



THE HARBINGER

South Side Christian Church



July 2026

Issue 7

Kevin's Korner

“Give me liberty or give me death!” These words uttered by Patrick Henry were not only the battle cry of the American Revolution, but also a description of the American spirit. Liberty is precious to so many of us, but it's not just an American value, it's also a biblical one. God has given us liberty from sin through Christ. “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.” (Ephesians 1:7-8a)

The word redemption means liberty. The liberty he speaks of is from the power of sin. God describes our sin situation as being chained/enslaved to sin, but then liberated from it through the blood of Christ. His use of the present tense “we have”, shows that liberty is a present reality not just a future hope. It comes not from anything we have done, but what Christ has done for us through His blood.

You might ask, “If I am freed from the power of sin in my life, why do I still give in to it?” Or, “If I am freed from sin why would I still struggle with it?” The truth is that when we are saved, we are changed, but we may not feel any different. Therefore, mentally we still see ourselves as sinners, still enslaved to our sinful habits. Furthermore, we often believe that we will not change until we are with God. However, what if there was a way to gain power over individual sins? If God's word is true, and I believe it to be true, then God has set a pattern on how to live out our freedom from sin here on earth.

First, we should identify one sin to tackle at a time. Attempting to tackle several sins at once will lead to a divided front, which is difficult to overcome. Second, we need to identify the temptations which will lead us to that sin. When we combat the temptation, we keep clear of the sin. Third, we need to find and memorize scripture which pertain to that sin. Most sins begin in the mind. They start out as thoughts and desires and by learning to “take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:5) we bring the battle to the mind. Attack the sin at its weakest moment. Stopping that thought when it first enters, instead of replaying it in our mind, gives us the strength to end it. Fourth, mark on your calendar 100 days from your starting point. It takes 100 days to start a habit, and make it your prayer and focus each day to fight that specific sin at its point of temptation. You will find over the 100 days a habit is formed where your mind begins to engage the temptation and fight it off as it comes.

The result is the sin losing its mastery over you. This does not mean you will not continue to struggle with it but you will learn to master it rather than it mastering you. In those moments let us never forget God's grace is there to cover us. We will never be sinless while on earth but we can learn to sin less.

God is with you through this entire process enabling you with His wealth of grace to fight the good fight and win the race. He has promised His grace throughout this entire process. So, what sin do you need to work on? Work on it with God's grace and power.

Kevin W. Stolen

From The Elders:

Dear South Siders:

As we prepare to celebrate the 250th July 4th Day, or the semiquincentennial of the United States of America, let us carry with us the light of Christ — a light that shines brighter than any darkness, a light that calls us to love God, love our neighbor, and serve with humility. We give thanks for the blessings of freedom — not only the freedom we enjoy as citizens of this nation, but the greater freedom we have in Christ, who has set us free from sin and death. May we remember that true liberty is not the license to do as we please, but the calling to do what is right. Let us be people who stand for truth, work for justice, and walk humbly with our God. As we go forth, may the Lord bless you and keep you. May He guide your steps in righteousness. May His peace guard your hearts and minds. And may His Spirit empower you to be a light in your community, a blessing to your nation, and a faithful witness to the Kingdom that will never end.

Summertime is flying by, as we are already in July. That means that August will soon be here and South Side will be looking for nominations for individuals to serve on the leadership teams, along with the officers who will continue to serve. Please keep in mind that these nominees should be willing to serve and, of course. A member of South Side. The calendar of Leadership Nomination and Selection is also included in this newsletter.

In case you may have noticed, the outside of the church building and the landscaping have developed a “weedy” appearance and could use a little bit of a manicure. While this week of 90+° F make it difficult to be outside doing any work on the lawn and flower beds, this is still an area of service available to everyone in the church. Please consider helping to clean-up the areas around our building.

Remember that this month is the VBS at South Side. There are lists of supplies, snacks, and other materials needed to make this another VBS success for the church. This is an opportunity to attract kids from the church’s neighborhood and expose them to a little Jesus!! It is also the opportunity for any of us to invite our neighborhood kids, as well as those nieces, nephews, and grandkids, maybe even the great-grandkids, to attend an event at church. Think about it, who can you invite?

