

Welcome to Kingswood Church

Buffalo Grove

August 9, 2026



Interested in Children's & Youth Programs?
Email Jenn Sawyer, Director of Children, Families,
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:

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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 begin by journeying deeper into the story as we hear how we are called to love and serve friends, neighbors, and strangers, hearing the powerful words of Leviticus and the Good Samaritan story. Welcome to Kingswood!



Our Back-to-School Sweet Celebration is on **Sunday, August 16** at all three services. Bring your backpack to help kick-off the school year with a special Backpack Blessing during worship! And make sure to join us for some free ice cream treats as we celebrate a great summer and look ahead to an amazing school year. All are welcome—bring your friends, family, and neighbors!



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. After the service, the Welcoming and Connecting Team will provide hot dogs, chips, and drinks. We invite everyone to bring cookies! The rain location will be at the Buffalo Grove campus.



Our final Family Night Out of the summer will be next **Tuesday, August 11, beginning at 5:30 pm**. It's not too late to get in on the fun! A bounce house, service project, crafts, a delicious dinner, and homemade ice cream are just some of the highlights this week. Join us; bring a friend! Register at www.kingswoodumc.com/family-night-out.



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, with donation proceeds supporting the Hall Scholarship Program and UM Men ministries—it's the perfect reason to stay all morning!



Join a foursome for 18 holes of mini-golf on **Thursday, August 20, at 10:30 am** at Par King in Lincolnshire. We'll meet at the course and pay the \$14.00 fee there. After golf, we can all recount our amazing scores as we gather for lunch (on your own) at Olive Garden. Please register at www.kingswoodumc.com/events so we can plan well.

GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Welcoming and Centering

Rev. James Preston

Prayer of Intercession

Joanna Amaral

*Opening Song

I Give You My Heart
by Reuben Morgan

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.

*Words of Gathering

Shelly Leonida

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*)

Offering

Joanna Amaral

Opening Prayer

Welcoming God, remind us that every stranger is our neighbor, worthy of the same love, kindness, and dignity you have shown us. Open our hearts to practice courageous compassion, welcoming those in need with generosity and service. Inspire us to become a community where fear gives way to hospitality, differences become gifts, and your love is made known through our care for one another. Amen.

Special Music

Tim McGlynn and Michael Fritsch
Beautiful City
by Stephen Schwartz

Announcements

Rev. James Preston

*Closing Song

Our God
by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves,
Jonas Myrin, and Matt Redman

Kids' Message

Jenn Sawyer

(Kids are invited to follow their teachers to Sunday School at this time.)

*Benediction

Rev. James Preston

*Stand as you are able.

Liturgist: Shelly Leonida**Scripture Reader:** Joshua Price**Ushers:** Donna and Ric Sisi**Greeters:** Sue Kluge and the Lally Family

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Song of Praise

We Fall Down
by Chris Tomlin

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures

Leviticus 19: 33-34

A Reading from the Gospel

Luke 10: 33-37

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Special Music

Evan Leonida and Sue Fujiu
Make Me A Channel of Your Peace
by Sebastian Temple

Sermon

Rev. James Preston
Strangers, Neighbors, Friends!

**Coffee Fellowship is sponsored by
The Disciple Bible Study.**

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