

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 2, 2026
8:30 A.M.



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

ENTRANCE



For information about the ministries, mission, and activities of Duluth First UMC, 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. Please see an usher or greeter for assistance.

Prelude

Seoyoung Lee, *Pianist*

Welcome & Announcements

Amy Burk, *Liturgist*

Back to School Blessing

God, our friend who is always with us, we ask for your blessing upon this new school year.

Be with our students as they ride the bus, as they buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes, as they learn and grow. Bless this journey into something new. Thank you for teachers, counselors, administrators, support staff, caregivers, and all those who make the school year possible, and for all they do to help our students become who you have made them to be. God, our friend who's full of wonder, fill their hearts and bless their hands.

✠ Call to Worship

Sisters and brothers, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

Let us give what we can to all who have needs so that all people, no matter who they are, may regard us with good will.

Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

✠ Hymn 369 | *Blessed Assurance* – ASSURANCE

WORD & RESPONSE

English Standard
Version Bible

✠ Scripture | Acts 8:26-40

Rev. David Burchett, *Assistant Pastor*

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

Sermon | *How Can I?*

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Hymnal pg. 12

✠ Sharing of the Peace of Christ

Ministry Moment | *Golden Cross*

Receiving God's Tithe & Our Offering

Offertory | *Blessed Are the Pure in Heart* - Mark Mitchell

Katie Jones, *Vocalist*; Seoyoung Lee, *Pianist*

✠ 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



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.



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.

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

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

SENDING

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

✠ Hymn 100 | *God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us* – LAUDA ANIMA
(verses 1 & 2)

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.

ALSO SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Audio/Visual Team:

Joel McLemore
Mark Wettlaufer
Ian Toole
Johnathan Ancell

Usher Captains:

David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude

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DULUTH FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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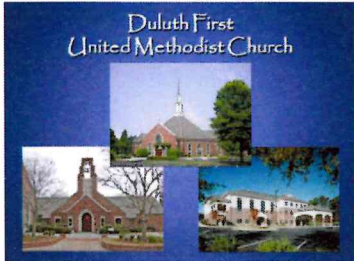
The Sunday Supplement



AUGUST 2, 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.



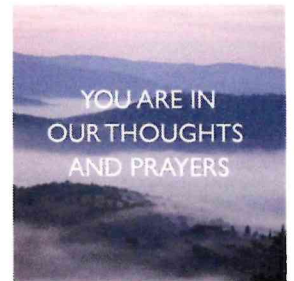
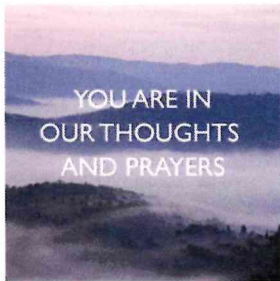
To join Duluth First United Methodist Church, please come forward as we sing the song that follows the Invitation to Church Membership.

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

- Pat Brannon • Lorraine Day • Ann Fleming
- Shamain Hallett • Tim Heard • Tom Martin
- Bette Pickin • Marilyn Scheiwe • Jeff Schulz
- Donald Southerland • Sharon Swisher

- Johnathan Ancell & family in the death of his grandmother.
- Nancy Livingston & family in the death of her husband, Luke Livingston



STRUGGLING AND FEELING ALONE? Request the support and Christ-centered care of a Stephen Minister.

*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.*



This Morning's Communion Offering: Golden Cross

Any gifts left on the altar rail or communion table will go toward this morning's Communion offering for **Golden Cross**, a fund administered by the Conference Health and Welfare Committee to provide assistance to persons who are experiencing financial difficulty due to excessive medical expenses.

The Communion offering is in addition to your regular giving to the Church.



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.

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

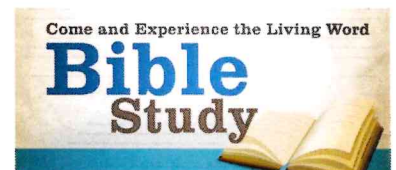
- **Sunday, August 2nd: Promotion Sunday Fun at Bowlero Lilburn.** As we welcome our rising 6th graders to our Youth Ministry and kick off the new school year together, we will have a fun night of fellowship at Bowlero Lilburn (3835 Lawrenceville Hwy, Lawrenceville) on Sunday, August 2nd. We will meet and depart from the church at 4:45 p.m. and the pick-up time from the church will be at 7:45 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person (includes bowling, shoe rental, a \$10 arcade card, food, and drinks) Please sign up using the following link: <https://forms.gle/o2RoEU5AamAciYzx9>.
- **Sunday, August 9th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, August 16th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, August 23rd: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, August 30th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank").

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.

Men's Small Group Evening Bible Study Forming Soon

Have you wanted to be part of a men's small group Bible study but are not available to participate during the day? We are looking for several men willing to lead a men's evening Bible study group, as well as folks who are interested in attending.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org.



Senior Adult Coffee Hour: Wednesday, August 12th

Senior adults are invited to join us once a month this summer for a time of coffee, conversations, and fellowship. Bring a game, something you want to discuss, or just show up to enjoy time together!

