



*I give thanks to you that I was marvelously set apart.
Your works are wonderful—I know that very well. – Psalm 139:14, Common English Bible*

*I thank you, High God—you're breathtaking!
Body and soul, I am marvelously made!
I worship in adoration—what a creation! –Psalm 139:14, the Message*



305 E. Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
630.972.1011 | friendshipchurchumc.org

Worship Service Sundays at 10:00am

Friendship Church is a dynamic multicultural and multigenerational congregation. As followers of Jesus Christ, we celebrate God's gift of diversity and unconditional love. With open hearts, open minds and open doors, we see all people as sacred in God's eyes and embrace each person. We are a Reconciling Congregation and welcome persons of all ages, racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, socio-economic conditions, physical and mental abilities, and family status.

For more information see <https://rmnetwork.org>.



The Giving Tree Is Back!

Friendship Church, under the leadership of the JEDI team, will begin working with 360 Youth Services in Naperville to help support LGBTQ youth as they explore, identify, and express who they are. Many of these youth do not have the support of their families in this process. Friendship's first project in beginning our work with 360 Youth Services will be providing grocery store gift cards from Aldi, Meijer, Jewel and Mariano's for the youth through our Giving Tree.

Please take a tag from the Giving Tree in the Church hallway, buy the card in the amount indicated on the tag and return it to the wooden lockbox at the Information Station in the entry. The Tree will be up for the month of August. Feel free to contact the office with any questions. Thanks for your generosity!



**The United Methodist Women will host a
Southwest Suburban Immigrant
Project Citizenship Workshop
Saturday, August 21st 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**



**Southwest Suburban
Immigrant Project**

We have held several SSIP workshops in the past at our church and will need volunteers from our congregation to assist again. The workshop will be on a smaller scale than before since we are still in the pandemic mode. Part of the workshop will be held outside on the church parking lot and the church grounds and part will be held inside. The new description is a “hybrid” workshop!

Where help is needed:

- ~ Set up/clean up (Friday, early Saturday morning or following the workshop)
- ~ Hosts and greeters to welcome and provide information for guests that morning
- ~ Trained assistants to help fill out citizenship forms
- ~ Food and snack preparation and distribution.

If you are interested in helping with this important SSIP workshop, please contact Jane Pierce at jane.pierce@comcast.net or text at cell # 630-853-3892.

This workshop is the first step for the people who attend in the citizenship process to become a United States citizen. We are grateful to be able to let them know the pleasure it gives us to welcome them at our church on this important day for them!

News from the Faith Formation Ministry Team

Join us in September to learn about our Discipleship System built around Worship, Community, Spiritual Practices, Generosity & Service, and being Christ-like.

Each week will feature a part of the system with a special sermon, a testimonial from the Faith Formation Team, and special practices for you to use during the week.

We hope you can join us for this special time in our congregation.



Reflections from Pastor Anna Shin

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To me, the month of August is like 'between time.' It is still summer, hot and humid, and feels like time for vacation for rest and renewal in body and mind. But I know it is time to get ready for the new school year opening in two weeks. I understand there is a bit of uncertainty in our life together as the Delta variant and 'breakthrough' infections of vaccinated people cases rise in some areas in our nation. As far as I understand, we continue to open our space for gatherings, including in-person worship. And we will take every precaution as we follow the federal, state, and local government instructions.

We all now know how effective wearing masks is to prevent the virus from spreading. I've always been carrying an extra mask in my pocket or purse. Perhaps it is time to wear it again when I congregate with others, especially when children are around.

For the last two weeks, I had an opportunity to be with a group of clergies to learn how to lead the Biblical Reflection using images. Images convey rich messages much more so to many people than words can do. And I have been delightedly amazed that each participant sees a unique way to approach the images and takes away a different message from them. And the gem of such a way of reflecting on the biblical scriptures is that it opens each participant's heart and leads into telling a story of a piece of their life. I am reminded again how uniquely, how wonderfully we are made, each and every one.

Friends, *do you feel time passes fast or slow? When have you wished time moves slowly or quickly?* On many occasions, we want things to happen at the speed of light instead of the speed of a seed planted in the ground, but someone writes that almost all spiritual realities in Scripture are described in agricultural terms. We want our dreams to become a reality overnight. We want our prayers answered immediately and in a way that we want. But that doesn't seem the way it works in God's kingdom.

In this 'between time,' as summer winds down and a new season is around the corner, I invite you to ponder the questions I offered about time. May God continue to walk with us whatever time we may find ourselves.

Peace,

Anna Shin

Pastor Anna



Annual Conference Report, 2021

Pastor Anna, Leonard Jones, and Jumobi Arowolo and I attended the 2021 Northern Illinois virtual Annual Conference Friday and Saturday with United Methodists from the top 1/3 of Illinois.

Our interim bishop, John Hopkins presided over the proceedings. As you may remember, we have been part of the Northern Illinois Conference and the Aurora district, however, the conference now has only 5 districts and we are now part of the Prairie Central District, with Rev. Jeffry Bross still our District Superintendent.

