Together we celebrate the work 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



**April 2017** 

Pastor's Column **Rev. Ashley Whitaker** 

### April Church Calendar

**Regular Weekly Events:** Tuesdays - Lent Study: More Than Enough: Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m. Discussion, 6:30 p.m.

Last Meeting: April 11

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

Sunday, April 2 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship with Communion, Rev. Ashley Whitaker preaching, 10:00 a.m.

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

**Tuesday, April 4**Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

Friday, April 7 Taizé Worship, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 8 Palm Sunday Pageant Rehearsal, 3:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday, April 9 Sixth Sunday in Lent Worship with Children's Palm Sunday Pageant, 10:00 a.m.

Chili-making, 11:30 a.m.

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

Second Hour: Letter-writing & Advocacy, 11:30 a.m.

Church Board Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11 Missions & Social Concerns Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 13 Agape Dinner with Communion, 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14 Tenebrae Sérvice, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 16 Early Easter Worship with Communion, 7:30

Easter Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.

Easter Worship, Rev. Ashley Whitaker preaching, 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 18 Property & Finance Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 23 Worship, 10:00 a.m.

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

Sacred Jazz Sunday, April 30 Worship, Rev. Erma Croom preaching, Music by Thaddeus Tukes, 10:00 a.m.

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

Lachrimae Amantis by Geoffrey Hill

What is there in my heart that you should sue so fiercely for its love? What kind of care brings you as though a stranger to my door through the long night and in the icy dew

seeking the heart that will not harbor you, that keeps itself religiously secure? At this dark solstice filled with frost and fire your passion's ancient wounds must bleed anew.

So many nights the angel of my house has fed such urgent comfort through a dream, whispered "your lord is coming, he is close"

that I have drowsed half-faithful for a time bathed in pure tones of promise and remorse: "tomorrow I shall wake to welcome him."

Over the past four weeks, we have worshiped together for four sacred Sunday mornings and met together for four outstanding Tuesday evening supper and study times. Guided by Lee Hull Moses' book More Than Enough: Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess, we have considered topics like stuff, stewardship, neighbors, lament, and confession. Throughout it all, we have talked about how both "living abundantly" and "simple living" can be quite complicated, and we have been challenged to think about difficult yet meaningful questions related to privilege, responsibility, and the interconnectedness of all Creation.

At this point in Lent, we are about halfway through this holy season. We are still in the midst of our Lenten penitence and practices, my stole is still purple on Sunday mornings, and our foreheads still remember the touch of ash. However, our memories and our calendars know that Easter is quickly coming, and by the time I next sit down to write my next newsletter column, Easter will be behind us and we will be looking toward Pentecost, the next holiday of the church.

What difference will Lent have made in our lives once it is over? What difference will we allow the care of Jesus Christ that "sued so fiercely" for our love that he was willing to journey toward the cross and crucifixion? I hope and pray that this Lenten season has allowed our hearts to be less "religiously secure" and more open to "passion's ancient wounds." May today be the "tomorrow" when we "wake to welcome him" into our lives in all things.

Amen.

Blessings, Pastor Ashley

#### April & The Theme of Resilience Rev. Erma Croom, Director of the Gilead Ministry

The theme of resilience seems to permeate the month of April as the deadness of winter gradually gives way to new life and the lushness and vibrancy of spring. The resilience that we witness in the month of April demonstrates nature's "adaptive effort to prevail" in spite of the harshness of winter cold, ice and snow. Human's also share this ability to adapt and prevail in the midst of challenges. I see that ability demonstrated often as I encounter patients at Jackson Park Hospital. I see it as they gradually bounce back from the many health challenges they face. Resilience is exhibited when I see patients rise above despair after receiving a poor prognosis or in the serene faces of family members who were, one year prior, in the throes of grief and loss.

Our programs and services offered by Gilead Ministry aim to nurture and encourage that seemingly inherent quality of resilience within our patients and family members at Jackson Park Hospital. Some of the ways we accomplish our mission is through the creation and facilitation of healing practices, the provision of supportive spaces and resources, and assembling layettes containing much needed baby items for new mothers. I have been inspired by and learned much from my experience with patients and family members as I have observed them draw on what seems to be an unlimited reservoir of strength within them. Seeing them bounce back, leads me to believe that there is a depth of resilience within us that is available to help us face and overcome any challenge life may bring.

<sup>1</sup>Glicken, Morley D., Learning From Resilient People: Lessons We Can Apply to Counseling and Psychotherapy, (Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 2006), 4-5.

## Good Vibrations Jade Maze, Music Director

We have a special young artist playing for our April 30<sup>th</sup> Sacred Jazz Service. Thaddeus Tukes is one of Chicago's young lions. He's a vibraphone player and an outstanding person that enriches our city in so many ways. I used to be his church choir teacher, and his smile and spirit are just as bright now as they were on his little ten-year-old face. This article from the Northwestern alum magazine sheds some light on the young trailblazer:

When Thaddeus Tukes arrived at Northwestern, he found the music scene disappointing.

