

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 28,
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

Verena Lucía Anders
Director of Music & Worship Arts

✠ Call to Worship

Open your hearts to God's loving mercy.

Lord, come into our hearts this day.

Having received God's mercy, bring that love to others.

Lord, be with us as we reach out to others in compassion.

Feel your spirits filled with the goodness of God.

**Lord, we thank you for the many blessings which you pour into
our lives. Amen.**

✠ Hymn 160 | *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* – MARION

WORD & RESPONSE

✠ Scripture | Philippians 1:12-26

Joel McLemore

New Revised
Standard
Version,
Updated Edition

I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually resulted in the progress of the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ, ¹⁴ and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear. ¹⁵ Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry but others from goodwill. ¹⁶ These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel; ¹⁷ the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my salvation. ²⁰ It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way but that by my speaking with all boldness Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon | *A Joyful Witness*

Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles
Associate Pastor

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Hymnal, p.12

✠ Sharing the Peace of Christ

Ministry Moment | *Trunk or Treat*

Receiving God's Tithe & Our Offering



Offertory | *The Gift of Love* – Hal Hopson

Tim & Diane Near, Pat & Larry Burden, Jan Jones, Sara Brewer
Randy Sutt, Gail Waigand, Vicki McLemore, *Vocalists*

Your giving is the sole support of the ministries of Duluth First UMC.

For online giving, go to duluthumc.org/online-giving, or scan the QR code with your mobile device.

✠ 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

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

...

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer our ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...

All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
Amen.

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

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
Charlie Greene

Usher Captains:
David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

SENDING

✠ Hymn 128 | *He Leadeth Me* – HE LEADETH ME

Reception of New Members (as applicable)

Hymnal, pgs. 34, 38

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude

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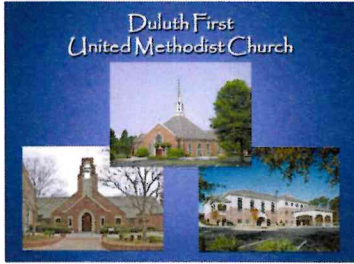
The Sunday Supplement



SEPTEMBER 28, 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



- Mary Ellen Ask • Cynthia Ballin
- Dale Braynard • Sara Brewer
- Beth Bunten • Gen Butterworth
- Rosemary Hall • Shamain Hallett • Carol Hitchcock
- Bruce Houston • Linton Jones • Lynne Ometer
- Tom Owens • Mike Ramstead • Jeff Schulz
- Clara Truesdell • Dale VanPelt • Easton Wall • Harold Whitlock
- Larry Bunten & family in the death of his brother, Eddie.



Want someone to talk to? Stephen Ministers are there for you.

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.



"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.



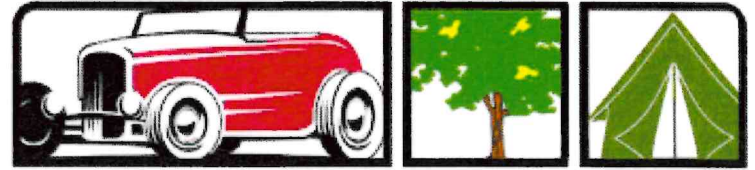
OVER

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, hot 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.

Missions Ministry Fundraiser - Cinnamon Rolls: Sunday, October 5th

The Missions Ministry will be having a delicious fundraiser coming up on **Sunday, October 5th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in The Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. We invite you to come help support Duluth First UMC in being the hands and feet of Christ in our community by stopping and enjoying some hot, delicious cinnamon rolls.



Cinnamon rolls will be \$5 each, or two for \$9, and donations are always accepted. Pre-order forms (paper and online) are available for individuals and Sunday School classes to place their cinnamon rolls orders ahead of time. Paper order forms are available at the Missions Ministry bulletin boards located around the church, and online orders can be placed by scanning the QR code located to the right with your smart phone or tablet. The deadline for placing pre-orders will be **Wednesday, October 1st, at 9 p.m.**



All proceeds will go toward supporting our local mission efforts which our general giving goes towards in the Duluth/Gwinnett County areas, such as the Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op, the Duluth Care Team, Rainbow Village, Family Promise, and others. **Thank you for your support!**

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 28th:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank").

Our schedule for the month of October is:

- **Sunday, October 5th:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 12th:** S'Mores Night from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Outdoor Classroom (back of church property);
- **Sunday, October 19th:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 26th:** Trunk or Treat at 5:00 p.m. in the church's front parking lot.



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.

Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: October 1st

Our Food Ministry staff, along with the amazing Dinner Belles and Beaus volunteers, prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices. Enjoy fellowship around the table with family and friends. **The menu for Wednesday, October 1st, is meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, butter peas, biscuits, and dessert. For the kids - hamburgers and French fries.**

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: October 1st

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 October 1st we ask you to bring cereal.** 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.



Join Us at Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 26th

Fall is upon us, and you know what that means? It's time for pumpkins, leaves, football, and **Trunk or Treat! Trunk or Treat,** on Sunday, October 26th, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the church's front parking lot, is an excellent opportunity to gather your friends, family, and neighbors and bring them to Duluth First United Methodist Church for fun, food, and, of course, going trunk to trunk collecting candy. This is such a great way to share your love of church community with others, and "boo-tiful" way to fellowship with one another! Everyone is invited to participate!



Our goal is to have 40 trunks this year - that means we need YOU! Please scan the QR code located to the right with your smart phone or tablet to claim your spot. We hope to have lots of fun, decorated trunks, and even better,

decorated trunks with games. We also need volunteers to help set up, break down, donate candy, and take candy refills to our awesome trunks. Set-up time begins at 4:30 p.m. and trick-or-treating begins at 5:00 p.m.

Please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles with any questions by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128.



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.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child, our annual participation in **Samaritan's Purse's** mission for God's children around the world, is underway. 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.

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.

You also have the option to "fill a shoebox" online. 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.

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.



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