

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
8:30 A.M.

✠ 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
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.



ENTRANCE

Prelude

Seoyoung Lee, *Pianist*

Welcome & Announcements

Keenan Klayman, *Liturgist*

✠ Call to Worship

Come, let us bow before the holy One.

Come, let us confess God's might.

Come, let us feel God's mercy.

Come, let us live in God's light.

At the name of Jesus every knee should bend and every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

As God's people, we lift our voices in praise.

Glory to you, gracious and loving God!

✠ Hymn 732 | *Come, We That Love the Lord* – ST. THOMAS

WORD & RESPONSE

Common English
Bible

✠ Scripture | Philippians 2:1-13

Gen Butterworth

¹ Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, ² complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other. ³ Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. ⁵ Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: ⁶ Though he was in the form of God, he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. ⁷ But he emptied himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When he found himself in the form of a human, ⁸ he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore, God highly honored him and gave him a name above all names, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus everyone in heaven, on earth, and under the earth might bow ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my loved ones, just as you always obey me, not just when I am present but now even more while I am away, carry out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³ God is the one who enables you both to want and to actually live out his good purposes.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon | *My Mind Stayed on Jesus*

Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino,
Associate Pastor

✠ Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness

God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore let us confess our sin.

Holy One, help us be still and know that you are God. Too often we move at such a hectic pace that we neglect our relationship with you. Our lives become full of distractions that are nothing but shifting sand. Restore and strengthen us, O God, to rebuild our lives on the foundation of your Word, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Friends, hear the promise of our faith: God hears us when we cry for help and shows us steadfast love. Therefore let your hearts take courage, for God is faithful to us and has redeemed us.

✠ Sharing of the Peace of Christ

Ministry Moment | *Duluth Fall Festival Weekend*

Receiving God's Tithe & Our Offering

Offertory

Seoyoung Lee, *Pianist*



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.

For questions regarding membership, contact
Rev. Dr. AnnaKate 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.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

SENDING

✠ Hymn 536 | *Precious Name* – PRECIOUS NAME

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

ALSO SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Audio/Visual Team:

Joel McLemore
Johnathan Ancell

Usher Captains:

David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

Flower Team:

Ivy Doss
Linda Dekle

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DULUTH FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3208 Duluth Hwy. 120, Duluth, GA 30096

Office Phone: 770-476-3776

Website: www.duluthumc.org

YouTube: [DuluthFirstUMCWorship](https://www.youtube.com/DuluthFirstUMCWorship)

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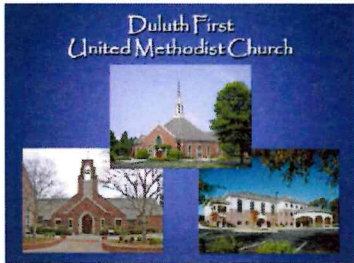
The Sunday Supplement



SEPTEMBER 27, 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

- Jean Adkins • Marty Bush • Ann Fleming
 - Lawrence Gibbs • Shamain Hallett • Linton Jones
 - Judy Lutz • tia Lynn • Marilyn Scheiwe
 - Jim Waid • Christy Wolfe
- Jo Ellen McLees & family in the death of her sister



OVERWHELMED AND STRUGGLING?

There's Stephen Ministry.
Request a Stephen Minister to help you
find hope and healing.

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.



Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: September 30th

Join us for a time of food and fellowship around the table with family and friends at our Wednesday Night Dinners from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in Hinton Hall, located on the 2nd floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. Chef Kenny Lewis, our Food Ministry Manager, along with our very talented and dedicated Dinner Belles and Beaus volunteers, prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices.



The menu for September 30th is pulled BBQ pork on a bun, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, and dessert. For the kids – hot dogs and French fries.

Dinners are served from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Hinton Hall, 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 and 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. Please note - menus are subject to change. Please visit the church's website - duluthumc.org - to view upcoming menus.

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 September is:

- **Sunday, September 27th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank").

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

- **Sunday, October 4th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 11th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 18th: Packing Thanksgiving boxes** for the Hands of Christ Duluth Co-op at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 25th: Trunk or Treat** from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the front of the church.

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. 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 Food Drives

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.

Items needed during the month of September are:

- September 30th: cans of mixed veggies.

Please leave your donated food items on the **Food Drive** table 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!



BSA Troop 419's 10th Annual "Cars for Campouts" Classic Car Show, Cruise In, and BBQ:

Saturday, October 3rd

BSA Troop 419 will hold their 10th Annual "Cars for Campouts" Fundraiser Car Show, Cruise In, and BBQ on Saturday, October 3rd, 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 – please bring it and participate.

