

September 13, 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

Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

"EXCELLENCE!"

Greetings, family, in the name of the Omnicompetent God who has saved us so that we might save our community from death, darkness, disappointment, despair, and dis-ease. God has placed it on my heart to encourage you to embrace EXCELLENCE as a way of life so that you may let your light shine so that people will see it and give all glory to God. Since this is Youth Sunday I especially want to stress how important it is for them to embrace "excellence" as a lifestyle if they want to fulfill their dreams.

If we are to be faithful to our God, we must be, and not try to be, a community of faith that does everything in an excellent way. If we are striving to be EXCELLENT, then we are always contending and quarreling against self-doubt, mediocrity, laziness, indifference, apathy, and naysayers. These are the natural enemies of a church striving to be greater than it has ever been in its lifecycle. These are natural enemies of anyone attempting to go farther in life than anyone could imagine. Yes, we are in a constant struggle to take the road less traveled.

Yes, we are in a constant struggle to go the extra mile. Yes, we are in a constant struggle to spend money for the best equipment, musicians, and resources in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Yes, we are in a constant struggle to never cut corners when it comes to God's house and God's worship. Yes, we are in a constant struggle to never "settle" for second or third best when we know that with a little more effort and sacrifice, we can have the best and be the best. Yes, it is a struggle to change an entire faith community's mindset from being "good enough" to "being one of the best churches in Chicago metro." It is my wish to always in both my personal and professional life to move from 'average to amazing.' I want our church to make this transition and our youth.

By striving for EXCELLENCE, we can reach all of our goals. Excellence contains the word "excel". When we "excel," we exceed and surpass all expectations others have for us. When we "excel", we surpass just average attendance. We attend every service and show up to participate and grow from our participation. When we "excel", we surpass and go beyond tipping God but rather we tithe and then give special offerings out of the deep appreciation we have for God in providing for us.

When we "excel", we amaze ourselves and please God because we give more than what is required; we go beyond nominal Christianity; we go beyond what is expected, we go beyond what "Momma an 'em used to do"; we go beyond what is expected of people who have full-time jobs and other collateral responsibilities; and we do the job that needs to be done in spite of the hardship or sacrifice required. If EXCELLENCE is our church culture then we offer no excuses, we just execute. And if we don't know how to do something, we are smart enough to get trained in it and then work like Trojans to make things happen. Have a great week!

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR SEPTEMBER: "Keep the Faith"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: GREEN

Scripture for the month:

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not yet seen." Hebrews 11:1

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture

Psalm 126

see video, or page 4

Canticle of Moses and Miriam

see video, or page 4

Announcements

Psalm of Praise

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon Series

Today's Message:

The Songs of Ascents "The Lord Has Done Great Things" Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

- Affirmation of Faith
- Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE			
Morning Worship (9/6/20)	74 (views)		
Worship Call "	33 (callers)		
Sunday School "	12 (callers)		
Prayer Group	8 (callers)		
Bible Study	10 (views/calls)		
UMW Day, Planning Meeting	6 (callers)		
TOTAL	143		

Morning Scripture Psalm 126 (NKJV)

¹ When the LORD brought back the captivity of Zion, we were like those who dream.

² Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³ The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad.

⁴ Bring back our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the South.

> ⁵ Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy.

⁶ He who continually goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves with him.

Psalm of Praise Canticle of Moses and Miriam

(R) Be exalted, Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

¹ Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,

"I will sing to the LORD, who has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider the LORD has thrown into the sea.

² The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation; this is my God whom I will praise. I will exalt my father's God ³ who is a mighty warrior, whose name is the LORD.

⁴ Pharaoh's chariots and his host the LORD cast into the sea; and his chosen officers are sunk in the Red Sea.

⁵ The floods cover them; they went down into the depths like a stone.

⁶ "Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

(R) Be exalted, Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

¹¹ "Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, terrible in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

¹² You stretched out your right hand, the earth swallowed them.

