

**THE HISTORIC BETHANY UNION CHURCH OF CHICAGO**

1750 W 103<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60643

773-779-0123

\*Time Sensitive Materials\*

DO NOT DELAY

Address Correction Requested

# THE UNIFIER APRIL 2021

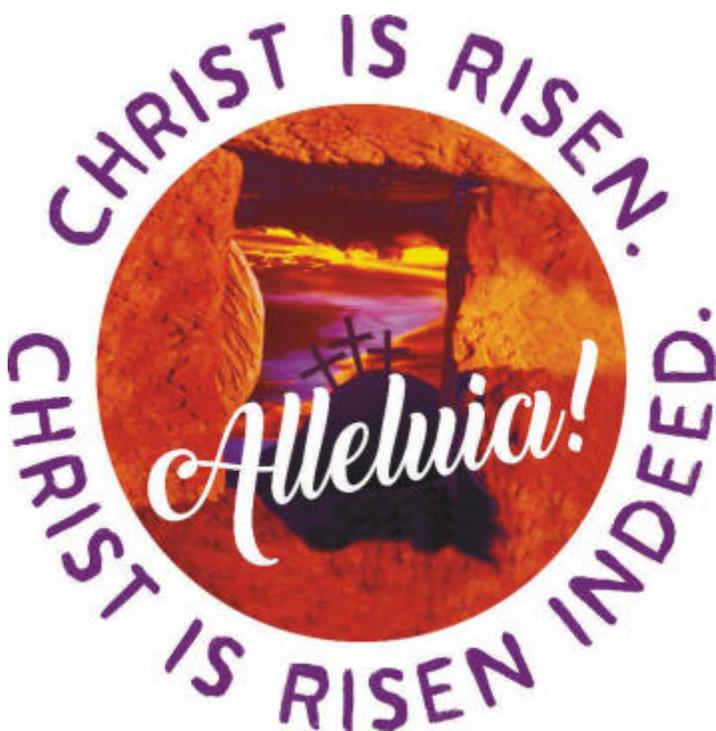
## BETHANY UNION CHURCH OF CHICAGO

**WORSHIP WITH US  
SUNDAYS AT 10:30A**

**IN-PERSON  
FOLLOWING COVID-19 SAFETY  
PROTOCOLS**

**ON OUR BETHANY UNION CHURCH OF  
CHICAGO FACEBOOK PAGE OR ON OUR  
WEBSITE**

[www.bethanyunion.com](http://www.bethanyunion.com)



## **Pastor's Piece on Peace,**

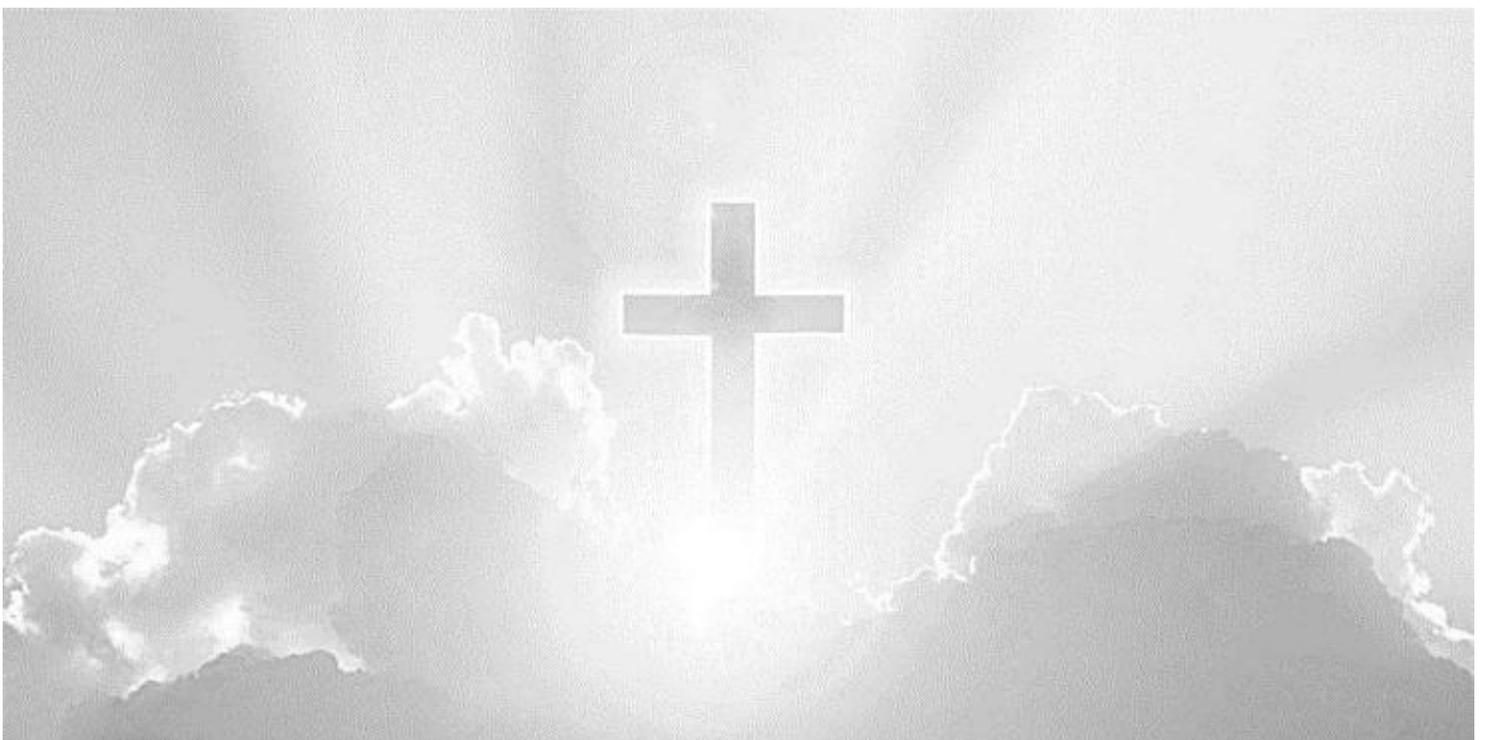
Death cannot win. Death did not win. Death will not win! This is the Kingdom Reality of which we proclaim and profess. It certainly is great and glorious news in and of itself, but what it means for our life and living is that God has said YES in no uncertain terms to the life of Jesus our Lord. This means that all that Jesus revealed and taught and lived was exactly the perfect will of his Father, our Abba God.

