



THE HARBINGER

South Side Christian Church



April 2026

Issue 4

Kevin's Korner

Grace saves; Grace sanctifies.

I know the good I should be doing, but find myself doing what I know is wrong (Romans 7:15 in my own wording). I'm sure we can all attest to that daily struggle in our lives. We pray for faithfulness, but struggle to live out that prayer. In those moments, I shake my head and repeat Jesus' words, "the Spirit is willing but the flesh is weak (Matthew 26:41)."

It's frustrating and discouraging. I'm saved and I know better and thus, I should be doing better. I find that's the response I struggle with when faced with my failures, and my guess is, you might feel the same way. In these moments we need a reminder of how God sees those shortcomings. What we see as failures, God sees as the need for redemption; the need for Jesus. This was the reason Jesus came into the world as the Lamb of God. "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). The lamb of God would point back to the Passover lamb. This is not an excuse to continue sinning, but a hope that can spring eternal in our hearts.

The Passover lamb was the sacrificial lamb each year to remember the night God spared the Israelites from His judgment over Egypt. On that first Passover evening God instructed each family to take a lamb, without defect (Exodus 12:5), kill it, and spread its blood over the doorposts of their dwelling (Exodus 12:7). The blood spared them from the judgment of God. "For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments- I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt." (Exodus 12:12-13). When John the Baptist pointed to Jesus as "the lamb of God" he was declaring the hope of all mankind. The hope we have of being saved from God's coming wrathful judgment. It's a hope for all; it's a hope for you and I.

This is God's grace and mercy poured out into us by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. It's a sign of God's love that he sees us in our sin not as failures to be condemned, but rather as people needing His redemption. The blood of Jesus covers us just as the blood of the lamb covered the door posts. We are saved rather than judged. Does this mean we can go on sinning? Should I just accept that I will fail, be thankful for God's grace, and stop trying? Not at all (Romans 6:1)! The grace of God teaches us to say no to ungodliness (Titus 2:12). It gives us the opportunity to learn from our mistakes while having our sins washed away. Grace should remind us not to dwell on guilt for our sins but it should also motivate us to keep trying. It should motivate us to keep working on cleaning up those bad thoughts, words, and actions with God's power. So, how should I approach each evening with my list of "failures?" Take time to confess them before God, thank Him for the grace given, and throw the list away. Tomorrow begins with a clean slate.

Kevin W. Stolen

From The Elders:

Dear South Side,

We hope everyone has adjusted to the time change and made up for the lost hour of sleep!! With the Daffodils, Crocus, and tulips blooming, it won't be long before all of those Spring allergies make many of us a sneezing mess and miserable. But we do celebrate the warmer weather and the possibilities of being able to hang up those heavy coats for another season.

The Youth have recovered from the Spaghetti Dinner that was held on March 8. They raised a total of \$3085.00 to pay for the Summer trip to Move, a week-long Christian Youth Conference held in Bowling Green, Ohio. Last year's event was very successful for the group and we are praying that this year's event is even more of a spectacular event!! They will be leaving on Sunday, June, 21, 2026, and returning on Saturday, June 27. This summer is going to be a busy time for at least the five students who will be High school seniors come August. The other Youth from South Side will also be busy, but have a few years before they are counting down those days until graduation.

Easter is here!! Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to attend Sunday services where we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. If they cannot make it on Sunday, there is always the Good Friday service on Friday, April 3, at 6:00 PM, or the Saturday, April 4, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, from 9:00—10:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

May 17, 2026, is the date for South Side's annual All-Church Memorial service. At this service we will honor the passing of any members, former members, and/or immediate family of members since May of 2025. If you have lost a loved one this past year whom you would like to have honored, please contact Kathy Hayden (219-781-0891) or Jeff Hayden (219 730-2635) with the information, or you can email the information to them at wjhayden216@comcast.net. We thank the Kara Group for making the solitary white rose vases to memorialize those who have passed.

Please be in prayer for the national, state, and local governmental leaders as the primary elections bring out some of the worst in all of the campaigning. Please be in prayer for the leaders of South Side as they make decisions about how best to present the Gospel to the NWI region. Also, please pray for your fellow South Side worshippers as we all struggle to be the best we can be and avoid the temptations that so easily distract us.

Jeff, Dan, and Orlando



Kidz and Youth

Thank you so much for supporting our Spaghetti Dinner and for the generous candy donations for our upcoming Easter Bunny Breakfast! We really appreciate it and feel so blessed to be part of such a caring and supportive community.

We'd also love your prayers for our children and youth, that they keep growing in their faith, build strong friendships, and truly feel at home here at church. Please keep our youth/kids ministry volunteers in your prayers too, that they stay encouraged and strengthened as they encourage our kids.

In April, our youth will be learning about who Jesus is, exploring what it means for Him to be the Bread of Life, the Way, the Truth and the Life, the True Vine, and the King of the Jews, and how those truths shape their identity, faith, and daily lives. Our kids' class will be going through The Me I Cannot See study, using lessons like Lazarus and the Rich Man, Jesus preparing a place, seeking God's kingdom, and the Sheep and the Goats to help them understand their hearts, the choices they make, and how to live in a way that honors God.



