THE HARBINGER

South Side Christian Church

November 2026 **Issue 11**

Kevin's Korner

The Thanksgiving holiday is upon us. It's a time for food, family, and for many of us football. However, it's also a time for being thankful. So, where did Thanksgiving get it's start? According to the History Channel website; "In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November." This is why so many have a nice holiday break from work in November.

However, Thanksgiving is not only beneficial for rest from work, but it's good for the soul as well. Psychologists say that gratitude is often associated with greater happiness. Isn't happiness something we all would like more of in our lives? Isn't it promised to us in the Declaration of Independence? I believe God has a desire for us to live lives with greater happiness; a greater gratitude. The question is what are we thankful for, and, how often do we give thanks? In His Word God shares the source and reason for being thankful.

Psalm 107:1–3 states; "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.
2 Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.
3 For he has gathered the exiles from many lands, from east and west, from north and south."

This psalm points us to our source for thanks, God. It also reminds us of what we should be thankful for; His faithful love and our redemption. God doesn't speak of thanking Him for the money we have, the things we own, or our health. He doesn't speak of the many things we often think of when we think of thankfulness. It seems to me Thanksgiving has become a time for deals, especially Black Friday deals. It appears to be a day we give thanks for what we have while at the same time hungering for more. It may be that the appropriate modern day Thanksgiving prayer should be "let's give thanks for the deals we are about to receive." It's important to appreciate what we have and it's ok to purchase things at great deals, but when those define our gratitude we will struggle to be thankful. Moreover, we rob ourselves of a life of gratitude because we will always want more. Finding gratitude in God's love and our redemption supplies us with a never ending source of joy. It enables us to be thankful even when life isn't at its best. You want more happiness in life, start looking at what your thankful for and how often you give thanks. Determine to make thanksgiving a lifestyle and not a holiday and you'll find a better outlook on life and different priorities. Thanksgiving doesn't have to be just one long weekend, It can be a lifestyle.

Celebrate thanksgiving today by taking time to give thanks to God for His love and your redemption. Then on Thanksgiving day you can enjoy your food, family, and football because your heart is already filled with happiness from God's presence in your life.

Kevin W Stolen

From The Elders:

Dear South Side,

It is just 55-days until Christmas from November 1, 2026. Hard to believe, but this year is quickly becoming the past!! We can now look into the future and think what it holds for us; just what is God's plan for us?

As we go into the months of November and December, we enter one of the busiest times for the church. As you read the remainder of this newsletter, you will find a number of events that are planned for November, including a Potluck Dinner on November 8, a Thanksgiving meal for Senior Saints on November 10, a Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Youth Groups on November 14, and Thanksgiving for everyone on November 26. It certainly appears that South Side's people and family and friends like to eat!! December looks to hold additional eating events for many of us!

As the elders look at the budget for the church for 2026 and 2027, we are seeing some trends that are showing very good stewardship. As the congregation worships through their giving, the leadership has been able to keep our expenses in check, while our budget guides our expenditures based on projected expenses. We are currently in round numbers (as of September 30, 2026), $15,000.00 under our projected budget. All of our expenses are paid and we have money in the bank. We, the elders, are discussing starting an Outside Door Fund to begin accumulating monies to purchase new doors for the church. New doors will assist us in lowering our expenses by creating a better weather-lock to keep the cool air in in the summers, while keeping the summer heat out, and the reverse for winter. Keep in mind that the church's NIPSCO bill increased just like each of our home bills increased. The church is paying, again in round figures, $6,000.00 per month to NIPSCO. As you can see, cutting the NIPSCO expenses with energy efficient doors will really help our plight.

The month of November is considered the "thanks giving" month. One of the best ways to thank God for what He has given to you, is to pray for your fellow South Siders. We all have issues with which we struggle. Please pray for those who struggle, even if you don't know the issue, you know the struggle.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!!

Jeff, Dan, and Orlando

South Side CHRISTIAN



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

If you struggle with sharing your faith join us during the month of October. We will examine how Jesus shared the gospel with the people around Him. If you are not involved with a Sunday School please join us Sunday mornings at 9am in room #4.



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

Coffee Fellowship

Sunday, November 1st

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.



South Side CHRISTIAN CHURCH

FALL POTLUCK

Sunday, November 8

Following the Sunday Service

Let's gather around the table for good food,
warm fellowship, and thankful hearts!

Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Everyone is welcome!

1000 Broadmoor Ave., Munster, IN 46321
219-836-2110 • ssccmunster.org

Senior Saints News for You!

