

THE HARBINGER

South Side Christian Church

June 2026

Issue 6

Kevin's Korner

Charles Dickens wrote, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." I find myself reflecting on those words when I am in the worst of times. Let's face it, we love the best of times, but loathe the worst and believe they cannot coexist. The worst of times often involve loss and pain such as the loss of health, life, a loved one, job, *etc.* During these times we need to be reminded of what we have in order to soothe the pain of what we've lost. We need some ray of hope to shine through the dark clouds of despair. Taking time to recall God's blessings can be the medicine our souls need in times of despair. In Ephesians 1:3-14 God has so lovingly spoken these soothing words of comfort and encouragement to us. Here Paul celebrates the blessings Christians receive through Christ.

God's blessings began before we ever chose to follow Him. Before the creation of the world, God chose us to be holy and blameless (Ephesians 1:4), and to become His adopted children (Ephesians 1:5). How many of us struggle with feeling unloved or rejected? God chose us because of His great love for us and not because of some contractual obligation. He wasn't interested in just gaining a follower. He wanted us as His child. When we chose to follow Him, we became children of God.

Being adopted by God is a blessing and a great honor. None other of God's creation has been chosen for adoption. The angels, and other heavenly beings, are created by God, but they are neither made in His image nor adopted as His children. Adoption comes with the full rights and responsibilities as the natural son, Jesus. We have been given a great honor by God and are placed above all of God's creation. In fact, the Bible teaches that His children will "judge" the angels (1 Corinthians 6:2-3). The word "judge" in the original Greek also means "to rule over". Furthermore, God reveals that angels are sent to serve His saints (Hebrews 1:4). Have you taken time to consider the honor God has bestowed upon us by this adoption?

This is the blessing we have through Christ Jesus our Lord. We are part of a loving family led by a loving Father. God didn't take us into His Family out of a sense of obligation. He did so because He loves us and desires to be our Father. He is the loving Father who is not distracted by work or selfish needs; the One who cares about our needs and growth. He is the Father who desires to lavish us with His blessings. He delights in us and promises not only an inheritance, but more importantly, Himself. We may not always feel desirable, but this desire transcends our feelings. Take time to spend with Him because He longs for our attention. He longs for us to speak with Him, to share our joys, and pains with Him. Although we may not always feel it, He is there for us. His promise is to never leave us, nor forsake us. Take time to thank God for His love and His blessings.

Kevin W. Bohan

From The Elders:

Dear South Side,

Summer has officially started, since we just had Memorial Day and everyone knows that Memorial Day marks the beginning of Summer!! When you were in school, did you do much work after Memorial Day? And Summer lasted until after Labor Day, right? Today these poor kids are in the school buildings until partway through June and start back to school by the second or third week in August!! Ah, the good old days!!

In case you have missed it or thought your eyes were playing tricks on you, Kevin (and anyone else speaking at the pulpit) has a dark side and he is not Darth Vader. The spotlights on the left side of the Sanctuary have burned out. The replacement bulbs for those spots are very expensive. So, we are in the process of acquiring LED spotlights that will probably be placed along the front and sides of the stage apron. These lights are LED and will not produce the tremendous heat of an incandescent bulb, nor blind the people in the spotlight!! The purchase of these lights and their installation will be forthcoming. The elders are setting up a meeting with Lazzaro to discuss the exterior doors and their replacement. In the meantime, we are reminding everyone that when you enter and as you leave the church building, please double check that the door is closed and has latched. Also, the classroom doors are locked so that they are not opened to allow the heat in winter and air conditioning in summer to escape into the unheated/un-AC'ed hallways. There is also no heat/AC in the kitchens or the Fellowship Hall unless there are events in those spaces. Your stewardship assistance in keeping the NIPSCO cost to a minimum are greatly appreciated.

The elders are happy to let everyone know that John Helton will be returning to South Side this July. John took a sabbatical leave for six months to help his mother and brother in Cincinnati. Things have been worked out and John will return to us soon. Yes, he will be accompanying the Youth on their trip in June to CIY MOVE at Bowling Green, Ohio, as well as being here to help with VBS in July. We look forward to John's return.

Please remember to pray for your South Side family as we go through this busy summertime. Keep the Youth Group kids and their leaders attending the CIY MOVE Conference in your prayers as they travel to, participate in, and return from their trip June 21 – 27, 2026. Please pray for the success of the 2026 SSCC VBS, "Illumination Station", on July 20 – 22, 2026, from 6:00 PM until 8:30 PM, and that it reaches out to the church's community.

Jeff, Dan, and Orlando

**TRUST
IN THE
LORD
WITH ALL
YOUR** ♥
{proverbs 3:5}



Kidz and Youth

Thank you for continuing to pray for our children and youth as they grow in their relationship with Christ, build meaningful friendships, and become more connected to our church family. We also appreciate your prayers for the volunteers who faithfully serve and encourage them each week.