Easter Bunny BREAKFAST

South Side Christian Church

1000 Broadmoor Ave
Munster, IN 46321

Saturday, April 4


9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Hop on over for a morning full of smiles and Easter fun!

- Tasty continental breakfast
- Lots of FUN!
- Egg Hunt kicks off at 10:00 AM!

Bring your family, invite your friends,
and celebrate the joy of

Easter with us!


**South Side
CHRISTIAN**




South Side
CHRISTIAN

SPRING

RUMMAGE SALE

CRAFT & BAKE SALE

Join us for **great finds** and delicious
homemade treats:

Friday, April 24 & Saturday, April 25

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

1000 Broadmoor Ave
Munster, IN 46321



Special pricing on Saturday for rummage sale items!



Easter Weekend

Celebrate the hope and victory of Easter with us.

Good Friday Service • April 3 • 6:00 PM

Easter Sunday Service • April 5 • 10:30 AM

1000 Broadmoor Ave
Munster, IN 46321



Senior Saints — News for You!

We had a wonderful Saint Patrick's Day celebration at our last meeting in March. We had 70 in attendance, which was a record. Many were friends and family of John Trimmel, which was so nice. He gave a great program. He sang Irish songs and others and, of course, he told many funny stories and jokes. He was great and we enjoyed him so much.

Lunch was outstanding! Everyone raved about the tasty corned beef. Thank you to Debbie Burrell, Susan Gensel and Diana Gilbert for making our meal so special. Desserts were yummy too! If you brought something for our luncheon, thank you, it is always appreciated.

On April 14th come and visit the "South Side Diner." Terry Grempp will play his guitar and sing songs from the 50's and 60's. He told me he takes requests, so think of a song you would like to hear. I'm looking forward to his program, it should be great. Along with the "Diner" theme, Jimboo's will make a "Blue Plate" special lunch for us. We know that will be tasty. Since pie is a Diner dessert, bring one to share if you'd like. Plan on having a "swinging" time on April 14th at noon. See you then.

Donna Abercrombie

*Forever
in our
Hearts*



Mark your calendars for May 17, 2026.

This will be South Side's annual All-Church Memorial service.

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WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

South Side Christian Church

MONDAY

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM

*Grow in faith, build brotherhood,
and stand strong in God's Word.*

*Connect, encourage, and pray
together every week.*

For more information:
Contact Jason Newhuis at
(708) 825-3345

WEDNESDAY

SISTERS IN CHRIST – LADIES BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM

Prayer Requests: 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

*Come grow in faith, share in fellowship,
and lift one another up in prayer.*

Contact Carol Joza at 708-955-1257

KEVIN'S BIBLE STUDY

Afternoon Session: 1:00 PM

Evening Session: 6:30 PM

Same lesson at both sessions.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

at South Side Christian Church

9:00 AM

DISCIPLE-MAKERS CLASS

Studying the life and
ministry of Jesus, from
a chronological perspective.

You are welcome to join us
each Sunday.

Contact: Kevin
Groben –
(219) 276-0538

CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP CLASS

Discussion-oriented class,
welcoming people of all ages.
We study from the Christian
Standard lesson.

Contact: Jeff Hayden
(219) 730-2635



Down Under Ministry

SSCC is partnering with Love INC to provide clothing essentials to families in our community throughout the year. Help us bless those in need!

We are currently collecting underwear in girls' sizes 2T–3T, 6, and 10–12; women's sizes S–XL; boys' sizes 2–6; teens' sizes S–L; as well as socks.

Please drop your donations in the bin outside the office. Thank you for your generosity and for making a difference!



The Salvation Army

We are collecting nonperishable food items for the Salvation Army Food Bank to support individuals and families in need in our community.

Your donations truly make a difference. Please consider bringing non expired items and placing them in the bin located just outside the office door. Thank you for your kindness, generosity, and continued support in helping others.

SAVE THE DATE



Our friends at The Welcome Network are hosting their Welcome Brunch 2026 on May 2 in Merrillville, IN. This annual fundraising event, centered on the theme *"Faithful Through the Storm,"* invites us to pause and reflect on how God has remained faithful to the mission of welcoming the stranger, even in difficult times.

To learn more and find registration details, visit
www.thewelcomenet.org.

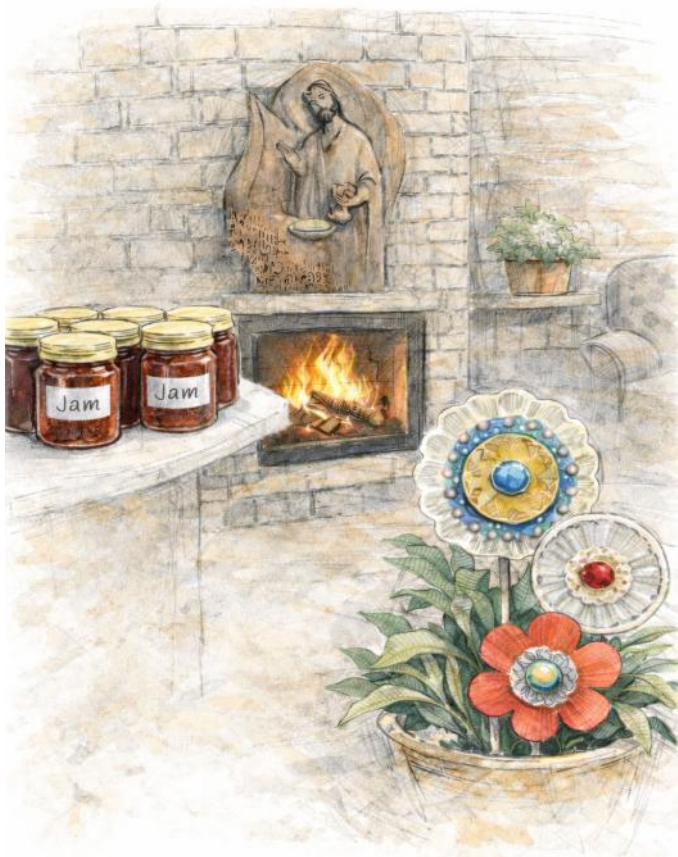
Kara Ladies Group

Join us on Thursday, April 2 at noon. Bring your lunch and enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship as we gather together. We will finalize setup for the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, continue planning the Rummage Sale, and pack school supplies for Operation Christmas Child.

Fresh homemade jam is available in the Church Fireplace Room to support our ministries. Treat yourself to a jar or two, and do not miss the beautiful garden art dish flowers and decorated rocks. They are perfect for welcoming spring.

This month, for our shoebox ministry, consider stopping by Five Below for great one dollar items. They have a wonderful selection. For the rummage sale, we are collecting 100 count gallon twist tie bags for Mother's Day teacup gifts, which will include a cup, saucer, tea, and chocolate. We are also collecting paper grocery bags. Thank you so much for your generosity.

There is always plenty of laughter, great ideas, and meaningful conversation. We would love to see you there. New faces are always welcome.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4-Apr	Pamela Schulp
5-Apr	Carol Joza
11-Apr	Miles Moore
15-Apr	Tommy Childers
17-Apr	Kevin Bates
29-Apr	Susan Gensel

Coffee Fellowship

Sunday, April 5th

10:00 AM to 10:25 AM

The Kara Ladies will be serving coffee along with some treats.

Join us for a warm time of fellowship before the morning service.



Ladies Dart Ball @ South Side!

Join us for fun, friendly competition and great fellowship!
No experience needed. Snacks provided!

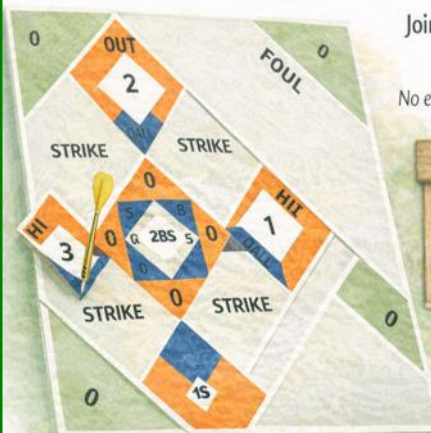
DATES:

• April 6 & 13*

(April 13 in the Fireside Room)

Time: 6 - 9 PM

Where: South Side Christian Church
1000 Broadmoor Ave, Munster, IN 46321



April

New Testament

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| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-17 |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:9-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:18-31 |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:21-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:35-45 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:13-17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:18-28 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-11 |
| 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:12-20 |
| 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:20-35 | <input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-16 |
| 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 7:17-40 |
| 11. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:21-41 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 |
| 12. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:1-12 |
| 13. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:21-43 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:13-27 |
| 14. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-13 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10:1-13 |
| 15. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:14-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10:14-33 |
| 16. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-16 |
| 17. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:45-56 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11:17-34 |
| 18. <input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-23 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-13 |
| 19. <input type="checkbox"/> 7:24-37 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:14-31 |
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| 21. <input type="checkbox"/> 8:14-21 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14:1-25 |
| 22. <input type="checkbox"/> 8:22-30 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14:26-40 |
| 23. <input type="checkbox"/> 8:31-38 | <input type="checkbox"/> 15:1-28 |
| 24. <input type="checkbox"/> 9:1-13 | <input type="checkbox"/> 15:29-58 |
| 25. <input type="checkbox"/> 9:14-32 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 |

Old Testament

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| ▶ PSALMS | ▶ JOSHUA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 72 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 73 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 74 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-7 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 79 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20-21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 80 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22-23 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 82 | ▶ JUDGES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 83 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 93 | ▶ RUTH |
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