

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



November 2016

November Church Calendar

Regular Weekly Events:

Wednesdays - Bible Study in the parlor, 1:00 p.m. **except November 23 and November 30**

Thursdays - Senior Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 4

Taizé Worship, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 6

Worship with Communion, Madison McClendon preaching, 10:00 a.m.

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

Second Hour, 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, November 8

Personnel and Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting, 5 p.m.

Thursday, November 10

Sacred Jazz Institute Jam Session, 5 p.m.

Saturday, November 12

To the Bridge Concert, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 13

Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Chili-making, 11:30 a.m.

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

Sunday, November 20

Worship, 10:00 a.m.

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

Board Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 23

No Bible Study

Thursday, November 24

Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, November 25

Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 27

Worship, 10:00 a.m.

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

Wednesday, November 30

No Bible Study

From the Interim Minister
Rev. Liz Jones

My, how time flies!

It seems like a few days ago that I stepped into the pulpit at Hyde Park Union Church for the first time. It was a hot, late summer day, and my head was spinning trying to remember dozens of names. Walking up to the church that morning, I'd paused outside to take in the building. I felt the weight of responsibility, knowing that I was called to lead this historic and important church through a short but important time of transition and change. I prayed I would be worthy of the task.

Fast forward a couple of months and I am about to say goodbye to this community which has become so special to me. At the same time, I am so excited for what lies ahead for this church. God is not finished with you yet. You will continue to nurture young people, form new ministers, feed the hungry, welcome the community, and preach the gospel. You will continue to be a place where faith touches mind, emotion, and spirit. You will continue to model the diversity and beauty of God's realm "on earth as it is in heaven." I am sure of this.

As we say goodbye in the coming weeks, remember that you will be in my prayers. I have learned much about ministry during my time with you, and I have felt profound joy every day of my ministry in Hyde Park.

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6

Grace and peace,
Liz

From the Moderator
Christine D. Bailey

Farewell to Liz Jones

Liz will be leaving HPUC on Sunday November 20, 2016. Please join me in thanking Liz for her guidance, leadership and support over these past few months. We appreciate your service to HPUC and pray that God will continue to bless you and your work at Grace Baptist Church. You are always welcome at HPUC and appreciate your ministering to our congregation.

Sincerely,

Christine D. Bailey

Welcome to Our New Pastor

Dear Members and Friends of Hyde Park Union Church what an exciting time in the life of our church, as we move forward with a new minister! The arrival of a new pastor after such a long interim period is great news! It is also a period of extra diligence for Hyde Park Union Church to help make the Whitaker family (Ashley, Jeff, and Isaac) feel welcomed and for the congregation to continue its support and fellowship as we move forward. Ashley Whitaker's arrival will be a blessing to the congregation and the staff. Although we have been blessed with excellent interim ministers and lay leaders, Ashley's arrival will be a new beginning as we as a congregation look to and work for the future of HPUC and its ministries to the Hyde Park community. Please join me in rejoicing that the call committee has done an excellent job in finding our new minister.

Ashley and her family will arrive on Monday, November 21, 2016. Her first sermon will be on Sunday, November 27, 2016. Please come and meet Ashley and her family on her first Sunday preaching. Welcome, Ashley and family, to Hyde Park Union Church!

The following letter is a reprint of the letter that was mailed out and emailed on October 24, 2016.

2016 Stewardship Campaign Letter

October 24, 2016

Dear member or friend of Hyde Park Union Church:

Our new minister, Ashley Whitaker, will be assuming our pulpit in a few weeks. We hope to bring our annual stewardship campaign to a successful conclusion about that time and have a fully funded budget in place for the beginning of the year. Please keep an eye out for word of this year's pledge drive in the coming weeks. We will send an appeal and information about the church's budget soon, both by U.S. mail and electronically. We will also present reflections during Sunday worship.

We know you receive many appeals for money during the season just starting, and we urge you to make extra room for Hyde Park Union Church in your thoughts and prayers as you consider your financial support. HPUC is special. Years ago, a stewardship reflection we sent out said it like this:

"The organization I support that probably does more for the well-being of my community than any other is my church. For one thing, it doesn't treat me like a fan and market itself to my good taste. If we do have a logo, it's a cross. Think it over.

"For another, my church doesn't heap phony praise on me. It actually tells me the truth about myself. Who else does this?"

I don't always like this, but I know it does me good. And my church also tells me that this truth about myself isn't held against me. It encourages me to get on with life. This is good news.

"My church's employees are overworked and underpaid, and they don't whine about it all the time. Ditto for the choir members and the Sunday School teachers. I respect this. I see other people doing their parts and more, and when I think about it, I want to do mine, too."

We're all in this together at HPUC. After the drift of the last two years, we anticipate a new minister. This is an exciting time for the church. We can look forward to new life in our congregation, but new life is also a delicate time. Just as at the birth of a child, a significant institutional change is a delicate time. We must be alert and nurture it along. The coming stewardship campaign is our first chance to get ourselves set on the right path for growth.