As our students prepare for CIY (June 21–26), we invite you to pray for a safe and meaningful week. Please pray that God would work in their hearts, draw them closer to Him, and help them be attentive to His voice and direction in their lives. We are also looking to borrow or rent two 7-passenger vans for the trip. If you have a vehicle available or know someone who may be able to help, please let us know.

Vacation Bible School is coming up July 20–22 from 6:00–8:30 PM each evening. Donation supply lists are available on the windows in front of the Welcome Center. We are also looking for volunteers to help make this year's VBS a success. If you are interested in serving, please contact Sabrina Alvarado. We hope you'll save the date and join us as we reach children and families in our church and community.



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

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 delightful time on May 12th. The weather was beautiful and we had a nice group. Our lunch was delicious, there was a great variety. We had seafood pasta salad, roast beef and chicken salad sandwiches, chicken casseroles, green beans, broccoli salad and many other tasty dishes. Everyone at our table commented on how good everything was. We also had many luscious desserts. If you contributed something to our luncheon, thank you so much.

We all enjoyed the George and Gracie radio show, they were very entertaining. We had lots of laughs. It was a wonderful afternoon. We will meet again on June 9th at noon. We will have a “Patriotic Picnic.” Mike will grill tasty hotdogs for us, so please bring a side or a dessert to add to our meal.

John Trimmel, one of our favorites, will entertain us with singing and playing patriotic tunes, and telling his corny jokes. We enjoy him so much. Plan to join us for a “patriotic afternoon” of great food, fun, fellowship and entertainment. Hope to see you! June 9th at noon, bring a dish to share.

Donna Abercrombie

Church POTLUCK

 SUNDAY, JULY 12

≡ AFTER THE SERVICE ≡



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

OR

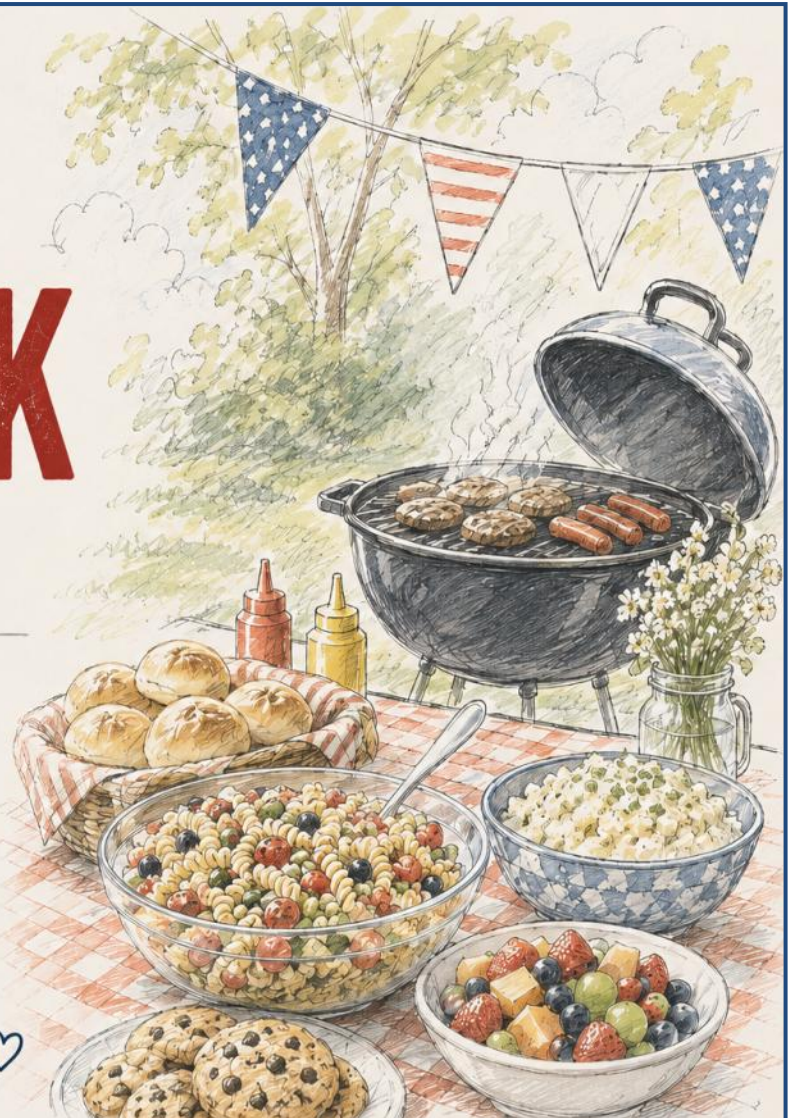


**If the weather
doesn't cooperate,**
we'll meet in the
gym as usual.



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! 





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

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

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



South Side Christian Church,
in partnership with the Salvation Army
and Munster Library, 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.

