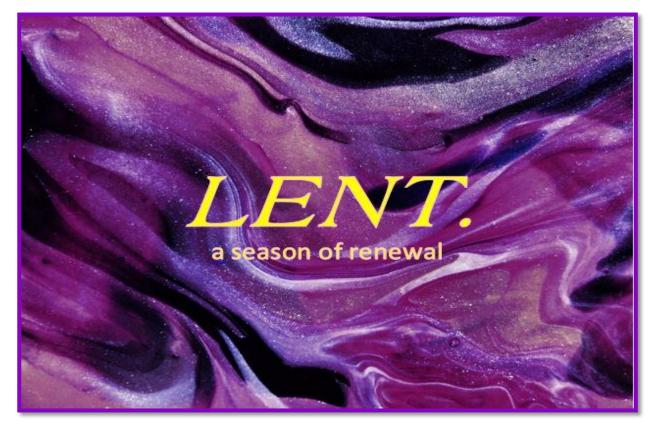


February 21, 2021



Wesley United Methodist Church

201 East 95th Street Chicago, Illinois 60619

Tel: 773.821.6240 Fax: 773.821.4016 GivePlus+ Text: 833.595.0705

Pastor: Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

eMail: wesley_chicago@comcast.net Website: www.wesleyumcchicago.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/wesleyumcchicago Twitter: www.twitter.com/WUMCChicago

Bishop John Hopkins (interim) District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

"A Lent that Makes a Difference"

My friends, the Lenten season is a present reality. Lent is a 40-day season of spiritual preparation intended to remind us of our mortality and our need for repentance in order to celebrate Easter. Lent is a time when we turn the focus away from ourselves and put the focus on God's kingdom. Lent lends itself to be a time where we engage in spiritual disciplines, such as fasting, bible reading, prayer, meditation, and service, that will stretch us, sanctify us, mold us, empower us, strengthen us, and embolden us to face a Good Friday world with an Easter faith.

Lent is an exciting time of spiritual formation for the entire body of Wesley. Let us use this great opportunity to experience a shift at our great church. The 'shift' I dream about for Wesley is that Kairos moment where members develop a 'thirst' for the Word of God and as a result Sunday School and bible study classes are packed out. The shift I dream about is when the Membership Care class leaders meet with their classes once a month for spiritual formation and fellowship. That way we maintain a connection with each other and no one feels that they are forgotten.

The shift I dream about is when we find a Christian Education Director and that person develops a year-long curriculum of spiritual education for all ages in the church. The shift I dream about is when we gather for worship on Sundays and the place is electric with the Holy Spirit. Congregants are worshiping the LORD on purpose with joy, energy, and love. No spectating. No one just sitting there looking. But everyone is engaged in some form of praise and worship. The shift I dream about would shake up the entire church and members would begin to birth new ministries that care for the spiritual, social, educational and economic needs of people. The shift I dream about would reinforce the idea that worship is everything we do for the love of God.

Finally, Lent is a time to get excited about serving God. It is not just about personal development but what we do with that personal development to make a difference in our community. Personal spiritual renewal should eventuate into public space renewal. It is a season for us to get right with God so we can make some things right in the world we live in. Therefore, let's embrace this season like never before and do some great things for the kingdom's sake. Have a great week!

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR FEBRUARY: "We've come this far by faith"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: PURPLE

Scripture for the month: ²³ For the LORD your God dried up the river right before your eyes, and he kept it dry until you were all across, just as he did at the Red Sea when he dried it up until we had all crossed over. ²⁴ He did this so all the nations of the earth might know that the LORD's hand is powerful, and so you might fear the LORD your God forever." Joshua 4:23-24 (NLT)

Call to Worship		
Invocation		
Scripture	Isaiah 58:1-10	see video, or page 4
Psalm of Praise	Psalm 25:1-10	see video, or page 5
Announcements		
Offering		
Pastoral Prayer		
Today's Message	"More Than Chocolate"	Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.
Invitation to Christian Disc	cipleship	
Affirmation of Faith		

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE					
Morning Worship (02/14/21)	84 (views)				
Worship Call "	26 (callers)				
Sunday School "	13 (callers)				
Prayer Group	3 (callers)				
Bible Study (AM: 12)	12 (views/calls)				
UMW Monthly Meeting	12 (views/calls)				
Imposition of Ashes	14				
TOTAL	150				

Morning Scripture Isaiah 58:1-10 (NKJV)

¹ "Cry aloud, spare not; lift up your voice like a trumpet;Tell My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet they seek Me daily, and delight to know My ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and did not forsake the ordinance of their God. They ask of Me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching God.

³ 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and You have not seen? Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?'

