



The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

Good News

April 2024

Printed Color Copy: \$2.00 Donation

United Methodist
Church of Lake
Ronkonkoma

792 Hawkins Avenue
Lake Grove, NY 11755

631-588-5856

www.umclr.com

Church Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
9 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Nursery School
631-467-9601

Thrift Shop
631-981-9749

Staff

Rev. Karen A. Burger,
Pastor

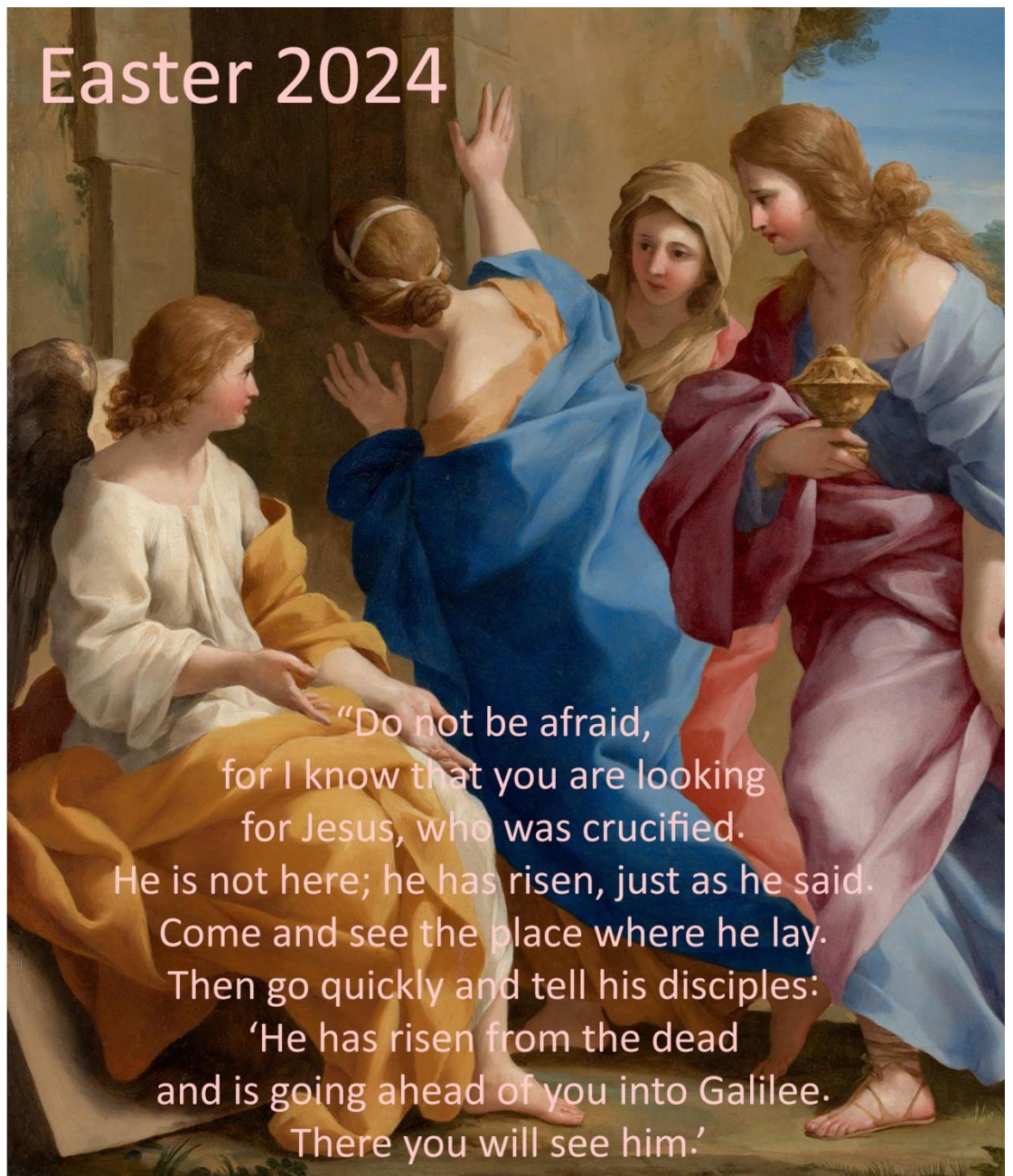
Filomena Thomas,
Nursery School Director

Abby Preziosi,
Administrative
Assistant

Dr. Rex Enderlin,
Choir Director

Heather Edwards-
Wilson,
Youth Choir Director &
Organist

Easter 2024



“Do not be afraid,
for I know that you are looking
for Jesus, who was crucified.
He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.
Come and see the place where he lay.
Then go quickly and tell his disciples:
‘He has risen from the dead
and is going ahead of you into Galilee.
There you will see him.’



VISION STATEMENT OF THE NY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The New York Annual Conference through the grace of God embodies the beloved community of hope, building up a healthy body of Christ, with heart-warmed United Methodists in mission for the transformation of the world.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE NY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We strive to share God's love by creating safe places where all are accepted and welcomed, connecting the needs of people to the presence of God, and transforming the world through Christ.

VISION STATEMENT OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LAKE RONKONKOMA

We are the church at Five Corners spreading the "Light of Christ" from ourselves to the community and the world.

Dear Members and Friends of UMCLR:

This winter we had a lot of gray weather, cloudy days. If you are like me, you perk up when the sun is shining! We are starting to see more of the blue skies and sunshine, and it is a joy to hear the birds singing to greet the season of Spring. In the life of the Church, we celebrate the new life Jesus Christ brings us at Easter. Just as earth is renewed in the new season, so we find ourselves renewed by God's Holy Spirit and the good news of the Resurrection of Jesus. Let the joy sink in and permeate your perspective. Join us at church for worship centered on the appearances of Jesus to His followers, bringing them hope of the continuation of their ministry together. Likewise, Christ is in our midst as we serve God together!

