

The WORD

Oct 2026

Volume 57 Issue 10



Westville United Methodist Church

**Communion
Oct. 4 2026**

**“Reach up, Reach in, Reach out
Reach up to God, Reach in to know
God, Reach out in Love”**

Sunday Morning Schedule:

Sunday School 9:15 am –

Worship in the Sanctuary 10:15am

Drive In Service Radio Station 91.3

www.youtube.com@pastortobyquill1052



Community Meal

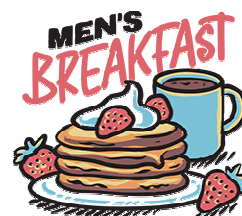
Free Community Meal Oct. 21st

5-6:30pm, Chili Cook Off

A message from Pastor at 6:30pm

Men's Breakfast

Oct. 10 th



Trunk or Treat & Crazy Maze

Oct. 24th, 5-7pm

JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!!!

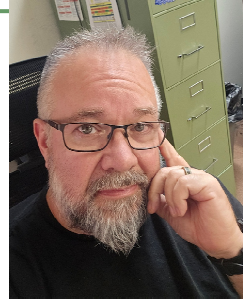
THE WORD is a publication of Westville United Methodist Church at 154 Main St.,
P.O. Box 619; Westville, IN 46391 (219) 785-2314

*******CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday 9-noon /Tues.—Thurs. am**

Our Web Address is www.westvilleumc.org

In order to go green The Word will be e-mailed to you. Be sure to e-mail your address to Jane at
secretarywumc@csinet.net

Printed copies will continue to be available at the church for those who do not have e-mail.



Saints, Sinners, and Fun-Size Snickers

A Word from Pastor Toby

October is here!

The leaves are changing, the days are getting shorter, the air is getting cooler, and somewhere there is already a child negotiating the finer points of whether wearing a plastic mask technically counts as a costume.

And, of course, Halloween is coming.

For Christians, Halloween sometimes raises an interesting question: **Should we celebrate it?**

Some followers of Jesus choose not to participate, and we should respect that decision. But I also believe Christians can enjoy Halloween without checking our faith at the door next to the plastic skeleton.

In fact, Halloween gives us a wonderful opportunity to remember something profoundly Christian:

Because of Jesus Christ, we do not have to be afraid of the dark.

Halloween, or *All Hallows' Eve*, is the evening before **All Saints Day**, traditionally observed by Christians on November 1. The word *hallow* simply means *holy* or *saint*. So tucked underneath all the pumpkins, costumes, candy, and decorations is an old connection to the Church's remembrance of the faithful who have gone before us.

That makes Halloween and All Saints Day rather interesting neighbors.

Halloween likes to play with things that frighten us: ghosts, graveyards, darkness, death, and the terrifying possibility that someone might hand out raisins instead of Reese's.

All Saints Day, meanwhile, looks death squarely in the face and proclaims:

Death does not get the last word. Jesus does.

That is an incredibly important distinction.

Christians don't need to pretend that death, grief, evil, and darkness aren't real. We know better. We have stood beside hospital beds. We have gathered at gravesides. We have said goodbye to people we dearly love. Some empty chairs at family gatherings still hurt.

Our faith doesn't ask us to deny those things.

Instead, Christianity makes the astonishing claim that **God entered directly into them.**

Cont.

Jesus died.

Jesus was buried.

And Jesus rose.

Because of the resurrection, Christians can acknowledge darkness without belonging to it. We can laugh in the face of things designed to frighten us because our hope rests in Someone greater than our fear.

The Apostle Paul puts it beautifully:

“Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

1 Corinthians 15:54-55

I like that Scripture around Halloween because Paul almost sounds as if he's taunting death.

"Is that all you've got?"

Not because Paul believed death wasn't painful, but because he knew **death had already lost the ultimate battle.**

That's what All Saints Day celebrates.

We remember the saints who have gone before us, not because they were perfect people with halos floating six inches above their heads. In the New Testament, *saints* are God's people, ordinary men and women made holy through God's grace.

In other words, saints are people like us.

People who sometimes got things right.

People who sometimes made spectacular messes.

People who trusted Jesus anyway.

On All Saints Day, we especially remember the Christians whose earthly lives have ended. We remember parents and grandparents, spouses and siblings, friends and church members. We give thanks for the ways their faith helped shape ours.

But most importantly, **we remember that their story isn't over.**

Christian hope says the cemetery is not God's final destination for His children.

Resurrection is.

