

The Historic Bethany Union Church of Chicago
1750 W 103rd Street
Chicago, IL 6064
(773) 779-0123

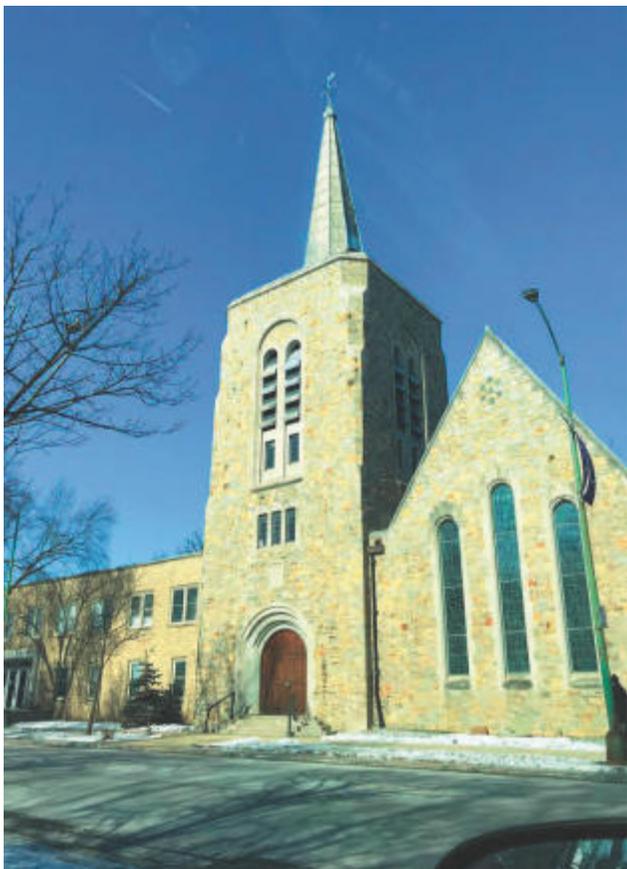
Celebrating 148 Years of Ministry

Time Sensitive Materials
DO NOT DELAY

Address Correction Requested

www.bethanyunion.com

THE HISTORIC BETHANY UNION CHURCH OF CHICAGO



March 2020

The Unifier

**The Monthly Newsletter of the
Christians at 1750 W 103rd St in Chicago**

**The Rt. Rev. Dr.
Lawrence Michael Cameron
12th Seated Pastor**

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR...

- March 1, 2020 - 1st Sunday of Lent, Temptation Sunday. Holy Communion served.
All Boards meet followed by Council
- March 4, 2020 - Bethany Bible Academy, which begins at 10 a.m.
- March 8, 2020 - **Daylight Saving Time begins.**
2nd Sunday of Lent. Girl Scout Sunday, celebrating GS #20117 & March Birthday Bash during Fellowship Hour.
- March 11, 2020 - Bethany Bible Academy, which begins at 10 a.m.
- March 13, 2020 - Lenten Vegetarian Carry-in Supper, 6:00 p.m.
- March 15, 2020 - 3rd Sunday of Lent. Benevolence Sunday – A New Direction and Change 4 Change.
*Southside Irish Parade – lots of congestion – plan accordingly.
Don't let it stop you from worshipping with us!*
- March 18, 2020 - Bethany Bible Academy, which begins at 10 a.m.
- March 22, 2020 - 4th Sunday of Lent
- March 25, 2020 - Bethany Bible Academy, which begins at 10 a.m.
- March 27, 2020 - Lenten Vegan Carry-in Supper, 6:00 p.m.
- March 29, 2020 - 5th Sunday of Lent



Board and Council Business at the February meetings

Our newly elected Church Council and Boards met for business on Sunday, February 2, 2020. There were 26 members present for this session. These are the reported highlights from their work:

CHURCH LIFE:

- ❖ Melissa Heniff will be chairperson, and Lisa Butler-Del Rio will be clerk.
- ❖ The 2020 Annual Benevolences were determined with each month hosting a different benevolence, which will be further supported with information that will appear in our weekly bulletins and monthly newsletter. In addition, we will have a guest speaker talk a little about their mission/benevolence on their designated Sunday.
- ❖ Liturgists for March have been secured.
- ❖ Change for Change will continue with an additional “piggy bank” to be set up in the Sanctuary for donations to happen at any time. Announcements for reminders will be added.
- ❖ Updated Covenants to replace the outdated ones in the back of the hymnals are in the works.