I hope you were able to join us for our Holy Week and Easter services, and that you will continue to join us as well at our weekly Sunday services, where what it means to follow the Lord is made plain through a variety of Scripture texts. Hear the morning message, hear our wonderful choirs sing, lift up your heart with our praise band! Hear our instrumentalists, our readers, and those who share a Children's Message or a special announcement about what is happening in the life of our church. We are the Church together! You are an essential ingredient in the recipe of our faithfulness in love and service to bring glory to God!

Enjoy this edition of our monthly newsletter, and let your friends know about our programs and events. It is full of opportunities; take time to read it more than once when you are relaxing in the sunshine or having a cup of morning coffee or tea. Let it speak to you of the blessings of being part of the Christian Church!

In Christ's Service,

The Rev. Karen A. Burger, Pastor ~

Lections

April 7
2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35
Ps 133 (UMH 850)
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31

April 14
3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19
Ps 4 (UMH 741)
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

April 21
4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12
Ps 23 (UMH 754 or 137)
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

April 28
4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40
Ps 22:25-31 (UMH 752)
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8



Cooperative Parish Lenten Service March 7, 2024



Fellowship
Hour



Corned Beef Dinner March 16, 2024



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

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April Service Schedule

April 7th 9:30 AM

Second Sunday of Easter

Communion Sunday

“Peace Beyond Our Understanding”

April 14th 9:30 AM

Third Sunday of Easter

“Releasing fear”

April 21st 9:30 AM

Fourth Sunday of Easter

“Shepherding”

April 28th 9:30 AM

Fifth Sunday of Easter

“God’s Love and Ours”

Ongoing Missions:

The Food Pantry is open on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (except holidays) from 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Support Groups:

Narcotics Anonymous
Mondays - 7:00 pm
Thursdays - 7:30 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tuesdays - 6:30 &
8:30 p.m.
Fridays - 8:00 p.m.

Please call our church office at 631-588-5856 for further information.



Martha's Place
Thrift Shop

631-981-9749

Hours:

Mondays
10 am - 2 pm

Tuesdays
10 am - 2 pm

Fridays
10 am - 2 pm

Saturdays
10 am - 2 pm



Martha's Place Thrift Shop

Spring

Happy Easter! Welcome to April and Spring is in the air! After our long winter at the Thrift Shop, we are extremely busy hanging spring and summer clothing. We also have an amazing assortment of jewelry, knick-knacks, kitchen ware and Mother's Day merchandise. We are truly blessed by the customers who keep coming back to shop here. We are still in need of one or two fill-in volunteers so, if you have time, we can always use your help.

In God's Service,
Marilee Drisgula and all volunteers



Martha's Place Thrift Shop

Mother's Day Specials

Spring & Summer Apparel

Housewares - Jewelry - Keepsakes

Open

Monday - Tuesday - Friday - Saturday

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



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These names are offered each month. It is an opportunity to extend to our friends and loved ones the love of Christ on these special days, and to express our thanks for the gift of their presence in our midst.

If you would like to be on our birthday list, please call the church office at (631) 588-5856 and we will gladly add your name.

- 1 LizaWright
- 3 Andrew Campbell
- 6 Michael Czerw
- 7 Brian Drisgula
- 8 Judith Pfeil
- 9 Victoria Olivotto
- 9 William Otto
- 9 Kara Pearl
- 9 Philip Preddice
- 10 Cayden Robert Otto
- 12 Doris Tschoke
- 13 Richard Wahl
- 17 Megan Schwab
- 17 Miriam Rodriguez
- 17 Keith Bowes
- 17 Charles Duffield
- 20 Bill Dobos
- 22 Diane Drisgula
- 23 Cheryl Alejandro
- 23 Nicolas Tracey
- 24 William Mitchell
- 24 Lisa Eger
- 27 Emily Teuschler
- 29 Heather Edwards-Wilson
- 30 Ileana Czerw



The UMM had a very relaxing and spirit filled weekend at Camp Quinipet with 19 beautiful souls. The weather was beautiful and the camp wonderful as usual. I want to especially thank Ray and George for their untiring support with their talents of feeding our 5,000, it certainly was appreciated.

I want to also thank John Fisher for his special message on Sunday morning and let us never stop searching for God's meaning in our lives, remembering Susan B. Anthony's last public statement, "Failure is Impossible."

We will be giving a donation to Quinipet for a camper in 2024. BBQ at spring fair is on our agenda and we are looking forward to it.

God Bless,
Dennis Subbiondo and George Doukas

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UMM Quinipet Retreat March 1-3, 2024



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

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Sunday
April 21, 2024

UMM
UNITED METHODIST MEN

**FELLOWSHIP
BREAKFAST**

7:30 AM

The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Bible Basket Mission

March 22, 2024



Thank you to all who supported our Easter Bible Basket Mission.
Our 76 baskets were delivered to
Lighthouse Mission in Bellport for distribution.
The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Spring Into Sunshine



Spring is here. For the past several months we explored Health Screening, Exercise, and Heart Health. It is time to go outdoors and see the world we inhabit. Sunny days will soon be the norm for our community. We can explore the block on which we live and the beautiful parks and beaches. We will dust off our bikes and walking sticks. Baseballs, tennis rackets and golf clubs will come out of winter hibernation.

While we love the sun we must protect our skin from damage. Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer. The best way to prevent skin cancer is to protect your skin from the sun and sources of UV (ultraviolet) Rays.

To protect yourself from skin cancer:

- * Stay out of the sun as much as possible between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M.
- * Cover up with long sleeves, long pants or a long skirt, a hat and sunglasses.
- * Use sunscreen with SPF-15 or higher.
- * Don't use tanning machines.
- * Check your skin for changes regularly.

Skin that was burnt as a child puts the adult at greater risk for skin cancer. So, get out the sunblock and encourage the youths and those you love to put on sunblock each day when they are enjoying the wonderful, sunny world we live in here on Long Island.

