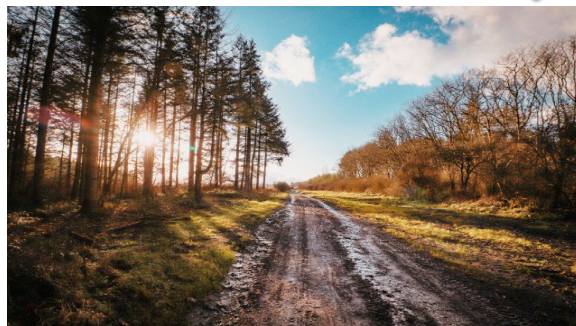


**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
April 19, 2026 – Third Sunday of Easter**



*Children in preschool through 5th grade begin worship with their families and will be dismissed to Sunday School shortly.
For families with infants and toddlers, a volunteer-staffed nursery is available across from the main office, offering a
calm, welcoming space with age-appropriate activities and audio of the worship service.*

PRELUDE

How Great Thou Art

arr. Joel Raney

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG**

Goodness of God

Bethel Music

*I love You Lord, oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

Chorus

*And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire in darkest nights
You are close like no other
I've known You as a parent
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God*

they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

through a sermon

On the Road

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN**

O Savior, Let Me Walk with You (NCH #503)

*O Savior, let me walk with you in earthly paths of service true;
Tell me your secret, help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.*

*Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love.
Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.*

*Teach me your patience; let me be in closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.*

*In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way,
In peace that only you can give, with you, O Savior, let me live.*

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG

Alleluia (NCH #765)

Christ is Risen, Alleluia (x4)

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



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 debts
as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for
Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

SENT FORTH TO PROCLAIM GOD'S GRACE

*PARTING SONG

Now the Green Blade Rises (NCH #238)

*Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.*

*In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
Thinking that their love would never awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.*

*Christ came forth at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.*

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Christ's warm touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Look Ye Saints

arr. Larry Shackley

***As you are able, please stand in body or in spirit.**

First Church of Lombard, UCC – Song Select and Broadcasting License # 48259180
Onelicense.net license A-72537

Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour immediately after worship.

There will be a Church Council meeting tomorrow, Monday, April 20th
at 7:00 PM in the North Conference Room.

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

April 19, 2026

20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1350

INSPIRING MUSIC, INSPIRING LIVES: A NEW SUNDAY MORNING SERIES

We are excited to announce a special opportunity for spiritual exploration and connection this spring! The Adult Faith Exploration Team is launching a short, four-week Sunday morning theme titled “Inspiring Music, Inspiring Lives.” The series will run through May 3, 2026, offering a unique chance to come together in community and explore the powerful intersection of music and personal meaning. Each week at 9:00 a.m. , a different facilitator will share two or three songs that hold deep significance in their life. Following the music, we will gather for a discussion about the themes, memories, and inspiration behind the selections. We invite you to start your Sunday mornings with us any week you can, to listen deeply, and to share your own reflections. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions.

AMERICAN HERITAGE CONCERT

Sunday, April 19th at 3:00

“America's 250th and Wicked” will be highlighted by the music from Wicked, and will pay tribute to the nation’s 250th birthday. It will also include Music from Pirates of the Caribbean, Pavane for a Dead Princess, Tribute to Harry Mancini, and World Showcase – favorites from worldwide countries.

Admission \$25

For more information or to purchase tickets visit MapleStreetChapel.org or call 630-627-0171.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE & DIAPER DRIVE - IN FELLOWSHIP HALL!

Start saving your best items today to donate for the upcoming rummage sale! Proceeds benefit local community nonprofit organizations. Give your treasures a new life and help others in the process.

All items donated should be clean, without stains or holes.

NOT ACCEPTED: car seats, cribs, high chairs, desktop computers, mattresses, or furniture of any kind. There will be volunteers on site to help you unload!

