

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

December 6, 2020



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Bishop Sally Dyck

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“Giving It All You’ve Got!”

“For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.” (Mark 12:44)

Greetings, family, in the name of Jesus the Christ! Excuses are tools of incompetence used to build monuments of nothingness and those who specialize in them, seldom accomplish anything at all. When was the last time you gave maximum effort while doing something? When was the last time you worked your tail off in order to accomplish something? When was the last time you worked yourself to exhaustion in order to reach your goals? Well, if it has been a long time since you gave maximum effort for anything, the church will provide you with plenty of opportunities to do so.

Our walk with God demands that we give our best in all that we do in order to make disciples of Jesus and to make the kingdom of God a reality in our midst. In our text for today, Jesus sits down opposite the treasury and watches people put their tithes and offerings into the treasury. He notices that many rich persons are putting in large sums of money. But then a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins which were worth a penny. Jesus told his disciples that the poor widow had put in more than everyone else who had put money into the treasury. The others, he explained, contributed out of their abundance, while the widow had put in everything she had. The disciples knew that the woman did not literally put in more than the rich folk put in but it was profound for Jesus to point out the actions of the widow. What was he getting at? What was he trying to say? What message was he attempting to convey to his disciples?

First, Jesus appreciated the attitude of the widow. Her gift was the smallest but her generosity was the largest. She was only satisfied with giving all that she had. Even though she had very little, she decided to give it all rather than not give anything at all, or to give just a portion. Her attitude was if I am going to give something, it will be all that I have. She had a choice. She could have said, “I don’t have a lot of money. This is all I have. I am going to wait until I have more money.” But instead she sacrificed all that she had for her faith community. Her attitude is needed by many today.

Secondly, Jesus honored her because she held nothing back. What the widow had she gave. There was no keeping back anything for herself or for someone else. She was committed to giving all that she had to the Temple and not holding anything back. True stewardship is giving the Lord all that you have, all that you are, and getting the job done no matter what. The problem for many of us is that we hold back from God. We don’t give our all or our best. That is what needs to happen here at Wesley UMC—people putting forth maximum effort.

Therefore, let’s give it all we’ve got to make Wesley a flagship church! The widow specialized in sacrificial giving. That is what we have to specialize in because that is what Jesus specialized in. He held nothing back not even his life. Our job is to give whatever is necessary to make this church live, whether it is money, time, ideas, the work of your hands, prayers, ingenuity, and creativity. What and how much should we give? The answer is, “Whatever it takes!”

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR DECEMBER: "God is With Us"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: WHITE

Scripture for the month: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." *Matt 1:23 NKJV*

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture Mark 1:1-8 see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise Psalm 85 see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon *"Become the Change You Want to See"* Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Holy Communion A Service of Word and Table, II see video, or hymnal (page 12)

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Morning Worship (11/29/20)	212 (views)
Worship Call "	25 (callers)
Sunday School "	13 (callers)
Prayer Group	5 (callers)
Bible Study AM:10 PM:7	17 (views/calls)
TOTAL	272

Morning Scripture

Mark 1:1-8 (NKJV)

¹ The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

² ***As it is written in the Prophets: “Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.”***

³ “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.’ ”

⁴ ***John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.***

⁵ Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

⁶ ***Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.***

⁷ And he preached, saying, “There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose.

⁸ ***I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”***

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 History Month Book Discussion

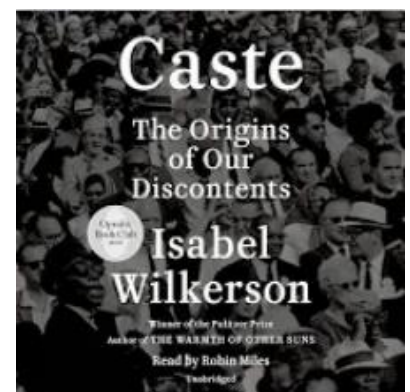
Join us in February for a Black History Month book discussion reviewing the new Isabel Wilkerson book,

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 85

(R) The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

¹ LORD, you showed favor to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² ***You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin.***

³ You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

⁴ ***Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us!***

⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

⁶ Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?