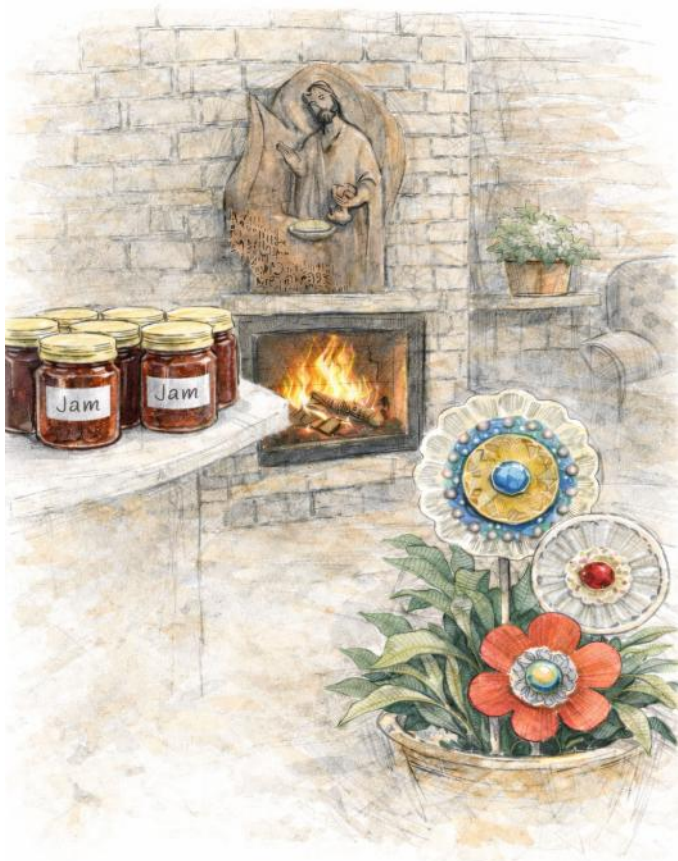
Kara Ladies Group

Join us on Thursday, June 4 at noon at Langel's Pizza for lunch and fellowship. We'll also be talking about Operation Christmas Child and ways we can continue supporting the shoebox ministry. Everyone is welcome, so feel free to invite a friend.

For the shoebox ministry, we are collecting fishing items for boys and empty shoeboxes, which can be dropped off at the Welcome Center. We are also looking for 8-inch by 36-inch unfinished wood boards to make signs for our September craft fair.

Homemade jam is available in the Church Fireplace Room to help support our ministries. We also have teacup and saucer gifts with tea and chocolates, along with garden dish flowers and decorated rocks available.

Thank you for your support and generosity. We hope you can join us for a good meal, great conversation, and a fun afternoon together.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3-Jun	David Gilbert
6-Jun	Karen DeGroat
7-Jun	Anna Irvine
8-Jun	Marie Barrows
10-Jun	Ofelia Padilla
10-Jun	Valerie Kolodziej
17-Jun	Austin Moore
18-Jun	Ruth Mann
19-Jun	Debbie Burrell
23-Jun	Nicole Padilla
24-Jun	Rich Solecki
28-Jun	Lance Barrows

Coffee Fellowship



SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH



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!



June

New Testament

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ▶ LUKE | ▶ EPHESIANS |
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-25 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-14 |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:26-38 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:15-23 |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:39-56 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-10 |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:57-66 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:11-22 |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:67-80 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-13 |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3:14-21 |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:21-40 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-16 |
| 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:41-52 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:17-24 |
| 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:25-32 |
| 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:21-38 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-21 |
| 11. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:22-33 |
| 12. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:13-30 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-9 |
| 13. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:31-37 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:10-24 |
| | ▶ PHILIPPIANS |
| 14. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:38-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-11 |
| 15. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-11 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:12-20 |
| 16. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:12-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1:21-30 |
| 17. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:17-26 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-11 |
| 18. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:27-32 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:12-18 |
| 19. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:33-39 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:19-30 |
| 20. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-9 |
| 21. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:17-26 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3:10-14 |
| 22. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:27-36 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3:15-21 |
| 23. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:37-42 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-7 |
| 24. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:43-49 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:8-13 |
| 25. <input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:14-23 |

Old Testament

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ▶ PSALMS | ▶ 1 KINGS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:1-8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:9-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:17-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:25-32 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:33-40 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:41-48 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9-10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:49-56 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:57-64 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:65-72 | <input type="checkbox"/> 13-14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:73-80 | <input type="checkbox"/> 15-16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:81-88 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17-18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:89-96 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19-20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:97-104 | <input type="checkbox"/> 21-22 |
| | ▶ 2 KINGS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:105-112 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:113-120 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:121-128 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-7 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:153-160 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14-15 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 119:169-176 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 120 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20-21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 121 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22-23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 122 | <input type="checkbox"/> 24-25 |