So this October, carve the pumpkin. Wear the goofy costume. Hand out candy. Enjoy watching children wander around the neighborhood dressed as dinosaurs, superheroes, cont.

princesses, and whichever cartoon character I apparently became too old to recognize sometime around 2007.

And while we're doing that, perhaps we can remember what comes next.

Halloween gives way to All Saints Day.

Darkness gives way to light.

Fear gives way to hope.

Death gives way to resurrection.

And that might just be one of the most Christian things we can celebrate.

An October Challenge

Here is my challenge for us this month:

Turn Halloween into an opportunity for hospitality and remembrance.

When children come to your door, don't just give them candy. Give them a smile. Learn a name. Compliment the costume. Be the house where people encounter warmth, generosity, and kindness.

And sometime around Halloween or All Saints Day, take a few quiet minutes to remember a saint who helped shape your faith.

Say their name.

Tell someone their story.

Thank God for their life.

And then ask yourself:

What kind of faith am I passing on to the people who will someday remember me?

That's a little more challenging than deciding whether a fun-size candy bar actually qualifies as "fun," isn't it?

Cont.

A Prayer for All Saints

Gracious God,

Thank You for the saints who have walked before us, for those who taught us, loved us, prayed for us, encouraged us, and showed us what following Jesus can look like.

When darkness frightens us, remind us that Christ is our light.

When grief overwhelms us, remind us that love is stronger than the grave.

When death frightens us, remind us of the empty tomb.

Help us to live with such faith, joy, kindness, and courage that others can see something of Jesus in us.

And when our earthly journey is complete, bring us together with all Your saints in the resurrection life You have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

So, Westville, have a wonderful October. Enjoy the changing leaves, enjoy a piece of candy or three, and remember:

We are people of resurrection.

The darkness is real.

But the Light wins.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Toby

Wednesday—Weekly Bible Study

6 pm

Family Life Center

Everyone is Welcome !!

The Gospel According to
Andy



Volume 1:

A Christian Life Lesson from Each Episode of
Seasons 1 and 2 of *The Andy Griffith Show*

Dr. Ronald D. Vaughan



Trustee/Church Council Sept 14, 2026

Present: Amanda, Kay, Richard, Evert, Alan, Kathie, Jan, Jane, Pastor Toby, Shantrece, Ramey, Logan

Trustee's opened with many items for discussion. We received 2 estimates for the paving of the stone part of the church parking lot. It needs to be level and safe for all using it especial those that need handi-cap accessibility. First estimate from Paul's Paving for 13,000. 00 and the 2nd from Harrison's Paving for 9450.00 Jan made a motion to accept the bid from Harrison Paving and asking the Resale Shop to pay for the job. Amanda 2nd the motion and the motion passed pending approval from the Resale Shop.

Storm Damage from Aug 11th at the parsonage. We received an estimate from Hopper Construction for the repair of drywall and damages in the hall of the parsonage. The estimate is \$1500.00. Amanda made to motion to accept the bid and Kay 2nd the motion. The motion passed. Jane will work with the renter and Wayne Hopper to complete this job. A tree branch fell on the roof that caused stress damage to the parsonage in the hall near the bedrooms.

Regarding the tree that fell on the parsonage property and landed on the shed and crashed into another tree, we are working with our insurance company. Insurance will pay for the tree to be removed from the shed. The cleanup is ours to cover. We have an estimate from Signature Lawn. The second estimate failed to get turn into us. The insurance company has sent a check to help us get started on repairs and clean up. The claim will remain open even when we cash the check.

At the resale shop the shed at the alley was destroyed. In checking with the insurance company we discovered we have no coverage for the resale shop. Jane has been in touch with our insurance company to get coverage asap. We are looking at liability, and renters insurance for the contents of the shop and checking if a new shed will be covered.

We received a grant for an AED that has been installed in the church hallway. It is hooked up to the 911 center. The LaPorte County Disaster Preparedness team will come and train us on CPR or hands training and how to use the AED. That will be set up and anyone will be able to attend.

It was brought up to consider getting a Genrac for the FLC. Kay will look into prices and get information.

Jane filled out the POD information in case of emergency so we can open as an emergency site.

Our coffee pot is dying. Amanda made a motion to purchase a new Bun Commercial coffee maker at the cost of 615.00 to be paid from the memorial fund. Kathie 2nded the motion and the motion passed. Jan will purchase on Amazon.

Church Council: Devotion was read and the minutes from the Aug meeting were approved.