¹³ In your steadfast love, you have led the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

(R) Be exalted, Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

¹⁷ You will bring them in, and plant them on your own mountain, the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

¹⁸ "The LORD will reign for ever and ever."

(R) Be exalted, Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

²⁰ Then Miriam, the prophet, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and dancing,

²¹ and Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the LORD, who has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider the LORD has thrown into the sea."

(R) Be exalted, Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

PASTORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- 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.
- The Wesley United Methodist Women are celebrating Women's Day by leading a virtual Worship Service on Sunday, September 27, 2020. Our theme is Open the Door to Faith and the speaker is our recently past District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Tracy S. Malone. She is now Resident Bishop of the East Ohio Conference. As we worship at home, we can focus on her strong empowering message of opening the door to Faith that will give us spiritual support for our coming days. Please join us on September 27th! Peace be with you...
- Get Your Sandals Dusty! The 2020 UMM Annual Spiritual Congress will be online this year, Saturday, September 19, 2020, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm. Guest speakers will include Bishop Sally Dyck, Mayor Lori Lightfoot, Congressman Danny K. Davis, Father Michael Pfleger and more. For additional details or to register for the event, go to www.nicumm.org.

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Melinda Geddes	September 2 nd	Alexandria Finley	September 10 th
Mydia Barker	September 3 rd	Helen Tuck	September 16 th
Jayce Johnson	September 3 rd	Bradley West	September 16 th
Melania Newman	September 3 rd	Erica Clark	September 18 th
Vickie Powell-Bass	September 3 rd	Elizabeth Bailey	September 21 st
Maurice Smith	September 4 th	Betty Jenkins	September 21 st
Janice Dulaney	September 6 th	Cheri Liggins	September 23 rd
Barbara Shepherd	September 6 th	A.C. Walton	September 26 th
Julia Porter	September 8 th	Kaliyah Flakes	September 27 th
	Cameron Davis	September 28 th	

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

PRAYER LIST

Below is this week's prayer list. Please keep these persons in your prayers!

((* = Church member	followed by	v Class Number)
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<u>SHUT-IN</u>		
*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)	

GENERAL			
*Callie Dulaney & Family (12)	Leslie Carey Kirk	Katherine Thompson	
*LaRue Grizzard (4)	Byron Agnew, Jr.	Shatarah Ridley	
*Y. Shorter-Darden & Family (4)	Sam Agnew	David Williams	
*Gloria Banks (20)	Nannie Agnew	Owen McPherson	
*Doris Echols (16)	Juanita Weatherspoon	James Williams	
*Mary Alice Lovely & Family (19)	Annie Lois Robinson	James Taylor	
*Diamond Jones (12)	Jessica Smith Crenshaw James Curtis		
*Trinity Jones (12)	Joyce Chisem-Davis	The Baker Family	
*Lawrence Moore (13)	Carolyn Ransom	Anna Young	
*Wilena Campbell-Watkins (5)	Sylvia Nichols	Dorothy Williams	
*Mark Garrett (5)	Milton Kellum	Lois Tucker	
*The Plaxico Family (17)	Rosie Howard	Katherine Evans	
*Denise Richardson (20)	Natesha Smith	Carl Frazier	
*Clarence Rogers, II & Family (4)	James Sanders	Robert A. Watkins	
*Jessie Gilmore (16)	Joanna Lennhardt	Aaron Thomas, Jr.	
*Maurice & Faye Smith (17)	Martha Muhs	Michael Miller	
*Theresa Bradshaw (12)	Muriel Bolden	Angel Acosta	
*The Hudson/Bradshaw Families	Gregory Simms	Tammy Pompeo	
(7 1 12)			
*The Moss Family (13)	Norbert Sanders	Sharon Cruikshank	
*Darlene Clark and Family (1)	Brittany Porter	Vinelle Myrie	
*Lorraine Forbes and Family (3)	Rhonda Monique Miller	Alexandria Ward	
*Charles & B.J. Curtis and Family (3)	Ashley Parks	Davion McNeal	
*Betty Jenkins and Family (5)	Kathy Jenkins	Willie Moore	
*Dorothy Williamson and Family (10)	Rebecca Merkson	Peaches Clark	
*Donna/Deborah Lomax and Family (13)	John Anderson	Larry Clark	
*Odis & Lucinda Franklin Family (20)	Jerry Simmons	Rashaud Thompson	
*Ena Davis (1)	Rochelle Johnson		
*Gwendolyn Watkins (7)	The Ford & Robinson Families		
*Doris Thompson (19)	Mila Kuntu		
*Helen York and Family (5)	Ron Birton		
Mae Gilliams Fizer & Family	Aiden Combs		

