

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

April 25, 2021



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Bishop John Hopkins (Interim)

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!"

FOURTH 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 17:11-19 see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise Psalm 23 see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Today's Message *"Thank You"* Pastor John Jackson, Sr.
Pastor, Trinity United Church of Christ
Gary, IN

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Worship Video (04/18/21)	46 (views)
Worship Conference Call "	24 (callers)
Sunday School "	16 (callers)
Prayer Group	8 (callers)
Bible Study (AM: 12 PM: 7)	19 (viewers/callers)
TOTAL	113

Morning Scripture

Luke 17:11-19 (NIV)

¹¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee.

¹² *As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance*

¹³ and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”

¹⁴ *When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.*

¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice.

¹⁶ *He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.*

¹⁷ Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?”

¹⁸ *Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?”*

¹⁹ *Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”*



Are you ready to return to church?

We're getting ready to receive you! Look for our Return Plan in an email or postal mail for details on how we are preparing and what you should expect when we all...

...Return to Wesley!

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 23

(R) The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

¹ The LORD *is* my shepherd;
I shall not want.

² *The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures,*
leads me beside still waters,

³ restores my life,
leads me in right paths
for the sake of The LORD's name.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

(R) The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil,
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
as long as I live.

(R) The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

Today's Guest Minister

Reverend Dr. John E. Jackson, Sr.

A native of Chicago, Illinois, Reverend Dr. Jackson received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Divinity degrees from Loyola University and McCormick Theological Seminary, respectively, in Chicago.

Under the leadership of the Reverend Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr., Reverend Jackson served as the Associate Pastor to Men's Ministries and the Pre-Marital Counseling Program at the dynamic Trinity United Church of Christ (TUCC).

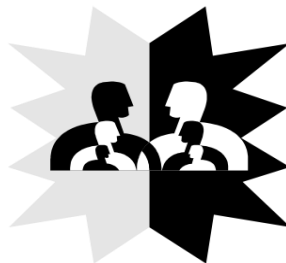
In this capacity, Reverend Dr. Jackson not only provided pastoral leadership to the various Men's ministries of Trinity UCC, but he also facilitated a weekly Men's Bible Class and organized the quarterly Men's Worship Service. Reverend Jackson also developed the Annual Men's Prayer Breakfast into an Annual Men's Conference, providing opportunities for workshops, lectures, and worship to over 500 brothers-in-Christ each year.

In 2004, Reverend Dr. John E. Jackson, Sr. was called to serve as Senior Pastor of The Trinity United Church of Christ in Gary, IN. Since its first worship service the second Sunday in October 2004, Trinity UCC-Gary has been consistently growing. In order to accommodate the ever-expanding ministries, Trinity UCC-Gary completed construction of their new sanctuary for worship, and held their first worship service in the new edifice on October 5, 2008. It is located at 1276 West 20th Avenue in the City of Gary.

The motto of Trinity UCC-Gary is "We are not just another church but we are a culturally conscious Christ centered church committed to the community!" We are "Unashamedly Black and Unapologetically Christian"

In May of 2014 Pastor Jackson earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH.

Reverend Dr. John E. Jackson, Sr. shares his life with his wife the former Janiece N. Barney, their three adult children, and five grandchildren.



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.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination Access** Vaccination access has opened up and registration for appointments is now available to all persons 16* and over. Also, **walk-in appointments** are now available at **mass vaccinations sites** in the Chicago area! Walk-in pilot programs began last week at suburban Cook County sites and are expected to be adopted at most county and state-run mass vaccination locations. Note: Not all facilities distributing vaccinations are 'mass vaccination' sites and appointments are still recommended. If in question, check your local information or check your emails for our updates. (*Pfizer is approved for 16 and 17 year olds.)
- **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 regarding other events, 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
	Jessie Gilmore	May 1 st	

Be sure to wish our members with April and early May 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)	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.
	Brenda Lewis	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

Oral Health

A dentist can determine many things about your overall health by conducting an oral exam. When we think of dental hygiene care, the basics come to mind: bad breath prevention, gum disease, tooth decay, and routine cleanings. However, there is much more that your mouth may reveal about what is going on in your body. A good oral examination and saliva testing can detect the following diseases and concerns:

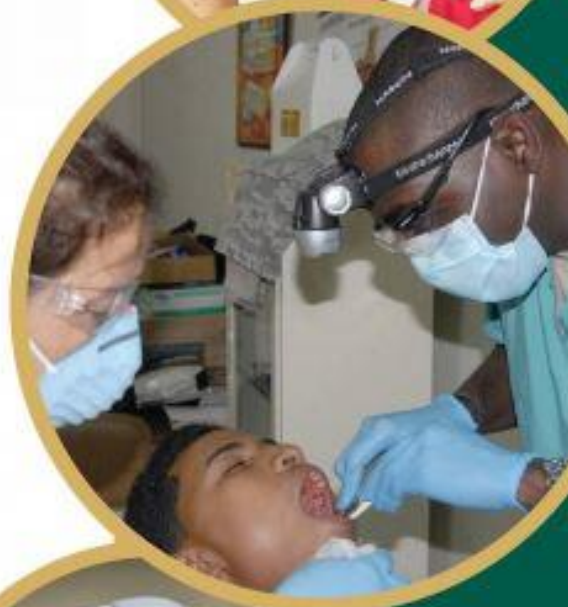
- **Diabetes**
- **Osteoporosis/Bone loss**
- **Certain Cancer Markers**
- **HIV/AIDS**
- **Environmental Toxins**
- **Illegal Drug Use**
- **Hepatitis**

Saliva not only protects against disease-causing bacteria, but is used for genetic testing and to replace blood testing for various diseases.

Regular dental visits are essential. Your mouth is a small part of the body that has an enormous impact on your overall health.

www.balmingilead.org

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THE BALM
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Social Commentary

Every New Shooting in America is Part of a Rolling, Endless Mass Shooting

by Laura Washington



We call them “mass shootings.” Thursday night, yet another. The Associated Press reported: “A gunman killed eight people and wounded several others before apparently taking his own life in a late-night attack at a FedEx facility near the Indianapolis airport, police said, in the latest in a spate of mass shootings in the United States after a relative lull during the pandemic.” At least seven other people were injured. The gunman took his own life.

In response, President Joe Biden on Friday declared, “Gun violence is an epidemic in America.” He called, once again, for stricter gun control measures. In March, eight people were shot to death at spas in the Atlanta metropolitan area, and 10 people were mowed down at a supermarket in Boulder, Colo. And the Indianapolis shooting was, as the AP noted, “at least the third mass shooting this year in Indianapolis alone.”

But what, really, is a “mass shooting?” Shootings like the one in Indianapolis grab headlines. In a few short minutes, multiple lives are snuffed out by the gun. But in a nation that refuses to cure the plague of guns, every shooting is a mass shooting, part of a larger whole. We don’t acknowledge it, but every killing is a mass killing. We are the masses. We are all affected. Guns, so ubiquitous, are a threat to us all. There are masses of people who loved and cared for Adam Toledo, the seventh grader who was gunned down on March 29 during a police chase in Chicago’s Little Village. He had a gun, the police say. His killing and its dreadful fallout left a family devastated and a community bereft.

Thursday night, while activists marched to protest Adam’s killing, Lydia Jimenez, 17, was shot in the head and killed as she sat in a car in Little Village. She leaves masses of family, friends and neighbors to grieve an irreparable loss. Masses of people are grieving for 20-year-old Daunte Wright, killed by a Minnesota police officer during a traffic stop. Police officials called it “accidental.” Masses more are mourning the endless barrage of shootings and killings that come every weekend on Chicago’s South and West sides. Dozens of shootings. They are usually recorded in a few spare lines squeezed in between the Monday morning headlines. Yet every shooting brings physical and psychic wounds that may never heal. In Chicago, all the shootings cost our city hundreds of millions of dollars — for medical care, police officers, lawyers, judges, social workers and jailers. We are the masses. We all pay the price. Gun violence is devouring our society, our culture and our humanity. Until America commits to real, effective and meaningful gun control, we, the masses, will own the carnage.

Little Known Black History Fact

Edward Kendrick (aka Eddie Kendricks)



The late Eddie Kendrick was a founding member of The Temptations and, despite being a tenor, sang with one of the most notable falsettos in R&B.

Edward James Kendrick was born on December 17, 1939 in Union Springs, Ala. His family moved to Birmingham's Ensley neighborhood when he was young, which is where he met singer and future founding Temptations member Paul Williams. With fellow vocalist Kell Osborne, the group relocated to Cleveland and then Detroit, then at the time named The Primes. After finding some success in the city's fast-moving scene and being the source of a spin-off group that featured Diana Ross and future The Supremes, the group signed with Berry Gordy's Motown imprint and were renamed.

As The Temptations, the original lineup consisted of Kendrick, Williams, Otis Williams, Melvin "Blue" Franklin, and Elbridge "Al" Bryant. According to accounts, Bryant didn't enjoy the rigors of practicing and performing and decided to work as a milkman instead. David Ruffin, an aspiring singer, impressed the group and was added to the so-called "Classic Five" lineup. While the group began finding their stride as a group, the tensions within began to flare up. Ruffin was fired from the group and replaced by Dennis Edwards in the late '60s.

The issues with the group also extended to Williams, who battled with alcoholism and other issues and was forced to leave the group. Kendrick was also frustrated with the new direction of the group during this period and under the urging of Ruffin, Kendrick went solo in 1971. After some mild success, Kendrick broke on the charts in 1973 with his hits "Keep On Truckin'" and "Boogie Down" but by 1978 and with his voice waning due to chain smoking, his career was winding down.

In '80's, Kendrick reconnected with David Ruffin and the pair sang with Hall and Oates for a live album recorded at The Apollo. The two also recorded an album together and joined the rest of the group in being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1989. Kendrick and Ruffin also made a pact to record music but in 1991, Ruffin passed from a drug overdose and Kendrick was diagnosed with lung cancer.

Eddie Kendrick passed from the disease in 1992. He was 52.

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!

Homebound Seniors and People with Disabilities

Chicago Dept. of Public Health is starting
a program for **in-home vaccination of
seniors and people with disabilities
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 25th – May 1st

April 25

Judges 4:1-5:31

Luke 22:35-53

Psalms 94:1-23

Proverbs 14:3-4

April 26

Judges 6:1-40

Luke 22:54-23:12

Psalms 95:1-96:13

Proverbs 14:5-6

April 27

Judges 7:1-8:17

Luke 23:13-43

Psalms 97:1-98:9

Proverbs 14:7-8

2021:

“The Year of Restoration”

(1 Peter 5:10)

May 1

Judges 13:1-14:20

John 1:29-51

Psalms 102:1-28

Proverbs 14:15-16

April 28

Judges 8:18-9:21

Luke 23:44-24:12

Psalms 99:1-9

Proverbs 14:9-10

April 29

Judges 9:22-10:18

Luke 24:13-53

Psalms 100:1-5

Proverbs 14:11-12

April 30

Judges 11:1-12:15

John 1:1-28

Psalms 101:1-8

Proverbs 14:13-14