Remember that the Second South Side Rummage Sale is coming up on September 18 & 19, 2026. We will begin accepting donations on July 15. So now is the time to begin clearing out those closets and garages to prepare room for all of the things you are going to buy at the Rummage Sale!!

Please be in prayer for the country and all of the leaders as the mid-term elections approach. These elections may bring about some very trying times for everyone.

Jeff, Dan, and Orlando



South Side Christian Church Calendar for Leadership Nominations and Selection 2026

August 16, 2026	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 Nomination Committee.
August 23, 2026	Last day (12:00 PM, noon) for Nomination forms to be submitted to the Nominating Committee.
August 30, 2026	Elders receive the list of member candidates from the Nomination Committee. Elders vet candidates and inform nominees of the office for which they have been nominated.
September 6, 2026	Labor Day Weekend
September 13, 2026 September 16, 2026	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 20, 2026	Final candidate list is published to the congregation.
September 22, 2026	Any Scriptural objection to any nominated candidate must be submitted to the Elders by 5:00 PM.
September 27. 2026	Congregational Meeting following Worship Services – nominated officer candidates are wither affirmed or not affirmed by the congregation members present at the meeting and casting an “yea” or a “nay” ballot for each candidate.
October 18, 2026 All Deacons, Elders, and Trustees are expected to be 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

Our youth are back from CIY, and we're so thankful for a safe and meaningful week. They had a great time worshipping, learning, building friendships, and growing in their faith. Thank you to everyone who prayed for them before and during the trip. Please continue to keep our children and youth in your prayers as they continue to grow in their walk with Christ.

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner, and we could use some help getting everything ready! We'll have a VBS Decorating Day on Monday, July 13, starting at 11:00 AM. If you can join us, we'd love to have your help. If Monday doesn't work for you, Sabrina will be at the church after 5:30 PM each evening during the rest of that week, and you're welcome to stop by whenever you can lend a hand.

We're excited for another wonderful VBS and the opportunity to share God's love with children and families in our church and community. If you'd like to help or have any questions, please contact Sabrina at sabrina.Alvarado1045@gmail.com or call the church office at 219-836-2110.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and willingness to serve!



SOUTH SIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VBS 2026
SHINING A LIGHT ON
WHO **JESUS** REALLY IS
ILLUMINATION STATION JOHN 8:12
DATES: JULY 20-22
TIME: 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
GRADES: PRE-K TO 5TH GRADE
1000 BROADMOOR AVE, MUNSTER, IN 46321

The graphic features a vibrant, colorful background with a night sky, stars, and a bright sunburst. Children are depicted running and playing in a field. The text is bold and colorful, with 'ILLUMINATION STATION' in large, white, 3D letters. The location and dates are highlighted in dark blue banners.

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



Senior Saints — News for You!

We had a wonderful red, white and blue patriotic picnic on June 9th. There were 63 in attendance, which was great. Lunch was delicious, Mike grilled the hot dogs perfectly. We had a nice variety of side dishes with pasta salads, fruit salads, chili for the hot dogs, mini tacos, and more. The dessert table was filled with cookies, cupcakes, muffins, and my favorite strawberry-rhubarb crisp. If you brought something to share, thank you, you make our luncheons so tasty and enjoyable.

John Trimmel's energy and enthusiasm are contagious. We love his music, singing and funny jokes and stories. He always puts smiles on our faces. We had a perfect afternoon.

We do not meet in July or August, so I'll see you on September 8th at noon. Mark your calendar—we have a great program planned. Have a wonderful summer. Take care and stay safe!

Donna Abercrombie



Church POTLUCK



SUNDAY, JULY 12

⇒ AFTER THE SERVICE ⇒



Weather permitting, we'll gather outside to enjoy the summer day.