Donation Drop Off:

- Sunday, April 19th, 11:30am-12:30pm
- Monday, April 20th, 12pm- 6:30pm
- Tuesday, April 21st, 12pm- 6:30pm

Sale:

- Presale: Thursday, April 23rd, 4pm- 6:30pm (\$5 to enter presale)
- Friday April 24th, 9:30 am- 6 pm
- Saturday, April 25th, 9am-12pm (1/2 price day!)

Diaper Drive:

- When you drop off, please consider bringing a box of diapers and/or wipes to be donated to Teen Parent Connection. Huggies (size 3-6) preferred.

Refer any questions to Lynda S. Wilson, 630-707-1868, lswilson411@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our littlest worshipers need loving caregivers on Sunday mornings, and you can help! We're seeking volunteers to serve from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., alongside our faithful Nursery Coordinator, Kathy Underwood. This is a joyful opportunity to play, cuddle, and care for infants and toddlers while their parents participate in worship. If you have a warm heart and a willingness to help our youngest children feel safe and loved, contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org about being part of this important ministry or sign up on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs.

APRIL DINNER, DOCUMENTARY AND DISCUSSION

In April, First Church of Lombard is taking a look at MUSIC with our "Dinner, Documentary, and Discussion" series! On Friday, April 24, all are invited to come watch "The Greatest Night in Pop." On a January night in 1985, music's biggest stars gathered to record "We Are the World." This documentary goes behind the scenes of the historic event. Bring your dinner and gather at 6:00 p.m. in the North Conference Room. *This event is not available via Zoom.* Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions.

MAPLE STREET CONCERTS

Maple Street Concerts presents Patchouli on Saturday, April 25th at 7pm. Tickets \$20 This concert was scheduled a year ago and cancelled when Julie's husband, Bruce, died. Julie reached out recently, wanting to perform a memorial concert honoring Bruce in Illinois, where they first met, began their long beautiful musical journey, and where they garnered a supportive fanbase from the very start. She returns to the Maple Street Chapel stage for a special concert celebrating Bruce's life in the Arts, performing fan favorite songs and sharing the new album release "Everything it Takes".

PUZZLES AND POTLUCK -- POSTPONED!

The Faith Exploration Team has decided to postpone the "Puzzles and Potluck" event originally scheduled for April 26. With so much happening at the church right now, we want to make sure the gathering gets the focus and fun it deserves. A new date will be announced as soon as possible—stay tuned!

IL PRAIRIE PATH CLEAN-UP

We will be meeting at 8:30 AM on Saturday, April 25th at the white garage in the FCL parking lot for the IPP clean-up for our mile. First Church is an IPP adopter, so we are doing our own sign-up for our section.

There are also plans for cleaning up the Villa Park post office grounds, which you're welcome to stay after and help with this as well.

Come dressed for work. Rain date is Sunday after church@ 11:30 am!

Please contact Jeri at jeri.shaw@me.com to sign up or with any questions. If you'd like to help with a different trail, please sign up using the QR code found on [THIS](#) flyer.

FCL CELEBRATES OUR TEACHERS!

FCL is kicking off "Teacher Appreciation Week" on Sunday, May 3 by celebrating all those involved with Faith Exploration for children, youth, and adults! If you have helped out with Sunday School, taught a lesson or two for any age level, volunteered in the nursery or led a conversation at any Adult Faith Exploration gathering, please plan to attend worship and coffee hour on May 3 so we can celebrate you!

ONCE-MONTHLY STUDY ON SPIRITUAL AGING

A study on Spiritual Aging, based on Carol Orsborn's book of the same name, meets once a month on the 4th Sunday. On April 26th, we will gather in the Art room after worship. Each month's discussion will focus on the weekly readings from the book. Copies are available in the church office for \$10. For questions or more information, please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org

STOP BY TO FIND YOUR NEXT GREAT READ, RIGHT IN THE NARTHEX!

You are invited to explore the special book display in the Narthex, where you're sure to find something that catches your eye. All books are available to borrow right from the display or from FCL's own Lending Library, located on the Lower Level. Stop by, take a look, and let us help you discover your next favorite read!