Discipleship: Amanda stated that Sunday school recognition will take place on Sept 20th during worship. She is working on the float for the parade at Pumpkin Fest. The theme will be Galaxy. She has secured a place to work on it and will need help and also Candy to toss from the float.

cont

Frank & Sherrie are working on the Maze. Colleen will man the kitchen and Amanda will handle the trunk or treat.

Worship: Pastor Toby will be taking some respite time in Nov. (Nov. 8th – Nov. 22nd)

Outreach Kathie stated we are currently sending home 48 Care & share Bags. She has tried to find out if there are any more grants funding for Feed the Hungry. Our funds are running low. Shantrece is working on a Birthday party in a bag for the birthday kids that receive the Friday Back Packs. Alan and Rob have agreed to head up the Water Booth at the Pumpkin Festival. New this year we will also add an area, "Asking if we can pray for you"? People are signing up for shifts for the day.

Women of Faith met in Aug. We voted to no longer be a part of the Women of Faith. We will form a group named "Women on a Mission" The money in our check book has been donated to mission projects.

Finance: Reports were shared.

Pastor Toby left the meeting so SPRC could come up with a compensation package for 2027. We agreed to raise his salary to 31000.00 and give him another week of vacation. Amanda made the motion to raise the salary \$2000.00 and add one more week of vacation. Kay seconds the motion and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned.

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October!!!

Yeah, for a whole month we get to appreciate our Pastor!!



Blessings:

Being the head trustee for our church for the last 6 years has been quite an adventure. Our newest event of course was the storm that passed through known as the “Dorito” in our church family. Our church parsonage took a hit with a large branch landing on the roof and causing drywall damage inside the parsonage. The roof its self has passed with no damage. And then a very large OLD tree on the school property fell across the fence and crushed the wooden shed and landed all the way to the front of the property and also on the property next door. Our renter (Tim) began the cleanup of the branch on the roof. I opened an insurance claim to get the tree of the roof off the shed and see what insurance would cover. I tell you all this to share neighbors and friends who helped with the cleanup of the tree. Repair of the drywall and hauling away of the shed. The neighbors at the end of “A” Street came to help as Richard and Ramey began the clean up, cutting up the tree and hauling the brush to the street where Bubba and his team did their street department thing. My blessing is that Richard and Ramey went all out to clean up the property working many evenings and a couple Sundays. I helped a bit but they did the major part of the work. What a BLESSING THEY HAVE BEEN! As I have been the person to spear head the church property I want to add that whenever I ask for help in this position in our church I have always had the response to help get the job done, and there have been quite a few over the last 6 years. AMEN, Jane Bachman



“There’s a blessing in every moment.”



Join us in local missions!**Items needed for the Food Pantry:**

10/4 Paper Products: toilet paper, tissue, foil & etc.

10/11 Canned meats, tuna, chicken...

10/18 Canned Fruits, & Vegetables, Soups

10/25 Condiments: Ketchup, mustard, relish, mayo, dressings

TIME & LOCATION**Food Pantry Information:**

The American Legion is now working in cooperation with the WMC Food Pantry ministry. Please drop off donations of the above mentioned items at the Legion. **For those receiving donations, items may be picked up at the American Legion on Thursdays from 4:30—5:30.**

IMPORTANT REMINDER

INFORMATION FOR THE WORD IS **DUE BY Oct. 27th** ORDER TO BE READY FOR PUBLICATION BY **Oct. 28th** AT THE LATEST. CAN BE EMAILED TO

