

THE HISTORIC BETHANY UNION CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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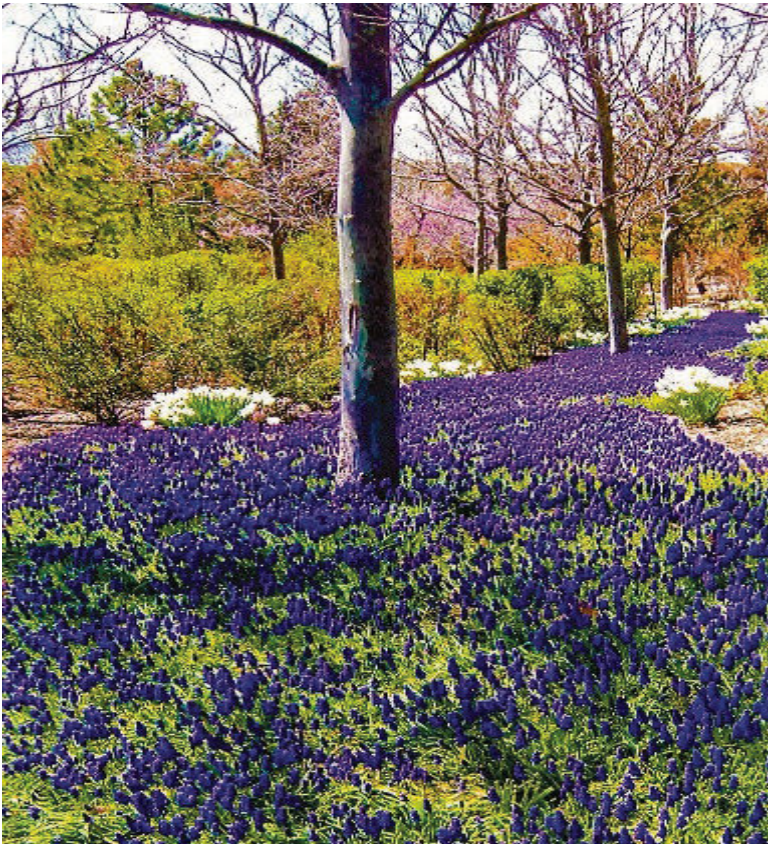
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THE UNIFIER APRIL 2024



**THE HISTORIC
BETHANY UNION CHURCH
OF CHICAGO**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30A
IN-PERSON OR ON FACEBOOK LIVE**

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FROM THE DESK OF PL

Dear Ones of Bethany Union,



From my childhood, I remember the verse, “April showers bring May flowers.” As I write this, April is still two weeks out, and the flowers have already sprung and appeared here in March. I’ve already seen several robins as we have enjoyed what seems to be a rather early Spring. I’m not complaining. I’m just trying to get my head wrapped around this new normal of climate change. It’s not all good and wonderful, as severe storms and tornadoes have also appeared much earlier than we are used to seeing. According to the news various parts of the country have been dealing with their own abnormal weather patterns. Climate change can hardly be doubted by anyone anymore. The question before us is are we able and willing to do anything about it before things are so out of whack that our very existence is threatened? This is a theological and Biblical question. Has not The Lord of creation given to us the task of caring for His creation? Is it not a Biblical mandate that we care for and tend the earth? The earth is our inheritance and birthright. We are not just passing through to get to somewhere else. Our care of and tending to of this world are our God-given commandment and gift. Every one of us can do things that benefit the planet or hurt God’s creation. Ignorance hurts. Find out how you can be a better world citizen and begin to take the needed action to help create a more sustainable future for our children’s children. What you buy and use on a weekly basis is one important consideration. Recycling is another. Supporting groups and legislation that is environmentally kind and friendly is another. Remembering Creation in your daily prayers and efforts is also an important component. As we watch our world change right before our eyes, let us not despair but consider it our wake-up call to do everything within our scope of possibilities to make a difference in our environment for the good, the greater good. In the first week of May we will hear and be challenged by our Legacy Lecturer concerning our thoughts and participation in our ecosystem. I pray you will make sure you come and hear this good word on May 4, 2024, from Dr. Candace Laughinghouse. This lecture is yet another way we can help challenge and confront the complacency and uninformed status of our collective mindset concerning the urgency of appropriate response.

In the Lord’s love and hope,
Pastor Larry Cameron



APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, April 6, all day, Life Line Screening will be in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, April 7, 10:30a, 2nd Sunday after Easter, Communion Sunday, Congregational Meeting

Monday, April 8, Solar Eclipse

Monday, April 22, Earth Day

COMING MAY 4th, 6p! 2024 Legacy Lecture with Dr. Candace M. Laughinghouse. May 5th at 10:30a
Worship, Dr. Laughinghouse will preach. Everyone is welcome! Free admission and free parking.

