

Welcome to Kingswood Church

Buffalo Grove

August 23, 2026



Interested in Kids' & Youth Programs?
Email Jenn Sawyer, Director of Kids' and Family Ministries and Welcoming, at jsawyer@kingswoodumc.com

Visit KINGSWOODUMC.COM/PRAYER to submit prayer requests and view this week's prayers and concerns.

Visit www.kingswoodumc.com to:

- Sign up for our e-news
- Sponsor altar flowers
- View upcoming events and serving opportunities
- Connect with us if you are a first-time guest



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Welcome to Kingswood Church as we continue our sermon series, ***We Are All From Come From Away!*** - based on scripture and the very popular musical, Come From Away. Join us for the next four weeks as we hear the powerful story of the people of Gander, Newfoundland, and their wide welcome to almost 7,000 people from planes diverted there on September 11, 2001. Initially a book, the story was made into a musical in 2015 and has become a beloved expression of hope and hospitality. Today, we spend time in Ephesians 2 and learn that Jesus knows we all have experienced the reality of loneliness, rejection, and being on the outside of things. From that reality, we seek to love and welcome all! Welcome to Kingswood!



Join us for a worship service on **Sunday, September 6, at 10:00 am**, as we worship as one church together. We will gather at the Schlimmer Bandshell/Pavilion at Willow Stream Park in Buffalo Grove. The facility has a picnic shelter and bathrooms. We will have the U2 tribute band, *Without U2*, as special guests to lead our worship. Invite a friend and bring your own chair. The Welcoming and Connecting Team will provide hot dogs, chips, and drinks. We invite everyone to bring cookies to share!



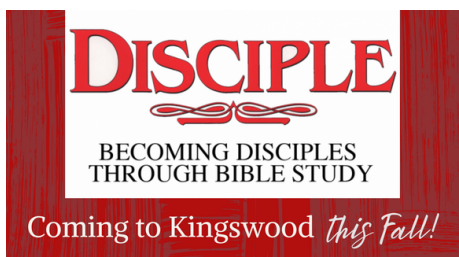
Welcome Back Sunday is **September 13**, and you won't want to miss a morning full of worship, connection, and opportunities to serve! Join us at **9:00 am** to explore interactive mission stations highlighting Kingswood's serving ministries, then stay for our **10:30 am** worship service featuring a panel discussion with people whose lives have been impacted through these ministries. Before, between, or after both services, enjoy a delicious BBQ Chicken Dinner sponsored by the United Methodist Men of Kingswood!



This event has been postponed to a new date: **Saturday, September 26**. We are collaborating with the First Presbyterian Church in Deerfield to help build an affordable house. The home is part of the Matthew Homes program of ReNew Communities, a not-for-profit organization whose focus is on revitalizing the city of North Chicago. By helping families own their own homes, we help bring stability to North Chicago, and we help the homeowners build a more secure future for their families. All levels of ability are welcome. There will be plenty of talented people to guide us in the work to be done. To sign up, please visit www.kingswoodumc.com/events.



Kingswood is launching Life Groups the week of **September 20** — small groups of 6-12 people, open to anyone regardless of church membership, who meet weekly for 4 weeks around one simple question: "How is your life with God?" There's no homework or prep required, just a guide already laid out for you, and after the first 4 weeks each group decides whether to continue. We're looking for both participants and leaders. If you're interested in joining or leading a group, please visit www.kingswoodumc.com/life-groups, and contact Betsy Nepomuceno at betsynepomuceno@gmail.com with questions.



Disciple Bible Study is an intensive, small-group Christian education program designed to develop strong Christian leaders by moving participants through comprehensive, multi-week overviews of Scripture via daily individual study and weekly group gatherings. The study also offers time to develop deep, lasting friendships as you study, reflect, and pray together as a group. A class is being formed at Kingswood for the Fall, Winter, and Spring for 2026-2027. Email Pastor James at jpreston@kingswoodumc.com for more information or to sign up.

GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude Michael Fritsch
In Christ There Is No East or West by Martin

Welcoming and Centering Rev. James Preston

***Opening Hymn** *Nearer, My God, To Thee*
Blue Hymnal #528

***Words of Gathering** Taleen Aivazian

One: Somewhere in between the pace of life and work

All: Something makes you stop and notice

One: And you're finally in the moment

All: Somewhere in the middle of nowhere

One: In the middle of who knows where

All: There you'll find God calling us to sacred community!

(Adapted from *Come From Away - The Musical*)

Opening Prayer

God of Grace, we remember, in one way or another, that we have all been outsiders—people who have felt alone, unwelcome, or separated from others. Through Christ, you have brought us near, breaking down the walls, and making us members of one family. Remind us that strangers can become neighbors, fear can give way to compassion, and hospitality can open our hearts to one another when we follow Jesus. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Ministry of Music Jim Gibson, acc. Cheryl Gibson
Zion's Walls
arr. Aaron Copland

A Reading from the Gospel *Ephesians 2: 13-19*

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Special Music Christine Snouffer & Patricia Cook
When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder
by James Black, arr. by Jolene Boyd

Sermon Rev. James Preston
We Have All Been Outsiders!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Special Music Vicki Schauer, acc. Sue Fujiu
I Am Here
by Irene Sankoff and David Hein

Prayer of Intercession Joanna Amaral

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Joanna Amaral

***Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
Blue Hymnal #94

Announcements Rev. James Preston

***Hymn of Sending Forth** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*
Blue Hymnal #557

***Benediction** Rev. James Preston

Postlude Michael Fritsch
Praising! by Martin

*Stand as you are able.

Liturgist: Taleen Aivazian

Scripture Reader: Vicki Schauer

Ushers: Kathy Bixler and Dennis Spaeth

Greeters: Bob and Debbie Reid

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