Standing in Solidarity

Chicago working families welcome
Archbishop Blase Cupich
President’s Report

Without a doubt, we live in challenging times. Economic inequity has never been so great in this county, poverty and hunger are at an all-time high, and wages are at an all-time low. Never have so few had so much, while so many have so little.

Abraham Lincoln once said, “A house divided against itself cannot stand.” Here in the United States, we are a country, a state and a city divided like never before. We need to figure out how to make this work; how to make all our communities better places to live. Our society has moved away from the ideal of working toward the common good to a more individualistic approach, which has at its core the question, “What’s in it for me?”

In September, the Archdiocese of Chicago’s new Archbishop, Blase Cupich, accepted the Chicago Federation of Labor’s invitation to speak to the working families of Chicago. (Read more on page 6.) He provided his insights on the issues plaguing the Labor Movement here in Illinois and across the country, and renewed the longstanding relationship between us. The Church’s Catholic social teaching is the truth of what God has shown about who he is, and through the social teaching we learn how to build a just
society that is inclusive. This gets to the heart of what the Labor Movement is all about.

On November 10, the Fight for $15 held a national day of action here in Chicago and across the country to raise awareness around the economic inequities plaguing our communities. (Read more on page 4.) This rally marked exactly one year until the 2016 presidential election. In addition to income inequality and the fight for fair wages, there are several contentious issues that are dividing the country right now that will become the focal point of this election, issues like gun control, immigration and race relations. These are all issues that we as a society need to deal with, together. We can no longer sweep these problems under the rug for the next generation.

As we look to the 2016 election, money is going to play an even more important role than in previous elections because of organizations like Citizens United and billionaire donors like the Koch brothers. Here in Illinois, Governor Rauner spent $27 million of his own money to win his 2014 election. Overall, he outspent Governor Quinn 2-to-1, but he only won 50.8 percent of the popular vote.

That’s why it is important for all of us to get involved. We cannot sit on the sidelines. As we approach November 2016, my advice to everyone is if you do not like the conversation, do something to change it.

How are you talking about the election at your worksite? How are you talking to your spouse, children or parents? What are you telling your neighbors? The Labor Movement needs to lead the conversation, rather than become the conversation. As we have seen more and more, the other side is pointing fingers at Labor, blaming us for society’s problems and calling for sweeping labor reform to resolve it. With enough repetition, the media will latch on to the concept and convince the public that there is something wrong with Labor and reform is necessary.

We are the defenders of the middle class, and we cannot allow those who oppose us to paint our picture any other way. The Labor Movement stands up for all workers, the unionized and those we intend to unionize. We attack injustices like wage theft before it even starts. We work to protect the common good and eliminate pay inequity. When you do the work, it should not matter what your age, race, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability is. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. However, with a union contract, if you do the work, you get the rate.

The people fighting against us should instead join us in the fight against wage theft and discrimination. They should join us in the fight to protect our social services safety net and to make workplaces safer. They should help us repair our ailing infrastructure and maintain quality education. They should help fight companies who use corporate inversion to weaken our tax base.

This is what our country needs right now. This is what will raise families out of poverty and into the middle class where they belong. Together we can create an America of shared prosperity. An America where you do not surrender your dignity or your rights when you go to work. An America where we honor each individual, while understanding that connecting with each other and supporting each other are what gives life meaning.
Letter Carriers Walk for a Cure

Nearly 500 people, including union members and their families and friends, gathered early in the morning on Sunday, October 11, for the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch #11’s third annual Breast Cancer Walk, “Letter Carriers Walking for a Cure.” The event kicked off with a balloon launch in Branch #11’s parking lot by all the survivors in attendance.

Following the walk, everyone went back to Branch #11’s union hall for brunch. As part of the festivities, breast cancer survivors were encouraged to stand up and tell their stories.

“We all know someone who has been affected by breast cancer,” said Mack Julion, President of NALC Branch #11. “Saving lives starts one walker and one dollar at a time. We heard several people tell their inspirational stories of survival. Our goal is to help find a cure so that someday we will live in a world without breast cancer.”

So far this year, Branch #11 has raised more than $10,000 through t-shirt sales and other donations, and $32,000 over the last three years. All money raised through the event will be donated to the American Cancer Society through the Making Strides walk.

