

WELCOME TO KINGSWOOD CHURCH

BUFFALO GROVE | DEERFIELD

JANUARY 11, 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:

- ♦ Sign up for our E-News
- ♦ Sponsor altar flowers
- ♦ View upcoming events & serving opportunities
- ♦ Connect with us if you are a first-time guest



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Welcome to Kingswood on this Baptism of the Lord Sunday, a celebration the baptism of Jesus, and a sacred time of remembering our own baptism and calling as followers of Jesus. Today, we are challenged to walk in the light and embrace new beginnings as we remember our baptism with gratitude and conviction. As the new year begins, we open ourselves to the leading of the Holy Spirit and the call to share justice, peace, and love with all. Welcome to Kingswood!



We look forward to our upcoming sermon series beginning on **Sunday, January 18**, *Re-Shaped: What We Are Made For*. This sermon series will hopefully get everyone nostalgic for those days of playing with Play-Doh or any kind of molding clay that changes shape. But children will no doubt be enthralled with the idea of having Play-Doh in the sanctuary and as part of the worship experience!

New Sermon Series Begins January 18

Kingswood Children & Youth Ministries
and Gratitude Generation Present:

Make Leaders of Kids Day

Monday, January 19 | Deerfield campus

Service and learning opportunities for children
and youth on Martin Luther King Jr. holiday!

www.kingswoodumc.com/events

Join us for the Gratitude Generation Day of Service on MLK Day, **Monday, January 19**, featuring meaningful service projects and age-appropriate learning stations to honor Dr. King's legacy. Families, sign up your kids (K-2nd graders must attend with a parent; 3rd-8th graders can be dropped off) for this special event! Please register at www.kingswoodumc.com/events by **Monday, January 12** to volunteer.



It's that time of year again to beat the winter blues and turn up the heat with some chili!! Join us for Kingswood's 4th annual Chili Cook-Off on **Sunday, January 25**, in our Buffalo Grove Activity Center from 5 pm-6:30 pm. Come and eat for free, but donate to purchase voting ballots for your favorite chili; all donations will go to Kilmer Elementary for recess supplies. Do you want to compete and cook your best chili? Are you the winning chili cooker this year? Sign up at www.kingswoodumc.com/events!



Join us for an afternoon of lunch and learning as 60's Plus welcomes Pastor Daniel Cochran on **Thursday, January 29**. An art historian and professor, as well as Associate Pastor at Gary Church in Wheaton, Pastor Daniel regularly leads trips to Italy. He will share anecdotes about his trips, insight into early Christian art, and guide us in discovering ways we might encounter God today. A light lunch will be served at noon with the presentation at 1 pm. Sign up at www.kingswoodumc.com/events.



All youth, from incoming 6th graders to recently graduated 12th graders and their friends, are invited to join us for an unforgettable week of service from **July 12-18, 2026** in Altoona, PA with TEAMeffort! We'll be staying in Penn State campus housing and partner with established local ministries on meaningful construction projects. Registration deadline is **January 25, 2026**, sign up at kingwoodumc.com/youth today.



Children are invited to join us for an exciting Parents' Night Out on **Friday, February 6** from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm for an evening packed with fun, games, crafts, and dinner for potty-trained preschoolers through 5th graders, all supervised by our Safe Sanctuaries-approved team. Youth, we need your help to run stations and care for the kids. Parents, please sign up by February 1 to reserve your spot; youth, no registration is required.

GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Centering

Rev. James Preston

*Opening Song

*Light of the World*by Ed Cash, Scott Cash, Franni Cash,
Martin Cash, Andrew Bergthold, and Dan Galbraith

*Words of Gathering

Lani Vabulas

One: Come to Jordan River, where Jesus steps into the
water and God rejoices!**All: We gather at the river of grace, ready to be claimed,
eager to be transformed!**One: Look for the dove, listen for God's voice, feel the
Spirit's power!**All: We belong to God! We are claimed, loved, and sent
forth in Christ's name!**

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Gracious God, we gather to worship the One you have
called and anointed with your Spirit. At the waters of
baptism, you revealed Jesus as your beloved Son, bringing
justice, healing, and light to all nations. Pour out your
Spirit upon us now, that we may listen for your voice,
follow your way, and live as servants of your reconciling
love. Amen.

Children's Sermon and Remembering Our Baptism

Rev. James Preston

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

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Song of Praise

Bless God

by Brandon Lake, Cody Carnes, and Brooke Ligertwood

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 42: 1-9

A Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 3: 13-17

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Song of Preparation

He Came Down
Black Hymnal #2085

Sermon

Rev. James Preston

Claimed in Our Baptism!

Prayer of Intercession

Elaine Ahrens

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

Elaine Ahrens

Special Music

Allelus, acc. Michael Fritsch
Were You There on Christmas Night?
by Natalie Sleeth

Announcements

Rev. James Preston

*Closing Song

Angels From the Realms of Glory
by Henry Thomas Smart, Paul Baloche,
Brenton Brown, and Michael Rossback

*Benediction

Rev. James Preston

*Stand as you are able.

Liturgist: Lani Vabulas

Scripture Reader: Jim Miller

Ushers: Ric and Donna Sisi

Greeters: Lally Family and Sue Kluge

Musicians: Adult Praise Band

**Coffee Fellowship is sponsored by
the Welcoming and Connecting Team.**

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