

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

November 22, 2020



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Bishop Sally Dyck

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“Play the Game of Life with Gratitude”

In John Ortberg's book, When the Game is Over It All Goes Back in the Box, there is a chapter entitled “Play with Gratitude.” The message of the chapter is simply “Live life with an attitude of gratitude and it will be more fulfilling than you could ever imagine.” In that chapter, the foundational scripture is Luke 17:11-19, the story of Jesus healing ten lepers but only one returning to give thanks. The Lukan story shows us that ingratitude is a sin and a travesty. Gratitude is our ability to open up our hearts, eyes, and minds to recognize the goodness of God in all that God has blessed us with. Only through the lens of gratitude can we appreciate all that God has provided for us. Counting our blessings gives us the opportunity to be more thankful to God for things ranging from the simplest to the complex.

Sometimes we take the simple things for granted but we need to remember that God has been good to us in a number of ways that for the most part we have failed to appreciate. One of the ways we express gratitude to God is through praise and worship. Praise is a form of gratitude that is expressive and unmistakably intentional. Praise is something we do in the church and outside of the church, but especially in the church. If we were grateful to God for everything God has provided for us, then this church would be “jumpin” every Sunday morning.

I am grateful for Wesley United Methodist Church. I am grateful for the all of the challenges that we are confronted with because adversity doesn't build character it reveals character. We have some 'sho-nuff' character at our church. We are strong saints. We are mature saints. We understand that the church's mission is to be witnesses for Jesus everywhere and to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. I am grateful because I know that if God be for us who can be against us? I am grateful because I know “that all things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose.” I am grateful because “we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.” I have learned to be grateful for everything God has placed in my pathway because it all has helped me become the man of God I am today. The same applies to you also. You would not be who you are today if God had not allowed you to experience some good, some bad, and some ugly. Be grateful for what God is doing in your life. Whatever God is doing in your life, it is for your own good.

Your gratitude plays out in how you live your life also. A grateful person uses whatever God has given him or her and maximizes those talents for the glory of God. Grateful people are full of great potential and possibility. Grateful people can see possibilities in people, places and things that ungrateful people can't see. Grateful people can look at a glass and see it as half-full while ungrateful people can look at the same glass and see it as half-empty. Viewing life through the lens of gratitude allows us to live strong and accomplish great things for the glory of God. A healthy attitude empowered by gratitude can lift us to the altitude we want to get to.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR NOVEMBER: "Give Thanks in Everything"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: WHITE

Scripture for the month:

"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 NLT

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture

Philippians 4:6-13

see video, or page 4

Psalms of Praise

Psalms 99

see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

"Being Grateful Even When Things Are Not Great"

Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Morning Worship (11/15/20)	89 (views)
Worship Call "	32 (callers)
Sunday School "	13 (callers)
Prayer Group	6 (callers)
Bible Study (AM: 7 PM: 7)	14 (views/calls)
TOTAL	154

Morning Scripture

Philippians 4:6-13 (NKJV)

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

⁷ ***and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.***

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

⁹ ***The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.***

¹⁰ But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity.

¹¹ ***Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:***

¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

¹³ ***I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.***

Join the Black Methodists for Church Renewal
for their **Annual Meeting and Founder's Day Celebration**
Saturday, December 12, 2020

9:30 am

Wesley's own **Troy Hodge** will be honored for his outstanding service to Wesley, especially during the current COVID crisis!



BLACK
METHODISTS
FOR CHURCH
RENEWAL

BMCR *Our Time Under God Is Now!*

 **Black History Month** 
Book Discussion

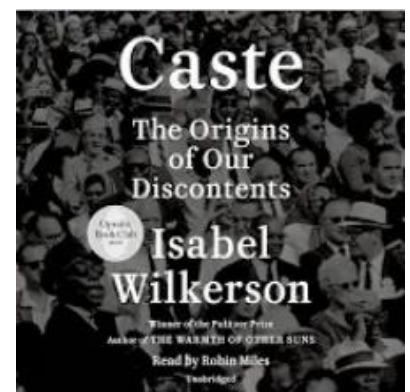
Join us in February for a Black History Month book discussion reviewing the new Isabel Wilkerson book,

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents

Pick up the book now and be ready to join the discussion!

