

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

January 17, 2021



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Chicago, Illinois 60619**

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Bishop John Hopkins (interim)

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“Thaw Out the King”

Today we celebrate another Human Relations Day and tomorrow we officially celebrate the national holiday that commemorates the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Every year the media rolls out the Dr. King that's been frozen in the 1963 “I Have a Dream” speech time capsule. The only thing emphasized by the mainstream propaganda machine is that Dr. King had a dream of integration and an inclusive community. Which is not a bad dream. However, he lived for another five years and in those five years his social critique of American society changed just a little bit. And I'm being facetious.

As long as Dr. King stayed in his “preacher's place” and talked about the evils of de jure and de facto segregation, racism, voting rights, etc., he was a tolerated agitator. But...when he began to see that the elephant in the room that was causing the oppression of the American rainbow coalition of poor people was economics rather than skin color, he became a threat. To be more specific, when the good reverend King began planning a Poor People's March, and began crisscrossing between the North and South calling for a redistribution of wealth; eradicating hunger; proposing equal educational opportunities; and exposing the evils of militarism, racism, and poverty, he became a serious threat.

He believed that this country was so rich that every child could eat three square meals a day and attend the best schools. Not just some kids but every kid. Revolutionary, huh? If they want to emphasize Dr. King's dreaming ability. They need to mention this dream: “King wanted to bring poor people to Washington D.C., forcing politicians to see them and think about their needs: “We ought to come in mule carts, in old trucks, any kind of transportation people can get their hands on. People ought to come to Washington, sit down if necessary in the middle of the street and say, 'We are here; we are poor; we don't have any money; you have made us this way...and we've come to stay until you do something about it.” (Wikipedia)

By 1968, the Reverend Dr. King was considered a relic of the past by the emerging Black Power movement. Yet he was still relevant and now an even bigger threat to the empire. And on April 4, 1968, the conspirators pushed the martyr button on Dr. King, just weeks before the scheduled Poor People's March on Washington, D.C.

On his holiday, the radical economic policies of his beloved community theology are rarely mentioned. All we hear is “I Have a Dream” snippets; sit next to the mayor at the Rev. Dr. King Biscuits and Blessings Annual Breakfast; and sing We Shall Overcome in our ‘Negro’ churches.
Wake up!

HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR JANUARY: "A New You for the New Year"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: GREEN

Scripture for the month: "For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland." Isaiah 43:19 (New Living Translation)

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture Romans 8:28-37 see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise Psalm 139: 1-12 see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering *Special offering* Human Relations Day

Pastoral Prayer

Today's Message *"It's All Good"* Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Morning Worship (01/10/21)	86 (views)
Worship Call "	29 (callers)
Sunday School "	15 (callers)
Prayer Group	6 (callers)
Bible Study (AM only)	10 (views/calls)
Church Council Meeting	10 (views/calls)
TOTAL	156

Morning Scripture

Romans 8:28-37 (NKJV)

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

²⁹ ***For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.***

³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

³¹ ***What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?***

³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

³³ ***Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.***

³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

³⁵ ***Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?***

³⁶ As it is written:

“For Your sake we are killed all day long;
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”

³⁷ ***Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.***

Black History Month Book Discussion

Join us at **11 am, February 20th** for a Black History Month book discussion reviewing the new Isabel Wilkerson book,

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents

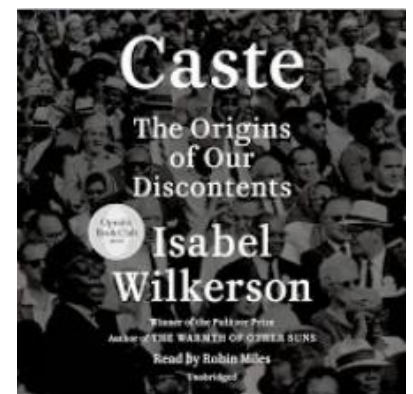
Purchase the book now and be ready to join the discussion!

Click [here](#) to purchase (Amazon.com).

Facilitator: Stephanie Jackson-Williams

A **limited supply of books** will be available to those who wish to participate but are unable to purchase. Please contact Stephanie for details.

skjackwill@gmail.com | 312-961-8909



Click image above for NY Times book review.

As you read, [here](#) to listen to a podcast of the author, moderated by Oprah Winfrey.

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 139:1-12

(R) Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts.

¹ O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

² ***You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.***

³ You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ ***Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD,
you know it altogether.***

⁵ You pursue me behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ ***Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high, I cannot attain it.***

(R) Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts.

⁷ Whither shall I go from your spirit?
Or whither shall I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

⁹ ***If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,***

¹⁰ ***even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.***

¹¹ If I say, "let only darkness cover me,
and the light about me be night,"

¹² ***even the darkness is not dark to you,
the night is bright as the day;
for darkness is as light with you.***

(R) Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts.

