



*United Methodist Church
of
Lake Ronkonkoma*

Good News

June 2022

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. Dr. Constance Pak,
Pastor

Filomena Thomas,
Nursery School Director

Abby Preziosi,
Administrative
Assistant

Dr. Rex Enderlin,
Choir Director

Heather Edwards-
Wilson,
Youth Choir Director &
Organist



“We take the stars from heaven,
the red from our mother country,
separating it by white stripes,
thus showing that we
have separated from her,
and the white stripes
shall go down to posterity,
representing our liberty.”

- George Washington

FLAG DAY

Summer Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Beginning Tuesday, June 28th



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.



For the last couple of weeks, I have sat down in front of the computer many times to start writing this letter, but I stood up and walked away again and again because I could not figure out where to begin. I was overwhelmed and emotional. It is one of the most difficult letters I've ever written to my congregation.

Time really flies! I have been serving the United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma for the last thirteen years. Usually ten years is an epoch, and it is well past that! I believe that both our congregation and I have grown by going through the ups and downs of church life on our spiritual journey together.

According to Ecclesiastes 3, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven ..." We are under God's "Kairos" time, and we have no control over our life schedule. We just trust that God always knows the right time to come and the right time to go.

When the cabinet suddenly decided to appoint me to a new parish 13 years ago, I didn't know if that was the right time for me to leave my comfort zone and come to this church. We pastors usually don't get enough time to consider, but have to make a decision within a couple of days. With an unsettled mind, I visited the UMCLR with my mother one late afternoon in May 2009. We just drove around the buildings outside for a few minutes. Finally, my mother, who was full of wisdom and faith, said, "It seems to be a good church!" That one comment supported and

Lections

June 5
Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Ps 104:24-34, 35b
(UMH 826)
Rom 8:14-17
John 14:8-17 (25-27)

June 12
Trinity Sunday

Prov 8:1-4, 22-31
Ps 8 (UMH 743)
Rom 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

June 19
Second Sunday
after Pentecost
Father's Day

1 Kings 19:1-15a
Ps 42 (UMH 777)
Gal 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

June 26
Third Sunday
after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
Ps 77:1-2, 11-20
(UMH 798)
Gal 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62

encouraged me to be here. The rest is history. I have spent my golden years, my fifties, for ministry in the UMCLR, and I even hit my 60th birthday here almost three years ago. As I look back, in every decade God has opened a new chapter in my life. Even though I did not know how my life would unfold, I have gained wisdom and the faith to trust in God's will and plans for me, and to follow the flow of the mystery.

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for your love, care and respect for me over the past 13 years. I will cherish all the good memories deep in my heart forever. I'm not going too far; Sayville United Methodist Church is in the same cluster and the same district, but just a little further south on the same island. Please remember that our United Methodist Church is a connectional church in the system and a connecting church in Spirit. As always, I will keep all of you in my thoughts and prayers. Please do the same for me. I am confident and certain that you will do well with your new pastor, and our beloved church, the UMC of Lake Ronkonkoma, will prosper with God's love, mercy, and grace.

Friends, the song "Time To Say Good-bye," is ringing in my ears ... I pray that wherever we'll be and whatever we'll do, we'll pray for each other and support one another. We must trust that it is God's timing for all of us to move on by taking separate routes at this time. Even though we are called to different forms of ministry, ultimately, all of us are called to build the Kingdom of God on earth. Let us be faithful to our call and ministry. I pray that our work together in different places will continue to be joyful, fruitful, and meaningful, all for the glory of God. May God abundantly bless each and every one of you! Blessings and Shalom!!!

With Love and Gratitude,

Rev. Dr. Constance Y. Pak

GOOD NEWS



The men had their UMM cafe set up for the Spring Fair and fed the multitude with good eats. We also had our breakfast on May 15th with a wonderful fellowship.

Looking forward to another breakfast gathering at the Holbrook diner on Saturday, June 4th at 8:00 a.m. - all men are invited.

Blessings,
Dennis Subbiondo
President, UMM

Prayer Group on Zoom

Come and join us on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. as we discuss the Upper Room publication reading for that date, 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.

Meeting ID: 858 8602 0997 and Passcode: 011880

If you have any concerns or prayer requests, do not hesitate to contact the church office at any time.



