizon cell tower negotiations that are ongoing. Jason Kixmiller told us of a conversation he had with an electrician about lightning issues with cell towers. Jason told us that the level of grounding of such towers is usually much greater than any requirements. Should lightning strike, it will more

likely hit the tower instead of nearby structures. The Board, however, decided that the electrical grounding for SCC should be inspected just to be safe.

Rev. Doug Lofton informed the Board that the church has received bids for a new phone system. The present system is outdated and there is no possibility of repair should it fail. A new internet provider has also been secured due to the upcoming lapse of a very beneficial plan that we've had for a few years. It's hoped to have systems that will cover phone, internet, and limited television service for not much more per month than our present phone system costs.

Heidi Roll, who represents Oversight on the Board, asked an insightful question to us toward the end of our meeting. She wondered if there could be some training session for new Board members to help them learn about pending matters on the Board and to increase their knowledge on the structure of the church. The rest of the Board agreed that would be an excellent idea. Jim Ream suggested having new members attend the June meeting so that they could observe a typical Board meeting and ask questions at that time.

The Board plans to meet at an earlier time in February. The Momentum Team, which is seeking ways to strengthen SCC's environment and mindset for ministry, will be engaging the Board in conversation. It should be an invigorating and interesting conversation.

We ask that you continue to keep the SCC leadership and congregation in your prayers. As Thomas Merton prayed, we do not see the road ahead of us and we cannot be certain where it will end. But, we do seek to please God and we know that whatever comes, God walks with us. We are surely blessed!

~The Board



JYF is our youth group for 3rd-5th grade youth. The acronym stands for Junior Youth Fellowship

Sponsors:
Jason Kixmiller
Eric Eads

Chi Rho is our youth group for 6th-8th grade youth. The name comes from two Greek letters that are the first two letters of "Christ."

Sponsors:
Scott & Angie Opsahl
Anne & Matt Timmons

CYF is our youth group for 9th-12th grade youth. The acronym stands for Christian Youth Fellowship.

Sponsors:
Jim & Nina Eads
Dave & Brenda Rohl

Congratulations to all of the youth who were involved in the service last week. You all did a great job! Thanks for all of the hard work you put in to it all. Your help serving and cleaning up after the chili luncheon was also appreciated! This was definitely a job well done!



Attending Youth Assembly? Cost to you is \$50! Sign-up with Shannon by March 8th!



Don't forget that this Sunday we are making the subs we sold the last three weeks. Be at church at 8am to help make the sandwiches. We will be handing them out after the services!

Chi Rho!

It's lock-in time! Are you ready for some games, food, movies, worship, laughter, snacks, and more? The cost is \$5. Get your permission slip from Shannon. It's a perfect time to invite friend (they'll need a permission slip, too.)



March Madness is coming to SCC! Are you ready?

FEBRUARY

5th All youth make Super Bowl subs, 8:00 a.m.

17th-18th Chi Rho Lock-in

19th JYF and CYF meet

MARCH

10th Swim Banquet Fundraiser, time TBA

11th and 18th March Madness Basketball Tourney

APRIL

15th JYF, Chi Rho, and CYF meeting 5:30-7pm (Paper Cranes)

20th-22nd Chi Rho and CYF Youth Assembly

22nd JYF 5:30-7pm (Kickball Games?)

27-8th 30 hr Famine

New & Updated Directories Available

Complete directories in a 3-ring binder and updates for the current directory will be available in the Gathering Space on Sunday, February 5th.

A donation of \$5 for complete directories and \$2 for the updates will be appreciated.

Greeters for February

9:00 AM: Jason Kixmiller
10:30 AM: Carla Windisch

Diaconate for February

Prep: Helen Hicks
9:00 AM Servers: Bill & Bea Baron
10:30 AM Captains: Liz Leslie and Jan Amonette

Babette Montgomery
Henry Johnson
Betty Sisco
Richard Sanders
Mark and Becky Stefenelli
Lyle Headington
Melanie Kelly
Paula Ream
Cody Jones
Tony Yafanaro
Harold Kinney
John & Carol Winkler
Allan Roberts

Junior Deacons

Matthew Liedel
Gabe Opsahl
Lauren Estes
Riley Gillespie

Prayer Concerns

Hospitalized: Faye Sells

Recently Released: Jack Bussell

Our sympathy to Bob and Bev Heid on the passing of Bob's cousin, Ed Heid on January 11th; and to the Hicks and Stout families on the passing of Sara Stout on January 30th; and to David & Suzanne McCarty on the passing of David's mother, Virginia McCarty on February 1st; Sue Warner, sister of Virginia Bond passed away on January 30th; Robin Howell's mother passed away January 28th.



Miss Lisa Simmons, daughter of Craig and Chris Simmons, and Mr. Avery Thatcher were married in Bloomington Indiana on New Years Eve, December 31, 2011. The couple reside at 612 E University St. Bloomington, IN 47408.

