

JUNE  
2024

# United in Faith News

*Why are we  
Here?  
We are to be  
God's  
hands,  
feet and  
voice  
in the  
world.*



From the desk of . . .

*Pastor Jeanine*



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

## Isaiah 43:19

*"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*

During last month's storms a river ran through the finance office and dust riffled through the sanctuary. There were some glum days of blowing fans and grumbling shop vacs. But God is making a new thing. This month the roof is complete and so is the interior tuckpointing. The cicadas have arrived and will soon perch on our building. God is making a new thing at UiF. Can you feel it?

God's abundant life is alive in us. This summer we will continue to reveal that abundance in our space and in our conversations. We will gather over dinner and dream dreams. We will prophesy and make plans. This is the season of Pentecost.

During this season, I am resolved to seek the Spirit. I am seeking *ruach* (wind, spirit, breath) over hill and dale, in books and in people. On my way through the library before I left for the Memorial Day weekend I snagged, *Faithful yet Changing: The Church in Challenging Times*. Bishop Mark S. Hanson's book written twenty years ago. Perfect for a plane ride, this small book still speaks to our situation. He envisions the Church as witnessing, worshiping, engaging, equipping, inviting, connecting, changing, and praying. His practice during his ministry was to challenge and provoke people to consider one sign of God at work in them, in their lives, in their ministry. Never to say that God was only doing one thing, but to begin to tune us to look for God in the world.

I am provoked by this practice. I do believe that we find what we seek, focusing our vision, tuning our ears so that we can see and hear God at work in the world. Speaking the results of this quest, is witness—testimony. I invite you to open your eyes and see. And once you see God at work share that with your neighbor. Tell your stories. They will enliven us and spur us on. God is doing a new thing. Filling us with the Spirit. Opening us to our neighbors. Healing our bodies and beckoning our souls.

Where do you see God at work in you today? What new thing do you see? Please come and share so that we can all see more of God's blessings.

*Pr. Jeanine*

At  
United in Faith,  
The Guiding  
Principles are:

+

Jesus is  
Lord and  
**Savior**

+

Reflect  
God's **Love**

+

Pray and  
**listen** for God's  
guidance

+

Continue to  
strengthen  
**faith**

+

Include **All**  
in God's  
work

+

Meet people  
**where they  
are**

# Official Notice:

## Special Congregational Meeting to Be Held June 30

After worship on June 30, 2024, we will have a special congregational meeting to vote on changes to the United in Faith constitution.

The ELCA has an updated model constitution that we must use as our base, which contains mandatory provisions and optional provisions. We have reviewed the United in Faith constitution against the model constitution and updated language where necessary. Most of the required changes were minor or to make the language more inclusive. However, there were two changes that are noteworthy:

\*C6.05. – This section, which is specific to the process for determining whether to terminate our relationship with the ELCA, was updated. The previous model constitution required one congregational meeting, but the updated model constitution now requires two congregational meetings.

\*C18.03. is a new provision that requires the congregation's secretary to send any "adopted or amended continuing resolutions" within the constitution to the synod. This was already our practice, but now it's codified in the constitution.

Full text of the updated proposed constitution is available on [unitedinfaith.org](http://unitedinfaith.org) for your review ahead of the meeting. If you'd like to see the detailed changes, please email Rich Guzik at [reguzik@ameritech.net](mailto:reguzik@ameritech.net) or Gretchen Quillin at [gsquillin@gmail.com](mailto:gsquillin@gmail.com).

After our meeting, the Transition Team will give a brief update on their activities. Please plan to attend!



June 6  
June 14  
June 15  
June 17  
June 28

Brenda Chobot  
Ann Lozich  
Jeanne Schira  
Lylas Wollenzein  
Jane Schira

## NEW LIFE FOR OLD BAGS (nlob)

We are back in person!!! Please join us for our regularly scheduled, in person, monthly NLOB Work Day **Saturday June 1, 2024 from 10:00am to 12:00pm** at our main campus at United in Faith Lutheran Church located at 6525 W. Irving Park Road in Chicago. Parking is available in the lot behind the church building.

Please feel free to bring a snack to share.

## BOOK CLUB NEWS



Our July book selection is ***Black Earth Wisdom: Soulful Conversations with Black Environmentalists*** by Leah Penniman. Join us as we learn of ancestral and ancient practices of listening to the earth for guidance.

"In *Black Earth Wisdom*, author Leah Penniman shares the experiences, perspectives and stories of 16 Black environmentalists to get at the heart of Black people's spiritual and scientific connections to our planet...Penniman argues that Black cultural heritage is rife with 'ecological humility.' This concept posits that humans are family members of the life around us, rather than masters of it. And as we begin to appreciate Earth through the lens of members of the Black community, it becomes easier to recognize nature as not just land, water or resource, but 'teacher, text and kin.' "

*Jennifer Winger,*  
Nature Conservancy Magazine

**Book discussion Saturday, July 13 at 1**



## Girl Scouting at UIF

Last night we had our Court of Awards for our Girl Scout year. We had five Brownies 'fly-up' to Juniors, two Juniors will be going up to Cadettes, and two Cadettes will be Senior Girl Scouts! Our combined troops this year had some challenges, but we made it through! We camped, had one girl earn her Trailblazer pin, built some dividers for church (which took a LOT longer than we thought it would!), did some crafts and had a few parties. The Brownies had to deal with a big change in leaders part way through, but ended strong thanks to a Mom stepping up and a former leader coming back to help. Many, many thanks to Michelle and Kathy J!

