



METROUCCNY.ORG
METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION
 NEW YORK CONFERENCE UCC
 metrouccnyc.org

FALL MEETING
 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021
 NEW TIME **9AM - 12:30PM**
 Via Zoom (Registration Required)
tiny.cc/metrofallmeeting

Theme: **"Doing A New Thing!"**

Worship Service Preacher:
Bishop Rev. Dr. Yvette Flunder
 The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries,
 City of Refuge Church



Highlights of the Day:

- Praise and Worship
- Business Meeting of the Association
- Approval of the 2022 Metro Budget
- Moderated Chat with Bishop Yvette Flunder

Registration Fee: \$40.00 Adults \$15.00 Youth up to 18 years
 Retired Clergy - No Fee

Preferred ONLINE payment check/debit card/credit card
 through our secure VANCO system tiny.cc/MetroNYPay
 Mailed Checks should be made payable to
 "The Metropolitan Association" and
 Mailed to: 102-19 34th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Corona, NY 11368

Any questions, please contact Rev. Dr. Kris E. Watson, Esq.
 Executive Director | eadmin@metrouccnyc.org

Metropolitan Association, NY UCC Newsletter

November 2021

Ministering to the
 Metropolitan Association
 Churches and Ministers.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

**CREATIVITY, COMPASSION, COMMITMENT &
 COMMUNICATION**

[EADMIN@METROUCCNYC.ORG](mailto:eadmin@metrouccnyc.org)

BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The harvest is plentiful...

It is becoming increasingly clear to me that the gospel of Jesus is not for the fainthearted. In the words of the seasoned saints of my childhood, *you got to have a made-up mind and be dressed in the full armor of God*, to be about the business, God's business, that Jesus spoke about during his earthly ministry. There is much work in the vineyard of life.

The scripture from which this verse appears in Luke's gospel, speaks of Jesus healing all types of dis-eases. And while I am sure He was concerned about eternity and the salvation of souls, as he looked upon an oppressed people, he was also concerned about their liberation from the problems, poisons and pressures that kept them from living into their divinely created selves.

The workers are few...

In the bible study program of my youth, we sang: "Willing workers are needed in this world today." In this season of Thanksgiving, a shout out of gratitude to the Clergy and Congregations of the Metropolitan Association. From our Spring Meeting to this present day, we have had the opportunity to hear about those willing workers throughout our Association. Our newsletter continues to be a doorway into our houses of worship, ministries to our communities, and resources to help strengthen and enlighten us.

In a world of much dis-ease, it's easy to get distracted by things that prevent us from engaging in the "moral imaginary" which can transform us as we see and live into God's just future. Thank you, willing workers of Metro, for putting and keeping "your shoulder to the wheel" so we can imagine a new way of doing church, edifying the Body of Christ and glorifying God. Let's continue

to encourage, pray, and work together in these days when it is so easy to turn on each other when we should be turning to each other. Our deliverance from degradation and death rests in our ability to see what is truly ultimate like Isaiah's vision in chapter 6 of that book—seeing the Divine, "high and lifted up..."

The harvest is plentiful; workers are few...It's time to pray. It's time to give! It's time for us to shine as **#METROSTRONG**...Be blessed!

Peace....

Rev. Dr. Ruby M. Wilson

**REGISTER
TODAY FOR
THE FALL
MEETING!
NOVEMBER 13,
2021 FROM
9AM-12PM**

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://metrouccnyc.org.zoom.us/j/84461212121>

**VIRTUAL
MINISTRY FAIR IN
JANUARY!**

**THE METRO
ASSOCIATION WANTS
TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR
MINISTRY!**

We are planning a virtual Ministry Fair this winter to highlight the work you are doing in your community! Is there a ministry within your congregation that excites and inspires you? Is there a ministry that serves the community in excellence? We want to know about it! Send us a 3-5 minute video that we can share with the Association. We want to show off and show out to the Glory of God! This Ministry Fair will help you highlight what your congregation is doing in the community! Tell us about your ministries that are Spirit inspired and so we can **SPOTLIGHT YOUR MINISTRY**, spread

the word and sow a seed into the ministry! Send short video clips to Our Executive Director, Rev. Kris Watson at eadm@metrouccnyc.org