AFGE Members Protest Government Shutdown

On Wednesday, September 30, members of AFGE District 7, including AFGE Locals 375 (Railroad Retirement Board), 648 (Department of Labor), 704 (Environmental Protection Agency), 781 (Hines Veterans Administration Medical Center), 911 (Housing and Urban Development), and 1395 (Social Security Administration), joined with other labor leaders and community groups for a demonstration at Federal Plaza in advance of a possible government shutdown. Dorothy James, AFGE National Vice President of District 7 stated,

“AFGE’s presence at Federal Plaza was important to give voice and visibility to the union’s strong opposition to federal employees being used as political pawns in a budget dispute. A last-minute Continuing Resolution kept the government open through December 11. However, on Monday, October 25, Congress reached a bi-partisan agreement to fund the federal government for FY 2016 and 2017.

“Federal employees lobbying and demonstrations has been instrumental in this favorable outcome. Although with new House Speaker Paul Ryan and the 2016 elections looming, we know that we must continue to be vigilant. We will continue to let Congress know that, ‘We want to work.’”

IBEW Local 134 Members Donate Blood at Annual Benefits Fair

On Saturday, October 24, 2015, IBEW Local 134 hosted their annual Benefits Fair. One of the many organizations that attended the event was Life Source Blood Services who also coordinated the Blood Drive. Thanks to the generous members of Local 134, Life Source was able to collect 58 units of blood. This in turn will support 156 lives.

Chicago Unions Participate in a National Day of Action to Raise the Minimum Wage

Hundreds of union members joined together in solidarity with fast food and other minimum wage workers around Chicago on Tuesday, November 10, to rally for an increase to the national minimum wage. The rally was part of a national day of action led by the Fight for $15 in 270 cities nationwide to raise awareness around the economic injustice plaguing communities across the United States. The
protests took place exactly one year before the 2016 presidential election, ensuring that income inequality will be a central issue throughout the campaign. Minimum-wage workers are demanding fair pay of $15 an hour and the right to form a union. Approximately 64 million Americans across the United States make less than $15 per hour.

Listen to Carpenters’ Radio Spots on WCPT 820

WCPT Radio is carrying commercials featuring the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters through mid-February. The radio spots will be rotated throughout the daily schedule; they can be heard on Progressive Radio 820 AM as well as Web streaming options.

UNITE HERE Local 1 Reaches Contract with Savor

At the end of November, UNITE HERE Local 1 reached a tentative agreement with Savor at McCormick Place. The previous contract expired December 31, 2014. The Committee voted overwhelmingly to recommend the agreement and the members voted to ratify it at the beginning of December.

The Passing of a Beloved Labor Leader

Mollie West, longtime leader of both the Illinois Labor History Society and the Chicago Labor Movement, passed away on Friday, August 7, at the age of 99. Mollie had a tremendous impact on the Labor Movement throughout her life. She was a proud member of the Chicago Typographical Union No. 16 and served as a delegate to the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Illinois AFL-CIO. She was also a founding member of the Chicago Coalition of Labor Union Women. As a young woman, she was part of the demonstration supporting the Republic Steel strikers, where 10 died in the Memorial Day Massacre of 1937. West dedicated her life to fighting for civil rights, women’s rights, equal rights, and the rights of working people. She was a tremendous role model for many throughout the movement and will be missed by all who knew her.

Every time you buy a ticket for a “Broadway” tour:

Ask If It’s Equity!

On Broadway, performers and stage managers work under Actors’ Equity contracts, which provides fair pay, good benefits, and protection against unfair treatment. That means actors can give their all at every performance.

When you pay to see a “Broadway” tour, you expect to see Broadway. While many touring productions are marketed as “direct from Broadway,” the protections and rights artists have in a Broadway production do not always carry over when that show goes on the road. The standards and protections are only applicable under an Actors’ Equity contract.

Remember, if it’s not Equity, it’s not Broadway. To learn more, visit askifitisequity.com.

Equity Touring Productions in Chicago:

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical
Oriental Theatre – 12/1/15 through 2/21/16

The Lion King
Cadillac Palace Theatre – 12/2/15 through 1/17/16

Cabaret
Bank of America Theatre – 2/9/16 through 2/21/16

If/Then
Cadillac Palace Theatre – 2/23/16 through 3/6/16

Matilda
Oriental Theatre – 3/22/16 through 4/10/16

FROM LEFT: MEMBERS OF NALC BRANCH #11 DON PINK T-SHIRTS AS PART OF THEIR ANNUAL BREAST CANCER WALK: “LETTER CARRIERS WALKING FOR A CURE”; AFGE RALLY AT FEDERAL PLAZA ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, TO PROTEST THE THREAT OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN; ACTIVIST MOLLIE WEST; FIGHT FOR $15 RALLY OUTSIDE THE THOMPSON CENTER ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.
Standing in Solidarity