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.
- **Black History Month Book Discussion** Join us on **February 20, 2021, 11 am**, 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! Facilitator: Stephanie Jackson-Williams. A limited supply of books will be available for those who wish to participate but are unable to purchase them. Contact Stephanie for details: skjackwill@gmail.com | 312.961.8909.
- **End-of-Year Contribution Statements** Despite the impact of the Coronavirus, the Committee on Finance is committed to delivering your contribution statements in a timely manner. Because we are still not able to gather together, your 2020 annual contribution statements will be delivered via email. Please **verify** with the church office, **by January 15, 2021**, that your correct email address is on file. For those members who do not use email or prefer to receive a paper copy, your statements will be mailed to you.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lillye Hart	January 1 st	Helen York	January 11 th	Charles Woolery, Jr.	January 20 th
Callie Dulaney	January 3 rd	Tiffany Walton	January 13 th	Khayri Moss	January 21 st
Verner Geddes	January 4 th	Minnie Grady	January 17 th	Teddy Mott	January 21 st
Clarence Jones	January 4 th	Summer Rainey	January 17 th	Darlene Clark	January 23 rd
Sydney Jackson	January 5 th	Lucinda Franklin	January 18 th	Eddie Lee Hawkins	January 24 th
Frank Readus	January 6 th	Essie Judon	January 19 th	Daphne Sam	January 24 th
Darlene Ruffin	January 6 th	Donna Lomax	January 19 th	Dylan Julun	January 29 th
Tristen Newman	January 8 th	Edith Belisle	January 20 th	Rhonda Smith-Leach	January 29 th
Lisa Jones	January 11 th	Dixie Taylor	January 20 th	Megan Myrie	January 30 th
		Henry Stephen	January 20 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 Gerald (3)	*Helen Tuck (7)
*Fred Williams (20)	

GENERAL		
*Callie Dulaney & Family (12)	*Daphne Hicks and Family (10)	Katherine Thompson
*LaRue Grizzard (4)	*Laniya Bradley & Family (7)	Shatarah Ridley
*Y. Shorter-Darden & Family (4)	*John Sanders (3)	David Williams
*Gloria Banks (20)	Nannie Agnew	Owen McPherson
*Doris Echols (16)	Byron Agnew, Jr.	Gregory McPherson
*Mary Alice Lovely & Family (19)	Sam Agnew	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 & Dwight Thompson & Fam. (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	James Williams
*The Family of Lucious Smith (12)	Douglas Hargray	Juanita Weatherspoon
*The Family of Heustis Williams (1)	Annie Lois Robinson	Robert Leach
*The Family of Sandra Lewis (16)		

Continue to pray for those in the valley of bereavement: Doris Thompson lost her mother, and Laniya Bradley lost an aunt. Pray for the Thompsons, the Bradleys, and others struggling with grief this holiday season.

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

JANUARY 2021

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>27</p> <p>9 am</p> <p>Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259#</p> <p>Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	28	<p>29</p> <p>Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)</p>	30	<p>31</p> <p>Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	1	<p>2</p> <p>UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am ----- Communion Element Pick-up 11 am – 1 pm (parking lot)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Happy New Year!</p>
<p>3</p> <p>9 am</p> <p>Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259#</p> <p>Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	4	5	<p>6</p> <p>Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	8	<p>9</p> <p>UMW Meeting (via Zoom) 10 am</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9 am</p> <p>Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259#</p> <p>Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	11	<p>12</p> <p>Church Council Mtg 6 pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	15	<p>16</p> <p>Tomorrow is Human Relations Sunday (Please give generously)</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9 am</p> <p>Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259#</p> <p>Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	18	19	<p>20</p> <p>Remote Bible Study 10 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	22	<p>23</p> <p>Board of Trustees Mtg 9 am (via Zoom)</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9 am</p> <p>Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259#</p> <p>Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	25	26	<p>27</p> <p>Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#</p>	29	<p>30</p> <p>UMW Leader Training Session 10 am</p> <p>Tomorrow is Youth Sunday!</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Youth Sunday!</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6

SUNDAY MORNING HEALTH CORNER

The Importance of Caregivers

Caregivers play an essential role in the lives of our loved ones. They help relieve burdens and provide support to individuals in need of help. However, sometimes caregiving comes unexpectedly.

African Americans are twice as likely to have some form of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, which means a disproportionate number of African Americans need caregivers. There is also a need for more cultural competence of healthcare professionals to provide care and support services to African Americans diagnosed with cognitive health illnesses and their caregivers. Unfortunately, there is also a lack of awareness about available services and support for both the caregiver and their loved one.

Be Proactive

- ♥ **Set Reminders.** Helping your loved one keep their medical appointment and take their medication can help them stay on track with their health progression.
- ♥ **Staying Organized.** Create a schedule that helps optimize the time that your loved one needs while assisting them in managing finances and medical bills.
- ♥ **Quality Time.** Spending time with your loved one, doing things that they enjoy, such as reading their favorite book, or watching their favorite movie, can help provide comfort through the process.
- ♥ **Be Patient.** Being reasonable and understanding with your loved one during this time is vital as they learn to cope with emotions and other bodily functions.



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Social Commentary

As ‘Father Mike’ Faces an Abuse Allegation, Supporters Rally to Defend Famed Priest

by Mary Mitchell



Forty years is a lifetime. I look back at where I was 40 years ago, and, while I marvel at how far I have come, I cringe when I consider where I have come from. These are the thoughts that crossed my mind when I learned the Chicago Archdiocese announced there would be an investigation of an allegation that accused the Rev. Michael Pfleger of sexually abusing a minor four decades ago. It was a gut punch. Father Mike? How is that even possible? The activist priest is as famous as a rock star. His civil rights activism includes turning St. Sabina Roman Catholic Church into a sanctuary for Black Roman Catholics and residents of Auburn-Gresham.

We’ve had our differences, but Pfleger has stood with the Black community through thick and thin. It is unfathomable to many that he could ever be accused of harming a minor. This accusation is a test not only for Pfleger but also for the Catholic church. “I am devastated, hurt and, yes, angry,” Pfleger said in a Facebook post. “Please keep me in prayer and the Faith Community of St. Sabina. I have been asked by the diocese not to speak out at this time. I am blessed with good leadership and amazing members, whom I love. Pray also for the person, my life is more than a 40-year-old accusation, and on that and my Faith I will stand . . . The Lord is my Shepherd . . . I love you.”

The archdiocese is investigating and says that it has reported the allegation to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and the Cook County state’s attorney’s office.

Friend and confidant Haki Madhubuti, founder of Third World Press, doesn’t believe the allegation will tarnish Pfleger’s legacy. “First, it is almost impossible to investigate something that old, but I’ve known Michael Pfleger for over 30 years,” Madhubuti said. “He has been a part of the fight for liberation and education in Chicago. I don’t know who is making these charges, but that must not be allowed to destroy Pfleger’s name, his legacy, his commitment and his deep love for Black people. There will be no shortage of prayers for Pfleger as he goes through this trial.”

Little Known Black History Fact

The Real Story Behind the “Green Book” Movie

by D.L. Chandler



On September 29th, 1910, The Committee on Urban Conditions Among Negroes was formed. It was created in response to the great migration of African-Americans from the South to the North in the wake of the “Plessy V. Ferguson” U.S. Supreme Court decision that legally validated the concept of “separate but equal.”

Eventually, the New York-based organization merged with the Committee for the Improvement of Industrial Conditions Among Negroes in New York, and the National League for the Protection of Colored Women, becoming the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes. In 1920, the name was shortened to its current incarnation, the National Urban League.

Central figures in the founding of the Committee were Mrs. Ruth Standish Baldwin, widow of a railroad magnate and member of a well-known family, and Dr. George E. Haynes, the first Black person to earn a doctorate from Columbia University. Haynes was the Committee’s first executive director. Alpha Man Eugene K. Jones, one of the “seven jewels” of the fraternity, became the NUL’s the first Executive Secretary, leading the organization from 1918 until 1940.

Under the leadership of Whitney Young, the NUL focused mainly on economic opportunities for African-Americans flourishing in that space between 1961 and 1971. Under the direction of its current president **Marc Morial**, who has served since 2003, the NUL’s mission of economic self-reliance and equity for African-Americans remains the priority.

Wesley United Methodist Church

201 East 95th Street

Chicago, IL 60619

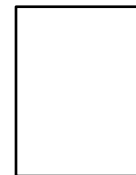
Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr., Pastor

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!



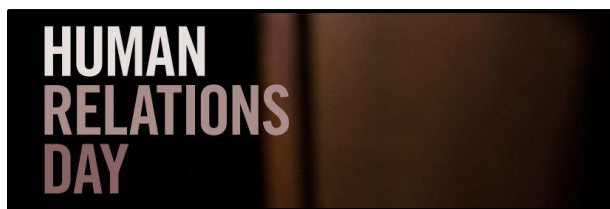
Thank You for Contributing!

This year we celebrated **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 kicked-off our **66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive**, “*Building for the Future,*” early in the year and our members and friends have given, not just in the first six months, as was the original plan for this pledge, but throughout the year. These donations have benefitted the church in a multitude of ways.

Wesley is blessed to have such members and supporters among our church family.

May God’s grace and blessings be yours now, and throughout the coming year!



2021 Daily Bible Readings (One Year Bible Reading Plan)

Week of January 17th – January 23rd

January 17

Genesis 35:1-36:43

Matthew 12:1-21

Psalms 15:1-5

Proverbs 3:21-26

January 18

Genesis 37:1-38:30

Matthew 12:22-45

Psalms 16:1-11

Proverbs 3:27-32

January 19

Genesis 39:1-41:16

Matthew 12:46-13:23

Psalms 17:1-15

Proverbs 3:33-35

2021:

***“The Year of
Restoration”***

(1 Peter 5:10)

January 23

Genesis 46:1-47:31

Matthew 15:1-28

Psalms 19:1-14

Proverbs 4:14-19

January 20

Genesis 41:17-42:17

Matthew 13:24-46

Psalms 18:1-15

Proverbs 4:1-6

January 21

Genesis 42:18-43:34

Matthew 13:47-14:12

Psalms 18:16-36

Proverbs 4:7-10

January 22

Genesis 44:1-45:28

Matthew 14:13-36

Psalms 18:37-50

Proverbs 4:11-13