"In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, And exploit all your laborers.

⁴ Indeed you fast for strife and debate, and to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is it a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?

⁶ "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'

"If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

¹⁰ If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, Then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday.

Psalm of Praise Psalm 25:1-10

(R) Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, in you I trust, let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

³Let none that wait for you be put to shame; *let them be ashamed who are clothed with treachery.*

> ⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD; *teach me your paths.*

> ⁵ Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

(R) Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.

⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

> ⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore the LORD instructs sinners in the way,

⁹ and leads the humble in what is right, and teaches them their way.

¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep the LORD's covenant and testimonies.

(R) Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.

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.
- All End-of-Year Contribution Statements have been mailed to the member addresses on file.
- We are grateful for all who participated in yesterday's book discussion covering the book *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, by Isabel Wilkerson. A special thanks to Stephanie Jackson-Williams for facilitating the lively discussion. Our next book will be announced in coming weeks.
- The Lenten season has begun. Even though we can't be together for worship, we are a congregational family in spirit. During the lenten season, we usually provide coin gleaners for our members to give a special Easter donation to the church. This year we won't distribute gleaners but we hope you will still remember to give a *special blessing* this Easter Sunday.

Easter gleaners: \$15+ donation

Easter Lilies: \$20 donation

Rori Rogers	February 1 st	Carlton Binion	February 10 th Gloria Lomax		February 16 th
Tina Bailey	February 2 nd	Chester Plaxico February 11 th Dr. Sooniti Weems F		February 19 th	
Janiyah Flakes	February 3 rd	Roosevelt Wiley	February 11 th	Mary Holmes	February 21 st
Frederick Williams	February 4 th	Ciara Curtis	February 12 th	Charles Goodrich	February 26 th
Shirley Adams	February 7 th	Laniya Bradley	February 14 th	Edward W. Davis	February 27 th
David Stinson	February 8 th	Catherine Hudson	February 14 th	Ronetta Graham	February 28 th
Clarence Rogers II	February 9 th	Cheryl Turner	February 15 th	Sierra Rainey	February 28 th

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Be sure to wish our members with February birthdays 'Happy Birthday!'

PRAYER LIST

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

(* = Church member, followed by	Class Number)
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	SHUT-IN				
*Minnie Thompson (20			18)		
*Lucile Sanders (16)	*D	*Doris Anderson (1)			
*Clarence Sanders (16)	*SI	*Spencer Plaxico (17)			
*Barbara Shepherd (18		*Jessie Stokes (19)			
*Eric Geralds (3)	*H	lelen Tuck (7)			
*Fred Williams (20)					
	GENERAL				
*Callie Dulaney & Family (12)	*Daphne Hicks and Family (10)		Katherine Thompson		
*LaRue Grizzard (4)	*Laniya Bradl	*Laniya Bradley & Family (7)		Shatarah Ridley	
*Gloria Banks (20)	Sam Agnew		David Williams		
*Doris Echols (16)	Nannie Agnev	w	Owen McPherson		
*Mary Alice Lovely & Family (19)	Byron Agnew		Gregory	/ McPherson	
*Diamond Jones (12)	Annie Lois Ro		James T		
*Trinity Jones (12)	Jessica Smith		James C		
*Lawrence Moore (13)	Joyce Chisem			er Family	
*Wilena Campbell-Watkins (5)	Carolyn Ranso		Anna Yo		
*Mark Garrett and Family (5)	, Sylvia Nichols		Dorothy Williams		
*The Plaxico Family (17)	Milton Kellum		Lois Tuc		
*Denise Richardson (20)	Rosie Howard		Katherine Evans		
*Clarence Rogers, II & Family (4)	Natesha Smith		Carl Frazier		
*Jessie Gilmore (16)	James Sanders		Robert A. Watkins		
*Maurice & Faye Smith (17)	Joanna Lennhardt		Aaron Thomas, Jr.		
*Theresa Bradshaw (12)	Martha Muhs		Michael Miller		
*The Hudson/Bradshaw Families	Muriel Bolden		Angel Acosta		
(7 1 12)			0 -		
*The Moss Family (13)	Gregory Simms		Tammy Pompeo		
*Darlene Clark and Family (1)	Norbert Sanders		Sharon Cruikshank		
*Lorraine Forbes and Family (3)	Brittany Porter		Vinelle Myrie		
*Charles & B.J. Curtis and Family (3)	Rhonda Monique Miller		Alexandria Ward		
*Betty Jenkins and Family (5)	Ashley Parks		Davion McNeal		
*Dorothy Williamson and Family (10)	Kathy Jenkins		Willie Moore		
*Donna/Deborah Lomax and Family (13)	Rebecca Merkson		Peaches Clark		
*Odis & Lucinda Franklin Family (20)	John Anderson		Larry Clark		
*Ena Davis (1)	Jerry Simmons		Justin York		
*Gwendolyn Watkins (7)	Rochelle Johnson		Russell York		
*Doris & Dwight Thompson & Fam. (19)	The Ford & Robinson Families		Percy & Essie Hayes		
*Helen York and Family (5)	Mila Kuntu		Mildred Forest		
*Dawn Funches-Fox and Family (10)	Ron Birton		Takia Yearby		
*Chester Plaxico (17)	Aiden Combs		The Anderson Family		
*Barbara & John Sanders (3)	Mae Gilliams Fizer & Family		The Marshall Family		
*The Porter Family (5)	Rashaud Thompson		The Weddington Family		
*The Family of Lucious Smith (12)	Leslie Carey Kirk		James Williams		
*The Family of Heustis Williams (1)	Douglas Hargray		Juanita Weatherspoon		
*The Family of Sandra Lewis (16)	Robert Leach			•	
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Please **NOTIFY** the church office of ALL meetings or events scheduled in the

