

JUNE  
2022

# 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 Carla*



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

## KIDS IN WORSHIP

United in Faith has several guiding principles that help shape our congregation's plans and missional intentions. These include:

- 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

As we seek to figure out how to best live out this call to "include all in God's work" and "meet people where they are," we've realized that the one-size-fits-all approach to children in worship is not helpful for children of today. Anyone who grew up in an era of "children should be seen and not heard" may chafe against the newer ways of welcoming little children in worship – children who make noise and even squirm frequently! Often, younger folks just need an opportunity to stretch or to fidget or to draw – while they are soaking in the Christian message(s) all around them. Sometimes kids engage with worship in ways that do not look like constant attention. Sometimes kids have questions about worship – during worship! Sometimes kids hear a word they don't understand and their curiosity leads them to wonder – or leads their minds to wander. But growth in faith in God can come through any of these natural pathways of curiosity.

In Deuteronomy 6, the gathered community of faith was called to love God with all their heart, soul, and might. They were invited to "keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise." While we often use these words to speak to the responsibility of parents in raising their children in the faith, I want to use these words to remind us that the full community is really responsible to keep God's word alive in the gathered community – for the young, old, and everything in between.

Recently, we've added two very visible ways of welcoming children into our worship space:

(OVER)-->

At  
United in Faith,  
The Guiding  
Principles are:

- +
- Jesus is  
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**Savior**
- +
- Reflect  
God's **Love**
- +
- Pray and  
**listen** for God's  
guidance
- +
- Continue to  
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- +
- Include **All**  
in God's  
work
- +
- Meet people  
**where they**  
**are**

## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR CARLA, CONTINUED..

Our sanctuary Prayground is shaping up nicely (baby swing, bouncer, toddler picnic table, quiet activities by the wall). This provides a visible and physical way for us to support and encourage families with very young children who would rather keep their little ones in the worship space with them rather than relocate to the nursery. The (non-staffed) nursery will still be an option for those who find it helpful. But the Prayground will be a location within the sanctuary space where children can move while still being in worship.

We've added five copies of the Spark Story Bible to the hymnal cart. We've also started adding page numbers within the bulletin whenever we find the assigned lessons with parallel Spark Story Bible stories. These are especially offered for families with children, but all are welcome to explore those illustrated stories in order to learn and grow in faith. The Spark Story Bible is good for very young children (bright pictures and easy to understand words) and even as they learn to read.

We've had Sunday children's bulletins available for several years. Now copies of those children's bulletins are kept near the sign-in sheet and worship bulletins. There are several clipboard-type boards with children's bulletins and several cups of crayons. Feel free to offer these to little kid visitors (if they don't pick them up on the way in).

In the months ahead, you'll probably see different opportunities and events offered to invite and welcome and show children that they are valuable members of our community. We have discussed the possibility of offering Messy Church (an event outside of Sunday morning that incorporates inter-generational interactive scripture-based activities/celebration/meal) or something like this in the future.

When we welcome a newly baptized person to the church, we say: "We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world." When we baptize a baby, I often think...how can they give thanks and praise to God and bear God's word? But then I realize that every single thing that they do can be giving thanks and praise. They bear God's word by being exactly who they are within our community of faith. Their noises and squirminess are a part of our shared community of faith and our communal sound of praise (a "joyful" noise as Psalm 98:4 calls it).

1 Corinthians 12:12 "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." I invite you to take this call seriously to invite and welcome younger members of our worshipping community. We all have a role to play in welcoming people of all ages into the worshipping, praising (and even squirming) body of Christ.

*Pastor Carla*

### WANNA HELP?

Our Accessibility Task Force will be gathering soon. Do you have an interest in helping to assess and adapt our congregation building (and more) to be more accessible? A few members have expressed interest already, but we are hoping a few more might wish to be involved in the discussions. Speak with Pastor Carla who will reach out to interested folks soon to schedule a meeting.

