

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14,
2025
8:30 AM



✠ Rise in body or in spirit.
The congregation speaks
/ sings the text in **bold**
type



For information about the
ministries, mission, and
activities of Duluth First
United Methodist Church,
please visit
duluthumc.org.



Children are welcome in
worship!

Children's activity sheets
& crayons are available at
the main entrance to help
guide them in active
participation of worship.

Children newborn
through Pre-K are invited
to go to Childcare Corner,
near the Gathering Room.



Listening devices are
available during all
worship services. See an
usher or
greeter for assistance.

ENTRANCE

Prelude

Seoyoung Lee, *Pianist*

Welcome & Announcements

Keenan Klayman

✠ Call to Worship

We come seeking refuge in a world where goodness and good news
can feel far away.

God is our hope and our refuge.

We come searching for safety in a world that often calls foolishness
wisdom and wisdom foolishness.

God is our hope and our refuge.

We come longing for rest in a world that bombards us with all the
ways people work against the abundant life and flourishing of their
neighbors.

God is our hope and our refuge.

Come, children of God, to find refuge and hope in God who delivers
and restores us.

**May God teach us and guide us to find refuge and be refuge with
and for our neighbors today and every day.**

✠ Hymn 617 | *I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord* – DOVE OF PEACE

WORD & RESPONSE

✠ Scripture | Psalm 14

Amy Burke

Common
English Bible

Fools say in their hearts, There is no God.
They are corrupt and do evil things; not one of them does anything good.
² The Lord looks down from heaven on humans
to see if anyone is wise, to see if anyone seeks God,
³ but all of them have turned bad. Everyone is corrupt.
No one does good—not even one person!
⁴ Are they dumb, all these evildoers,
devouring my people like they are eating bread
but never calling on the Lord?
⁵ Count on it: they will be in utter panic
because God is with the righteous generation.
⁶ You evildoers may humiliate the plans of those who suffer,
but the Lord is their refuge.
⁷ Let Israel's salvation come out of Zion!
When the Lord changes his people's circumstances for the better,
Jacob will rejoice; Israel will celebrate!

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.



Your giving is
the sole
support of the
ministries of
Duluth First
UMC.
For online
giving,
go to
[duluthumc.org/
online-giving](https://duluthumc.org/online-giving),
or scan the QR
code with
your mobile
device.



Sermon | *Hope is in the Lord*

Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino, Associate Pastor

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

**O Most Patient God,
we recognize how much we need you for life itself.
But how often have we behaved
as if we did not know or even care about you?
How often have we become the ones who do not carry out justice?
How often have we tried to dominate others,
even as you stand with them?
How often have we participated in the desolation of your creation
by our treatment of the heavens, the earth, and its waters?
Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way.
All Loving God, we want to be among those whom you seek.
Shower your mercy upon us.
Find us and lead us safely home to faithfulness.**

My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost.
God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around,
Gathering us in to the people of God.
Let us rejoice in God's mercy! Amen.

✠ Sharing the Peace of Christ

Ministry Moment | *Happy Sacks*

Debbie Johnson

Receiving God's Tithe & Our Offering

Offertory | *The Servant Song* – arr. Francis Patrick O'Brien

Cheryl Greene, Vicki McLemore, Sara Brewer
Verena Anders, Gail Waigand, Mark Wettlaufer, *Vocalists*

✠ Doxology | *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* – OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

✠ The Great Thanksgiving

Hymnal, pgs. 17-18

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread, Receiving the Bread & Cup

Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have
given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength
of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

SENDING

✠ Hymn | *The Spirit sends Us Forth to Serve* – LAND OF REST

For questions regarding membership, contact Rev. Dr. Anna Kate Rawles – arawles@duluthumc.org or 770.476.3776, x. 128.

Those who wish to join the church today are invited to come forward as we sing the final hymn.