The shared values between the Catholic faith and Labor are well-documented, including the Catholic Church’s social teaching on the dignity of work and the rights of workers. On September 17, 2015, the Chicago Federation of Labor invited Archbishop Blase Cupich to speak to the men and women of organized labor, as well as elected officials, and community and business leaders. Hundreds gathered in the auditorium of Plumbers Local 130 to hear his thoughts and insights on the shared values between the Church and working families, including workers’ rights, immigration rights and dignity of the human person. Archbishop Cupich’s address came just days before Pope Francis’ first visit to the United States.

Archbishop Cupich was installed as the ninth Archbishop of Chicago on Tuesday, November 18, 2014. In that time, he received many invitations from individual unions to attend various events. He acknowledged that the Labor Movement has been both welcoming and patient with him during his first year and that this address was his way of responding to all the invitations he has received.

“One of my priorities since arriving in Chicago is to build bridges and partnerships,” said Archbishop Cupich. “Today, I reach out to leaders of the Labor Movement and all who are here today. I see this opportunity as the first of many to build on the proud tradition of collaboration and common commitment between Labor and the Church.”

Archbishop Cupich continued, “I come today to offer my friendship and support as Chicago’s new Archbishop and to renew an essential and longstanding relationship between the Catholic Church and the Labor Movement. Our ties are built not on personalities, though we have been blessed with great leaders, but on enduring principles: the dignity of each and every human being made in the image and likeness of God, the dignity of work and the rights of workers.”

Throughout the course of his nearly 40-minute address, Archbishop Cupich outlined four areas that the Archdiocese of Chicago offers organized labor. He stated,

• “The Church as an employer can try to practice what it preaches about the dignity and rights of workers in terms of wages and working conditions.
• “The Church can be a voice, an ally and a partner in the search for greater justice and the pursuit of the common good.”

Shared Vision

Archbishop Cupich stated that it is not politics, economic theories, or ideology that brings the Labor Movement and the Catholic Church together. Instead, it is a commitment to human life and dignity, work and the rights of workers, solidarity and subsidiarity, and justice and the common good. The Catholic Church has long offered a strong vision on the dignity of work and justice for workers. Pope Leo XIII called for standards of justice in the workplace, including the right to a living wage, workplace safety, access to health care, and to provide for retirement.

“Unions are important not simply for helping workers get more,” Archbishop Cupich explained, “but helping workers be more, to have a voice, a place to make a contribution to the good of the whole enterprise, to fellow workers and the whole of society.”

Standing up for Workers’ Rights

Here in Illinois, political interests are threatening unions by trying to introduce so-called Right-to-Work zones in different areas across the state. Archbishop Cupich pledged to add his voice when fundamental values are being threatened or undermined. He stated, “For example in view of present day attempts to enact so-called right-to-work laws the Church is duty bound to challenge such efforts by raising questions based on longstanding principles. We have to ask, ‘Do these measures undermine the capacity of unions to organize, to represent workers and to negotiate contracts? Do such laws protect the weak and vulnerable? Do they promote the dignity of work and the rights of workers? Do they promote a more just society and a more fair economy? Do they advance the common good?’”

As one of the largest employers in both Cook and Lake Counties, Archbishop Cupich told the audience that he plans to practice what he preaches about the dignity of work and the rights of workers. He acknowledged that the Labor Movement has some of the best practices for employment. He invited Chicago Federation of Labor President Jorge Ramirez to join him and the Archdiocese’s labor liaison, Fr. Clete Kiley, in creating a working group of representatives from the CFL and the Archdiocese to review the Archbishop’s proposals and recommend ways both groups can work together, including updating the Project Labor Agreement the Archdiocese has held with the Building Trades for more than 30 years. He also affirmed that the Archdiocese will continue the long-standing policy of the U.S. Catholic Bishops Conference to hold its meetings and events in union hotel, or, in the absence of such, hotels free of labor disputes.

He concluded by acknowledging that the Catholic Church in Chicago and the workers of Chicago helped build the national Labor Movement. Now it is time for today’s leaders to build on this legacy to promote the dignity of work, protect the rights of workers, act with greater solidarity and pursue the common good. He stressed that, “We have to do more together – in solidarity.”