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"All women are invited to our meetings! Please share the experiences and bring friends . . ."

We had a creative, meaningful program at our May meeting; thank you Wendy Duffy.

On Monday, June 13th at 7:00 p.m., please join us! Sue Simon will present the KINDNESS PROJECT with refreshments by Jean and Marilee.

Please sign up to help with Sunday Coffee Hours in July."

- August 15 at 6:00 p.m. we will have a POTLUCK DINNER planning meeting at Barb Colucci's, 65 Barker Drive, Stony Brook
- Looking ahead: September 12 meeting
- September 30 weekend retreat

Thank you,
Barb Colucci

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Mother's Day
May 8, 2022

The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

Spring Festival Rainout - May 8, 2022



Many thanks to John and Donna Stein who went beyond the call of duty and sold our plant inventory in the pouring rain.



Spring Festival II May 14, 2022



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

GOOD NEWS



Baptism Sunday

May 15, 2022



Owen Botwinick



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



Come and have relaxed fun and some laughs. Bring your favorite game or play someone else's. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 17th. Hope to see you there!

E D U C A T I O N

Greetings from the Education Committee,

As we follow the school calendar, we are finishing up our school year. Wednesday, June 8th will be our final Youth group activity and Confirmation class until the fall; June 12th will be our final Sunday school day as well. The children and youth will be in charge of the Worship service on June 12. It is also Nettie Baker day. We are proud of our young people and are looking forward to their participation and leadership during this Service. Please come and support them as they lead us. As is tradition, we ask that you bring flowers to decorate the cross for Nettie Baker's grave on that morning as well.

I would like to thank our teachers and leaders who devoted their time and talents to our children and youth. They have been steadfast and devoted to their mission of teaching our children the good news. Their teaching provides the atmosphere for their young students to grow in faith, love and understanding. I would like to thank our families for bringing their children to our programs. Children learn by example. Please continue the conversation about God and His good works over the summer. We are all entrusted with the future of our church. Our young people will be the ones that continue the story of our faith and tradition. We pray that each one of them will have faith in their heart and want to share it with others.

We are always looking for volunteers to step in and be a part of our programs. Please consider joining us. We will need teachers in the fall. We especially need a longer list of substitute teachers as well.

We are grateful that we were able to meet in person this year with precautions as we navigated the new normal. Blessings as we begin the summer season. May it be filled with family fun and provide an opportunity to be grateful for all God has given us.

Sue Preddice,
Education Committee Chairperson

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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.

- 3 *Frank Barta, Sr.*
- 8 *Bobbie Clark*
- 9 *Keith Almonaitis*
- 11 *Jeffrey Guerrero*
- 16 *Marilyn Becht*
- 18 *Olivia Eger*
- 19 *Adalynn Flanagan*
- 22 *Robert Kohout*
- 22 *Aidan Drisgula*
- 23 *Nicole Paul*
- 25 *Pat Gibiser*
- 26 *Cathy Myers*
- 28 *Karolyn Kiendle*
- 30 *Heather DeSanto*



Soup Sunday VI

September 25th

(After Worship Service)

Choose Your Favorites
From Many
Delicious Varieties
On Sale

Pre-order & Take Home
Enjoy!

Sponsored by: The Missions, Evangelization and Nurture Committee



Baptism Sunday May 15, 2022



Ongoing Missions:

Loaves & Fishes
Soup Kitchen of the
UMCLR opens every
Tuesday at
5:00 p.m. for a pre-
packaged take out
meal.

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 - 6:00 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.



Brandon Nicholas Collins



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

*Join us for our next Book Discussion
Monday, June 6 at 2:00 p.m. in the Church
We will be discussing
"Before We Were Yours"
by Lisa Wingate*

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

News Flash! The Thrift Shop is hanging in there and we continue to be blessed with our wonderful customers. It's the customers who keep us on our toes!!

We were amazed with jewelry sales during the Spring Fair. God is good! Now we have full racks of donated clothing; come on in and check us out!

