The WORD

Nov 2026

Volume 57 Issue 11



Westville United Methodist Church

"Reach up, Reach in, Reach out

Reach up to God, Reach in to know

God, Reach out in Love"

Communion
Nov 1 2026

Sunday Morning Schedule:

Sunday School 9:15 am –

Worship in the Sanctuary 10:15am

Drive In Service Radio Station 91.3

www.youtube.com@pastortobyguill1052



Free Community Meal Nov 18th

5-6:30pm,

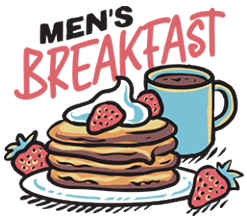
Turkey, Ham / Thanksgiving Dinner

Provided by the Lion's Club

Men's Breakfast

Nov 14th

9 AM





HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

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.



.**Pastor's Corner - November 2026**

"Giving Thanks Anyway"

November has a way of arriving with a change in the air. The leaves have mostly finished their annual performance, the daylight slips away a little earlier each evening, and many of us begin looking toward Thanksgiving tables, family gatherings, and pumpkin pie. Some of us are excited about that. Others are already wondering how many political conversations they can politely avoid before dessert.

Thankfulness comes naturally when life is going well. It's easy to give thanks when the bills are paid, our health is strong, our family relationships are peaceful, and our favorite football team is winning. (For some of us, that last category requires a particularly robust prayer life.)

But Scripture calls us to something deeper than situational gratitude.

The Apostle Paul writes:

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
- 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NRSV)

Notice Paul doesn't say *for* all circumstances. He says *in* all circumstances.

There are situations in life that are not good, and we do not pretend otherwise. The loss of a loved one, a troubling diagnosis, family conflict, loneliness, disappointment, and grief are real. God never asks us to deny our pain or put on a fake smile. Instead, God invites us to recognize that even in the hardest moments, God's presence remains constant.

Christian gratitude is not based on circumstances. It is based on the character of God.

We can be thankful because God is faithful when life is uncertain.

We can be thankful because Christ walks with us through the valleys and not merely on the mountaintops.

We can be thankful because the Holy Spirit continues to work in us even when we cannot see the outcome.

One of the great theological truths of our faith is that God's grace is always preceding us, accompanying us, and drawing us forward. Long before we knew we needed God, God was already at work. Long after we run out of strength, God continues carrying us.

That doesn't mean every day is easy. Some mornings my prayers are eloquent and inspiring. Other mornings they're closer to, "Lord, help me find my coffee before I say something unholy." Thankfully, God's grace covers both kinds of prayers.

Cont.

Cont.

As we move through this month of gratitude, I encourage us to think beyond thanksgiving as a holiday and embrace thankfulness as a spiritual practice. Gratitude changes the way we see the world. It trains our hearts to recognize God's fingerprints in ordinary moments: a conversation with a friend, a meal shared with family, a hymn sung together, a warm handshake on Sunday morning, or the simple gift of another day.

A Challenge for November

I would like to challenge each member of our congregation to keep a "Thankfulness List" throughout the month.

Each day, write down three things for which you are grateful.

They do not need to be dramatic or extraordinary. Some days your list may include a beautiful sunset. Other days it may simply say, "The furnace worked," and honestly, that counts.

At the end of the month, take a few minutes to review your list and notice how often God was present in ways you might have otherwise overlooked.

And then take one additional step: share your gratitude with someone else. Write a note, make a phone call, or offer a word of encouragement. Gratitude grows when it is shared.

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Gracious and loving God,

We thank You for Your many blessings, both seen and unseen. In seasons of abundance and in seasons of struggle, remind us that You are always near.

Teach us to trust Your goodness when life is difficult and to remember Your faithfulness when uncertainty surrounds us. Open our eyes to recognize Your grace in everyday moments and fill our hearts with genuine gratitude.

Bless our church family, our community, and all those who are carrying heavy burdens. May we become people who reflect Your love, extend Your mercy, and share Your hope with others.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.

Amen.

May God's peace and joy be with you throughout this season of thanksgiving. I am grateful for each of you and for the privilege of serving alongside you at Westville United Methodist Church. Let us continue encouraging one another, worshiping faithfully, and giving thanks in all circumstances.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Toby

The Maze of Terror Community Outreach event was pretty terrifying! Kids of all ages enjoyed the boo's and the walk through our transformed church basement designed by Scary Sherri and Frank. Hot dogs and the fixings were served in our Creepy Crawlies Cafe, and kids enjoyed the Trunk-or-Treat candy!

There were so many volunteers to make this event a family fun night. Special thanks to ALL who volunteered to decorate, play a monster role, shop, cook, serve, brought candy, and brought their cars/trucks to the Trunk or Treat.

