

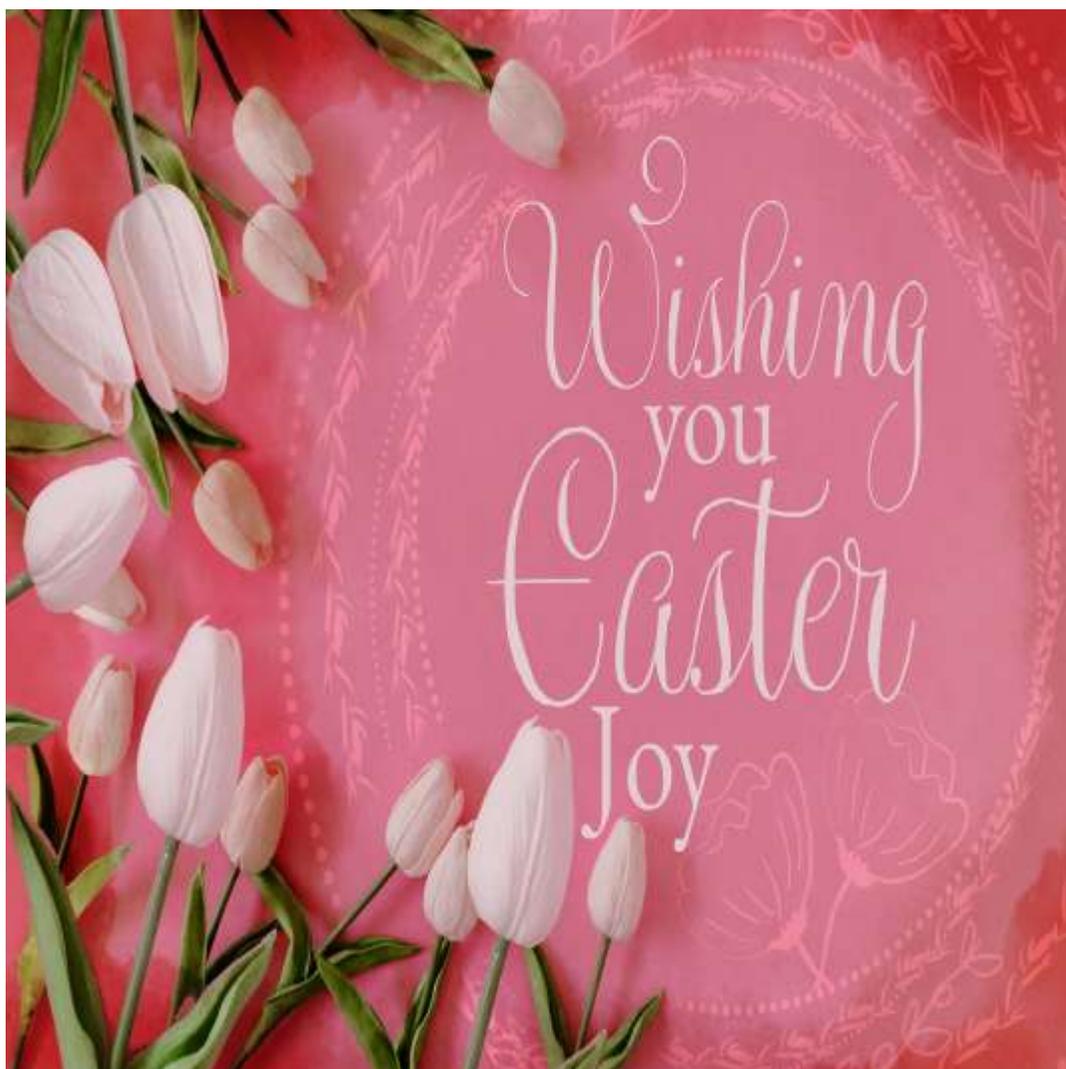


April 2026

# 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](http://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**

Micheal Arends  
**Custodian**

Bernadetta Kopinski  
**Administrative Assistant**

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

During Elder’s Order, all the elder pastors gathered together. Prior to the meeting, we all were asked to bring pies to share. All the pies were different shapes and had different contents. Some were homemade pies and some were from stores.

We all enjoyed the pies.

While we were enjoying the pies, I was thinking about everyone who comes to worship.

