

JUNE
2025

United in Faith News

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



The Holy Spirit Is Coming—So Let Us Love Boldly

"And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." —Acts 2:2–4

I love this passage from Acts. Not just for the beauty and power of it—but for its holy chaos. It's alive. The Holy Spirit sweeps in like a wild wind, and suddenly, the apostles are shouting the good news in every language under the sun. They're overcome with joy, filled with God's love—and the people around them don't know what to make of it. "They must be drunk," they say. I long for that kind of joy. That kind of freedom.

But let's be honest: freedom doesn't come easy for everyone. Not in our world. Especially not now. Many of our neighbors—especially immigrants, refugees, and the undocumented—live with fear hanging over their every move. And increasingly, even churches are not the safe havens they once were. As federal immigration policies grow more punitive and enforcement more aggressive, congregations that once opened their doors without hesitation now wrestle with risk. With fear.

And still—the Holy Spirit is coming.

The Gospel calls us to more than self-protection. It calls us to love. To risk kindness. To open our doors even when it's complicated. To speak up even when it's costly. The Spirit doesn't wait for everything to be neat and safe. She comes in the middle of the mess, in all the uncertainty, and she fills us with a love so powerful it breaks through fear. A love that crosses borders. A love that learns new languages, that makes room for strangers, that welcomes the refugee, the outcast, the seeker.

This is not a quiet, cautious kind of faith. It's a loud, risk-taking, all-in kind of faith. So let's make room. Even now. Especially now. Let's open our hearts to the Spirit—and to our neighbors. Let's listen for her voice in laughter and lament, in backyard gatherings and sanctuary pews, in the courage of those who stand up for justice, and in the quiet strength of those who show up to love anyway.

The Holy Spirit is coming. She is with us. Let's love like we believe it.

In hope and courage,
Pr. Jeanie

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**

Our Work In The World

MANY THANKS!!!!

Our recent collection for the '\$90K for 90 Days' campaign for the ministry partner of our synod, RefugeeOne, resulted in a \$3090 donation. This would put the total collected for the campaign over \$70,000. These funds help with the costs for recent arrivals to get on their feet and are critical with the cutoff of federal funds. We are neighbors helping neighbors. Thank you.

Support for Venezuelan family

Our near neighbors to the north-Shepherd's Heart (formerly St. James Lutheran Church) have taken in a Venezuelan Family. Manuel and Cecelia and their children Sofia (5) and Dylan (2) suffered from horrible harassment and needed a safe place to live. Shepherd's Heart reached out to us and council unanimously agreed to provide it. Council has authorized rent support for this young family. We are asking you to consider gifting clothing for the kids. Summer is coming and as you know kids grow like weeds!

Sofia, likes rainbows and her sizes are: 7 in clothes and 10 in shoes.

Dylan likes green and blue characters and his sizes are: 2T in clothes and 5 in shoes. The family needs living room furniture and clothes storage.

St. Cyprian Pantry

Last month St. Cyprian's Food Pantry partnered with Bueno Beef and raised \$264. On **June 12th**, they are again partnering with a great sandwich place: **Potbelly's**, near the HIP, to raise funds to support people in our neighborhood. Please pick up a flyer on Sunday morning or call the office to arrange picking one up. This painless get-yourself-dinner and share a meal with your neighbor (through the Pantry) is a win/win! Flyer is also available in this newsletter.

Prayer Ministry

Pastor Jeanie was reminded recently that United in Faith once had a prayer ministry. A group of folks who gathered to deepen their prayer practices, pray for the congregation, and write the Prayers Of The People each week for Sunday worship. WE will resume this ministry. We will begin meeting with a handful of people in May...if you would like to join us in person or on zoom we will meet **Wednesdays at 10:00 am**. Please let Pastor know if you'd like the zoom link!

Fundraiser!

Take a break from cooking and enjoy a delicious toasty sandwich, hearty soup or a fresh salad and help raise funds for a good cause!

Potbelly Sandwich Shop
Will donate **25%** of sales to:

ST Cyprian Food Pantry

Date: June 12th 2025

Time: 5pm-8pm

Address: 4207 N Harlem

Norridge IL

Phone: 708-457-0452

Spread the word to all of your friends and family!

Bring this flyer, show it on your smartphone or mention it to your cashier



BOOK CLUB NEWS

Join us on Saturday, June 7 at 10:00 am as we discuss:

How We Learn to Be Brave Decisive Moments in Life and Faith by Mariann Edgar Budde



How We Learn to Be Brave is an inspirational guide to the key junctures in life that, if navigated with faith and discernment, pave the way for us to become our most courageous selves by the bishop of the famed Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C.

On January 21, 2025, many Americans were introduced to Bishop Mariann Budde thanks to what The New York Times called “an extraordinary act of public resistance”. During her prayer service for Donald J. Trump’s second inauguration, Bishop Budde addressed the president directly, imploring him “to have mercy on the people in our country who are scared now,” from those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community to immigrants and refugees.