TRUSTEES:

- ❖ Robert Davis will be chairperson, and Jan Winski will be clerk.
- ❖ January Treasurer's report was analyzed and accepted. Our January income and expenditures were on the targeted budget.

HOSPITALITY:

- ❖ Masie I. Greene will be chairperson, and Lorraine Morgan will be clerk.
- ❖ Greeters for March have been secured.
- ❖ Reviewed “Birthday Bash” Team, duties, and suggestions.
- ❖ Visitor follow-ups were discussed and LaTelle Palmer will call visitors. Also, note cards will be sent.
- ❖ Sign-up sheets for Lenten dinners.

Next Business Meetings will take place on Sunday, March 1, 2020.



“The Cloud of Unknowing”

Bethany Bible Academy calls a challenge and a word of encouragement to all Disciples of Christ Jesus to come and see! The class is “The Cloud of Unknowing.”

Class sessions are very Wednesday, begins promptly at 10:00 a.m., concludes at 11:15 a.m. and are held in the Pastor’s Study/Office. New members are still being accepted and may jump in and study this ancient foundational piece on Contemplative Prayer and the life of a Christ-follower. Come and See! Come and join us.

- 1 Andrea Williams-Cameron
- 11 Quinn Avery Bingaman
- 18 Dorothy Syler
- 19 Mark Linnerud
- 22 Aracely Brooks
- 30 Joan Rumel



SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Cygnus Women’s Group Celebrates 65 Years

November 2019 marked the 65th Anniversary of the Cygnus Women’s Group. We were surprised by a reception given by 3 daughters of current and former Cygnus members. Monica White’s daughters, Nancy Janecek, and Caroline Lisle, Joan Rumel’s daughter, Cyndi Luchtenburg, and Debbie Talaska, daughter of the late Carlie Nelson. They provided us with cake, cookies, souvenirs and a champagne toast. As well as a lovely stroll down memory lane. We were completely surprised and greatly appreciate their time and talents.

The Cygnus Women’s Circle was formed in November 1954. Our mission is faith fellowship and benevolence. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month except for the Summer months. We cordially invite all women of the church to become members. Please see me if you are interested in joining us or want more information.

Thank you,

Cheryl A. Diddia-Bernstein
Corresponding Secretary of Cygnus

BENEVOLENCE

Taking Care of God's Family and the Community

March Benevolence – A New Direction

A New Direction Beverly Morgan Park was founded in 2011 by a grassroots group of community members and professionals who saw a need to help women, men, and children on Chicago's far South Side in the Beverly/Morgan Park neighborhoods and surrounding communities (city neighborhoods and southern suburbs) who are victims of Domestic Violence. When the neighborhood's primary domestic violence agency closed, the group realized that the community could not abandon victims of domestic violence and that they could serve the existing clients from the closed agency as well as new clients. Their mission *is to provide counseling, education, support, and advocacy to individuals and families affected by Domestic Violence. A New Direction. Provides confidential counseling and advocacy services at no charge to clients as they navigate their journey to safety.* This agency is the only Domestic Violence organization in the community.

In 2013, A New Direction added a Children's Therapy Services Program so that adults and children can work together to break the cycle of domestic violence.

A New Direction is committed to all who utilize its services. Their clients are primarily from the Beverly/Morgan Park community, the agency has no geographic boundaries, and serves women, men and children from any area with the vision to, one day, have every home be safe and free of domestic violence and abuse.

Please be as generous as possible to this vitally important resource in our neighborhood.