Each worshiper brings a unique gift God has given them. As they are baptized, all worshipers are called to serve as ministers, using their gifts. Faith is meant to be shared, and it is never private.

As each person has gifts to serve, that tells us who God is and whose we are.



As worshipers gather in the faith community and connect with each other, we heal wounded souls, we get renewed hope, we get inspired compassion and bind people to one another. That is the power of the faith community. As Jesus’ commands taught us, “You shall love the Lord your

God with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27)

“Through passionate worship, God draws people to Christ, deepens understanding and relationship with Christ, and overtime transforms lives as disciples grow in the image of Christ.”

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. Worship Page 34)

Worship is important because it transforms our hearts and lives toward God, reminding us who we are and whose we are. Amid our busy, distracted lives, worship creates a sacred space to pause, reflect, and reconnect with God’s presence. It nurtures our faith through prayer, scripture, and community, strengthening us to live with purpose, compassion, and hope. Worship also binds us together, reminding us that we do not walk this journey alone but as part of a community that supports, encourages, and grows together in love.

Come, let us worship God together!

*GaHyung*

**Worship:**

	
<b>Thursday April 2nd 7:00pm</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
<b>Handwashing Service</b>	
<b>Sunday April 5 10:00am</b>	<b>Easter/ Communion Sunday</b>
<b>Scriptures: Acts 10:34-43</b>	<b>John 20:1-18</b>
<b>Sunday April 12 10:00am</b>	
<b>Scriptures: Acts 2:14a, 22-32</b>	<b>John 20:19-31</b>
<b>Love Message: Sandi Jacobson</b>	
<b>Sunday April 19 10:00am</b>	
<b>Scriptures: Acts 2:14a, 36-41</b>	<b>Luke 24:13-35</b>
<b>Love Message: Carolyn Brauch</b>	
<b>Sunday April 26 10:00am</b>	
<b>Scriptures: Acts 2:42-47</b>	<b>John 10:1-10</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	



Easter Sunday is Sunday,  
April 5th

We welcome everyone to join us for  
Easter Sunday Worship at 10:00am  
All are welcome!



Monthly Newsletters and Upper Room are available in the Narthex.



**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



**SATURDAY MAY 16TH AT 6:05PM**

## Faith & Family Night

Faith and Family Night offers an uplifting, community-centered evening at the ballpark, featuring worship music and a welcoming atmosphere that brings families, friends, and faith communities together for a memorable experience. Please contact Bernadetta at First United Methodist-Lockport office at 1-815-838-1017 or email at [1umclockport@ameritech.net](mailto:1umclockport@ameritech.net) if you would like to join First United Methodist Church-Lockport for a fun night out by Friday, April 24th. Group Outing price will be \$12.00 per person.

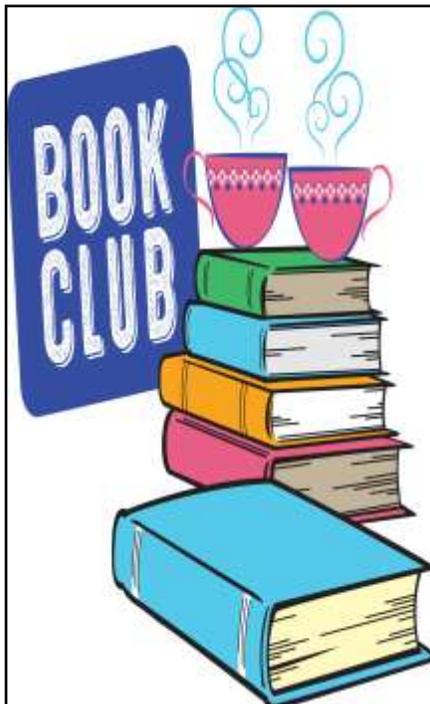


Know Someone Who is Graduating? We would like to continue our tradition of celebrating all graduates by recognizing them in next month's newsletter. We would like to honor graduates from grade school, high school, college, tech school, etc. Please send us the graduate's name, school, degree earned, honors received, and relationship to graduate. **Please email us by May 15th at [1umclockport@ameritech.net](mailto:1umclockport@ameritech.net)**  
**Graduation Sunday will be held Sunday, May 31st.**

# UPCOMING

Mark your Calendars!

