

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

April 11, 2021



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Bishop John Hopkins (interim)

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“Easter is the Catalyst for Transformation”

Now that Easter is over with, what will you do with the information and inspiration of resurrection power? How will your life be different because of that earth-shattering event in 27 AD? As written in 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Paul argues for the reality of the resurrection by alluding to his own transformed life after Jesus appeared to him on the Damascus Road. A transformed life is proof that Jesus is alive and real. The songwriter who penned the words to the old hymn of the church, “Because He Lives”, perhaps was a proponent of Pauline theology. He wrote, “You ask me how I know He lives, He lives within my heart.” And if Jesus lives within my heart, then everything about me changes. Easter is not an end but a commencement of something great for all of us.

With America being a Christian nation and all that, you would think that celebrating Easter/Resurrection Sunday would lead to some radical changes in the body politic. Imagine if Jesus lived inside of the American ‘Christian’ people, then we would be less divided. Labels of liberals and conservatives would vanish. Less hate, more love. Less intolerance, more tolerance. Blacks, Whites, Latinos, Asians, Indians, and Native Americans who make up this great country would learn to live, work, play, and perhaps worship the same God together. And, imagine if Jesus lived inside every American church member? Churches would be filled with radically-transformed, loving people who would be passionate about serving God by serving others. Churches would be filled with radically-transformed, loving people who would denounce a country-club mentality and minister from a mindset of “how can I serve?”

After witnessing the love affair America now has with Dr. King in celebrating #MLK53, I realize more than ever that Dr. King was a ‘transformed non-conformist’ because Jesus lived inside of him. He was so different from status-quo preachers and politicians that his convictions created a lot of enemies for him. His convictions got him assassinated in 1968 but now celebrated 53 years later. Reflecting on and remembering him are good but emulating him would be better. Imagine...you... a ‘transformed non-conformist’ just like Dr. King.....and Jesus.

Celebrating Easter is supposed to be a transformative experience. Just as the world has never been the same since that empty tomb, neither should you.

#WesleyForever

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR APRIL: "New Life"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: WHITE or GOLD

Scripture for the month: ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶ And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26 (NKJV)

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture

Luke 24:13-16, 28-35

see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 97:1-12

see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Today's Message

"Why Jesus Keeps Hanging Around"

Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Worship Video (04/04/21)	79 (views)
Worship Conference Call "	27 (callers)
Sunday School "	18 (callers)
Prayer Group	7 (callers)
Bible Study (AM only)	9 (views/calls)
TOTAL	140

Morning Scripture

Luke 24:13-16, 28-35 (NKJV)

¹³ Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem.

¹⁴ *And they talked together of all these things which had happened.*

¹⁵ So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them.

¹⁶ *But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him.*

²⁸ Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther.

²⁹ *But they constrained Him, saying, "Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them.*

³⁰ Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave it to them.

³¹ *Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.*

³² And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

³³ *So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,*

³⁴ saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

³⁵ *And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.*

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 97:1-12

(R) The Lord reigns, the Lord reigns! Let all the earth rejoice!

¹ The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the many coastlands be glad!

² ***Clouds and thick darkness surround the LORD;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of God's throne.***

³ Fire goes before the LORD,
and burns up his adversaries round about.

⁴ ***The LORD's lightnings illumine the world;
the earth sees and trembles.***

⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the LORD of all the earth.

⁶ ***The heavens proclaim God's righteousness
and all the peoples behold God's glory.***

(R) The Lord reigns, the Lord reigns! Let all the earth rejoice!

⁷ All worshipers of images are put to shame,
who make their boast in worthless idols;
all gods bow down before the LORD.

⁸ ***Zion hears and is glad,
and the daughters of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O God.***

⁹ For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰ ***The LORD loves those who hate evil,
preserves the lives of his faithful,
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.***

¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the upright in heart.

¹² ***Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name!***

(R) The Lord reigns, the Lord reigns! Let all the earth rejoice!

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.
- **Next Sunday is Native American Ministries Sunday** Sunday is Native American Ministries Sunday. Since 1988, the UMC has been celebrating Native American individuals and congregations in the United Methodist community. On this day, we honor the unique and beautiful contributions of Native Americans by giving generously to a special fund set aside for seminary students and for congregations that are finding authentic ways to minister to their communities. Please give generously.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination Information** Wesley UMC has registered as part of the **Protect Chicago Plus** team, focusing on getting the word out about vaccine events in the area. Be sure to watch your email for updates on vaccination events in and around the areas closest to the church. Of course, should we receive verified information of other events elsewhere, we will share it.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Denise Richardson	April 12 th	Skylar Wilson	April 21 st
Charles Curtis	April 13 th	Letha Cunningham	April 23 rd
Gloria Banks	April 14 th	Ebun Agbaje-Williams	April 24 th
Kaylen Lomax	April 16 th	Jasmine Kidd	April 24 th
Mary Alice Lovely	April 18 th	Regina Julun	April 24 th
Dwight McCombs	April 18 th	Frederick Woolery	April 25 th
Monique Howard	April 20 th	Braila West	April 30 th

Be sure to wish our members with April 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 Geraldts (3)	*Helen Tuck (7)	
*Fred Williams (20)		

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

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**.

APRIL 2021

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28 Palm 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#	29	30	31 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	1 Maundy Thursday Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	2 Good Friday	3 Holy Saturday UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am -----
4 EASTER 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#	5	6	7 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	8 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	9	10 UMW Meeting (via Zoom) 10 am -----
11 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#	12	13 Church Council Mtg 7 pm (via Zoom) -----	14 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	15 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	16	17
18 Native American Ministries 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#	19	20	21 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	22 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	23	24 Board of Trustees Mtg 9 am (via Zoom) -----
25 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#	26	27	28 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	29 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	30	1 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am -----

SUNDAY MORNING

HEALTH CORNER

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Get Active and Healthy this Spring

Physical activity is one of the best wellness principles that an individual can do to improve their well-being. Exercise promotes health and reduces the risk of chronic diseases and other conditions that are often more common and more severe among racial and ethnic minority groups.