**#METROSTRONG
CAMPAIGN!**

The Metro Association is launching a **#METROSTRONG** Campaign. This effort will focus on connecting our churches with each other, partnering with unaffiliated ministries that are working with people living on the margins, raising funds for our mission, seeking grants to help clergy and churches and continuing to provide outstanding service to our members and affiliates.

Eadmin@metrouccnyc.org

The Association Board is diligently working to find ways to strengthen our ability to help our clergy and our congregations! We will be offering UCC Polity, and other educational opportunities for our clergy and laity. Stay connected for more information on these offerings!

**HELP US TO CONTINUE
TO SUPPORT THE
WORK OF OUR
ASSOCIATION BY
REMITTING YOUR
ANNUAL CHURCH DUES
NO LATER THAN
DECEMBER 1, 2021.
MAIL CHECKS TO:
METROPOLITAN**

**ASSOCIATION, UCCNY
AT**

**102-19 34TH AVENUE,
CORONA, NY 11368**

**OR GO TO OUR
WEBSITE DONATIONS
PAGE AT [Donation](https://www.metrouccnyc.org/donations)
([eservicepayments.com](https://www.metrouccnyc.org/donations))**

**Metro Spiritual Life
Committee offers the
CLERGY CLINIC**

The purpose of the Clergy Clinic is to keep clergy connected to the Association, assist clergy with navigating the challenges of ministry and enhance growth. The SLPC Support for Pastors, Clergy and Lay, partners with the Committee on Ministry to provide essential avenues of communication and prayer. The team: *Rev. Erv Graves, Rev. Carolyn C. Blair, Rev. Dr. Floyd R. Blair*, are available to ensure that your needs are met. **We are asking that all pastors and clergy update their information for the directory as requested by the Metro Office.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT A CONDITION OF MINISTERIAL STANDING IS COMPLETION OF YOUR ANNUAL INFORMATION REVIEW FORM. PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION WHEN REQUESTED!

NEED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT?

**Confidential conversations for those who require prayer, supportive ears, resources and tools for church stress, family stress and personal stress. (Referrals available for additional support). Contact us @ metroclergy@gmail.com*

If you need prayer and support, contact our Metro chaplains

- Dr. Anesta Vannoy-Kwame
disasterchap@metrouccnyc.org
- Rev. Erv Graves
metrochap@metrouccnyc.org

OFFERINGS FROM THE PRACTICAL RESOURCE CENTER:

Children's Ministry Post Vaccine

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8491212121>

November 18, 2021

2:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern

Leaders: Elizabeth Christie, Brittany Sky McRay

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Supporting a Hybrid Ministry with Office 365
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8491212121>

**Wednesday, November 10, 2021
1:00 - 2:00 PM Eastern
Leader: Joshua Carroll**

In this webinar we will explore how to securely leverage Microsoft Office 365 to decrease costs and increase productivity and mission capacity

Joshua Carroll is the President and Founder of JRC Consulting.

Celebrating Smallness: Unleashing New Life through Collaborative Models of Mutuality

**November 16
2:00 - 3:00 PM
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8491212121>**

Leader: Lydia Kelsey Bucklin

The majority of congregations across

denominations now fall into the category of "small church," many unable to maintain a model of ministry centered around a minister. Join Lydia Kelsey Bucklin as we explore alternative models of shared ministry, focused on the gifts of the community. God DOES set a feast in the wilderness, so let us celebrate the opportunities ahead of us for engaging the Holy Spirit, especially in our small but mighty communities of faith.

