

Congregational Life

Wellington provides the opportunity to give and receive in a supportive and loving atmosphere. Committees provide opportunities to develop leadership skills by managing the overall governance of the church as well as collaboration on special projects. The Care Network attends to personal needs of congregational members which arise from illness or personal crisis. We renew our solidarity and set new goals each year at a weekend retreat in the Michigan dunes and offer adult education programs throughout the year to enable us to better understand and respond to issues relevant to our faith. Potlucks and picnics, art talks and fundraisers provide fellowship opportunities which nourish our spirit.

A prayer circle is held at 9:45 am the second and fourth Sundays of each month. All are welcome.

Coffee Hour

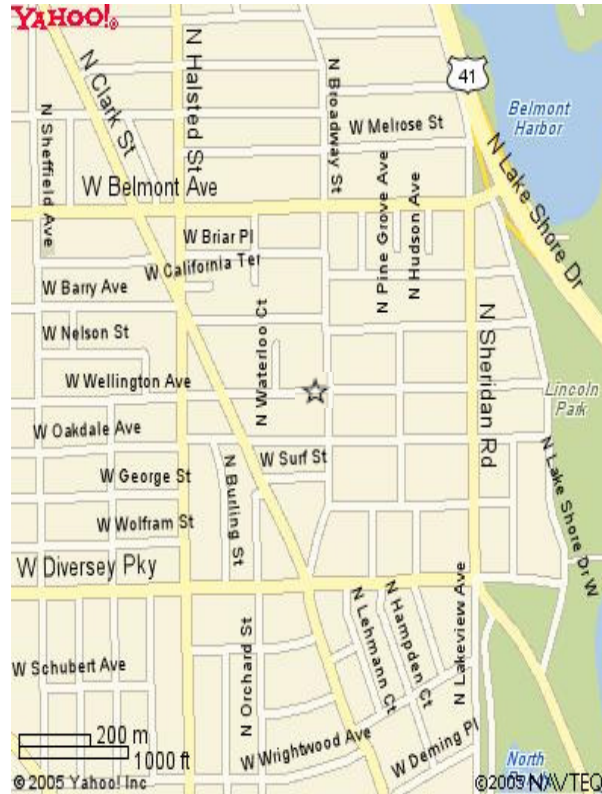
Following the worship service, an additional opportunity for fellowship is provided. All are welcome to take part in a coffee hour in the downstairs dining room.

Percolating Justice

Every Sunday and at special events, our coffee cooperative offers fair trade coffee for sale. This project supports small coffee farmers in Chiapas, Mexico with a just price and educates the public about global trade issues.

Sunday Parking...How to Find Us

Wellington is located 1/2 block west of Broadway on Wellington Avenue at 3000 north. Parking is available on the street. On Sunday morning, for those attending Wellington, free parking is available in the Illinois Masonic Medical Center parking garage at Halsted and Wellington, two blocks west of the church. The parking ticket from the garage can be exchanged for a free ticket available from ushers at the church.



WELLINGTON AVENUE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



615 West Wellington Avenue
Chicago, IL 60657
Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Rev. Dan Dale, Pastor

Church Staff:

Vince Benabese, Office Admin.
Loren Crawford, Faith Ed. Coord.
Mark Leonard, Music Director

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Visit our website at
www.waucc.org



Who we are

Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ, built in 1911, is a diverse and inclusive community called by Christ to live our faith in action. We strive to hear and do God's calling in the world. Our members have come to this community from all religious backgrounds, and we welcome people of all races, ages, and sexual identities. As an Open and Affirming Congregation, we affirm sexuality to be a gift from God and we celebrate all loving relationships. Our denomination, the United Church of Christ, was formed in 1957 with the union of the Evangelical and Reformed synod and the Congregational Christian churches.

Wellington Worship

Our regular worship services are held every Sunday at 10:30 am. The style of worship at Wellington is inclusive, embracing leadership within the lay congregation as well as from the pastor. Our church has volunteer liturgists who take turns interpreting our lectionary readings during every Sunday service. We use inclusive language in scripture, liturgy and hymns to acknowledge the equality of all people. Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month except during Lent. Communion is also held during the Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday services.

Music and art are vital elements of Wellington worship. Music includes soloists, instrumentalists and choral works. A volunteer choir rehearses before worship as needed. One of our resident artists, John Volkening, has developed liturgical art for our sanctuary which enriches our worship services throughout the year.

Faith Education

Wellington children and youth explore what it means to be a Christian in our troubled world. Weekly in church school, children ages three and up delve into scripture through art, theater, discussion, writing, and games. Youth meet as arranged. Our young people put faith into action by joining in marches for peace and justice, walks to end hunger, special service projects, and collaborating in worship.

Bible study for children and adults is held at 9:30 am the first Sunday of each month.

Nursery care is provided during worship, bible study, and for special events.



Social Justice . . . Outreach

Wellington has been involved in social justice issues locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally during the life span of our community. Through our actions, we have affirmed and publicly declared our opposition to physical and economic violence and war. Over time, we have offered refuge to Cuban, Chilean, Vietnamese, South African, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, and Colombian exiles, as well as to conscientious objectors.

We have worked to help survivors of human rights abuses in southern Africa and Central America. Wellington established a sister church relationship with a Labowa Homeland congregation in South Africa, and sent a representative to help register people to cast their first vote.

In the early 1980's, Wellington became the final station on an Underground Railroad that brought El Salvadoran refugees to Chicago. We declared our church a Public Sanctuary in 1984, the second in the nation to do so.

Wellington more recently joined the Chicago Colombia Sanctuary Alliance. Since 2004 we have provided a safe haven for a number of Colombians forced to leave their country because of their work for human rights and social justice. We are committed to the goal of creating a more just and humane US policy toward Colombia by helping to provide education about the conflict there.

In our own neighborhood, we move from faith to action by collaborating with local programs such as those sponsored by the Lakeview Action Coalition, involving issues of homelessness, hunger, and youth.

On state and national levels, we are active in peace advocacy, we support efforts to end the death penalty, and work with those opposing the militarization of youth.

Wellington is a vibrant community, housing the award winning "Timeline Theatre", and a childcare center sponsored by the Heartland Alliance. In addition, we host a monthly progressive film series called the "Conscientious Projector" that focuses on action around a diverse number of social justice issues.



Fair Trade Coffee is sipped and sold after service.