

May 17, 2020



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Pastor: Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

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Bishop Sally Dyck District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

"Where Is Your Treasure?"

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Luke 12:34

Greetings in the name of the LORD! Stewardship is defined as managing the affairs of God's local church by using everything God has blessed us with. It is an all-encompassing word that covers everything from your money, intellect, ingenuity, service, gifts, skill-set, and time. It stems from the belief that everything that we have comes from God. I am in bible country: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" (James 1:17 ESV). Since we believe that everything that is in our hands is a gift from God, we can benefit by embracing the spiritual discipline of stewardship. We manage what God gives us. In God's economy, we don't own what God gives us. We just manage it. It all belongs to God. How do I know? Because when we die, we leave everything behind. A rich African named Job can testify. He says, "We bring nothing at birth; we take nothing with us at death. The LORD alone gives and takes. Praise the name of the LORD!" (Job 1:21 CEV).

Speaking about stewardship is always a sensitive issue in the local church. More specifically, talking about finances among the faithful is a sensitive issue. Topics like faith, peace, love, joy, or ones that focus on Jesus performing miracles are more popular. Stories that mention how God likes to give us things and do things for us are more popular. However, don't you find it interesting how we love to hear about how God gives to us but we cringe or downright rebel when we hear messages that challenge us to reciprocate God's love? For example, we cringe when we hear messages that encourage us to give God the best of our time, talent, and treasure. We are taught by the scriptures that Jesus had a lot to say about the dangers of the gods we make (money and materialism) crowding out the God who made us. If you believe in 'imago dei', that you were created in God's image, then you should be a giving person because God is giving. You are a reflection of God's image. Therefore, to give is to be like God.

Bible readers realize that 16 out of the 38 parables Jesus taught dealt with money and possessions. In the Gospels, an amazing one out of ten verses (288 in all) deal directly with the subject of money. The Bible offers 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but more than 2,000 verses on money and possessions. Therefore, Jesus has an interest in where our treasure is for wherever our treasure is, there will our hearts be also. I challenge us to treasure this local church and to put our hearts (mind, and soul, too) into this local church. Why? So it can become a vibrant and vocal reminder that God is at work within us and within this community. Never worship the gifts over the Giver of all gifts, who is God. I treasure God. And I know you do too. Therefore, let us repent of making gods out of gifts instead of keeping the Gift-giver first in our lives. Have a great week.

H SUNDAY OF EASTER

Please check the church website, now our 'virtual church,' and your email regularly for ongoing updates. www.wesleyumcchicago.org

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR MAY: "Revolutionary Patience"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: WHITE or GOLD

Scripture for the month:

"They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not get weary. They shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

Call to Worship

Prayer

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 66:8-15

see video, or page 5

Offering

Scripture

Psalm 121

see video, or page 4

Sermon "You Don't Have to Face It By Yourself, Pt. 1"

Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Benediction

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed



Thank you for your continued dedication to fulfill your **Anniversary Pledge!**





Morning Scripture Psalm 121 (NKJV)

¹I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help?

² My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

³ He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷ The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul.

⁸ The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in From this time forth, and even forevermore.

| WEEKLY ATTENDANCE | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| Morning Worship (5/10/20) | 81 (views) | | | |
| Sunday Morning Worship Call | 27 (callers) | | | |
| Sunday School | 15 (callers) | | | |
| Prayer Group | 12 (callers) | | | |
| Bible Study Calls (AM=16 PM=7) | 23 (callers) | | | |
| Monday Support Call | 2 (callers) | | | |
| ΤΟΤΑΙ | 160 | | | |

Psalm of Praise Psalm 66:8-15

(R) O people, be glad and sing for joy! Declare God's glory in every land!

⁸ Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of God's praise be heard,

⁹ who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

¹¹ You brought us into the net; you laid affliction on our loins;

¹² you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us forth to a spacious place.

(R) O people, be glad and sing for joy! Declare God's glory in every land!

¹³ I will come into your house with burnt offerings;I will pay you my vows,

¹⁴ that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

(R) O people, be glad and sing for joy! Declare God's glory in every land!

PASTORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check your email weekly for a full list of announcements, scripture readings and updates.

