



*United Methodist Church
of
Lake Ronkonkoma*

Good News

DECEMBER 2018

United Methodist Church
of Lake Ronkonkoma

792 Hawkins Avenue
Lake Grove, NY 11755

631-588-5856

www.umclr.com

Church Office Hours –
Monday – Thursday
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Nursery School –
631-467-9601

Thrift Shop –
631-981-9749

Staff

Rev. Dr. Constance Pak,
Pastor

Filomena Thomas,
Nursery School Director

Cathy Mitchell,
Administrative Assistant

Dr. Rex Enderlin,
Choir Director

Heather Edwards-Wilson,
Youth Choir Director &
Organist

Join us on Saturday, December 1 for the following events:



Get in the holiday spirit by attending the
Long Island Flute Club's Holiday Concert

in our Sanctuary at 3:00 p.m.

Enjoy beautiful holiday songs!

Purchase delicious cookies at the

UM Women's Cookie Walk

before and after the concert!



And don't miss the
HANGING OF THE GREENS
after the concert at 5:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy a special evening of music and fellowship as we
decorate the church for the Christmas season.
A potluck dinner will be served.

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.

The Long Island Flute Club

presents

"Silvery Sounds of the Season"



A recital of seasonal favorites,

performed by the

*Long Island Flute Club
Holiday Flute Choir*

Saturday, December 1, 2018 3:00 pm

United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

792 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Grove

Freewill contribution to benefit ALS

Lections

December 2
First Sunday
of Advent

Jer. 33:14-16
Ps. 25:1-10 (UMH 756)
1 Thess. 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

December 9
Second Sunday
of Advent

Mal. 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
(UMH 208)
Phil. 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

December 16
Third Sunday
of Advent

Zeph. 3:14-20
Isa. 12:2-6
Phil. 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

December 23
Fourth Sunday
of Advent

Mic. 5:2-5a
Luke 1:46b-55
(UMH 199)
Heb. 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

December 30
First Sunday After
Christmas Day

1 Sam. 2:18-20, 26
Ps. 148 (UMH 861)
Col. 3:12-17
Luke 2:41-52



*The Christmas Cantata
will be on
December 2 at 10:00 a.m.*



**The Christmas Pageant
is on Sunday, December 16
at 10:00 a.m.**

Join us on Christmas Eve!

7:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service

11:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
(With caroling beginning at 10:30 PM)



Don't forget to order your poinsettia plants!
Orders must be received by December 16.

Name _____ Telephone _____

In Memory of _____ from _____

In Honor of _____ from _____

Poinsettias ordered _____ at \$13.00 each = \$ _____

Donation to Flower Fund \$ _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to United Methodist Church. (On memo line put Flower Fund.)
Place in offering plate or send to the church office by the deadline of December 16, 2018.
If you have any questions, contact Heather DeSanto at 631-764-1416.

MARTHA'S PLACE THRIFT SHOP



Martha's Place
Thrift Shop

631-981-9749

Hours:

Mondays
10am - 2pm

Tuesdays
10am - 2pm

Fridays
10am - 2pm

Saturdays
10am - 2pm

This is the month of our Lord's birth and we hope you will enjoy this joyous season with love for family and friends.

We are very busy displaying all the Christmas items you so kindly gave us to celebrate this holiday season. Once again, drop in to see the display of gifts, some new in box and some gently used.



We have an array of Christmas sweaters, vests, shirts, pajamas etc. We also have an array of Christmas dishes, glasses, mugs, Christmas wrapping paper, gift bags, cards etc.

The shop will be open on Sunday, December 23 from 9 am until after coffee hour is over to allow for any last minute purchases you may have!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

We still could use another worker or two which I've been asking for this year. We had one new worker in the summer which was a great blessing!! She will return in summer '19.

Thank you for your continued donations but remember, we take NO donations in December as we have been slammed with all kinds of clothing and spring and summer merchandise filling our basement!!! Also, we will be closed Christmas Day through New Year's Day, reopening on Friday, January 4.

In GOD'S service,
Marilee Drisgula and all volunteers



Game Night!

All adults are welcome to join us for Game Night on Friday, December 14th.

We will be meeting at BLD's (299 Hawkins Ave., Ronkonkoma) for dinner at 5:00 PM, followed by Game Night at 7:00 PM at church. Enjoy a night out filled with fun and fellowship!



UMW NEWS

To All Church Ladies,

Well the holiday season is upon us and winter has already given us a teaser. This is the time of year when our days become filled with shopping trips, decorating, feasting at parties, gift giving and reflecting upon the year that has passed. Reflection is good for our health and helps us to realize what lessons we can learn about ourselves and our lives. Personally, at the end of every year I try to look back and forgive those that have trespassed against me. This past year I had a few misunderstandings within my own family and felt very hurt. But, after some family intervention I was able to understand them more and forgive their weaknesses. This has made all the difference. Yes, we may not be able to trade in our families, but through God's grace, faith and love - we are able to reach settlement and move forward. My Christmas wish for all of you is to find peace in your reflections, peace within your families and peace within your communities.