Halloween in our little church on a beautiful full moon October night was a time to remind us how much children love to dress up and become someone else for a few hours. Candy is just an incidental benefit! Fantasy is everything! And how wonderful to remind children that they do not have to be afraid because God is ALWAYS with us, loving us, and caring for us. What a blessing to receive God's grace and feel His love. Sharing that blessing of kindness, patience, forgiveness, self-control, and love with those who may not feel God's love should be our goal. Look for your blessings each day. BE a blessing to others whenever you can.

And remember…

"For I am the Lord your God
who takes hold of your right hand and says to you,
Do not fear; I am with you."
Isaiah 41:13





"There's a blessing in every moment."


School Supplies










GOD'S LOVE IS PURR-FECT!
MEOW

Women in Mission

Women in Mission Oct 19th, 2026

Present: Jane, Cathy Jo, Sherrie, Cheryl, Layn, Patricia, Denitta, Debbie H, Kristie, Kathie L, Sue and Kristi

We discussed how many Thanksgiving meals we would like to supply. We will provide 20 meals for families. They will be filled on Nov 22, and delivered on Nov. 23rd.

We will continue with Funeral Meals for those in our church. We will come up with a new call list with names, phone numbers, email's for communication.

Our officers for 2027 will be Sherrie Eberheart – President, Vice President – Cathy Jo Grostefon, Treasurer – Kay Tetzloff, and Secretary – Amanda Kelly.

We will sponsor the Community Meal on Jan 20th, Soup and Sandwich

Our next meeting will be Feb. 15, 2027 at 6pm



Trustee/Church Council October 12, 2026

Present: Kay, Amanda, Alan, Evert, Pastor, Jan, Kathie L., Sandi

Trustees: Jan shared the Trustee agenda from Jane. Kay hasn't been able to get pricing for a Generac as she had questions about what size area we are looking to have powered in case of an electric outage. She will get prices for several different sizes. The blacktop of the gravel parking lot is pending and should be done soon. Amanda made a motion to get an estimate from JB West for roof repairs then check with HVAC people regarding the ductwork. Kay seconded and motion passed. Ramey can see what he finds out about the old Bunn coffeepot and possibly sell on Marketplace.

Church Council: Devotion was read and minutes from September meeting were approved,

Discipleship: Trunk or Treat/Haunted Maze fliers will be going out. Peggy and Jan K are checking on games for kids to play while in the FLC. Jan K was checking on a Thrivent grant for decorations. Kathie Long stated that Colleen had encouraged Tri Kappa members to also come and participate in the Trunk or Treat. The Pumpkin Fest float went well. All of the candy and stuffed animals were used.

Worship: Pastor reminded us of his vacation requiring pulpit fill for Nov. 8, 15, and 22nd. He announced that the Gospel According to Andy would finish up after the next one. He will start and Advent Study on Wednesday evenings on December 2nd.

Outreach: Kathie shared that the Pumpkin Fest water booth went well although the weather was a bit cool and our location was less than ideal. We also needed more fliers. She is requesting a better space for next year. 47 Care & Share bags are currently being handed out each week. There has been some discussion about enlarging our blessing box, but it had been pointed out that we need to make sure we have food to fill it before making it bigger. Suggestions to help alleviate that were possibly setting up drop boxes at local places such as the resale shop, the bank, and other places so that the community could help us with this project. And to also get the word out to push monetary donations to the Care & Share project. Kathie also noted that our assistance from St.Vincent DePaul was not as active as it has been in the past. Pastor suggested that Eva and DS Marti Lundy contacted regarding the food insecurities within our community and see if there is more money or grants available that we could apply for from the District Conference level.

Finance: Reports were handed out. The invoice for Bowman Electronics for the new TV and accessories for the FLC was discussed. Amanda made a motion, with Kay seconding, that the invoice be paid from General Fund. Motion passed.

Resale: Fall items continue to be put out. There was also discussion about not relying so heavily on them for church repairs and possibly focus on more mission ideas.

SPRC: We discussed Jane's evaluation for the upcoming year.

With no new business, the meeting was adjourned.



Up Coming Events

Nov. 9th AED Training—Hands On 5 pm FLC/anyone may attend

6 pm Trustee/Church Council Meeting

Nov. 14th Men's Breakfast 9 am

Nov. 18th Community Meal 5-6:30 pm

(provided by the Lion's Club)

Nov. 22nd Thanksgiving Baskets prepared after church

Nov. 22nd Decorating our church for Christmas

Nov. 23rd Thanksgiving Baskets Delivered

Dec. 2, 9,16,23 Advent Bible Study 6pm

Dec. 5th Cookie Walk & Craft Fair

Dec. 12 Men's Breakfast 9 am

Dec. 16th Community Meal

Dec. 24th Candle Light Christmas Eve Service 11pm

We will be supporting the Community Christmas Baskets with

Pancake Mix & Syrup.

