

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
September 13, 2026 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:15AM**



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

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. William Phemister

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG**

Enter Rejoice and Come In (NCH #73)

*Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.*

*Open yourself to the song. Open yourself to the song.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.*

*Open your hearts ev'ryone. Open your hearts ev'ryone.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.*

*Don't be afraid of some change. Don't be afraid of some change.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.*

*Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.*

***OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

Blessed are you, Gracious God! Glorious is your name in all the earth! We celebrate who you are, and all that you have done for us. You hold our lives in your hands and catch us when we stumble. So we come together today, led by your Holy Spirit, to worship you: to sing your praise, to confess our mistakes, and to receive your love and mercy. Be present among us as we worship you. To you be all glory, now and forever. Amen

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through a mission moment

Val Sutton,
Director of Educational Ministries

through an anthem

All Creatures of Our God and King
Voices of Peace

arr. Jack Zaino

through a scripture

2 Corinthians 6:1-10

As we work together with him, we entreat you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; in purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true, as unknown and yet are well known, as dying and look—we are alive, as punished and yet not killed, as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing everything.

through a sermon

Joy is Not Meant to be a Crumb

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN

As We Gather at Your Table (NCH #332)

*As we gather at your Table, As we listen to your Word,
Help us know, O God, your presence; Let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story Till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet How to make Love's victory known.*

*Turn our worship into witness In the sacrament of life;
Send us forth to love and serve you, Bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion To forgive as you forgave;
May we still behold your image In the world you died to save.*

*Gracious Spirit, help us summon Other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome Those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us Nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels To repeat the sounding joy.*

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF

Robert Cochran

HOLY COMMUNION

*Communion will be served at the front of the sanctuary with individual pieces of bread and cups of grape juice.
Gluten free elements and individually sealed cups are available for those who wish. Holy Communion is open to all.*

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**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore You (NCH #4)

*Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain teach us what our praise should be.*

*You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to you;
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.*

*Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

arr. Rey Treiyer

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

Everyone is invited to the Rally Day Picnic after worship.

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

September 13, 2026

20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1371

WORSHIP STARTS AT 10:15 AM STARTING THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

RALLY DAY THIS SUNDAY

THIS Sunday, September 13, marks the return of our 10:15 a.m. worship time, and following worship, everyone is invited to gather for Rally Day to celebrate the start of a new church year!

In recognition of Jill's return from sabbatical, this year's Rally Day theme is Sweet Home Chicago! Please join your First Church family for an afternoon of food, fun, fellowship, and plenty of Chicago spirit.

We will be serving Chicago style hot dogs and some Chicago Mix popcorn along with a potluck assortment of sides and desserts. There will also be a Mission Fair where the various teams and groups within the church will have representatives to talk to you about their contributions to our church life and how you can become involved, if that is something you would like to do.

Folks are encouraged to wear any Chicago-themed clothes they have to add to the festive nature of the day. Come join us for a few hours of fun and fellowship!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TO RESUME ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13!

Sunday School will resume during the 10:15 a.m. worship service on Sunday, September 13! All children in preschool through 5th grade are invited to begin worship with their families before being dismissed to class. More information has been sent via mail; please contact Miss Val at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org if you have any questions or have not received a letter.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF

The Stewardship Campaign for our 2027 General Fund kicks off today. In the next few days, you will receive a Stewardship packet from First Church, which contains important information about our financial picture. If you have not received a packet, or if you need another one, please call or see Bea Castillo at the church office.

The theme this year is "An Oasis From the Chaos of Our World." First Church offers life-giving community, services, and support that we need, to help us through these troubled times.

In order to serve our church and community, we need to maintain quality staff at First Church. Without our dedicated, competent, energized staff, we wouldn't have all the vital ministries and outreach that are part of our identity. Our annual staff expense is about 60% of our total budget, so it is vitally important that we continue our financial support of First Church.

Also, on each Sunday during the Stewardship campaign, there will be "Witnessing Stewards," who will share with you their thoughts and feelings about First Church of Lombard. We hope that you listen to their testimonials and appreciate the courage and conviction they have in standing up here before you and sharing their personal experiences. The Witnessing Steward on Sunday, September 13th will be Bob Cochran.

COLORING PROJECT TO CONTINUE INTO FALL!

We have loved bringing All God's Children together in worship this summer through the shared act of coloring a large picture, located in the Narthex —a simple, creative way for people of all ages to engage with the words, music, and prayers of our worship services. And here's the good news: we're not stopping even as summer comes to an end! Since the picture isn't quite finished yet, we invite you to add your touch whenever you're here, week after week. Our hope is that many hands, over many months, will come together to create something truly beautiful—a masterpiece born from the whole congregation, in every season.

DO YOU LOVE COFFEE HOUR?

We know you do! It takes many volunteers to shop, schedule, set up and clean up every week. If you can spare a few Sundays a year, we could use your help to host coffee hour. Free training and free donuts! You can't beat it. Contact Jean Reneau at 630.728.3742 or jean@reneau.us if you're interested. Thanks!