With Bishop Budde’s wisdom, readers will learn to live and to respond according to their true beliefs and in ways that align with their best selves. **How We Learn to Be Brave** will provide much needed fortitude and insight to anyone searching for answers in uncertain times.

The church has a few copies of the book available for borrowing. Please contact Jeanne in the church office if interested.

NEW LIFE FOR OLD BAGS (nlob)

NLOB Work Day **Saturday, June 7, 2025**
is **CANCELLED** and will return on **August 2nd**.



June 5
June 6
June 14
June 17
June 28

Pastor Jeanine Reardon
Brenda Chobot
Ann Lozich
Lylas Wollenzein
Jane Schira

Book Club: *The Serviceberry*, August 9, 2025, 10am

The subtitle of this book is: *Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*. Robin Wall Kimmerer is a Native American botanist and professor. She has been teaching about the gifts of plants and how to receive them to her students and in her previous bestseller and classic, *Braiding Sweetgrass*, as well as in this new volume.

The Serviceberry, argues that we should move away from an economy and life built around exploiting the natural world to a gift economy based on mutual flourishing and gratitude. The serviceberry is a common tree and grows in many city parks and elsewhere. It is an example of how one plant provides nourishment for people, deer and for birds who spread serviceberry seeds and the trees sustain bees who pollinate their flowers and microorganisms around its roots.

Kimmerer's Indigenous knowledge, research and environmental advocacy, have taught her about the delicate relationships between plants and their surroundings. We can learn a lot from plants and we should show our thanks for their gifts to us. She suggests to us a more generous and gracious way of life and thinking.

This book, published this year, is 128 pages and includes lovely illustrations. (*Braiding Sweetgrass* is a larger work and highly recommended reading.) *The Serviceberry* is something you can read quickly but you may want to read it again and again to absorb all the lessons it contains. Please join the book club for an interesting discussion with many life lessons from plants that relate to many facets of modern life.

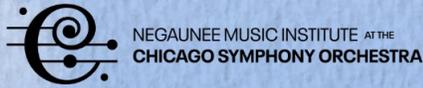
Sponsored by the UIF Justice Ministry, **all are welcome!**

Transcendent Souls: A Celebration of Trans Identity and Sound

Transcendent Souls aims to celebrate trans artistry and highlight the intersection of values central to trans and Christian religious communities, such as the sacredness of the human body, cosmic inheritance, and transness as participating in the divine act of creation. Come experience this sensory-friendly concert of classical string music by trans composers performed by trans musicians.

Experiencing trans art is a powerful way to deepen your allyship and engagement with your local queer community. This concert is an opportunity to celebrate the incredible contributions of trans artists in an affirming and supportive space. The event is held at Wicker Park Lutheran Church ([1500 N Hoyne Ave; Chicago, IL](#)) on Friday, June 6 at 7 p.m. with the support of the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Visit linktr.ee/jholzen42 to RSVP and learn more. Come as you are, and spread the word! We'd love to see you there.



NEGAUNEE MUSIC INSTITUTE AT THE
CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



WICKER PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

Transcendent Souls

A Celebration of Trans Identity and Sound



Friday, June 6th 7-8pm

Wicker Park Lutheran Church

1500 N Hoyne Ave

Free Admission • Sensory-Friendly • Masks Encouraged



Learn more and RSVP!



June 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	2 9:00am Food Pantry 12:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	3	4	5 9:00am Food Pantry	6 6:30pm AA	7 NLOB CANCELED 9:30am Al-Anon 10:00am Book Club 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- https://siawso.org
8 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	9 9:00am Food Pantry 12:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	10	11	12 9:00am Food Pantry	13 6:30pm AA	14 9:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- https://siawso.org
15 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed 10:00 am Council Installation	16 9:00am Food Pantry 12:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	17 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	18	19 9:00am Food Pantry	20 6:30pm AA	21 9:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- https://siawso.org
22 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	23 9:00am Food Pantry	24	25	26 9:00am Food Pantry	27 6:30pm AA	28 9:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- https://siawso.org
29 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	30 9:00am Food Pantry 12:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	1	2 10:00am Justice Meeting	3 9:00am Food Pantry	4 6:30pm AA	5 9:30am Al-Anon 4:00pm Survivors of Incest- https://siawso.org

Worship SCHEDULE



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2025

Continue to check the website at
www.unitedinfaith.org for updates

JUNE 1 Easter 7	9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Service & live-streamed
JUNE 8 PENTECOST	9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Service & live-streamed
JUNE 15 HOLY TRINITY	9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Service & live-streamed
JUNE 22 PENTECOST 2	9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Service & live-streamed
JUNE 29 PENTECOST 3	9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Service & live-streamed

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