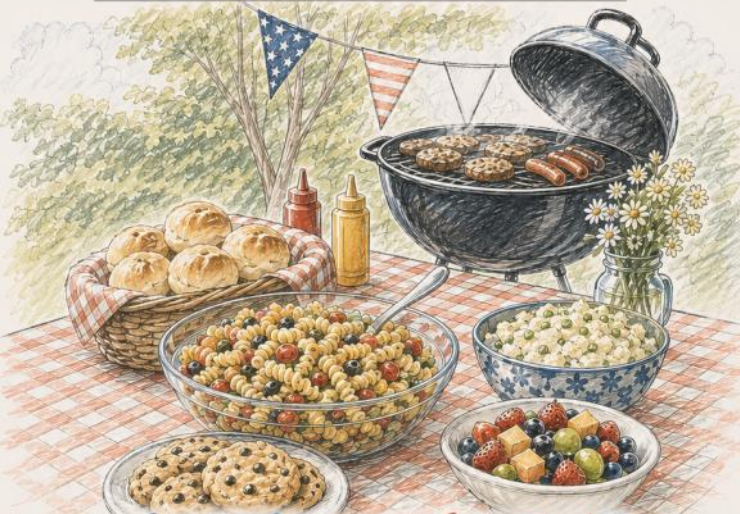
OR



If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll meet in the gym as usual.



Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share and enjoy time together as a church family.



Good food. Great company. See you there! ♥

📍 1000 Broadmoor Ave. Munster, IN 46321



⇒ Fall ⇒ CRAFT & RUMMAGE SALE

⇒ *Now Accepting Donations* ⇒
BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

Our Fall Craft & Rummage Sale will be held on
Friday, September 18 & Saturday, September 19.



**DONATION DROP-OFF:
ROOM #4**



**PLEASE NOTE:
WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING CLOTHING.**

Thank you
for your generosity and for helping make
our Fall Craft & Rummage Sale a success!



1000 Broadmoor Ave.
Munster, IN 46321



Questions?
Please contact the church office at
219-836-2110



Down Under Ministry

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

We are currently collecting underwear in the following sizes: girls 2T–3T, 6, and 10–12; women’s S–XL; boys 2–6; and teens S–L. We are also collecting socks.

Donations can be placed in the bin outside the office. Thank you for your generosity and for helping make a difference.



The Salvation Army

As we prepare for the upcoming school year and continue to care for those in need, we are collecting nonperishable food items for the Salvation Army Food Bank and back-to-school supplies for local students.

If you would like to help, please bring your donations and place them in the collection bin located just outside the office door. We ask that all food items be unexpired. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Your support helps provide practical assistance and encouragement to families in our community.



South Side Christian Church,
in partnership with the Salvation Army,
is putting together

Care Packages FOR HOMELESS

WE ARE COLLECTING:

- TRAVEL SIZE TOOTHPASTE
- TOOTHBRUSHES
- TRAVEL SIZE MOUTHWASH
- DENTAL FLOSS
- DEODORANT
- TRAVEL SIZE HAND SANITIZER
- ADULT SIZE SOCKS
- GALLON SIZE ZIPLOCK BAGS



Thank You!

Your generosity helps bring dignity, hope, and care to those in need.

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Eyeglass Collection

for Medical Missions Outreach



Bring your gently used eyeglasses to the Welcome Center drop-box for donation.

Your donation helps provide clear vision and a brighter future for those in need around the world.



See the world.
Change a life.