Helen Morley

E D U C A T I O N

Greetings from the Education Work Area,

It is our hope that the Easter season has filled everyone with renewed faith, hope, and love as we celebrated the Good News that Jesus is alive and His Holy Spirit can live in each one of us. We are called into action to spread this message to our youngest members each Sunday as we gather together.

We thank our teachers who gave the children a fun Easter egg hunt on Palm Sunday and who nurture them in faith every week. They followed the Bible stories of Holy Week in preparation of Easter in their classes. We thank our Children's Choir director for leading them in song and worship as they delight us with their appearance on choir Sunday.

Our confirmation class is meeting for instruction and church attendance on Sunday mornings. They are also looking to fulfill their service commitments. Any committees that have special projects coming up can contact me about how these students can help. They are working toward being confirmed in May of 2025.

Six of our youth and two adults will be attending the LI East District retreat in Quinipet April 5-7. We pray they have a meaningful, memorable and fun experience. We thank them for helping to fill Easter baskets for the Lighthouse Mission. They have also been attending some special events that all youth are invited to. A miniature golf outing will be announced soon. The group will also sponsor a Talent Show on May 19. They will be inviting anyone with a talent to share.

We have been most fortunate to have Wendy Duffy and Jennie Olivotti lead our Youth Group. They have given notice that they will retire in June. We would like to make a smooth transition to new leaders. Please consider getting involved with our Youth Ministry. We need to keep our youth engaged and we are praying for some of you to seize the opportunity to grow with them in faith. Do speak to me or Wendy if you would like to become a leader or helper with this growing group of young people.

As we enter spring, consider a new beginning and join us in our mission to educate and provide nurturing experiences for our youth.

Sue Preddice
Education chair

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Acts Quiz

- Who was this book addressed to as found in Acts 1:1?
a. Peter b. Caesar c. Theophilus d. Pilate
- Who took the office formerly held by Judas at the end of Acts 1?
a. Barsabbas b. Matthias c. Philip d. John
- What Jewish festival was occurring at the time the Holy Spirit appeared in the Acts 2, giving the disciples the ability to speak in tongues?
a. Passover b. Shavuot c. Purim d. Feast of Tabernacles
- In Acts 3, Peter and John healed a man suffering with?
a. Lameness b. Leprosy c. Blindness
- How did Stephen die at the end of the 7th chapter of Acts?
a. Crucifixion b. Stoning c. By the sword
- Who offered to pay Peter and John for the gift of giving others the Holy Spirit?
a. Priscilla b. Ananias c. Simon d. Candace
- In the 8th chapter, who explained a passage from Isaiah to an Ethiopian eunuch?
a. Philip b. Peter c. John d. James
- What vision did God give Peter before he met Cornelius in the 10th chapter?
a. A man calling b. Unclean animals c. City of Rome
- How did Peter get out of jail when Herod imprisoned him in chapter 12 of Acts?
a. jailer unlocked the door. b. an earthquake c. An angel let him out.
- What practice was discussed at the Jerusalem council in chapter 15?
a. Baptism b. Circumcision c. Communion

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APRIL FOOL OR FACT?



BEES DISTURB A FUNERAL

Unpleasant experience for the mourners in a
Long Island Church

Honeybees seriously disturbed a funeral on Tuesday in the Methodist Episcopal church at Lake Grove. Shortly after the ceremony began, bees began to fill the church. They seemed to come in hundreds first and then the air became nearly black with them. They began to fly around the heads of the mourners in a disagreeable way, then one of them stung a pall bearer in the neck.

The man flinched with pain, but, tying a handkerchief around his neck, tried to look composed. In a short time nearly everybody in church was moving handkerchiefs and hats around their heads in an effort to keep the bees away from their heads and necks.

Undertaker Charles Raynor was attacked by swarms of bees, but escaped with a few stings. The congregation was on the point of leaving the church several times. Finally, the ceremony was over and the mourners filed out. As the pallbearers left the church the bees pursued them and followed the procession quite a distance.

Undertaker Raynor, as he sat upon his seat driving the hearse, was swinging both hands in an effort to keep the bees from lighting upon his body. Down on the ground, the pall bearers were also fighting the bees. When the cemetery was reached the bees were gone and the funeral proceeded without further diffeulty.

An extermination of the church building showed that bees had stowed hundreds of pounds of honey within the walls between the rafters in the loft.

Look for the  on another page of the April Good News for the answer!

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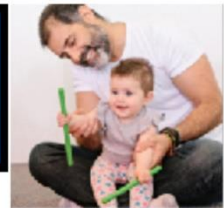


Sing! Dance!

Pray! Play!



Friday, April 12, 2024
6:15 PM



Little Angels Music Class

Parents, grandparents, siblings, and our little angels will enjoy making music and sharing God's message in a laid-back, supportive, loving community once each month. After class we hang out and share a snack (bringing a snack to share is optional). Our first class of the '23-'24 school year is October 6th. Text Heather for info on future classes. There is no fee and no commitment. Come once, come every time, or come when you can!

Taught by Heather- certified music teacher, organist at UMCLR and mom of 4.

Text 631-807-3156 for more info.



