

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
October 4, 2026 – Youth Community Sunday**



All God's children — of all ages — are welcome in worship at First Church of Lombard. This morning, children are invited to participate in worship with their families. Sunday School will resume next Sunday. There are a number of quiet activities and books in the "Quiet Corner" for older children who just need busy hands. 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

Christian George, Max Waldschmidt

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Liturgist: Max Ito

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG**

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

Pat Barrett

*It all comes down to this, what You require of me
Love my neighbor as myself. And You above all things.*

CHORUS

*Act just, Love mercy, Walk humbly with You, God
In all this, In all way, Walk humbly, With You, God
It all comes down to this, To be your hands and feet
Good news to all the world, The truth will set us free*

CHORUS

Bridge:

*It's beauty for ashes, It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer, The Kingdom of Heaven
(repeat bridge)*

*Years from now we'll see, The fruit our hands have sown
Faith just like a seed, The only way it grows*

CHORUS

***OPENING PRAYER (Mad Libs Style!)**

Read by Cal Ito
Written by Julia Terpstra

Dear God, we love the _____ flowers and _____ here on earth. Your _____s and _____s fill the earth with beauty. Thank you for your love and care for all creatures. Pour your love on all the countries of the world like _____ and _____. We know you are near us while we _____ and _____. Thank you for being with us whether we are _____ or _____. Be with us as we worship you with our _____ and _____. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through special music

Lyla Dinglasan and Erin O'Keefe

through scripture

Isaiah 43:1-3

Read by Penelope Dinglasan

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
When you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

through a video presentation of the 2026 Youth Community Summer Mission Trip

Curated by: Ava Johnson

through stories from members of the Youth Community

Sharing By: Lyla Dinglasan,
Christian George, and R.J. Temple

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

Led by Ava Johnson

AN OFFERING OF GRATITUDE

Val Sutton

Please note that all prayer request cards will be forwarded on to our Prayer Team.

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

Read by Dylan Zimmerman

*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**

Lean On Me

Bill Withers

*Sometimes in our lives, we all have pain, we all have sorrow.
But if we are wise, we know that there's always tomorrow.
Please swallow your pride, if I have things, you need to borrow.
I'm right up the road and I'll share your load if you just call me.*

Chorus:

*Lean on me, when you're not strong,
I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on.
For it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on.*

*If, there is a load you cannot bear, that you can't carry
I'm right up the road, I'll share your load, if you just call me.*

Bridge:
You just call on me brother when you need a hand.
We all need somebody to lean on.
You might just have a problem that I'll understand.
We all need somebody to lean on. [chorus]

***BENEDICTION**

Read by Maddie Cook

***POSTLUDE**

I Got Rhythm
Walter Stephens, piano

Gershwin

Ushers: Reid Foltyniewicz, Jomei Terpstra, Colin Dempsey

Greeters: Elliott Cooper, Lucas Maida

Acolyte: Chloe Khoury

***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 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

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20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1374

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4!

Come enjoy a youth-led worship service here at FCL at 10:15 a.m. this Sunday, October 4! Learn more about the Youth Community Summer Mission Trip to Tioga County, Pennsylvania, enjoy music by these young people, and so much more!

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Stewardship Sunday is here! The 4-week Stewardship Campaign is coming to a close, and pledge cards are prayerfully requested by today. If you need another pledge card or Stewardship packet, please call or see Bea in the church office.

We count on your pledges, in order to get an indication of the amount of income we can expect in 2027, so we can prepare a realistic budget for next year. The Finance Team will be crunching the numbers in the next few weeks, with the hope that we can present a balanced budget at our annual meeting in December.

Your support and commitment help make First Church a loving, serving, faithful community - one that makes a difference in our community and the world.

Sunday's "Witnessing Steward" is Victor Habon who will share with you his thoughts and feelings about First Church of Lombard. We hope that you listen to his testimonials and appreciate the courage and conviction he has in standing up here before you and sharing his personal experiences.

BUDGET AND STEWARDSHIP CONVERSATION

The Church Treasurer will hold an informal meeting for any congregant to discuss and explain our usual budgeting process as well as collect any stewardship campaign cards. This meeting will occur after church THIS Sunday, October 4 in the North Conference Room. Please grab some coffee and a quick bite to eat and join Jon Walsh for the essentials of our church budget process.

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](#)

HELP MAKE SUNDAY MORNINGS HAPPEN!

It takes a few helping hands to make Sunday mornings welcoming and run smoothly and we'd love to add a few more people to our team!

We are looking for volunteers to serve as ushers and liturgists during Sunday worship.

Ushers help welcome people as they arrive, hand out bulletins, assist and lend a hand wherever needed.

Liturgists help begin our worship service by offering words of welcome and announcements, leading the opening prayer, and reading the scripture for the day.

And don't worry, this is not an every-Sunday commitment! Volunteers are scheduled on a rotating basis, and adding more people to the rotation means everyone can serve occasionally while still having plenty of Sundays to simply come and enjoy worship.

No previous experience is necessary, and "on-the-job training" is happily provided!

If you're already joining us for worship, consider lending a hand. Even serving occasionally would be a wonderful help on Sunday mornings.

Interested? Please contact Bea in the church office or let us know on Sunday morning. We'd be happy to have you!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The annual Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering of the UCC supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants awarded to UCC churches and organizations. In addition, one-third of the Neighbors in Need offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM), the voice for American Indian people in the UCC.

Please help First Church of Lombard support this offering. Please make checks out to First Church of Lombard with "Neighbors in Need" in the memo line. You make a donation online at www.FCOL.org. Go to the top right and hit the "DONATE" button. Under the fund, select "UCC Offerings and then type "Neighbors in Need" in the memo box.

