



December 2025

First Edition



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®



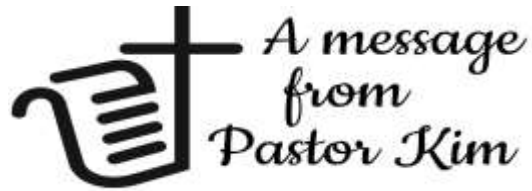
First United Methodist Church of Lockport

1000 S. Washington St., Lockport

815-838-1017 - www.1umclockport.org



† 10:00am in person
Worship Service



Minister:
All Members

GaHyung Kim
708-638-2868

email:
gahyungkim0511@
gmail.com

Pastor

Linda Brown
Lay Leader

Emmanuel Aiyelabola

**Organist &
Choir Director
Director**

Megan Hill
God Squad

Kay Rothlisberger
Circle of Love

Roseanne Wilson
Fish Pantry

Michael Arends
Custodian

Bernadetta Kopinski
**Administrative
Assistant**

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri
8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
815-838-1017

The Big Book for Peace

I Was There
by Marilyn Sachs
illustrated by Mare Simont

What they tried to take down the big trees in the park,
I WAS THERE.

I sat in my stroller and ate a pretzel.
The trees stayed up.

When the public library gave a big party to raise money for a new building,
I WAS THERE.

My brother read me a story about a little bear.
They're building a new library right now.

When Charles, T. Morrison ran for mayor, some people worked down
at his campaign headquarters to help get him elected.
I stuffed envelopes.
He didn't get elected.
Maybe he will next time.

When a war broke out, some people marched in a parade to protest.
I WAS THERE.

I carried a banner that said War Isn't Good For Children.
The war didn't stop. So then there was another parade.
And another.
And many, many others.
I was at some of them.
Sometimes I carried a banner. Sometimes I sang songs.
And sometimes I ate sandwiches.

After, the war ended, and we had a picnic in the park to celebrate.
AND



GaHyung

Worship:


December



Sunday December 7 10:00am	Communion Sunday
Scriptures: Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
2nd Week of Advent Lighting: Brian & Megan Hill Family	
Sunday December 14 10:00am	
Scriptures: Isaiah 35:1-10	Matthew 11:2-11
3rd Week of Advent Lighting: Craig & Amy Damrow Family	
Wednesday December 17 7:00pm	Blue Christmas
Sunday December 21 10:00am	
Scriptures: Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:25-28
4th Week of Advent Lighting: John & Ester Inkum Family	
Wednesday December 24 7:00pm	Christmas Eve
Scriptures: Isaiah 9:2-7	Luke 2:1-14
Sunday December 28 10:00am	
Scriptures: Hebrew 2:10-18	Matthew 2:13-23

THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers, bakers, and vendors at the Christmas Market!

It was a big success and we couldn't of done it without you.

Thank you to all who came out.



Big Thank you to everyone that purchased gifts for the children this Christmas.



Upper Room Zoom PRAYER GROUP on Wednesday Mornings at 9:00 am

We are offering a prayer group on Zoom weekday mornings on Wednesday at 9:00 am. If you are interested in this, please contact the office at 815-838-1017.

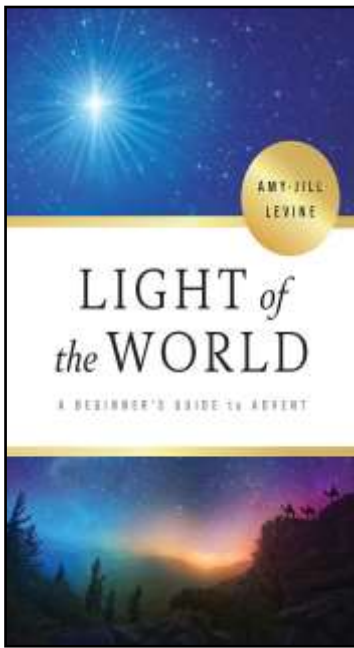
Faith Development



We welcome all children to Sunday School on the last Sunday of the month at 10:00am.

Next one is

Sunday, December 28th



Advent Study Group will meet every Tuesday during Advent starting Tuesday, December 2nd from 10:00am to 11:15am in Dystrup Study.

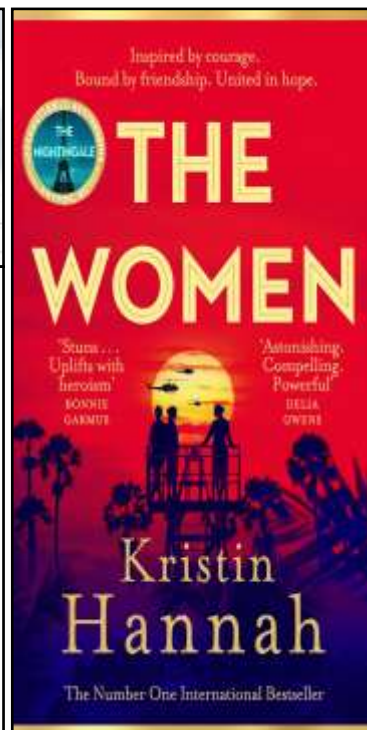
We welcome everyone.

In *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Join her as she traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt.

The book provides a rich and challenging learning experience for small groups and individual.



December 6th	Go Team Zoom Training
December 7th	Communion Sunday
December 13th	Cookies by the Pound Lunch/Bingo Brunch Grief Support Group
December 17th	Blue Christmas Service
December 24th	Christmas Eve Service
December 28th	Sunday School/ Coffee Hour



Zoom Book Club

We will meet every other month on a Thursday, in the evening at 7:00pm.

We will be reading

The Women

by Kristin Hannah

Next Zoom Book Club will meet Thursday,

January 15, 2026

at 7:00pm

Faith in Action



We meet on Tuesday evenings 7:00- 9:00p.m., and Saturdays, 9:30-11:30a.m. We use the upstairs Sunday school room, and plan to continue until the end of April 2026.

If you would like to help out please let Pastor David Kaller or

Josefina Kaller know.

We will take a break from December 11th to January 6th.



FISH Pantry Donation List

The following items are needed

1st Sunday of Every Month

Paper Towels

Kleenex

Cereal

Ramen noodles

Bath Bar Soap

Canned fruit

Hamburger Helper

Mayonnaise

Any Monetary donations are also

Welcomed!



Circle of Love

Job loss, illness, injury. You name it. There are many reasons why people cannot afford to supply all their own needs; but then again, we were never made to be totally self-sufficient. If we all could do everything for ourselves, then of what importance would relationships be? Remember life is unfair but God is good. Thank you to everyone who supports this important ministry. Your time, donations, and prayers are priceless. Circle of Love provides items not provided by state assistance, such as diapers, feminine hygiene products, and incontinent products.



Suicide Hotline available

For those contemplating suicide or who just desperately need someone with whom to talk.

It is confidential and free.

Just call 988. The service has also been expanded for Spanish-speaking persons and deaf or hard-of-hearing persons, including those who use American Sign Language.

WE WANT YOUR TORN, WORN, STAINED CLOTHING!



As you begin your spring cleaning keep in mind the two green bins in the parking lot. USAGain – a leader in the textile recycling industry – is a for-profit company with a mission of diverting textiles from landfills. We collect clothes, shoes and linens you would not give to clothing drives because they are worn, torn or stained. Simply place them in a plastic bag and drop the bag in the bin. Items are then sent to graders and wholesalers who recycle them into new products.

Conference

From the Bishop: Keep Practicing Hope

"Advent affirms the hope that God's word is always breaking in for our good," says Bishop Dan Schwerin of the Northern Illinois-Wisconsin Episcopal Area, in an Advent reflection. In these discouraging days, the bishop believes that "hope is a practice of God's creative freedom at play in human creativity and freedom.

"I believe hope knows the present is held with a comma, and that God's word is always breaking in for good. We as the church may be smaller than we once were, but I believe we are not too small to steward the moral imagination of Jesus," he says.



Welcome our newest members! Please add to your Church Directory.

Jason, Andrea, Ingrid, and Eric Brashler

713 Reef Rd. Lockport, IL 60441

Craig, Amy, Dominick, and Cameron Damrow

16918 Swift Arrow Dr. Lockport, IL 60441 - 1-708-261-2615

Inkum Family

22201 W. Norwich Ct. Plainfield, IL 60544 - 1-630-276-9121



Coffee Hour is
Sunday, December 28th right
after worship.

If you would like to host Coffee
Hour please contact

Linda Brown.

All are welcome!



We are in need of
Liturgists. Please
help us if you can.

Sign up sheet in
the Narthex or call
the office

1-815-838-1017.

Blessings



Lunch Bunch/ Bingo

Join us **Saturday,**

December 13th at 12:00pm in
Yeomen Hall.

Please bring a favorite dish/
dessert to share.

All are welcome!



We will have a Grief Support Group
meeting at 2:00pm every 2nd
Saturday of the month in Dystrup
Study at First United Methodist
Church in Lockport.

Next one is on December 13th.

For more information call the office
at 1-815-838-1017.



THANK YOU, GOD, FOR MY BIRTHDAY!

Let's start the new year with a new
kind of birthday celebration! When
it's your special day, commemorate
the event by gifting the church with
a dollar for every year of life!

For example:

1 year old= \$1

50 years old= \$50

100 years old= \$100

No cards to buy or gifts to wrap.
Just use a pew envelope, put your
name on the outside and your age
dollars on the inside. A great way to
thank God for your birthday!



Join the CNNSSA for a warm
meal and friendly conversation!
Please call the café location for
registration information and to
make your dining reservations.
Senior Services of will County
provides monthly activities and
presenters for all participants.

Lockport Township
1463 S. Farrell Road

Lockport, IL 60441
815-351-8963

11:15am to 12:15pm Monday–
Friday

— The Finance Committee

NICOR	\$293.97
Com Ed	\$324.01

Waste Management \$73.20



Puzzle!

The Christmas Story

Unscramble each set of letters to form a word from the Christmas story. One letter in each set doesn't belong. Write each extra letter below, on the line above the correct number. Then answer the question: What did we all receive at Christmas?

- (1) TGLBEHHEME _____
- (2) NEAGLO _____
- (3) NRMEDAG _____
- (4) ODEKSNY _____
- (5) AMGYZ _____
- (6) OHESJP _____
- (7) EFJSUS _____
- (8) ITEENMSW _____
- (9) SPHDSREEO _____
- (10) EMCFAL _____
- (11) TLSRA _____
- (12) CSSNUEO _____
- (13) HEVSPE _____
- (14) ENIN _____



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14		

Answers: Bethlehem (G), Angel (O), Manger (D), Donkey (S), Mary (G), Joseph (I), Jesus (F), Wise men (T), Shepherds (O), Camel (F), Star (L), Census (O), Sheep (V), Inn (E), God's gift of love

COOKIES BY THE POUND

Christmas Cookie Sale



DECEMBER 13

8:30-11:00 AM



First United Methodist Church
1000 S. Washington Street
Lockport, IL

COOKIES COST \$8 PER POUND

ALL COOKIES ARE HOMEMADE - YOU PACKAGE THE COOKIES YOU CHOOSE!



Enter through the elevator entrance and proceed to the basement (Yeoman Hall) for the Cookie Sale.
Cash or Check Accepted.

39-TIME NATIONAL CHAMPION
JOLIET AMERICAN LEGION BAND'S
42ND ANNUAL

Sounds of Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 14, 2025
2:00 pm

Rialto Square Theatre
102 N. Chicago Street
Joliet, IL 60432

Pre-concert Entertainment by "The Dixie Bandits" in the Rotunda at 1pm
Intermission Entertainment by the "Midwest Crossroad Chorus"

**TICKETS ARE FREE IN EXCHANGE FOR A
GENEROUS DONATION OF NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD AND/OR PAPER PRODUCTS**

Tickets Available at American Legion Post 1080 (Ingalls Ave):

Saturday, December 6, 1pm-5pm
Thursday, December 11, 3pm-7pm

Tickets Available in Rialto Lobby:

Monday, December 8, 10am-5pm
Tuesday, December 9, 10am-2pm

Donation Recipient:
Catholic Charities -
Daybreak Center of Joliet



We will have a
Blue Christmas
Service
Wednesday,
December 17th at
7:00pm.
We invite all to join us.




