



May 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.lumclockport.org](http://www.lumclockport.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

As I write my final newsletter article, many memories come to mind—like scenes from a film. It has truly been God’s grace to share in ministry with you at First UMC of Lockport.

As a United Methodist pastor, I have itinerated from church to church in service. Looking back, I can see how our Good Lord prepared each congregation for me at just the right time. In every place, the relationships I formed became opportunities to learn and grow.

I have learned that every church is unique, yet we all share the same calling: to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength,” and to “love your neighbor.”

The sanctuary has been a preacher’s delight, and I feel deeply honored to have shared God’s Word with you in this sacred space. It reminds me of a hymn I sang at the end of my first meeting with the Staff Parish Relations Committee:

“Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I will be a living sanctuary for you.”

I often wonder how faithfully I have served in ministry among you. Thank you for your patience. At times, I thought I was being patient as I tried to understand you—but I have come to realize that you were even more patient in trying to understand me.

Through our gatherings and visits, I came thinking I would share God’s prayers with you, but in truth, you are the ones who shared God’s grace and prayers with me. Writing this farewell brings to mind Paul’s letter to the Philippians—one of his warmest, most joyful, and love-filled letters. Though Paul was busy preaching, planting churches, and making tents to support himself, he remained deeply connected to those he loved through his letters. He writes:

“I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.”

I am deeply thankful to have been your partner in God’s ministry here at First UMC of Lockport. In this church, Rachel and I experienced life not only as pastor and child, but as family. You shared your time with us and supported us with your prayers.

The relationships we have built together are, surely, a gift of God’s grace. So, dear friends, thank you for your support and the love you have shown me. I carry you with me in gratitude and prayer.

Thanks be to God. Amen

*GaHyung*

**Worship:**

	
<p><b>Sunday May 3rd 10:00am</b>  <b>Scriptures: Acts 7:55-60</b></p>	<p><b>*Communion Sunday</b>  <b>John 14:1-14</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday May 10th 10:00am</b>  <b>Scriptures: Acts 17:22-31</b></p>	<p><b>*Mother's Day</b>  <b>John 14:15-21</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday May 17th 10:00am</b>  <b>Scriptures: Acts 1:6-14</b></p>	<p><b>John 17:1-11</b>  <b>*Celebration for Pastor Kim's farewell</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday May 24th 10:00am</b>  <b>Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 23:3b-13</b></p>	<p><b>John 7:37-39</b>  <b>*Pastor Kim's last worship with us.</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday May 31st 10:00am</b>  <b>Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13</b></p>	<p><b>Graduation Sunday</b>  <b>Matthew 28:16-20</b>  <b>*Pastor David Kaller will be preaching.</b></p>



**Mother's Day**  
 Sunday,  
 May 10th

We welcome everyone to join us for worship at 10:00am  
 All are welcome!



Memorial Day  
 Monday,  
 May 25th.  
 Office Closed for observance.

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 Thursday, May 7th. Group Outing price will be \$12.00 per person.

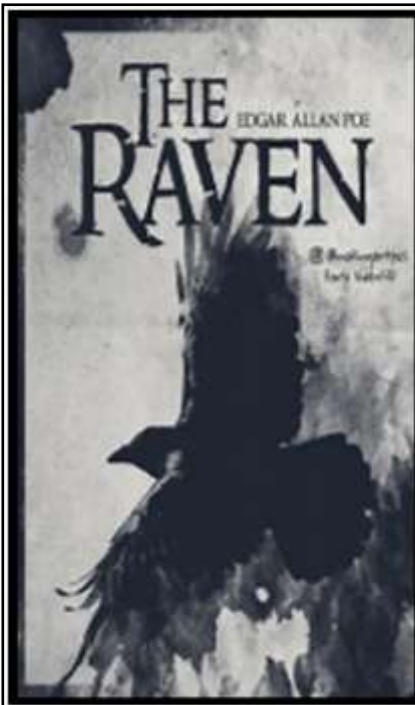


Know Someone Who is Graduating? We would like to continue our tradition of celebrating all graduates by recognizing them in next month's newsletter. We would like to honor graduates from grade school, high school, college, tech school, etc. Please send us the graduate's name, school, degree earned, honors 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!*

- May 3rd Communion Sunday
- May 9th Lunch Bunch/ Bingo
- May 14th Worship Team Meeting
- May 17th Farewell Potluck for Pastor Kim
- May 20th Church Council Meeting
- May 24th **Pastor Kim's last worship**
- May 25th Memorial Day ~ Office Closed
- May 31st Graduation Sunday



### Zoom Book Club

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

**Will be reading**

**The Raven**

**by Edgar Allan Poe**

**Next Zoom Book Club will meet Thursday, May 28th at 7:00pm**

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!