ALSO SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Audio/Visual Team:

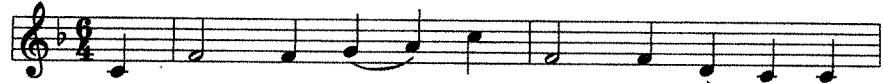
Ian Toole
Johnathan Ancell
James Lee

Usher Captains:

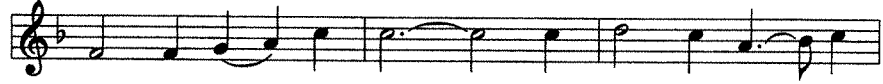
David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

Flower Team:

Pam Logan



1. The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we
2. We go to com - fort those who mourn and
3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to
4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the



go in Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
set the bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
scat - ter joy like seed and, all our days, to
gos - pel to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Reception of New Members (as applicable)

Hymnal, pgs. 34, 38

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude



CHANCEL FLOWERS

are given today in loving memory of Archie Davis, by his sister, Jeanine Gullet.

Music reprinted by permission: ONE LICENSE (A-724074)
Streaming license: CCLI (CSPL-137589)



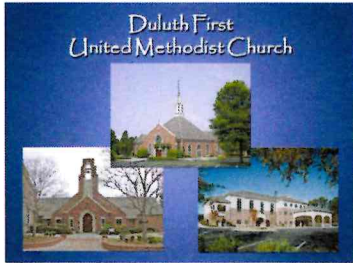
The Sunday Supplement



SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

Welcome to Duluth First United Methodist Church!

We are glad that you came to worship with us today. The mission of Duluth First United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. If you are looking for more information about Duluth First United Methodist Church and its ministries, Bible studies, and other programs and events, please be sure to visit our church's website at www.duluthumc.org.



To join Duluth First United Methodist Church, please come forward as we sing the song that follows the Invitation to Church Membership.

If you have any questions regarding membership or you are visiting and would like additional information, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles, Associate Pastor, by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128.

Prayer Concerns



- Kathy Anderson • Reed Balkcom • Doris Brackett • Sara Brewer
- Gen Butterworth • Marie Griffin • Erica Hall • Rosemary Hall
- Shamain Hallett • Carol Hitchcock • Linton Jones
- ShirleyGrace Madajewski • Lynne Ometter • Tom Owens
- Mike Ramstead • Henry Roerig • Jeff Schulz
- Clara Truesdell • Dale VanPelt • Betty Worthington
- Tracy Balkcom & family in the death of her father.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

HELP — HOPE — HEALING

Stephen Ministers are here for you when life gets difficult.

For more information or to request the support and care of a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino by e-mail at ckfuino@duluthumc.org or call Stephen Leader Ann Fleming at 678-644-9108.



Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gatherings

Students in the 6th through 12th grades are invited to join us on Sunday nights for **Sunday Night Gatherings** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank"), located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. **Sunday Night Gatherings** include great dinners, fun games, amazing worship, inspirational and relevant messages and life-changing small groups.

Our schedule for the month of September is:

- **Sunday, September 14th:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, September 21st:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, September 28th:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank").



Please visit the **Youth Ministry's** website at <https://dfumcstudents.org> for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, by e-mail at mlee@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 119.

Happy Sacks: Helping Children in Our Community

A growing number of school children in our community rely on free and reduced priced meals at school for their main daily meals. However, there may not be enough food to go around over the weekend. The goal of the **Happy Sacks** mission outreach program is to provide healthy snacks for school children over the weekend. We pack approximately **150 Happy Sacks each week**, which are then delivered to the schools on Friday, and given out by the school counselors to the appropriate children.



For the 2024-25 school year, we packed and delivered **4,943 Happy Sacks**. Since the program began in the Fall of 2012, we have delivered **40,044 Happy Sacks** to children in our community. The need continues to grow as does the cost of filling the bags. The **Happy Sacks** program is not a part of the church's regular budget, so we depend on your donations.



