

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
June 21, 2026**



All God's children are always welcome in worship at First Church of Lombard. This summer, children and adults are invited to enjoy the "Pew Pocket Storybooks" in every pew as well as the "Coloring Project" in the back of the worship space. In addition, a variety of quiet activities are available in our Quiet Corner to keep hands busy. For families with younger children, 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. We ask that children not remain unsupervised in the Narthex or Nursery.

PRELUDE

All Things Bright and Beautiful

arr. Gail Ann Wasson

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG**

For the Beauty of the Earth (NCH #28)

*For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies.*

Refrain:

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain]*

*For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]*

*For yourself, best gift divine,
to the world so freely given,
agent of God's grand design:
peace on earth and joy in heaven. [Refrain]*

***OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

Blessed God, thank you for blessing us in a variety of ways. Thank you for trusting us to be your people to shine with your love, and to work for your justice. In this time of worship, guide and strengthen us, that we may go forth to bless your world fully and abundantly. In your blessed name, we pray. Amen

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through special music

Send Me

Janette Rodriguez

through scripture

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, brothers and sisters, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

through a ministry partner

Karen Doyle, Director of Development
Teen Parent Connection

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

MISSION PARTNER APPRECIATION

Wider Church

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

PRAYER SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy (NCH #793)

*Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.*

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray:

One: Thank you for the many blessings that you have bestowed upon us. Your grace flows around us, even when we cannot feel it. In celebration, we praise you for all that you have created in this world, but we also mourn that this world is not all that it could be. Although we acknowledge that we need to do more, we know we cannot do it alone.

Many: Rest us in your grace, O God.

One: Help us to be the people you would have us be; help us to care for our neighbors—not just the person next to us in the pew, but the people of the world crying out for justice and peace.

Many: Rest us in your grace, O God.

One: Help us to be the people you would have us be; help us to love ourselves—not so that we can be overconfident or arrogant, but so that we might be strong and capable of reaching out, taking a position, and making a difference.

Many: Rest us in your grace, O God.

One: Help leaders in our community and the world to be makers of peace in a divided world; quiet our fears, soften our hearts, and guide us in the ways of justice, reconciliation, and compassion.

Many: Rest us in your grace, O God.

One: Help us to build the world you would have us live in; help us to care for creation—not so that we can dominate or fix things we don't understand, but so that we can listen, understand, and help where needed.

Many: Rest us in your grace, O God.

One: Help us to care for those who are grieving and those who are sick, in body, mind, or spirit, grant comfort to those who suffer, strength to those who heal, and patience to those who wait.

Many: Rest us in your grace, O God.

One: We name silently in our hearts the people and places that weigh on us this day. (Hold silence.)

One: Receive our prayers, O Holy One, in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray saying...

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** *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant? (NCH #539)*

*Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.*

*I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*

*I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.*

*When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

*Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.*

***BENEDICTION**

One: Go in the assurance of God's love—steadfast and unearned.

Many: We rest in that love.

One: When life feels uncertain, remember you are not alone.

Many: We rest in God's presence.

One: Lay down your burdens and receive God's peace.

Many: We go, assured and at peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Sing Praise to God

arr. Gail Ann Wasson

***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.

Pastor Jill is on sabbatical through September 7. If you have a pastoral concern or need assistance during this time, please contact Bea in the church office at bcastillo@firstchurchoflombard.org. She will connect you with the pastor providing coverage. Submit prayer requests to info@firstchurchoflombard.org.

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

We acknowledge that First Church of Lombard UCC is located on the traditional native lands of the Kiikaapoi, Peoria, Bodewadmiakiwen, Miami and Oceti Sakowin peoples.



NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

June 21, 2026

20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1359



**HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY**

THIS WEEK! FOLLOW OUR YOUTH MISSION TEAM VIA THE BLOG!

Please keep the whole Youth Community Mission Team in your prayers this week... and be watching for updates at <https://ycmissiontrips.home.blog>! Be aware that we aren't always able to update the blog in the most timely manner, but we do our best! Feel free to share that link with others!

DOCUMENTARY SERIES CONTINUES INTO SUMMER!

In recognition of Juneteenth, we will gather for a special screening of the acclaimed documentary "Slavery By Another Name," the next in FCL's Dinner, Documentary, and Discussion series. While Juneteenth commemorates the end of chattel slavery in 1865, this PBS documentary reveals a difficult truth: for hundreds of thousands of African Americans, bondage did not truly end with the Emancipation Proclamation. Bring your dinner and come learn more on Friday, June 26 at 6:00 p.m. in the North Conference Room (lower level).

FIRST CHURCH MORTON ARBORETUM FIELD TRIP

PASTOR JILL'S BIG CHILL - PT. 2

(Special contribution by Andi Cooper)

While she's away, we'll still gather and smile,
With our church family walking a while—
From the prairie to the trail,
Joy and laughter will prevail,
At Morton Arboretum we'll picnic in style.

Grab your walking shoes and join us for a summer stroll through the prairie at Morton Arboretum on Sunday, July 26th from 12:00-3:00 PM. We'll meet up for a picnic lunch followed by a visit to one of the Midwest's oldest and most successful prairie restorations. Entry Fee and a Picnic Lunch will be provided. Sign up [HERE](#) or on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer where you can see the full agenda.

PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 30, 2026

BREAKFAST CHURCH COMING SUNDAY, JULY 5!

Plan now to gather in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 5 to celebrate with food, conversation and song! Get festive and wear red, white and blue!

UPCOMING RAINBOW FAITH OPEN TO ALL!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! ALL ARE INVITED to a special Rainbow Faith gathering at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, as we watch and discuss the Emmy-nominated documentary "Pray Away." Rainbow Faith is a welcoming space for adults who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. For this viewing, we are opening the invitation to all allies and advocates. The movie will begin at our regular Rainbow Faith time of 7:00 p.m. at First Church of Lombard in the North Conference Room (lower level). Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for details.

THE SUMMER COLORING PROJECT IS RETURNING TO FCL THIS SUMMER!

This summer, we are bringing All God's Children together in worship by coloring together, offering people of all ages a unique way to engage with the words, music, and prayers at our worship services. A large coloring page will be available in the Narthex at every indoor worship service this summer. Remember — the goal is not to finish a picture each Sunday. We are hoping that a variety of people at a variety of times will help us create some true masterpieces this summer.

PEW POCKET STORYBOOKS

Don't miss the children's books available in the pews this summer! These books, from our children's library on the lower level, offer thoughtful entertainment for children as they join their families in worship throughout the summer.

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. 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

NEXT BEYOND WORDS BOOK DISCUSSION COMING WEDNESDAY, JULY 15!

Greetings Fellow Readers! FCL's Beyond Words Book Discussion will meet on Wednesday, July 15 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Me and Earl and the Dying Girl by Jesse Andrews (a description of the book is below). This book was chosen off of the "Banned Books" list as part of the UCC's resistance to censorship. 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!

VOTE FOR FCL'S SUMMER MOVIE!

On Friday, August 21, all are invited to come for a family-friendly movie night right here at FCL! And now, YOU can vote for which movie we will watch! Head to <https://tinyurl.com/FCLSummerMovie2026> to vote for your favorite of the options. Movies will be held outdoors if possible; begin gathering at 7:30 p.m. More details coming soon! Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for more information.

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 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

GREEN TEAM – WEEKLY ARTICLE

Now that summer is here and people are outside more, check out safe sunscreens at www.ewg.org

SPECIAL BOOK DISPLAY FOR PRIDE MONTH!

Be sure to check out the special display of LGBTQIA+ books on the usher's table in the Narthex, available through the end of June. These selections come from the First Church Lending Library on the lower level and offer a range of voices, stories, and perspectives to celebrate Pride Month. All are welcome to browse and borrow -- and to head down the Resource Center for more!

IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

ICDI FOOD DRIVE DONATIONS NEEDED

ICDI, the Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants, will be holding a food giveaway at the Elmhurst Presbyterian Church at Spring Rd and St Charles on Wednesday June 24th from noon til 4:00. Recent cutbacks in federal support for SNAP and other benefits have left many of the people we serve in dire need of food assistance.

Here are the items we need:

Pinto beans,
2 lb bags White Rice,
2 lb bags Instant Ramen noodles (Maruchan)
Boxes of pasta
Cereal
Flour (P A N or Maseca)
Cooking oil (any variety)
Salt
Sugar
Microwaveable popcorn
Apple and grape juice
White sandwich bread
Grape or strawberry jelly
Tortillas
Potatoes

These items will be collected in the shopping carts in the Narthex at church on **Sunday, June 21st**.
Contact Jeri Shaw with any questions at: 630-936-6668



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Volunteers for Sunday, June 21, 2026	Volunteers for Sunday, June 28, 2026
<u>Liturgist</u> Mark Meyer	<u>Liturgist</u> Christine Tani
<u>Ushers</u> Kevin Lattner Mike Rodak	<u>Ushers</u> Jason Cooper Mark Meyer
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Christine Esposito Barb Sorgatz	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Corinne Flemm Judy Kline <u>Lynda Wilson</u>
<u>Sound</u> Andrew Eckhart	<u>Sound</u> Thomas Hammerschmidt
<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