NARTHEX BOOK DISPLAY

All 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!

WALK TOGETHER. FIGHT HUNGER. HAVE SOME FUN!

Join the Agape Walkers of First Church for the Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 4 at 1:00 PM at First Church of Lombard!

It's a family-friendly afternoon with walking, games, a raffle, and a chance to make a difference right here at home and around the world. Proceeds support hunger-relief programs, including two local programs close to our community — Outreach House and Community Table.

Whether you'd like to walk with the team or support the Agape Walkers, we'd love to have you be part of it!

Sign up or donate here:

[Join or Support the Agape Walkers](#)

A SPECIAL GUEST, A POWERFUL BOOK, AND A SEAT SAVED JUST FOR YOU

Greetings Fellow Readers! FCL's Beyond Words Book Discussion will meet on Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *How to Begin When Your World Is Ending: A Spiritual Field Guide to Joy Despite Everything* by Molly Phinney Baskette. Rev. Baskette will be joining First Church of Lombard in worship on Sunday, October 18! 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!

FCL'S FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18!

Your hints: bicycles flying past the moon, a glowing heart, and a very long-distance call. Plan now to gather on Friday, September 18. Free popcorn, family-friendly fun. Bring a chair, a drink, and a pal. Gather at 7:30 p.m. outdoors (weather permitting — we'll move indoors if needed).

For more info, email vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org.

INSPIRING MUSIC, INSPIRING LIVES: TAKE TWO! SUNDAY MORNING FAITH EXPLORATION SERIES RESUMES SEPTEMBER 20

We are excited to be bringing back a special opportunity for spiritual exploration and connection this fall! The Adult Faith Exploration Team is bringing back the Sunday morning theme that was so well-loved this past spring: "Inspiring Music, Inspiring Lives." This time, the series will run from September 20 through November 8, offering another opportunity to explore the powerful intersection of music and personal meaning! Each week at 9:00 a.m., a different facilitator will share a few songs that hold deep significance in their life, with discussion between each song 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 or if you would like a chance to present your own musical selections!

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE LEGENDARY DOLLY PARTON AT FCL'S DOCUMENTARY NIGHT!

First Church of Lombard's Documentary, Dinner and Discussion Series resumes on Friday, September 25 with a look at "Here I Am," a deep look at the recently departed Dolly Parton! Plan now to bring your dinner and gather in the North Conference Room at 6:00 p.m. to watch and discuss together. Viewing not available via Zoom for copyright reasons. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for more information!

FALL RUMMAGE SALE & DIAPER DRIVE - IN FELLOWSHIP HALL!

It's fall, and that means that it's time to rotate your clothes, and bring 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/rips/tears, and good enough to use again.

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, September 27th, 11:30am-12:30pm
- Monday, September 28th, 12pm- 6pm
- Tuesday, September 29th, 12pm- 6pm

Sale:

- Presale: Thursday, October 1st, 4pm- 6pm (\$5 to enter presale)
- Friday, October 2nd, TBA - 6 pm (9:30/10 a.m. - 6 p.m.)
- Saturday, October 3rd, 9am-2pm (1/2 price day!)

Diaper Drive:

- When you drop off, please consider donating a box of diapers and/or wipes to Teen Parent Connection. Huggies (size 3-6) preferred.
- Teen Parent Connection is one of our partner agencies, and is the only nonprofit organization in DuPage County exclusively dedicated to supporting teenage parents and preventing teen pregnancy.

Refer any questions to Lynda S. Wilson, [630-707-1868](tel:630-707-1868), or lswilson411@gmail.com Thank you for your generosity!

COMING THIS OCTOBER! EIGHT BIBLE MYTHS MANY CHRISTIANS BELIEVE

This October, FCL is inviting you to join a four-week Wednesday evening series (starting October 7) called Eight Bible Myths Many Christians Believe, based on a video from theologian Bart Ehrman. Each week we'll watch a short segment of the video and then gather for friendly, no-pressure conversation—no homework, no expertise required, just curiosity and an open mind. We're also looking for volunteers to help guide the discussion on one or more dates (October 7, 14, 21, or 28); facilitators simply watch that week's clip, jot down a few questions, and lead the chat (tech support is handled separately). If you're interested in facilitating, just let Val know at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org -- otherwise, plan to gather any Wednesday in October that you can!

JOIN THE CRIBBAGE CLUB – ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

Are you looking for a fun, low-key way to connect with others over a classic card game? Whether you've been playing cribbage for decades or you're not entirely sure what a "crib" even is, we'd love to have you at FCL's new Cribbage Club! We're gathering a group of people who want to play cribbage once a month. Nothing too serious—just good company, friendly competition, and a chance to enjoy a timeless game. Beginners are absolutely welcome; the only requirement is a willingness to learn and have fun. Right now, we're simply trying to find out who would be interested in joining. Once we have a list of interested folks, we'll reach out and find a mutually agreeable date and time that works for everyone once per month. To learn more, contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org.