RAINBOW FAITH LGBTQIA+ ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Join us at Rainbow Faith, a ministry at First Church of Lombard created as a safe and affirming space for adult members of the LGBTQIA+ family (and occasionally, allies and advocates). Whether you're looking for meaningful conversation or simply a place to belong, all are welcome to gather on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For questions or more information, please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org

NEXT BOOK DISCUSSION COMING IN MAY!

Greetings Fellow Readers! FCL's Beyond Words Book Discussion will meet on Wednesday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss My Friends by Fredrik Backman. All are welcome... even if you don't finish the book! Copies are available in the church office for a cost of \$12 each. Please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org to arrange pick-up of the book if you can't stop by on a Sunday morning or if copies are not available when you do!

SAVE THE DATES FOR SUMMER FUN!

Summer will be here before we know it, and we have some special events planned.

Make sure to save these dates:

Sun. May 31 - Sabbatical Send-Off Ice Cream Social - Coordinated by Parish Life

Sun. July 26 - Trip to the Morton Arboretum - Coordinated by Jason Cooper

Fri. Aug. 28 - Mon. 31 - All Church Retreat to Tower Hill - Coordinated by Lynda and Eric Wilson

GREEN TEAM – WEEKLY ARTICLE

Have you enjoyed Zoo Lights during the holiday season? Coursey of WTTW's Uban Nature: Brookfield Zoo's "Glow Wild" festival is an after-hours experience that celebrates art, conservation and global traditions. Guests will wander paths illuminated by lanterns resembling creatures both real and mythical. Hours are 6-10 p.m., Thursday to Sunday, through May 10. Tickets are available online.

IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

DONATIONS NEEDED

The Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants is asking for:

Men's clothing in small and medium sizes as well as shirts size large

Men's pants waist sizes 28 to 36 with an emphasis on smaller sizes

Boys clothing from size 3 to 16

Girls clothing from size 2 to 16

New underwear and socks, all genders and sizes

Bed linens--sheets, blankets, pillows all sizes

Towels

Cookware items especially pots and pans. (Please make sure they are scrubbed clean.)
Dishes and glassware

Items may be put in the blue bin outside sanctuary doors.
Contact Jeri Shaw with any questions at: 630-936-6668

THANK YOU

From Jeri Shaw:

“Thanks so much for all the FCL donations that I have had the joy to share with our friends at EPC” (Elmhurst Presbyterian Church). Here is a note from the immigrant coordinator, Pat Motto at EPC with an update on the services FCL & other churches have been helping with weekly for our immigrant neighbors:

“Families are once again coming to the church. In the 2 hours we were there yesterday 3 families came through including 1 with 3 darling little girls. They filled multiple bags with needed items. One of the girls found an adorable shorts set with the tags still on that she grabbed & carried with her the whole time. A smiling baby loved her new bouncy chair. Snack bags were also a big hit. I wish you could all see the results of your charity.”
There is an urgent need for Spanish speaking volunteers who can give several hours during weekdays this month with migrants as they "shop." Please call Sarah at 312 770 0177 for details.”

No longer needed are winter items including heavy coats, hats, mittens, scarves etc. We are turning our donation inventory to spring items.”

Volunteers for Sunday, April 19, 2026	Volunteers for Sunday, April 26, 2026
<u>Liturgist</u> Kim Perkins	<u>Liturgist</u> Matt Kirsh
<u>Ushers</u> Mark Meyer Mike Rodak	<u>Ushers</u> Becky Kirsh Matt Kirsh
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Christine Esposito Barb Sorgatz	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Laura Belletini-Work John Work
<u>Sound</u> Charlie Peterson	<u>Sound</u> Andrew Eckhart
<u>Video Streaming</u> Eric Wilson	<u>Video Streaming</u> Eric Wilson

Church Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Monday & Wednesday

Available by appointment

Friday & Saturday

CLOSED

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Jill Terpstra - Senior Minister

Val Sutton - Director of Educational Ministries

Janette Rodriguez - Director of Music Ministries

Lawrence Underwood - Children and Youth Music Coordinator

Charlie Peterson - Porter

Bea Castillo - Administrative Secretary

Phone: 630-629-2630

www.FCOL.org



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST