

THE HARBINGER

South Side Christian Church

August 2025

Issue 8

Kevin's Korner

Have you ever been riding along in the car and an uplifting song is playing on the radio? It really lifts your spirits, doesn't it? Maybe that's the thought behind Paul's admonishment to be, "...making melody to the Lord with your heart," (Ephesians 5:19). Maybe, God's call to "make a melody" is His desire for us to experience joy deep down within our hearts? That's easy to do on good days, but what about the bad ones? Athletes will praise the Lord when scoring the winning touchdown, but where is the praise when facing a debilitating loss? Am I any different? Is my heart filled with praise when the sun is shining, but empty of joy when the storm clouds of life are looming? Praise and worship should be a part of every day, no matter the circumstances. Yet, in my life that's not always true. There are days when my eyes are swimming in tears or when my teeth are grinding in rage, and praising the Lord is far from my heart. On those days, I am grateful to the hymn writers and artists who have provided a melody of praise which lifts me up and changes my attitude. They can drain the rage right out of my heart and fill it with the light and love of the Lord. Some days, I just need help praising the Lord!

God has blessed us with faithful hymn writers. Their words are meant to lift us up and put our focus on Jesus. They are an expression of love for God while being rich in theology; theology sung to aid us in worshipping Jesus in "spirit and truth" (John 4:23). Through their words we can sing of the magnificence of Jesus, praising Him for who He is and what He has done. Have you ever found yourself driving in your car while singing a song on the radio praising the Lord? Have you ever been cheered up or experienced a change of attitude, for the better, by a praise song playing on the radio? Hymns engage our emotions while instructing us on the truths of the Lord.

In Colossians 1:15-20, Paul bursts into song as he writes about the supremacy of Jesus. These five verses are written in poetic form and many scholars believe it is a known hymn sung in the church in Paul's day. This hymn is an exalted song praising the deity of Christ, and His creative and redemptive work. It's a reminder we don't worship a godly man who points us to God, but rather God Himself who is both the eternal (1:15) creator (1:16) and sustainer of all creation (1:17). And this same Almighty God has reconciled to Himself all things (1:20) through the "blood of His cross" (1:20). It's a song celebrating Jesus' work of reconciling you and me to Himself because of His love for us.

We sing of His power and our redemption (1:22). The joy of our salvation should bring a sweet melody to our hearts and a song to our lips. It's often easy to be distracted by our troubles or to take the joy of our salvation for granted, but each day we should take time to praise our exalted risen Lord, the creator of all creation, because of who He is and what He has done. Praise is the proper response to Jesus.

Kevin W. Stohm

From The Elders:

Dear South Siders,

Can you believe it is August and that the kids will be going back to school in just a few short weeks? I don't know about you, but I am sure glad that I went to school when the starting date was after Labor Day!! While we are speaking of kids, please pray for our students and the others, as they return to school and as they return to the routine of a student's life.

The Solomon Foundation V. P. of Construction, Tom Vick came to visit and to take a look at the capital projects we have on our list. Everyone is aware of the need for new outside doors on the building, and that the entryway by the Fellowship Hall had to be closed from December 1, 2024 through April 1, 2025 due to the thick ice that blocks the sidewalk. In addition to the doors, our parking lot is not weathering well and needs to have the cracks sealed and the entire lot sealed and restriped; our chimney is in need of tuck-pointing, and several other parts of our 50-plus year old building need to be repaired or replaced. The General Board has outlined the major tasks and prioritized the list. Tom has also put the elders in touch with a local contractor who met with Kevin Groben, Dan Chapman, and Jeff Hayden to discuss the possible solutions to our door and sidewalk/ice issue. The estimated cost for replacement of the doors was \$150,000.00 and an estimated \$150,000.00 for the replacement and solution to the sidewalk/ice issue. The contractor is putting together an estimate on replacing the doors and the sidewalk with a eye on cost saving measures and creative repairs. We, and we are asking for everyone's help, are praying for solutions that will allow South Side to continue serving the communities of Northwest Indiana and Northeast Illinois.

It is time to begin thinking about the election of church leadership, with the Congregational meeting scheduled for September 28, 2025. Please prayerfully consider those members who would make good deacons, trustees, or elders.

Remember, it is 119 days until Thanksgiving, and it is 147 days until Christmas, so you have lots of time to shop for a turkey and Christmas gifts; especially since stores already have Halloween candy out for sale!!