- April 2nd Maudy Thursday 7:00pm Service
- April 3rd Good Friday Cross Walk
- April 5th Worship - Easter/Communion Sunday
- April 11th Lunch Bunch/ Bingo - All are welcome
- April 26th Sunday School/ Coffee Hour



### Zoom Book Club

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

Next Zoom Book Club will meet Thursday, May 21st at 7:00pm

Next book title coming soon!

## Faith in Action



First United Methodist-Lockport will be in the Parade this year!  
Save the Date for Friday, June 12th.

More information to follow.

The Old Canal Days Parade is an annual community event that brings downtown Lockport to life with a colorful display of parade floats, marching bands, specialty units, and local groups. While the carnival and food tents open on Thursday, the parade has long been the **first big moment that officially kicks off the festival's main attractions. It's a tradition that people look forward to all year, and it continues to grow with new floats, creative designs, and fresh energy. We can't wait to be a part of all the fun! We will have a tractor wagon and banner's representing First United Methodist Church-Lockport.**

All are welcome to join in on the fun!



Conference



**Practicing Hope**

**187th Northern Illinois Annual Conference**  
**Sunday, June 14 - Tuesday, June 16, 2026**  
 Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center  
 1551 N. Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg Ill.

Under the theme “Practicing Hope,” clergy and elected lay members will gather for the Northern Illinois Conference’s 187th Annual Conference session, June 14–16, at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center, 1551 N. Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg, IL. The theme invites participants to explore how hope shapes ministry, mission, and the future of the church.

“Hope allows for newness. Hope allows that God will call us forward. Hope allows us to say yes to whatever call is placed on our lives,” said Bishop Schwerin.



**SPRINGFIELD ADVOCACY DAY**  
 Led by the Northern Illinois Conference Commission on Religion and Race Legislative Action Committee

**WED., APRIL 15**  
**ABOUT 5:30 A.M. TO 8 P.M.**

**COST :**

- **\$25** - Round-trip transportation, morning snack and lunch.
- **\$15** - Morning snack and lunch (you provide transportation)

THE NIC CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON RELIGION AND RACE LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE IS LEADING A TRIP TO SPRINGFIELD, IL. WHILE IN SPRINGFIELD, THEY WILL MEET WITH STATE LEGISLATORS ABOUT ISSUES RELATED TO RACIAL JUSTICE THAT CONCERN US, AS UNITED METHODISTS, BASED ON THE UMC SOCIAL PRINCIPLES, IN THE AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, IMMIGRATION, AND EDUCATION.

**Round-trip transportation leaves from two locations:**  
 - **6 a.m. - Bolingbrook: Friendship UMC**, 305 E Boughton Rd.

Lake South District **Monthly “Go Team” Meetings**

**Next meeting: April 4th**  
[Join Online Via Zoom](#)

EVERYONE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND - 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

[Zoom link](#) Meeting ID: 964 1732 9893 Passcode: 081053

# ~Bible in a Year~

## April Versus

Apr 1: [Jud 6-7](#)

Apr 2: [Jud 8-9](#)

Apr 3: [Jud 10-12](#)

Apr 4: [Jud 13-15](#)

Apr 5: [Jud 16-18](#)

Apr 6: [Jud 19-21](#)

Apr 7: [Ruth](#)

Apr 8: [1Sam 1-3](#)

Apr 9: [1Sam 4-8](#)

Apr 10: [1Sam 9-12](#)

Apr 11: [1Sam 13-14](#)

Apr 12: [1Sam 15-17](#)

Apr 13: [1Sam 18-20; Ps 11/59](#)

Apr 14: [1Sam 21-24](#)

Apr 15: [Ps 7/27/31/34/52](#)

Apr 16: [Ps 56/120/140-142](#)

Apr 17: [1Sam 25-27](#)

Apr 18: [Ps 17/35/54/63](#)

Apr 19: [1Sam 28-31; Ps18](#)

Apr 20: [Ps 121/123-125/128-130](#)

Apr 21: [2Sam 1-4](#)

Apr 22: [Ps 6/8-10/14/16/19/21](#)

Apr 23: [1Chron 1-2](#)

Apr 24: [Ps 43-45/49/84-85/87](#)