Our Christmas party will be on December 10 at Barbara Colucci's home at 6:30 pm. Bring an appetizer or a dessert. If you don't have time to make a dish, that's quite alright. We would love your company. This party is open to all ladies of our church, so I hope to see lots of you joining in the celebration. Contact Barbara for directions.

Looking Ahead

No meetings in January and February 2019.

Our UMW Retreat at Camp Quinipet will be April 26-28, 2019. If you are interested, please give a \$25 deposit to Sue Sprague by January 1, 2019.

Thank you to all the ladies who made the UMW meetings and events a success throughout 2018!! Your work and support is always appreciated!

Wishing you and your families a happy, joyous holiday season and wonderful New Year ahead! Stay safe and laugh a lot!

Yours In Christ,
Ilona Torraca
UMW President

Christmas Party Open House

Joy to the World



O Come All
Ye Faithful

To: All Women of the Church

For: UMW Christmas Party

When: Monday, December 10th at 6:30 PM

Where: Barbara Colucci's – 631-675-6101
65 Barker Drive, Stony Brook



Fun & Fellowship



Come any time after 6:30 p.m. for appetizers and desserts!



The UMM will enjoy a Christmas Dinner together at Flanagan's Pub (451 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Ronkonkoma) at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10.



End of Year Tax Planning

End of year tax planning from Vanguard's Christine Benz - Owing to changes in the tax laws that went into effect starting in 2018, fewer taxpayers are likely to benefit from itemized deductions than in the past; they'll get a bigger bang from the standard deduction. That calls for rethinking your charitable giving strategy. If you're older than age 70½ and taking required minimum distributions from IRA, you can employ what's called a qualified charitable distribution. With the QCD, you steer all or a portion of your RMD, up to \$100,000, to the charity(ies) of your choice; the amount of your contribution reduces your adjusted gross income. If you're not yet subject to RMDs and/or you'd like to make additional charitable contributions, you can consider "bunching" your charitable contributions into a single year in which you itemize, as discussed. A donor-advised fund enables you to make a large charitable contribution in a given year (and potentially take a deduction on it) but take your time in getting the money deployed to charities.

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

These names are offered each month as 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, call the church office at (631) 588-5856 and we will gladly add your name.

- 2 Regina Eger
- 3 Gunner Teigland
- 4 Eleanor Subbiondo
- 8 Eileen Torraca
- 11 Sofia Pearl
- 12 Amanda Martocello
- 15 Kristina Purcaro
- 18 Kathy Smith
- 18 Christine Pfeil
- 18 Samuel Tom
- 25 Paul Eger
- 25 Christopher Fechtmann
- 25 Soon Bowes
- 31 Krista Teigland



Christmas greeting cards will be available for purchase to wish our congregation members a Merry Christmas. Proceeds will benefit the Pastor's discretionary fund.



One way to be happier all year is to count your blessings each day. Expressing gratitude leaves us feeling less stressed, healthier, and more optimistic for the future. Gratitude can be self-perpetuating, making it easier to see and appreciate the good in life down the road.

We need to want what we have rather than wishing that we had what we want. (Good lesson for the children on Christmas day). God promises us abundance in all aspects of our lives and His plan/timing is always better in the long-run. Expressing gratitude throughout the day shows trust and promises hope for tomorrow.

Help Wanted

- Chair/co-chair for Food Pantry
- Volunteers for Soup Kitchen and Thrift Shop
- Nominating/Leadership committee
- Social Justice issues--- immigration, climate change, voter registration, etc.- making congregation aware / starting a discussion of what we can do to get involved

Wish List

- Nursery School updates--- railing (\$500), bathroom (\$500)
- Parsonage updates--- new kitchen, deck, remove paneling, and paint
- Parking lot repair

Please specify gift for which project



*A memorial gift has been given in memory of
Ron Drisgula
from Carol & Ralph Vecelka.*



The local community gathered for a lovely Pre-Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at St. Mary's Episcopal Church on Tuesday, November 20, 2018. Pastor Pak was the guest preacher.



**Learn to love
without
condition. Talk
without bad
intention. Give
without any
reason. And
most of all, care
for people
without any
expectation.**



Baptism Sunday

November 25, 2018



Azalea Holly Edwards-Wilson



The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

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

CONVERGE

Multi-District United Methodist
Youth Retreat

Hosted by the Long Island East District



**Space Is
Limited!**

Camp Quinipet

99 Shore Road
Shelter Island Heights, NY
11965

**\$100 Includes housing, snacks,
3 meals on Saturday, and
breakfast on Sunday**

Friday-Sunday

April 26th-28th

Youth Grades 6th-12th!

