

THE HISTORIC BETHANY UNION CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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THE UNIFIER APRIL 2025



THE HISTORIC
BETHANY UNION CHURCH
OF CHICAGO

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

1750 W 103RD ST, CHICAGO, 60643

773-779-0123

BETHANYUNION.COM

FROM THE DESK OF PL

Beloved of Bethany Union Church of Chicago,

In the awesome and eternal name of Christ Jesus our Lord, I greet you with love and admiration as we approach the most solemn part of our Christian calendar year. I pray this finds you well and in good health and spirits.



As we journey towards the cross and the day of Resurrection, we do so ever aware of stressful and anxious times but equipped with the love and compassion of our ever-present Lord who goes to Jerusalem knowing what fate awaits him. He does so with obedience and faith and enables us to live in His eternal Way. With hope and trust in Him as we move forward, already victorious in Him. Let us go with dignity and integrity to the cross that awaits each of us who follow Him.

Easter is a time of new beginnings and of faith born out of sorrow and confusion. Just as the disciples of long ago let us be rallied together by our Lord to participate in His redeeming love of His creation. Let us begin again! Trusting in Him alone for our comfort, strength, energy, and eternal being. I pray that you will come as you are able and join us as we celebrate the mystery of life together in Him, who is its author and sustainer.

May the Lord of Life, the One who left an empty tomb and became the firstborn of the Resurrection, guide you, direct you, and help you hear his faithful call to you to come and celebrate Him who is always with us and who loves us beyond our comprehension. Come! We have been called to be together and be one to worship and grow in Him.

Blessings and all good,

Pastor Larry Cameron/12th seated Pastor of Bethany Union Church of Chicago

APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, April 6, 10:30a, 5th Sunday of Lent, Communion Sunday, Congregational Meeting

Saturday, April 12, 8a, All Church Communion Breakfast Saturday, we prepare for and make ready ourselves for Holy Week by coming together on the day before it all begins, remembering that Jesus went to Bethany right before He would enter Jerusalem for His last days on earth. We come together at Bethany to fellowship and share in the Holy Sacrament of Communion and fellowship together over a wonderful breakfast to begin our Holy Week 2025.



Sunday, April 13, 10:30a, Palm Sunday. We will celebrate with Palm branches and send them home with you to commemorate this Holy day. Come and worship!

Also, on Sunday, April 13, 2025, we will celebrate the Holy Sacrament of Baptism. Being Baptized this day will be Arthur John and James Daniel Heniff, sons of Becky Heniff. This will be an awesome day of the Lord!

There are no services at Bethany Union, but Maundy Thursday and Good Friday complete Holy Week.

Sunday, April 20, 10:30a, Easter Sunday - Resurrection Sunday! Come and join us as we celebrate and worship our Risen Savior, Christ the Lord!

Tuesday, April 22, Earth Day, Friday, April 25, Arbor Day

Sunday, April 27, 10:30a



Caring for God's Creation

Happy Birthday!

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



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- 4 Jon Sloop
- 6 Jordan (Sloop) Rivera
- 8 Arthur John Heniff – 3 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 – 4 Today!
- 27 Andrew B Greene



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

Christian Prayer for Peace

Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be known as the Children of God.
But I say to you that hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

To those who strike you on the cheek, offer the other also,
and from those who take away your cloak, do not withhold your coat as well.

Give to everyone who begs from you,
and of those who take away your goods, do not ask them again.
And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

COUNCIL CHAIR UPDATE

As we step into April, we celebrate the joy and hope of Easter, reflecting on Christ's resurrection and the renewal it brings. This season reminds us of the power of faith, the beauty of new beginnings, and the call to be a beacon of light in our community.

The church council continues to prayerfully seek ways to support and strengthen our congregation. We are excited about the upcoming opportunities for worship and fellowship. Please join us for the all church communion breakfast April 12, Palm Sunday April 13, and Easter Sunday April 20th.

Thank you for your continued prayers, dedication, and service. May this Easter season fill your hearts with joy and purpose as we work together to share God's love.

Blessings,

Cheryl A. Diddia-Bernstein

TREASURER'S UPDATE

Fixed expenses continue to rise with general inflation. To ensure we have the cash flow needed to carry out our Bethany Union Church mission, we have again withdrawn from our Vanguard Investment Fund. We encourage you to stay current with your financial commitments and to keep Bethany Union Church in your thoughts and prayers.

Andrew B. Greene

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SUPPORTERS!

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INTO OUR COMMUNITY.



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2025 BENEVOLENCE

At the March Council meeting, we decided that for 2025, our ongoing benevolence will be earmarked for the Maple Morgan Park Food Pantry.

The pantry has been in existence for over 40 years and is located at the Morgan Park United Methodist Church 11030 S Longwood, Chicago, IL 60643. They serve zip codes 60643 and 60655. They provide a monthly box of shelf-stable food and a block of cheese. Items such as canned fruits and vegetables, protein, milk, juice, cereal, and pasta. The hours of operation are Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:00pm-3:00pm.

The impact of the Maple Morgan Park Food Pantry on the community is profound. By addressing food insecurity, the pantry helps improve the overall well-being of individuals and families. Proper nutrition is essential for physical health, mental clarity, and overall quality of life. Children who receive adequate nutrition are better equipped to succeed in school, adults are more productive at work, and seniors experience improved health outcomes.

Despite its successes, the Maple Morgan Park Food Pantry faces ongoing challenges, including fluctuating funding, increasing demand, and the need for more volunteers. The pantry continuously seeks innovative solutions to these challenges, including exploring new funding opportunities. The ultimate goal is to empower individuals and families to achieve long-term stability and self-sufficiency.

The Maple Morgan Park Food Pantry is more than just a food distribution center; it is a pillar of community support and a symbol of hope. Through compassion, dedication, and the collective effort of volunteers and partners, the pantry continues to make a significant difference in the lives of those it serves.

Please be as generous as possible as you prayerfully consider donating to the Maple Morgan Park Food Pantry. The need is great.

Thank you,

Cheryl A. Diddia-Bernstein



Scouting Reports



Scout Troop 607 has had an unusually hard winter with the death of Scoutmaster Michael Rudd. However, with Scoutmaster Ed Hollinger, the Troop has continued with their activities, including the Klondike Derby (which teaches many life skills: first aid, cold weather prep, and team building) and participation in the Southside St Patrick's Day Parade. 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.



Scout Pack 3607 meets every other Thursday regularly. The boys are working on advancing and earning badges. On February 27th, they held their annual Blue & Gold Dinner, which was well attended. On March 9th, they had their Pinewood Derby. All is good with Pack 3607.

Resurrection Day Plant Sale 2025

*Please add to the beauty of our Sanctuary this Easter.
Just fill out this form and return to the Church office by
April 6, 2025.*

Hyacinths \$26.00

Tulips \$26.00

Azaleas \$30.00

Total Number of Plants _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

In Honor of _____

In Loving Memory of _____

Given By _____

Do you wish to take a plant home?

Yes _____ *No* _____

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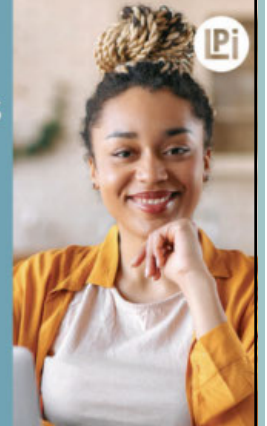
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