



*United Methodist Church
of
Lake Ronkonkoma*

Good News

JANUARY 2020

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

**History Comes Alive
At The
United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma**

The Parish Hall



c.1853



c.1868

In 1852, \$700 was raised to build the “Lakeville Methodist Episcopal Church of Brookhaven”.

The new church was built by Charles Woodhull of Sayville, and was dedicated on Easter Sunday, March 27, 1853.

In 1867, the building was expanded 17 feet, and a balcony was added. The new work was dedicated on January 12, 1868.

The building served as our church until 1907 when “The Little Brown Church” was built on “5 corners”.

Since then the “Parish Hall” has served as classroom space for Sachem School District (1956), Sunday School classes, and currently The United Methodist Nursery School.

Our Parish Hall is currently the oldest public building in Lake Ronkonkoma.

WKS

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.

Stewardship 2020

Volunteers are needed to develop a stewardship program for 2020. At the November Church Council meeting, the consensus was that the church needs to hold a stewardship campaign for 2020. We have not had an informative program in a few years, so it is time to generate a new program with the goal of informing parishioners of what stewardship should mean to each person that speaks to their relationship with GOD.

Please contact Warren Ferry or let the church office know if you are interested in meeting over the next few months, perhaps once or twice a month for January, February and March with a program release scheduled for April 3rd.



Lectons

January 5
Epiphany Sunday

Isa 60:1-6
Ps 72:1-7, 10-14
(UMH 795)
Eph 3:1-12
Matt 2:1-12

January 12
Baptism of the Lord

Isa 42:1-9
Ps 29 or (UMH 761)
Acts 10:34-43
Matt 3:13-17

January 19
Second Sunday
after the Epiphany

Human Relations Day

Isa 49:1-7
Ps 40:1-11 (UMH 774)
1 Cor 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 26
Third Sunday
after the Epiphany

Isa 9:1-4
Ps 27:1, 4-9
(UMH 758)
1 Cor 1:10-18
Matt 4:12-23

Education Committee News



Happy New Year! We are proud of our children for their participation in the Heifer Project and thank all of you that helped them fill their piggy banks! We are also grateful for their pageant performance during the worship service on the last Sunday of Advent. Our Sunday School Superintendent (Tammy) and Children's Choir Director (Heather) are a great blessing. We would like to also congratulate them on the arrival of their son, *Congratulations* Zephyr Emmanuel Edwards-Wilson, on December 9th. Looking ahead into 2020, our Sunday School youth class is working on a video to be presented to the congregation in the near future. Please let us know if you have a scout in the family that we can recognize on February 9th. Our Youth group is looking forward to their retreat this coming April 24-26. They were busy selling wreaths and participating in the church caroling this past December. Our confirmation class had its covenant service with their sponsors and we can look forward to a confirmation service this spring. Many dedicated workers make all of this possible. Thank you all for your leadership and dedication to our children and youth. See you at our education sponsored coffee hour this January!

Sue Preddice and the Education Committee

A large collage of photographs from a Christmas Cantata performance. The top section features the title "Christmas Cantata" in a red, cursive font, with "December 1, 2019" below it. The collage includes photos of the church building, a conductor in a blue jacket, a man in a maroon vest singing, a woman at a podium, and various musicians playing instruments like trumpets, trombones, saxophones, and violins. The bottom of the collage has the text "The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma" in a red, cursive font.

Christmas Cantata
December 1, 2019

The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

Martha's Place
Thrift Shop

631-981-9749

Hours:

Mondays
10am - 2pm

Tuesdays
10am - 2pm

Fridays
10am - 2pm

Saturdays
10am - 2pm

Martha's Place Thrift Shop

Happy 2020!!!! We will be opened for business on Friday, January 3rd. We will be serving our customers and those who are in need of clothing, etc. as we try to help our community when they are in trouble.



Our staff of volunteers is faithful, but we are still in need of help when vacations arise and our staff is down. So please think about your time and maybe 1 hour is well received for someone to just straighten things out.

Thank you for your continued donations of clean reusable clothing. It means a lot when the items come in clean and in decent condition.



We are looking forward to a year of new beginnings.

In God's service,
Marilee Drisgula and all volunteers



Game Night!

All adults are welcome to join us for
Game Night on Friday, January 31st.