More details will be shared soon. Facilitator: Stephanie Jackson-Williams.

Click here for the New York Times [book review](#).



Psalm of Praise

Psalm 99

(R) Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory over all the earth be found.

¹ The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!
The LORD sits enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth quake!

² **The LORD is great in Zion,
and is exalted over all the peoples.**

³ Let them praise your great and wondrous name!
Holy is the LORD!

⁴ Mighty Ruler, lover of justice,
you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵ Extol the LORD our God.
Worship at the LORD's footstool!
Holy is the LORD!

(R) Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory over all the earth be found.

⁶ Moses and Aaron were among God's priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on God's name.
They cried to the LORD, who answered them,

⁷ ***who spoke to them in the pillar of cloud.***
They kept God's testimonies, and the statutes God gave them.

⁸ ***O LORD, our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.***

⁹ Extol the LORD our God,
and worship at his holy mountain.
Surely the LORD our God is holy!

(R) Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory over all the earth be found.

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 DEDICATED 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.
- **Gillespie Elementary School Mentorship Program** Wesley has established a partnership with Gillespie Elementary School to mentor and tutor students. Program details are still being defined. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Pastor Woolery.
- **Chicago BMCR Celebrate 52nd Annual Meeting and Founder's Day - Saturday, December 12, 2020, 9:30 am–11:30 am**, the Chicago BMCR will meet via Zoom to recognize LIFE members, and will celebrate local church laity who have offered outstanding service during the COVID crisis, including Wesley's own **Troy Hodge!** Additional details will be available shortly.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Isis Gainey	November 1 st	Heustis Williams	November 17 th
Billie Longmire	November 1 st	Donya Lomax	November 19 th
Eric Geraldts	November 4 th	Daphne Hickman	November 20 th
Lucinda Kemp	November 4 th	Kimberly Plaxico	November 20 th
Gail Sampson	November 4 th	Tenola Plaxico	November 22 nd
Devion Hayes	November 5 th	Kai Gilmore	November 24 th
DeMarlo Dulaney	November 6 th	Saralyn Hicks	November 24 th
Maia Stinson	November 8 th	LaTasha Finley	November 25 th
Raynard Gainey	November 10 th	Deborah Lomax	November 25 th
Mary Moss	November 12 th	Niaundra Moss	November 26 th
Clarence Rogers, III	November 13 th	Margarette Williams	November 27 th
Tempest Kidd	November 17 th	Dortha Willis	November 27 th
Marielle Ndam	November 17 th	Denise Lewis-Richardson	November 30 th

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)
*Lucile Sanders (16)	*Doris Anderson (1)
*Clarence Sanders (16)	*Spencer Plaxico (17)
*Barbara Shepherd (18)	*Jessie Stokes (19)
*Eric Geraldts (3)	*Helen Tuck (7)
*Fred Williams (20)	

GENERAL		
*Callie Dulaney & Family (12)	*Daphne Hicks and Family (10)	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 (7 1 12)	Gregory Simms	Tammy Pompeo
*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	Justin York
*Ena Davis (1)	Rochelle Johnson	Russell York
*Gwendolyn Watkins (7)	The Ford & Robinson Families	Percy & Essie Hayes
*Doris Thompson (19)	Mila Kuntu	Mildred Forest
*Helen York and Family (5)	Ron Birton	Takia Yearby
*Dawn Funches-Fox and Family (10)	Aiden Combs	The Anderson Family
*Chester Plaxico (17)	Mae Gilliams Fizer & Family	The Marshall Family
*Julia Porter (5)	Rashaud Thompson	Archie Weddington
*Barbara Sanders (3)	Leslie Carey Kirk	
*The Family of Lucious Smith (12)	Douglas Hargray	
*The Family of Heustis Williams (1)		
*The Family of Sandra Lewis (16)		

SUNDAY MORNING

HEALTH CORNER



HPV and Cervical Cancer

More than 2,000 Black women are diagnosed with cervical cancer every year. Black women are also nearly 2 times as likely to die from cervical cancer as white women. Yet, cervical cancer can actually be prevented through vaccination and routine screening!