So he went to work, co-founding the popular student jazzbased band **the Syndicate**. The vibraphonist, who also sings for the 10-member groove group, played Dillo Day three times and later launched **Ra Sol Greater Minds**, a musiccontent consulting group that aims to raise awareness of student artists. "We'll record, mix, master, make instrumentals, add live instrumentation — do everything really out of my apartment," he says.



Tukes, who grew up in the North Pullman neighborhood on Chicago's South Side, joined the Associated Student Government as vice president of diversity and inclusion during his sophomore year and later became a spokesperson for We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern. That experience opened up incredible opportunities — like a behind-thescenes tour of the White House on his 21st birthday — and exposed the inner workings of the University, for better or worse.

"It really put me on the inside of the University," says Tukes, a **Good Neighbor, Great University Scholarship** recipient. "It opened my eyes not only to how Northwestern works but also to how it interacts with race, religion, gender and sexuality. Everything I did after that was influenced by that knowledge."

After a whirlwind year, Tukes is "working to make sure that Northwestern is becoming a better place for its students," focusing on issues of accountability to students and of diverse representation.

A jazz music performance major and music criticism minor, Tukes led the Northwestern chapter of the **National Association of Black Journalists** to student-chapter-of-theyear honors in 2015.

\*\*\*\*

#### From the Moderator

Once again I want to thank everyone at Hyde Park Union Church for their dedication and hard work these past two years. For the past three months we have had a permanent Senior Minister, Reverend Ashley Whitaker. Ashley arrived in time to celebrate Christmas and the birth of Christ. We are now looking forward to the Easter celebration on April 16, 2017. Ashley has been conducting an interesting Lenten series. Please mark your calendar to celebrate the Easter services with us (don't forget about our Easter Breakfast!).

We look forward to Ashley's Installation on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in the afternoon. I hope you will join us in this celebration and please remember to bring a friend.

The Church Board has been working diligently on your behalf, beginning with the repairs on the building, planning special worship services, and advocacy for social justice.

Sincerely,

Christine D. Bailey



Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 9 Worship with Children's Pageant, 10:00 a.m.

& Easter

Maundy Thursday, April 13
Agape Dinner and Communion, 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14 Tenebrae Service, 7:00 p.m.

Early Easter Worship Service, 7:30 a.m.
Easter Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.
Easter Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.



You are invited to join the congregation of Hyde Park Union Church in celebrating the installation of Rev. Ashley Whitaker as Senior Minister.

The Service of Installation will be held on Sunday, May 7th, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow in the Social Hall.

This day of celebration will begin with Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m., including the observance of The Lord's Supper, which is always open to all. All are welcome in worship!

Please join us for this this very special celebration in the life of Hyde Park Union Church!



# Upcoming Youth & Family Events



#### **Youth and All Family Canoe Trip**

Join us at the Ned Brown / Busse Woods Forest Preserve for a day of canoeing and picnicking on Saturday, June 3rd. Canoes, along with sandwiches, snacks, and beverages will be provided. We will leave Hyde Park Union Church at 9:30, canoe and picnic between 10:30 and 3:30, then head home to arrive around 4:30, depending on traffic. All are welcome, including friends. Kids in 6th grade or below should be accompanied by a parent. Teenagers and their friends are definitely welcome. Wear a swimsuit. Please give a headcount to Youth Leader Tim J. Smith. \$35 per person donation to Hyde Park Union Church, Memo: Youth Canoe, requested.

#### **Youth Camping and Meditation Trip**

Join us for a youth camping trip to Mississippi Palisades State Park. We leave Hyde Park Union Church at 4:00 PM on Friday, 23 June to return on Sunday at 10 AM, just in time for church. All food, cooking equipment, and tents will be provide. You just need to bring your toothbrush and a sleeping bag (plus clothes, swimsuit, and other travel toiletries.) 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome, including their friends. Expect to go hiking, play soccer, through a Frisbee, or otherwise enjoy yourself. Please give a headcount and food restrictions to Youth Leader Tim J. Smith. \$40 per person donation to Hyde Park Union Church, Memo: Youth Camping, requested.



Please contact Tim Smith at tsmith@wiglafpricing.com to RSVP.

#### The Fellowship Committee of Hyde Park Union Church invites you to...



## **Maundy Thursday Dinner and Communion**

April 13, 6:30 p.m. Middle Eastern Menu catered from The Nile

Suggested Donation: \$10/person or \$30/family with kids



#### **Easter Breakfast**

Sunday, April 16, 8-9:45 a.m. assortment of breakfast/brunch food items

Suggested Donation: \$5/person or \$15/family with kids

Reservations really help us plan and not waste food so please fill out this form if you'd like to attend or call the church office at (773) 363-6063.

## To make a reservation for Maundy Thursday and /or Easter Breakfast:

Yes for Maundy Th	hursday	-
Number in your party: _	adults	_ kids
Yes for Easter breakfast		
Number in your party:	adults	kids
Name		

Please send this reservation to the Church Office via mail or email, or drop it in the offering plate on Sunday.

## EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

Traditionally, we fill the chancel with lilies on Easter Sunday. Please use the form below to donate and dedicate Easter Lilies:

Please place in the offering plate with payment or send to:

Hyde Park Union Church 5600 S. Woodlawn Ave. Chicago, IL 60637 office@hpuc.org



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