As we get ready to begin our 14th year of the **Happy Sacks** program, please consider picking up a few extra items the next time you're at the store or making a financial donation to support the **Happy Sacks** ministry. For more information, please visit the **MISSIONS** page under the **MINISTRIES** tab on the church's website - duluthumc.org, or scan the QR code located to the right with your smartphone or tablet. Thank you for your continued support of this mission!

Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: September 17th

Our Food Ministry staff, along with the amazing Dinner Belles and Beaus, prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices. Enjoy fellowship around the table with family and friends. **Join us on Wednesday, September 17th, for "Breakfast for Dinner" night! The menu includes assorted quiche, choice of sausage or bacon, cheese grits, tater tots, French toast sticks, biscuits, and dessert. For the kids – the same.**

Dinner service hours are 5 to 6:30 p.m., with to-go boxes available from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

The prices for Wednesday Night Dinners are:

- \$10.00 for adults (including seniors and from 11 years up);
- \$7.00 for children 10 years and younger;
- \$30.00 for family meals (nuclear family members only – husband, wife, their children under 18 years);
- \$7.00 for salad bar only, which includes the salad bar, a choice of baked potato or sweet potato, dessert and a drink.

Credit/debit card payments, as well as cash and checks, are accepted.



Wednesday Night Food Drive: September 17th

The **Wednesday Night Food Drive** at Duluth First UMC for the **Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op** is our weekly mission project, combined with the many Wednesday evening activities offered at the church. **On September 17th we ask you to bring oatmeal.** A table for donated items will be located outside of the main entrance to Hinton Hall.

Join us for a delicious dinner and fellowship in Hinton Hall, pick up a to-go dinner for your family, join us for any of our Wednesday evening activities, and drop off food items to help other families in need. We thank you for your support.



Book Club to Discuss "Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again": Tuesday, September 22nd

Join us on Monday, September 22nd, as the Book Club discuss Rachel Held Evans' **Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again**, her book on falling in love with the Bible again. "If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? When New York Times bestselling author Rachel Held Evans found herself asking these questions, she embarked on a journey to better understand what the Bible is and how it's meant to be read. What she discovered changed her--and it can change you, too."

The **Book Club** will meet from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in room F-145, located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128.



Operation Christmas Child is Underway

Operation Christmas Child, our annual participation in **Samaritan's Purse's** mission for God's children around the world, is underway. In 2024, **Samaritan's Purse** delivered over 11.9 million shoeboxes in over 170 countries and territories, and since the beginning of the program in 1993, over 232 million shoeboxes have been delivered. By filling shoeboxes with toys, school supplies and hygiene items, you not only give to children in need the only gift they will likely receive for Christmas, but also deliver hope, joy and the gospel of Jesus Christ to them and their families.

Many children who receive these shoeboxes gifts will also be enrolled in **Operation Christmas Child's** 12-lesson discipleship program, **The Greatest Journey**, with over 5.5 million children participating last year. Children learn about God's amazing love and what it means to faithfully follow Jesus Christ.

Empty shoeboxes are available in the Veterans Memorial Gathering Room, in the hallway near Hinton Hall, and outside of room F145, located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. Each box includes ideas on how to pack a shoebox, what not to include, and an adhesive label. A \$10 processing donation for each shoebox you take and fill covers the processing and shipping of the shoebox and shipping, as well as supporting training and materials for The Greatest Journey activities. The adhesive label allows you to register your shoebox(s), make your donation, and track your shoebox on-line. Completed shoeboxes need to be returned to the Veterans Memorial Gathering Room, the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall stage, in Hinton Hall, or outside room F145 no later than Sunday, November 16th.

If you prefer to "fill a shoebox" online, there is a special website for you to use. The cost of the **Build Online Shoebox** option is \$30 per online shoebox, and you can also include **The Greatest Journey** materials for an additional \$6. There are two online options: build the shoebox yourself by selecting items to be included in the shoebox, or select the option where the shoebox is built by Samaritan's Purse. Please scan the QR code located to the right with your smartphone or tablet to complete your shoebox online. You can also find a link to fill out a shoebox online by going to the church's website - duluthumc.org - clicking on the **MINISTRIES** tab and then clicking on the **MISSIONS** tab.



