



Metropolitan Association, NY UCC Newsletter

June 10, 2021

Ministering to the
Metropolitan Association
Churches and Ministers

CREATIVITY, COMPASSION, COMMITMENT &
COMMUNICATION

EADMIN@METROUCCNYC.ORG

BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (Galatians 5:1)
"From every mountainside, let freedom ring." (I Have A Dream)

This command to "stand firm" in freedom from Apostle Paul to the church folks in Galatia, and the clarion call from Rev. Dr. Martin L. King to "let freedom ring", landscapes my life as an affirmation and a mantra. These words serve as a "sweet refrain" in this month of June in celebration of PRIDE, JUNTEENTH and FATHER'S DAY.

In the Apostle's second letter to the church at Corinth, we are

reminded that "our outer nature is wasting away..." Paul is not writing something that is untrue. It is a statement of our current reality: a state of eroding. That should put us all on notice; that in our time of "wasting away" we have no time to waste. A cousin of mine, when asked about her health, responded: *"The clock is still ticking, but time is winding up."* We are reminded that we have work to do. We have to discern God's will and do it! This is not about time management, being busy, and/or amassing more work to do. Our focus must be on prioritizing and passionately engaging in doing the right things.

Juneteenth—Freedom Day, Liberation Day--celebrates the emancipation of the people of African descent, who suffered under the iron heels of a

dehumanizing, oppressive, crushing system of institutionalized slavery in the land of the free, home of the brave, these United States. PRIDE, is a celebration of the tipping point event at STONEWALL where the gathered members of the LGBTQ+ community and residents rose up with an "enough is enough" spirit! Overturning the tables of decades of abuse of constant harassment and social discrimination at the hands of the authorities, this moment served as a catalyst of freedom for the LGBTQ+ community.

With democracy in jeopardy, civil rights under attack, and freedom at stake, it is our time, Metropolitan Association, to live in and live out the freedom unfolding under the conditions, limitations, and ambiguities, even as these things cripple us

in our present existence. Stand firm and let freedom ring...Happy Juneteenth! Happy Pride! Happy Father's Day!

In memory of Sundar Devaprasath

Rev. Ruby



The vision of the Metropolitan Association over the next three years is to enhance the role of the Association in offering resources for congregational connections, mutual learning and spirit filled fellowship that will inclusively reflect the rich diversity of the members, churches and ministers in the Metropolitan Association.

It is pride month! The Metro Association is proud to announce the formation of the LGBTQIA Alliance in our Association. We launch this month with this featured newsletter focused on Pride!

PRIDE HISTORY:

“On a hot summer’s night in New York on June 28, 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club in Greenwich Village, which resulted in bar patrons, staff, and neighborhood residents rioting onto Christopher Street outside. Among the many leaders of the riots was a black, trans, bisexual woman, Marsha P. Johnson, leading the movement to continue over six days with protests and clashes. The message was clear — protestors demanded the establishment of places where LGBT+ people could go and be open about their sexual orientation without fear of arrest.

Pride Month is largely credited as being started by bisexual activist Brenda Howard. Known as ‘The Mother of Pride,’ Brenda organized Gay Pride Week and the Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade a year after the Stonewall Riots. This eventually morphed into what we now know as the New York City Pride March and was the catalyst for the formation of similar parades and marches across the world.”

[PRIDE MONTH 2021 - June | National Today](https://nationaltoday.com/pride-month/#history)

LINKS TO A RESOURCES

[A Proclamation on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month, 2021 | The White House](#)

[NYC Pride](#)

International pride events:

[2021 Global Gay Pride Calendar \(iglta.org\)](https://nationaltoday.com/pride-month/#history)

Black leaders:

<https://nationaltoday.com/pride-month/#history>

CELEBRATING METRO OPEN AND AFFIRMING CHURCHES!