Lydia Kelsey Bucklin is an Episcopal Priest in the Diocese of Northern Michigan supporting communities of faith in discipleship and vitality.

WORSHIPING IN THE CHURCH? WEAR A MASK!



CHILDREN 5-11 CAN NOW BE VACCINATED!

IF YOU, A FAMILY MEMBER OR CONGREGANT NEED HELP WITH FOOD FOR THIS THANKSGIVING PLEASE CONTACT HOLLIS AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, Rev. Jerry Greene, Senior Pastor 211-04 Hollis Avenue, Queens Village 11429. HOURS OF OPERATION: 8am-11am: The Food Pantry is open every Tuesday including the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. If you have special needs or an immediate need contact James Thomas at 516-528-2422

SPOTLIGHT ON GRACE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HARLEM.

In this issue, we lift up Grace Congregational Church of Harlem. Grace has been featured in the news lately:

Seeking to keep the congregation viable in these difficult times, Grace Congregational Church of Harlem had entered into a contract with a developer to revitalize the church building and build affordable housing on its properties.

Unfortunately, the Landmark Commission then landmarked an entire neighborhood, precluding the project from going forward.

As a result of some press attention, Rev. Nigel Pearce reports:

“We have had a great groundswell of response from the NYT Sunday article on October 24 .

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/22/nyregion/grace-congregational-church-harlem.html>

Rev. Dr. Nigel Pearce reports:

As a result of the article we are working with the following organizations:

Trinity Church
Bricks and Mortals
HCCI

Harlem Politicians and allies are also helping to change things the landscape.

Congressmember Adriano Espaillat

Assembly member Al Taylor

Hon. Keith Wright, Hon. Inez Dickens, Hon. Ruth Messenger and Hon. Gail Brewer have all stepped up to the plate to help save this historic church.

We will continue to highlight the issue as

many African American Churches have been in this dilemma. The Landmark Commission is only exasperating the difficulties Churches face. We encourage the Commission to look at the importance of saving the spirit of the people of the church as well as building affordable housing in a borough that is in desperate need of safe and affordable places to live. We appreciate the support of the Metro Association and our friends and allies as we seek to preserve this great church!”



JOB POSTINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Music Minister for Broadway United Church of Christ

Broadway United Church of Christ is a small but dynamic congregation in Manhattan (New York City). We are a progressive church with a prophetic ministry and a congregation who is musically informed and engaged. Our tastes are quite diverse, and our highest priority is music that feeds our minds, challenges our values, and enlivens our souls. Located in a city of unlimited talent, our dream is for our next music director to help build a program, around a core group of professionals, that urban people will find compelling and attractive.

Responsibilities

- Assist the senior pastor and work with the staff in planning and executing all worship services.
- Ensure the choir and other special music is prepared to provide a well-executed, diverse, and inspiring experience for the congregation.
- Build a music/arts program that is an asset in attracting a diverse community who gathers to worship and scatters to serve.
- Recruit, equip, motivate, and supervise musicians and artists.
- Develop musical teams and ensembles for services.
- Utilize the arts, including drama, literature, graphics, and video, to enhance a comprehensive worship experience.

- Direct and coordinate special events as appropriate.
- Communicate faithfully with the senior pastor and staff.
- Participate in the life and ministry of the church.

Qualifications

- A spiritual person seeking faith through Christian traditions.
- Love and respect for a diverse community.
- Progressive values that passionately support an end to racism, sexism, homophobia, etc.
- Attested musical skills and competence.
- Ability to organize, coordinate, and motivate musicians and technical team members.
- Sense of humor and positive attitude.
- Strong collaborator with the rest of the staff and congregation.
- Dependable, responsible, self-motivated, and creative.
- Bachelor's degree in music or theology (Master's preferred).
- Minimum five years experience in a church-related setting preferred.