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Little Angels

March 8, 2024



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Remaining Sunday School Calendar for 2023-24

- April 7:** Secondary SS goes to church
- April 14:** All SS classes begin in the classroom
- April 21:** No Sunday School beginning of spring break Family Service
- April 28:** All SS begins in the classroom
- May 5:** Secondary SS attends church
- May 12:** Elementary SS begins in church Mother's Day Children's message
- May 19:** All SS begins in the classroom
- May 26:** No Sunday School Memorial Day weekend family Service
- June 3:** Secondary SS attends church
- June 9:** Youth and Children's Service / Nettie Baker Day last day of SS

GOOD TIMES



United Methodist Youth Activities



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Bunny Breakfast March 23, 2024



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma




Easter Fair

March 23 & 24, 2024







The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Easter Egg Hunt

March 24, 2024





The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

Church Leaders

Allyssa Schoenemann



I am so fortunate to have been baptized and raised as a Methodist at the United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma. After my confirmation here, there was no question of my returning to UMCLR to teach. Since my

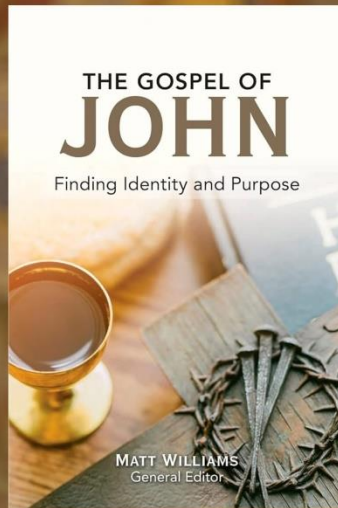
mother is a Sunday School teacher (and a retired teacher outside of the church), I wanted to follow in her footsteps. My initial experience working at the church as a teacher was as a volunteer in the preschool classroom. In fact, the students I had back in 2013, I believe, are now confirmation graduates! At that time as a preschool volunteer teacher, there were some years where I was traveling abroad and thus, did not have a consistent role as a teacher but as a support system for my fellow teachers and students. It was after my time abroad in 2016 that I became a more consistent figure in secondary Sunday school. I served as the head of the Education Department for one year before having to let it go for academic as well as work related reasons. Even through the pandemic, when I went abroad again from 2020 to 2022, I was still teaching Secondary Sunday School at UMCLR virtually. Since I could do it virtually, there was no question that I would continue to teach the Secondary school upon my return to Long Island in 2022. I am so grateful to continue to be a positive figure for my lower secondary students as well as the future and recent past confirmation students. It is an absolute pleasure to be an educator at UMCLR and I could not imagine any other place I would rather be on Sunday morning!

Bible Study

“The Gospel of John - Finding Identity and Purpose”

Led by:

Pastor Karen Burger Dennis Subbiondo Marilyn Becht



Thursdays Starting April 25th

7:00 PM

At the
United Methodist Church
of Lake Ronkonkoma

INTERNATIONAL DINNER FUNDRAISER
Saturday, May 4, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.
**AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF LAKE RONKONKOMA**
792 HAWKINS AVENUE
LAKE GROVE, NEW YORK 11755
PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF INTERNATIONAL DELIGHTS
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE UMCLR AND MISSIONS
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR!
\$22.00 FOR ADULTS - \$10.00 AGES 5-14 - UNDER 5 FREE
Includes: Dinner + Dessert + Beverage
For further information please call the Church Office at (631) 588-5856

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Join us for our next
Book Discussion

Monday,
May 6, 2024
at 2 p.m. at the Church

We will be discussing
“The First Ladies”
by
Marie Benedict &
Victoria Christopher Murray

A novel about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune—an unlikely friendship that changed the world



**GAME
NIGHT**

Friday May 17, 2024
7:00 PM

Enjoy a game of your choice or play one of ours.
Come, laugh, and have fun.



Arbor Day

Look to the tree by the wayside,
There is the marvel of God,
Life in revelation;
Growing in part, 'neath the sod.

Storing up life more than human,
Growing in beauty and form,
Some growing fruit, others shelter
Beast, man or bird, in a storm.

Take from the tree, object lessons,
Deep seed the roots for your life,
Grow as to make the to-morrows,
Free from contention and strife.

Grow like the tree, strong and stalwart,
Live with a mission, all through,
Give, and the giving will render
Blessings unnumbered to you.

Alice Hawkins Coleman - 1956

Friday, April 26, 2024

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Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024



UMCLR



Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

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Easter Sunrise Service
March 31, 2024



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

This is the day the Lord hath made. PS 118:24

APRIL 26-27-28 CAMP QUINIPET RETREAT SHELTER ISLAND

Taste and see that the Lord is good. PS 34:8

May 20 **TESSA'S TEA PARTY** 7 PM at the church

**All things work together for good to them that love God.
Romans 8:28**

June planning meeting to be determined soon....

July meet every Sunday morning at church to provide coffee hour refreshments for our congregation.

Thank you

Barb C Tessa T Sue S - retreat Ellie S Stacey T

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The UM Youth are sponsoring a
Church-wide Talent Show
WE NEED ACTS!!

DANCE

SING

TELL JOKES

UMCLR'S GOT TALENT
MAY 19TH * 1:00

PLAY INSTRUMENT

DO MAGIC

We are looking for talent from one-year olds
to 100 year olds!

Show off your special talent!!

Register by sending your name and talent to

UMYOUTH@UMCLR.COM by April 28th

KARATE

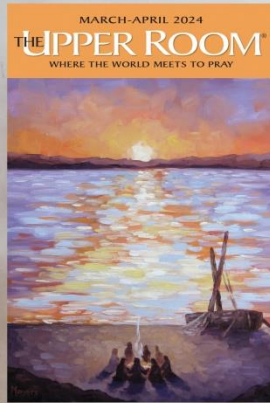
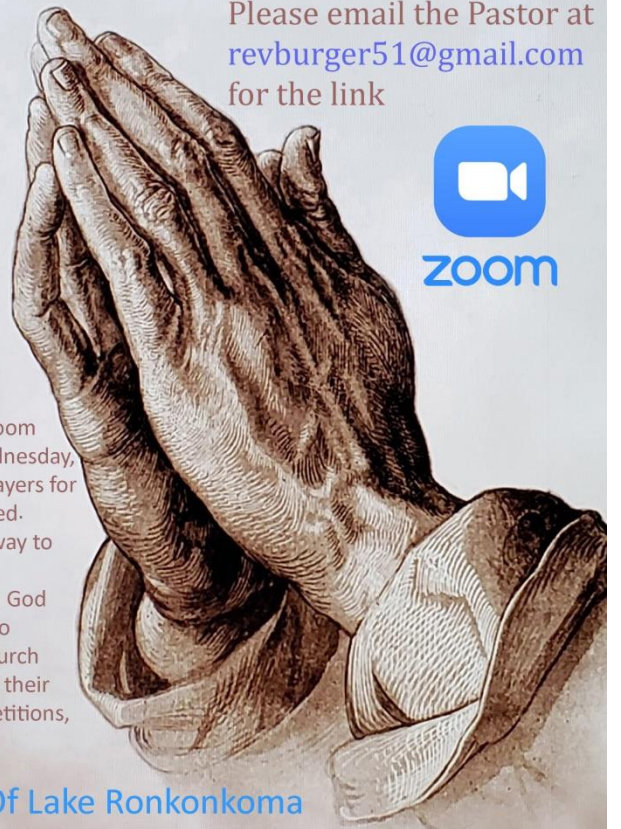
READ POETRY

