



The Sunday Supplement



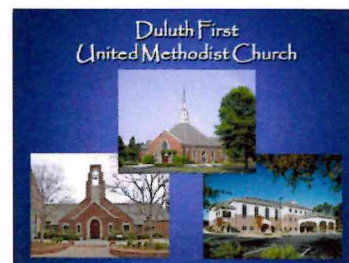
APRIL 26, 2026

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.

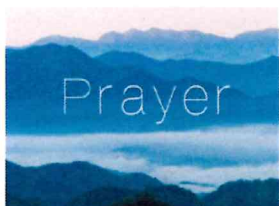
To join Duluth First United Methodist Church, please come forward as we sing the song that follows the Invitation to Church Membership.

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

- Sara Adams • Kathy Anderson • Jack Brannon • David Cook • Lorraine Day • Ann Fleming
- Rosemary Hall • John Hammons • Luke Livingston • Pam Logan • Dottie Moor
- Scott Parrish's mother, Kathleen • Ethel Sales • Jeff Schulz • Bill Swisher • Sharon Swisher • Dale VanPelt
- Betty Bluster & family in the death of her brother-in-law.
- Beth Hollstein & family in the death of her uncle.
- Deb Jackson & family in the death of her uncle.
- Tim Near & family in the death of his mother.
- The family of Mary Jo Southerland in her death.
- Joyce Upchurch & family in the death of her brother.



**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.



Recognizing Our Graduates of 2026:

Today, April 26th, Is the Final Day to Submit Photos and Information

If you have a student (or if you are the student) who is a member of Duluth First UMC and is graduating from high school, trade school, college, or graduate school, please send a picture of your student by e-mail to Ken Willi, Director of Communications, at kwilli@duluthumc.org AND Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, at mlee@duluthumc.org. Please put **Graduate Recognition 2026** in the subject field of your e-mail.

Please be sure to include:

- the graduate's name;
- the name of the school they are graduating from;
- their next step plans (i.e. college, military, trade school, graduate school, job).



All pictures and information need to be received by the end of today, Sunday, April 26th. PLEASE NOTE: Youth-led Worship and Graduate Recognition Sunday in all three services is scheduled for Sunday, May 17th.

Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gatherings for April

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.

The **Sunday Night Gathering** schedule for April is:

- **Sunday, April 26th:** Kickball Night with Level Creek UMC Youth Group, from 5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Please meet at the following address for this event - 5160 Gladstone Parkway, Suwanee, 30024.



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.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Entering the Church Buildings on Weekdays

To ensure a safe environment for our Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten students and staff, everyone is asked to use either of the Atrium entrances or the back entrance of the Sheldon Family Life Center from the rear parking lot, when coming to the church during school hours. Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten meets Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This will help maintain a safe and focused environment for our students.

We appreciate your cooperation in supporting our Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten weekday ministry at Duluth First UMC.

Register Now for This Summer's Vacation Bible School: June 22nd - 26th

Mark your calendars and save the date for "Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God" Vacation Bible School. Registration is underway for the 2026 Vacation Bible School, being held Monday, June 22nd through Friday, June 26th, at Duluth First United



Methodist Church. Vacation Bible School, held from 9 a.m. to noon each day, is for kids going into pre-Kindergarten (age 4 as of September 1st) through rising 6th graders. The cost is \$30 per child with a maximum of \$70 per family. Each day participants will participate in Bible story time, sing songs, play games, make crafts, and eat snacks.

In addition to registering participants, we are also registering adult and youth volunteers. We especially need shepherds, who are adult volunteers in charge of a group of 6-10 kids. Shepherds do not need to prepare anything in advance. They lead their group to the various activities where other volunteers are in charge. If you would like to help but are only available one or two days that week, you can put your

available dates on your registration. We often need substitute shepherds. Also, the Childcare Corner is available for the children of volunteers if you have a child who is not old enough to be a participant.

Everyone who registers by May 24th is guaranteed a VBS t-shirt and copy of the music. All Vacation Bible School participant registration forms, as well as volunteer forms, are available online at the church's website – duluthumc.org, by scanning the QR code located to the right with your smartphone or tablet, or by going to vbspro.events/p/42cb8a.