**Registration Opens
December 1st!**

**Send the following to your
church's youth leader:**

- ◆ **Permission Slip / Medical Release**
- ◆ **\$100 (or \$50 deposit)**
**Checks made out to your local
United Methodist church**

Ongoing Mission:

Loaves & Fishes
Soup Kitchen of the
UMCLR is open
Tuesdays and
Thursdays at 4:45 pm
in Fellowship Hall

Support Groups:

Narcotics Anonymous
Mondays at 7:00 pm in
Fellowship Hall

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tuesdays at 6:30pm
and 8:30 pm, and
Fridays at 8:00 pm in
Fellowship Hall

COPE
Connecting Our Paths Eternally
(A grief and healing organization dedicated to helping parents and families living with the loss of a child.)
Fourth Friday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Library

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



December 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 LIFC Holiday Concert 3 UMW Cookie Walk Hanging of the Greens & Potluck Dinner 5:30
2 1 st Sunday of Advent Cantata Sunday 10 (No Communion)	3 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 NA 7	4 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 4:45 AA 6:30 & 8:30 Trustees 7	5 Morning Prayer 7 AM Soup Kitchen Com. 9:30 Craft Group 12 UMYF 6:15 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	6 Soup Kitchen 4:45 Girl Scouts 6 Disc. Bible Study 7:30 Rabbit Assoc. 8	7 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Little Angels 6:15 AA 8	8 Thrift Shop 10 – 2
9 2 nd Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday	10 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 UMW Christmas Party 6:30 UMM Christmas Dinner 7 NA 7	11 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 4:45 AA 6:30 & 8:30 Emmaus Board 7:30	12 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Group 12 UMYF 6:15 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	13 Soup Kitchen 4:45 Girl Scouts 6 Disc. Bible Study 7:30	14 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 BLD for Dinner 5 Game Night 7 AA 8	15 Thrift Shop 10 – 2
16 3 rd Sunday of Advent Christmas Pageant 10	17 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 NA 7	18 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 4:45 AA 6:30 & 8:30	19 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Group 12 Christmas Caroling	20 Soup Kitchen 4:45	21 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 AA 8	22 Thrift Shop 10 – 2
23 4 th Sunday of Advent Thrift Shop Open 9 - 12	24 Christmas Eve Church Office Closed Thrift Shop 10 – 2 NA 7	25 Christmas Day Church Office Closed Thrift Shop Closed	26 Morning Prayer 7 AM Church Office Closed No Wednesday Evening Programs	27 Church Office Closed Soup Kitchen 4:45	28 Thrift Shop Closed AA 8	29 Thrift Shop Closed
30 1 st Sunday after Christmas Day Family Service No Sunday School	31 New Year's Eve Church Office Closed Thrift Shop Closed NA 7					

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Church Office (631) 588-5856
 Church FAX (631) 588-0753
 Nursery School (631) 467-9601
 Martha's Place Thrift Shop (631) 981-9749
 Parsonage (631) 585-4968
 Church Email umclr@verizon.net
 Church Website umclr.com

Resident Bishop Rev. Thomas Bickerton

District Superintendent Rev. Julia Yeon-Hee Yim

Pastor Rev. Dr. Constance Y. Pak

CHURCH STAFF:

Administrative Assistant Cathy Mitchell
 Nursery School Director Filomena Thomas
 Chancel Choir Director Rex Enderlin
 Organist Heather Edwards-Wilson
 Children's Choir Director Heather Edwards-Wilson

Church Council Dennis Subbiondo
 Staff Parish Pastor Relations Bill Otto
 Lay Leader Marilyn Becht
 Angelique Sinclair
 Lay Member to Conference Diane Hatton

Board of Trustees Keith Bowes
 Beth Ann Graf
 Sharon Millard
 Janet Baumann
Endowment Rich Tom
Memorials Holly Ghosio
Finance Angelique Sinclair
Financial Secretaries Warren Ferry

Stewardship Heather DeSanto
Worship Heather DeSanto
Lay Servant Coordinator Allyssa Schoenemann
Education Tammy Edwards-Wilson
Sunday School Superintendent Wendy Duffy
Youth Coordinator Debra Schild
Evangelism & Missions Marilee Drisgula
Martha's Place Thrift Shop Diane Hatton
Soup Kitchen Representative Soon Bowes
Nurture/Care Ministry Keith Bowes
UMM Representatives Dennis Subbiondo

UMW Representatives Ilona Torraca
 Leslie Ann Alessi
Church Historian Walter Schroeder
Comm. & Tech. Jon Ghosio
Disaster Prep. & Response Warren Ferry
Good News Editor Cathy Mitchell
Circulation Leslie Ann Alessi

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