LET'S
celebrate
SOMETHING
today

Fun excuses to celebrate this month:

National Garden Month	15th Income Tax Day
National Volunteer Month	16th National Stress Awareness Day
1st April Fool's Day	17th National Cheese Ball Day
2nd International Children's Book Day	18th Pet Owner's Day
April 3rd Find-A-Rainbow Day	19th Humorous Day
4th Walk Around Things Day	20th Cuckoo Day
5th National Read a Road Map Day	21st Kindergarten Day
6th Jump Over things Day	22nd Earth Day
7th World Health Day	23rd Home Run Day
8th Zoo Lovers Day	24th Pigs-in-a-Blanket Day
9th Name Yourself Day	25th National Telephone Day
10th National Sibling Day	26th Hug a Friend Day
11th Jackie Robinson Day	27th Tell a Story Day
12th Big Wind Day	28th Poetry Reading Day
13th Scrabble Day	29th Zipper Day
14th Reach as High as You Can Day	30th National Honesty Day

Find even more reasons to celebrate: <http://familycrafts.about.com>

My personal favorite not listed above, 4/17 Blah Blah Blah Day (terry)

Happy Birthday!

On this special day,
we celebrate how blessed the world
became when God gave us you.



WishesMsg.com

- 4 Jon Sloop
- 6 Jordan (Sloop) Rivera
- 8 Arthur John Heniff – 2 Today!
- 8 Dave Nagel
- 11 Ryan Diddia
- 18 Andrea Davis
- 18 Reginald Marshall
- 20 Masie Isabell Greene
- 20 Arnie Bernstein
- 23 Tina Rembert
- 25 Emersyn Rose Bingaman – 3 Today!
- 27 Andrew B Greene



- 20 Liz & Eric Diddia
- 22 Lisa & Mario Butler-Del Rio
- 23 Nancy & Chuck Diddia
- 25 Rosa & James Bass



And so we pray... for Bethany Union Church, Pastor Larry & family; Sophie Carlton & family; Michael Rudd; Sheila Reid; Tom Van Swol & family; Sloop family; Jaimie Peirce family; Ede Iversen; Len

Achtenberg & Steve Livesey; Lorraine & Charles Morgan; Dorothy Syler & family; Dr Masie I Greene & family; Jaden; the Butler-Del Rio/Charles Family, Angela Butler; Betsie Hale; Bruce McFadden; Dorothy Tedesco; Rafael Rameriz, Jr. & Nicole Guevera family & friends for health, healing & strength; Miller/Hahn family; Sawyer; Patsy Tichy; Pamela Henderson; Rose & Tony Norris family; Minor Merrither; James Walls & family; Jack Voigt; Jason Frederick health & family (friend of Lisa); Goldie (Maria Barwegen's mother); Margaret Walson family & friends; Mary Erwin & family; Kathie White; Patrick C; Jewel; that the friends of Bethany Union Church, who share our space are blessed with health and peace in 2024; Treva Jones' intentions; serenity for those afflicted by addictions & mental disorders; peace for our Church and congregations in the surrounding areas; for the indigent, homeless, displaced, and hungry, and those ministries that selflessly work to serve them; in thanksgiving for our every blessing; for the safety of our Law Enforcement and First Responders, James Walls, Lawrence Walls, Langston Walls, Tony Franchetti, Charlie Villanova, Cody Bingaman; for all educators and schools; PEACE in the Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine; victims of gun violence & war, who have died or have been traumatized, left suffering, homeless, and starving; for good health, peace, and that we all have a safe place to call home.

Howe Family Visit

In March, Bethany Union Church was contacted by a member of the Howe family. Descendants of the Edward G Howe family will be in Indiana for a family gathering over Easter weekend. Since they'll be close, they asked to visit Bethany Union on April 1st. They expect at least ten people and perhaps as many as thirty who would come. We are preparing to give them a tour of the church and surrounding grounds. We have also been conversing with Linda Lamberty, one of the Historians at the Ridge Historical Society. She has been most helpful as they have a wealth of Howe family information and resources, as the Howe's were great documenters. One of the most interesting facts is that our Howe House (next door) has long been known as the Edward G. Howe house, but contrary to popular opinion, he was not the first owner. Before the Howe family's residence there, it was owned by the Camillus Cox family, who may have been the ones who built it. The real Howe House may be at 10208 S. Wood St. This house was designed by the famous architect Daniel Burnham for someone in the Howe family. Linda Lamberty is investigating that further. So, our guests will not be disappointed with Lorraine Morgan, who is focused on the Howe-Bethany Union tour, and Linda Lamberty, who is on a deep dig.

Please Support our 2024 Legacy Lecture coming May 4th!