Musical Competencies

- Ability to produce music using a wide range of traditions including Christian hymnody and congregational song, but with a focus on contemporary and culturally diverse music.
- Ability to lead worship and train others as individual and team worship leaders.
- Capable of adapting, arranging, and sequencing music or at least

PLEASE VISIT AND LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HAPPENINGS IN THE METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION!

Spread the news of all that Metro Association is offering to its members, churches, and ministers!

Share this newsletter with your congregation!

Reach out to us to see how you can get involved and volunteer your time talent and treasure!

Do you have a bright idea or project for us to engage in? Develop the idea and share it by e mailing our Executive Director at eadmin@metronyucc.org

Does your church need pulpit supply? We have a diversity of ministers willing and able to help. Please reach out to eadmin@metronyucc.org or call Rev. Kris Watson on her cell at 646-523-1936.

supervising those who can do these tasks.

- Producing and directing special events, musicals, and programs.
- Experience with technical aspects of in-person, online and hybrid worship services. For example, knowledge and experience with A/V systems, video editing and live streaming, etc. is a plus.
- Knowledge of the arts and willingness to include them in creating a transformational worship experience.

Hours and compensation are negotiable based on the candidate's skills and availability.

BROADWAY UCC IS ALSO LOOKING FOR A PART TIME CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

BUCC Church Administrator

Note: Job functions can be delegated to capable, trained Church volunteers; however, work must be supervised and reviewed by Church Administrator

Reporting to: Senior Pastor and/or Board President
Hours: 30 hours per week

Church move:

- Obtain bids from moving companies for move of office, storage and/or church worship operation.
- Work with staff at current location to facilitate move out of current space.
- Facilitate move with moving company(s) for all church possessions

to new location or off-site storage.

- Work with staff at new location to facilitate move into new location.
- Maintain lists of inventories at church location and off-site storage

Communications

- Monitor physical mail. Pick up, distribute, respond, post mail. Try to eliminate junk and duplicate mailings.
- Monitor telephone calls to 212-316-5700. Maintain answering machine message, answer calls, retrieve messages, forward, respond
- Monitor main email account (office@broadwayucc.org). Set up automatic messages, salutations, inbox defaults, etc. Read, forward, respond, send emails. Erase junk mail, spam, etc.
- Maintain database (in Breeze) for attendance, contact information and relationship categories adding and updating contacts. Train on new features of software if useful. Educate active members to use of church database.
- Maintain church calendar for program, events, meetings, etc. using website (and/or Breeze software).
- Act as church's liaison with website developer to maintain church's website content.

- Create and send weekly newsletter, church service reminder and other promotional notices.
- Upload services and/or sermons to Soundcloud, Facebook, You Tube, website.
- Invite people to events through social media, MailChimp, etc. using advertising funds to promote events.
- Coordinate volunteers for events or worship (using Signup.com, for example) for planning/reminders; emailing and calling.
- Send Board of Stewards' minutes to congregation members via Mailchimp

Program Coordination

- Facilitate/Support Nurture Committee or Mission Committee events, (adult ed classes, theatre outings, Thanksgiving and Easter dinners, mission programs, for example) by ordering books, food/drink/paper products/utensils, tickets, organize set up and clean up, etc.
- Facilitate use of volunteers for church programming
- Facilitate setup/cleanup for mid-week or special worship – chairs, altar, bulletin printing
- Reserve building space for services and meetings

FOR A FULL JOB DESCRIPTION
CONTACT michael@broadwayucc.org .

HAPPENING IN METRO:

On Sunday, November 14, 2021 at 11am Candace Simpson will be preaching at **Safe Haven UCC**.



<https://zoom.us/j/668777305>

Meeting ID: 668 777 305

Call in:

+16468769923,,668777305#

US —Meeting ID: 668 777 305

Corona Congregational Church invites all to our Women's Day worship on 11/14. Visit our website for Zoom link: www.CoronaUCC.org.