SUNDAY MORNING HEALTH CORNER

September is Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome Month

Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) is a hormonal disorder common among women of reproductive age. This disorder affects 1 in 10 women and is one of the most common causes of infertility in women.

Symptoms:

Signs and symptoms of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome develops around puberty, and can continue to develop over time.

- Polycystic ovaries are a common sign of PCOS because ovaries can become enlarged and result in pain and discomfort. Ovaries might fail to function regularly if symptom worsens.
- Excess androgen is another symptom in which there are elevated levels of male hormones in the female body.

Complications Include:

- Type 2 Diabetes or prediabetes
- Sleep Apnea
- Depression, anxiety, and eating disorders
- Metabolic Syndrome
- Abnormal Uterine Cancer

Be Proactive

- Maintain a healthy weight. Weight loss can reduce insulin and androgen levels and may restore ovulation.
- Limit carbohydrates. Choose complex carbohydrates, which raise your blood sugar levels more slowly, and can help reduce insulin levels.
- Be active. Exercise helps lower blood sugar levels and can treat or even prevent insulin resistance.

www.balmingilead.org

620 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite

Please **NOTIFY** the church office of ALL meetings or events scheduled in the

church buildings.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Please check bulletin and emails **regularly** for schedule changes.

+ Event occurs after worship service * Event occurs at alternate site

S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
30 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	31	1	2 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	3 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	4	5 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am
6 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	7	8	9 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	10 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	11	12 UMW Meeting via Zoom Conference 10 am
13 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	14	15	16 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	17 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	18	19 NIC-UMM Spiritual Congress (via Zoom) 9 am
20 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	21	22	23 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	24 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	25	26 Trustee Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am CSD-UMW Annual Celebration & Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am
27 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# UMW Women's Day Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	28	29	30 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	1 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	2	3 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am

Social Commentary

Words Mattered In Kenosha, But Your Vote On Nov. 3 Will Matter So Much More

by Laura Washington



For one week in this fleeting summer, Kenosha, Wisconsin, was ground zero in the 2020 presidential campaign. Last week, the newly minted Republican and Democratic presidential nominees swooped down on Kenosha in the aftermath of the Aug. 23 police shooting of Jacob Blake. Blake, an African American, was shot seven times in the back by a white police officer. Kenosha, a city of 100,000 north of Chicago, found itself in the national spotlight as it exploded in protests, looting, burning and physical violence. Blake, 29, remains hospitalized and is paralyzed.

The dueling road shows of President Donald J. Trump and former Vice-President Joe Biden displayed a stark, intractable divide. On Tuesday, Trump flew into town to double down on his "law- and-order, I- am-your-protector-in-chief" mantra. With Attorney General William Barr in tow, Trump presided over a mostly white group of sycophants from the law enforcement community. Trump is desperate to dodge his mishandling of the coronavirus pandemic and the crippled economy. He is fear-mongering to rally the troops.

On Thursday, Biden met with a diverse group of Kenosha community leaders, clergy and residents. Unlike Trump, Biden met and spoke with Blake and his family. Trump won't even utter Blake's name. For more than an hour, Biden listened as Kenosha residents called for more initiatives to address institutional racism. Trump won't even acknowledge it exists. Biden rightly thumped his opponent for his compulsion to lie, pander and incite racial division and hate. "The words of a president matter. No matter whether they're good, bad or indifferent, they matter," Biden told the small gathering at Grace Lutheran Church. "No matter how competent or incompetent the president is, they can send a nation to war, they can make peace, they can make markets rise and fall, and they can do things that I've observed and make a difference by what they say."