Online shoeboxes are delivered to certain locations with special customs and cultural needs. **Take-home instructions for online shoeboxes can also be found at the Operation Christmas Child tables.** This year we hope to fill 80 online shoeboxes. The deadline to complete online shoeboxes is Friday, December 19th.

Operation Christmas Child is a worthwhile and fun project for our Sunday School classes, Women's Circles, Youth Group, and families with their children to undertake. **Let's try to better Duluth First UMC's total of 160 boxes we packed last year!** For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Charlie Doerlich by e-mail at chaz3d@gmail.com or call 678-662-2115.



Share the love of Jesus, through the power of a simple gift, with children around the world.



42nd Annual Duluth Fall Festival: September 27th & 28th

Mark your calendars and save the dates for the **42nd Annual Duluth Fall Festival** being held Saturday, September 27th, and Sunday, September 28th, in downtown Duluth. Duluth First United Methodist Church and its congregation take an active roll in the **Fall Festival** each year.



The **Fall Festival** kicks off on September 27th with a parade through downtown beginning at 10 a.m. This year's Grand Marshals will be Kathryn Willis and Ann Odum — sisters, long-time members of Duluth First UMC, and long-time residents of Duluth.

On, September 28th the **Duluth 5K Donut Dash** race, a qualifier for the Peachtree Road Race, starts at 8 a.m. The race attracts both the serious competitive racer and the occasional runner/walker, and provides an opportunity for participants of all ages to help this year's race beneficiary, **Wellroot Family Services**, supporting their vision of a world where every child is raised in a loving, compassionate, and nurturing home. For additional information about

Wellroot Family Services, please visit their website at www.wellroot.org. To sign up for the **Duluth Donut Dash**, please go to www.duluthdonutdash5k.org.

Join us for **Worship on the Town Green** on September 28th with a community worship service beginning at 10 a.m. at the Duluth Town Green. Duluth First United Methodist Church's Rev. David Burchett will be leading the morning's worship service, with the church's Contemporary Worship Praise Team leading the worship music.

PLEASE NOTE:

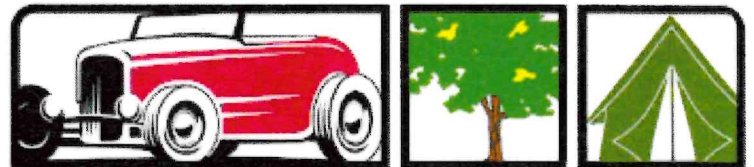
- On September 28th, our Contemporary Worship Service will take place beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Duluth Town Green for the **Duluth Fall Festival's Worship on the Town Green** with Rev. David Burchett preaching.
- The 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship services **WILL MEET** in the Sanctuary with Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles preaching.
- Sunday school classes for children and youth will not be held on September 28th.

For additional information about the **Duluth Fall Festival**, please visit duluthfallfestival.org.

BSA Troop 419's 9th Annual "Cars for Campouts" Classic Car Show, Cruise In, and BBQ: **Saturday, October 4th**

BSA Troop 419 will hold their 9th Annual "Cars for Campouts" Fundraiser Car Show, Cruise In, and BBQ on Saturday, October 4th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the church's front parking lot. If you have a special vehicle (all years, makes, models) – muscle cars, classics, resto-mods, exotics, bikes, and one-offs – if it rolls, please bring it and participate.

Preregistration by October 3rd is \$20, and registration on the day of the show is \$25. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/cars4campouts-2025>. Sixty participant-judged awards will be presented. If you just want to see some cool vehicles, feel free to attend as admission for spectators is free.