For more information, please contact Leslie Yokeley, Director of Children's Ministries, by e-mail at lyokeley@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 138.



Snack Items Needed for Duluth High School and Coleman Middle School
Teacher and Staff Appreciation: Through Sunday, May 3rd

If you would like to show your support and appreciation for the teachers and staff at Duluth High School and Coleman Middle School, we can use your help. We will be delivering large snack baskets for the staff lounges at both schools during Teacher Appreciation Week, beginning Monday, May 4th.

Your donations of snack items will help make this possible. **We need individually wrapped candies, breakfast bars, peanut butter crackers, etc.** Collection spots for your donations will be located in The Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall and on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center **until Sunday afternoon, May 3rd**. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. David Burchett, Assistant Pastor, by e-mail at dburchett@duluthumc.org.

Thank you for your help to ensure our local teachers and school staff feel seen and appreciated!

Atlanta Botanical Garden Trip: Tuesday, May 12th

Join **The RoadRunners** on **Tuesday, May 12th**, for a flower-filled day with a guided tour at the **Atlanta Botanical Gardens** with lunch to follow. The group will leave the church's back parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

The cost is \$40 per person and includes entry into the gardens, tour, and transportation via a 15-person van (please see notes below). The cost of lunch will be on your own.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **In order to attend you must be able to get in and out of a 15-passenger van and be healthy enough to travel several hours by car.**
- **We must have a minimum of 12 people to sign up in order to rent a van, otherwise travel will be via caravan.**

To register please scan the QR code located to the right with your smart phone or tablet, or contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org.

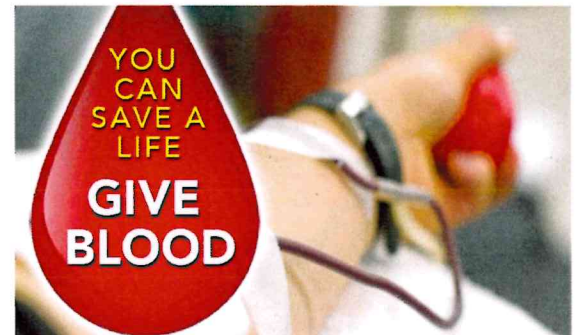


Donate Blood at Duluth First UMC: Wednesday, May 13th

The need for blood doesn't take a spring break! **Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.** All blood types are needed now to help save lives. Spring into action and give patients a fighting chance by donating blood.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held at Duluth First UMC from 3 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13th, in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. Please consider donating blood as the Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. To schedule an appointment:

- Visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code **dufumc**;
- Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767);
- Contact Tracy Brinker by e-mail at tbrinker@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 112.
- Last, but not least, be a "walk-in" on Blood Drive Day.



Miracle Sunday: May 17th

In 2025 The United Methodist Church launched a new vision statement - **“To love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously.”** As a result we, as United Methodists, are recommitting ourselves to supporting clergy and United Methodists around the world. John Wesley made education a core commitment of his Methodist movement going back to its earliest days. In 1748, just a decade after his heart-warming spiritual awakening, Wesley established the still-thriving Kingswood School to provide high-quality education to the children of coal miners, as well as adults.



So it makes sense that as the people called Methodist “spread scriptural holiness over the land,” they planted not only churches but also schools for all ages. Those campuses eventually came to include United Methodist seminaries and theological schools to educate clergy around the globe. But ensuring would-be pastors can pay for their education has long been a challenge — especially in Africa, the Philippines

and parts of Europe. While 71% of United Methodist clergy in the U.S. have a master’s degree or higher in theology, less than 5% of clergy in Africa, Europe and the Philippines can say the same.

That’s where **Miracle Sunday** comes in. The one-time offering is scheduled to take place in the denomination’s more than 30,000 congregations on Sunday, May 17th, the final Sunday of this year’s Easter season. The offering will raise funds for the **Endowment for Theological Education in Africa, Europe and the Philippines**. We will take this offering during all three worship services on May 17th and invite you to participate in this important mission of The United Methodist Church. This offering is in addition to your giving to the general fund.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



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Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten
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