

# #BeUMC Award - Congregation

Northern Illinois Conference 2026

*Durand United Methodist Church*

Durand, IL



Durand UMC is a remarkable example of the United Methodist Church's mission through bold love, courageous leadership, joyful service, and faithful discipleship. Serving in a rural community, this congregation consistently goes above and beyond to meet both spiritual and practical needs, demonstrating Christ's love through meaningful action. Their courageous transition from a half-time church to a full-time church reflects extraordinary faith, vision, and commitment to expanding their ministry.



Durand UMC joyfully serves through its assistance fund, free clothing closet, and ecumenical partnerships that provide essential gas and grocery vouchers. They actively support numerous missions, including Operation Christmas Child, Hearts for Haiti, Rosecrance, Tree of Life Ministries, and their local food pantry. Their joyful service is further reflected through community meals, outreach events, and local gatherings where they foster relationships and share God's love.

Their dedication to discipleship is evident through children's ministries like Kid's Club, along with adult spiritual growth opportunities such as book clubs and Lenten studies. By investing deeply in outreach and faith formation, Durand UMC is transforming lives, strengthening families, and building hope, making them a truly deserving recipient of the #BeUMC Award.