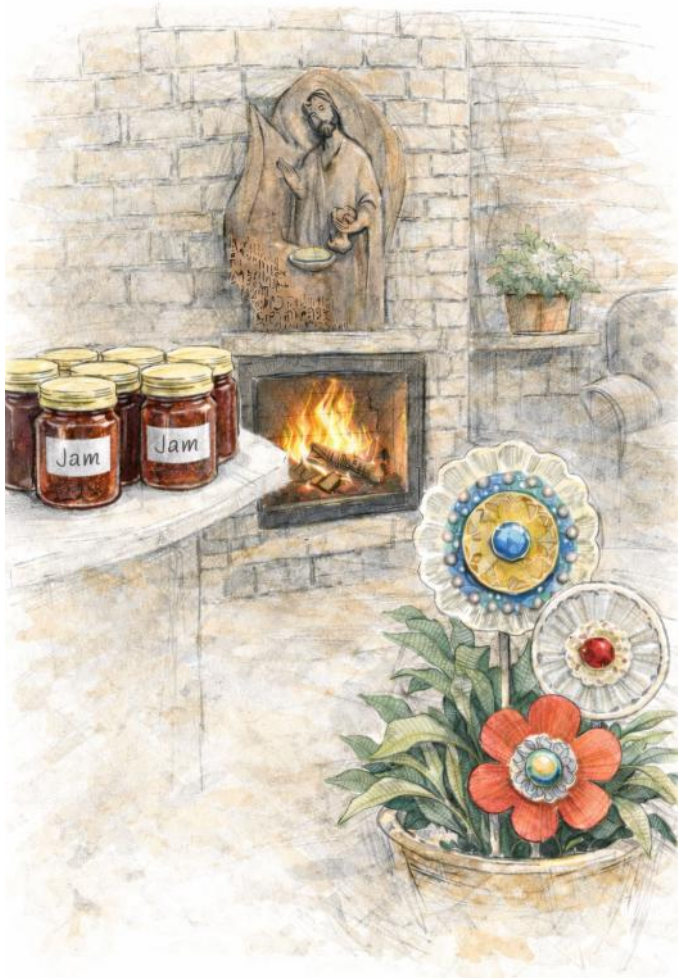
Kara Ladies Group

Join us on Thursday, July 2, at noon at DQ in Munster for a fun time of fellowship and friendship. We'd love to see you there, and feel free to bring a friend along!

With back-to-school sales in full swing, now is a great time to help us stock up on supplies for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. We are collecting pencils, eraser caps, pencil sharpeners, and composition notebooks. Donations can be placed at the Welcome Center.

Be sure to stop by the Fireplace Room, where you'll find homemade jam available for a donation to support our ministries. We also have several handmade gift items, including teacup and saucer sets with tea and chocolates, garden flowers made from dishes, and decorated rocks. They make wonderful gifts or a special treat for yourself.

Thank you for your support and kindness. We appreciate all the ways you help make these ministry efforts possible.



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

3-Jul	Arnold Joza
12-Jul	Leah Gensel
13-Jul	Alex Frazier
25-Jul	Kathleen Hayden
27-Jul	Crystal Boerner

Coffee Fellowship



SUNDAY, JULY 5TH

🕒 10:00 AM to 10:25 AM



The Kara Ladies will be *servicing coffee* along with some treats.



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

Hope to see
you there!



July

New Testament

Old Testament

▶ LUKE

1. 7:11-17
2. 7:18-35
3. 7:36-50
4. 8:1-15
5. 8:16-25
6. 8:26-39
7. 8:40-56
8. 9:1-17
9. 9:18-27

▶ COLOSSIANS

- 1:1-14
- 1:15-29
- 2:1-7
- 2:8-15
- 2:16-23
- 3:1-14
- 3:15-25
- 4:1-9
- 4:10-18

▶ PSALMS

- 123-124
- 125
- 126
- 127
- 128
- 129
- 130-131
- 132
- 133-134

▶ 1 CHRON.

- 1-2
- 3-4
- 5-6
- 7-9
- 10-11
- 12-14
- 15-16
- 17-19
- 20-22

10. 9:28-36
11. 9:37-50
12. 9:51-62

▶ 1 THESSALONIANS

- 1
- 2:1-9
- 2:10-20

- 135
- 136
- 137

- 23-25
- 26-28
- 29

13. 10:1-16
14. 10:17-24
15. 10:25-37
16. 10:38-42
17. 11:1-13
18. 11:14-28

- 3:1-6
- 3:7-13
- 4:1-10
- 4:11-18
- 5:1-11
- 5:12-28

- 138
- 139
- 140
- 141
- 142
- 143

▶ 2 CHRON.

- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-16

19. 11:29-36
20. 11:37-54
21. 12:1-12
22. 12:13-21
23. 12:22-34
24. 12:35-48
25. 12:49-59

▶ 2 THESSALONIANS

- 1:1-7
- 1:8-12
- 2:1-12
- 2:13-17
- 3:1-5
- 3:6-13
- 3:14-18

- 144
- 145
- 146
- 147
- 148
- 149
- 150

- 17-19
- 20-21
- 22-24
- 25-27
- 28-29
- 30-33
- 34-36