# 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 4, 2022 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.

**As of April 30, 2022 we're at:**

**5,888 mats approx. completed**

**4,121,600 repurposed bags approx.**

**471,040 hours of volunteer work**

**58 new mats completed since 3/27/22!**

## **REMAINING NLOB WORK DAYS IN 2022**

**1st Saturday of the month from 10am to 12pm**

- Saturday, June 4, 2022
- Saturday, August 6, 2022
- Saturday, October 1, 2022
- Saturday, November 5, 2022
- Saturday, December 3, 2022



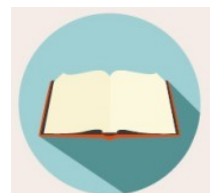
## BOOK CLUB

Justice Ministry has been seeking a book about Missing/Murdered Indigenous Women. We have also been reading and discussing several graphic novels. This month's book combines both.

Saturday, June 18th at 3pm - *If I Go Missing* (by Brianna Jonnie)

Book Description: *If I Go Missing* is derived from excerpts of a letter that went viral and was also the basis of a documentary film. In her letter, Jonnie calls out the authorities for neglecting to immediately investigate missing Indigenous people and urges them to not treat me as the Indigenous person I am proud to be if she were to be reported missing.

Indigenous artist Neal Shannacappo provides the artwork. Through his illustrations, he imagines a situation in which a young Indigenous woman does disappear, portraying the reaction of her community, her friends, the police, and media.





## Girl Scouting at United in Faith

Our Girl Scout year is done! We had a neighborhood event with 50 girls at Schiller Woods to celebrate 110 years of Girl Scouts. Our Court of Awards had all of our troops together, Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors. There are 6 Daisys moving up to Brownies, 1 Brownie is flying up to Juniors, 3 Juniors are bridging to Cadettes, and 1 Cadette bridging to Seniors, 1 Senior becoming an Ambassador and one Ambassador bridging to Adult level. Wow! Our troops are not as large as they used to be, but we are still here and still having fun and learning a lot of skills and life lessons. As always if you know of any girls in the area who might be interested in joining the fun, send them our way! If you travel this summer and have access to mini toiletries, we are still using them to make hygiene kits. We are NOT collecting any other items at this time. (No to printer cartridges or any other things to redeem.) Have a great summer!

*Janeen Devine*

### YOU CAN HELP!

Throughout the summer, we will be gathering donations for Trinidad Lutheran Church (in the Humboldt Park neighborhood). They serve a neighborhood that includes homeless individuals (individually wrapped and easier to transport items are very useful). Pastor Carla will arrange a donation delivery when we have a carload gathered. Items can be dropped off at the table at church labeled Trinidad Lutheran.

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP

##### Hygiene Kit items:

- Disposable masks
- hand sanitizer (small individual bottles better)
- toothbrushes
- toothpaste
- socks
- deodorant
- feminine sanitary products
- snacks (chips, cookies, protein bars)
- water bottles



## **Ways to donate to United in Faith...**

### **While You Are Doing What You Normally Do!**

("passive" fundraising opportunities)

**If you shop at Amazon:** Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) before you put things in your Amazon cart. On the top left corner (once you are signed in), it will say "Supporting United in Faith." If it does not yet say "Supporting United in Faith," you'll need to search on "United in Faith Lutheran Church, Chicago" (we are listed as Protestant). Click "select". As of March 2022, United in Faith has received \$360+ since we began receiving Amazon Smile donations.

### **If you have Thrivent investment or insurance products:**

Go to [thrivent.com](https://thrivent.com). Sign in with your username and password (or create a login if you haven't before). This username is not the same as your Thrivent account #.

Click on "membership overview." You will see several options when you scroll down: "Thrivent Action Teams," "Thrivent Choice," and "Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Partnership."

To designate Thrivent Choice dollars, click on Direct Choice Dollars (under Thrivent Choice). You can direct all or some of your Thrivent Choice dollars. Search for United in Faith Lutheran Church, Chicago. Once you have directed Thrivent Choice dollars there, they will now be listed in your Thrivent Choice organizations. You could also periodically use these Thrivent Choice Dollars to benefit Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (Oregon, IL) or Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) or Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC). Once you select how many Thrivent Choice dollars and what organization they will go to, there will be one more check box ("I acknowledge that Choice Dollars® are intended to complement, not replace, my continued personal donation to organizations and that I agree to the Thrivent Choice® program terms & conditions, including that Thrivent Financial may provide my name and address to this organization.") before you can submit. Your Thrivent Choice dollars will be automatically deposited to UIF (with all the other choice dollars from other members).

