

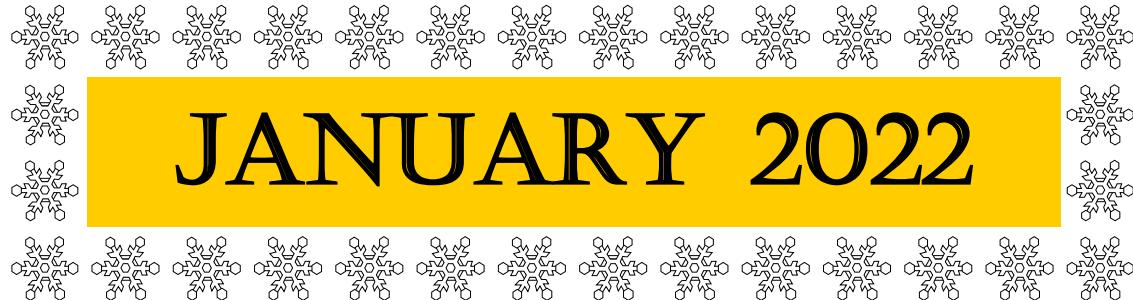
# Wesley Newsletter

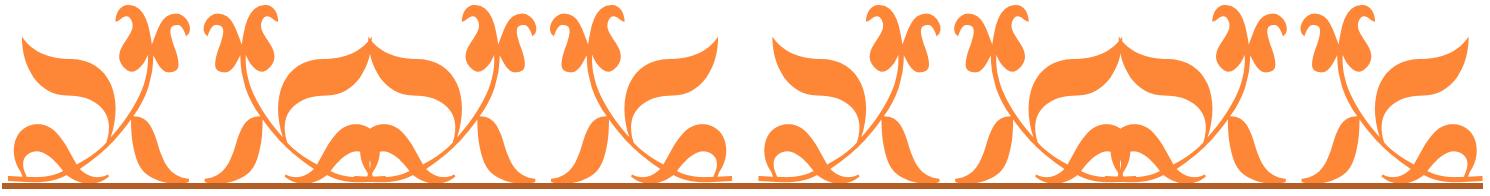
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Rev. Dr. Nelson Ngoy, Pastor





## Church Council

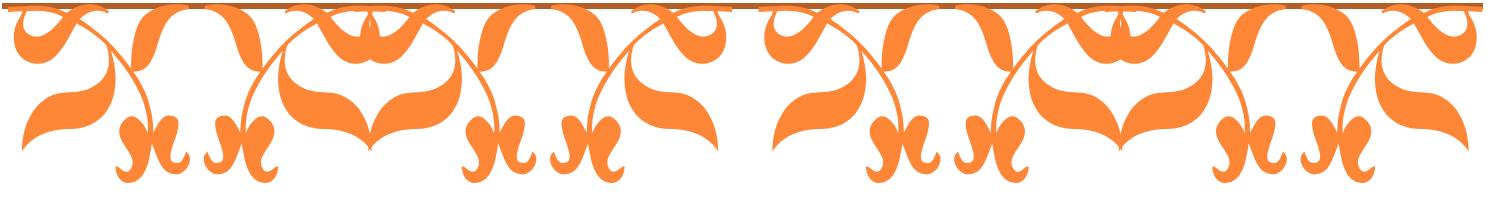
The December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Church Council has been rescheduled to Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> during coffee hour.

The pandemic has brought many unforeseen consequences to our world, our country, our state, our community and our church. Masks, social distancing, vaccines and boosters have all brought new stresses into our lives. Each day there are signs that we are making changes and moving forward. We are all venturing out trying to get back to normal. Schools are open. Restaurants are serving customers. Sports teams are playing games. Senior centers have reopened.

Wesley Church has been open for worship all summer and fall. We are still a very small group. We love being together during coffee hour. We have been reconnecting with our Wesley Family. We know that Zoom calls are convenient but we need to reconnect in the sanctuary.

We miss you. Think about it. Pray about it. We hope to see you in church.

Your sister in faith,  
*Aileen Sessa*



## UMW News

Welcome to 2022. It has been almost two years since our last newsletter. It is with great joy that I write my message to you. I wish you joy, peace and renewed commitment to the UMW and the Wesley Church.

The UMW has had monthly meetings since September, 2021. Our programs have focused on our hopes for 2022, peace and A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. During this time we have made monthly collections for the INN. Terry Lloyd has gone shopping and bought many items that have been donated. During the summer and fall we collected deposit cans and bottles. We reached our goal of \$300.00 in November. This money was donated to RIP Medical Debt where it will be spent paying off medical debt for worthy recipients. We have also made a donation the National UMW for the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial Program. This donation will support women, children and youth throughout the world and at home.