CARS FOR CAMPOUTS

Food and beverages will be available. Enjoy great food, hots dogs, BBQ (available on-site or for take home) snacks and beverages.

If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to carshow@bsatrop419.org, or call Mike Ringham at 770-815-4206. All proceeds from the event help make **BSA Troop 419's** program one of the best in the council, and with your support, will continue to do so.

"Blessing of the Animals" Service: Sunday, October 5th

Bring your pets for our "Blessing of the Animals" service on Sunday, October 5th, at 3:00 p.m. on the Fellowship Terrace, located in front of the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. We will gather for a short service and offer a blessing for each animal individually. All friendly leashed, crated, or contained animals are welcome! Your pet not interested in being with other animals? Bring a photo or a special toy to have blessed!

In case of rain the service will be held under the rear portico entrance of the Sheldon Family Life Center. Please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org with any questions.



Crafts, Pieces of Art, and Baked Goods Needed for "Bundle Up for Buffalo" Annual Fundraiser:

November 15th & 16th

Crafters, potters, artists, and bakers of all kinds – your talents will be needed in November! It may seem a long time from now, but it really isn't and it is not too soon to be thinking about our annual missions fundraiser, **Bundle Up for Buffalo**, on Saturday, November 15th, and Sunday, November 16th. All proceeds from the **Bundle Up for Buffalo** fundraiser help our sister church, Seneca Street United Methodist Church in Buffalo, NY, keep the heat on their facility during the winter months which fall from October 2025 through April 2026. This helps provide a safe, warm, after-school location for neighborhood children to go to.

You have been so faithful in prayer for this "pocket of poverty" in the North for many years. Please consider what you can make, and something that others would enjoy purchasing. Thank you for your support.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



3208 Duluth Hwy. 120, Duluth, GA 30096

Office Phone: 770-476-3776 • Fax: 770-623-8511

Website: www.duluthumc.org

Facebook: DuluthFirstUMC • Instagram: duluthfirstumc

Church Staff Directory

Johnathan Ancell

Director of Worship Technology
jancell@duluthumc.org

Verena Lucía Anders, Ext. 116

Minister of Music & Worship Arts
vanders@duluthumc.org

Tracy Brinker, Ext. 112

Receptionist
tbrinker@duluthumc.org

David Burchett, Ext. 124

Assistant Pastor
dburchett@duluthumc.org

C. Kay Fuino, Ext. 117

Associate Pastor
ckfuino@duluthumc.org

Sherry Griffeth, Ext. 110

Executive Assistant
sgriffeth@duluthumc.org

Susan Johnson, Pianist

Jan Jones, Ext. 113

Financial Assistant
jjones@duluthumc.org

Min Lee, Ext. 119

*Director of Youth Ministries
& Contemporary Worship Music Director*
mlee@duluthumc.org

Seoyoung Lee, Organist

Benjamin Rah, Ext. 120

Church Administrator
brah@duluthumc.org

AnnaKate Rawles, Ext. 128

Associate Pastor
arawles@duluthumc.org

Marilyn Scheiwe, Ext. 111

Event Coordinator
mscheiwe@duluthumc.org

Lee Stribling, Ext. 136

Director of Maintenance/Security
lstribling@duluthumc.org

Pat Szathmary, Ext. 131

Christian Beginnings Assistant Director
pszathmary@duluthumc.org

Terry Tippens, Ext. 114

Senior Pastor
ttippens@duluthumc.org

Juan Venegas, Ext. 145

Food Ministry Manager
jvenegas@duluthumc.org

Linda Wettlaufer, Ext. 213

Childcare Director
lwettlaufer@duluthumc.org

Ken Willi, Ext. 127

Director of Communications
kwilli@duluthumc.org

Leslie Yokeley, Ext. 138

*Director of Children's Ministries
& Christian Beginnings*
lyokeley@duluthumc.org

Louise McDaniel Memorial Church Library

library@duluthumc.org

Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten

Office Phone: 770-497-1743