⁷ ***Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.***

(R) The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

⁸ Let me hear what God will speak,
for the LORD will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to the LORD in their hearts.

⁹ ***Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear the LORD,
that glory may dwell in our land.***

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

¹¹ ***Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.***

¹² The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ ***Righteousness will go before the LORD,
and make God's footsteps a way.***

(R) The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

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, including Zoom connection information, will be available to share shortly.
- The **Outreach Ministry** is planning to **pass out 300 "care bags"** to our neighbors on Saturday, December 12, 2020, at 12 noon. We are looking for at least 20 volunteers to help us to do this. If you are interested, please call the church office at 773-821-6240.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nia Woolery	December 4 th	Evalena Davis	December 16 th
Kenya Barker-Gainey	December 9 th	Carnice Carey	December 17 th
Craig Hudson	December 12 th	Ena Davis	December 19 th
Connie Fogg	December 12 th	Taylor Helm	December 23 rd
Philicia Parker	December 12 th	Tony Howard, Sr.	December 29 th
Thomas Marks	December 13 th	Sterling Plaxico	December 31 st

Happy Birthday to all Wesley members with birthdays in **December!**

PRAYER LIST

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

(* = Church member, followed by Class Number)

<u>SHUT-IN</u>	
*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 Gerald (3)	*Helen Tuck (7)
*Fred Williams (20)	

<u>GENERAL</u>		
*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
*Barbara Sanders (3)	Rashaud Thompson	The Weddington Family
*The Porter Family (5)	Leslie Carey Kirk	
*The Family of Lucious Smith (12)	Douglas Hargray	
*The Family of Heustis Williams (1)		
*The Family of Sandra Lewis (16)		

Continue to pray for those in the valley of Bereavement: Mr. Gilmore's nephew, **Mr. Archie Weddington**, passed away Monday. Pray for the Gilmores as well as others struggling with grief this holiday season.

SUNDAY MORNING HEALTH CORNER

Respiratory Healthcare

Respiratory healthcare is a discipline that specializes in the promotion of respiratory function, health, and wellness. African Americans suffer from many major respiratory illnesses such as lung cancer, asthma, sleep apnea, and pneumonia. Health disparities such as pollution, lack of healthcare access, and low socioeconomic status all play a role that creates an atmosphere in which African Americans are more susceptible to respiratory illnesses.

African American Respiratory Statistics

- African Americans are 3x more likely to die from asthma than other racial groups.
- Black men are 50% more likely to suffer from lung cancer.
- African Americans are also ½ as likely to receive a flu or pneumonia vaccination.
- African American children are 3x as likely to suffer from sleep apnea.

Be Proactive

- Avoid indoor and outdoor air pollution.
- Avoid exposure to people who have the flu or other viral infections.
- Exercise regularly.
- Eat a healthy, balanced diet.
- Maintain a healthy weight.
- See your doctor for an annual physical.



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www.balmingilead.org
620 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 150
Richmond, VA 23236

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

DECEMBER 2020

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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
6 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# ----- 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) 10 am Outreach Ministry Care
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 Church Council Mtg 7 pm (via Zoom)	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
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 Merry Christmas!	26 Board of Trustees Mtg 9 am (via Zoom)
27 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#	28	29	30 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	31 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	1 Happy New Year!	2 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am

Social Commentary

Georgia Voters Will Decide Fate of Senate and a New South

by Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.



On Jan. 5, Georgia voters will decide the runoff for their two U.S. Senate seats. Their votes will determine whether Republicans retain control of the Senate or whether Democrats gain a 50-50 tie, with Vice President Kamala Harris the tie-breaking vote. The race is a microcosm of America's struggle to find a way forward and of Georgia and the South's struggle to build a new South. The two Democratic challengers reflect the new age still waiting to be born. Rev. Raphael Warnock, senior pastor at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church, the congregation led by the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., is a distinguished heir to the King tradition. Thirty-three-year-old Jon Ossoff, educated at Georgetown and the London School of Economics, was born and raised in Atlanta, interned for the late Rep. John Lewis and served as a national security staffer to Rep. Hank Johnson. He has been CEO of Insight TWI, a London based documentary maker that focuses on detailing corruption in foreign countries.