Jeff, Dan, and Orlando



South Side Christian Church Calendar for Leadership Nominations and Selection

August 17, 2025	Nomination forms will be made available to the congregation to nominate any SSCC immersion baptized member of the congregation for an office of Deacon, Elder, or Trustee. Nomination forms may be submitted to any member of the Nominating Committee.
August 24, 2025	Last day (12:00 PM, noon) for Nomination forms to be submitted to the Nominating Committee.
August 31, 2025	Labor Day Weekend
September 7, 2025	Elders receive the list of member candidates from the Nominating Committee. Elders vet candidates and inform nominees of the office for which they have been nominated.
September 14, 2025 September 17, 2025	Deacon Class - nominated Deacons must attend this class, or be removed from the nominated list. Candidates will review SSCC's Belief Statements, verify their support of these beliefs, and the role of Deacons in the church. Nominated deacons must inform the Elders of their intent to accept the office nomination, or decline the nomination.
September 21, 2025	Final candidate list is published to the congregation.
September 23, 2025	Any Scriptural objection to any nominated candidate must be submitted to the Elders by 5:00 PM.
September 28, 2025	Congregational Meeting following Worship Services – nominated officer candidates are either affirmed or not affirmed by the congregation members present at the meeting and casting an “yea” or a “nay” ballot for each candidate.
October 21, 2025 All Deacons, Elders, and Trustees are expected to be in attendance at these meetings.	5:30 PM – Elder Meeting- election of officers 6:00 PM – Deacon Meeting- election of officers 7:00 PM – General Board Meeting- election of officers

Kidz and Youth

Youth group will resume on Sunday August 17th from 5:30-7 PM. Contact John for location details. Also, please plan to attend a quick parent meeting right after service in the conference room on Sunday August 3rd. We will hand out the fall calendar and talk about where things are headed this fall. Our theme for this year will be spiritual growth, so everything we will be doing will be in service of that greater goal. Please be praying for a great fall and year of youth group!

Our elementary-age class will be going through the book of Exodus to learn about God's story of redemption for Israel. Please pray that God would reveal himself to us as we study the book of Exodus!

National Night Out Against Crime will be taking place on Tuesday August 5th from 5-8:30 PM at the Munster Pool and parking lot. South Side will have a booth, so if you would like to help/stop by, please let us know and we will get you the location information!

Save the date for this year's Harvest Carnival on Saturday October 25th from 3-5 PM! Please consider giving your time, prayers, and/or candy donations to help support this wonderful opportunity to outreach to our community!

John Helton



Operation Christmas Child

We're thrilled to keep the Shoebox Project going year-round and invite you to help us share joy! Join us in filling shoeboxes with small toys, hygiene items, and fun surprises (please, no liquids). If you have gently used shoeboxes at home, please bring them in so we can pack even more gifts.

We are currently collecting deflated soccer balls (size 4 or 5) along with small pumps to include in shoeboxes for children who enjoy sports. These simple gifts bring great joy and help encourage play and connection.

We're also collecting fishing accessories, such as lures, bobbers, and similar items to create fishing kits for boys ages 10 to 14. It's a meaningful way to give older children both fun and useful gifts. Please place fishing accessories in the marked boxes on the table in the Fireplace Room.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping make a difference in the lives of children around the world!



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us for Coffee Fellowship on the first Sunday of each month. Kara ladies will be providing coffee and treats from 10:00 to 10:25 AM on **Sunday, August 3.**

We invite you to stop by and enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship!



30th Annual

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025
5:00pm to 8:30pm
Munster Community Pool

8837 Calumet Avenue • Munster, Indiana

★ NATIONAL NIGHT OUT COMMUNITY PARADE begins at 4:30pm ★

(Runs South on Columbia Avenue in front of Wilbur Wright Middle School and Munster High School)

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| • FREE SWIMMING FOR RESIDENTS* | • SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES |
| • KIDS GAMES & PRIZES | • PHOTOS WITH BLUEY, BINGO, |
| • DOOR PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS | CHASE, MARSHAL, MARIO, & LUIGI |
| • EMERGENCY VEHICLE DISPLAYS | • BARREL CAR TRAIN RIDES |
| • POLICE K-9 DEMONSTRATIONS | • FOOD VENDORS |
| • POLICE HELICOPTER LANDING | • CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION |
| • THE JOHN MEASNER MAGIC SHOW | • MEET NAT THE KNIGHT AND |
| • OVER 140 BOOTH PARTICIPANTS | MCGRUFF THE CRIME DOG |
| • MUSICAL PERFORMANCES | • MEET AREA VETERANS |
| • CITIZENSHIP AWARD PRESENTATIONS | • FREE GLOW NECKLACES FOR KIDS |
| • MEET AREA FIRST RESPONDERS | • NEXT GENERATION DJ SERVICE |

*Swimming is free for MUNSTER RESIDENTS ONLY with state or school ID.
Non-residents must pay to enter the pool.

A FIREWORKS SHOW will also be provided that evening

sponsored by

**KRAZY KAPLANS
FIREWORKS**

For more information, please contact the Munster Police Department's Community Policing Unit at (219) 836-6639



The Salvation Army

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

Your donations truly make a difference. Please place your contributions in the bin located just outside the office door.

Every item, big or small, helps!

Thank you for your continued kindness and generosity.



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 new men's and women's underwear (large and XL), boys' underwear (size XL), girls' underwear (especially size 7), boys' undershirts, and training bras in any size. Please drop your donations in the bin outside the office.

Thank you for your generosity and for making a difference!