Rev. Dr. Asayo Thomas has a great class on the Women Mystics:

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR,
ASAYO THOMAS
"WOMAN MYSTICS
IN THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION"

Are you longing for a deeper spiritual path? Looking for a framework for understanding mystical experiences of women? Or just wanting to learn a little of the history and theology of mystical faith? This two week course on Women Mystics in the Christian Tradition should help you with that.

We'll start by looking at the definition, scriptural foundation, and history of mysticism through the lens of women mystics in various eras, then we'll explore several women mystics and their writings more deeply. Finally, we'll discuss how (or if) the faith of these women can inform our spiritual lives today.

NOVEMBER 8, | 2 Weeks | \$70
BeADisciple.com

Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church is hosting a thanksgiving food drive on November 15! Bring

food items to the parking lot where you will meet rev. Ron!:

WANTAGH MEMORIAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1845 WANTAGH AVE
WANTAGH NY 11793
516-785-1829

We will have a special food collection on November 15th from 7 am till 12 pm, to help the pantry collect food for the holidays. Rev. Ron will be in the parking lot behind the church. Please bring your donations then. More info. inside the Messenger.

**Long Island Council of Churches
Share Your Blessings Food Drive**

We are welcoming your blessings this Thanksgiving holiday starting November 15, through November 19, distribution will start on Monday, November 21.

SOVEREIGN THANKFUL

Most Needed Donations: Turkeys, Canned Ham, Oven-stuffer chickens, Stuffing and/or Cornbread mix, White & Sweet Canned Potatoes, Gravy, Rice, canned pumpkin, corn, string beans & greens. Pic crust shells and/or cake mixes
Coffee, tea, juice (including cider & apple juice)

Donations of money for Food also needed!
516-868-4989 Pantry/516-565-0290 Office
Mail: Long Island Council of Churches
290 Hanse Avenue
Freeport, NY 11520

The second Saturday of each month the **Briarcliff Congregational Church** hosts a Flame Storytelling Night via Zoom. Participants can tell a story or listen. Usually runs from 7-8:30pm. Join at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88665563503> (Passcode: 285585)

This weekend is RACIAL JUSTICE WEEKEND IN NYC

NYC RACIAL JUSTICE
COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 5-7 • CITYWIDE

HOUSES OF WORSHIP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE WEEKEND

Members of our community have the power to transform the NYC Charter to reflect racial justice, equity, fairness in a way that ensures all New Yorkers live thriving healthy lives.

Voices of the faith community are encouraged to provide input on critical racial justice and equity issues the Commission should address through NYC Charter revisions.

Join us and other houses of worship around the city to learn more.

Learn more at nyc.gov/racialjustice

The Church of the Evangel is hosting a Wellness Seminar on November 20, 2021. Join Rev. Carolyn C. Blair and others on zoom as they discuss the importance of holistic wellness

Wellness Seminar 2021
Sponsored by
Wellness @ Evangel Ministry

Church of the Evangel, UCC
1650 Bedford Avenue
Brooklyn, New York, 11225
Phone: (718) 287-1189
Website: churchoftheevangelucc.godaddy.com

ON ZOOM
Saturday, November 20, 2021 @ 2:00 pm

DONATION: \$20.00
(please make your check payable to Church of the Evangel)

RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW
Please RSVP to: Sheryl.weightlossolutions@gmail.com
Please provide Name, Phone number, and Email address

Seminar Theme:
Committed to Wellness:
Self-Care Is My Responsibility
Maintaining Physical, Spiritual, Emotional & Financial Health

TOPICS:

1. Physical and Nutritional Self-Care
2. Spiritual Self-Care for a Healthy Soul
3. Steps to Emotional/Psychological Self-Care
4. Practice Financial Self-Care During the COVID Recovery Period

The Congregational Church of North New York, Designated Pastor, Rev. Dr. Floyd Blair will celebrate 133 years of faithful service to God on November 14, 2021.

