



KIRKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

300 W South St, PO Box 347, Kirkland, IL 60146-0347

www.kirklandumc.org Phone:815-522-3546

May 2026

Happenings



Pastor's Corner

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I walked past the beautiful tulips in my garden this morning. (A garden made beautiful each year through the dedicated work of Connie Worden and her volunteer gardeners.) I marveled that each tulip had grown from a bulb that had decorated our Easter altar the years before. Even though Easter Sunday is over, we continue to live in the season of Easter until Pentecost this May, living into the beauty of all the Easters that have come before.

Easter is the holiest of all Church holidays. It is a day of pure happiness and joy as we remember the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the promise of his love and grace, and our salvation. We continue to sing and enjoy all that Easter and the season of Spring bring to our lives.

As a congregation, we continue to bloom as the gardens do. The Good Friday Cantata service continues to draw more attendees each year. This year, 51 people attended the service, an increase from 31 the year before. That evening, I received comments from attendees, including "moving, beautiful, and stunning." If you were unable to attend this year, I hope you can attend in 2027.

We have also seen a consistently strong number of attendees join us for the Easter Service. This year, 71 people attended the service, including 20 in-house guests and 5 online guests. Yes, we did have a family baptized, but they were not the majority of attending guests!

Easter Sunday saw us grow as a congregation, as Jason, Hadley, and Lily Hernandez were baptized, and as Jason and Jennifer Hernandez and Lindsay Furlough joined Kirkland UMC. The Easter Baptism and New Member Reception follows a 2000-year Christian tradition of baptizing new members and welcoming them into the life of the church on Easter Sunday. Alleluia!

Let us continue to invite our neighbors, friends and family to join us for worship, so we can continue to tend and grow God's garden continue to grow and beautify God's garden.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Dee

May



Liturgists

- 3 Peter Bramm
- 10 Eric Mede
- 17 Lindsay Furlough
- 24 Jen Hernandez
- 31 Jack Myers

Children's Time

- 3 Pastor Dee Mede
- 10 Pastor Dee Mede
- 17 Marian Collins
- 24 Peter Bramm
- 31 Lyndsay Myers

Audio Visual

- 3 Bret Myers
- 10 Lyndsay Myers
- 17 Clare Hay
- 24 Bret Myers
- 31 Clare Hay

Greeters

- 3 Sharon Butler & Lora Stevens
- 10 Ruth Aves & Lyn Exner
- 17 Connie & Larry Worden
- 24 David & Lori Finkle
- 31 Linda & Ron Johnson

Ushers

Brian and Lora Stevens

Trustee's Corner

In March, our local mobile pressure washing service performed a soft washing procedure on our Church's siding. Many years of accumulated dirt, grime, and mildew were gently, yet thoroughly removed. Notice how bright and welcoming our church looks now!



May Calendar

May 3	Worship	10:00 am	In Person, FB Live, & Zoom
May 4	AA	8:00 pm	Basement
May 5	Food Pantry	12 to 2 pm	First Lutheran Church
May 7	One Board Meeting (prev. Ad Council)	7:00 pm	Meeting Room
May 10	Worship (Mother's Day)	10:00 am	In Person, FB Live & Zoom
May 11	AA	8:00 pm	Basement
May 12	Food Pantry	12 to 2 pm	First Lutheran Church
	Knitting Ministry	12 to 2 pm	Basement
May 17	Worship	10:00 am	In Person, FB Live, & Zoom
May 18	AA	8:00 pm	Basement
May 19	Food Pantry	12 to 2 pm	First Lutheran Church
May 24	Worship	10:00 am	In Person, FB Live, Zoom
May 25	AA	8:00 pm	Basement
May 26	Food Pantry	12 to 2 pm	1st Lutheran Church
	Knitting	12 to 2 pm	Basement
May 31	Worship	10:00 am	Basement

Birthdays

May

- 7 — Stephanie Hoffman
- 10 — Jamie Hall
- 11 — Beatrice Whittymore
- 12 — Louise Myelle
- 20 — Autumn Owens
- 22 — Lori Finkle
- 22 — Don McMurray
- 24 — Alisha Ross
- 26 — Mark Way
- 28 — Emilea Bramm

Church Leadership

One Board Chair

Diane Parrish

Secretary

Clare Hay

Finance Representatives

Clare Hay

Jason Hernandez

Treasurer

Lori Finkle

Financial Secretary

Clare Hay

Men’s Ministry President

Bret Collins

Women’s Society Co-Presidents

Vicki Maveus

Clare Hay

SPRC Representatives

Bret Collins

Diane Parrish

Trustee Representatives

Peter Bramm

Brian Stevens

Worship Chair

Larry Worden

Education Chair

Peter Bramm

Lay Leader

Diane Parrish

Lay Leadership Representatives

Rev. Deanna Mede

Welcome & Witness

Lori Finkle

Eric Mede

**Food Pantry and Clothing Closet
First Lutheran Church
510 South Street, Kirkland IL 60146
815-522-3886**

Tuesday’s 12-2 pm

If special help is required, please call
815-978-2147.