“Unions are important not simply for helping workers get more, but helping workers be more, to have a voice, a place to make a contribution to the good of the whole enterprise, to fellow workers and the whole of society.”

ARCHBISHOP BLASE CUPICH
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
TOP LEFT: ARCHBISHOP BLASE CUPICH ADDRESSES THE CROWD. TOP RIGHT: THE AUDIENCE WAS COMPRISED OF LABOR LEADERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, BUSINESS LEADERS, AND RANK-AND-FILE UNION MEMBERS, INCLUDING WORKERS FROM UNITE HERE LOCAL 1. BOTTOM: FOLLOWING HIS ADDRESS, ARCHBISHOP CUPICH BLESSED AN IMMIGRATION REFORM ROSARY MADE BY MEMBERS OF SEIU LOCAL 1. THE ROSARY WAS DELIVERED TO POPE FRANCIS THE FOLLOWING WEEK IN PHILADELPHIA, PA. LEFT: MEMBERS OF PLUMBERS LOCAL 130 WERE ON HAND FOR ARCHBISHOP CUPICH’S ADDRESS. (PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER VAUGHN, UNLESS INDICATED.)
Feature Stories

Union Hall of Honor: Justice from Farm to Table

On Friday, October 23, the Illinois Labor History Society held the 34th Annual Union Hall of Honor Awards Dinner. The theme for the evening was Justice from Farm to Table. From farm labor, to food processors and packers, to the wait staff at restaurants, and clerks at grocery stores, each day thousands of Illinois workers put in long, hard hours along every step of the food chain. The Union Hall of Honor celebrated the lives of three former labor leaders who played an important role in bringing food to the table. They stood up for dignity at their workplaces, fought for a voice at the bargaining table, and reminded us that from the farm to the table, these are important spaces for labor organizations – past and present.

Elizabeth Maloney was honored posthumously for her dedication to the labor movement, which began over 100 years ago. She was a founding member of the Chicago waitresses union and instrumental in reducing hours for waitresses from approximately 13 hours a day to 10 hours a day. But even she realized that still was not enough, so she went on to join the fight for the 8-hour work day for all workers. In 1970, she and her husband teamed up with Cesar Chavez to support his union efforts. They also worked closely with Baldemar Valesquez and the Farm Labor Organizing Committee to support the efforts of farm workers. Even in her golden years of retirement, Sandman continues her service with the National Farm Worker Ministry and supports farm workers far and wide.

Ruben Ramirez came from Guanajuato, Mexico, at the age of 17 and did not speak English. He and his fellow workers struggled to unionize their workplace in the 1960s, and by standing together, they secured a union contract that offered better wages and benefits. He became active in his Union to make a difference. He sacrificed his time with his family to organize other workers while he still worked on the shop floor. Ramirez worked his way up the ranks to become the first Latino to head a local union of what is now United Food and Commercial Workers. As President, he made sure the leadership of Local 100A was reflective of the members they served by including African-Americans, Latinos, women and other minorities on the Union’s Executive Board.

Jorge Ramirez, President of the Chicago Federation of Labor and Ruben’s son, delivered the keynote speech. He reminded everyone of the importance of labor history. “Being here today, listening to the stories of these three incredible honorees, is inspiring. These are the stories we forget as we go about our day-to-day lives; however, we need to constantly be reminded of those who came before us. We are where we are today because someone came before us and fought for these rights. Someone was willing to stand up and say, ‘We demand it.’”

10 Ways Unions Improve the Economy

The Illinois Economic Policy Institute released an economic commentary in September that highlighted 10 positive effects unions have to improve the overall economy. The report acknowledges that a predominant argument against joining a union is the associated cost. However, the ILEPI stated that it is important to consider the benefits unions offer to the economy. “In spite of higher costs that may be related to unions, workers have fought for the right to organize, to tilt the balance of power from employers to workers, to provide due process procedures, and to ensure that workers earn an adequate living to support a family.”

Ultimately, unions boost consumer demand, reduce reliance on government assistance programs, support tax revenues, increase productivity, fight against social inefficiencies, and counter the power of big businesses.

1. Union workers earn higher wages and increase consumer demand
2. Unions reduce socially inefficient levels of income inequality
3. Union workers receive less government assistance
4. Union workers contribute more in income taxes
5. Unions increase productivity in construction, manufacturing, and education
6. Unions reduce employee turnover rates
7. Unions fight against child labor and for public education
8. Unions fight against all forms of discrimination
9. Unions collectively bargain toward efficient contracts
10. Unions fight against the “monopsony” power of owners, especially in sports.

To read the full report, visit chicagolabor.org/news.
Preparing for a Changing Future

In September, the National Electrical Contractors Association Chicago and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 134 opened the first and largest Renewable Energy Training Field in the United States to provide outdoor, hands-on training for electrical workers to install renewable energy components. Electrical workers will learn about renewable energy in a variety of forms and get hands-on training in installing solar and wind components. With the industry rapidly advancing, the facility was designed to expand and adapt to these technological advancements.

The 125’ x 350’ facility was conceived by Harry Ohde, assistant training director at the IBEW-NECA Technical Institute (IN-TECH), and several others while brainstorming ideas to offer IBEW-NECA members new classes. “We wanted to think outside the box to get our members trained and qualified in renewable energy,” said Ohde. “Electricians are hands-on learners, so we knew we needed to have hands-on training.”

The project incorporated a diverse array of technologies. They include an ADA-compatible solar carport, with provisions for DC quick-charge capabilities in the future, and a wide variety of roof and ground-mounted systems. Other elements include a 3-ladder, 60 foot climbing tower that looks like a closed silo, a wind turbine system, and a plethora of batteries, inverters, and solar arrays, to learn basic and advanced techniques for renewable energy installation and maintenance.

The Field was also designed as a smart grid application – with 45kw, 18kw and 10kw solar modules, combined as one application that feeds into a 100kw bi-directional inverter, which will charge batteries during the day.

“So we’re first charging the batteries, then offsetting the electrical building loads, then sending any surplus in power back to ComEd,” Ohde summarized. At 5 p.m. each day, batteries will take over the power “loads” for the building. He added, “Battery technology is changing every day. It’s more cost effective to implement energy storage in an electrical system, especially using lithium ion. They’re smaller; more energy can be stored in them and the lifetime is longer. We started thinking, why would we wait for an emergency situation to use batteries? Why not use batteries every day if we can?”

With a 2007 mandate from the State of Illinois declaring that 25 percent of all electrical energy production must come from wind, solar or other renewable energy sources, the curriculum is timely. The future is changing rapidly for electrical workers.

“Electrical work is a profession that requires more study and time than any other trade in the building industry,” said Don Finn, IBEW Local 134 Business Manager/Financial Secretary. “I’m never shy about saying our electricians are the best-trained electricians in the country. This is the direct result of our rigorous training programs. With the addition of the Renewable Energy Training Field program, we will help create more jobs for our electricians and contractors.”
**Chicago Federation of Labor Welcomes First Chaplain**

For the first time in the Chicago Federation of Labor's modern history, the Executive Board installed a chaplain to provide spiritual guidance to the CFL officers and Executive Board members. In November, the Executive Board welcomed Fr. Clete Kiley at their regular meeting.

Fr. Kiley began with a prayer, then went on to say, “I am proud to sit at the table with all of you as your new chaplain. I feel at home here. I am here to offer my prayers and to stand with Labor, providing my support to you and your organizations.”

Originally from Chicago, Fr. Kiley returned to his hometown earlier this year, continuing his work as Director for Immigration Policy for UNITE HERE International Union. This also enabled Fr. Kiley to take on responsibilities to assist Archbishop Blase Cupich as a Special Advisor. The Archbishop has subsequently asked Fr. Kiley to serve as his Delegate for Labor. Prior to joining UNITE HERE, he served as President of The Faith and Politics Institute, and as Executive Director of the Secretariat for Priestly Life and Ministry at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Fr. Kiley always held a special interest in the work of the Labor Movement. He founded the Priest-Labor Initiative through the National Federation of Priests’ Councils, an online community of priests across the United States who stand with and advocate for workers based on the principles of Catholic social teaching. He also serves as one of UNITE HERE’s representative to the AFL-CIO Immigration Committee. Fr. Kiley serves as a Director on the Board of CPWR-The Center for Construction Research for the National Building Trades, as a Trustee of the UNITE HERE Health and Welfare Fund, and as a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies at The Catholic University of America.

**William A. Lee Scholarship Applications Available Online January 2016**

The Chicago Federation of Labor is honored to announce that it will once again award 10 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarships, valued at $2,000 each, to five winners of the Academic Competition and five winners of the Random Drawing. The funds may be used at any accredited college or university in the United States.