Learn more about the NIN offering at [Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering - United Church of Christ](#).

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

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 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!

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 will gather at 7:00 p.m. to watch a short segment of the video and then have a 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!

JESUS AND JOY!-ALL THE AWE THEY CAN'T STEAL FROM US BECAUSE IT'S FREE AND SO ARE WE

Join author and UCC Still Speaking Devotional writer, Rev. Molly Baskette for a Saturday evening and Sunday morning of Jesus and joy on October 17 & 18. We are living through times that try our souls, but there is a spiritual effervescence available even during the most shattering seasons. How do we practice joy and seek awe when it's hardest? We'll gather on Saturday afternoon for a micro-camp-style gathering. Think: silly games, singalong around the campfire, storytelling, group dances and heavenly food—all offered with some gentle theological framing that will give you permission to keep harvesting joy for the benefit of all. Sunday morning, Molly will preach at 10:15 worship, then offer an interactive learning hour based on her cancer memoir, "How to Begin

When Your World is Ending: A Spiritual Field Guide to Joy Despite Everything." Come hungry for good news and good community. Come to share the mustard seed of joy you have and watch it grow exponentially.

Saturday, October 17 - 4-8 PM, dinner included

Sunday, October 18 - 10:15 AM worship, followed by a discussion with Molly.

SAVE THE DATE : SATURDAY OCTOBER 24TH, 2026

A work day is scheduled on this date from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to wash windows in the sanctuary, narthex and lobby. Other cleaning will be done as needed as we prepare for the November 8th worship service celebrating our 175th Anniversary.

A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board next week.

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Mark Your Calendars! This year's All Women's Retreat will be held November 13 through 15 at Tower Hill Camp and Retreat Center in Sawyer, Michigan. ALL women are invited to gather around our theme of "Candles, Cake, and Confetti! The Gift of Another Year." Come enjoy the beauty of nature as well as fellowship, food, laughter, and a chance for renewal.

Space is limited! The cost of \$195 covers 2 nights stay, 4 meals, and all activities and is due upon sign-up, held at Coffee Hour after worship on Sundays in October. You can also sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/FCLWomensRetreat2026>. Full and partial scholarships are available by contacting Val Sutton, Educational Ministries Director at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org.

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.

TOYS/GIFTS TO A GOOD HOME...

We (First Church of Lombard and Outreach House) are partnering with Love Christian Connection Center and Toy Express for the 14th year in a row to help families in need during our Christmas season. These toys/gifts are given to children throughout DuPage County who may not otherwise receive anything. Please consider donating gifts for our Annual Toy Express Program. Simply bring the gifts to First Church, and drop them in the giant gift box, located in the narthex. Gifts should be new, unwrapped, and age appropriate for children 12 years old or younger. You can donate these gifts from now through December 6th.

Love Christian Connection Center will collect the gifts and deliver them to Toy Express in the name of First Church of Lombard/Outreach House.

If you have any questions, contact Lynda S. Wilson at church, 630-707-1868, or lswilson411@gmail.com
Thank you in advance, for your generous hearts!

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.

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!

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



IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

VILLAGE OF LOMBARD ANNUAL SENIOR FAIR

The Village of Lombard invites you to attend its Annual Senior Fair on October 7th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Madison Meadow Athletic Center! The event will offer resources, screenings, and details about available programs and services in the area. Popular services include flu shots, blood pressure readings, hearing tests, DMV services (appointment required), and additional offerings from community groups and local vendors. DMV appointments can be made at villageoflombard.org/seniors. Admission is free, and complimentary refreshments and snacks will be provided.

HELP WANTED

LOVE INC of the Western Suburbs is seeking a part-time Connection Center Coordinator (20 hours/week, onsite). This position oversees the day-to-day operations of our Connection Center and works closely with our volunteers and the individuals and families who contact LOVE INC for assistance.

The role includes volunteer leadership, client and case support, and coordination of community resources.

Interested applicants can contact Jeanie Kittleson, Executive Director, at jeanie@love-cc.org.

PLANNING AHEAD: DONATIONS FOR ICDI

The Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants (ICDI) is collecting several items in the coming months to support local immigrant families.

For those who like to plan ahead, here's what will be needed:

- Clothing — Late Summer & Early Fall
Boys' clothing and men's clothing in sizes Small and Medium.
- Halloween — Due October 9
Gently used Halloween costumes in sizes infant through children's size 10.
- Thanksgiving — Due November 16
Grocery store gift cards to help families with their Thanksgiving meals. Please place gift cards in an envelope labeled "ICDI GC" and bring them to the church office for safekeeping.
- Christmas — Due December 3
We'll once again be collecting specific wrapped gifts for individual families. A Christmas wish list with more information will be coming soon! Clothing and Halloween costume donations may be placed in the blue bin outside the narthex.

Questions? Please contact Jeri Shaw at jeri.shaw@icloud.com.

Thank you for helping ICDI support families in our community throughout the upcoming season!

Volunteers for Sunday, October 4, 2026 YOUTH COMMUNITY SUNDAY	Volunteers for Sunday, October 11, 2026
<u>Liturgist</u> Max Ito	<u>Liturgist</u> Deb Rodak
<u>Ushers</u> Colin Dempsey Reid Foltyniewicz Kevin Lattner Marianne McGuire Jomei Terpstra <u>Greeters</u> Elliott Cooper Lucas Maida <u>Acolyte</u> Chloe Khoury	<u>Ushers</u> Mike Rodak
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Jean & Russ Reneau	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Amy & John O'Callaghan
<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