## Parade Committee

Would you like to be a part of the  
 Parade Committee for  
 First United Methodist Church-  
 Lockport? We would meet in May to  
 discuss the plan for Friday, June 12th.  
 Please talk to Linda Brown or email  
[1umclockport@ameritech.net](mailto:1umclockport@ameritech.net) or call  
 the office at 1-815-838-1017 if you  
 are interested.

Conference
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**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.

## Fill the Truck Mission Challenge Collection Drive

Please bring donations to church by Sunday, June 7th. Thank you in advance.

MIDWEST MISSION CURRENTLY HAS URGENT NEEDS FOR:

### Home Care Kits

- Liquid Household Cleaner, 54 - 80 oz. (no spray bottles)
- Liquid Dish Soap, 42 - 64 oz.
- Liquid Laundry Detergent, 100-150 oz.
- Scrub Brushes
- 5 Gallon Round Buckets With Resealable Lid

### Personal Dignity Kits

- Hand towels (no kitchen towels)
- Washcloths (no dishcloths)
- Toothbrushes (no multipack)
- Bars of Soap, 3-4 oz.
- Shampoo Bottles, 12-19 oz.
- Deodorant, 2-3 oz. (stick, roll on, or pump)
- Lotion Bottles, 8-10 oz.
- Gallon Resealable Plastic Bags

## Lake South District Monthly "Go Team" Meetings

**Next meeting: May 2nd**

[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~

## May Versus

May 1: [2Sam 5:1-10; 1Chron 11-12](#)

May 2: [Ps 133](#)

May 3: [Ps 106-107](#)

May 4: [2Sam 5:11-6:23; 1Chron 13-16](#)

May 5: [Ps 1-2/15/22-24/47/68](#)

May 6: [Ps 89/96/100-101/105/132](#)

May 7: [2Sam 7; 1Chron 17](#)

May 8: [Ps 25/29/33/36/39](#)

May 9: [2Sam 8-9; 1Chron 18](#)

May 10: [Ps 50/53/60/75](#)

May 11: [2Sam 10; 1Chron 19; Ps 20](#)

May 12: [Ps 65-67/69-70](#)

May 13: [2Sam 11-12; 1Chron 20](#)

May 14: [Ps 32/51/86/122](#)

May 15: [2Sam 13-15](#)

May 16: [Ps 3-4/12-13/28/55](#)

May 17: [2Sam 16-18](#)

May 18: [Ps 26/40/58/61-62/64](#)

May 19: [2Sam 19-21](#)

May 20: [Ps 5/38/41-42](#)

May 21: [2Sam 22-23; Ps 57](#)

May 22: [Ps 95/97-99](#)

May 23: [2Sam 24; 1Chron 21-22; Ps 30](#)

May 24: [Ps 108-110](#)

May 25: [1Chron 23-25](#)

May 26: [Ps 131/138-139/143-145](#)

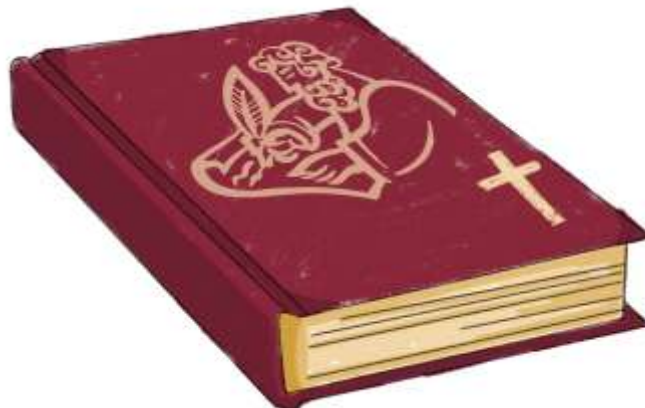
May 27: [1Chron 26-29; Ps 127](#)

May 28: [Ps 111-118](#)

May 29: [1King 1-2; Ps 37/71/94](#)