Once again, Bethany Union Church is planning our Legacy Lecture Event. On our 150th anniversary, Pastor Larry began this tradition two years ago to continue this series in keeping with our Churches' Covenant relative to religious education. Dr. Candance M. Laughinghouse will be with us on a Saturday for a lecture and then preach at our Sunday worship service. I will ask that, as you are able, please contribute to the Legacy Lecture Series to help defray expenses. If you contribute, please pay Bethany Union Church and indicate "Legacy Lecture" on the envelope or check comment line.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chuck Diddia, Treasurer Bethany Union Church

Treasurer's Update

March was a good month! We did not have any major expenses and actually, it was the first month in 2024 that we did not have to withdraw from our Vanguard Investment Fund. Once again, I encourage you to stay current with your financial commitments and to keep Bethany Union Church in your thoughts and prayers.

Scouting Reports



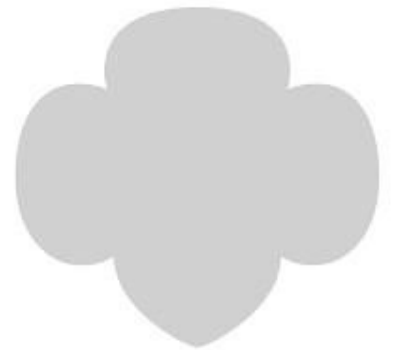
Boy Scout Troop 607 has been busy since Scout Sunday in February. They attended the Klondike Derby which teaches many life skills: first aid, cold weather prep, and team building. The scouts had a fun-filled indoor golf event at Birdies in Oak Lawn. In March, the troop coordinated the district to march in the Southside Irish Parade, representing the great opportunities Scouting and the Unit organizations provide for the youth of our community. They also recruit more members to strengthen the program. Upcoming, the troop will hold a compass skill bike trip and participate in a campout. In addition, on Wednesday, May 1st, we will have our Awards Banquet-Potluck Dinner.



Cub Scout Pack 3607 meets every other Thursday regularly. The boys are working on advancing and earning badges. On February 29th, they held their annual Blue & Gold Dinner, which was well attended. On March 16th, they had their Pinewood Derby. All is good with Pack 3607.

Girl Scout Troop 20117 actively participated in Bethany Union Church's Worship Service on March 20th. Eleven young ladies were involved on this Girl Scout Sunday and read Scripture. After worship, they sold Girl Scout Cookies during fellowship. They meet in the Scout Room on the 2nd Saturday of the month, though they work throughout the month on service projects that have positive effects at the community and global levels.

Something New... Victoria, a Community Specialist for Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana, called upon Bethany Union Church for meeting space. The Girl Scout Leaders will meet each month, expanding the Girl Scout-Bethany Union partnership.



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INTO OUR COMMUNITY.



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Bethany Union Church's mission continues! On May 5, 2024, Bethany Union's 152nd Anniversary will be commemorated with the third Legacy Lecture Series Program on May 4th & 5th, 2024. The event will occur at Bethany Union Church, 1750 W 103rd St, Chicago, 60643; it is free and open to the public. Parking is free, and we have a ramp exit on Wood Street. Contact us on Facebook, website bethanyunion.com, or email connection@bethanyunion.com.

Dr. Lawrence M. Cameron, the 12th Seated Pastor of Bethany Union Church, and David Zizic, Minister of Music, have prepared a weekend filled with song and prayers. Pastor Cameron's intention with the Legacy Lecture Series two years ago was to continue providing the Chicago community with an opportunity to hear keynote speakers take the pulpit on important contemporary issues, challenging and inspiring the public to engage.

We are fortunate to have Dr. Candace Laughinghouse as our 2024 guest speaker and preacher; the topic is "Decolonizing Intersectionality: an Ecowomanist Sermonic Hymn." The program will begin on Saturday at 6 p.m. with song and praise, followed by Dr. Laughinghouse's Lecture. On Sunday, during our 10:30a.m. Worship Service: Dr. Laughinghouse will preach.

If you want to be part of the Bethany Union Church Story, please give and indicate " your name and "Legacy Lecture" on your gift. Donations received will be used to defray the cost of the celebration.

CANDACE LAUGHINGHOUSE



Candace Laughinghouse

| Women in Theology

I will continue to update, but I will always be a woman who loves God, family, and all of God's creation. I will also remain a student in life and embrace conversation to encourage me to grow even in the most difficult spaces. ** profile image is the brilliant artwork of Vanessa Brantley-Newton.

**All are welcome! Free admission and parking. Let us know you're coming through
Eventbrite Bethany Union Church 3rd Annual Legacy Lecture**

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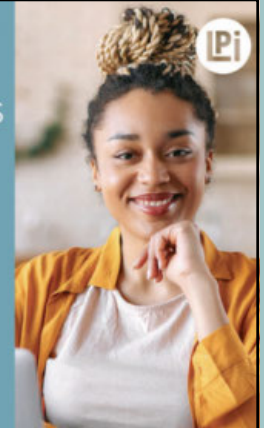
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