Avery is the Principal Broker at the Jeanne Walters Real Estate

Agency in Bloomington and Lisa is a Project Associate for CEEP (The Center for Evaluation and Education Policy) at Indiana University.)

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our SCC family that supported us at the passing of Floyd Harrison Fields. Your calls, visits, flowers and food meant so much to us.

A special appreciation to Doug for the beautiful funeral service; to Terri who went above and beyond for our entire family; and to all the faithful helpers that prepared the delicious luncheon after the service. You all helped ease us through a most difficult time.

Love is the greatest gift of all, and we thank you for all you have shown us.

~ The family of Floyd Harrison Fields

Dear Southport,

Thank you for all of the caring support you have expressed to me and my family during the passing of both of my parents, Frank and Maxine Henson.

Your calls, cards and visits have meant so much to our family.

~ Harv and Sally Warner

February Birthdays

1 Phyllis Ratcliffe	12 Angie Opsahl	22 Berdyne Evans
2 Rosina Osborne	12 Cody Jones	22 JoAnn Naue
2 Diane Headington	13 Randy Bradley	22 Shannon Sedgwick
2 Skyelar Hicks	14 Charles Shearin	23 Virginia Hofmann
4 Alice Stump	14 Jan Amonette	23 Bob Shaw
5 Del Willoughby	16 Brenda Gottlieb	23 Matthew Armstrong
6 Tom Hickman	17 Dorothy Thompson	24 Jason Trigg
6 John Richardson	18 Leonard Ray	24 Cooper Trigg
7 Krista Johnson	18 Len Rothenbuhler	25 Casey Rohl
7 Matthew Liedel	18 Elaine Wells	26 Cerelle McMullen
8 Betty McQuillen	20 Marta Ream	27 Russell Peterson-
9 Margaret Hagan	20 Margaret Fields	Womack
10 Luanne Rockwell	20 Diane Sanders	28 Heather Dickerson
11 Brendan Moriarty	20 Sue Livingston	28 Melody Fultz
12 Nina Eads	20 Chris Fultz	28 Zachary Hicks

Worship Attendance

January 15

9:00 AM	45
10:30 AM	184
Children's Worship	9
Nursery	4
Total	242

January 22

9:00 AM	53
10:30 AM	148
Children's Worship	16
Nursery	8
Total	225

January 29

10:00 AM	292
Nursery	4
Total	296

Calendar

Sunday, February 5

9:00 AM Early Worship & Classes
10:30 AM Late Worship and Classes
2:00 PM Chin Worship

Tuesday, February 7

10:30 AM FTF Board Meeting
11:15 AM FTF

Wednesday, February 8

12:00 PM PTREA
6:00 PM Praise Team
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 9

6:00 PM Oversight Team

Friday, February 10

7:00 PM Film Festival

Saturday, February 11

9:00 AM Oversight Training Program
10:00 AM Chin Prayer Meeting

Sunday, February 12

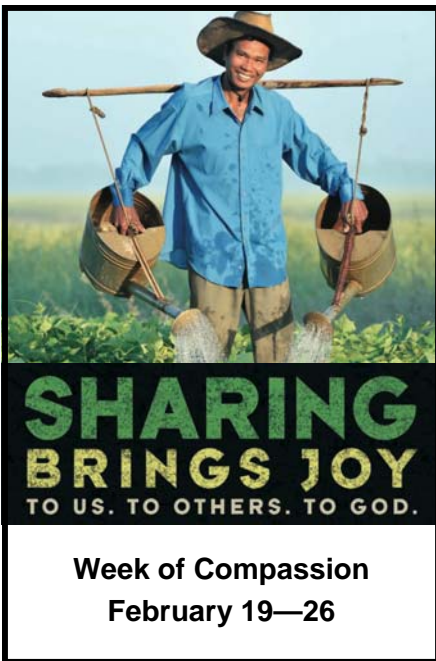
9:00 AM Early Worship & Classes
10:30 AM Late Worship and Classes
2:00 PM Chin Worship
4:00 PM Young Children's Choir
4:45 PM Older Children's Choir
5:30 PM Children's Recorders

**SOUTHPORT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
(Disciples of Christ)

201 E. Epler Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46227

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Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. For 68 years, Week of Compassion has been making a difference by funding relief and development all over the world.

Your gift ensures that people in need will get what they need, and moves us one step closer to making sure everyone gets what is rightfully theirs, just as God created the world to be.

Ways YOU can participate:

- ✓ Offering boxes will be distributed to the children during Sunday School on February 12th along with a "Sharing Calendar". Each day suggests a donation of coins or bills. The boxes and calendars will also be made available to adults and youth.
- ✓ If you would like to sponsor a child to help them fill their offering box, contact Shannon Sedgwick.
- ✓ Offering envelopes will be available on February 19 and 26th.

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