Another Thrivent benefit that all Thrivent members have access to is Thrivent Action Teams. Thrivent Action Teams are (up to) \$250 grants meant to provide seed money for a community project or a fundraising event. All Thrivent members can sponsor 2 Thrivent Action Teams per year. Your application for a Thrivent Action Team grant might be approved or denied (usually they want to see multiple people working on it, and that they are funding more than just a one-time purchase of supplies). You can always re-word and re-apply if your grant is not approved. We've used Thrivent Action Team grants for English Conversations class supplies, Eagle Scout projects, LOMC Labyrinth Work Day supplies, and assisting a refugee family. Thrivent "Live Generously" t-shirts and Thrivent thank you notes can be ordered through the Thrivent Action Team grant application.

## CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION...

"When you walk through a restored wildlife habitat—even a small patch—you become a witness to the abundance of life and goodness in God's creation," said Donna Pellegrin, a 12-year member of the congregation who led the youth group's 2018 butterfly garden launch. "Every creature is in symphony, and you can't teach the creation story any better way. When we teach Genesis and creation in Sunday school, inside sitting around tables, it's not the same as being a witness. You cannot help but meet God in nature."

## CHURCH RENEWAL FIELD TRIP #1:

Join Pastor Carla for a Messy Church Field Trip on Sunday, June 12th from 4:30-6:30 at Northfield Community Church (400 Wagner Rd., Northfield, IL - near Glenview - not far off the Edens Expy). Messy Church is an intergenerational program that includes activities, prayer, song, and a meal. Many of the values of Messy Church (USA) line up with our congregation's guiding principles and we are seeking to learn more about this opportunity. RSVP to Pastor Carla so our host church knows how many of us to expect. Let Pastor Carla know if you need a ride.

## WANNA MARCH IN THE PRIDE PARADE?

Because United in Faith partners with Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches, we can march in the Pride Parade with them on the afternoon of Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in marching this year, I (Pastor Carla) need to know by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Pride Parade usually meets & steps off at noon or so – we'll have more details for exactly where/when to meet the CCWC group within the week before the parade. It's an inspiring group to march with.



**CHURCH HOURS**  
**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY**  
**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**



June 6

Brenda Chobot

June 14

Ann Lozich

June 15

Jeanne Schira

June 17

Lylas Wollenzein

June 28

Jane Schira



# June 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> Fifth Sunday <b>9:00 AM</b> Coffee Hour <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>30</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry	<b>31</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Rebels Bingo <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts <b>7:00 PM</b> Girl Scouts	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry	<b>3</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> AA	<b>4</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Al-Anon <b>10:00 AM</b> NLOB Regular Work Day <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Knitting Group <b>4:00 PM</b> Survivors of Incest
<b>5</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Coffee Hour <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>6</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Discussion Group	<b>7</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Rebels Bingo	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry	<b>10</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> AA	<b>11</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Al-Anon <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Knitting Group <b>4:00 PM</b> Survivors of Incest
<b>12</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Coffee Hour <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>13</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Discussion Group	<b>14</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Rebels Bingo	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry	<b>17</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> AA	<b>18</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Al-Anon <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Knitting Group <b>4:00 PM</b> Survivors of Incest
<b>19</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Coffee Hour <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>20</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Discussion Group	<b>21</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Rebels Bingo <b>7:00 PM</b> Church Council Meeting - Choir Room	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry	<b>24</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> AA	<b>25</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Al-Anon <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Knitting Group <b>4:00 PM</b> Survivors of Incest
<b>26</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Coffee Hour <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>27</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry	<b>28</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Rebels Bingo	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry	<b>1</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> AA	<b>2</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Al-Anon <b>1:00 PM</b> Ladies Knitting Group <b>4:00 PM</b> Survivors of Incest

# Worship SCHEDULE



**JUNE**  
**2022**

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

<b>JUNE 5</b> PENTECOST	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service</b>
<b>JUNE 12</b> HOLY TRINITY	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service</b>
<b>JUNE 19</b> PENTECOST 2	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service</b>
<b>JUNE 26</b> PENTECOST 3	<b>9:00 AM Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 AM In-Person Service</b>

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