Preregistration by October 2nd is \$20, and registration on the day of the show is \$25. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/carsforcampouts2026>. 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.

Food and beverages will be available. Enjoy great food, hot dogs, pulled pork 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 4th

The **Missions Ministry** is having a delicious fundraiser on **Sunday, October 4th, 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, and donations are always accepted. 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!**



"Blessing of the Animals" Service: Sunday, October 4th

Bring your pets for our "Blessing of the Animals" service on Sunday, October 4th, 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.

**Blessing
of the
Animals**



Youth Fall Retreat is November 6th - 8th: Register by Sunday, October 11th

We are excited to participate in **The Rooted Retreat** (North Georgia UMC Conference Retreat) hosted by the Glisson Camp and Retreat Center, from Friday, November 6th through Sunday, November 8th, for our youth fall retreat! It will be an incredible weekend with powerful worship experiences, dedicated youth group time, fun activities, and food and lodging at Glisson Camp and Retreat Center. We are looking forward to a meaningful and fun fall retreat together.

Information for the Rooted Fall Retreat is:

- **Dates:** Friday, November 6th - Sunday, November 8th;
- **Location:** Glisson Camp and Retreat Center (690 Camp Glisson Rd., Dahlonega, GA 30533)
- **Cost:** \$195 per student (You can pay in cash, check, or online). We want every student to be able to attend—scholarships are available if needed.
- **Registration Deadline:** Sunday, October 11th.
- **Camp Glisson Website:** <https://glisson.org>.



To register, please scan the QR code located to the right with your smartphone or tablet. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, by e-mail at mlee@duluthumc.org.

Library Book Club to Discuss "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon": Monday, October 19th

The **Library Book Club** will meet on Monday, October 19th, at 10:00 a.m. in room F145 (located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center) to discuss the month's book choice, **The Frozen River** by Ariel Lawhon.

The Frozen River is a gripping historical mystery based on the real-life diary entries of Martha Ballard, an 18th-century midwife who found herself at the center of a murder trial. Maine, 1789: When the Kennebec River freezes, entombing a man in the ice, Martha Ballard is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. As a midwife and healer, she is privy to much of what goes on behind closed doors in Hallowell. Her diary is a record of every birth and death, crime and debacle that unfolds in the close-knit community.

Clever, layered, and subversive, Ariel Lawhon's newest offering introduces an unsung heroine who refused to accept anything less than justice at a time when women were considered best seen and not heard. **The Frozen River** is a thrilling, tense, and tender story about a remarkable woman who left an unparalleled legacy yet remains nearly forgotten to this day.

Join Us for Our Annual Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 25th

Bring your friends and family to our **Trunk or Treat** event on Sunday, October 25th, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in front of the church. Come in costume, park your car, and pop the trunk! Volunteers are needed to host a trunk at **Trunk or Treat** as we welcome our community to Duluth First UMC for an afternoon of fun. We hope to have at least 35 trunks and YOU can be one! Decorate and/or have a game at your trunk for the opportunity to win the soon to be coveted Golden Pumpkin prize! **Set-up time begins at 3:30 p.m. and trick-or-treating begins at 4:00 p.m.**

Volunteers are also needed to help with set up, refill candy, run carnival games, and clean up. You sign can sign up to reserve a trunk space and/or to volunteer by scanning the QR code located to the right with your smart phone or tablet.

Candy donations (bags of individually wrapped candies) are needed for **Trunk or Treat**. Drop off any candy starting Thursday, October 1st, in the **Trunk or Treat** bins located around the church. You can help us be sure we have enough to share with our community!

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



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

November 14th & 15th

Crafters, potters, artists, and bakers of all kinds – your talents will be needed in November! Our annual missions fundraiser, **Bundle Up for Buffalo**, will be on Saturday, November 14th, and Sunday, November 15th. 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 2026 through April 2027. Last year, we raised enough money to designate this church to be a warming center, where people could come into the building and get a bite to eat if their own heat had been turned off or was not working. This was major – YOU helped do this!

Volunteers are needed on Friday, November 13th, at 2:30 p.m. to help set up the tables and sale items in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. If you can help with the set up, or have items you would like to donate to the sale, please contact Beth Intondi by e-mail at Beth.intondi@outlook.com. 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

Kenny Lewis, Ext. 145
Director of Food Services
klewis@duluthumc.org

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

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