In God's service,

Marilee Drisgula and all volunteers

Martha's Place Thrift Shop

Summer Apparel

Housewares - Jewellery - Keepsakes

Open

Monday - Tuesday - Friday - Saturday

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



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*Food Pantry
Open
Tuesday
June 7 & 21, 2022
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM*

Food Pantry Donations Needed

Boxed Milk	Paper Towels
Juice	Facial Tissues
Canned Fruit	Toilet Paper
Breakfast Cereal	Tooth Paste
Soup	Toothbrushes
Canned Tuna	Shampoo
Tomato Sauce	
Spaghetti	
Macaroni & Cheese	
Peanut Butter & Jelly	
Mayonnaise	

Supermarket Gift Cards

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Grand Fall Auction September 10, 2022

12 Noon

Viewing At 11:00 AM

Make An Offer At 10:30 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)**



UMC/LR AUCTION 2022 PLEDGE SHEET

Your Name: _____ Phone Number _____

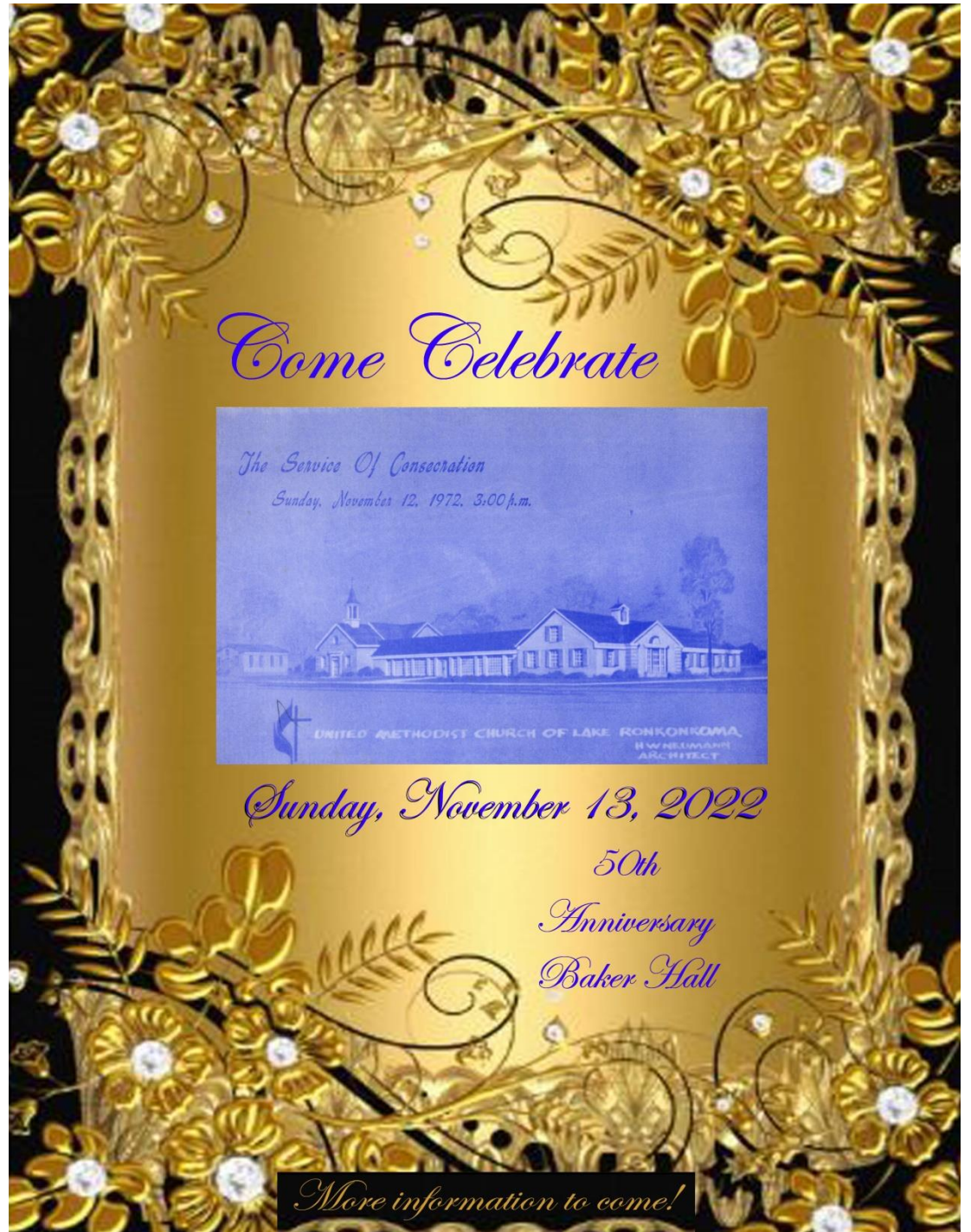
Item description (brief, but with all pertinent information)	Approx. value (if known)	Reserve (optional)	Receipt Y/N

