

# Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester, MA

## Sunday, January 2, 2022 Worship

We will share worship this day from the comforts of our home beginning at 10 am.

### *Sunday Announcements for January 2, 2022*

#### **Special Prayers for these Wesley Family, Friends and Others...**

- All those who are sick during this time.
- Barbara Fletcher, who fell in October and is still recovering from a broken arm and other injuries. Please pray for comfort and healing.
- Pamela, Linda Keister's sister, now recovering at home with round the clock care.
- Henry Rand in the hospital.
- Lorna Regentz, Judy Simoneau's daughter, recovering in an after-care facility and is doing pretty good. She still has a way to go before she can be home on her own.
- Bill Wong for strength and comfort.
- Ernie Benoit, for his health and for his wife Arline.
- Anne Burrows at Sterling Village Rehab.
- Bill Kilmer in St. Mary's Health Care Center. Please call a few days in advance to schedule a visit.
- Paul Keister. Pray for peace for him.
- Phil Johnson for continued healing
- Betty Osborn
- Polly Boyns
- Peter Woodcock
- David Samanen
- Ken Hedenburg
- Those who struggle with depression, anxiety, and alcoholism.
- St. Vincent Nurses on strike

#### **Tower & Rose Window Lightings**

The Tower lighting for January is given in loving memory of my mother and father, Mary & Norman Fletcher and my brother, David Fletcher, by Barbara Fletcher.

The Rose Window lighting for January is given in loving memory of Mrs. William B. Smith by the United Methodist Women.

## YEAR END REMINDERS!

As December comes to a close, please remember the following with regard to your 2021 donations:

- In order to post your donation to 2021, checks need to be dated 2021. Any check dated 2022 will be posted to next year.
- All donations for 2021 should be postmarked or received in the office by 12/31/2021. If a check is received in the church offering and it is dated in December, but not put in the offering until January, it will be credited to 2022.
- Once December deposits have gone to the bank and all accounts are reconciled, I will send your statements no later than the third week of January. You will have one week to notify me of any corrections before I begin the statistical report for the New England Conference.

Thank you for your support. Wishing you a happy holiday season and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

*Tim Carty*



## Afghan Coat Project Update

### ***We still need your help!***

First of all, on behalf of Rebecca's circle I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone who has reached out to help us!

The coat shop is completely ready, and we have already started distributing winter gear to several of the folks that have arrived in Worcester.

At this point we have been able to organize enough to recognize what we now need most... we have a great supply of Women's short coats and lots of toddler sizes, but we are definitely lacking in men's medium and large size coats, as well as larger size kids coats.

### ***URGENT NEED!!***

We have discovered that many of the women coming in to get coats are still wearing flip flops, if anyone has any new or like new warm women's shoes or low boots in sizes 7, 8, or 9. We could definitely use them, or perhaps you would consider donating a few dollars that we could put towards purchasing some women's shoes.

We could also use more of the thicker warm gloves for both men and women.

We would like to ask that only heavy-duty coat hangers be donated, the thin metal hangers that come from dry cleaning are not strong enough to support the weight of the winter coats and with no other way to repurpose them, they meet an unfortunate future by becoming additional trash in our dumpster.

And one last request...

We need 2 volunteers who can commit to being at Wesley for 2-3 hours on Saturday mornings to receive community donations. So far, all our donations have been large corporate donations that have had a little more flexibility in delivery, but we really need to add some sort of note to the WARM website that states a regular drop off time. If you think you could help with this, please let me know ASAP. Thank you for your continued support with this Wesley community mission.

Peace to all,

Chris Flagg  
508-414-1696

### **M.L. King Book Drive for Worcester 2nd and 3rd graders**

Worcester Area Mission Society (WAMS), the United Way of Central MA, and others are inviting you to give books to 2nd and 3rd graders in Worcester Public Schools. The goal of the book drive is to give age-appropriate books to young children who may not have access to many books at home. I think we all know the value of books in expanding horizons and increasing the language skills of reading, speaking and writing.

There is a suggested book list available on the [WamsWorks](http://WamsWorks) website, which includes books about Dr. King and other wonderful books by authors who are people of color. I've listed a few books below for those of you who cannot access the website. These are just suggestions, of course, and you may have your own favorites. Additionally, some of these books may be easier to find than others. Two independent bookstores are cooperating with us on this project by making as many titles as they can, available for purchase:

- ❖ Tidepool Bookshop <https://www.tidepoolbookshop.com/>, which is offering a 10% discount on all books for the drive;
- ❖ Root and Press <https://rootandpress.com/>, which will donate a third book if you buy two.

There is also a small sampling of the books included in The Conscious Kid website: <https://www.theconsciouskid.org/book-lists>. These titles seek to affirm the identity of Black, Indigenous and People of Color through stories that support inclusion, respect and belonging.

Please consider purchasing a book at one of these stores, if you can, either by visiting the store or calling in your order. Once purchased, the books will be set aside for WAMS to pick up. Alternatively, WAMS would be happy to do your shopping for you with your donation. There are two ways to make a cash donation: through the [WamsWorks](http://WamsWorks) website or by mailing a check payable to: Worcester Area Mission Society, 6 Institute Rd., Worcester, MA 01609. Please note "books" on the check.

Also, on the WAMS website is a recording of the one-hour forum which WAMS hosted on November 10<sup>th</sup> with folks from Ascentria Care Alliance, Welcome MA and the Southern NE Conference of the UCC. The webinar and the slides are full of practical information on how you can get started in supporting Afghan refugees.