(Please note the date change!)

Enjoy a night out filled with fun and fellowship!

**Join us for our next book discussion on
Monday, January 20 at 7:00 PM.**

We will be reading "Until We Find Home" by Cathy Gohlke.

Set in England's Lake District in the early days of World War II when the Kindertransport of 1938-1940 brought 10,000 predominantly Jewish children, to Great Britain for refuge from Nazi oppression. American Claire Stewart becomes stranded on English shores with five French Jewish children she smuggled across the channel before Nazis stormed Paris. Her estranged aunt is Lady Miranda Langford who owns a magnificent estate. Miranda reluctantly agrees to take the children into her home if Claire will stay to help. Claire is ill-prepared for the daily dramas of raising children, yet she must find a way to keep the children safe during this time of war.



Cookie Walk

December 7, 2019



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Long Island Flute Club

"Silvery Sounds Of The Season"



December 7, 2019



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

January 2020

Dear Church Family,

Happy New Year! This year is going to be a great year in our church!

This is my letter of introduction to you as the new Finance Chairperson. It is a position I've wanted for many years and God has finally brought it to fruition. I have over 30 years of experience working within the field of finance. Whether it be as a Financial Services Specialist in the U.S. Air Force, cashier, bank teller, tax preparer, personal bill payer, rent collector, financial planning assistant, personal budget expert, or holding treasurer positions for work related groups. In fact, my first leadership role was as treasurer for my MYF group while in Junior High School. This position brings me full circle in this church.

My grandmother, Irene Hethy, was the church finance secretary, so I am familiar with the basic processes of how our church finance committee is organized. I remember as a young girl, she would take the offering plates from the altar after the church service and she, my mother and I would organize the envelopes and put together the loose offering in preparation for Monday's counting. And then I would sometimes return with her on Monday morning to help count the money for deposit. I would also help her to prepare the end-of-year giving statements for members. I just really loved helping my grandmother and I learned some finance skills as well.

During my time as Finance Chair, I plan to gather all the information I can from our Conference office and Pastor Pak for leadership guidance and ensure our church stays within our denominational policies, procedures and regulations. Our church has a wonderful finance team and I'm happy to be a part of it. We really appreciate those that continue to give within their budget and for those families that are able to increase their offering for 2020, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your faith, support, and trust in my abilities and if anyone has any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours In Christ,
Ilona J. Torraca
631-471-0634
ilonatorraca@ymail.com



The UM Men enjoyed dinner together at Flanagan's in Ronkonkoma on Monday, December 9.



The UM Women also enjoyed a get-together on December 9.

A collage of photographs from a Christmas party. At the top left is a small icon of a church. In the center, the text reads "UMW Christmas Party" in a white, cursive font, with "December 9, 2019" below it. To the right is a small icon of a cross. The main part of the collage is a large group photo of about 15 women standing together in a room decorated for the holidays. Below this are several smaller photos showing individual women and small groups of women in various festive outfits. The entire collage is set against a green background with red and white floral patterns.

UMW Christmas Party
December 9, 2019

The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma
Missions, Evangelism & Nurture Committee
Newsletter Submission from our December Meeting

It is my sincere honor to be a member of this committee. There are so many beautiful women who faithfully and unselfishly serve in Jesus name. As we begin the New Year and new decade, let us all learn from their example and continue to share in the community of kindness found within this church. Here's to 2020! - Pamela Bowman

Chairperson Soon Bowes opened the meeting with an article from Newsday, **“How to Approach Giving to Panhandlers”** where Rabbi Marc Gellman shared his thoughts in response to the question represented in the title. Committee members shared their own experiences of helping strangers and also addressed the issue of people pretending to be in need and if you should help those people too. Many viewpoints and perspectives were shared as we were pondering this thought provoking article. An important takeaway is perhaps the vulnerability and humiliation involved for a person to publicly “confess” a need. Rabbi Gellman shares that “we were strangers in the land of Egypt and so we should know the heart of the stranger.” Gellman profoundly includes that **“maybe, just maybe, that was the Messiah.”**

Updates and Check in: we are in the process of reviewing allocated funds however, there remains great need in Haiti and Guatemala.

Heifer Project: what a wonderful success...30 goats and 660 chickens donated thanks to the generosity of the congregation and passion put forth by our Sunday School.