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Virtual Prayer Meeting
Every
Wednesday
8:00 AM

Please email the Pastor at
revburger51@gmail.com
for the link



Come join us as we discuss the Upper Room reading for that Wednesday, and continue our prayers for those who are in need. This is a wonderful way to focus on your communication with God and become closer to members of your church family, as they share their thoughts, praises, petitions, prayers and faith.

The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

**United Methodist
Nursery School**

**CHILDREN'S
ART
SHOW**
Friday
5:00 PM

May 3rd

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Spring Festival & Flower Sale

United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

"5 Corners"

792 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Grove, NY

Saturday, May 11, 2024

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

(Rain Date May 18, 2024)

Food - Flowers - Vendors - Fun

For More Information & Flower Order Form Visit

WWW.UMCLR.COM

Youth Programs Available

Sunday School

Youth Choir

United Methodist Youth

Confirmation Class

For more information on our Youth Programs call:

(631) 588-5856

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Tessa's
Tea Party

United
Women
In Faith

Monday
May 20, 2024
7PM

Please bring your
own cup!

The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

The poster features a background image of a white teacup with a floral pattern on a saucer, with a teapot pouring tea into it. The text is overlaid on this image.

Long Island resound Handbell Ensemble presents...

The best of
Disney

Saturday
June 1st
3:00pm



*The United Methodist Church
of Lake Ronkonkoma
792 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Grove*

@longislandresound
www.longislandresound.com * longislandresound@gmail.com * 631-223-8655

Suggested donation
of \$15.00
per person
will help support our
Church's General Fund

The poster features a central illustration of a handbell ensemble performing. The background is decorated with colorful horizontal stripes (yellow, maroon, pink, cyan) and musical notes. A large handbell is shown in the foreground.

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Grand Fall Auction

September 14, 2024

12 Noon

Viewing At 11:00 AM

Make An Offer At 9:00 AM

Hundreds of interesting items!

Rain or Shine!

Bring a chair & a sense of adventure

Food & Beverages Available

United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

792 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Grove (At 5 Corners)



SAUERBRATEN DINNER

SPONSORED BY THE UNITED METHODIST MEN

NOVEMBER 2, 2024

6:00 PM



TICKET PRICES:

Adults & Youth	\$20.00
Children under 12	\$17.00
Children under 5	Free

For Tickets Call The Church Office At: (631) 588-5856

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Christmas Festival & Sale

United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

"5 Corners"

792 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Grove, NY

Friday, November 29, 2024

Saturday, November 30, 2024

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Food - Vendors - Crafts - Fun

For More Information & Vendor Forms, Please Visit

WWW.UACLR.COM



Breakfast With Santa!

Saturday

November 30, 2024

9:30 AM



Pancakes - Bacon
Orange Juice - Apple Juice
Coffee (For the young at heart)



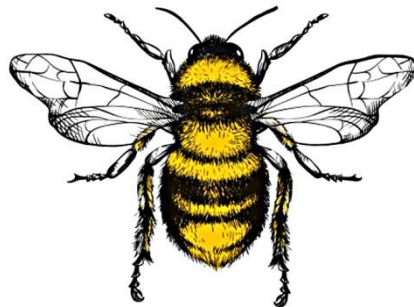
THERE IS AN URGENT NEED...
...FOR DONORS LIKE YOU.



Donate Blood
To schedule an appointment go to.....
WWW.NYBC.ORG
Or call...
(800) 933-2566

♥♥ **Eligibility Criteria** ♥♥
Bring **Donor Card or ID**. Minimum Weight: 110lbs. No New Tattoos for past 12 months. Ages 16 - 75(16 year olds must have parental permission)
For questions concerning medical eligibility:
www.nybc.org | 1-800-933-2566