Sincerely,
Christine D. Bailey, Moderator

We Give Thanks Rev. Erma Croom, Director of the Gilead Ministry

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!
His faithful love endures forever.
(Psalm 106:1, NLT)*

These are challenging times. There seems to be much unrest in our world. In these difficult times in which we are living it is important to recognize that there is also much good in the world. I would say more good than not. There is a lot to appreciate and for which we can be grateful. The Thanksgiving Holiday is a special time set aside each year for all of us to consider the good in our lives and to give thanks. As we approach the season of thanksgiving we at Gilead Ministry would like to pause and give a word of thanks for our partners who in various ways support this pastoral care ministry.

We are particularly grateful for Hyde Park Union Church and the Gilead Auxiliary for their ongoing support. We are also thankful for the Administration, doctors, nurses and hospital staff at Jackson Park Hospital for giving us the opportunity to serve. We also say thank you to our partnering seminaries and organizations which include: the University of Chicago Divinity School, Chicago Theological Seminary, McCormick Theological Seminary, and Urban CPE. We also express gratitude to our interns who come to us from these institutions. And we are also grateful for our Care Wear Volunteers and other volunteers who support this ministry. Psalm 106:1 encourages us to give thanks. Therefore, for all of the people, organizations and institutions that make Gilead Ministry at Jackson Park Hospital possible, we give thanks!

Let the Music Speak for Itself!
Jade Maze, Music Director

The second week of November will be loaded with great music!

Last Sacred Jazz Jam Session of the Season!

Thursday, November 10th, 5-7pm

We've had a really great time and hope to go out with a blast. The John Wesley Experience has hosted and wonderful musicians and singers of all ages have shared their God-given talent. This'll be the last jam until June!

We Be Jammin'

All Ages Jam
 Every
 2nd Thursday:
 Last jam of
 the season!
 Thursday,
 November 10th

5-7pm
 BRING YOUR OWN AX

Hosted By:
 John Wesley
 Experience
 free!

HYDE PARK UNION CHURCH
 5600 S. WOODLAWN AVE., CHICAGO
 hpuc.org/sacred-jazz

To the bridge!
 Saturday
 November 12th
 4:30pm
 Intergenerational concert

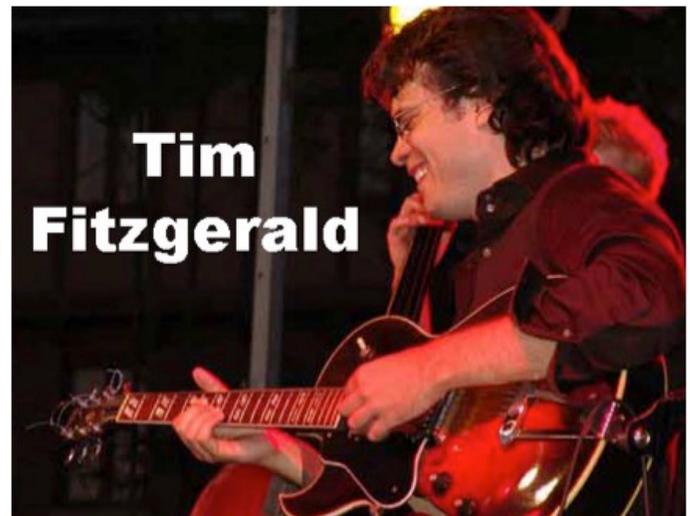
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WILLIE PICKENS
 IFEANYI COLEMAN
 JOHN WESLEY
 TONY MILANO
 JADE MAZE
 TRINITY UCC
 MIMI MINISTRY
 JOSHUA MHOON
 KOPANO MUHAMMAD
 MAE YA CARTER RYAN

Sacred Jazz Service

Sunday, November 13th, 10am

Our autumn Sacred Jazz Service will feature a HPUC favorite guitarist Tim Fitzgerald and his quartet! Tim has played with us in many capacities: jazz, second hour caroling and was even featured as part of the celebration of our previous pastors 30 years. Having just returned from a long performance engagement in Alaska, I'm sure we will warm his heart as much as he warms ours. With him will be: Tom Vaitsas-keys, Tom, Marcus Evans-drums, and Chris Madsen-saxophone. Can't wait!



To the Bridge! : Intergenerational Concert

Saturday, November 12th, 4:30pm

Our second joint effort with the Off the Pews Organization of the United Church of Christ, the *To the Bridge* Concert will bring together many magnificent musicians and feature our own Willie Pickens and Robert Irving III Generations! We will have performances by budding young artists such as classical pianist Joshua Mhoon, the young singing sensations Kopano Muhammad and Mae Ya Carter Ryan, and many, many more. This should be quite an event. Though this is a free concert, we will take up a love offering, and any proceeds earned will go to the churches wider mission. HPUC will be hopping!



Friday, November 4
7:00 p.m.



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



Mondays 12:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesdays by appointment only
Wednesdays 2:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Thursdays 12:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Fridays 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Closed on Weekends

You may email the church office at any time at
office@hpuc.org.