Eastern Farmworkers: Over 20 bags of food and 5 huge bags of coats were donated along with 100 toys donated from our Nursery School, 15 toys donated from FunFitness and 60 toys from our congregation were sent to bring joy to the recipients from the Eastern Farmworkers. An additional \$500 was raised through Missions fundraisers and will be sent to the Eastern Farmworkers by the end of the month.

Toys were also sent to a **local women's shelter.**

* **The International Dinner** is fast approaching. Save the date: **Saturday, January 11th** at 5:00. This will be a potluck dinner and tickets will be sold. We will be meeting on Sunday, January 5th after church to discuss the dinner.

*The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma will be hosting a **Blood Drive** on Sunday April 19th, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

“We will work with each other; we will work side by side. And we'll guard each person's dignity and save each person's pride. And they'll know we are Christians by our love.”



Our Heifer Project Certificate and Bell



Christmas Toy Drive

December 15, 2019



*The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma
Nursery School Families
Have Generously Donated 102 Toys*



*We welcome new member
Cheryl Alejandro!*

December 15, 2019



A Happy and Healthy New Year to all from your Board of Trustees!

The Trustees would greatly appreciate your donation of Ice Melt for our walkways.

We would like to welcome our Class of 2022 Trustees who were unanimously elected at our December Charge Conference:

Keith Bowes
Marilee Drisgula
Doug Filipowich

Trustee elections for Chairman, Co-Chairman and Committee Representatives will be held at our January 7th meeting.

2020 Proposed Projects:

New Sign for church
Parsonage repairs & updates
Purchase of land by Brookhaven Town for "5 Corners" update
Dishwasher in Fellowship Hall kitchen for Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen
Re-evaluating all maintenance contracts
Updating 2019 rental agreements
Corned Beef & Cabbage Fund Raiser in March 2020
Spring Fair & Flower Show in May

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us in person, or email us at trustees@umclr.com.

Praying for a bright and prosperous 2020.
In God's service

Respectfully submitted by:

Walter Schroeder
&
The Board of Trustees



Christmas Caroling

December 18, 2019



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Christmas Pageant

"Good News From The Animals"

December 22, 2019



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Christmas Eve Family Service

December 24, 2019



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Candlelight Service

December 24, 2019



*The United Methodist Church Of
Lake Ronkonkoma*



Thank You

I sincerely want to thank the congregation for all the prayers and cards during my recovery. My faith in God gave me strength and enabled me to be strong through these last two years.

Thank you so much!!!

Carolyn Ferry



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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	William Otto
1	Rex Enderlin
3	Harry Roseen
5	April Paul
7	Joyce McVeigh
8	Marilee Drisgula
9	Ralph Pearl
14	Diane June
15	Tracy Pearl
18	Alexandra Van Sicklin
21	Kaitlyn Guiffre
22	Jennie Mortenson
22	John Paynter
22	Amanda Graf
23	Jennie Olivotti
24	Ilona Torraca
24	Kevin Hartmann
26	Christine Paynter
26	Bill Paul
26	Richard Schoenemann
26	Michael Van Sicklin
31	Jarrel Guerrero

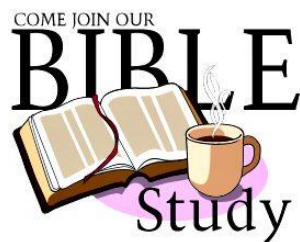


**To All UM Women interested in the
2020 Retreat - April 24-25-26:**

We are scheduled to stay at Asbury House again. If possible, we are asking for a \$30.00 deposit ASAP. Please contact me so that I have an accurate count. My cell number is 631-835-2045.

*Thanks,
Sue Sprague*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Disciple Bible Study, led by Richard Wahl, will begin soon! Book distribution will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 30 and the study will begin the following Thursday, February 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Be sure to join us for this well-loved program!

The following support groups hold meetings in our building:

Narcotics Anonymous ---

Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Alcoholics Anonymous ---

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall,

Fridays at 8:00 p.m. 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 each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Library

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

Ongoing Missions:

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

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

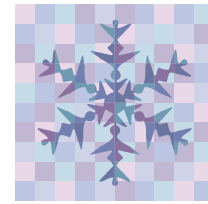
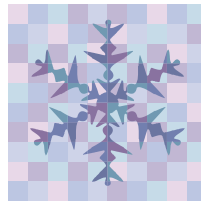
Support Groups:

Narcotics Anonymous
Mondays at 7:00 pm in
Fellowship Hall

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

COPE
Connecting Our Paths Eternally
(A grief and healing
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Fourth Friday of the
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Please call our
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further information.