We have moved the UMW meetings from the first Monday of the month to the first Tuesday of the month.

During Thanksgiving we asked for specific items to be donated to L.I. Cares. The foods were delivered and greatly appreciated.

In December we had our annual Christmas dinner and program. We sang Christmas carols and decorated the tree in the parlor. Each year we give two awards to women who have served Wesley, the UMW and a social action cause. The 2021 awards went to Pam Fernandez for her dedicated service to Wesley Church and the women of the UMW. The Social Action Award goes to Marge Von Holten for her service to the West Hempstead Community Support and Civic Association and the Wesley UMW.

In February we will once again make-up gift bags for Glory House. These bags contain essential items that the guests of Glory House need. We will be accepting cash donations so that these items can be purchased. Glory House also accepts gently used bras. We will be collecting these as well.

Let us pray for an end to COVID 19 and peace in a very troubled world.

Your sister in faith,

*Aileen Sessa*

## UNITED METHODIST MEN

Did you know that only 5% of the UM Churches in America have a UMM unit? Since the pandemic, keeping our aging brethren involved has been quite a challenge.

But I am inspired! Each Sunday, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM, the UMM of the NYAC conduct a Prayer/Bible Study. It is open to **anyone** who wants to join us; to give your own prayer, or just to silently listen in for a while. We now have dozens of live listeners, from the NY area as well as the Caribbean, plus over a hundred that follow on various social media.

**Please join us on ZOOM –  
ID: 964 845 3714, Passcode: 121500.**

And there's more: We are working with both the North East and South East Jurisdictions for a live Watch Night service on New Years Eve. This covers the entire Eastern Time Zone.

Our own Jaime Novesteras is coordinating efforts with a Bishop from The Philippines to join together in live prayer sessions. Don't you wish there were some diplomats who had Jesus Christ as their guide?

*Kevin Lloyd*



## **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

It has been a tough two years financially for Wesley UMC due to the pandemic. During the first year the church was basically closed and all of the groups that use our church were not able to hold their meetings and with the exception of Alcoholics Anonymous were not able to continue to give their donations. The members of Wesley held worship services over Zoom, but attendance was lower and so were donations.

But the good news is that we did not give up. We were able to pay all salaries and our regular monthly bills. We have been back to in-person worship services for a while now and it is very uplifting to worship together. I highly recommend anyone still hesitating to come back to church to come—not only will you be more inspired (more than sitting on your couch at home in your pj's) but you will help inspire everyone by worshipping together in-person.

This year we were hit with many repair bills. The back door on the parsonage, damaged by high winds, had to be replaced as well as a broken window in the Senior office. A faulty light in the handicapped bathroom had to be replaced as well as a faulty light switch in the Pre-school. And to top it off, Pastor's refrigerator "died" and had to be replaced. But again we persevere - all salaries are paid as well as our regular monthly bills. There just is no extra and we have not been able to meet any of our obligation to pay our apportionments to the Conference.

I have great faith that 2022 will be a much more positive year, both financially and spiritually for Wesley UMC. Several fundraising events are being planned, such as theatrical performances, flea markets, and a fair, tea, or possibly fashion show. A spiritual, musical celebration is also being considered.

We have much to be thankful for and we need to begin again to start getting out and living and celebrating. Lets make 2022 a positive year!

Faithfully,

*Linda Renzo*, Finance Chair



## Theatrical Performances



### WESLEY PLAYERS:

Right before the pandemic closed the country, the Wesley Players were busy putting the final touches on “Anyone for Murder.” This comedy/murder mystery was put on hold. We are hopeful that we will be able to schedule this play during the spring of 2022. More information will be forthcoming.

### CARLYLE PLAYERS:

This group of talented actors have been very busy providing performances to the Franklin Square Community. In 2021 they presented three plays. All of their dramas were well received. Masks and social distancing were required at all performances. The audiences were small but very enthusiastic. All of the proceeds from ticket sales were donated to Wesley. We are very fortunate to have this group in our church.

Wesley received nearly \$3,000.00 from the Carlyle Players.

This spring this group will once again bless the Wesley stage with a comedy by Ken Ludwig. “Fox on the Fairway” will be presented on Friday, March 25; Saturday, March 26; Sunday, March 27; and Sunday, April 3.

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending.

We need to support this group in any way possible.





## ***IN MEMORY....***

*This past month we lost two special ladies — Irene Hagan and Doris Fazio. Both have been members of Wesley UMC for decades and have been pillars of the church. They quietly worked in the background and helped whenever asked—always faithful and supportive. In the 50+ years that I knew Irene, I never heard her say an unkind or critical word about anyone. Her strong faith was always evident. Doris was always willing to help and her laughter and good humor made her a pleasure to be around. Heaven has surely gained two special saints. They will be missed.*

*Linda Renzo*