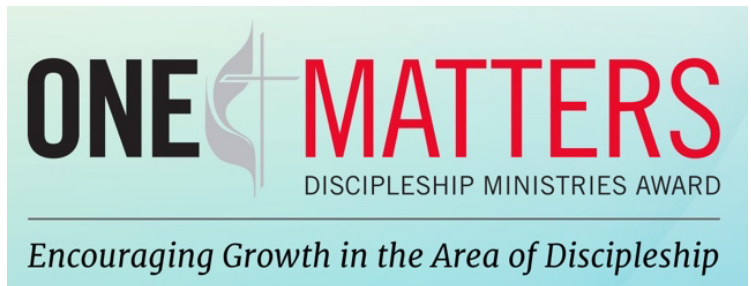


One Matters Award, Prairie South

Northern Illinois Conference 2026

Plattville United Methodist Church

Plattville, IL – Prairie South



I have been a member of this church my entire life. Like most rural churches, we have had our struggles with membership size. We strive to live

where we are planted, as Jesus has called all of his disciples. Loving God, with all our hearts, minds, and strength, and loving our neighbors as we would want to be loved.



We are a mission-focused church that provides support to many organizations. We most recently sponsored a community-wide event for Midwest Missions, assembling 320 Blessing Bags (1,920 meals).



Our Praise Band provides a service monthly with a variety of music, and our Sunday School classes are faithfully attended each week.

In October of 2025, we welcomed 8 new members into our congregation (one transfer), the first new members since 2019. Two of those were also baptized into their faith. When I asked them why they chose to join this church, they said:

Janet, who transferred her membership back to the church said “I’m home. I belonged to this church about 35 years before transferring to a Methodist church that was closer to my home and had many of my children’s friends attending. While the new church was fine, I always missed my home church. Fast

forward many years and I found myself back at the Plattville church while caring for my mom, who was a lifelong member. Taking her to church each Sunday brought back a peace that I hadn't realized I was missing. The love and friendships were instant! I love the support and connectivity with others and being able to worship in this congregation has deepened my faith. In the past nine years, I have lost the remainder of my immediate family. Being in an environment that has surrounded me with such faithful and loving members has really given me strength to move forward and continue seeing the joy in life. I enjoy attending each Sunday with my grandchildren. I am hoping to instill the love of God and the Plattville church in them as well."



Chris, who joined and along with her nephew was baptized, shared "I joined Plattville UMC because I felt so at home with the people there. They are good Christians who are friendly, devoted, caring, hard-working and genuinely kind. Pastor Terry is a wonderful, kind man of God who gives us words of guidance and love each week. From the moment I came to this church, I felt like I belonged. I'll never forget how everyone welcomed me with no judgment, warm, friendly, good-heartedness."