Easter/ Resurrection Day is our confirmation, celebration, and recommendation to the world that Christ has come and has brought with Him a true Way and a true Life by doing for us what we are unable to do for ourselves. God saves! God redeems! God comes to us because we have no way of going to Him. Christ brings us the Way and is the Way both at the same time.

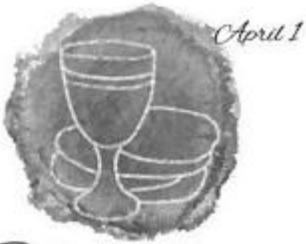
Although we see a second year of no regular Church celebrations and gatherings, we are still coming together in spirit, in the Spirit to praise and give glory to our God, knowing that we belong to Him and He has already won for us all that we need or can desire. He has Risen! He has Risen indeed!

I will see you soon and very soon,

Pastor Larry



# April Reflections



*Maundy*  
THURSDAY

*Savior, teach me to follow your example of loving others by serving them.*



*Good*  
FRIDAY

*Pontius Pilate asked Jesus, "What is truth?" even as Truth stood before him. May my life be grounded in the Truth sent by God to save me.*



*We approach the place of death, little knowing God's glorious surprise that awaits us!*



**Rejoice!  
He Lives!**

# Our April Birthdays

4/4 Jon Sloop

4/20 Masie I Greene

4/18 Reginald Marshall

4/23 Tina Rembert

4/18 Andrea Davis

4/27 Andrew Greene

God has created you  
& rejoices in  
all that you are.

# Our April Anniversaries

4/20 Liz & Eric Diddia

4/23 Nancy & Chuck Diddia

4/25 Rosa & James Bass

## ***Keep them in your thoughts and prayers***

**Signe Morgan** is living at Bridgeview Healthcare Center  
8100 S Harlem Ave, Room 205, Bed 1  
Bridgeview, IL 60455

Remember in your prayers the family of William Bailey, III (11/14/1956 - 03/05/2021.) He is the husband of **Toi-Ann Bailey**, a friend of Bethany Union Church. They were married for 35 years, and he died after a long bout with cancer. Toi-Ann plans on returning to worship next week. She has been missing due to taking care of her husband.

## ***Bethany Union Church Updates!***

### ***Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!***

Bethany Union Church wants to extend a special thank you to all who have faithfully given their financial and prayerful support during this pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Your contributions and prayers have enabled us to maintain our beautiful church buildings and stay current with financial obligations.

God bless you,  
Chuck Diddia  
Treasurer

### ***House Committee Update***

Hello, this winter has been unusually difficult for Bethany Union Church. In addition to tons of snow being removed, we also had an ice dam problem at the Howe House, where water was dripping from the kitchen's ceiling lights. The insurance claim was denied as the damage inside the house was less than our \$2,500 deductible. We do, however, have repairs to be made to the kitchen ceiling later this spring. I am going to contact Kevin's Roofing (Educational Building Roofer) to determine if there was any external damage to the roof and what might be done to prevent the ice dams from occurring in the future.

