



Contemporary Worship

OCTOBER 4, 2026: WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



Rev. David Burchett
"The Right Medicine"

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2 (English Standard Version Bible)

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

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

SERMON NOTES

Next Sunday's Scripture: Matthew 23:1-12



The Sunday Supplement



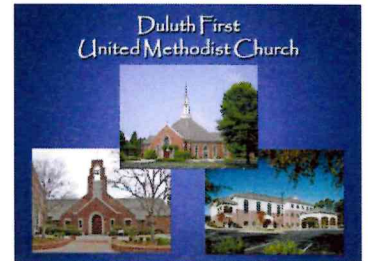
OCTOBER 4, 2026

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



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.



This Morning's Communion Offering: Aldersgate Homes

Any gifts left on the altar rail or communion table will go toward this morning's communion offering for **Aldersgate Homes**.



Aldersgate Homes, a related agency of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, is an organization in North Georgia dedicated to serving the disabilities community through advocacy, learning opportunities, retreats and recreation. Through their many ministries, they work with churches and individuals to help support those with disabilities and to create a community where people of all abilities are welcome. **Aldersgate** also operates **Camp Collinswood**, a universally accessible recreational and retreat facility on beautiful

Lake Oconee, which accommodates persons of all abilities. For additional information, please visit their website at www.aldersgatehomes.org.

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



Missions Ministry Fundraiser - Cinnamon Rolls: Today!

The **Missions Ministry** is having a delicious fundraiser **today 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: This Afternoon!

Bring your pets for our **"Blessing of the Animals"** service this afternoon 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.



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 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 Dinner in Hinton Hall: October 7th

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 October 7th is **Chicken Parmesan, spaghetti noodles, Italian green beans, roasted zucchini and squash, garlic bread, and dessert. For the kids - spaghetti and meat sauce.** 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.

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 October are:

- October 7th: peanut butter and jelly;
- October 14th: boxes of spaghetti and pasta;
- October 21st: canned fruit;
- October 28th: canned peas.



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!

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.

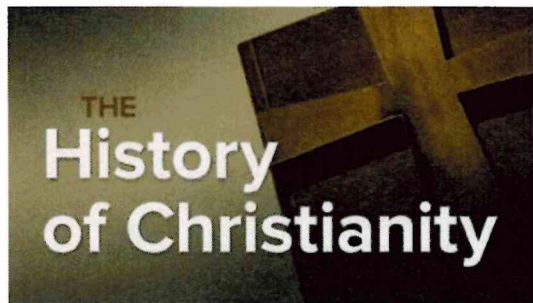
Candy donations (bags of individually wrapped candies) are needed for **Trunk or Treat**. Drop off any candy starting Thursday, October 1st, in the **Trunk or Treat** bins located around the church. You can help us be sure we have enough to share with our community!

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



"The History of Christianity" Class Begins October 20th and 21st

A new adult class, **The History of Christianity from the Reign of Theodosius to the Dawn of the Reformation**, will be held on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings beginning October 20th, and October 21st. You are invited to attend whichever day



works best for your schedule. The class will last 22 weeks, concluding near the end of March. Each class session will last 1.5 hours and will include a 30-minute lecture by Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson, Professor Emeritus at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, followed by one hour of discussion.

Some of the lectures include Expansion Beyond the Roman Empire, the Rise of Islam, the East-West Split, The Crusades, the Great Plague, and many others. Participants will encounter a thorough grounding in the development of Christianity for its first 1,500 years.

The Tuesday morning class will begin at 10 a.m. in room F153 and the Wednesday evening class will begin at 5:45 p.m. in room F145. Both rooms are located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. Pete Fleming, our church historian, will lead the class. No books are required, although Pete will introduce a comprehensive bibliography throughout the series, and he will also provide articles from various authors on related subjects from time to time.

People wishing to participate in the **The History of Christianity** class should contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org, or Pete Fleming by e-mail at lfleming3832@att.net.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



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