Both Rev. Warnock and Ossoff have put forth a moderate platform for change. Both support immediate action to forestall an economic collapse as the pandemic spikes. With Republicans blocking action in the Senate, millions now face an end to unemployment insurance, an end to the eviction moratorium — with one-third of households behind on their rent or mortgages — and an end to the student debt moratorium, with millions of young people still struggling to find jobs. Without assistance, states and localities will be forced to cut services and lay off employees like teachers and firefighters. Both Warnock and Ossoff support strengthening the Affordable Care Act by adding a public option and reducing prescription drug prices but oppose Medicare for All. Both call for bold action to deal with the reality of catastrophic climate change but oppose the Green New Deal. Both are for lifting the minimum wage, and for assistance to small businesses.

Their Republican opponents are the sitting senators — Kelly Loeffler and David Perdue. Both Loeffler and Perdue are multimillionaires. Both were charged with insider trading, selling stocks after receiving private briefings on the threat posed by the pandemic. Both dubiously claimed that their advisers made the trades without their knowledge. Both tout themselves as Donald Trump supporters. Neither Loeffler nor Perdue have a clue or a care for working for poor people in Georgia. So how do they hope to get elected? Both have adopted the same strategy: echo Donald Trump's divisive race-based populism and

benefit from systematic suppression of the vote. They've booked nearly \$200 million in vicious attack ads against their opponents, painting them as a threat to all things American. Neither America nor Georgia can move forward until the growing majority that is desperate for change overcomes the systematic efforts to divide and suppress. This country cannot begin to address the threats it faces - the pandemic, the economic collapse, corrosive and extreme inequality, catastrophic climate change, racial inequity, growing insecurity and a declining middle class - until those standing in the way are defeated.

Little Known Black History Fact

Bishop Leontine Kelly



Leontine Turpeau Current Kelly was a bishop of the United Methodist Church, making history on this day in 1984. She became the first African-American woman, and just the second woman overall, to be ordained by a major Christian denomination.

Leontine Turpeau was born on March 5, 1920 in Washington, D.C. Her father, David Turpeau Sr., was a prominent Methodist minister and Ohio congressman for many years. Ms. Turpeau completed her undergraduate studies at Virginia Union 1960 and studied at various institutions before earning her master of divinity degree from the Union Theological Seminary in 1976.

Kelly's first marriage was to the late Gloster Current, a minister and former deputy executive director of the NAACP. The pair had three children together. In 1956, she married Rev. David Kelly. Kelly was a Certified Lay Speaker in the church in the late '60's and was later ordained a deacon and elder. Kelly's first calling was the classroom and her call to the ministry came after the death of her second husband.

According to reports, the school district wanted Kelly to enter the ministry in her late husband's stead, but she initially resisted as she didn't get the call from God to do so. In her words, God eventually did call her to ministry where she rose to become one of the more visible members of her denomination, becoming an icon for international women's rights and job equity for all. Kelly was later inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.

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

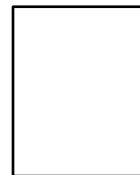
ID/code: 295 101 7709#

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 December 6th – December 12th

December 6

Hosea 4:1-5:15

2 John 1:1-13

Psalms 125:1-5

Proverbs 29:9-11

December 7

Hosea 6:1-9:17

3 John 1:1-14

Psalms 126:1-6

Proverbs 29:12-14

December 8

Hosea 10:1-14:9

Jude 1:1-25

Psalms 127:1-5

Proverbs 29:15-17

2020 Vision:

"The Year of the Child"

(Matthew 19:14)

December 12

Amos 7:1-9:15

Revelation 3:7-22

Psalms 131:1-3

Proverbs 29:23

December 9

Joel 1:1-3:21

Revelation 1:1-20

Psalms 128:1-6

Proverbs 29:18

December 10

Amos 1:1-3:15

Revelation 2:1-17

Psalms 129:1-8

Proverbs 29:19-20

December 11

Amos 4:1-6:14

Revelation 2:18-3:6

Psalms 130:1-8

Proverbs 29:21-22