

First United Methodist Church of Oak Lawn

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!



September 2025

As we enter the Fall Season, let us reflect on the goodness of God. We see God's goodness in the changing of the autumn leaves, the cool air, and birds singing. Also, we see children headed back to school for another academic year. Let us pray that all children have a healthy and prosperous academic year. Further, let us pray for all children throughout the world. This Fall Season, we also anticipate and reconvene for our weekly Bible Study, which will start on September 9, 2025, and end on November 25, 2025. I am excited that Rev. Amos Oladipo and I will be co-facilitators for this Bible Study. We will be studying the prophets Jonah, Micah, and Nahum. Other exciting parish news includes our parking lot sales on Sept. 13th and 27th. Further, our "Back to Church Sunday" will be on September 14, 2025.

In our Lake South District, our district superintendent, Rev. Dr. Nanabray, will continue to offer monthly "Go Team" training sessions, which begin at 10:30 a.m. The Zoom link for this ongoing event is: Meeting ID: 964 1732 9893, Passcode: 081053. Our next meeting is on September 6, 2025. All are encouraged to participate. Additionally, on the district level, there are several upcoming trainings. For example, Budgeting 101: Building a Church Budget from Scratch is scheduled for September 8, 2025. The NIC UM Men's Spiritual Congress will be held on September 12th-14th, and the NIC Youth Fall 2025 Retreat will be held on September 26th-28th.

We join in the joy of those celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries this month, praying that God will grant them many more years of joy, peace, and good health. Our prayers are also with those who need healing and those facing various life challenges. Let's continue to support one another in prayer and check in on each other.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Beverly Dukes, pastor





UR?

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 14TH

Have you been missing from church?

Maybe it's time to come on back!

OR PERHAPS YOU'VE BEEN HERE BUT NOTICED

THERE'S SOMEONE WHO HASN'T!

It's a perfect time to reach out and

invite them back!

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY....BE SURE U R THERE!

PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBER PRAYER CONCERNS

Urgent prayers: Penny and Randy Millslagle

Ongoing prayers for health and healing: Joanne Bartlett, Gary Czemski, Phyllis Hogan,
Greg Greiman, Donna Heinz

Prayers of Thanksgiving: Leon Dukes, Jr.'s hip surgery went well and he's on the road to recovery!

Our sympathy goes out to Janice Fox-Thompson who lost two of her brothers in recent weeks. Please remember Jeffery Fox who passed away on August 24th, and John Kirby Fox who passed on August 4th. Please continue to lift up Janice and her family as they mourn the loss of their loved ones.

We share the following note from Jeanette Vendel

I would like to thank every member of the church for their continuous concern and queries about my son John's battle with an aggressive prostate cancer. While he lost the battle on July 31st, he never waived in his strength and faith. He was always amazed at the cards he received from people he never knew. Thank you to each of you from the bottom of my heart. —Jeanette

PRAY FOR THOSE IN SERVICE: Loretta Caplinger, Air Force;; Christine Boyd, Army
; Scott Boehn, Marines; Keith Danalewich, Navy

FRIENDS OF OUR COMMUNITY IN NEED OF PRAYER

Dave Morris Mary Vitek, mom of Joanne
Reem, daughter of Paul Galuszka

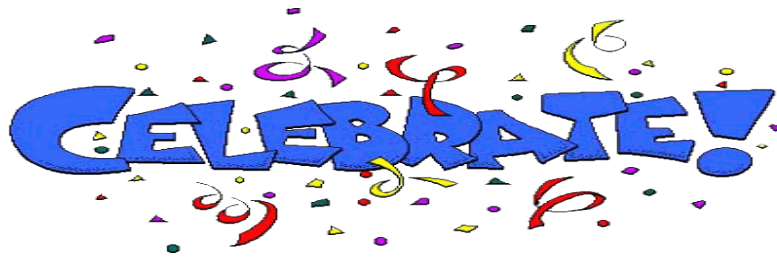
Oliver Boubion, grandson of the Linderborgs
Emily, granddaughter of Anne Boyd



SEND a CARD!



MAKE A CALL!



Happy Birthday to.....

3rd Sandy Smith 13th Randy Millslagle 16th Pam Krull
17th Ruth Dawson 27th Dave Morris

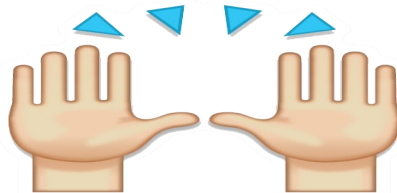
Happy Anniversary to.....

