

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

February 28, 2021



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Bishop John Hopkins (interim)

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“Excellence!”

Greetings, family, in the name of the Omnicompetent God who has saved us so that we might save our community from death, darkness, disappointment, despair, and dis-ease. God has placed it on my heart to encourage you to embrace EXCELLENCE as a way of life so that you may let your light shine so that people will see it and give all glory to God.

If we are to be faithful to our God, we must be, and not try to be, a community of faith that does everything in an excellent way. If we are fighting to be EXCELLENT, then we are always contending and quarreling against self-doubt, mediocrity, laziness, indifference, apathy, and naysayers. These are the natural enemies of a church striving to be greater than it has ever been in its lifecycle. These are natural enemies of anyone attempting to go farther in life than anyone could imagine. Yes, we are in a constant fight to take the road less traveled. Yes, we are in a constant fight to go the extra mile. Yes, we are in a constant fight to spend money for the best equipment, musicians, and resources in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Yes, we are in a constant fight to never cut corners when it comes to God's house and God's worship. Yes, we are in a constant fight to never “settle” for second or third best when we know that with a little more effort and sacrifice, we can have the best and be the best. Yes, it is a fight to change an entire faith community's mindset from being “good enough” to “being one of the best churches in Chicago metro.” It is my wish to always in both my personal and professional life to move from ‘average to amazing.’ I want our church to make this transition and I definitely want our youth to make this transition in every aspect of their lives.

By striving for EXCELLENCE, we can reach all of our goals. Excellence contains the word “excel”. When we “excel,” we exceed and surpass all expectations others have for us. When we “excel”, we surpass just average attendance. We attend every service and show up to participate and grow from our participation. When we “excel”, we surpass and go beyond tipping God but rather we tithe and then give special offerings out of the deep appreciation we have for God in providing for us. When we “excel”, we amaze ourselves and please God because we give more than what is required, we go beyond nominal Christianity (in name only), we go beyond what is expected, we go beyond what “Momma an ‘em used to do”, we go beyond what is expected of people who have full-time jobs and other collateral responsibilities, we do the job that needs to be done in spite of the hardship or sacrifice required. If EXCELLENCE is our church culture then we offer no excuses, we just execute. And if we don't know how to do something, we are smart enough to get trained in it and then work like trojans to make things happen. Have a great week.

SECOND 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 61:1-7 see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise Psalm 22:1-11 see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Today's Message *"Don't Rest in the Ruins"* Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Worship Video (02/21/21)	70 (views)
Worship Call "	29 (callers)
Sunday School "	16 (callers)
Prayer Group	8 (callers)
Bible Study (AM: 12 PM: 6)	18 (views/calls)
Caste: Book Discussion	21 (viewers)
TOTAL	162

Morning Scripture

Isaiah 61:1-7 (NKJV)

¹ “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me,
Because the LORD has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound;

² ***To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,***

³ To console those who mourn in Zion,
To give them beauty for ashes,
The oil of joy for mourning,
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
That they may be called trees of righteousness,
The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”

⁴ ***And they shall rebuild the old ruins,
They shall raise up the former desolations,
And they shall repair the ruined cities,
The desolations of many generations.***

⁵ Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,
And the sons of the foreigner
Shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.

⁶ ***But you shall be named the priests of the LORD,
They shall call you the servants of our God.
You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles,
And in their glory you shall boast.***

⁷ ***Instead of your shame you shall have double honor,
And instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion.
Therefore in their land they shall possess double;
Everlasting joy shall be theirs.***

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 22:1-11

(R) All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
***Why are you so far from helping me,
from the words of my groaning?***

² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

³ Yet you, the praise of Israel,
are enthroned in holiness.

***⁴ In you our forebears trusted;
they trusted and you delivered them.***

⁵ To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not disappointed.

(R) All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

⁶ But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock at me,
they make mouths at me, they wag their heads;

⁸ "He committed his cause to the LORD; let the LORD deliver him.
Let the LORD rescue him, for the LORD delights in him!"

***⁹ Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe upon my mother's breast.***

¹⁰ Upon you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me, you have been my God.

