



LUNCH: Baked ham, cheese tortellini with pesto sauce, mixed salad, chocolate cake
Today's Meeting: Led by Caroline Collins **Invocation:** Shadow Gentry

Officers for 2025-2026

President	Caroline Collins
President Elect	Sue Doubler
Vice President	
Treasurer	Bob Hoffman
Asst. Treasurer	Al Mueller
Secretary	Ken Doubler
Asst. Secretary	Jerry Wahlstrom
Imm Past President	Mike Mooney
Lt. Governor	Jean Erlenborn
District Governor	Mary Zeronas

Kishwaukee Kiwanis Meetings

2nd, 3rd, 4th, Wednesdays, 11:45 a.m.
 Faranda's Banquet Center
 302 Grove St.
 DeKalb, IL

K-Family Events/Meetings

Circle K Every other Wednesday at
 4:30 p.m. in HSC 506
 (usually 1st and 3rd
 Wednesday)

AKtion Club – 2nd Wednesday, 3:45 at
 Opportunity House
 357 N. California St
 Sycamore, IL

Defining Statement

Kiwanis is a global organization of
 volunteers dedicated to improving
 the world, one child and one
 community at a time.

Flag Salute

As our flag signifies purity, valor, and
 justice, may we as true Kiwanians
 exemplify these virtues as we serve
 the children of the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Doubler asked for a brief special board meeting to approve paying our customary \$750 stipend to the Key Club advisor at DeKalb High School, Jimmy Zucker. Motion was made by Gary Vander Meer, seconded by Shadow Gentry, and approved by voice vote.

Sue then announced our slate of officers for the coming year. We'll vote on nominations at a future meeting, and the next term begins in October. Sue herself has volunteered to serve as our next president.

Jerry Wahlstrom challenged us to stockpile donations for needy families as part of the Century 21 / Rooted for Good campaign celebrating our country's 250th year as an independent nation. We're encouraged to bring shampoo, diapers, and other personal items seldom available at local pantries.

Gary Vander Meer reminded us of who's signed up to deliver Meals on Wheels this coming week, and thanked those who've already participated.

He also noted that he and Sue Doubler will present the Barry Haber Scholarship Awards at DeKalb High School Wednesday night.

PROGRAM

Today, our club celebrated its Clergy Appreciation Day luncheon. Jerry Smith invited a circle of eight local pastors to introduce themselves, and let us know how they found their way to DeKalb. He went on to ask them to share some of the difficulties that they face, and both the hopes and worries they have as they carry on in ministry.

Rev. Denise Rode spoke about the challenges of serving an aging, shrinking membership whose values may not always mirror her own. She stressed the importance of being open-minded and trying to meet people where they are. Her church in Earlville gathers clothing to give away and hosts a senior luncheon every month.

Rev. Maurice McDavid explained that he first felt a call to ministry when he was 12, and has played many roles at his home church — even driving the bus to bring people to Sunday services. He has tried to encourage newcomers just beginning their spiritual path.

Revs. Clinton and Deb Wallace are serving as bridge pastors at Westminster while the church gets ready to call their next long-term candidate. They're very moved by the generosity and compassion of this community. Volunteers at Westminster distribute food to poor families nearby.

Rev. John Dorhauer spoke about families finding their way back to church now that the COVID crisis has come and gone. He commented on the DeKalb community’s robust support of social service agencies, and pointed to the recent Give Dekalb campaign that raised 2.5 million dollars to help those in need.

Rev. Paul DeHaven noted that many at Christ Community are hungry to find some sense of meaning or connection in their lives that our secular culture doesn’t really provide. People come to church, he says, seeking deeper connection — to something ineffable, and to one another.

Rev Jen Zerbe has seen her church grow quite a lot in recent years, and so her church is thinking of starting a new capital campaign. Hillcrest hosts a number of recovery groups throughout the week. She is proud of the partnership church members have formed with Jefferson Elementary School.

Each of our guests, in different ways, spoke about generosity and compassion, and their church’s support of efforts to bring about social justice. They noted how local churches have never been important now that the federal government has slashed so many programs and people’s confidence in our leaders has cratered.

Need a ride to Kiwanis?

Several Kiwanis members have volunteered to give a ride to our meetings if needed. (Please give them a couple of day’s notice if possible.)

- Bob Gilmore 815-764-9010
- Kathie Davis 815-751-9085
- Bob Hadley 815-739-8869
- Bob Hoffman 815-742-3765
- Jerry Smith 815-751-6265

Thought for the day
(via Bob Hoffman)

“Everyone is in favor of progress. It’s change they don’t like.”
- *Based on a Mark Twain quote*

UPCOMING PROGRAMS: (*Why not invite a guest?* – that could mean a prospective member!)

- May 20: Denise Moran, Sycamore Hospital/Letitia Westgate
- May 27: 4-H Speakers
- June 3: Board meeting
- June 10: NIU WBB coach Jacey Brooks
- June 17: NIU MBB coach Matt Majkrzak

	Kish Kiwanians (in person) 27
	Zoom: N/A
	Guests: Rev. Paul DeHaven, Christ Community Church, Rev. John Dorhauer, First Congregational United Church of Christ, Rev. Maurice McDavid, United Pentecostal Church of DeKalb, Rev. Denise Rode, Immanuel Lutheran Church in Earlville, Revs. Clinton and Deb Wallace, Westminster Presbyterian Rev. Jen Zerbe, Hillcrest Covenant Church
	Outside Speaker: N/A
	Total 35