URGENT CALL FOR HEALTHY DONORS AS BLOOD SUPPLY DROPS TO DANGEROUSLY LOW LEVELS

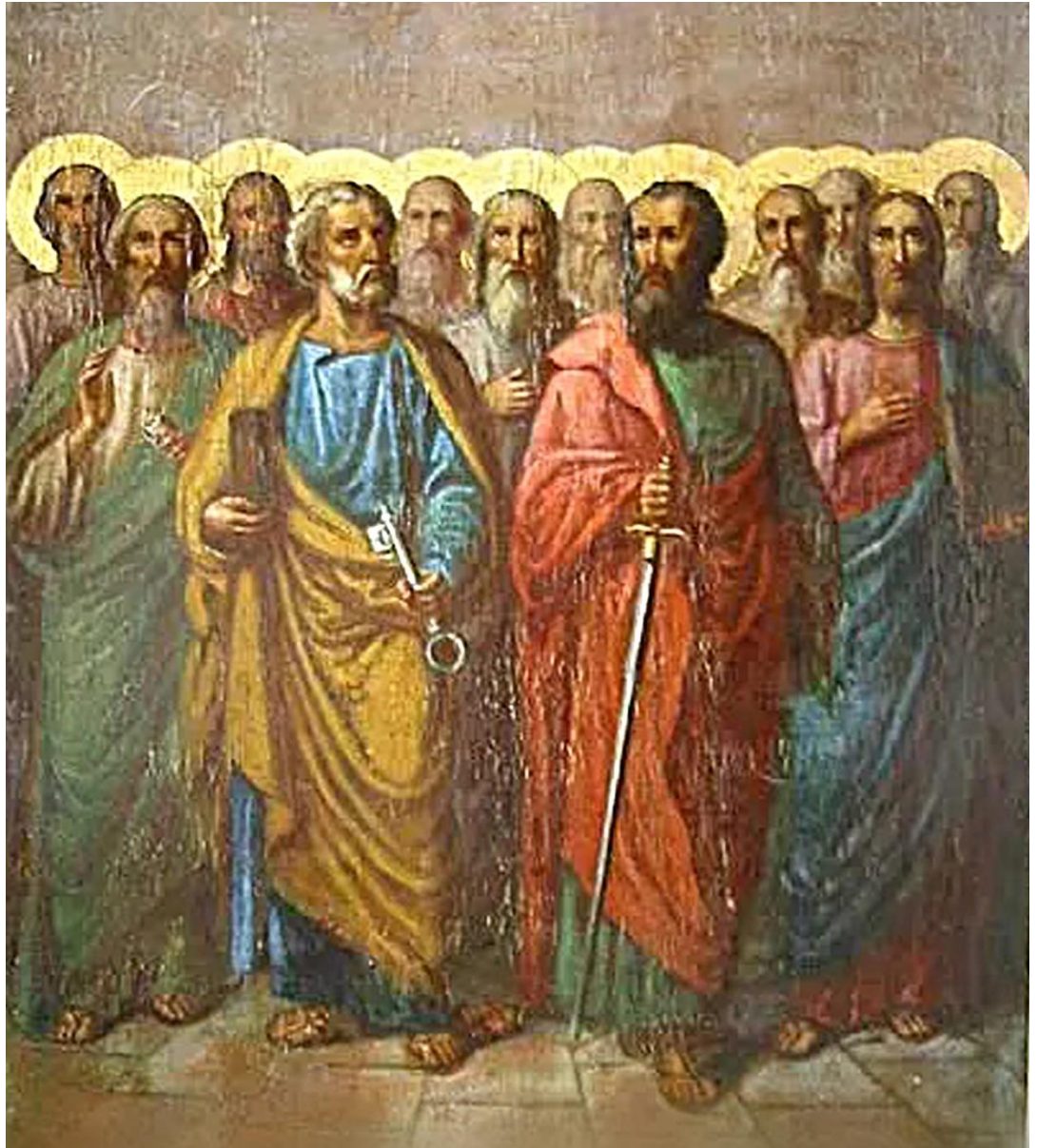


The story is absolutely true!
The original article was printed
in *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*
Thursday, April 19, 1894.

Please notify the church office of any telephone number, address or email address changes so that we may update our files.

**The Missions Book is almost complete;
watch your email for our 2024 Edition!**

A C T S



32 All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

33 With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all 34 that there were no needy persons among them.

For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales 35 and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

JOHN



19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

“Peace be with you!”