All women are at risk for cervical cancer. Having a long-lasting infection with certain types of the human papillomavirus, also known as HPV, is the main cause of cervical cancer. It is estimated that at least half of sexually active persons will have HPV at some point in their lives, but only few women will get cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer is highly preventable in most Western countries because screening tests and a vaccine to prevent HPV infections are available. When cervical cancer is found early, it is highly treatable and associated with long survival and good quality of life.



When to Get Screened

If You Are 21 to 29 Years Old

You should start getting Pap tests at age 21. If your Pap test result is normal, your doctor may tell you that you can wait three years until your next Pap test.

If You Are 30 to 65 Years Old

Talk to your doctor about which testing option is right for you—

- **A Pap test only.** If your result is normal, your doctor may tell you that you can wait three years until your next Pap test.
- **An HPV test only.** This is called primary HPV testing. If your result is normal, your doctor may tell you that you can wait five years until your next screening test.
- **An HPV test along with the Pap test.** This is called co-testing. If both of your results are normal, your doctor may tell you that you can wait five years until your next screening test.

Get Educated | Get Screened | Get Vaccinated

www.balmingilead.org

620 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 150
Midlothian, VA 23236
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THE BALM INC.
IN THE GILEAD
INC.

Please **NOTIFY** the church office of ALL meetings or events scheduled in the church buildings **or on ZOOM**.

NOVEMBER 2020

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500# All Saints Day	2	3	4 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	5 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	6	7 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am
8 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#	9	10	11 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	12 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	13	14 UMW Meeting via Zoom Conference 10 am
15 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#	16 Finance Meeting 6:30 pm	17 Outreach Meeting 6 pm	18 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	19 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	20	21 Calendar Planning Meeting
22 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#	23	24	25 No Remote Bible Study (holiday break) ----- Church Council Mtg 6 pm	26 Happy Thanksgiving! ----- Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	27	28 Board of Trustees Mtg 9 am (via Zoom)
29* 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#	30	1 Today is #GIVINGTUESDAY	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

***Sunday, November 29th is United Methodist Student Day!**

Social Commentary

Time for the GOP to Tell Trump It's Over

By Mary Mitchell



In a democracy, citizens don't literally run the rascals out. They hold elections. Then, the loser packs up and moves out of the White House, and the winner cleans up any messes the previous administration leaves behind. And while there is the occasional mishap, like the hanging chads in the George W. Bush vs. Al Gore presidential election, for the most part the system has worked. Are there hard feelings? Of course. Some people still insist Bush stole the election and to this day refuse to recognize him as the 43rd president of the United States. But President Donald Trump, with the aid of his lackeys, is taking the role of sore loser to a new level. In blocking government officials from cooperating with President-elect Joe Biden's transition, Trump basically is giving the middle finger to the entire nation.

After enduring four years of behavior unbecoming for a president, nothing Trump does surprises me. If you could count on Trump for anything, it was to behave in a manner that most decent people find offensive. But why are top-ranking Republicans helping him hang on now to false hope? That Trump still hasn't formally conceded — the first step toward healing the nation after a hard-fought campaign — should be an embarrassment to the party. Instead of Republicans breathing a sigh of relief that the madness finally is over, they are hanging onto Trump's coattails. Sad. It reminds me of the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale "The Emperor's New Clothes." You know the story. Two con artists, posing as weavers, manage to convince a pompous emperor that the outfit they've made for him is so special that only the "great and good" in society could see it. So while all of the emperor's attendants and subjects let him parade around naked, pretending to see what wasn't there, a young child shouted out the truth: "He hasn't got anything on."