As always, we would welcome more girls in our troops! The Brownies and Daisies especially, so if you know of anyone with girls that might be interested, please let them know! All our troops meet on Tuesday evenings at UIF. The Daisies and Brownies start at 6 and go until 7:30. Juniors, Cadettes, and Seniors meet at 7-8:30. Many, many thanks for allowing us to meet at United in Faith!

*Janeen, Sharon, Catherine, Michelle, Cathy F and Kathy J*

# Juneteenth National Independence Day: June 19, 2024

Many Americans did not grow up knowing the significance of this date in U.S. history. It became a federal holiday not long ago in 2021, even though it commemorates an event that took place on June 19, 1865. President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation ending slavery and it became law January 1, 1863. However, at that time the State of Texas was still under control of Confederates who were pro-slavery. The Civil War officially ended May 26, 1865, but it was not until June 19, 1865, when Union forces came to the state to enforce the law ending slavery, that people enslaved in Texas learned that they had been emancipated over two years earlier! No internet, phones, etc. were able to bring the news to them any more quickly.

Recently, President Joe Biden awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to several individuals, including the "grandmother" of the movement that helped make Juneteenth the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther King Jr. Day. He noted that Lee was the first person he handed the pen to after signing the new law in 2021. The president also said: "Miss Opal Lee made it her mission to make history, not erase it," and "We're in a better nation because of you, Opal. Thank you."

As a native Texan, Opal Lee had celebrated Juneteenth for many years. But her own family had another reason to remember that date. Her parents purchased a home in a mostly white area of Fort Worth and on June 19, 1939, white rioters burned the house to the ground. Opal Lee had a long career as an educator and upon retirement in 1976, she became an activist promoting knowledge of African American history in Texas, including Juneteenth. From September 2016 to January 2017, she walked from Fort Worth to Washington, D.C. to plead the case for recognizing Juneteenth as a federal holiday. Several states have also adopted Juneteenth as a state holiday, although Illinois has not done so as yet.

## Worship SCHEDULE



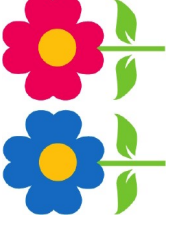
**JUNE**  
**2024**

<b>JUNE 2</b> PENTECOST 9	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service &amp; live-streamed</b>
<b>JUNE 9</b> PENTECOST 10	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service &amp; live-streamed</b>
<b>JUNE 16</b> PENTECOST 11	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service &amp; live-streamed</b>
<b>JUNE 23</b> PENTECOST 12	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service &amp; live-streamed</b>
<b>JUNE 30</b> PENTECOST 13	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service &amp; live-streamed</b>

Continue to check the website at [www.unitedinfaith.org](http://www.unitedinfaith.org) for updates



# June 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 9:30am AI-Anon 10:00am NLOB 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- <a href="https://siawso.org">https://siawso.org</a>
<b>2</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>3</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>4</b> 10:00am Rebels Bingo	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 10:00am Rebels Bingo	<b>7</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>8</b> 9:30am AI-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- <a href="https://siawso.org">https://siawso.org</a>
<b>9</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>10</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>11</b> 10:00am Rebels Bingo	<b>12</b> 6:00pm Girl Scout Council	<b>13</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 10:00am Rebels Bingo	<b>14</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>15</b> 9:30am AI-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- <a href="https://siawso.org">https://siawso.org</a>
<b>16</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>17</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>18</b> 10:00am Rebels Bingo 7:00pm Church Council	<b>19</b> <i>Juneteenth</i>	<b>20</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 10:00am Rebels Bingo	<b>21</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>22</b> 9:30am AI-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- <a href="https://siawso.org">https://siawso.org</a>
<b>23</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>24</b> 9:00am Food Pantry	<b>25</b> 10:00am Rebels Bingo	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 10:00am Rebels Bingo	<b>28</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>29</b> 9:30am AI-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- <a href="https://siawso.org">https://siawso.org</a>
<b>30</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed 11:00am Congregational Meeting						

UNITED IN FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
6525 West Irving Park Road  
Chicago, IL 60634



**Rev. Jeanine Reardon**

Interim Pastor

Email: [pastor@unitedinfaith.org](mailto:pastor@unitedinfaith.org)

Phone: **773.283.2326**

**Jeanne Rice**, Church Administrator

Email: [UIFAdmin@unitedinfaith.org](mailto:UIFAdmin@unitedinfaith.org)

**On the Web** at: [www.unitedinfaith.org](http://www.unitedinfaith.org)

[Twitter](#): UIFLC | [Facebook](#): UIFLC | [Instagram](#): UIFLC