We will also contribute hats and mittens for the kids that receive baskets.



Join us in local missions!



Items needed for the Food Pantry:

11/1 Personal Hygiene: toothpaste, & brushes, soap, deodorant, sanitary napkins, tampons., shaving cream

11/8 Pastas, noodles, macaroni, sauces, Hamburger Helper

11/15 Sugar, flour, cake mixes, cooking oil, shortening

11/22 Drinks, juices, coffee, coffee filters, tea

11/29 Buyers Choice

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 Nov. 23rd ORDER TO BE READY FOR PUBLICATION BY Nov 25th 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.

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

***Those suffering with addiction,** poverty, &/or depression *Unspoken Prayers **Families **Youth **First Responders **Law Enforcement

The Care Corner
Adele Lundahl

Guidance & Protection
Quinn Bacon Aaron Hale
Dylan Hale Emily Hannon

All Military Personnel
All Victims of War

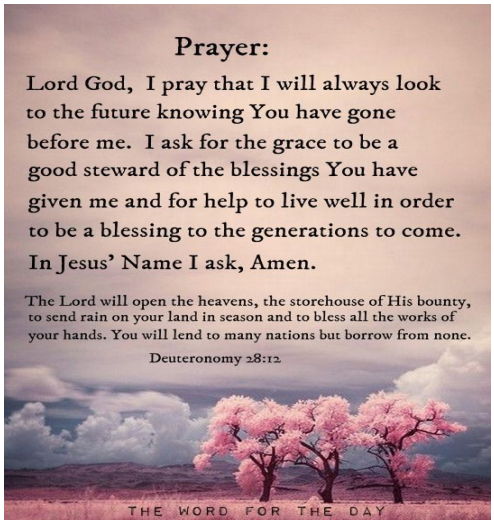






PRAYER CHAIN

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



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



Nov Birthdays

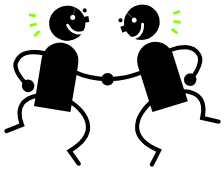
Bob McCaughey	1-Nov
Ramey Salyer	1-Nov
Kevin Bridges	3-Nov
Sherry Eberhardt	6-Nov
George Wyels	8-Nov
Tina Larsen	11-Nov
Kathleen Nichols	13-Nov
Mary Olmos	13-Nov
Michaela O'Brien	17-Nov
Tammy May	18-Nov
Ron Stallings	21-Nov
Zach Guill	28-Nov

Nov Wedding Anniversary's



Carl & Adele Lundah	4-Nov
Rich & Denitta Newenhouse	21-Nov

Nov Dates of Joining



11/22/1982	JohnCulbertson
11/22/1982	Marie Culbertson
11/28/1976	Mary Howard
11/28/1976	Warren Howard
11/2/1997	Judy Rehlander
11/30/1982	Rick Tetzloff
11/2/2025	Tina Dickinson
11/2/2025	David Dickinson
11/2/2025	Dottie Bentley

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".

Oct Giving

Date	Worship	SS	Giving
10/4/2026	57	13	$2,332.00
10/11/2026	54	12	$1,500.00
10/18/2026	65	14	$922.00
10/25/2026	52	12	$1,685.00



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 :

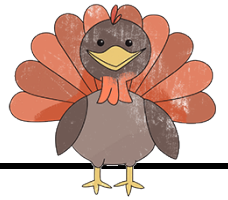
WUMC P O Box 619, Westville, In 46391

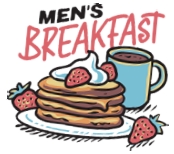
QR Code for giving...

MOBILE GIVING



November 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1		3 TRI KAPPA FLC 4-9 RESALE SHOP 9-NOON	4	5 Lions Club 4-9pm FLC Resale shop 1-4pm	6 FLC Wall Painting	7 Resale Shop 9-12
8	9  Hands on Training AED 5 pm Trustee/Church Council 6 pm	10 Resale Shop 9-12	11	12 Resale Shop 1-4 pm	13	14  Men's Breakfast 9 am Resale Shop 9-12
15	16	17 Resale Shop 9—12	18 Community Meal 5 –6:30pm FLC	19 Lions Club Brick Rm Resale Shop 1-4pm	20	21 Resale Shop 9-12
22 **Thanksgiving Baskets prepared**	23 Baskets delivered	24 Resale Shop 9-12	25	26 	27	28 Resale Shop 9-noon
29 **FLC Rented**	30	Dec 1 Resale Shop 9-12	2 Advent Bible Study	3 Lions Club Resale shop 1-4pm	4	5 Cookie Walk & Craft Fair Resale Shop 9- noon