- ✚ **All Souls Bethlehem**
- ✚ **Bethany Congregational UCC**
- ✚ **Broadway UCC**
- ✚ **Community Church of Syosset UCC**
- ✚ **Community Church of the Pelhams UCC**
- ✚ **Congregational Church of Manhasset (UCC)**
- ✚ **First Congregational Church of Rockaway Beach**
- ✚ **Garden City Community Church UCC**
- ✚ **Judson Memorial Church UCC**
- ✚ **Memorial Congregational UCC**
- ✚ **Park Avenue Christian Church**
- ✚ **Rivers of Living Water UCC**
- ✚ **Safe Haven UCC**

- ✚ **Scarsdale Congregational Church UCC**
- ✚ **The Briarcliff Congregational Church**
- ✚ **The Riverside Church UCC**
- ✚ **United Church of Rockville Centre**

✚ **United Church of
Spring Valley**
✚ **Victoria
Congregational
Church of Jamaica**
✚ **West Center
Congregational UCC**

INTERSECTIONS:

BLACK QUEER, FEMINIST LEADER AUDRE LORDE:

“Audre Lorde was a well-known author and poet whose work explored civil rights, the complexity of the black experience and the oppression that she witnessed in her communities. **“I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different from my own.”** Lorde, who died in 1992, advocated for the rights of both queer black women and others who weren’t part of the mainstream feminist movement.”

<https://nationaltoday.com/pride-month/#history>

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH



“Described as a second independence day, June 19th or Juneteenth marks the day that emancipation reached slaves in the furthest reaches of the South. While the Emancipation Proclamation

proclaimed that all slaves held within the rebellious states were freed, plantation life continued as though no change had occurred in many parts of the slaveholding South until this day.

Juneteenth is a time to reflect upon this history, including the steps toward freedom that have been achieved and the forces that continue to undermine the freedom of African Americans”. [Reflecting on Juneteenth \(facinghistory.org\)](https://facinghistory.org)

United Black Christians (UBC) Celebrates Juneteenth

On June 19, 1865 in Galveston, Texas, a U.S. federal proclamation was read notifying people of African Descent were all free and that slavery was abolished. This date has since been commemorated as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day and/or Emancipation Day. The earliest Juneteenth celebration being recorded in 1867.

[Register](#)

KNOW OF ANYONE IN
NEED OF FOOD? CHRIST
CHURCH HAS A TERRIFIC
FOOD AND CLOTHING
PANTRY IN THE BRONX?

CHRIST CHURCH AND MISSION HELPING HAND



**COMMUNITY
FOOD PANTRY**

EVERY SATURDAY
10AM

CHRIST CHURCH
860 FOREST AVE BRONX NY

*FREE AND HEALTHY FOOD
PROVISIONS TO ALL IN NEED

**WEARING MASKS AND SOCIAL
DISTANCING REQUIRED**

718-665-6688
info@christchurchthebronx.org
@christchurchthebronx
#christchurchthebronx
@missionhhnyc

GET THE GUNS OFF OUR
STREETS!

**NEW YORK CITY
GUN BUY BACK PROGRAM**

CASH/IPADS FOR GUNS

NO QUESTIONS ASKED



- RECEIVE A \$200 PRE-PAID CARD FOR OPERABLE HANDGUNS AND ASSAULT RIFLES
- RECEIVE A \$25 PRE-PAID CARD FOR RIFLES, SHOTGUNS, AND AIRGUNS
- RECEIVE AN IPAD ALONG WITH THE PRE-PAID GIFT CARD FOR OPERABLE HANDGUNS AND OPERABLE ASSAULT RIFLES. (ONE IPAD PER PERSON - SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY ON A FIRST - COME, FIRST - SERVED BASIS)

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2021
DROP-OFF SITE OPEN 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
CHRIST CHURCH
860 FOREST AVENUE
BRONX, NY 10456

SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES WILL BE ADHERED TO DURING THIS EVENT.
NO CURRENT OR RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT

SPONSORED BY THE BRONX COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT,
AND THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE FOUNDATION
PAYMENT SUBJECT TO INSPECTION BY DEPARTMENT SPECIALISTS



**A NOTE ABOUT
FELLOWSHIP DUES:**

Please support the work of the Metro Association! Annual dues statements have been sent electronically. Please send us your proper e mail information for your financial team if you have not received it. Please e mail Eadmn@metrouccnyc.org

LOOKING FOR
OPPORTUNITIES TO
CONNECT WITH METRO
CHURCHES?

**CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF SOUTH
HEMPSTEAD**

Facebook LIVE YouTube
facebook.com/theccsh The CCSH channel

zoom
446-876-9923
ID# 860 3793 1606
To reserve the Zoom passcode Please register at theccsh.org by clicking on the CONNECT tab



Online
WORSHIP SERVICE

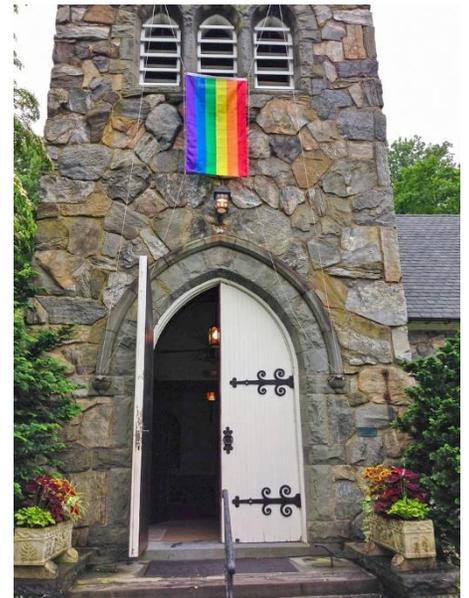
Donate
www.theccsh.org GivePlus+ Text: 833-878-9036 CashApp: \$TheCCSH

Rev. Dr. Patrick G. Duggan
Senior Pastor

EVERY
SUNDAY

9:45 AM

**THE BRIARCLIFF
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH: OPEN AND
AFFIRMING! Every Sunday at
10:05 am on YOU TUBE**



Briarcliff Congregational Church

**Other offerings:
Spiritual Pride at
Judson:**

**Spiritual
PRIDE**

Is an open space where we affirm and celebrate the divine spirit in each of us as members and allies of the LGBTQ+ community. **SPiritual PRIDE** is where you can fully be Seen and Loved. Our motto and framework lifts up the affirmation to

"Love One Another"

Sunday, June 13, 2021*

1:30pm - 2:30pm
Fellowship Immediately After

Virtual Meeting via Zoom
<http://zoom.us/j/86186783348>

Dial In: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 861 8678 3348

**PRIDE CENTER
of STATEN ISLAND**
pridecenters.org/counseling

*Last gathering - offline for the Summer.
Contact minjaetucker@gmail.com
tsushno@pridecenters.org
for new meeting details



June 2021

Congregational Church of Manhasset:

**YOUR ENVIRONMENT
NOW WEDNESDAYS AT
10:00 AM**

Your Environment Now (YEN) -
Join Dr. Palsdottir, President of
the Board of Trustees for the
Science Museum of Long Island
and the co-founder of ReWild
Long Island. ReWild pioneers
restore habitats for local wildlife
with native plants and trees
replacing the "perfect lawn."

Join at 10:00am on
Wednesday

<https://zoom.us/j/655305929>

NYC PRIMARY ELECTION SEASON IS UPON US

Find out about Rank Choice Voting:

Safe Haven UCC is offering a
brief seminar on voting this
year in the NYC primary:
JUNE 10, 2021 AT 7PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/823
86663651?pwd=ZIYxT3RxNmt
0SGNaWHd1RTBWZFIJUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82386663651?pwd=ZIYxT3RxNmt0SGNaWHd1RTBWZFIJUT09)

Topic: LET'S VOTE!

Time: Jun 10, 2021 07:00 PM

Eastern Time (US and
Canada)

METRO NEWS:

DID YOU KNOW:

On June 7, 2021, Rev. Dr.
Sundar Devaprasath passed
away. Rev Sundar was the
long-time pastor of Christava
Tamil Koil Church in NY. The
Metropolitan Association
honors his memory and
celebrates his life and
ministry among us.

The Metro Board is pleased to
welcome Nina Jain as our part
time Financial Assistant. Nina
will work closely with Metro
Treasurer, Rev. Dr. Nigel
Pearce and Bookkeeper
Stacey Tannehill to make sure
our resources are being wisely
stewarded.

**The Metro Board will take a
Summer break during July
and August. If you have any
pressing matters for the
Board to consider please
contact our Executive
Director, Rev. Kris Watson
by e mail at
eadmin@metrouccnyc.org**



Job Openings:

OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS LOOKING FOR A PART TIME ASSISTANT.

Our Executive Director is looking for a dynamic, tech savvy, well-organized and personable Part time assistant to work with her to work collegially with the Board to move the Association forward. For job description and more information contact our ED at eadmin@metrouccnyc.org

Several churches are looking for technical support and staff to assist them in establishing hybrid worship. If you have these technical skills, please contact our Executive Director at eadmin@metroucc.nyc.org and she will connect you with churches in need.

JUDSON MEMORIAL CHURCH IS SEARCHING FOR AN INTERIM MINISTER.

If you know of a great candidate for this position, please e mail Rev. Kris Watson at Edamiin@metrouccnyc.org

If you have news for your Metro family, please e mail eadmin@metrouccnyc.org