The applicant must be a senior in high school and graduating in the spring of 2016. Either the applicant or the applicant’s parent must be a member in good standing of a CFL-affiliated union. To confirm a union’s affiliation status, please call 312.222.1000. Completed applications must be received by the Chicago Federation of Labor by Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Applications may be dropped off at the office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Mailed applications must be postmarked by Saturday, February 27, 2016.

For more information or to download the application, visit chicagolabor.org.

**Peggy Browning Fund Honors Outstanding Leaders**

Each year, the Peggy Browning Fund pays special tribute to three exceptional leaders who have made major contributions to the cause of workers’ rights. This year’s honorees were CFL President Jorge Ramirez, Keith Kelleher, President of SEIU HCII and CFL Executive Board member, and Thomas Allison, founding principal of Allison, Slutsky & Kennedy, P.C.

Browning was a member of the National Labor Relations Board, an extraordinary labor lawyer, a hiker, loving wife and mother, and a true supporter of the collective bargaining process. The Peggy Browning Fund was established in 1997 by Browning’s friends and family to continue her life’s work of helping workers. It has become the preeminent organization in the country for encouraging and recruiting new lawyers for the Labor Movement. Through Summer Fellowships, an annual National Law Students Workers’ Rights Conference and networking opportunities, the PBF provides diverse, challenging work and educational experiences in the area of workers’ rights.
CFL Establishes Union Veterans Council in Chicago

Every year on November 11, Americans pause to honor and celebrate veterans. However, veterans deserve this respect and admiration every day of the year. They faithfully served their country so that we can enjoy our freedom, only to return home to face hardships that include unemployment and a lack of resources at the VA.

To ensure our veterans are afforded the respect and dignity they deserve, the national AFL-CIO formed the Union Veterans Council. The Council brings union members and potential union members who are veterans together to speak out on the issues that impact veterans most, especially the need for good jobs and a strong, fully funded and staffed VA. Additionally, it holds private enterprises and elected officials accountable for their words and actions.

“The Chicago Federation of Labor Workers Assistance Committee has always been committed to helping veterans find good jobs when they return home,” said CFL Secretary-Treasurer Bob Reiter. “Starting the Chicago chapter of the Union Veterans Council allows us to expand our reach to more veterans and give them a greater network to speak out on the issues that are important to veterans all across the country.”

To learn more or to join the Chicago chapter of the Union Veterans Council, visit chicagolabor.org/unionveterancouncil.

CFL President Honored During National Hispanic Heritage Month

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White honored three outstanding Hispanic leaders at the annual tribute to National Hispanic Heritage Month on Wednesday, October 14, at the James R. Thompson Center. The yearly event recognizes the important contributions of distinguished Hispanic leaders around the state, as well as a notable athlete. CFL President Jorge Ramirez was honored along with Illinois State Representative, 83rd District, Linda Chapa La Via and Chicago Cubs catcher Miguel Montero. Ramirez also served as the keynote speaker.

During his speech, Ramirez challenged the audience to make this society a better place for the next generation. “Growing up, I watched my father create better opportunities for the workers in his local Union,” said Ramirez. “I witnessed firsthand the strength a collective voice gave to these workers. Throughout my career, I channeled my energy into helping workers and saving jobs. Many of our parents came here to build a better life for their families and stronger communities than what was available back home. What are we doing to make this world better for our children?”

2016 CFL DELEGATES MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
Tuesday, March 1, 2016
Tuesday, April 5, 2016
Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Tuesday, June 7, 2016
Tuesday, October 4, 2016
Tuesday, November 1, 2016
Tuesday, December 6, 2016
Delegates Appreciation Dinner

No Meeting in July, August and September

All meetings are scheduled to be held at Plumbers’ Hall, 1340 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago at 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. Please remember to bring your 2016 Delegate card for entry. Dates and times are subject to change. Please check for updates at www.chicagolabor.org.
Get Involved!

Join the CFL in standing up for working people and building a strong middle class.

Follow us:

- www.facebook.com/chicagofederationoflabor
- www.twitter.com/chicagoaflcio
- www.youtube.com/user/WeAreOneChicago

CFL Delegates’ Meetings

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
Tuesday, March 1, 2016
Tuesday, April 5, 2016

START TIME: 6 p.m.
WHERE: Chicago Plumbers Local 130 Hall
1340 W. Washington, Chicago

College Scholarship

Applications for the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship will be available online January 1, 2016. Applications are due March 1, 2016.

Visit chicagolabor.org/scholarship

Delegates must present their current Chicago Federation of Labor membership card or this notice for admission. We look forward to full representation from your local union to assist the Federation in the development of its policies.