***¹¹ Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is none to help.***

(R) All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

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.
- **Lenten Meditations** Pastor Woolery will be preparing weekly meditations throughout the Lenten season. Be sure to check your email for these inspirational messages as we progress through this, the holiest season of the year.
- **Pick up Communion Elements** next **Saturday, March 6th**, from **11 a- 1 p** (church parking lot).
- **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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Omar Helm	March 2 nd	Johnathan Flakes	March 9 th	Larue Grizzard	March 22 nd
Julia Kidd	March 2 nd	C. Sam Hancock	March 10 th	Jade Jenkins	March 22 nd
John Sanders	March 4 th	Domonique Mott	March 12 th	Doris Thompson	March 26 th
Joyce Chisem-Davis	March 5 th	Pamela Pirtle	March 12 th	Anedra Moss	March 27 th
Carlton Binion II	March 6 th	Kiara Goodrich	March 14 th	Damilola Shonoiki	March 29 th
Minnie Thompson	March 7 th	Robin Woolery	March 15 th	Sheila Ann Gonzales	March 30 th
Morris Echols	March 8 th	Y. Shorter-Darden	March 16 th	Cheryle Banks	March 31 st
Khayra Moss	March 8 th			Dorothy Williamson	March 31 st

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)

<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)	Sam Agnew	Katherine Thompson
*LaRue Grizzard (4)	Nannie Agnew	David Williams
*Gloria Banks (20)	Byron Agnew, Jr.	Owen McPherson
*Doris Echols (16)	Annie Lois Robinson	Gregory McPherson
*Mary Alice Lovely & Family (19)	Jessica Smith Crenshaw	James Taylor
*Diamond Jones (12)	Joyce Chisem-Davis	James Curtis
*Trinity Jones (12)	Carolyn Ransom	The Baker Family
*Lawrence Moore (13)	Sylvia Nichols	Anna Young
*Wilena Campbell-Watkins (5)	Milton Kellum	Dorothy Williams
*Mark Garrett and Family (5)	Rosie Howard	Lois Tucker
*The Plaxico Family (17)	Natesha Smith	Katherine Evans
*Denise Richardson (20)	James Sanders	Carl Frazier
*Clarence Rogers, II & Family (4)	Joanna Lennhardt	Robert A. Watkins
*Jessie Gilmore (16)	Martha Muhs	Aaron Thomas, Jr.
*Maurice & Faye Smith (17)	Muriel Bolden	Michael Miller
*Theresa Bradshaw (12)	Gregory Simms	Angel Acosta
*The Moss Family (13)	Norbert Sanders	Sharon Cruikshank
*Charles & B.J. Curtis and Family (3)	Brittany Porter	Vinelle Myrie
*Odis & Lucinda Franklin Family (20)	Rhonda Monique Miller	Alexandria Ward
*Ena Davis (1)	Ashley Parks	Davion McNeal
*Doris & Dwight Thompson & Fam. (19)	Kathy Jenkins	Willie Moore
*Helen York and Family (5)	Rebecca Merkson	Peaches Clark
*Dawn Funches-Fox and Family (10)	John Anderson	Larry Clark
*Chester Plaxico (17)	Jerry Simmons	Justin York
*Barbara & John Sanders (3)	Rochelle Johnson	Russell York
*The Porter Family (5)	The Ford & Robinson Families	Percy & Essie Hayes
*The Family of Lucious Smith (12)	Mila Kuntu	Mildred Forest
*The Family of Heustis Williams (1)	Ron Birton	Takia Yearby
*The Family of Sandra Lewis (16)	Aiden Combs	The Anderson Family
*Daphne Hicks and Family (10)	Rashaud Thompson	The Marshall Family
*Laniya Bradley & Family (7)	Leslie Carey Kirk	The Weddington Family
	Douglas Hargray	James Williams
	Robert Leach	Juanita Weatherspoon
	Cheryl Mitchell	

Please remember to update the church office with needed changes to the prayer list!

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

MARCH 2021

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28 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#	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)
7 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#	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	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	17 Life Line Screenings 8:30 a-4:30 p ----- Remote Bible Study 11 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 Community Blood Center Blood Drive
21 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#	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# ----- Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	29	30	31 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	1 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	2	3 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am -----

Life Line Health Screenings
 Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Coming Up in March...

The Community Blood Center Blood Drive
 Saturday, March 20, 2021

SUNDAY MORNING HEALTH CORNER

Early Symptoms of Diabetes

Did you know that diabetes affects about 9.4 percent of the U.S. population? Studies have shown that nearly 1 in 4 adults with diabetes (7.2 million Americans) are unaware that they have the disease. Another 84.1 million Americans have prediabetes, and nine out of ten adults have prediabetes and don't know they have it.

Here are some early symptoms of diabetes to look out for:

- Hunger and fatigue.
- Being thirstier.
- Dry mouth and itchy skin.
- Blurred vision.
- Slow healing cuts or sores.
- Unplanned weight loss.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Pain or numbness in feet or legs.

Warning signs can be so mild that you don't notice them. Specifically for type 2 diabetes. With type 1 diabetes, symptoms usually happen quickly, in a matter of days or a few weeks and are much more severe.

You are also more likely to develop type 2 diabetes if you are over the age of 45, overweight, or are not physically active. If you experience any of the above symptoms or anything abnormal, talk to your doctor.

www.balmingilead.org

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Social Commentary

The Right to Vote is Under Siege

by Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.