- Church Council Meeting (via ZOOM video/conference call) 11 am, Saturday, May 23rd.
- Multiple ways to worship! Our worship services are now available online! Go to: www.wesleyumcchicago.org and click/tap SUNDAY SERMON. The videos are also available on other platforms, such as our church app (see SERMONS), our YouTube channel (Wesley UMC Chicago), and will be posted on our Facebook page each Sunday afternoon (@WesleyUMCChicago). For those who prefer a more personal experience, join the Weekly Worship Conference Call at 10:30 am each Sunday! Call-in info: 1-425-436-6348: code 672500#
- Do you have the *GivePlus+* app? Electronic giving just got easier!! Vanco's *GivePlus+* app makes it as easy as 1-2-3! Just download the **GivePlus+** app, (click for **Apple**, or **Google**) complete your login and profile using your email address and password, provide your bank information and that's it! You can setup a recurring payment or enter the amount each time.
- NEW FEATURE! GivePlus+ also allows you to make contributions with a quick text message! Simply send a text to our <u>DEDICATED</u> text number, 1-833-595-0705, with the amount you would like to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. Example: \$25. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via email. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically!
- Sunday School's Returned! 9 am, Sunday mornings. Join us! Call 1-605-475-4000; code 260259#
- Wesley's Support Call Mondays at 6 pm This support call will be open to anyone who is feeling challenged during this time or need to feel connected to your church family. Call in info: 1-425-436-6348; code 672500#
- 66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive Wesley has kicked off our 66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive! We are asking each member of the church to prayerfully sign a pledge, committing to one of two sacrificial giving program tiers for the first 6 months of the year: Contractor @ \$750; Bricklayer @ \$500, either of which may be submitted in installments or a single payment. Our faith-raising goal is \$60,000.

| MAT DIRTHDATS | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Jessie Gilmore | May 1 st | Zoe Green | May 16 th | | |
| Debbie Clark | May 2 nd | Cameron Woolery | May 16 th | | |
| Lem Newell | May 3 rd | Courtney Key | May 18 th | | |
| Yvonne Wormsby | May 4 th | Dawn Funches-Fox | May 21 st | | |
| Trinity Jones | May 6 th | Huron Wilson | May 23 rd | | |
| Jessie Stokes | May 7 th | Bonnie Ross | May 24 th | | |
| Thaddeus Cecil | May 8 th | Kelson Gainey | May 25 th | | |
| Kyna Stinson | May 9 th | Edward Hancock | May 27 th | | |
| Liana Geddes | May 10 th | Ben Davis | May 29 th | | |
| Doris Echols | May 15 th | Bessie Moore | May 29 th | | |
| Doris Anderson | May 16 th | Stephanie Jackson-Williams | May 30 th | | |
| | Lawrence Moore | May 31 st | | | |

MAY BIRTHDAYS

PRAYER LIST

Below is this week's prayer list. Please keep these persons in your prayers! (* = Church member, followed by Class Number)

| SHUT-IN | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| *Minnie Thompson (20) | *Bessie Alford-Moore (18) | | | |
| *Lucille Sanders (16) | *Doris Anderson (1) | | | |
| *Clarence Sanders (16) | *Spencer Plaxico (17) | | | |
| *Barbara Shepherd (18) | *Jessie Stokes (19) | | | |
| *Eric Geralds (3) | *Helen Tuck (7) | | | |
| *Fred Williams (20) | *Lucious Smith (12) | | | |
| GENER | RAL | | | |
| *Callie Dulaney & Family (12) | Leslie Carey Kirk | | | |
| *LaRue Grizzard (4) | Byron Agnew, Jr. | | | |
| *Y. Shorter-Darden & Family (4) | Sam Agnew | | | |
| *Gloria Banks (20) | Nannie Agnew | | | |
| *Doris Echols (16) | Juanita Weatherspoon | | | |
| *Mary Alice Lovely & Family (19) | Annie Lois Robinson | | | |
| *Diamond Jones (12) | Jessica Smith Crenshaw | | | |
| *Trinity Jones (12) | Joyce Chisem-Davis | | | |
| *Lawrence Moore (13) | Carolyn Ransom | | | |
| *Wilena Campbell-Watkins (5) | Sylvia Nichols Milton Kellum | | | |
| *Mark Garrett (5) *The Plaxico Family (17) | Rosie Howard | | | |
| *Denise Richardson (20) | Natesha Smith | | | |
| *Clarence Rogers, II & Family (4) | James Sanders | | | |
| *Jessie Gilmore (16) | Joanna Lennhardt | | | |
| *Maurice & Faye Smith (17) | Martha Muhs | | | |
| *Theresa Bradshaw (12) | Muriel Bolden | | | |
| *The Hudson/Bradshaw Families (7)1 | | | | |
| *The Moss Family (13) | Norbert Sanders | | | |
| *Rhonda Smith-Leach (4) | Brittany Porter | | | |
| *Lorraine Forbes and Family (3) | Rhonda Monique Miller | | | |
| *B.J. Curtis and Family (3) | Ashley Parks | | | |
| *Betty Jenkins and Family (5) | Kathy Jenkins | | | |
| Mila Kuntu | Rebecca Merkson | | | |
| Katherine Thompson | John Anderson | | | |
| Katherine Evans | Jerry Simmons | | | |
| Vinelle Myrie | Rochelle Johnson | | | |
| Alexandria Ward | The Robinson Family | | | |
| Davion McNeal | The Ford Family | | | |
| Rashaud Thompson | Ron Birton | | | |
| Mae Gilliams Fizer and Family | Aiden Combs | | | |
| Robert A. Watkins | Michael Miller | | | |
| Aaron Thomas, Jr. | Angel Acosta | | | |
| James Taylor | Anna Young | | | |
| Carl Frazier | Dorothy Williams Lois Tucker | | | |
| The Baker Family Belinda Starks | David Williams | | | |
| The Denman Family | Owen McPherson | | | |
| Larry Clark and Family | James Williams | | | |
| Latty Clark and Falling | | | | |

FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG Soministration Food Safe Meal Prep

> Following these tips when cooking and chilling leftovers can help prevent foodborne illness



Please NOTIFY the church office of ALL **MAY 2020** Please check bulletin and emails meetings or events scheduled in the + Event occurs after worship service regularly for schedule changes. church buildings. * Event occurs at alternate site S Т w Μ т F S NEW 27 28 29 30 1 2 9 am Support Call **Remote Bible Study Remote Prayer** Sunday School Call 6 pm 11 am Group 1.605.475.4000 11 am Access code: 260259# Call-in number: 1-312-626-6799; 1,425,436,6348 Mtg ID: 495 087 043# Call-in number: Remote Worship & Access code: 1.425.436.6348 10:30 am Call 672500# Access code: 672500# Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500# 7 9 3 4 5 6 8 9 am UMW Conference Call Support Call **Remote Bible Study Remote Prayer** Sunday School Call Meeting Group 6 pm 11 am 1.605.475.4000 10 am 11 am Access code: 260259# 1-312-626-6799; Call-in number: Mtg ID: 495 087 043# 1.425.436.6348 Call-in number: Remote Worship & Access code: 1,425,436,6348 10:30 am Call 672500# Access code: 672500# Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500# 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 9 am Remote Bible Study **Remote Prayer** Support Call Sunday School Call 6 pm 11 am Group 1.605.475.4000 11 am Access code: 260259# Call-in number: 1-312-626-6799; 1.425.436.6348 Mtg ID: 495 087 043# Call-in number: Remote Worship & Access code: 1.425.436.6348 10:30 am Call 672500# Access code: 672500# Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500# 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 9 am **Trustee Meeting Remote Bible Study Remote Prayer** Sunday School Call Support Call (via Zoom) 11 am Group 1.605.475.4000 6 pm 9 am 11 am Access code: 260259# 1-312-626-6799; Call-in number: **Church Council** Mtg ID: 495 087 043# Call-in number: Remote Worship & 1.425.436.6348 Meeting (via Zoom) 1.425.436.6348 10:30 am Call Access code: 11 am Access code: 672500# Call-in number: 672500# 1-312-626-6799; 1.425.436.6348 Mtg ID: 810 6894 9116# Access code: 672500# 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 9 am **Remote Bible Study Remote Prayer** Support Call Sunday School Call Group 6 pm 11 am 1.605.475.4000 11 am Access code: 260259# 1-312-626-6799; Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Mtg ID: 495 087 043# Call-in number: Remote Worship & Access code: 1.425.436.6348 10:30 am Call 672500# Access code: 672500# Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500# 31

Church Council Meeting (via ZOOM video/conference call)

11 am, Saturday, May 23, 2020: All ministry leaders please plan to attend this call. 1-312-626-6799 | Meeting ID: 810 6894 9116# (password and link for video will be emailed to CC members)

The Murder of Ahmaud Arbery — and Our Continuing Terror

by Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.



Today there is a national outcry about the murder of Ahmaud Arbery. The public condemnation has forced a belated response. Those accused of his murder finally have been arrested. His murder has become a global embarrassment for whites. For blacks, however, it is another humiliation, a continuing terror. It is the normal silence, however, that condemns thousands of African Americans to unjust deaths and millions to shattered lives. When the camera turns away, the savage injustice that embarrasses us becomes simply business as usual. The horror of Ahmaud Arbery's murder is now well known. The 25-year-old black man went for a jog down the middle of the street in the middle of the day on Feb. 23. Two white men decided he was suspicious, hunted him down and shot him point blank in the middle of the street at 1 p.m.

Local law enforcement had video evidence of the crime. Yet no arrest was made until 74 days later, two months and two weeks after the murder. Local authorities chose not to act. Two U.S. senators said nothing. The white church — that had blessed slavery, segregation, apartheid in South Africa — was silent. Why did the arrests finally take place? Because an intrepid reporter from the New York Times investigated the story and made it public; the murder video was leaked to the public on the 72nd day after Ahmaud's murder. As the public outrage grew, the arrests were made. Never forget, as one commentator noted, they did not make the arrests because THEY saw the incriminating video. They made the arrests because WE saw the video. Embarrassed, faced with an aroused community and an international scandal, they finally acted.

So it goes. African Americans suffer in silence the savage injuries of institutionalized racism. We live in northern ghettos — driven there in the early part of the last century by terrorism — most strikingly the Ku Klux Klan and their signature lynchings. The Equal Justice Initiative reports there were 4,084 lynchings of blacks in the South from 1877 to 1950. The Klan, embraced by and often made up of the white gentry of the South, often gathered at their churches to organize the public lynchings.

They terrorized blacks to end the fusion multiracial coalitions that grew up in the Reconstruction, and to take back control of their states. The lynchings and violence were greeted with silence, if not approval. White authorities, white churches, white society turned their heads, if they weren't applauding in approval. It isn't enough to express dismay when the newspapers highlight the horrors. We need leaders and citizens of conscience who will act and not rest until justice is done.

Little Known Black History Fact

Robert N. C. Nix, Jr.

By D. L. Chandler



The late **Robert N.C. Nix, Jr**. was destined for his path early on as his father was Pennsylvania's first Black member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Nix became the first chief justice of a state's highest court in 1994, which also made him the first Black statewide official for the commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well.

Robert Nelson Cornelius Nix Jr. was born July 13, 1928 in Philadelphia, graduating from Villanova University as its valedictorian in 1950. Nix then entered the University of Pennsylvania where he earned his law juris doctor degree. Before entering the workforce, Nix served a short while in the U.S. Army en route to becoming Deputy Attorney General. He eventually became a partner in his father's law firm and a notable advocate for civil rights.

Nix's rise to become Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court was not without its controversies. He was accused of being on his father's payroll as a congressional assistant in the '60's while running for election as a common pleas judge in Philadelphia and working in private practice.

In 1981, Nix engaged in a public feud with fellow Justice Rolf Larsen after Larsen allegedly called him a racial slur. Their differences continued into the '90's after Larsen himself was accused of misconduct that led to his impeachment in another matter, only to accuse Nix of engaging in the same improper contact with a trial judge. In 1996, Nix returned to private life, acknowledging the troubles with Larsen were "regrettable."

Nix passed at the age of 75 in 2003, survived by his wife Renate Becker-Bryant and three sons.

| Wesley United Methodist Church 201 East 95 th Street Chicago, IL 60619 Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr., Pastor | <u>SAVE these Conference</u> Sunday 10:30 am - LIVE Service Monday 6 pm - Support Call Thursday 11 am - Prayer Call | <u>Call Numbers</u> 1.425.436.6348 Code: 672500# | |
|---|--|--|--|
| | Wednesday 11 am - Bible Study: | 1.312.626.6799 ID/code: 495 087 043#, # | |
| | Sunday School 9 am – Conf Call: | | Scan the QR code on the left to donate to Wesley via smartphone or other mobile device! |

Wesley's 66th Church Anniversary!

This year we will celebrate **Wesley's 66th Church Anniversary**! We are so very grateful for the years of service to this community, yet we know there is still much left to be done.

We've kicked-off our **66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive**, "Building for the Future." Program details will be shared periodically during morning worship service and via mailings. Please prayerfully consider participating in this sacrificial giving program. These special gifts can be given in a single payment or in installments over several months. We need your sober commitment to support our church and serve the Lord through this ministry!

2020 Daily Bible Readings (One Year Bible Reading Plan) Week of May 17th – May 23rd

<u>May 17</u>

1 Samuel 20:1-21:15 John 9:1-41 Psalm 113:1-114:8 Proverbs 15:15-17

<u>May 18</u>

1 Samuel 22:1-23:29 John 10:1-21 Psalm 115:1-18 Proverbs 15:18-19

<u>May 19</u>

1 Samuel 24:1-25:44 John 10:22-42 Psalm 116:1-19 Proverbs 15:20-21 2020 Vision: *"The Year of the Child"* (Matthew 19:14)

<u>May 23</u>

2 Samuel 2:12-3:39 John 13:1-30 Psalm 119:1-16 Proverbs 15:29-30

May 20

1 Samuel 26:1-28:25 John 11:1-54 Psalm 117:1-2 Proverbs 15:22-23

<u>May 21</u>

1 Samuel 29:1-31:13 John 11:55-12:19 Psalm 118:1-18 Proverbs 15:24-26

<u>May 22</u>

2 Samuel 1:1-2:11 John 12:20-50 Psalm 118:19-29 Proverbs 15:27-28