SAVE THE DATES

Mark your calendars for these exciting events coming up this fall! We hope you'll join us as we worship, learn, serve, and celebrate together.

Saturday, September 19

Love Your Neighbor Day – Join us for a day of service as we come together to make a difference in our community. We hope to have a wonderful turnout this year as we put our faith into action by serving our neighbors.

Saturday, October 17 (Afternoon)

Workshop with The Rev. Molly Baskette – Don't miss this special opportunity to learn and be inspired during an afternoon workshop led by Rev. Molly Baskette.

Sunday, October 18

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Molly Baskette – Rev. Molly Baskette will lead worship and share the morning message, followed by a special talk after the service.

Sunday, November 8

175th Anniversary Celebratory Worship – Join us as we celebrate 175 years of ministry, faith, and community with a special worship service honoring our church's rich history and looking forward to the future.

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

From Katharine Hayhoe: A new study from Ohio found that when people with poorly controlled asthma swapped out their gas stoves for electric ones, hospital admissions and missed work or school days dropped by 70%. "Improvements were "about twice as much as you typically see with medical treatment of asthma," said the project's leader, Professor Ash Sehgal of Case Western Reserve University.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

A ROSE IN REMEMBRANCE

The single rose in the Chancel on Sunday, September 13th was given by Carole Dankers in memory of her husband Bruce on the 10th anniversary of his death.

REMEMBERING WILMA BAIN

We are saddened to share the passing of Wilma Ann Bain, age 90, a longtime member of First Church of Lombard from years past. Wilma also holds a special place in our history as a longtime director of The Coop Preschool, where she touched the lives of many children and families in our community. We extend our warmest condolences to all who knew and loved her. You can read her obituary [HERE](#).

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to the family of former member, Doris Beutel who passed away on August 22. We especially keep her daughter, Lee Hintz and the rest of her family in our prayers. Doris' obituary can be found here: <https://www.legacy.com/legacy/doris-beutel>

IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

OUTREACH HOUSE CELEBRATES ONE YEAR!

You're invited to celebrate the **first anniversary of Outreach House's new location** with an Open House on **Tuesday, September 15, from 4:00–7:00 PM!**

Come explore the **18,000-square-foot facility** and get a behind-the-scenes look at how donations are received, sorted, processed, and stocked to create an easy and welcoming shopping experience for clients.

OutReach House has been serving the community for more than 30 years and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Today, it also includes the former Lombard/Villa Park Food Pantry, previously housed at the United Methodist Church.

Outreach House
700 Springer Drive
Lombard, IL 60148

Getting there: From Finley Road south of Roosevelt, turn west onto Oak Creek Drive at the first stoplight. Turn right at the first stop sign onto Springer Drive and follow it around the corner. Look for the green OutReach House sign! Parking is available on both the east and west sides of the building, with the easiest access on the east side.

Everyone is welcome—stop by, take a tour, and help celebrate this exciting milestone!

SPECIAL SCREENING

A special showing of the film *My Omaha* will be held on Sunday, September 20th in Fellowship Hall at First Church of Lombard. Doors open at 2:00 pm. Ends 6:00 pm. Light refreshments will be served.

Click [HERE](#) for a PDF with more information regarding the film.

If you can't attend the screening at this date and location, there will be screenings throughout the area during the week of September 14th through 20th. You can view the dates, times, and locations on the registration page and select the screening of your choice. You can access the registration page [HERE](#).

NOW ENROLLING AT THE CO-OP PRESCHOOL!

The Co-Op Preschool is now enrolling for the 2026–27 school year! For more than 60 years, The Co-Op Preschool has been helping little learners grow through a play-based curriculum, independent classes for children ages 2–5, Parent Tot classes, enrichment programs, and plenty of opportunities for family involvement.

Want to learn more? Schedule a tour today! Contact Director Michelle Bauman at 630-629-2630 x214 or director@thecooppreschool.com.

PARENT TOT CLASS – LEARNING STARTS HERE!

The Co-Op Preschool is now enrolling for its 2026–27 Parent Tot Class! Designed for children ages 15–30 months and their caregivers, this Tuesday morning class offers sensory and messy play, circle time, socialization, motor skill development, snack time, and more—all while gently introducing little ones to a preschool setting.

Classes meet Tuesdays from 9:00–10:30 AM at The Co-Op Preschool, 220 S. Main Street in Lombard. For more information, contact 630-629-2630 x214 or director@thecooppreschool.com

Volunteers for Sunday, September 13, 2026 10:15 AM WORSHIP BEGINS	Volunteers for Sunday, September 20, 2026
<u>Liturgist</u> Mark Meyer	<u>Liturgist</u> Christine Tani
<u>Ushers</u> Dave Ivey Kevin Lattner	<u>Ushers</u> Jason Cooper
<u>Coffee Hour</u> RALLY DAY PICNIC	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Jaime & Fritz Geiger
<u>Sound</u> Thomas Hammerschmidt	<u>Sound</u> Bob Cochran
<u>Live Stream</u> Eric Wilson	<u>Live Stream</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