The fundamental right in a democracy — the right to vote — is once more under siege. In state after state, Republican legislators have introduced literally hundreds of bills designed to suppress voting. Their passion is fueled by Donald Trump’s big lie that the presidential election was “stolen” from him. Their targets are minorities — African Americans, Latinos and Asian Americans, and the young. They call themselves Republicans, but their lineage comes not from Abraham Lincoln, the first Republican president, but from Jefferson Davis, the southern Democrat who led the Confederacy in its battle to keep Blacks enslaved.

Today’s Jefferson Davis Republicans know that they are increasingly a minority party. In Georgia, Arizona, Texas, North Carolina and other states, Republicans fear they will lose control. Once more, intimidation, mass incarceration and violence are used to intimidate. After the last election, Trump rallied his supporters with the big lie that the election was stolen, inciting them to sack the Capitol and to march on state legislatures. Worse, even after the riot, 147 Republicans in the House and Senate voted to overturn the election.

The violence, just as in Reconstruction, is combined with a systemic campaign to suppress the right to vote. In 33 states, legislators have introduced 165 bills to restrict voting, the Brennan Center on Justice reports. In nine states, Republicans have introduced legislation to limit mail-in voting (nearly half of votes in the 2020 election were cast by mail due to the pandemic). In 10 states, Republicans are pushing more stringent voter ID requirements, knowing that these discriminate against minorities (25% of African Americans but only 8% of whites have no government-issued photo IDs). Other states are pushing to prohibit the use of student IDs to make it harder for the young to vote, roll back automatic voter registration laws, end Election Day registration or reduce the number of days for early voting.

We can’t wait decades this time. Jefferson Davis Republicans are once more intent on imposing minority rule, and using the law and a partisan majority on the Supreme Court to enforce it. They’re using both terrorist threat and legal measures to intimidate and impede voters. Once more it will take popular opposition — demonstrations, voter registration and mobilization drives, popular education and

engagement — to protect the right to vote. The House of Representatives has passed a law, HR 1, to expand and protect the right to vote. The bill is likely to face universal opposition from Republican senators, unless popular mobilization forces some to stand up.

It is time for ordinary heroes once more.

Little Known Black History Fact

Walter E. Massey

by D.L. Chandler



Walter E. Massey, a Mississippi native, was the first African-American physics professor to teach at Brown University and was also once president of his alma mater, Morehouse College.

Walter Eugene Massey was born in the city of Hattiesburg, Mississippi in 1938. Entering college early, Massey graduated from Morehouse in 1958 with a degree in physics, after which he enrolled in Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

After earning both his master's and PH.D. degrees from the institution, Massey taught at the University of Illinois shortly after and then took the job with Brown in 1970.

While at Brown, Massey helped bring diversity to college classrooms, noting the lack of Black and brown faces in STEM. Massey joined the American Association for the Advancement of Science and blazed trails for future STEM students of color. He went on to become the association's first Black president.

Today, Massey is the chancellor for the School of the Art Institute in Chicago. He also amassed countless awards due to his contributions to education, physics, and business affairs.

Wesley United Methodist Church

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Chicago, IL 60619

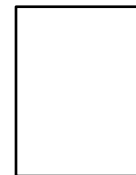
Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr., Pastor

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!



Meditations for the Lenten Season

Please check your email weekly for Lenten meditations from the church. Pastor Woolery will be preparing seasonal meditations, as we enter into the Lenten season. Prepare heart, head and spirit for the season acknowledging God’s ultimate sacrifice.

2021 Daily Bible Readings (One Year Bible Reading Plan)

Week of February 28th – March 6th

February 28

Leviticus 22:17-23:44
Mark 9:30-10:12
Psalm 44:1-8
Proverbs 10:19

March 1

Leviticus 24:1-25:46
Mark 10:13-31
Psalm 44:9-26
Proverbs 10:20-21

March 2

Leviticus 25:47-27:13
Mark 10:32-52
Psalm 45:1-17
Proverbs 10:22 Proverbs 10:11-

March 3

Leviticus 27:14-Numbers 1:54
Mark 11:1-26
Psalm 46:1-11
Proverbs 10:23

March 4

Numbers 2:1-3:51
Mark 11:27-12:17
Psalm 47:1-9
Proverbs 10:24-25

March 5

Numbers 4:1-5:31
Mark 12:18-37
Psalm 48:1-14
Proverbs 10:26

2021:
***“The Year of
Restoration”***
(1 Peter 5:10)

March 6

Numbers 6:1-7:89
Mark 12:38-13:13
Psalm 49:1-20
Proverbs 10:27-28