In "The Emperor's New Clothes: A Lesson for the 21st Century," author Greensleeves Hubs writes: "The Emperor's self-importance is boosted by having a whole bunch of obsequious 'yes men' around him. None of these 'yes men' is prepared to question his judgment and none of them is prepared to say or do anything which might damage their standing in their ruler's eyes." I don't have to tell you who the emperor is in the present situation. The GOP leadership has sacrificed the very soul of the party to cater to Trump. And, now, with the numbers of COVID-19 infections skyrocketing, Trump has been out playing golf. I used to think that the folks who worry that our democracy is in peril were over-reacting. But every day that Trump continues to spread rumors about voter fraud and to disrupt the transfer of power brings us closer to widespread unrest. We can't ignore that there are a lot of gullible and extremist Trump supporters that believe every lie that comes out of his mouth. His refusal to admit defeat and graciously go away isn't just ugly. It could become a national security threat.

Little Known Black History Fact

Ruth Simmons



Ruth Simmons has achieved a series of historic firsts. At a point in life where most are retired or soon will be, the longtime educator and academic is still going. Simmons is currently the eighth president of Prairie View A&M University, coming out of retirement to become the first woman to lead the institution.

Simmons was born July 3, 1945 in Grapeland, Texas as the youngest of 12 siblings. Her parents were sharecroppers who relocated to Houston. She entered and graduated from Dillard University in 1967, then earned a master's and Ph.D. in Romantic Literature from Harvard University in 1970 and 1973 respectively.

A series of academic positions with schools such as the University of New Orleans, California State University-Northside, University of Southern California, and Princeton University followed. She also served as provost of Spelman College.

In 1995, Simmons marked her first big achievement by becoming president of Smith College making her the first Black woman to lead a major college or university. She then joined Brown University in 2001, becoming the first Black president of an Ivy League institution and brought sweeping changes to the school.

At the urging of her brother Clarence, a former student and athlete at Prairie View, Simmons took on an interim presidential position with the school and decided to stay. Part of her reasoning is that many Prairie View students are poor and lack proper guidance and an example such as herself. Further, the school has issues graduating students due to the financial woes of the student body which Simmons hopes to address and correct.

Wesley United Methodist Church

201 East 95th Street

Chicago, IL 60619

Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr., Pastor

SAVE these Conference Call Numbers

Sunday 10:30 am - LIVE Service

1.425.436.6348

Thursday 11 am - Prayer Call

Code: 672500#

Wednesday 11 am - Bible Study:

1.312.626.6799

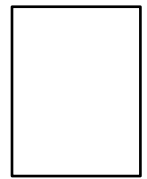
ID/code: 295 101 7709#

Passcode: 461427#

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 November 22nd – November 28th

November 22

Ezekiel 44:1-45:12

1 Peter 1:1-12

Psalms 119:17-32

Proverbs 28:8-10

November 23

Ezekiel 45:13-46:24

1 Peter 1:13-2:10

Psalms 119:33-48

Proverbs 28:11

November 24

Ezekiel 47:1-48:35

1 Peter 2:11-3:7

Psalms 119:49-64

Proverbs 28:12-13

2020 Vision:

"The Year of the Child"

(Matthew 19:14)

November 28

Daniel 5:1-31

2 Peter 2:1-22

Psalms 119:113-128

Proverbs 28:19-20

November 25

Daniel 1:1-2:23

1 Peter 3:8-4:6

Psalms 119:65-80

Proverbs 28:14

Happy Thanksgiving Day

Daniel 2:24-3:30

1 Peter 4:7-5:14

Psalms 119:81-96

Proverbs 28:15-16

November 27

Daniel 4:1-37

2 Peter 1:1-21

Psalms 119:97-112

Proverbs 28:17-18