**Food Pantry Report for the 5 week month of
March**

**159 Households Served
524 Persons served, 164 were Children**

Have something you’d like to add to June’s Newsletter? It can be news you have to give, or maybe there’s something you’d like to know more about... email the church office and we’ll work on getting it added.

Deadline for submissions is
May 21st



We are worshipping in person, and online via Facebook Live & Zoom, Sundays @ 10am. Please contact Pastor Dee for the zoom link, 224-805-9513

Worship In May

DATE	SERMON	SCRIPTURE
3rd Communion Sunday	5th Sunday of Easter “Seeing the Truth”	John 14: 8-14 TLB
10th	6th Sunday of Easter “Three Models of Mothering”	Exodus 1: 15-17 & 2: 1-3, 5-8 & 10 NRSVUE
17th	Ascension Sunday “Understanding Jesus”	Luke 24: 44-53 NLT
24th	Pentecost Sunday “Can You Hear Me Now?”	Acts 2: 1-6 CEB
31st	Trinity Sunday “The Mystery of the Trinity”	Matthew 28: 16-20 NRSVUE



**Mission Sunday:
May 10**

Local Mission: Northern Illinois Veteran’s Memorial
Broad Mission: Wesley Woods
5th Sunday: Good Neighbor Fund



In a recent newsletter from the Northern Illinois Food Bank Julie Yurko, the president and CEO, addressed a couple of common misconceptions about food pantries and the people who use them. She said that many people believe that food pantries create dependence: that once someone visits a food pantry, they'll rely on it forever. Others think all food pantry visitors are chronically unemployed and have been struggling for years. Actually, the majority of our guests are employed. However, any setback, such as a car repair, medical expense, rent increase, reduced hours, or childcare cost, can temporarily tip a family into food insecurity. Most guests only use the food pantry for a period of weeks or months to bridge the gap during a difficult

time. In 2025, almost half of the 186 households served at the Kirkland Food Pantry came 5 times or less and 19% came only once. People are eager to get back on their feet again!

Julie ended her comments by saying "Food pantries allow our neighbors to retain their dignity and prevent a setback from turning into a crisis. Far from creating dependence, they're instruments of resilience for our guests. Food pantries are a bridge our community builds together over the systemic gaps in our society, the barriers that prevent people from thriving. I'm grateful that you're helping to build the bridge!"

Everyone at the Kirkland Food Pantry is grateful for the community support that allows us to continue helping those in need. If you or anyone you know needs help providing food for their household, the pantry is open every Tuesday from 12:00 to 2:00 PM. If there is an emergency need for food please call or text Clare at 815-978-2147.



A huge THANK YOU to the Kirkland Lions Club who shared the proceeds of their meat raffle with the pantry. At their April meeting, they treated our volunteers to a pork chop dinner and presented the pantry with a \$3,000 check!

THANK YOU to everyone for the donations of deodorant in March! There were 65 tubes of deodorant collected and distributed. It was very much appreciated!

May Item of the Month

During the month of May, we will collect FEMININE HYGIENE products for our neighbors who come to the Food Pantry. Any type you'd like to donate will be appreciated! There will be a box by the front door of the church where you can leave your donations. There will be an envelope for cash donations that will be used to purchase items. Thank you!



Donating with the PayPal Giving Fund

When you donate to the church using the PayPal Giving Fund, PayPal does not withhold any fees from your donation.

It's a great option to ensure that we receive your entire donation.

However, unless you **check the box next to "Share my name and email with this charity."** PayPal does not tell us who made the donation. Please **always check that box** so that we can acknowledge your gift and say thank you!



- Ed Davis
- Alicia Ross
- Jessica Yeager Stark
- Ron Taylor
- Jim Roach
- Vicki Furlough
- Holly Way
- Mark Way
- Louise Myelle
- Terry Medine



The Kirkland United Methodist Women's Society

Our next Women's Society meeting will be June 13th @ 8:30 am in the church basement. A light breakfast will be served, followed by devotions and our meeting




Methodist Men

Meet every 3rd Saturday @ KFR.

One Board Meets May 7

**Donating is as easy as taking a picture:
Kirkland UMC's QR code for donations
Or visit www.kirklandumc.org**

SCAN ME



Upcoming Events Info

Mark your calendar for The Blessing of the Animals Sunday Sunday, June 14, at 10 AM, we will celebrate the Blessing of the Animals under tents in the back parking lot. This is a service to honor and bless our four-footed friends who bring so much love into our lives. All animals are invited. Each will receive treats and a token to remember the day. Volunteers are needed for this special worship service.



In Case Of Inclement Weather: The Blessing of the Animals service will be canceled and replaced with a regular service held indoors in the sanctuary.