**Hope For the Holidays
Grief
support group**

Grief Support

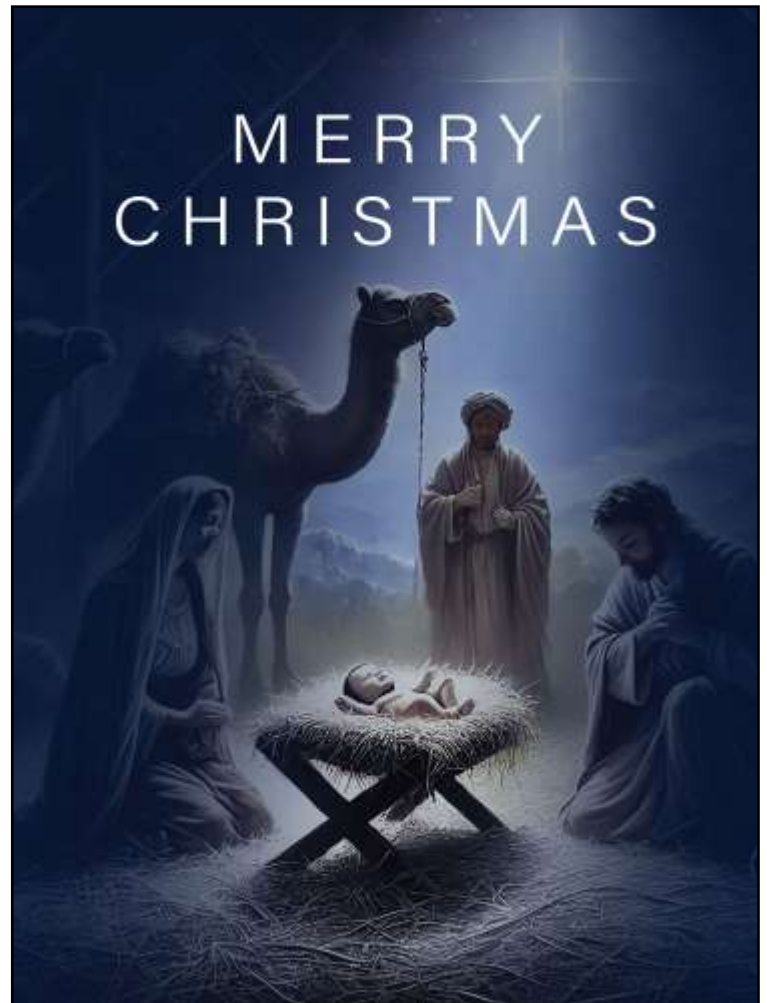
Supporting you through your grief journey this season.
Find comfort. Find community.

2nd Saturdays
2:00-3:00 pm

**The Dystrup Study
Next to the Office**

◆ **Facilitator - Megan De Leon** ◆

Certified Grief Coach, MA Pastoral Ministry



Please join us for Christmas Eve Service on
Wednesday, December 24th at 7:00p.m.

We invite and welcome everyone!

May you have a beautiful, blessed

Merry Christmas!



Fundraiser for
First United Methodist Church - Lockport
20% of event sales will be donated
Religious organization non-profit. Raising
funds to help community missions locally
and worldwide.

How to Order:

Order ahead or on the event day Thursday, December 4, 2025

Participating fundraiser guests are required to present a valid
fundraiser flyer (paper copy or digital image) with each order to receive
credit towards the

fundraiser.

When: Thursday, December 4, 2025

Time: 10:30 AM to 9:30 PM

Where:

Panda Express located at:

16000 Farrell Road Lockport IL 60441

(815) 846 - 7188

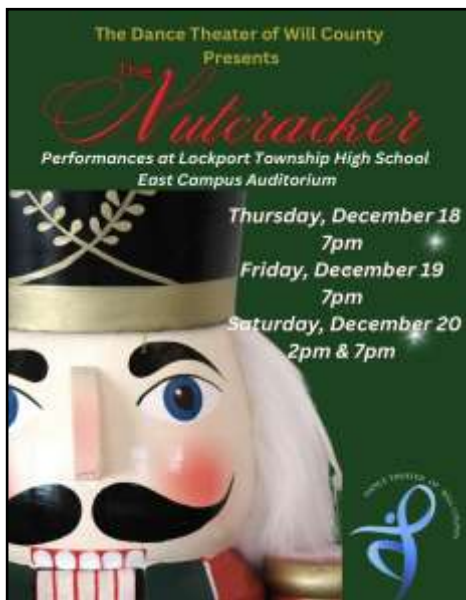
Online:

PandaExpress.com or the App.

Enter 3850745 in the fundraiser code box

or

In-Person: Bring paper flyer or show it on
your smartphone.



1333 E 7th Street,
Lockport, IL 60441

Lockport Township High School
East Campus

What a beautiful classic.

With over 40 area dancers in our children's cast and 10 professional performers from the Chicagoland area, **Dance Theater of Will County is proud to return to Lockport Township High School to present The Nutcracker**, a holiday classic, to our community. **Tickets are available now for shows December 18th, 19th, and 20th.**

<https://buy.tututix.com/dancetheaterofwillcounty>



First

TO:

United Methodist Church
of Lockport

1000 S Washington St

Lockport, IL 60441

815.838.1017

www.1umclockport.org



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®



Mission Statement for First United Methodist Church of Lockport

“The church is the foundation of Christian life in accordance with the teachings of the Christ. We are people who believe that the love of God was revealed in Jesus and having accepted that love, we are committed to sharing this good news of God’s love by making disciples and teaching and nurturing them. To that end, we will:

- + provide an inclusive environment for Christian worship and learning,
- + strive to be understanding and accepting of other cultures and faiths as we work toward peace and justice for all persons,
- + nurture our children so that they will embrace the Christian life, and
- + support, with our prayers and actions, our brothers and sisters in our local and global communities.”