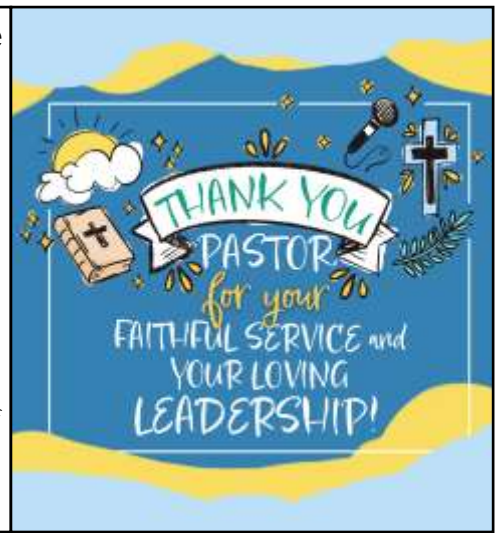
May 30: [Ps 119:1-88](#)

May 31: [1King 3-4; 2Chron 1; Ps 72](#)





Your warmly invited to join us after the service as we celebrate our Pastor's ministry and offer our heartfelt farewell. Please stay for a potluck gathering filled with food, fellowship, and gratitude as we honor her years of faithful service. We hope you can be there Sunday, May 17th at 10:00am worship and potluck to follow right after worship. You are more than welcome to bring a dish to share if you like. Pastor Kim's last worship will be Sunday, May 24th at 10:00am.



## Itinerancy

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist church, was an itinerant preacher who traveled from town to town in England. He set up Methodist societies all across the country.

Methodism came to the United States shortly after the Revolutionary War. In 1784, Wesley anointed preachers with the authority to administer the sacraments. The Bishops appointed Circuit Riding Preachers, like Jesse Walker, who were sent out to travel from church to church covering large areas. They were responsible for thousands of the oldest Methodist Congregations, including ours.

Itinerancy refers specifically to the commitment by pastors to go and serve wherever their bishop sends them. Appointment is the action taken by bishops. These are different, but related.

Before they are ordained clergy in the United Methodist Church agree to serve where their Bishop appoints them. Appointments are for one year at a time. For Elders and local Pastors the goal is to match gifts and graces of the particular Pastor with the ministry needs of the congregation. No two Pastors are alike and overtime the combination of skills blend to form a broad base of developed ministries.

While the Bishops make appointments they incorporate a consultive process outlined in the Book of Discipline. This includes the District Superintendent, Pastors, and Staff/Parish committees. The needs and desires of clergy are considered but, the mission of the church comes first.



### **Lunch Bunch/ Bingo**

Join us **Saturday,**  
**May 9th at 12:00pm** in Yeoman  
Hall.

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

**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**                    \$611.70  
**Com Ed**                    \$391.01

**Lockport Water**                    \$78.80

**Waste Management** \$91.14



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, Lynette Casey, and Pat Burnett.



- May 3rd Amy Larkin
- May 5th Bob Hoffman
- May 7th Logan Brown
- May 11th Pastor GaHyung Kim
- Evelyn Moan
- May 18th Molly Lynn Curtis
- May 28th John Inkum



- May 12th Doug & Mary Schehr
- May 24th David & Josefina Kaller
- May 26th Dick & Pat Burnett

# ESL GRADUATE'S ON PALM SUNDAY & VOLUNTEER'S



Thank you letter from Global Ministries

*"...when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me." - Jesus (Matthew 25:40 CEB)*

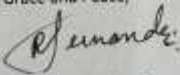
Dear Friends in ministry,

**Thank you!**

The dear people you just helped with your gift may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - *Thank you!*

And through your financial support *you* are serving within a vital web of interactive relationships, partnering to engage globally in direct ministry to people in need.

Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Grace and Peace,  
  
 Roland Fernandes, General Secretary  
 General Board of Global Ministries, UMCOR, and Higher Education and Ministry

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**Supporting**

Amount: \$350  
 Missionaries - Around the World  
 Date Received 03/17/2026

Amount: \$350  
 Kim, Rev. Young Seon  
 Date Received 03/17/2026

Amount: \$350  
 Grace Children's Hospital (GCH) and Outpatient Clinic

Amount: \$350  
 United Methoethodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM) - North Central Jurisdiction (NCJ)  
 Date Received 03/17/2026

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UMCOR - Where Most Needed  
 Date Received 03/17/2026

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Amount: \$\$25  
 UMCOR

Thank you card from Micheal Arends daughter and family.



First United Methodist Church,

We would like to thank you for your generous donation to our family after the tornado damage. Your support and kindness meant more to our family than words can say. It truly helped us during such a difficult time.

Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts, and prayers.

God Bless,  
 - The Clark Family



# 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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**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.”