

Together we celebrate the work of God's Spirit among us through Christian fellowship and service throughout our community, practicing a welcoming spirit, honoring each person, and challenging one another to seek God's purpose in the world – with the promise of joy, renewal, and spiritual growth.

(Mission Statement, adopted 1996)

HYDE PARK UNION CHURCH

Chartered in 1874 in the Free Church Tradition
American Baptist/United Church of Christ
5600 South Woodlawn Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60637
phone 773.363.6063 • fax 773.324.3874
www.hpuc.org • office@hpuc.org



June 2016

June Church Calendar

Regular Weekly Events:

Mondays - Yoga & Centering Prayer, 7:00 p.m.
beginning 6/13

Wednesdays - Bible Study in the parlor, 1:00 p.m., beginning 6/8

Thursdays - Senior Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., ending 6/9

Friday, June 3

Taizé Worship, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 5

Worship with Communion, 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour & Fellowship, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 9

Young Natives Open Jam Session featuring Willie Pickens & Ravinia Jazz Scholars, 6 p.m.

Sunday, June 12

Children's Sunday Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour & Fellowship, 11:30 a.m.

Chili-making, 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 19

Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour & Fellowship, 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 26

Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour and Fellowship, 11:30 a.m.

From the Interim Minister Marcus Lohrmann

"Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built."

1st Kings 8:41-43

As a foreigner to this place – to both the heritage of this church and its wider denominational ties – I have lately been on the receiving side of your collectively outstretched arms in welcome in the past weeks. Although I have not come here as distant a land as King Solomon might have had in mind in his prayer of dedication here, I am delighted that the sometimes ridged denominationalism that can obscure our lives together as Christians in the world has been replaced by such welcome and warmth. You are indeed signs of the answer to Solomon's prayer. It is my great honor to be worshipping alongside and among this community.

With that, many individuals here have asked about my background and story coming to this congregation. Since my ministry is brief and limited to this summer, here is as good a place as any to give you all some biographical information: I was born and raised in Walla Walla, Washington, a small agricultural town whose most famous crops include sweet onions, wheat, and *vitis vinifera* (wine grapes). Growing up, I loved baseball, fly fishing, hiking, singing, and playing the guitar. My parents, both children of Lutheran clergy and teachers, were very active members of our hometown Lutheran church in Walla Walla with our family. Although my mother (Linda) is now retired, she spent her career as a public servant teaching elementary aged children. My father (John) spent thirty-plus years working as an attorney. In 2008 he was elected as one of two Superior Court judges in Walla Walla County. My siblings Martin, Matthew, and Anne, are all married with children: I am the happy uncle of eight nieces and nephews!

As an undergraduate I attended Valparaiso University. While studying there I met my wife Rebekkah (Bekki). Graduating from college in 2009 with a degree in Philosophy, I moved to the city of Chicago with a group of friends to work in collaboration as artists and musicians. After we were married in Bekki's home region of Upstate New York, she and I moved to Hyde Park so that she could begin her studies at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Meanwhile, I continued to write and perform music with friends, working a bunch of part-time jobs to support my music goals. After several

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odd-jobs I began work as Wine and Spirits director in a cheese shop and restaurant in Oak Park, IL. Growing up in a small farm community turned first-rate wine producing country had given me a great passion for wine that I gladly transformed into a career path!

In 2012 Bekki and I moved to Chelan, Washington for the completion of her internship process both at Lake Chelan Lutheran Church. In the interest of furthering my career in the wine industry I became an Assistant Winemaker there during the harvest crush season and beyond. Although my passion for exploring, tasting, and making wine has continued, it was around this time that I decided to head back to school and pursue my M.Div. towards becoming a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Before moving back, however, Bekki's work took us both to Holden Village where she was intern pastor (and later an *interim* pastor, too) in the village. Holden is a remote Lutheran retreat center high up in the Cascade Mountains. It is a place famous not only for its beauty, but additionally for its eco-centricism, daily communal worship life, and accessibility to all things outdoors. Despite my love of the work of ministry, winemaking, and work music, to this day I maintain that the best job I've ever had was as a sawyer deep in the woods at Holden Village cutting firewood for the following winter.