secretarywumc@csinet.net

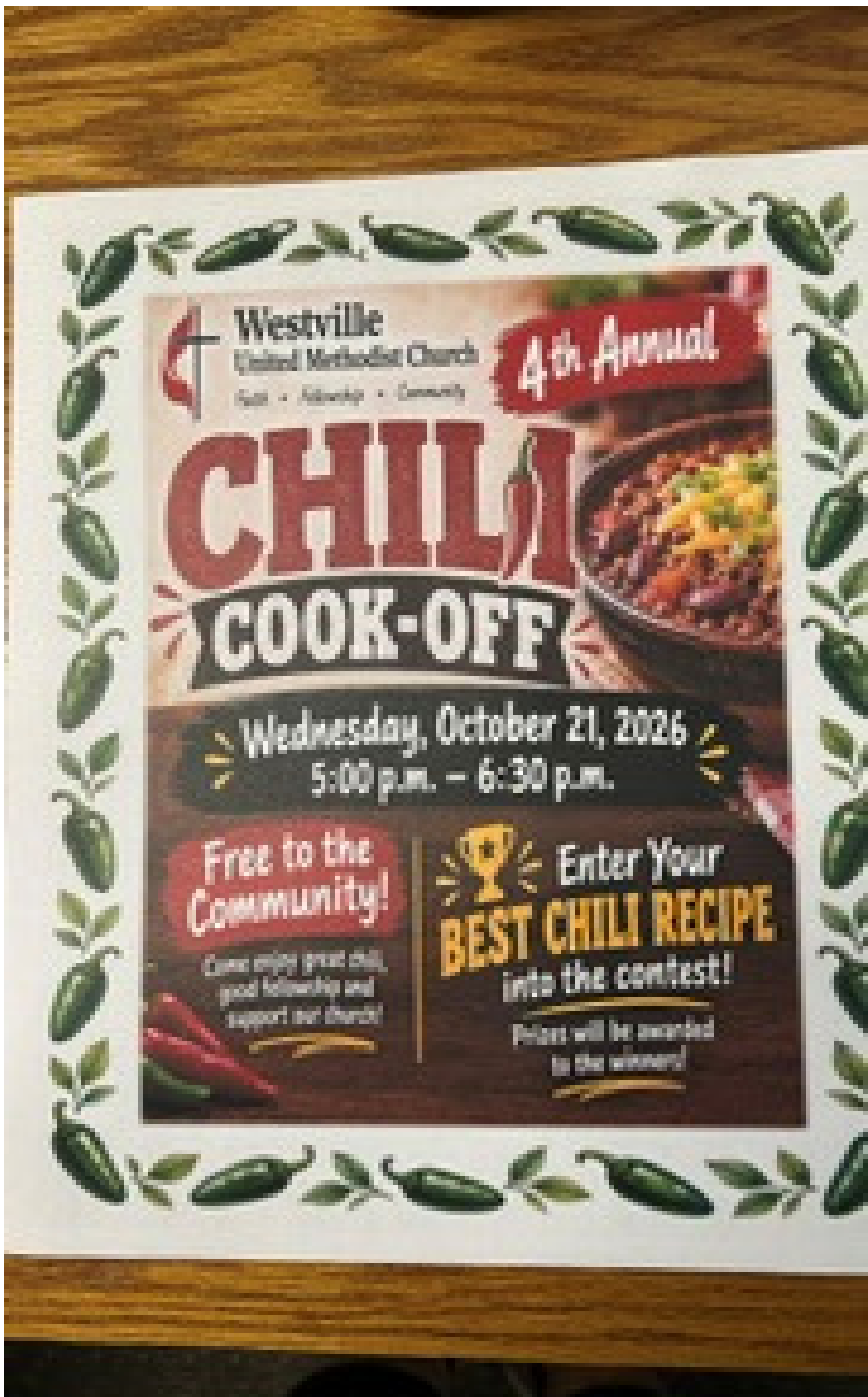


**Family Life Center is available for rental for parties and celebrations.
Contact the church office at 219-785-2314 for more information.**

Save your pop cans and bring them to the church. The money earned from the can collection supports the Heifer Project.







Care & Concerns

Health and Healing

Kelly Murphy	Kristi – Health Journey
Pete Buckmaster	Jerry Adrian
Sheryl Elliott	Rita White
Nash & Family	Bob & Sheila McCaughey
Donna Bunch	Diane Toomire
Colleen Parker	Jerry McCall
Christopher Watson	Warren Howard
Lee Bently	Deputy Jon Samuelson
Riley Frederick	Lothar Taschner
Letrishia Falls	Amir DePuis
Terry Ream	Kirk Cole
Kerry Cole	Dick & Mickey Ennis
Cassie McCarty	Carrie Ann Drzewski
Aline DuPuis	Rolando
Georgia Swanson	Steve Bachman
Stacy Gentry	Debbie Dudley
James Hamilton	Carol Wyels
Greg Reese	Rick Klett
Ramey Salyer	
The Family of Garret Hill	

***Those suffering with addiction, poverty, &/or depression**

***Unspoken Prayers **Families **Youth **First Responders **Law Enforcement**

The Care Corner

Adele Lundahl

All Military Personnel
All Victims of War

Guidance & Protection

Quinn Bacon	Aaron Hale
Dylan Hale	Emily Hannon



**HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?**

HE
(cares for you)