The theme of this year's conference was "Jesus Makes a Way". One example of that theme was a story told of the merger of 2 churches in Elgin, both on the verge of closure.

We attended 2 worship services, a retirement and memorial service. Our friend Deji was honored at the latter.

I want to remind you again of the 3 strategic goals of the NIC.

- To grow and reach new disciples of Jesus Christ.
- To live out the conviction that racism is incompatible with Christian teaching.
- To increase the number of highly vital congregations.

Throughout the conference, the ministries of the conference were highlighted through videos and reports. It always amazes me to see how much is happening throughout the conference and how many Northern Illinois United Methodists are involved in these programs.

We also voted on several pieces of legislature that you will be hearing more about in the future.

As of Friday afternoon, \$25,000 had been collected for the Bishop's Appeal for COVID-19 response. Our church contributed \$945.00. Our church also contributed 4 boxes for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center for disaster relief.

Please, contact me if you would like to know more about the proceedings.

Carolyn Weber, Lay Member to the Annual Conference

Advocating for the Rights of Palestinian Children and their Families

I have been urged by the Northern Illinois Conference to share this information with you concerning the plight of Palestinian children and families living under Israeli military occupation.

Please contact your members of congress (for many of us that is Bill Foster) and urge them to support H.R. 2590 which "seeks to promote justice, equality and human rights for Palestinian children and families by prohibiting US taxpayer funds to detain and torture Palestinian children, demolish and seize Palestinian homes and further annex Palestinian land in the occupied West Bank" in violation of international law. Children as young as 12 have been subjected to arrest, abuse, and imprisonment, depriving them of basic human rights.

Please act now.

Thank you, Carolyn Weber



Around and About Friendship Church





Thank you to all those who have been faithfully donating to the UMW Micro Pantry and West Suburban Community Pantry on Wednesdays! We have received many grateful thanks from those who have been served by these two ministries.

The need for non-perishable food and hygiene items is still great. Please consider purchasing items and dropping them off on Sundays when you attend worship, or during office hours throughout the week (Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm). A cart marked for food donations is located near the welcome center inside the South entrance to the building.

Your generosity is most appreciated!



Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate?

Stop by during office hours (Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm) and pick up some coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and other assorted items from the UMW coffee cart.

Purchasing these items supports communities around the globe.

Don't see something you'd like? Contact the church office at fumcbolingbrook@gmail.com and they will pass along your request!

Panera is Back!

Come to the Friendship Center following worship and grab some yummy breads/bagels for the week.



Offering Information

Thank you for your continued generosity! We are so grateful to our Friendship Family for their support!

Please continue your giving in the following ways: sign up for electronic giving, mail your donation to the church or use this QR code to donate online.



Friendship Community

Prayer Chain

Requests are treated confidentially and shared only with Pastor Anna and the Prayer Chain. The Prayer Chain participants receive weekly prayer requests and pray for submitted requests.

You may send your requests to: 630.972.1011 or fumcbolingbrook@gmail.com

Celebration offerings

The tradition of the Celebration Offering came to us from our African Fellowship.

On the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate God's abundant gifts on our lives, a special offering is taken in addition to the general offering. It's a chance to celebrate the blessings God has bestowed upon our lives. Look for the special offering envelope in the bulletin.

We are grateful for the offerings made in the month of July for unspoken celebrations.

Blessings,
Pastor Anna



Birthdays

Kandy DeWitt - 2nd
John Collier, Roger Karns - 4th
Efren Ramos, Bryant Taylor - 6th
Nisha Bhagat - 7th
Katy Lichty - 8th
David Dadson - 9th
Greg Jacobs - 10th
Myrtle Huizenga - 17th
Donna Jacobs, Wendy Pidgeon - 19th
Nancy Hansen - 20th
Liz Chocian - 22nd
Isaac Ansere - 23rd
Carolyn Weber - 25th
Susan Varno - 27th
Greg Hanna - 28th
Lester Ampong, Bryson Taylor - 30th
Verna Anker - 31st

DAYBREAK

Serving at **Daybreak** is a long standing tradition at Friendship. On the third Friday (and following Saturday morning) we donate food, cook and serve two meals. Contact Richard at the number below if you are interested in volunteering.

Monetary donations may be made to the church indicating they are for Daybreak.

Richard Guzman, Coordinator
rrguzman@comcast.net

SENIOR BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

Third Thursday of each month. Lunches are packed for pickup or delivery. Seniors are contacted prior to the day of the lunch to indicate which they prefer. Contact the church office at 630.972.1011 if you wish to be on the list.

AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all.

AA Meetings: Saturdays @ 9am

GA Meetings: Fridays @ 7:30 pm

**DONATIONS FOR LOCAL
FOOD PANTRIES:**
West Suburban Community Pantry
Wednesdays 10am-3pm

Friendship Micro Pantry

Take what you need, leave what you can.
North entrance of the building. Accessible 24/7

FIRST FRIENDS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:00am-12:00pm

Contact Chris Bosacki, Director,
for more information.
chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info