Upon moving back to Hyde Park in 2013 I began my studies at the University of Chicago Divinity School. In 2014 Bekki received a call to serve as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Joliet, IL where we live today. Over the course of my studies I was awarded the Ministry Department's International Travel Grant and spent ten weeks traveling through Guatemala and Cuba practicing Spanish, engaging in conversations about faith, and exploring reconciliation between the U.S. and Cuba.

Like Bekki, part of my ordination process in the ELCA will be a year long pastoral internship where I will work full-time in a congregational setting. My internship will begin in August 2016 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hinsdale, IL.

I am eager for the days of our ministry together that lie ahead; of praying alongside one another, growing in faith, and continually becoming one body of Christ that welcomes the foreigners into our midst.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Marcus C. Lohrmann

Gilead Ministry: Giving Thanks for Jackson Park Hospital's Employees

Rev. Erma Croom, Director of the Gilead Ministry

*We give thanks to God always for you all,
making mention of you in our prayers.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2 (KJV)

The month of June at Jackson Park Hospital begins with an air of celebration as the hospital holds its Annual Awards Luncheon. The event takes place on June 10th and is joyously announced by a festively decorated cafeteria and the preparation of a sumptuous meal, all done in recognition of the years of dedicated service that the honorees have given Jackson Park Hospital. Some of the employees have served the patients and family members at the hospital for as many as forty-five years. It is wonderful to see them receive the honor and recognition that they so rightly deserve. The staff of Gilead Ministry gives God thanks and appreciates the opportunity to serve with and to provide spiritual and emotional support for this wonderful group of people.

Jackson Park Hospital is not without its challenges. In some instances the hospital is under resourced and is often under staffed. As Director of Spiritual Care and a chaplain at Jackson Park Hospital, I have had the opportunity to observe, first hand, the many ways in which devoted employees, in spite of the challenges, continue to strive to give the best of themselves and their service to the patients and family members in the South Shore community. It is the prayer of Gilead Ministry that our presence as a ministry within Jackson Park Hospital brings a sense of hope and expressions of God's hospitality and joy to special gatherings like the Annual Awards Luncheon, a time for us to demonstrate our appreciation for Jackson Park Hospital employees and their committed service in the midst of the challenges experienced in the day-to-day realities of the hospital's operations.

We Be Jammin'

Jade Maze, Music Director

This summer we are starting our youth jam session off with a bang! The first one will be hosted by Urban Aspirations and feature our own Willie Pickens and his Ravinia Jazz Scholars. Marcus Burks will emcee. I and saxophonist John Wesley, leader of our Thursday jam house band, will also join in the fun. It should be an exciting evening. I highly recommend you come out for your listening pleasure. The festivities run from 6-8pm

Marcus Burks will also be interviewing Willie Pickens and saxophonist Isaiah Collier (he was here in one of our Sacred Jazz Services) this **Saturday, June 4th, at 1pm on WHPK, 88.5fm**. Be sure to tune in.

The jam sessions will continue through October on 2nd Thursdays from 5-7pm. Please spread the word. All ages are welcome.

We're Getting the Band Back Together
Urban Aspirations presents
Young Natives Open Jam Session
featuring
Willie Pickens
and the
Ravinia Jazz Scholars
8 Hyde Park Union Church 5600 S. Woodlawn Ave.
Young Natives is a free open jam session
committed to Chicago area student jazz musicians
and their mentors
All ages welcome
No cover
Thursday June 9th 6pm
bring your own axe
www.urbanaspirations.org
HYDE PARK UNION CHURCH 5600 S. WOODLAWN AVE, CHICAGO
HPUC.ORG

Thank you choirs!

I wanted to thank both the senior choir and the children's choir for their beautiful ministry this past season. Both choirs will be off for the season in mid-June. We wish tenor Dusan Grubisic continued blessings as he heads off to Oberlin to continue his vocal studies. Choir will resume Thursday, September 8th (the first Thursday after Labor Day). If you feel the call to sing or have children you want to join the choir, please let me know at jade@hpuc.org!



through 8.15.16

Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday Closed

Please contact the office to make arrangements for dropping off food and/or clothing donations.

Experience the Sacred
through Song and Silence in the Spirit of

Taizé

Friday, June 3, 7 pm

 **Hyde Park
Union Church** 5600 S Woodlawn | hpuc.org 
Join us every first Friday of the month for Taizé

Hyde Park Union Church
5600 S. Woodlawn Ave.
Chicago, IL 60637