First, I'd like to thank those who always help after church to set up the tables and chairs for Senior Saints. Thank you so much. Also, a huge thank you to Diana Gilbert, Debbie Burrell and Patricia Ugarte for decorating the tables and fellowship hall for our October meeting. It was a wonderful surprise and so very much appreciated. We had a great afternoon of fellowship, food and folk songs. Jimboo's food was so tasty. He never disappoints. We thought the pulled pork sandwiches were especially good. There were many delicious sides and desserts—so lunch was perfect. Adam Gawlikowski played his guitar and sang many catchy folk songs—which we loved. He is such a pleasant entertainer, we thoroughly enjoyed having him.

Next month, we will celebrate our abundant blessings with a Thanksgiving lunch. Turkey will be provided. Please bring your favorite side or dessert to go with that. We have some excellent cooks so I'm sure our meal will be delicious. Our program will be " Safety for Seniors," Sergeant James Ghrist of the Munster Police Department will give us tips on how to stay safe. After his presentation we will have time for a few "show and tells," so if you would like, bring something to share. I just love seeing objects people share and hearing the stories about them. It is always so interesting.
Plan to join **us at noon on November10th.** Bring a favorite side or dessert to share. We will have a great afternoon, see you then!

Donna Abercrombie

South Side CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Ladies Dart Ball

Join us for fun, friendly competition and great fellowship!

No experience needed.
Snacks provided!



NOVEMBER 2026 GAME DATES

November 2 | **November 16** | **November 30**

Games start at 6:30 PM | 1000 Broadmoor Ave., Munster, IN 46321

Kidz and Youth

Join us for this year's Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday November 14th from 8:30-10:30 AM! Our youth group will be selling tickets for $5 each and will be happy to serve you! Please consider purchasing a ticket or two to help our youth group learn the benefit of service and support our church ministries!

Save the date for this year's Progressive Dinner on Sunday December 13th from 5-9 PM! This is a night of food, fun, games, and fellowship together to usher in the Christmas season. We are still looking for host homes for this night, so please let John know if you would be interested in hosting this year!

On Sunday November 8th, the youth group will be packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child during our regular meeting time in the evening. Please be in prayer for the impact that these shoeboxes will have in the lives of those who receive them!

John Helton





Down Under Ministry

SSCC is continuing our partnership with Love INC to help provide clothing essentials for local families in need throughout the year. Your donations are a simple but meaningful way to care for and support our community.
Currently, we are especially in need of underwear in these sizes: girls 2T–3T, 6, and 10–12; women's S–XL; boys 2–6; and teens S–L. Socks are also greatly appreciated. Please place your donations in the collection bin outside the church office. Thank you for your kindness and generosity as we work together to bless families in our community!

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army Food Bank is in need of supplies, and we are collecting nonperishable food items to help restock its shelves. If you would like to help, please place your donations in the collection bin located just outside the office door. Please make sure all food items are **unexpired**.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Your support helps us provide much-needed assistance and encouragement to families in our community.





Help us share God's love, one shoebox at a time! Last year, our church sent **402 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes** to children around the world. As we prepare this year's gifts, we invite you to take part by donating toward the **$10 shipping cost per box** or bringing in **empty shoeboxes** for packing.

We recently received a heartfelt thank-you from Mr. Nkunga at Ulongwe Baptist Church in Malawi. He shared that many families there cannot afford Christmas gifts for their children and expressed his gratitude for the shoeboxes they received. His message reminds us that a small gift, packed with love, can mean so much to a child and their family.

Every shoebox, donation, and prayer helps. Thank you for being part of this ministry and helping us bring joy to children this Christmas!

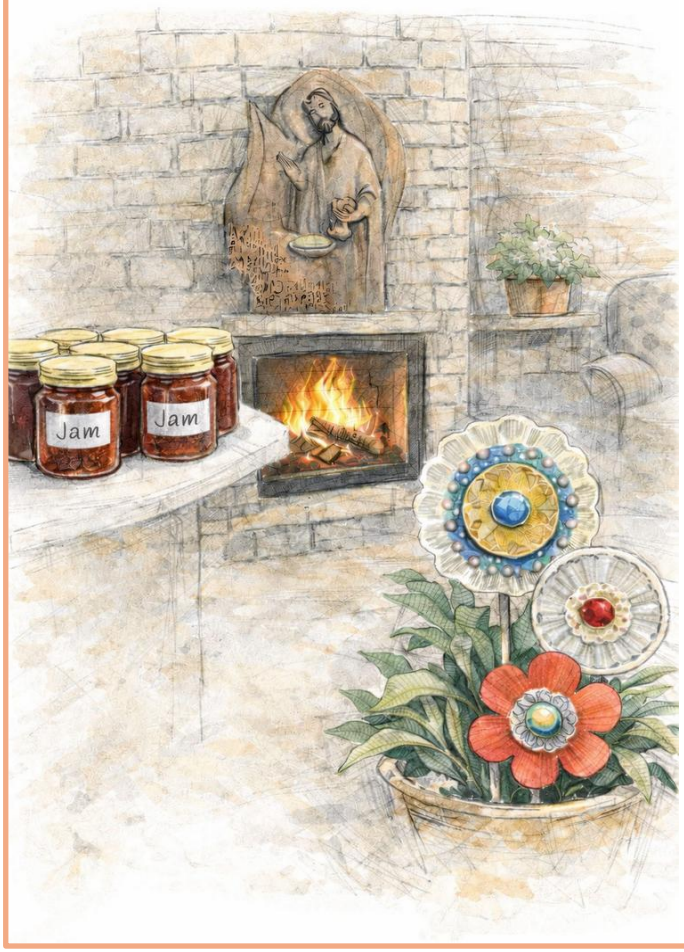
Kara Ladies Group

The Kara Ladies will meet on Thursday, November 12th, at 9:30 AM in the Church Fireplace Room to pack Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Come enjoy some time together as we prepare these gifts for children around the world. New members are always welcome!

We'll also be making jam on Friday, November 13th, starting at 8:00 AM. We'd love to have you lend a hand!

If you haven't visited Kara's Boutique in Room 12/13 lately, stop in and browse our handmade fall and Christmas crafts and wreaths. You may find something special for your home or a gift for someone you love.

Thank you for supporting the Kara Ladies and the ministries we serve. We're grateful for your kindness and helping hands!





1-Nov	Rafael Padilla
2-Nov	Ariana Newhuis
5-Nov	Matthew Newhuis
5-Nov	Allison O'Quinn
7-Nov	Tyler Estes
8-Nov	Katie Estes
14-Nov	Marilou Beshears
17-Nov	Tiffany Fordyce
20-Nov	Sabrina Alvarado
23-Nov	Linda Manly
24-Nov	Crystal Domke
24-Nov	James Lawson
29-Nov	Jeanette Lawson
30-Nov	Tony Burrell



November

New Testament			*Old Testament*	
▸ JOHN		▸ 2 PETER	▸ JOB	▸ EZEKIEL
1. ☐	7:37-44	☐ 1:1-11	☐ 1	☐ 1-3
2. ☐	7:45-53	☐ 1:12-21	☐ 2	☐ 4-8
3. ☐	8:1-11	☐ 2:1-9	☐ 3	☐ 9-12
4. ☐	8:12-20	☐ 2:10-16	☐ 4	☐ 13-15
5. ☐	8:21-30	☐ 2:17-22	☐ 5	☐ 16
6. ☐	8:31-47	☐ 3:1-9	☐ 6	☐ 17-19
7. ☐	8:48-59	☐ 3:10-18	☐ 7	☐ 20-21
		▸ 1 JOHN		
8. ☐	9:1-12	☐ 1:1-4	☐ 8	☐ 22-23
9. ☐	9:13-25	☐ 1:5-10	☐ 9:1-20	☐ 24-26
10. ☐	9:26-41	☐ 2:1-11	☐ 9:21-35	☐ 27-28
11. ☐	10:1-10	☐ 2:12-17	☐ 10	☐ 29-30
12. ☐	10:11-21	☐ 2:18-23	☐ 11	☐ 31-32
13. ☐	10:22-42	☐ 2:24-29	☐ 12	☐ 33-34
14. ☐	11:1-16	☐ 3:1-10	☐ 13	☐ 35-37
15. ☐	11:17-37	☐ 3:11-18	☐ 14	☐ 38-39
16. ☐	11:38-44	☐ 3:19-24	☐ 15:1-16	☐ 40-41
17. ☐	11:45-57	☐ 4:1-6	☐ 15:17-35	☐ 42-44
18. ☐	12:1-11	☐ 4:7-21	☐ 16	☐ 45-47
19. ☐	12:12-19	☐ 5:1-12	☐ 17	☐ 48
				▸ DANIEL
20. ☐	12:20-36	☐ 5:13-21	☐ 18	☐ 1-2
		▸ 2 JOHN		
21. ☐	12:37-50	☐ 1-13	☐ 19	☐ 3-4
		▸ 3 JOHN		
22. ☐	13:1-11	☐ 1-14	☐ 20	☐ 5-6
		▸ JUDE		
23. ☐	13:12-17	☐ 1-7	☐ 21:1-21	☐ 7-8
24. ☐	13:18-30	☐ 8-16	☐ 21:22-34	☐ 9
25. ☐	13:31-38	☐ 17-25	☐ 22	☐ 10-12