January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2 Soup Kitchen Closed Rabbit Assoc. 8	3 Thrift Shop 10-2 AA 8	4 Thrift Shop 10-2
5	6 Thrift Shop 10-2 NA 7	7 Thrift Shop 10-2 Food Pantry 3-5 Soup Kitchen 4:45 AA 6:30 & 8:30 Trustees 7	8 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Group 12 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	9 Soup Kitchen 4:45 Girl Scouts 5:30	10 Thrift Shop 10-2 AA 8	11 Thrift Shop 10-2 International Dinner 5
12	13 Thrift Shop 10-2 NA 7	14 Thrift Shop 10-2 Soup Kitchen 4:45 AA 6:30 & 8:30 Church Council 7:30	15 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Group 12 Chapel Choir 6:30 UMYF 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	16 Soup Kitchen 4:45 Girl Scouts 5:30	17 Thrift Shop 10-2 AA 8	18 Thrift Shop 10-2
19 Baptism Sunday	20 MLK Birthday Church Office Closed Thrift Shop 10-2 NA 7 Book Discussion 7	21 Thrift Shop 10-2 Soup Kitchen 4:45 AA 6:30 & 8:30	22 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Group 12 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	23 Soup Kitchen 4:45 Girl Scouts 5:30	24 Thrift Shop 10-2 UMM Retreat at Quinipet AA 8	25 D2D Hampton Bays 8:30 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop 10-2 UMM Retreat at Quinipet
26 UMM Retreat at Quinipet	27 Thrift Shop 10-2 NA 7 Nursery School Committee 7:30	28 Thrift Shop 10-2 Soup Kitchen 4:45 AA 6:30 & 8:30 Finance 7:30	29 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Group 12 Chapel Choir 6:30 UMYF 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	30 Soup Kitchen 4:45 Girl Scouts 5:30 Disciple Bible Study Book Distribution 7:30	31 Thrift Shop 10-2 Game Night 7 AA 8	

GOOD NEWS

Church Office	(631) 588-5856	Board of Trustees	Walter Schroeder
Church FAX	(631) 588-0753		Keith Bowes
Nursery School	(631) 467-9601	Endowment	Sharon Millard
Martha's Place Thrift Shop	(631) 981-9749	Memorials	Janet Baumann
Parsonage	(631) 585-4968	Finance	Ilona Torraca
Church Email	Cathy@umclr.com	Financial Secretaries	Angelique Sinclair
Church Website	umclr.com		Bernice Waleski
Resident Bishop	Rev. Thomas Bickerton	Stewardship	Warren Ferry
District Superintendent	Rev. Julia Yeon-Hee Yim	Worship	Heather DeSanto
Pastor	Rev. Dr. Constance Y. Pak	Lay Servant Coordinator	Heather DeSanto
CHURCH STAFF:		Education	Sue Preddice
Administrative Assistant	Cathy Mitchell	Sunday School Superintendent	Tammy Edwards-Wilson
Nursery School Director	Filomena Thomas	Youth Coordinator	Wendy Duffy
Chancel Choir Director	Rex Enderlin	Missions, Evangelism & Nurture	Soon Bowes
Organist	Heather Edwards-Wilson	Martha's Place Thrift Shop	Marilee Drisgula
Children's Choir Director	Heather Edwards-Wilson	Soup Kitchen Representative	Diane Hatton
		UMM Representatives	Keith Bowes
			Dennis Subbiondo
		UMW Representatives	Ilona Torraca
Church Council	Debra Schild	Church Historian	Leslie Ann Alessi
Staff Parish Pastor Relations	Liza Wright	Comm. & Tech.	Walter Schroeder
Lay Leader	Marilyn Becht	Disaster Prep. & Response	(Needed)
	Angelique Sinclair	Good News Editor	Warren Ferry
Lay Members to Conference	Diane Hatton	Circulation	Cathy Mitchell
	Bill Wahl		Leslie Ann Alessi

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