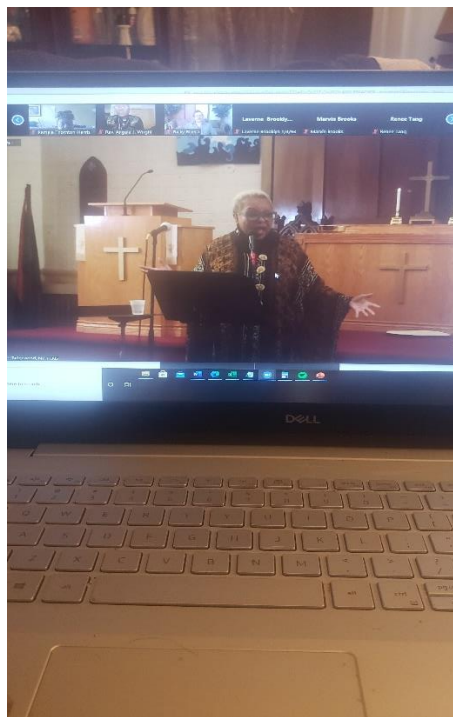
Safe Haven UCC will host its annual Mother Dovetta Thanksgiving Feast on November 21, 2021 at 601 Onderdonk Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385

Congratulations to **St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church** on the celebration of its 120th Church Anniversary on October 31, 2021

Congratulations to **Safe Haven UCC** on the celebration of 26 years of faithful ministry on October 24, 2021.

At our Fall Meeting on November 13, 2021, the delegates will be asked to vote on receiving **Sacred Fellowship Ministries** into the Metro Association, UCCNY. This vibrant and viable ministry, currently serving the community in Brooklyn, New York, is sponsored by Safe Haven UCC and has been vetted by the Association Congregational Development and Standing Committee.

Sacred Fellowship Ministries Senor Pastor, Rev. Dr. Lynn Sexton will lead us in worship!



Judson Memorial Bible Study

Thursdays | 6 p.m. via zoom

Each Thursday we identify specific aspects of the Bible that generate individual thought and open respectful discussion. Come join us and add your thoughts/interpretations to the conversation as we examine Old and New Testament scriptures. We thoughtfully examine the messages to humankind valued centuries ago that continue to offer meaning to us in the 21st century.

[Register in advance and you'll receive confirmation by email:](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212693)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212693>

AMERICANA FAIR AT GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Please join in the Church's annual Americana Fair. We will have a silent auction, a shabby /chic room, attic treasures, toys and holiday and gift boutiques, gourmet baked goods, and more.

ST. ALBANS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH: Rev. Eli Wilson III, Senior Minister

The WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged) sub-committee of the Agape (Counseling) Ministry in conjunction with Northwell Health invites you to a virtual forum on Mental Health... Recognizing Anxiety and Depression on Thursday November 18, 2021, at 7:00pm. This forum will help to expand your knowledge of anxiety and depression and when to seek help. Pre-registration is required: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84461212693>



#METROSTRONG: Our Association is following Christ, empowering our churches to change the world.

We are committed to be communities of justice and extravagant hospitality that are transformed by God's love.

In October 2020, the Board President and Executive Director conducted a listening tour with the stakeholders of this Association soliciting ideas on how to improve the workings of the Association. Many of these ideas have been implemented and are under continual consideration.

Thanks to all of you who continue to provide us with ideas on how to strengthen our Association!

If you want to volunteer for Metro Association, there is a project with your name on it! Please contact our Executive Director.

We are starting the process of reviewing the BY-LAWS for revision and presentation to the delegates in the Spring,

We are preparing to offer a UCC Polity class for lay leaders and clergy this winter.

If you have an innovative idea for us, please reach out to our Executive Director, Rev. Kris Watson, and share it!

Email her at eadmin@metrouccnyc.org



SOW A SEED INTO THE METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION TODAY.

YOUR YEAR END DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE.