

November 2026

Sunday Worship Schedule:	
Choir Rehearsal	8:30am
Fellowship Breakfast	9:00am
Sunday Service	10:00am
Children's Sunday School	10:30am
Christ International Church	12:30pm

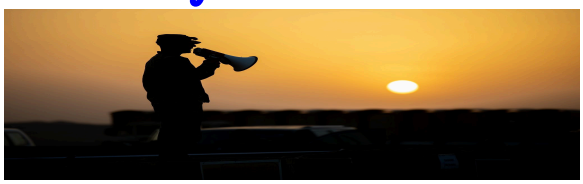
Bridgeport UMC
Pastor Ken Loudenback
1305 Bridgeport Road
Indianapolis, IN 46231
(317) 241-6195

"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

~Psalm 100:5



A Message From Pastor Ken



"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever." — Psalm 118:1

As we enter November, our hearts turn toward gratitude, reflection, and the quiet anticipation of Advent. October was a month filled with fellowship, service, and the steady presence of God's grace among us. Now we step into a season where thanksgiving and hope meet, reminding us again that God is faithful in every chapter of our life together.

This month brings several important moments in the life of our church. On **November 4 at 6-730 PM**, we will gather with churches across the **East Central Heights Charge Conference at Southport UMC** . This annual meeting helps us reflect on our ministry, celebrate what God has done, and commit ourselves to the work ahead. It is a humbling reminder that Bridgeport is part of a larger connection — a family of believers seeking to serve Christ faithfully in our communities. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We also look forward to a new event this year: **Pie & Bingo on November 14 at 2-4pm**. It will be an event of laughter, friendship, and plenty of "fun fun fun" as we enjoy delicious pies as prizes for the winners of a few friendly rounds of bingo. These simple moments of joy are part of what makes Bridgeport "The Small Church with a Big Heart." They remind us that fellowship is a gift from God, and joy is a sign of His Spirit at work among us.

As Thanksgiving approaches, we pause to remember God's goodness. We give thanks for our congregation — members and non-members, the old and the new, those who serve quietly and those who lead boldly. I am grateful for each person who helps make Bridgeport a place of welcome, prayer, and compassion. May we enter this season with humble hearts, recognizing that every blessing comes from our Father in Heaven, by His power and grace through His Son Jesus Christ, and by the leading of the Holy Spirit.

At the end of the month, we begin **Advent**, the season of holy expectation. Advent invites us to slow down, to listen, and to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. It is a season of hope — not because life is easy, but because God is near. As we light the candles each week, may we remember that the Light of the World still shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

So as we move through this month of gratitude and anticipation, may the peace of Christ guard our hearts, may the joy of the Spirit strengthen our steps, and may the love of God bind us together as one family in faith.

May the God of Hope fill you with Joy and Peace in Believing and may that Hope abound in you by the Power of The Holy Spirit.

Pastor Ken



Help Build Our New Children's Playground!

Exciting news for our church family—**BUMC has officially received a grant to build a new Children's Playground!**

To bring this wonderful project to life, we are forming a dedicated **5-member Playground Committee**. This group will help guide key decisions, including:

- Selecting the ideal location on church grounds
- Choosing safe, fun, and engaging playground equipment
- Gathering pricing and options for perimeter fencing
- Handling other project details as they arise

We are looking for individuals with a variety of backgrounds and passions to serve, including those with experience in **education**, **physical therapy**, or **insurance**, as well as a representative from the **Trustees**. Most importantly, we want anyone who loves children and longs to see more young families and children thriving in our church community!

If you have any questions, or you want to see the grant proposal, please see Pastor Ken or Beth.

Ready to help?

Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex if you would like to serve on this committee.



Bible Study

Randy Boys

The words of the Lord are the seeds that fall into our hearts. Mediation and prayers must water them, and obedience will keep them in the light. Thus they will bear fruit.

Studying the Bible is more than acquiring knowledge. We must also develop a deep and abiding relationship with God and learn to put into practice what we have learned.

Following the Worship Service on November 1, 2026, we will gather to discuss a new Bible Study. At this time, we will discuss days and times to meet and the topic preferred. This information will be forwarded to everyone who could not stay on this date so that you can attend our sessions.

Advent Season



Advent season begins November 29, 2026. Margie Mason has graciously volunteered to head up the Church decorating committee. Please talk to Margie or Beth if you are willing to help with this fun and important committee.