PRAYER CHAIN

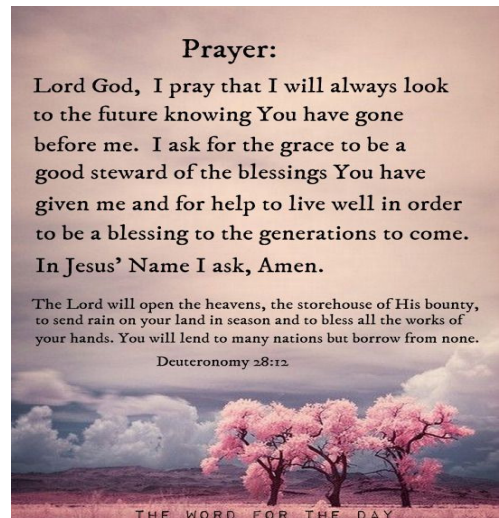
If you have a special need for prayer, the prayer chain can be activated by calling church Secretary Jane Bachman (785-2314)

Prayer:

Lord God, I pray that I will always look to the future knowing You have gone before me. I ask for the grace to be a good steward of the blessings You have given me and for help to live well in order to be a blessing to the generations to come. In Jesus' Name I ask, Amen.

The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the works of your hands. You will lend to many nations but borrow from none.

Deuteronomy 28:12



Pastor Toby Guill maybe reached @ **219-850-3768**

Or email at **toby.guill@inumc.org**

***** **Church Office Hours** *****

Monday 9am—noon, Tues-Thurs am

My hours vary, please call 219-898-3077



Oct Birthdays

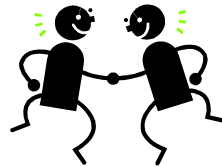
Abigail Elkins	4-Oct
Kim Klein	5-Oct
Kim Guill	8-Oct
Samantha White	11-Oct
Allison Emery	14-Oct
Colleen Parker	14-Oct
Alan Buvelot	16-Oct
Denim Bennett	19-Oct
Sunny McKee	21-Oct
Rob Klett	22-Oct
Richard Lambert	31-Oct



Oct Wedding Anniversary's

Rick & Kay Tetzloff	11-Oct
Gary & Peggy VanMeter	11-Oct
Fred & Bonnie Rager	12-Oct
Jerry & Amanda Elkins	14-Oct
Jon & Alyssa Emery	15-Oct
Toby & Kim Guill	17-Oct
Evert & Karen White	17-Oct
Richard & Mary Lambert	20-Oct

Oct Dates of Joining



10/20/1996	Frank Bagwell
10/22/2006	Cleone Colvin
10/22/2006	Chloe Herrold
10/22/2006	Kelsey Herrold
10/20/1997	Jerry McCall
10/6/1991	Peggy Van Meter

WELCOME STATEMENT

"With open hearts, open minds and open doors; we welcome people of all races, nationalities theologies and abilities. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We offer a safe and compassionate place to reconcile faith, identity, hope, understanding and mutual respect".

Sept Giving

Date	Worship	SS	Giving
9/6/2026	53	14	\$2,254.00
9/13/2026	49	15	\$664.78
9/20/2026	63	19	\$10,570.32
9/27/2026	42	16	\$871.00



Westville United Methodist Church

Give as the Lord calls you to give:
be as generous to God as God has been to you!

Thank you for being Faithful Givers

Your tithes and offerings maybe
mailed to :

WUMC P O Box 619, Westville, In
46391

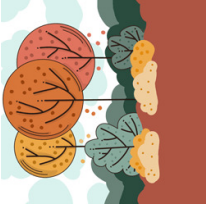
QR Code for giving...





October 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 Lions Club 4-9pm FLC Resale shop 1-4pm	2
4	5	6 Tri Kappa FLC 4-9 pm Resale Shop 9-12	7  Bible Study 6pm	8 Resale Shop 1-4 pm	9
					10  Men's Breakfast 9 am Resale Shop 9-12
11 	12  Trustee Church Council 6pm	13 Resale Shop 9—12	14 Community Meal 5 –6:30pm FLC Bible Study 6:30pm	15 Lions Club Brick Rm Resale Shop 1-4pm	16 Resale Shop 9-12
18	19 Women on a Mission 6 pm	20 Resale Shop 9-12	21 Bible Study 6pm	22 Resale Shop 1-4pm	23 Trunk or Treat & Crazy Maze 5-7 pm Resale Shop 9-noon
25	26	27 Resale Shop 9-12	28 Bible Study 6pm	29 Kairos Resale shop 1-4pm	30 Kairos
					31 Kairos Resale Shop 9- noon