Apr 25: [1Chron 3-5](#)

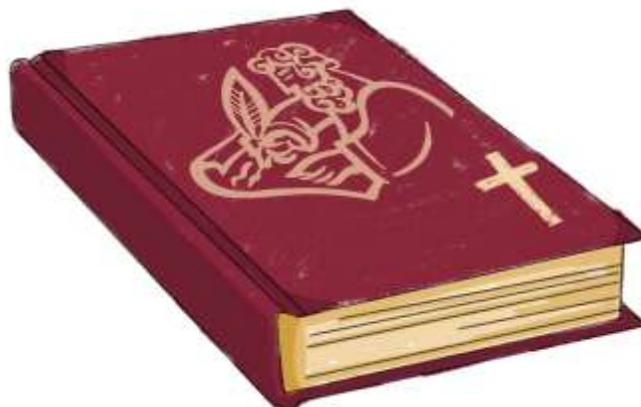
Apr 26: [Ps 73/77-78](#)

Apr 27: [1Chron 6](#)

Apr 28: [Ps 81/88/92-93](#)

Apr 29: [1Chron 7-10](#)

Apr 30: [Ps 102-104](#)





### Lunch Bunch/ Bingo

Join us **Saturday,**  
**April 11th at 12:00pm** in  
Yeoman Hall.

Please bring a favorite dish  
to share if you can. Bring a friend.

**All are welcome!**



April 11, 2026, at 2:00pm, we will have a Grief Support Group meeting every 2nd Saturday of the month at First United Methodist Church – Lockport.

1000 S. Washington St. Lockport, IL 60441.  
We will meet in Dystrup Hall right next to the church office.

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

Help us spread the word.



Do you enjoy singing?  
Would you like to join the choir? We want you! We practice every Sunday at 8:45am. Come check us out. No experience required. If you have any questions please call the office at

1-815-838-1017.

All are welcome!

Great for students  
needing hours.



### **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 us right after worship

Sunday,

April 26th for  
Coffee Hour.

Bring a friend/ neighbor.

If you are interested in hosting Coffee Hour please talk to Linda Brown.

All are welcome!

First UMC regularly receives bills for miscellaneous items that are necessary in the day-to-day operation of the church. If you can help out by paying a bill, please indicate "Adopt A Bill" on the memo line of your check made out to Lockport First United Methodist and put it in the weekly collection. To contribute towards these bills (just a portion would help out) just mark your envelope with "Adopt A Bill". Thanks for a helping hand with our expenses!

— The Finance Committee

AT&T (U-verse)\*            \$113.31  
 \*(internet & church phone)

 NICOR            \$904.80  
 Com Ed            \$625.24

**Lockport Water**            \$45.60

**Waste Management** \$88.80

Snow Removal            \$555.00



IN OUR  
 THOUGHTS  
 &  
 PRAYERS



We are here and honored to pray for your joys and concerns. Additionally our team prays every Wednesday at 8:00am or during our personal prayer time specifically our church community, country, and the world. Feel free to contact Carolyn Brauch at 815-836-0137 for prayer request or to learn more about joining our team. God Bless Carolyn

**Prayer List—Please keep the following people in your prayers**

Barbara Ott (Sheridan of Oak Brook), Betty Becker, Beth, (Lynn & Paul Farr daughter), Duane Werner, David Hensen, Gloria (Emmanuel's fiancé), Evelyn Lindstrom, Earl Meseth, Sue Rittenhouse, Roseanne Wilson, Paul Farr, Hazel Davis, and Lynette Casey.

We will update every three months.