Meeting Agendas & Minutes

A copy of all meeting agendas and minutes will be in the office if you are wanting to look at them. Please just ask Pastor Ken, Joy, or Beth and you will be given the notebook that they are all kept in.

Quilting Group

Janice Fontenot



The quilter is there on the third Saturday of the month. There will be no quilting group in December. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas!



Prayer Requests

Prayer requests can be made by email at prayerlist@smallchurchbigheart.com.

Sunday School News



Children's Sunday School will begin in January. Please find it in your heart to sign up as a Sunday School teacher. We will be having an **organizational meeting November 22nd directly after Worship Service.** This meeting should not last any longer than 15 minutes. At that time, we will discuss how lessons will be shared and we will discuss the process of signing up for Sundays to teach. Please know that sign-ups will be at your own pace. You might want to only teach once every 2 months, once a month, or maybe just as a substitute. It is totally flexible with your schedule.

Missions in Motion

Carol Gardner

Our stuffed animal campaign was a huge success. Thanks to Bridgeport United Methodist Church family for donating 132 fluffy guys and gals to IMPD Southwest District. They were overjoyed and very thankful for the gift and promised to put them to good use.





Toni Huffer with our display of the stuffed animals we collected. This was early on. By the end of the campaign, we had the pew completely full as well as the floor under it!

Our **focus for November will be the Christmas shoeboxes.** Judy Pearson will take the lead for this project. If you have any questions you can see Judy or me and we will try to help you. Thank you, Judy, in advance for your help with this endeavor.



Beginning **November 15 and ending November 29 we will be taking orders for poinsettias** for Christmas. You may dedicate these to a loved one who has passed, in honor of someone, or just purchase one for yourself or your family. They are $15 each with no limit.

I also want to personally thank Inessa Hansen and Nancy Brown for volunteering and committing their time to help on the missions committee.



Membership Update

Judy Pearson

A Season of Gratitude and Belonging

As we enter November, we are reminded of the many blessings God has given us. One of those blessings is our church family here at Bridgeport United Methodist Church.

Membership is about more than having your name on a church roll. It is about belonging, building relationships, supporting one another, and growing together in faith.

As we look toward the holiday season, I encourage each of us to reach out to someone we haven't seen in a while, invite a friend or neighbor to worship, or simply take a moment to welcome someone new.

A simple phone call, a friendly smile, or an invitation to sit together during worship can make a lasting difference. Sometimes the smallest acts of kindness create the strongest connections.

As your Membership Chair, I want everyone who walks through our doors to feel welcomed, valued, and part of our church family.

This Thanksgiving season, let us be thankful not only for the blessings we have received but also for the opportunities we have to be a blessing to others.

Our church is more than a building. It is the people who fill it with faith, love, and fellowship.



Submissions for December Newsletter.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the December Bridge. Pictures are also welcome! You can email your info to bethaschwitz@gmail.com or you can place a hard copy on the desk in the office. The submission deadline for November is November 24, 2026.

Let's Laugh!



A church had a picnic and invited the entire community to come. The Pastor placed a basket full of apples on one end of a table with a sign saying, "Take only one apple please - Remember that God is watching."

On the other end of the table was a plate of cookies. One of the children placed a sign saying, “Take all the cookies you want–God is watching the apples.



Feel that Stretch!

Chair Yoga Class
Enhance Your Flexibility, Strength, and Well-Being!

Class Details:

When:	Saturdays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Where:	Bridgeport United Methodist Church 1305 Bridgeport Road, Indianapolis, In 46231
Who:	Perfect for Seniors, All Fitness Levels, & Those with Mobility Challenges
What:	Seated & Supported Posed * Breathing & Relaxation Techniques * Improve Posture, Balance, & Mobility *Reduce Stress & Tension.
Instructor:	Rosalia has been leading Yoga Classes for many years and is excited to bring this opportunity to You!



Book Club

For our November get together, the Book Club will be discussing *Keeper of Happy Endings* by Barbara Davis. Come join us on the second Saturday of each month at 10:30am. We have a lot of discussion, and not all of it is about the book. We share stories, laugh a lot, and just enjoy being with each other. So,even if you didn't read the book, you can still join us and be a part of the fun.

Upcoming Dates



November 4:	**Charge Conference Southport UMC 6:00pm**
November 14:	**Pie & Bingo 2:00 - 4:00pm**
November 22:	**Sunday School Organizational Meeting 11:00 - 11:15**
November 26:	**Happy Thanksgiving**
November 29:	**1st Day of Advent**