



Dear friends,
Happy Anniversary! Ten years ago this month, LoveJoy United joined together for the first time in worship as a new church community. In the years since, God has built a strong and faithful community that looks gratefully to the past, but also looks hopefully toward the future. You have developed deeper relationships with one another, you have welcomed new members and friends, you have invested in new ministries, you have generously given your time and gifts, you have built a healthy church culture, and you are continuing to live faithfully into the future God has in mind for you. Most of all, you have brought glory to our living and loving God. We have much to celebrate!

We'll begin our anniversary celebrations on Sunday, September 20th with worship followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. This is an important time to look back, but it's an even better time to look forward. Over the course of this year, our Elders have been hard at work discerning an Annual Vision of Ministry for the upcoming season of our life together. This vision, called Rooted & Reaching, outlines the core values that nourish the roots of our lives, and it offers three goals to reach for the upcoming year.

Our Elders began with a powerful exercise around core values. Values are deeper than policies or strategies; values shape the very culture we are growing in. I invited each of our Elders to tell a brief story about something that has happened through LoveJoy United that represents our church at its most faithful.



Someone mentioned the welcome she and her mom experienced when they first began attending worship. Another person recalled the medical debt our church purchased to relieve our neighbors of that burden. After each story, the elders named the values that were at work to make such stories possible. And these are the values that came up again and again: Faith, Love, Welcome, Justice, and Generosity. These core values should not come as a surprise to you. They are all Gospel values and they are the soil we want to be rooted in as a church. A Vision of Ministry, though, is more than values. It is also a challenge to us to be nourished by these values and grow in new and important ways over the next season together. Our leaders have identified three goals for the next season, these are the 'reaching' part of our Rooted & Reaching vision:

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Rooted in the gospel values of our community, LoveJoy United seeks to reach out by:

1. Nurturing deeper, intentional, and intergenerational relationships both within and outside the church.
2. Caring for our neighbors and seeking justice at the root causes of their need.
3. Becoming a community that intentionally invests in young people: in their welcome, their formation, and their leadership.

This is not to say these are the only things we will focus on or do – God has called us to do much. But these are three areas that we want to prioritize in the upcoming year. Over the next months, our Session, committees, ministry areas, and staff will be invited to think through concrete ways we can advance these goals together. And we also invite you, as members and friends of LoveJoy United, to consider how you can make a difference in reaching these goals with us.

Our mission as God's church never changes, but this is how we believe God calling us to live that mission out here and now. I invite you to join our church leaders in praying that God may give us the strength and wisdom to move joyfully and boldly in this direction as we begin our second decade of ministry as LoveJoy United.

I look forward to celebrating with you all soon!

In Christ,
Daniel



Creation Care

RECYCLE

- Aluminum Cans, Trays, & Foil
- Milk & Juice Cartons
- Steel, Tin & Aerosol Cans
- Glass Bottles & Jars
(No window glass, dinnerware or ceramics)
- Plastic (All except #6 polystyrene)
- Cardboard, Phone Books, Cereal, Cake & Food Mix Boxes
- Brown Paper Bags



Do you think we should add a collection bin for soft plastic like Wal-Mart style bags, zip lock bags, etc.?

Some members have asked about items that can and cannot be recycled in our church recycle bins. Here is a list of items that can be collected for pick-up each Monday. Usually a bin full of items is put out for collection, but there are still some items being discarded in the regular waste can, which end up in a landfill. **Let us all try hard to be an Earth Care Congregation.**



RUMMAGE

Sale!



This sale supports various mission projects of our church and assists our local community.

LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church

2550 Rock Hill Road - Wood River, IL
618-254-5880



FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 2ND & 3RD

8:00 A.M. - NOON

PRESALE - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

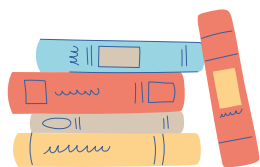
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

\$3 ENTRY FEE

SHOP
DONATE
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



2026 LoveJoy Lyceum Book List

MAY 20: The Briar Club by Kate Quinn

JUNE 17: The Last American Road Trip by Sarah Kendzior

JULY 15: Empire of the Summer Moon by S.C. Gwynne

AUGUST 19: The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray

SEPTEMBER 16: All the Colors of the Dark by Chris Whitaker

OCTOBER 21: Traveling Mercies by Anne Lamott

NOVEMBER 18: The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver

DECEMBER 16: The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Adult Christian Education on Sunday Mornings at 9 AM Sunday Morning Live (Love Room & Zoom) Is an informal, conversational class that seeks to connect scripture, theology, and faith to our lives and world. They relate current events to Scripture to create thought-provoking discussions via *The Wired Word*.
- The Bible Class (Fellowship Hall & Zoom), led by Ryan Harris, is exploring the New Testament
- Lectionary Bible Study meets at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesdays. Join pastor Daniel either in-person or on Zoom for a discussion of the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday's worship service.



July 2026 Financial Notes:

Checking Account Balance as of
7/30/2026
\$50,154.68

Savings Account Balance as of
7/30/2026
\$32,843.67

Ending Balance as of 7/30/2026
\$82,998.35

*Pledge Income Received: YTD Pledge
total \$
\$120,867.69

* Mission Market Fund: The current
amount in the fund \$119,387.11
The interest rate is holding at 2.00 %

The interest rate is holding at 2.00 %

For questions, please contact Sarah Carnes or
Tom Wyatt.

September Birthdays



01-Sep	Tara Hayes	18-Sep	Sydnee Jacquin
02-Sep	Kate Trudell	18-Sep	Courtney Russell
02-Sep	James White	19-Sep	Keelan Crawford
03-Sep	Scott Davis	19-Sep	Lance Hatcher
04-Sep	Adele Lakin	20-Sep	Rob LaMarsh
04-Sep	Liza Mabb	21-Sep	Kolby Carnes
04-Sep	Josh Utnage	22-Sep	Amanda Cox
05-Sep	Randy Bishop	23-Sep	Derek Kerr
05-Sep	Michael Mayerhofer	24-Sep	Alvie Young
05-Sep	Melinda "Winnie" Whittaker	25-Sep	Kyle Duncan
07-Sep	Heather Ballard	25-Sep	Judith Sutter
07-Sep	Emma Carnes	26-Sep	Austin Miller
07-Sep	Joanne Lenhardt	26-Sep	Linda Welch
08-Sep	Steven Lewis	28-Sep	Carol Zakrzewski
11-Sep	Kennedy Carnes	29-Sep	Casey Daniel
12-Sep	Greg Bauer		
12-Sep	Jack Gould		



Food Pantry Needs:

**Peanut Butter -
16oz jars**



LOVEJOY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT

ALTON PRIDE FESTIVAL

*Now more than ever, we need to show up and show there is a space
and love for LGBTQ+ folks in God's family.*

Join us as we celebrate and share our inclusive spirit!



**EVERYONE
IS
WELCOME
HERE**



Alton Pride Festival

September 12 | 11am – 7pm

For more information: altonpride.com

All are Welcome in this Place

Come in my friends, my brothers and sisters

The door is open

The table is laid out with food and drink.

Kindness is the host in this house

All are welcome in this place

Rich, poor, tall, short.

From close by, and far away.

*Let us eat, drink and give praise to God
our father*

The Poet Laureate

Herbert J. Peel

A Place of Grace

Grace at the Gallery

Tuesdays: Mission Madness Workshop | 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Von Dell Gallery & Studios, 102 E Ferguson, Wood River, IL

Open House format. Come when you can. Stay as long as you want. Leave when you need to. No art experience required. You are invited to spend time in God's lap!

To keep up with A Place of Grace Events go to

<https://www.aplaceofgrace-juliegville.net/upcoming-events.html>



a place of 
GRACE

transformative. wonder-filled. healing.

We will
Celebrate **10th**
LoveJoy United
Presbyterian's
ANNIVERSARY

**We will celebrate our church's
10th anniversary beginning on
September 20 during worship!**

**Join us as we give thanks for the
foundation God has laid in these
first 10 years, and learn how we
will live into the next.**

**After worship, join us for
cake and celebration in
the Fellowship Hall.**





2550 Rock Hill Rd.
Wood River, IL 62095
618-254-5880