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

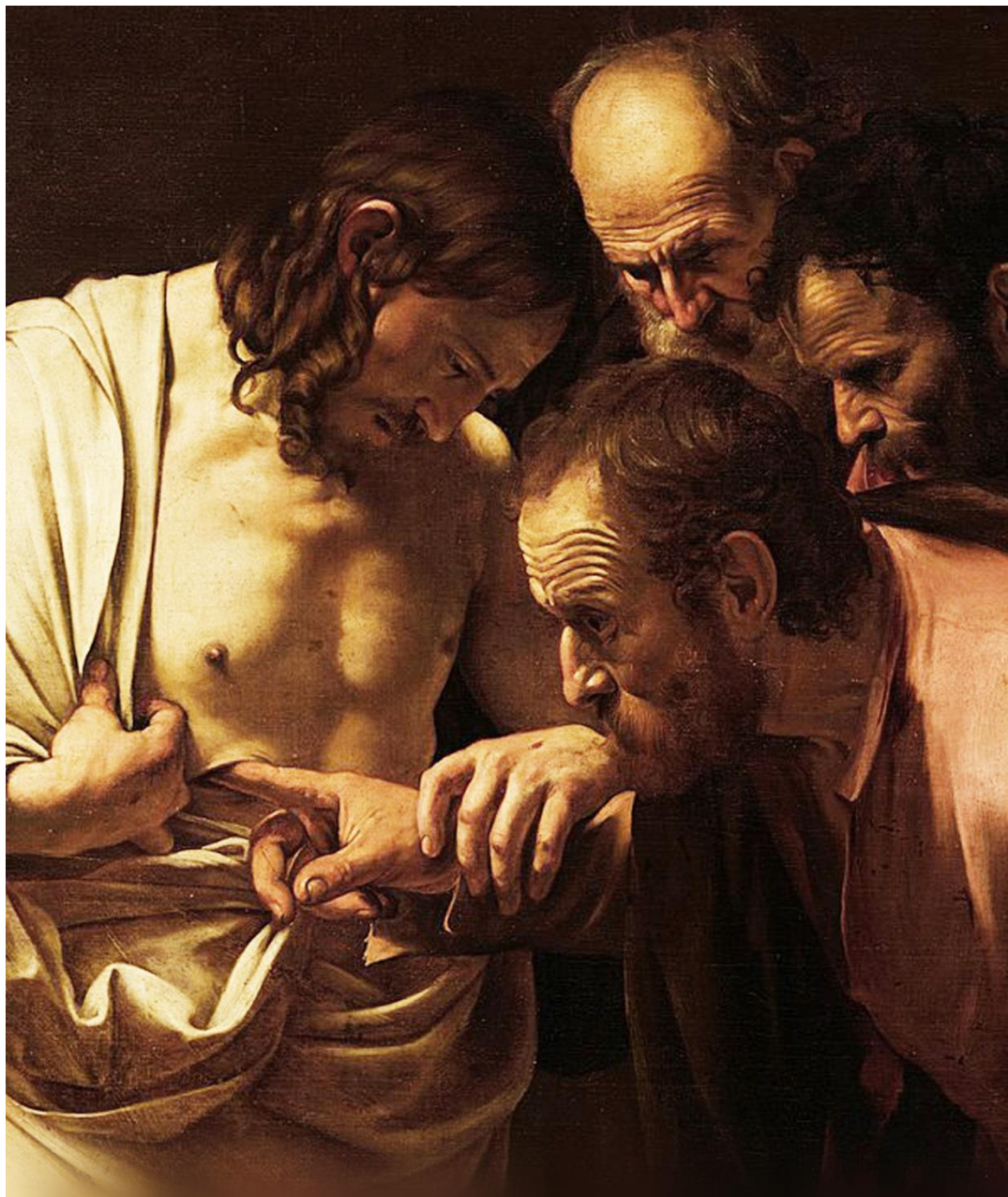
21 Again Jesus said,

“Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

22 And with that he breathed on them and said,

“Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

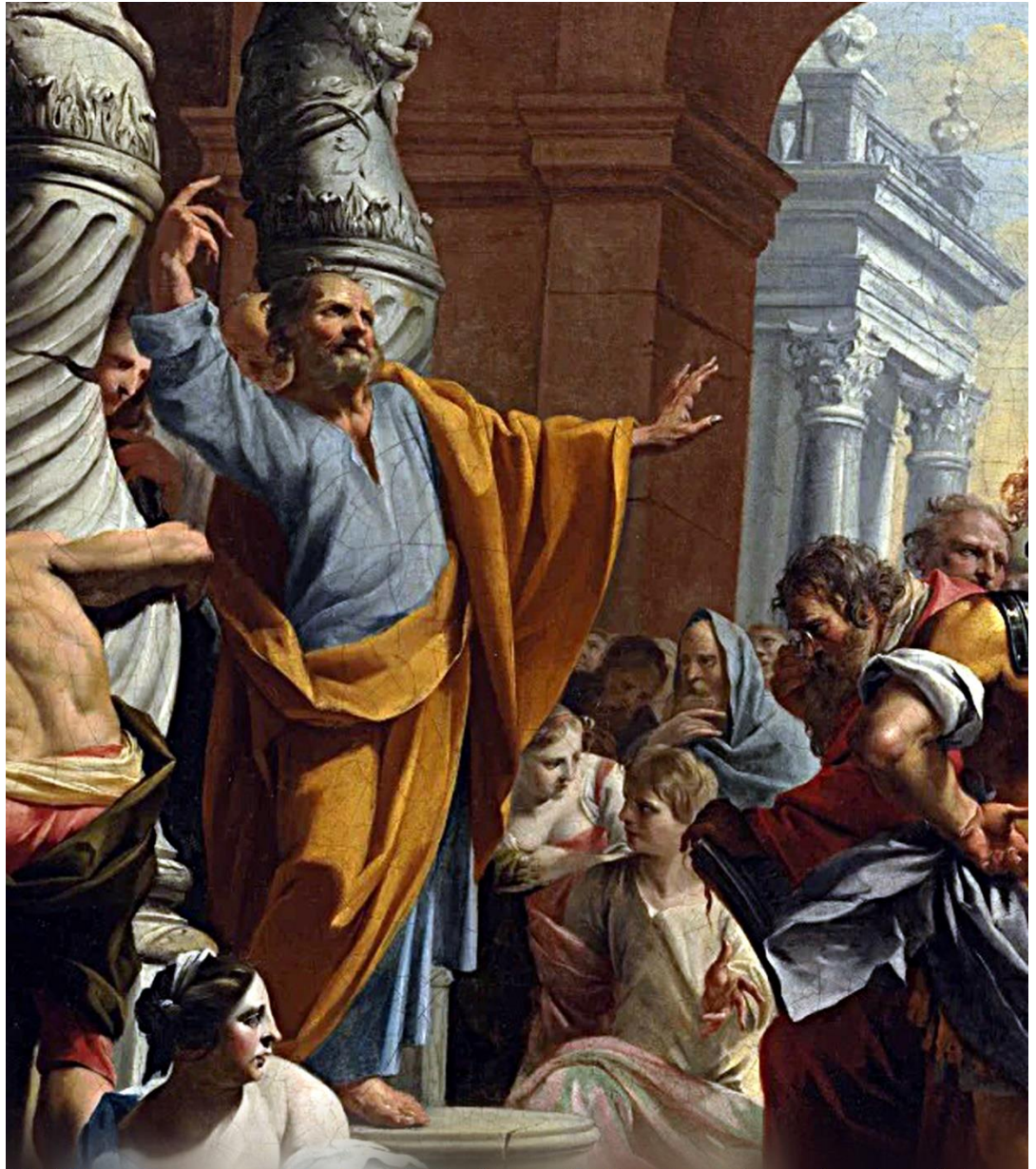
JOHN



24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." 26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." 28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

John 20: 24-29

A C T S



12 When Peter saw this, he said to them: “Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? 13 The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. 14 You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. 15 You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. 16 By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. 17 “Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance as did your leaders. 18 But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. 19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

Acts 3: 12-19

L U K E



36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.

38 He said to them,

"Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them,

"Do you have anything here to eat?"

42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence. 44 He said to them,

"This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

46 He told them,

"This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 You are witnesses of these things."