Sheila and Dan Kendryna 6th Penny and Randy Millslagle 24th
Karen and Joe Santoro 24th

Thanks and celebration of....

Our best parking lot sale ever!

AND congratulations to Pastor Beverly on being appointed to the board of Kids Above All. Thank you, Pastor, for your leadership in this important work!



WHO'S AT CHURCH?

AA, NA, Al-Anon, Alateen, Jazzercise, Fit Your World, Friendship Fridays, Compassion Word Ministries, our food pantry guests and more! Many groups utilize our facilities and, although not all are directed by us, they become an extension of our community by helping us to be visible, and by reflecting values we hold as Christians, such as the importance of self-care; control of substances that can harm our physical bodies; creativity; acquiring knowledge and growth; and helping those less fortunate. We invite you to be aware of these various programs, and, if you should meet their members here, extend your hand in Christian fellowship and recognize them as part of our community. **Invite them to church, an event, or a circle meeting. Let them know their presence is a blessing!**

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Sundays: Worship! 9 am

Sunday School will resume 9/14

Fellowship and “coffee and” following services.

Bible study begins Sept. 9 (see next page)

September 13, parking lot sale 8-2

Back to church Sunday, September 14

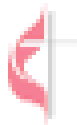
Invite someone!

Finance Committee September 18

Roundtable September 25

September 27th parking lot sale 8-2





Open Minds. Open Hearts. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

Come Join Us:



***Fall Season: Weekly Bible Study on
The Prophets: Jonah, Micah and Nahum***

When: Tuesday @7:00pm to 8:00pm

Beginning: Sept. 9, 2025 thru Nov. 25, 2025

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81653139195?pwd=SDNiRy9VY0pDcEtYRlQ4OFpHUFlkdz09>

Meeting ID: 816 5313 9195 ... **Password:** 740463

Facilitators: Rev. Amos Oladipo, pastor
(Grace United Protestant Church in Park Forest)

Rev. Beverly Dukes, pastor
(Morgan Park UMC & First UMC in Oak Lawn)

UPDATED NEWS FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE!

Dear members of our church community,

We continue to appreciate your unwavering support and generosity towards our church. Your contributions are essential to our ability to continue carrying out our mission and serving the needs of our community.

Our new Vanco giving platform is fully operational. This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online, and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation.

You can give now at this link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZWMY> OR go to firstmethodistoaklawn.org, and click on “donate.” This will take you directly to the donation page. Select which category your donation is for, click on the photo and follow the prompts.

Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission.

Thank you again for all your gifts.

*You can also access our Vanco giving page
via this QR code >>*



(Our Pay Pal platform is now disabled.)

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH IS BACK!!

Rachel Circle will meet on Tuesday, Sept 9th at 9:30 a.m. at the church.

Debra Circle will gather at the church at 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 22nd.

ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE WELCOME AT EITHER CIRCLE...or both!...

FOR “FELLOWSHIP AND ...” COME AND SEE WHAT WE’RE ABOUT!

PUMPKINS ARRIVE OCTOBER 11TH. ALL HANDS IN THE PUMPKIN PATCH!!

We have something for everyone to do! Don't miss the party!!

Our patch is a great outreach; a blessing to the community around us; AND a major fund-raiser, enabling us to cover our expenses for the year. It's also a lot of fun! We'll need everyone's help on the 11th, and we will also need many hands the 12th thru the 31st, between the hours of 10 am and 7 pm. Sign up sheets will be available beginning September 7th, or call Marty Linderborg for more info!



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 a.m. in person worship in our sanctuary

And available via Zoom in real time

and on Facebook Live

(Contact the church for Zoom links)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Resumes September 14

9 a.m. age 3 through grade school

Adult class at 10:30

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Oak Lawn

Ministers: All members of the faith community Pastor: Beverly Dukes

Contact us: 100th and Central, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Church Office: (708) 423-1170, Website: www.FirstMethodistOakLawn.org

Find us on Facebook!

E-mail Office: fumcoffice1@att.net Rev. Dukes: bdukes03@gmail.com

Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church Bishop Dan Schwerin Rev. Dr. Audrea Nanabray, DS