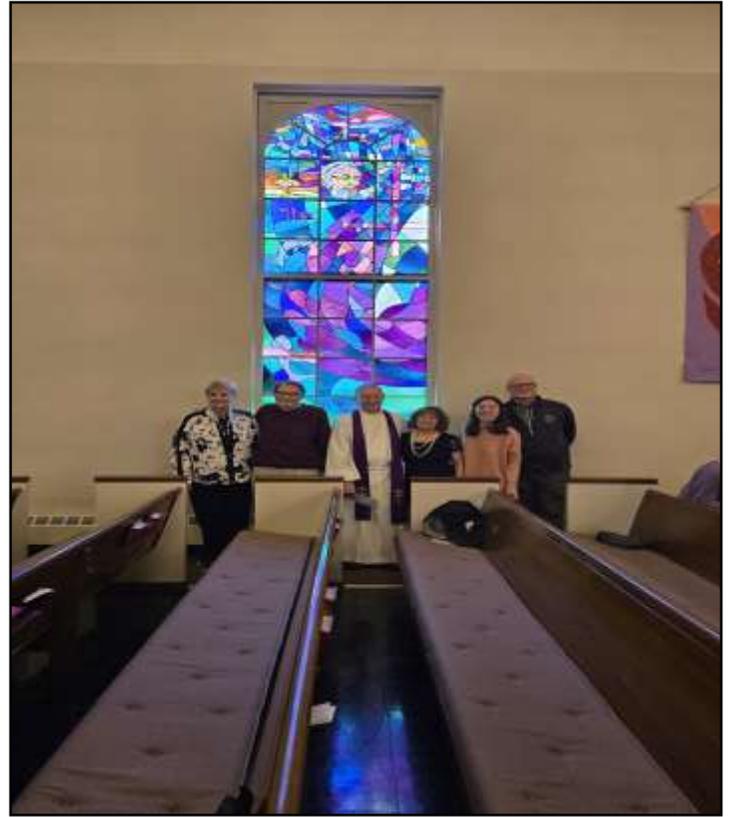
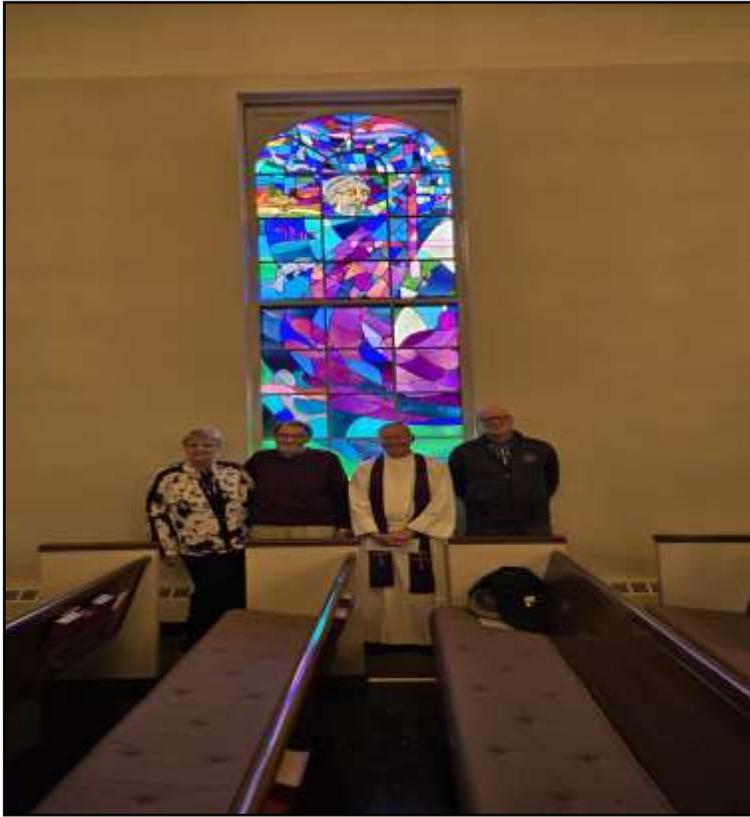


- April 3rd Betty Becker
- April 17th Jeanette Baker
- April 26th Bonnie Payette
- April 28th Craig Gilkerson



- April 4th
- Ed & Jenny Frayne
- April 14th
- Phil & Jan Rittenhouse

*Stained Glass Windows by Curtis Rolfe. What a wonderful visit!*



# Walk of the Cross 2026



Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Starting at Noon

WERE YOU THERE?

**This year's theme journeys with Jesus**  
through key events leading to the cross.

Journey begins at

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church  
925 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Lockport

Continues to local community churches

Pick up map at first church – walk or drive

There is no return transportation from the last church.



# First

TO:

**United Methodist Church**  
**of Lockport**

1000 S Washington St

Lockport, IL 60441

815.838.1017

[www.1umclockport.org](http://www.1umclockport.org)



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**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.”