We will meet on Wednesday, August 12th, at 9:30 a.m. in the cul-da-sac area outside of the offices on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. AnnaKate Rawles, Associate Pastor, by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

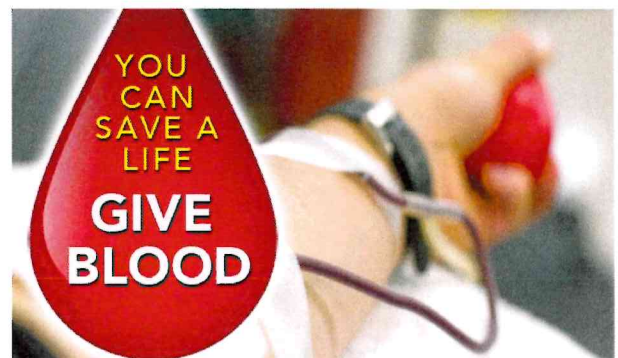


Blood Drive at Duluth First UMC on Wednesday, August 12th

The need for blood doesn't take a summer break! **Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.** The American Red Cross is declaring an emergency blood shortage as the blood supply fell nearly 25% in June. The shortage is especially serious for types O positive and B negative blood and platelets. Donors are urgently needed to give now to help ensure patients receive lifesaving medical care without delay.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held at Duluth First UMC on **Wednesday, August 12th**, from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. **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.

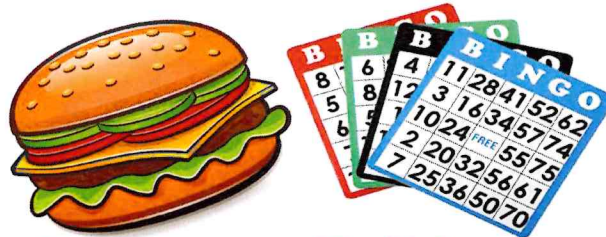


Don't wait - schedule your appointment today. Don't be afraid to save someone's life!

"Burgers & Bingo" Special Wednesday Night Dinner Event: August 12th

All are invited to join us on Wednesday, August 12th, for a special back-to-school "Burgers & Bingo" Wednesday Night Dinner event from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Hinton Hall, located on the 2nd floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. **The menu includes hamburgers, French fries, cole slaw, baked beans, and dessert. For the kids – the same.** Bingo will begin at 5:45 p.m. and will be played during the dinner time with prizes for our winners!

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.



Burgers & Bingo

"Simply Something" Classes Resume on Tuesday, August 18th

Our **Simply Something** classes are simply moving on to new things this year. In August we will begin to study the book of Ruth. Ruth is one of only two books in the Bible named after a woman, a woman named in the lineage of Jesus Christ. This short but



important book has some interesting themes of honor, love, and commitment. If you want to know more, then **Simply Something** is just the place to be. Join Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino for **Simply Something** on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., **beginning on August 18th**, in room F147, located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center.

Please bring your Bible and handouts will be provided. Come with your coffee, tea or water, and your open mind to learn from each other. Childcare in **Childcare Corner** will be available. For more information, please contact Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino, Associate Pastor, by e-mail at ckfuino@duluthumc.org or call 770-476-3776, ext. 117.

Disciple Fast Track Bible Study Begins August 19th

Join us on Wednesday evenings, beginning August 19th, for 12 weeks of studying the Old Testament with **Disciple Fast Track**, an overview of the books of the Bible in a shortened study. Have you wanted to learn more about the substance of the Bible but could not commit to a long-term study with lots of reading during the week? Does thirty-four weeks of study seem like an eternity? Your body just cannot sit through a 2 ½ hour class no matter how good it is? Then **Disciple Fast Track** is just what you are looking for to learn about what it means to be a disciple by learning the biblical narratives of our faith.

This new format for **Disciple Bible Study** is perfect for busy people. It uses much of the content of the original **Disciple Bible Study**, a small group study that has made a difference in thousands of lives since 1987. The class time and study time have been adjusted to fit our busy lives today. We are scheduling the sessions to fit a time when your youth are also involved in their activities and childcare is available for younger children.



The cost is \$20 per person for the study book. You will also need a study Bible. The class will meet from 6 to 7 p.m. (classroom to be determined). **A minimum number of people must be registered in order for the class to occur.** Please sign up by Monday, August 10th, by e-mailing Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles, Associate Pastor, at arawles@duluthumc.org.

Wednesday Night Dinner Teams Are Looking for Volunteers

The **Wednesday Night Dinner** teams are looking for volunteers - our **Dinner Belles and Beaus** - to help. No special experience or skill is necessary – just a willingness to serve, make some new friends, and have fun! **Each team volunteers only once a month and on the night that you volunteer you get a free meal!** We hope you will consider joining us for some good food and good fellowship.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Marilyn Scheiwe, Event Coordinator, by e-mail at mscheiwe@duluthumc.org or call 770-476-3776, ext. 111. We hope you will consider volunteering.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



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