Luke 24: 36-48

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16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. 17 If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 19 This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: 20 If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. 21 Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God 22 and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. 23 And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. 24 The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

1 John 3: 16-24

JOHN



11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. 17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

John 10: 11-18

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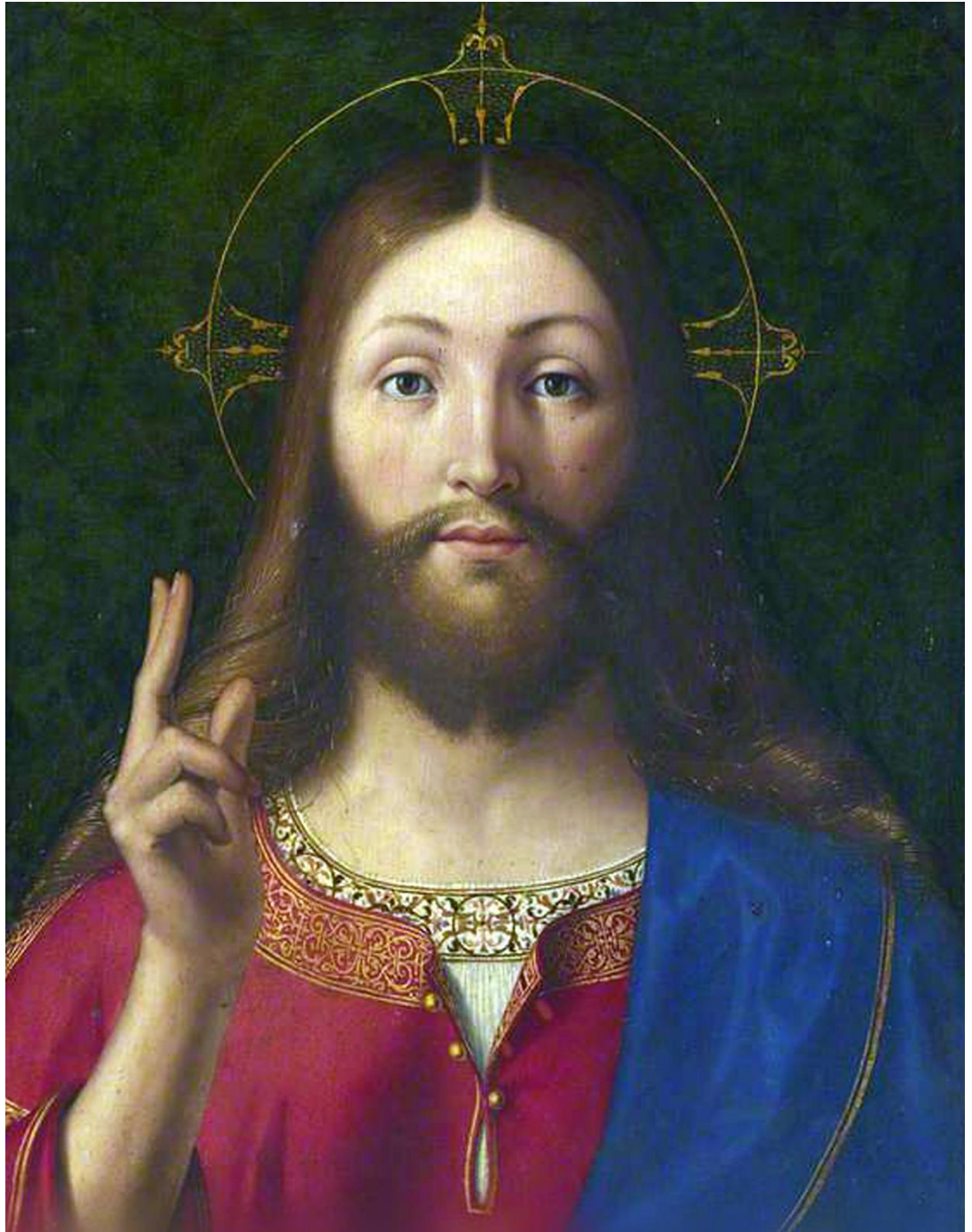
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7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

1 John 4: 7-21

JOHN



1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

John 15: 1-8

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Save on your Taxes

Qualified Charitable Contribution



Save on your taxes with your donation to the Lake Ronkonkoma United Methodist Church with a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). You can sell shares from your mutual funds or brokerage account to donate to a qualified charity (for which our church is one).

- A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) is not subject to ordinary federal income taxes – the amount is simply excluded from your taxable income. In general, QCDs must be reduced by deductible IRA contributions made for the year you reach 70½ or later. If you have made deductible IRA contributions for the year you turn 70½ or later, consult a qualified tax advisor prior to taking a QCD to determine the amount by which your QCD must be reduced.

About taking a qualified charitable distribution for your required minimum distribution (RMD)

- Your QCD counts towards satisfying your RMD once you reach RMD age.
- Up to a maximum of \$100,000 of your RMD can be donated to a qualified charity.
- If you have the RMD service, be sure to factor in these donations to avoid distributing more than your annual RMD.
- Qualified charitable distributions are counted for the tax year in which they are taken.

Example.

We are required to take an RMD each year from our IRA. We request that a QCD be made to satisfy a portion of our yearly RMD. A check for the requested amount is sent to our address with the name of the church as the payee. We then give this check to the church to satisfy a portion of our gift and tithe for the year.

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United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

Chancel Choir

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April Fools' Day



Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar which advanced the calendar 10 days-as called for by the Council of Trent-and moved the start of the new year to January 1st. In the Julian Calendar, the new year began with the spring equinox around April 1st. People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved and continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes and were called "April fools." These pranks included having paper fish placed on their backs and being referred to as "April fish" said to symbolize a young, easily caught fish and a gullible person.

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Church Website	umcdr.com	Stewardship	Warren Ferry
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Pastor	Rev. Karen A. Burger	Education	Sue Preddice
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Children's Choir Director	Heather Edwards-Wilson	UWF Representative	Barbara Colucci
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		Comm. & Tech.	Andrew Sinclair
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Staff Parish Pastor Relations	John Stein		
Lay Leader	Marilee Drisgula		
	Ray Becht		
Lay Members to Conference	Michael Zukowski		

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