I'm assuming that most of you know about the water leak in our heating system. By the time you read this, we will have had the asbestos tile removed from the entrance to the Educational Building. Soon after that, we will have our heating contractor open the floor to find and fix the leaking radiant heat pipes. Hopefully, this can all be done in a relatively short period of time, and we will have heat restored for next winter. When the leak is sealed, it will be necessary to retile the entire floor at the front entrance. I have not requested donations to cover these costs as we will hopefully receive some reimbursement from our Church Mutual Insurance. I will keep you posted on the progress as this major project continues.

For your information, we also have an unrelated plumbing issue with leaking pipes in the basement of the Educational Building. Kennedy Plumbing has been contacted and will be here on March 29<sup>th</sup> to fix it.

Please keep Bethany Union Church in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you,  
Chuck Diddia  
House Committee Chair

## Cultivating

Kind hearts are the gardens.

Kind thoughts are the roots.

Kind words are the flowers.

Kind deeds are the fruits.



Take care of your garden

and keep out the weeds.

Fill it with sunshine,

kind words and kind deeds.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

### ***Believing in***

Sometimes we get caught up in thinking we need to understand God in order to have faith. But faith is more about trust than knowledge; it's more about believing in someone than believing information. A child, for instance, doesn't have to know the precise roads to Grandma's house; he only needs to believe *in* his parents and their ability and desire to get him there safely. Similarly, we need not understand all the intricacies of how God works; we can take a cue from the disciples and let belief *in* the risen Christ transform and empower us.

In the words of Madeleine L'Engle (*The Rock That Is Higher*): "The disciples did not bother to try to understand the resurrection body. They doubted, and then they believed. They believed something so wonderful that it changed this broken, fragmented, beaten-down little group of men and women in a moment from depression to enthusiasm, from despair to new life, vibrant and unafraid."



This Earth Day, we must work to care for God's creation and encourage other people of faith to do the same.

With hope, we have the knowledge that we can choose, that we can learn from our mistakes. We can and must turn from our destructive actions and live as we were created to, in peaceful, mutually beneficial flourishing with all that is. How do we do it?

Among many problems, the climate crisis caused by excess greenhouse gases stands out. Only government can control the corporations that continue to promote fossil fuels, and you can help congress to take the necessary steps. I believe a carbon tax is the best way and suggest visiting [cclusa.org/write](http://cclusa.org/write). There you will find tools for making your opinions known.



Recently, one of Bethany Union Church's neighbors called attention to our Steeple Tower and Carillon.

She used words like beacon, blessings, community. That is how we hope it is received.

You need only look up at the Steeple Tower when illuminated to see it as a beautiful beacon that shines for all to see from miles around.

The inspirational hymns of the carillon play during the day and early evening.

It is us calling out into the darkness and saying, "We beg to differ!" For nearly 150 years, the Christian Community Church of Bethany Union has been a positive and Holy presence in this place.

We are reminded, and we remind our community, that no matter how dark things seemingly get, there is a light that can not be extinguished, and that light is Christ our Lord!

*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**

**GROW YOUR BUSINESS WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL PARISH.**

**Purchase a bulletin ad today!**

**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](http://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**

**The TEECH Foundation**  
*Behavioral Health Services*

Bethany Union Church • 1750 W 103rd St.

Addiction IOP/BOP • DUI  
Anger Management • Mental Health  
Parenting • Recovery Oriented Systems (ROSC) • Recovery Support Services

Dr. K White CAD, NCRS, RCT • (224) 406-3798  
De'Shara Shells CPC, RC • (312) 539-5263

**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME**

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE**

Contact **David Duran** to place an ad today!  
[dduran@4LPi.com](mailto:dduran@4LPi.com) or **(800) 950-9952 x2465**

**TRU-GUARD, INC.**

Specializing In

- \* Wrought Iron Fences
- \* Railing \* Gates

Call John Brooks  
Home 779-8820  
Business 568-5264

**Deb's**  
*Southern Style Pantry*

**Jam - Jellies and Pickled Veggies**  
**773-957-3313**  
[Dureas@aol.com](mailto:Dureas@aol.com)

**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](http://www.24-7MEDALARM.COM)

**ADT-Monitored Home Security**

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | 1-855-225-4251

**4LPi**

**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](mailto:careers@4LPi.com) • [www.4LPi.com/careers](http://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**