FEBRUARY 2021

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

church buildings or on ZOOM.

S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Youth Sunday! 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#			Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#		UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am UMM Communion Element Pick-up 11 am – 1 pm (parking lot)
7 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#	8	9	10 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	11 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	12 Wesley's Family Game Night	13 UMW Meeting (via Zoom) 10 am
14 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#	15	16 <i>Mardi Gras</i>	17 Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes 12 n-1 pm Remote Bible Study 10:30 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	18 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	19	20 CSD-UMW Learning Event (Zoom) 9 am \$5 Pre-registration Wesley's Book Club 11 am-1 pm Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, by Isabel Wilkerson
21 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	22	23	24 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	25 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	26	27 Board of Trustees Mtg 9 am (via Zoom)
28 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# <i>Remote Worship &</i> 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	1	2	3 Remote Bible Study 11 am 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	4 Remote Prayer Group 11 am Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	5	6 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am UMM Communion Element Pick-up 11 am – 1 pm (parking lot)

Coming Up in March...

LifeLine Health Screenings Wednesday, March 17, 2021 The Community Blood Center Blood Drive Saturday, March 20, 2021

SUNDAY MORNING CORNE

Five Things African Americans Need to Know About Prediabetes

This Black History Month, understand your health history and reshape your destiny, especially when it comes to prediabetes. As an African American, there are 5 things you should know.

1. Americans are at a higher risk for prediabetes than non-Hispanic whites, especially if type 2 diabetes runs in their family. Around 36% of African Americans have prediabetes, where blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not high enough to be type 2 diabetes. Take your knowledge of high risk and kick type 2 diabetes out of the family tree now.

2. Learning if you're at risk for prediabetes is the first step toward a healthier destiny. Prediabetes risk increases if someone

Res a parent, brother, or sister with type 2 diabetes.

Is overweight or is physically active fewer than 3 R times per week.

3. Prediabetes is a serious condition that can lead to type 2 diabetes and other health problems. These could include heart disease, stroke, blindness, and kidney failure.

4. You can reverse prediabetes. Type 2 diabetes doesn't have to be a part of your future. You can reverse prediabetes with healthy lifestyle changes like eating healthier, getting more physical activity, and managing stress. Here are some things you can do now:



Grab a friend and go for a brisk walk or jog.

Put on some music and dance.

Try a healthy twist on family recipes like grandma's classic sweet potato pie, momma's collard greens, or your favorite auntie's potato salad. You can also try choosing healthy foods at the buffet table at family events.

5. You can take action to prevent type 2 diabetes. The Southeast Diabetes Faith Initiative (SDFI) offers a lifestyle change program that can help you learn the skills you need to lose weight, become more physically active, and manage stress. Studies show that people with prediabetes who take part in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Diabetes Prevention Program lifestyle change program can reduce their risk for type 2 diabetes by 50%.

Learn if you are at risk for Type 2 diabetes, by taking a Risk Test. Visit www.balmingilead.org/sdfi

www.balmingilead.org 620 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 150 Richmond, VA 23236 804 644 2256

Social Commentary

Republican Senators Stand with Seditionists, Not the Republic

by Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.



When asked what the Constitutional Convention had created, Benjamin Franklin replied, "A Republic if we can keep it." On Saturday, February 13, 2021, by an unprecedented bipartisan vote of 57-43, the Senate voted to keep the Republic and convict Donald Trump of his seditious incitement of the sacking of the Capitol. Sadly, that vote did not meet the constitutional requirement of a two-third vote for conviction because 43 Republican senators chose to save their careers over saving the Republic. This was a profile in cowardice. Had there been a secret ballot, the vote to convict would likely have been overwhelming.

America, we say, is the land of the free and the home of the brave, but a vast majority of Republican senators reside in the land of fear and the home of the cowed. During the Civil War, the nation chose to save the Republic. Americans lost more lives than in any other war to defeat the Confederates, end their sedition and free the slaves. On Jan. 6, the new Confederates stormed the Capitol, some bearing the flags of the Confederacy, some bearing the flags of Trump who — intent on overturning an election that he lost badly — sold them the lie that the election had been stolen. Trump assembled the mob, targeted the mob, and set it on the Capitol to stop the certification of the election and the peaceful transfer of power.

These are the same senators who send the sons and daughters of working families across the world to risk their lives fighting against terrorists or fighting against regimes they do not like. Yet when the terrorists are home-grown and the would-be tyrant leads their own party, they choose not to stand up. They fear losing their seats more than losing the Republic itself. These conclusions are inescapable. The facts of Trump's sedition are not in dispute. There is no explanation other than self-interest and cowardice to stand with Trump and the mob against the Republic and democratic elections.

America is now in a fierce struggle for the very survival of its democracy. A majority of Republican senators stood with the sedition. And now they embrace and defend a leader whose attack on the Constitution he was sworn to defend is an act of treachery without precedent in our history. Americans must now decide if they will continue to elect those who will not stand up for the Republic. They may rig the rules and tilt the playing field, but the decision will still be in our hands. Let us hope that with Ben Franklin and the Founders we decide to keep the Republic and continue to build a more perfect Union.

Little Known Black History Fact

Attorney Jewel Lafontant-Mankarious

by D.L. Chandler



Jewel Lafontant-Mankarious was a Chicago lawyer who achieved a number of firsts as a woman and African-American in her field. Among her achievements, Lafontant-Mankarious was the first Black woman to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School and was also the first Black Deputy Solicitor General.

Born Jewel Carter Stradford on April 28, 1922 in Chicago, III., her father, Francis Stradford, was reportedly the co-founder of the National Bar Association and a U.S. Supreme Court attorney. Lafontant-Mankarious, a graduate of Oberlin College, earned her J.D. Degree from the University of Chicago Law School in 1946.

Lafontant-Mankarious and her first husband, John Rogers Sr., opened a family law firm in Chicago and she also worked as an attorney for the Chicago Legal Aid Society. In 1955, she became the first Black woman to be named an assistant U.S. attorney Northern District of Illinois. In 1973, President Richard Nixon named Lafontant-Mankarious as Deputy Solicitor General.

Nixon considered Lafontant-Mankarious as a possible Supreme Court nominee, but he reportedly dropped the idea after author Sheldon Goodman said that Nixon was told by the American Bar Association that she was unqualified. Lafontant-Mankarious was a founding member of the Congress of Racial Equality and worked with the ACLU and the NAACP.

In 1961, she divorced Jones and married H. Ernest Lafontant, who died in 1976. She married Naguib Mankarious and remained married to him until her death in 1997 from breast cancer. She also continued practicing law up until that point, working as a partner for the Holleb & Coff firm.

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

Passcode: 46142 Sunday School 9 am – Conf Call: 1.605.475.4000

1.312.626.6799 ID/code: 295 101 7709# Passcode: 461427# 1.605.475.4000 Code: 260259#

Scan the QR code on the left to donate to Wesley via smartphone or other mobile device!



Meditations for the Lenten Season

Please check your email weekly for Lenten meditations from the church.

2021 Daily Bible Readings (One Year Bible Reading Plan) Week of February 21st – February 27th

February 21

Leviticus 11:1-12:8 Mark 5:21-43 Psalm 38:1-22 Proverbs 10:8-9

February 22

Leviticus 13:1-59 Mark 6:1-29 Psalm 39:1-13 Proverbs 10:10

February 23

Leviticus 14:1-57 Mark 6:30-56 Psalm 40:1-10 Proverbs 10:11-12 2021: "The Year of Restoration" (1 Peter 5:10)

February 27

Leviticus 20:22-22:16 Mark 9:1-29 Psalm 43:1-5 Proverbs 10:18

February 24

Leviticus 15:1-16:28 Mark 7:1-23 Psalm 40:11-17 Proverbs 10:13-14

February 25

Leviticus 16:29-18:30 Mark 7:24-8:10 Psalm 41:1-13 Proverbs 10:15-16

February 26

Leviticus 19:1-20:21 Mark 8:11-38 Psalm 42:1-11 Proverbs 10:17