Thank you,

Cheryl Diddia-Bernstein for
The Board of Church Life

GREETINGS FROM MARY CONTRARES IN BOLIVIA

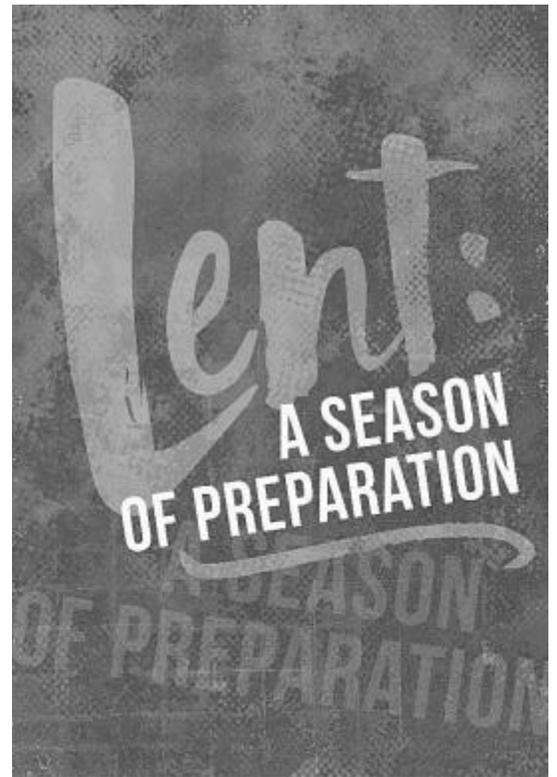
Greetings from Bolivia! Can you locate Bolivia on the world map? We have a young person living there who continues to pray for us as we continue to pray for her and support her through our monthly "Change 4 Change" collection that we receive on the third Sunday of each month. Mary Contrares is our adopted child from Compassion International whose life and family have been sustained by our monthly gifts. Mary is now 18 years old and lives with her parents in Bolivia where she will continue to live, learn and we pray: Thrive. Let's us collect up all our change and put it to a great cause. Sunday March 23, 2020.



LENTEN FELLOWSHIP CARRY-IN SUPPERS

On Friday, March 13, 2020, we will hold the first of two of our Friday Evening Lenten gatherings. These are both carry-in suppers. We ask everyone to bring in a dish they make or purchase that is “Vegetarian.” By definition, “vegetarian” dishes do not contain any “meat.” There are so many to choose from these days. Hopefully, you will bring something you are familiar with and think is good. If you have never experienced this food eating choice, this is your opportunity to experience it and learn about what is all available. This first evening is all “vegetarian.”

Our second Lenten Fellowship gathering will be on Friday, March 27, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. It will be our “Vegan Night.” And we will have notecards for you to identify what it is you have brought so everyone will know. If you have no knowledge of “Vegan” food choices, it is all about not eating anything that comes from an animal. Vegans do not eat or use any animal products at all; no meat of course, but also no milk or dairy products, no eggs, nothing to do with any living soul. Getting to see, taste, and experience this meal is what it is all about. Many have taken up this lifestyle in their eating. No one is asking you to turn vegan. We are just allowing ourselves to learn and experience it as a Lenten practice for one meal.



After we feast on “no flesh” dishes these two nights, we will have a Lenten program from the work of Gayle Boss and David G. Klein titled, “Wild Hope; Stories for Lent from the Vanishing.” Each of the two nights we will look at six different fellow Earth Souls that are endangered because of climate change and mass extinctions. We will learn of the hungry, the sick, the homeless, the poisoned, the hunted and the desecrated. These are fellow creatures, some of which will completely disappear in the next few years and many that are quickly reaching the point of no return due to their loss of habitat, food, and climate changes. We will become familiar with real-time vanishings of some of our fellow Earth Creatures and explore things we might do that may make a difference. We will center in on the Scriptural mandate our Creator has given us concerning His Creation, and we will allow the text of Romans 8:22 guide our thinking, “*All creation groans in this one great act of giving birth.*” Some of our fellow creatures that are vanishing as we are yet alive include:



Sumatran Orangutan, Red Knot(bird), Amur Leopard,
Galapagos Penguin, Staghorn Coral, Panamanian Golden Frog
Indiana Bat, Koala, Black-footed Ferret, Monarch Butterfly,
North Atlantic Right Whale, Polar Bear, Lowland Tapir,
Golden Riffleshell Mussel, Olm, Laysan Albatross,
Giant River Otter, Chinese Pangolin, Ring-tailed Lemur



Black Rhinoceros, Hawksbill Turtle, Bonobo, Atlantic Bluefin Tuna, African Elephant, Takhi Horse



The first line of defense for us and all these fellow creatures is knowledge and education. Come and learn together; explore the resources and solutions that are possible. Climate change and mass extinction have occurred several times before. Predictions say this will be the sixth mass extinction we can count in the world. We are intimately and morally bound to this Earth and its creatures by our Creator God who has commanded us to care for it and tend to her. Let's pray it is not too late for some. We have lost too many already. We can be a part of the solution. Come and see.



WATOTO CHILDREN'S CHOIR TOUR – HERE AT BETHANY MAY 23, 2020

WATOTO CHILDREN'S CHOIR LAUNCHES NEW ALBUM

In May 2020, Watoto, an NGO in Uganda, East Africa, brings you the Watoto Children's Choir performing their brand-new album, "We Will Go." The 6-month tour, launching in the USA on the East Coast, presents the story of abandoned African children and vulnerable women, who are empowered to rise above their circumstances and answer the call to be part of the new Africa - ready to make a difference in the world.