Physical activity also fosters normal growth and development in children, improves mental health, and can make people feel, function, and sleep better.

Here are some tips on how to add physical activity to your everyday life.



Everyone starts somewhere. If you're starting out, go slow and work up gradually. Ensure you have an action plan for each season, so that the weather doesn't get in the way. Work physical activity into your daily life. Take a walk around the block, play with your kids, or dance to your favorite music.



List out activities that you love. Doing exercises you love, like swimming, bowling, or biking, can help you gain your desired health benefits and reduce stress. If you like going on walks at work, carve out 10 minutes to walk during lunch. Enroll in that dance or swim class you've wanted to take.



Take a buddy. Involve family and friends in your physical activity program. You'll gain support and companionship. You don't need to go it alone!



Create a habit. Keep at it, and within three months or less, you'll notice a big difference in your fitness level. You'll feel better, have more energy, sleep more soundly and reduce your stress.



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Social Commentary

As A Christian, I Celebrate Easter. But As a Black Man, I Stand as An American Outcast

by John Fountain



On this Resurrection Sunday, George Floyd sleeps. His last gasps and unrequited pleas for mercy and for air to breathe cycle on repeat in HD as the world watches America on trial. America where justice flees from sea to shining sea — for people Black like me, who perish beneath the oppressor's unrelenting knee. America, where 400 years since Africans first arrived shackled upon her majestic emerald shores, the Negro still is not free. And I can't breathe. Even on Easter, I am tormented. I wrestle with my Christian faith that assures me I am free.

Except how can I feel free when I can't breathe? I am torn between love and hate. Engaged in a suffocating internal war to reconcile the dream that is America and that bitter nightmare that too often dictates the fate of Black lives in the America that once enslaved us, flayed us, raped us, and still slays us while cloaking herself in red, white and blue "democracy." Except beyond American mythology, there is still no justice — just us.

Even amid my clear vision this Easter Sunday of a bruised and battered Christ, hanging on a bloodied cross on Golgotha, I clearly see, staring back, both American and Christian hypocrisy. I swim upstream in a toxic sea of lies that stands in juxtaposition to biblical and Constitutional ideals and truths, which hold that "all men are created equal and endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Except for those with melanin and nappiness.

This is America's original evil. An America that sees more humanity in dogs and cats than in human souls with bodies Black and who languish in a nation that still stands, after centuries, starkly divided on the problem of the "color line." A "God-fearing" America that seeks to take us back to when Jim Crow was king and Black bodies dangled like Southern fruit from poplar trees. I can't breathe... As a Christian, I celebrate Easter as an heir and son, adopted into the Kingdom through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But as a Black man, I stand as an American outcast, a most hated bastard son of democracy, without the rights, freedom and justice guaranteed to those who are no more American than George Floyd and me.

In Christ, I know I'm free. But in America, I still can't breathe.

Little Known Black History Fact

Williams “Bill” G. Mays

by D.L. Chandler



The late **William “Bill” G. Mays** was a pioneering Indiana businessman who applied his resources to bring prominence to not only his holdings but other entities across the state. Among his many accomplishments, Mays was the first African-American chairman of the Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, cementing his designation as one of the state’s most successful businessmen.

Mays was born December 4, 1945 in Evansville, Indiana. Graduating at the top of his class, Mays entered Indiana University and followed the footsteps of his chemical professor father en route to earning a degree in chemistry in 1970. He earned his MBA from the school in 1973.

Combining his interests in science and business, Mays worked for several prominent chemical companies throughout the '70's while amassing leadership experience. In 1980, using a bank loan and savings, he began the Mays Chemical Company earning \$2.2 million in sales in his first year. As the company grew, May absorbed smaller chemical companies into his own brand before expanding nationally.

In the '90's, Mays revived the state’s oldest Black newspaper, *The Indianapolis Recorder*, which is also the fourth-oldest newspaper in the nation. Mays lent his advice and mentorship to other aspiring business owners and became the first Black person elected to the Indiana Hoosier Lottery Commission.

In 1996, Mays carried the Olympic Torch during its stop as part of its national tour before concluding in Los Angeles for the Summer Games.

Mays died on December 4, 2014.

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#



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a program for **in-home vaccination of
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who are homebound**. This service is
being provided by uniformed Chicago
Fire Department community paramedics
who can produce identification.

Call: 312-746-4835



2021 Daily Bible Readings (One Year Bible Reading Plan)

Week of April 11th – April 17th

April 11

Joshua 3:1-4:24

Luke 14:7-35

Psalms 80:1-19

Proverbs 12:27-28

April 12

Joshua 5:1-7:15

Luke 15:1-32

Psalms 81:1-16

Proverbs 13:1

April 13

Joshua 7:16-9:2

Luke 16:1-18

Psalms 82:1-8

Proverbs 13:2-3

2021:

“The Year of Restoration”

(1 Peter 5:10)

April 17

Joshua 15:1-63

Luke 18:18-43

Psalms 86:1-17

Proverbs 13:9-10

April 14

Joshua 9:3-10:43

Luke 16:19-17:10

Psalms 83:1-18

Proverbs 13:4

April 15

Joshua 11:1-12:24

Luke 17:11-37

Psalms 84:1-12

Proverbs 13:5-6

April 16

Joshua 13:1-14:15

Luke 18:1-17

Psalms 85:1-13

Proverbs 13:7-8