Biden teed up a long list of support to cure the ills of racism, including a hike in the national minimum wage, mental health counseling, an array of services for the formerly incarcerated and a White House commission on policing. Here's the thing. Words may matter, but for politicians, something else matters more. Power. The people of Kenosha — and the rest of us — hold that power, for better or worse. In Kenosha, Biden recalled the words of a civil rights torch bearer, the late U.S. Rep. John Robert Lewis. "As John said, 'the only answer is to vote.' " Those words matter most.

Little Known Black History Fact

Lucien Alexis, Sr.

By D. L. Chandler



Lucien Alexis Sr. earned the nickname of the "Negro Einstein" while as a student at Harvard University. Despite facing an extreme set of obstacles, Alexis managed not only to graduate from the prestigious university, but became a famed educator himself.

Alexis was born July 8, 1887 in New Orleans, La. Not much has been recorded about Alexis' childhood but what is known is that he took work as a railway mail clerk at the age of 20. For seven years, Alexis toiled and saved up enough funds for four years at Harvard. The university did accept him, but asked if he would attend the Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire before entering Harvard. The academy became a place where Alexis thrived, and also where he developed a love for foreign languages and the sciences. However, the year at Exeter cost him one year of his Harvard savings. Determined to fulfill his college dream, Alexis graduated "cum laude" in 1917, a year earlier than expected thus staving off the need for outside funds.

In the same year, Alexis entered Officer's Training School in Des Moines, Ia. And was commissioned 1st Lieutenant of the 367th Infantry in World War I. After the war, met and married Rita Holt. They had one son together, Lucien Jr., who also attended Harvard and is part of its lore as well for reasons other than academics.

Alexis returned to his hometown of New Orleans, working as a teacher and assistant principal of a pair of elementary schools. But it was his appointment as principal for McDonough High School in the city that made him a legendary figure. McDonough was the only public high school for Black people at the time, and it was nestled in a poor neighborhood. For 30 years, Alexis turned the school into one of the best in the city. He had so much respect that unsavory figures near the school wouldn't bother any of his students as they traveled through the neighborhood.

During his time as an educator, Alexis continued his life of science and published several scientific articles. Upon retirement, he opened the Straight Business School in the city and his wife ran the facility. Alexis was also a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Alexis passed in 1981, outliving his son who died in 1975.

<u>Wesley United Methodist Church</u> 201 East 95 th Street Chicago, IL 60619 Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr., Pastor	SAVE these Conference Call NumbersSunday 10:30 am - LIVE Service1.425.436.6348Thursday 11 am - Prayer CallCode: 672500#		
	Wednesday 11 am - Bible Study:	1.312.626.6799 ID/code: 295 101 7709#	
	Sunday School 9 am – Conf Call:	1.605.475.4000 Code: 260259#	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 via email. 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 September 13th – September 19th

September 13

Isaiah 12:1-14:32 2 Corinthians 13:1-14 Psalm 57:1-11 Proverbs 23:9-11

September 14

Isaiah 15:1-18:7 Galatians 1:1-24 Psalm 58:1-11 Proverbs 23:12

September 15

Isaiah 19:1-21:17 Galatians 2:1-16 Psalm 59:1-17 Proverbs 23:13-14 2020 Vision: *"The Year of the Child"* (Matthew 19:14)

September 19

Isaiah 30:12-33:9 Galatians 5:1-12 Psalm 63:1-11 Proverbs 23:22

September 16

Isaiah 22:1-24:23 Galatians 2:17-3:9 Psalm 60:1-12 Proverbs 23:15-16

September 17

Isaiah 25:1-28:13 Galatians 3:10-22 Psalm 61:1-8 Proverbs 23:17-18

September 18

Isaiah 28:14-30:11 Galatians 3:23-4:31 Psalm 62:1-12 Proverbs 23:19-21