Watoto Children's Choirs have traveled extensively since 1994, sharing a message of hope for Africa's most vulnerable children and women. On almost every day of the year, the choir is performing somewhere in the world. Hundreds of thousands of people get to meet some of Africa's future leaders. People see their smiles and are embraced by their hugs. The children have the distinct privilege of telling people, "It's possible to have joy, to laugh, and to have hope, no matter what you're going through."

Like Africa, the production is vibrant and colorful, taking you on an emotional journey from utter despair to joyous celebration, as the children and women share their personal stories of triumph in story and song. Other than coming to Africa yourself, what better way to learn about all the good things happening in Uganda than through this stirring musical experience.

Proceeds made from the album will help Watoto provide vulnerable children and women with homes, education, medical care, and most of all, the love of a family.

Watoto is a family made up of people from all over the world who are working together to ensure that the forgotten have a place to belong. In a time of civil war, we planted a local church in Kampala, Uganda to speak hope and life to the nation. Since then, we've placed thousands of orphans in families, empowered thousands of vulnerable women to reach their communities, rescued babies and former child soldiers, and sent children's choirs across six continents. As we work alongside the most vulnerable in our society, we aim to rescue individuals and raise each one as a leader in his or her sphere of life so that, in turn, they will rebuild the nation. In over 35 years, the challenges facing Africa have changed, but our vision remains the same. And, in all of this, Watoto is committed to celebrating Christ and caring for community.

Mark your calendar and be here at Bethany Union Church of Chicago on May 23, 2020. The concert is free and open to all. Donations may be made during the concert to help support this vibrant, life-changing ministry that has made Avery visible difference in the lives of thousands.



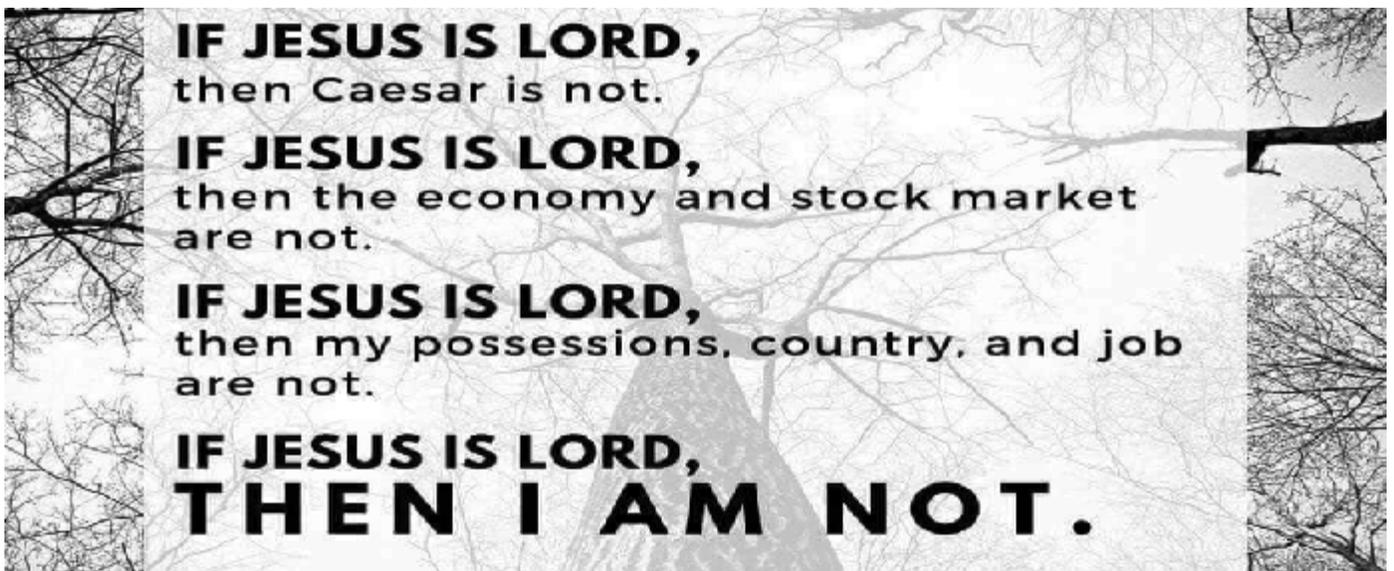
MARCH COMES IN AS A...

Forget that! Doesn't matter what March comes in as, a Lion or a Lamb, what matters is what it finds waiting to greet it either way and what it will find is that the Congregation of The Historic Bethany Union Church of Chicago will be here in faithfulness to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Son of God, Redeemer of all creation and keeper of our hearts and minds.

In a raging and chaotic period of Empire, we, the people of Bethany Union Church, continue to gather and be the physical expression of Christ alive and at work in the world. We are not agents of the State, nor are we members of a worldly Empire, but rather we are purchased, owned, and sustained by the Lamb of God whose Realm we live for and serve. One Lord, One God, One Baptism, One People who bear allegiance to the Lamb of God. We must not remain confused in the entangled mess of this Empire Season which belongs to Satan, but we commit our souls and living to the One, True God who is the Creator and sustainer of us all. It is to this God we send our worship and prayers. It is to this God that we dedicate our lives and living. It is to this God, who is for us, and loves us without end that we dedicate our loyalty and love. This God, who knows our names and bids us, "Come."

May this Season of Lent be embraced by each of us to cleanse our living and make ready the home in our hearts for which Jesus comes and abides. Let us take time to live, to pray. Let us take time to live, to worship. Let us take time to live, to gather together. Let us take time to live, to be the People of God!

Some people will never like
you because your spirit
irritates their demons.



The Original
MILANO'S
PIZZA & SPECIALTIES
Beverly

Serving the best pizza on the South Side!

Phone (773) 445-4010
Fax (773) 445-2511
10945 S. Western Ave. • Chicago, IL 60643

ALWAYS READY REPAIR
HEATING AND COOLING
773-233-7999
708-671-0813

envision
UNLIMITED

Empowering people. Creating possibilities.

Do you have room in your heart and home to support an adult with Intellectual/Developmental Disability? To learn more about adult foster care options, please contact **LaTunya Anderson** at **Envision Unlimited** at **312-874-1199**

Molloy
& Associates Inc...REALTORS

Selling or Buying a Home?

Trust Your Local Experts!

773-779-9898
www.molloyrealestate.com

SOUTHTOWN HEALTH FOODS, INC.

Serving greater Chicago for over 62 years

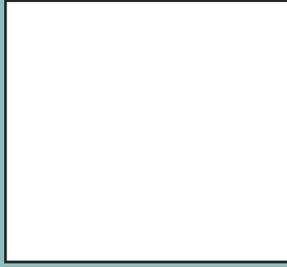
Open Mon-Sat 9:30-5:30, Thurs. til 8 pm
We accept all major credit cards
www.southtownhealthfoods.com
For Current Sales & Info
2100 W. 95th St. • 773-233-1856

BEVERLY BANK
& TRUST COMPANY N.A.™

10258 SouthWestern Ave.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60643

1908 West 103rd Street
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60643

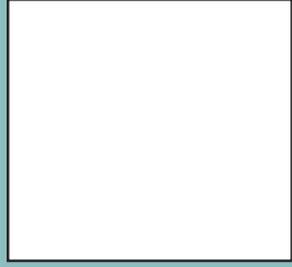
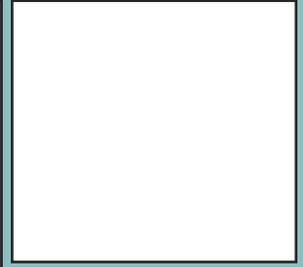
TEL: 773-239-2265



AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Maggie Welter** to place an ad today!
mwelter@4LPi.com or **(800) 950-9952 x2601**



The Beverly
REVIEW

Community News for more than 100 years

(773)-238-3366
(773) 238-1492
beverlyreview.net
e-mail beverlyreview@earthlink.net

TRU-GUARD, INC.

Specializing In

- * Wrought Iron Fences
- * Railing * Gates

Call John Brooks
Home 779-8820
Business 568-5264

SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

(773) 238-5576

County Fair

10800 S. Western Ave.

PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM

\$29.95/MO
BILLED QUARTERLY

PLUS SPECIAL OFFER

CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY & HOME

CALL NOW! 1-888-891-6806

ADT AUTHORIZED DEALER

HOME SECURITY TEAM

LPi

WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES

- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com • www.4LPi.com/careers

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.

— 800-950-9952 —

SPREAD THE WORD

A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS