

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

May 2, 2021



Wesley United Methodist Church

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Bishop John Hopkins (Interim)

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“The Lord Will Build This House”

Psalm 127:1 says, “Except the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; except the Lord keeps the city, the watchman wakes but in vain.” These words ring true in my heart, mind, and soul. It is our season to allow God to do what only God can do and that is build this church. And I am not referring to numerical growth but I am talking about spiritual growth. The house is us and not the bricks and mortar. The body of Christ, the ecclesia, is us. We are the ones who are called out of the world and into a marvelous, transformative community of believers who follow God radically and faithfully. In order to change the culture of this church, we must allow the Lord to build this house.

What we are going to do is become a people who love God with our actions and attitudes. We need to become a New Testament church that is solely interested in making disciples and making sure we bring some heaven to counteract the hell people are going through. When one scours the book of Acts, one notices that the disciples of Jesus were fanatical and radical about making disciples. The disciples of Jesus were fanatical and radical about spreading the gospel of Jesus no matter what threats were made against them. The early church had their problems, but they quickly worked out their problems because they had their sights set on the big picture. The big picture for them and us is using all of our energies to increase the community of faith. Matthew 28:19-20 says, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” The epistle to the Galatian church says in chapter 6 verse 9 “and let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

In changing the culture of the church, each of us needs to remember our baptism. At baptism we were called into ministry. At our baptism we relinquished all ties to the world. At our baptism we made a covenant to follow Jesus no matter what. Our baptism reminds us that we are all ministers called to serve God by serving others. Therefore, every member should be involved in some form of ministry.

In changing the culture of the church, every member needs to be filled with God's Spirit. This is our only alternative. Galatians 5:24-25 says, “And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and appetites and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.” Being a member of the body of Christ means that we must walk according to the Spirit of God. Being a member of the body of Christ means that we must suppress the desires of the flesh, suppress the ego, suppress our will, and be led by the influence of God. Our guide is the Word of God. God has given us all we need to make this congregation healthy. Our medicine is the Word of God. Jesus is a doctor in the sickroom. Whatever ails us collectively or individually, Jesus is the remedy. More of Jesus is needed. That is why bible reading and heeding are so important. To change the culture of the church, every member, after reading God's Word, must begin to activate that Word into their lives and into the community in which they live. How can we operate in an authentic relationship with God and God's people without knowing the Word of God? It is impossible. How can one call oneself a Christian without knowing about Jesus the Christ? It is impossible. How can one talk about ushering in God's kingdom and know nothing about God's desire to rule the hearts of men as described in the scriptures? It is impossible. To change the culture of the church, all of us need to look and live the following words, “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” James 1:21-22

FIFTH 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 May: "Live by Faith"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: WHITE

Scripture for the month: *"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."* Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture 2 Chronicles 7:12-22 see video, or page 4

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

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon *"The Power of a Praying People"* Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Holy Communion A Service of Word and Table, II see video, or hymnal (page 12)

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Worship Video (04/25/21)	64 (views)
Worship Conference Call "	- (callers)
Sunday School "	18 (callers)
Prayer Group	6 (callers)
Bible Study (AM: 12 PM: 7)	19 (viewers/callers)
TOTAL	107

Morning Scripture

2 Chronicles 7:12-22 (NKJV)

¹² Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice.

¹³ ***When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people,***

¹⁴ if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

¹⁵ ***Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place.***

¹⁶ For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.

¹⁷ ***As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments,***

¹⁸ then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man as ruler in Israel.'

¹⁹ ***But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them,***

²⁰ then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.

²¹ ***And as for this house, which is exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and say, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this land and this house?'***

²² ***Then they will answer, 'Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore He has brought all this calamity on them.'*** "



Are you ready to return to church?

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.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination Access** Vaccination access has opened up and registration for appointments is now available to all persons 16* and over. **Walk-in appointments** are now available at **all mass vaccinations sites** in the Chicago area! Note: Not all facilities distributing vaccinations are 'mass vaccination' sites and appointments, while not required, are still recommended. If in question, check your local information or check your emails for our updates. (*Only the Pfizer vaccine has approval for use with 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.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Jessie Gilmore	May 1 st	Liana Geddes	May 10 th	Huron Wilson	May 23 rd
Lem Newell	May 3 rd	Doris Echols	May 15 th	Kelson Gainey	May 25 th
Yvonne Wormsby	May 4 th	Doris Anderson	May 16 th	Edward Hancock	May 27 th
Trinity Jones	May 6 th	Zoe Green	May 16 th	Ben Davis	May 29 th
Jessie Stokes	May 7 th	Cameron Woolery	May 16 th	Bessie Moore	May 29 th
Thaddeus Cecil	May 8 th	Courtney Key	May 18 th	Stephanie Jackson-Williams	May 30 th
Kyna Stinson	May 9 th	Dawn Funches-Fox	May 21 st	Lawrence Moore	May 31 th

Be sure to wish our members with 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 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	Vinelle Myrie
*Charles & B.J. Curtis and Family (3)	Rhonda Monique Miller	Alexandria Ward
*Odis & Lucinda Franklin Family (20)	Ashley Parks	Davion McNeal
*Ena Davis (1)	Kathy Jenkins	Willie Moore
*Doris Thompson (19)	Rebecca Merkson	Peaches Clark
*Helen York and Family (5)	John Anderson	Larry Clark
*Dawn Funches-Fox and Family (10)	Jerry Simmons	Justin York
*Chester Plaxico (17)	Rochelle Johnson	Russell York
*Barbara and John Sanders & Family (3)	The Ford & Robinson Families	Percy & Essie Hayes
*The Porter Family (5)	Mila Kuntu	Mildred Forest
*The Family of Lucious Smith (12)	Ron Birton	Takia Yearby
*The Family of Heustis Williams (1)	Aiden Combs	The Anderson Family
*The Family of Sandra Lewis (16)	Rashaud Thompson	The Marshall Family
*Daphne Hicks and Family (10)	Leslie Carey Kirk	The Weddington Family
*Laniya Bradley & Family (7)	Douglas Hargray	James Williams
	Robert Leach	Juanita Weatherspoon
	Cheryl Mitchell	Rev. Gessel Berry, Jr.
	Mwata Bowden	Robert Leach
	Brenda Lewis	Lenora Omar

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**.

MAY 2021

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

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

Sunday Morning

Health Corner

Mental Health & **YOU**

Mental health is one of the biggest health issues facing Americans. **Did you know? Approximately 1 in 5 adults in the U.S. - 43.8 million - experiences mental illness in a given year.**

Warning Signs of a Mental Health Problem

- Loss of interest or feeling 'low'
- Doing ordinary things gets harder
- Taking more dangerous risks
- Withdrawal or feeling overwhelmed
- Using alcohol or drugs to escape
- Changes in sleeping and eating

Tips to Maintain a Good Health

- Exercise regularly, eat well and have adequate sleep
- Explore relaxation and coping strategies
- Catch up with friends and loved ones
- Make time to do things you enjoy
- Take time off from work and daily stresses

Continue the conversation with us on
social media!



@thebalmingilead @hc2020



www.balmingilead.org



Social Commentary

Engulfed in a World of Guns and Violence

by Michael Sneed



Color. A nation's palette of pain. Black. White. Brown. The reality of policing in America. The videotaped murder of **George Floyd** under the knee of former Minnesota cop **Derek Chauvin** is more than a question of justice being served equally. It's more than unlawful street violence vs. unlawful police violence. Or whether a police action is a justifiable incident. Or just plain tragic. It's about what happened to one of us ... can happen to all of us. In this nation of justice for all ... isn't one of us supposed to be all of us?

As a Chicago newspaper journalist since late 1968, visiting all of Chicago's police districts — as well as the unexpected tour of the violent crime section of the Cook County medical examiner's office — was part of a reporter's baptism. Crime was news; crime sold papers; and crime stories so popular, crime reporters had their own press office at police headquarters.

Then things changed early in my career. The police press room disappeared. Crime reporters headed back from their perch at the predominantly white CPD headquarters; returned to desks at their newspapers ostensibly informed by primarily white sources in their predominantly white newsrooms run by white editors and owners. It was the era of anti-war protests, which were becoming as common as dancing on a Friday night.

And now the ugly secret always known by the Black community is out: a long history of Black mistrust based on policing less fair for Black men and women. Only this time it took a nine-minute video to finally grab the nation's attention. Recent data showing Black men are more than two times more likely to be killed by police than white men may finally bring change.

It has become a warning to their children. The city is now engulfed in the world of guns; the killing of babies and young children shot in the backseat of cars, or at birthday parties or in their homes or in parks; the victims of gang violence, road rage, drugs and mental illness. It's a nightmare of poverty and desperation mixed with a salad of misery and crime. And good cops are going to be required to become even better. And we are going to need to make sure we truly get rid of all the bad cops. And guns need to be corralled or gone. And God help us all.

Little Known Black History Fact

Ella Baker



Ella Baker worked for over five decades as a civil rights activist and organizer, emerging as one of the most important female figures of the Civil Rights Movement. Baker was born on December 12, 1903 in Norfolk, Va., but was raised in Littleton, N.C. She attended Shaw University, graduating as its valedictorian in 1927 before moving to New York. While at Shaw, Baker challenged school policies which served as a precursor for the rest of her life and career.

While in New York, Baker briefly worked as an educator before marrying her high school sweetheart and joining the NAACP, working her way into directorship positions before stepping down in 1946. According to accounts, Baker felt hamstrung by some of the NAACP's bureaucracy, challenging her more grassroots approach to activism. In 1955, Baker began the In Friendship organization which combated some of the racist Jim Crow policies across the Deep South and raised money for the Montgomery Bus Boycotts.

This put her in alignment with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1957, aiding the leader with his new organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. However, Baker's time with the SCLC was also marred by what she felt was King's dominance as an orator but allegedly did not see him as an effective activist. In the late 60's and onto the seventies, Baker kept a low profile but remained active behind the scenes as was her preference. Notoriously private, few knew about her life outside of work.

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 May 2nd – May 8th

May 2

Judges 15:1-16:31

John 2:1-25

Psalms 103:1-22

Proverbs 14:17-19

May 3

Judges 17:1-18:31

John 3:1-21

Psalms 104:1-23

Proverbs 14:20-21

May 4

Judges 19:1-20:48

John 3:22-4:3

Psalms 104:24-35

Proverbs 14:22-24

2021:

“The Year of Restoration”

(1 Peter 5:10)

May 8

1 Samuel 2:22-4:22

John 5:24-47

Psalms 106:1-12

Proverbs 14:30-31

May 5

Judges 21:1-Ruth 1:22

John 4:4-42

Psalms 105:1-15

Proverbs 14:25

May 6

Ruth 2:1-4:22

John 4:43-54

Psalms 105:16-36

Proverbs 14:26-27

May 7

1 Samuel 1:1-2:21

John 5:1-23

Psalms 105:37-45

Proverbs 14:28-29