Disciple-Makers Class - Sunday School Class

We are studying the life and ministry of Jesus from a chronological perspective. You are welcomed to join us each Sunday.

Kevin Groben (219) 276-0538

The Christian Friendship Sunday School Class

We would love to have you join us on any Sunday morning. We are discussion oriented, and welcome people of all ages.

We study from the Christian Standard lesson.

Jeff Hayden (219) 730-2635

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study meets on Monday's at 6:30PM. Contact Jason Newhuis at (708) 825-3345 for information. We are taking a break for the summer and will be back on August 25th.

Wednesday Sister in Christ Bible Study

Begins at 10 am, we take prayer requests from 11:30 to 12:00. Throughout the week we support one another with calls, texting, and prayers. Contact Carol Joza at (708) 955-1257 for information.

We are taking a break for the summer and will resume on August 6th.

Wednesday Kevin's Bible Study

Afternoon Session 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Evening Session 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Same lesson both session.

We are taking a break for the summer and will be back on Sep. 3rd.

Senior Saints—News for You!

Hope you are having a relaxing summer. We aren't meeting in August but I'll "see you in September" on the 9th at noon.

Mark Twain will visit us and tell his story. So mark your calendar and I'll see you soon. Be safe, take care.

Donna Abercrombie

Kara Ladies Group

Join us on Thursday, August 7 at noon in the church atrium for a time of fellowship and planning. Bring your lunch and be part of the conversation as we organize two meaningful projects: the October Rummage and Craft Sale and Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect, share ideas, and work together in support of our mission efforts.

Room #4 is now open to receive donations for the rummage sale. Please note: no clothes or books, we've already received more books than we can display. If you'd like to donate items for the rummage sale, please contact the church office. We could also use empty boxes to help pack the books we've already collected. Don't miss the Homemade Jam and Crafts available in the Church Fireplace Room, thank you for supporting our mission projects!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9-Aug	Miguel Tovar (JR)
9-Aug	Mary Lynn Gricus
14-Aug	Nancy Bales
16-Aug	Brianna Irvine
19-Aug	Sharon Atkinson
20-Aug	Tim Tucker
20-Aug	Patricia Zaborowski
20-Aug	David Estes
20-Aug	Julie Gephart
23-Aug	Art Haag
26-Aug	Edward Manly
28-Aug	Carla Greenya
31-Aug	Jennifer Garcia

August

New Testament

► LUKE

1. ☐ 13:1-9
2. ☐ 13:10-21
3. ☐ 13:22-35
4. ☐ 14:1-14
5. ☐ 14:15-24
6. ☐ 14:25-35
7. ☐ 15:1-10
8. ☐ 15:11-32
9. ☐ 16:1-9
10. ☐ 16:10-18
11. ☐ 16:19-31
12. ☐ 17:1-10
13. ☐ 17:11-19
14. ☐ 17:20-37
15. ☐ 18:1-8
16. ☐ 18:9-17
17. ☐ 18:18-30
18. ☐ 18:31-43
19. ☐ 19:1-10
20. ☐ 19:11-27
21. ☐ 19:28-38
22. ☐ 19:39-48
23. ☐ 20:1-8
24. ☐ 20:9-19
25. ☐ 20:20-26

► 1 TIMOTHY

- ☐ 1:1-11
- ☐ 1:12-20
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3:1-10
- ☐ 3:11-16
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5:1-15
- ☐ 5:16-25

- ☐ 6:1-10

- ☐ 6:11-21

► 2 TIMOTHY

- ☐ 1:1-7
- ☐ 1:8-18
- ☐ 2:1-13
- ☐ 2:14-26
- ☐ 3:1-9
- ☐ 3:10-17
- ☐ 4

► TITUS

- ☐ 1:1-9
- ☐ 1:10-16

- ☐ 2:1-10

- ☐ 2:11-15

- ☐ 3:1-8

- ☐ 3:9-15

► PHILEMON

- ☐ 1-11
- ☐ 12-25

Old Testament

► PROVERBS

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 8

- ☐ 9

- ☐ 10:1-16

- ☐ 10:17-32

- ☐ 11:1-15

- ☐ 11:16-31

- ☐ 12:1-14

- ☐ 12:15-28

- ☐ 13:1-12

- ☐ 13:13-25

- ☐ 14:1-18

- ☐ 14:19-35

- ☐ 15:1-17

- ☐ 15:18-33

- ☐ 16:1-16

- ☐ 16:17-33

- ☐ 17:1-14

- ☐ 17:15-28

► EZRA

- ☐ 1-2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4-5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 8
- ☐ 9
- ☐ 10

► NEH.

- ☐ 1-2
- ☐ 3

- ☐ 4-5

- ☐ 6

- ☐ 7

- ☐ 8

- ☐ 9

- ☐ 10

- ☐ 11

- ☐ 12

- ☐ 13

► ESTHER

- ☐ 1

- ☐ 2

- ☐ 3-4

- ☐ 5-6

- ☐ 7-8

- ☐ 9-10