Auction is scheduled for September 10th. All pledge sheets MUST be returned for cataloging by August 28th.
Leave your completed sheets in the auction mailbox sooner rather than later.

Please bring pledged items to the church on Friday, September 9th for labeling unless other arrangements are made.
ANY ITEMS BROUGHT AFTER THE PLEDGE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE AUCTIONED. NO EXCEPTIONS!

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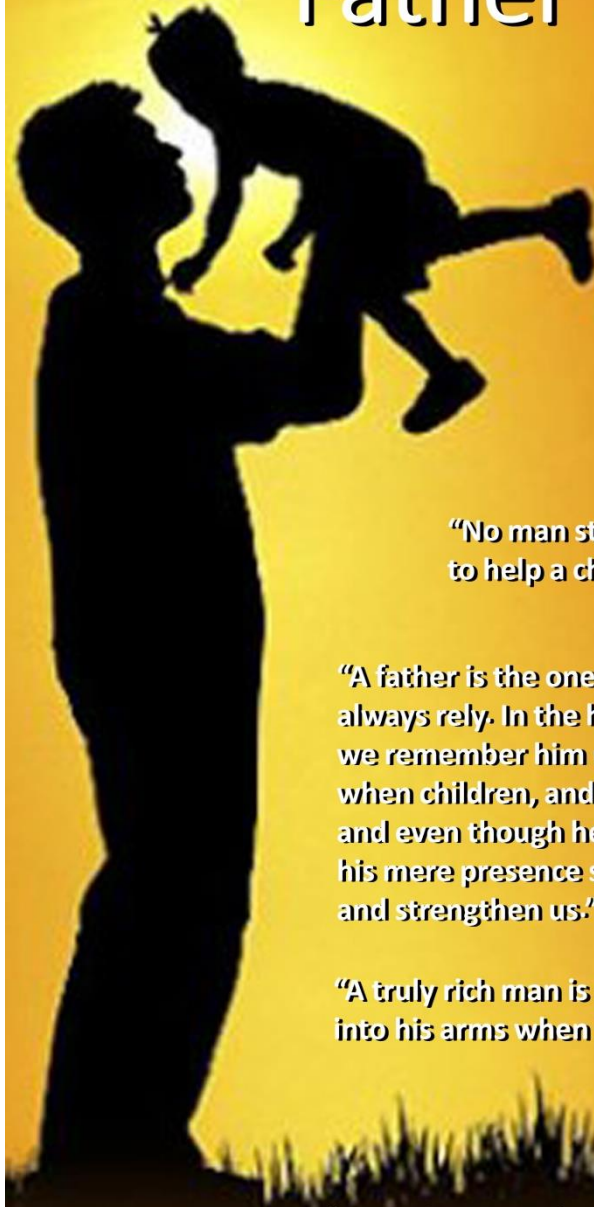
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The flowers on the altar are available to purchase each week in honor of, or in memory of loved ones. Please call the church office at 631-588-5856 to make arrangements.

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Father's Day 2022



Dad, your guiding hand
on my shoulder will
remain with me forever.”
—Unknown

“Dads are most ordinary men
turned by love into heroes,
adventurers, storytellers and
singers of song.”
—Unknown

“No man stands taller than when he stoops
to help a child.”
— Abraham Lincoln

“A father is the one friend upon whom we can
always rely. In the hour of need, when all else fails,
we remember him upon whose knees we sat
when children, and who soothed our sorrows;
and even though he may be unable to assist us,
his mere presence serves to comfort
and strengthen us.”

—Émile Gaboriau

“A truly rich man is one whose children run
into his arms when his hands are empty.”
— Unknown

“Dad, I know you’ve loved me as long as I’ve lived,
but I’ve loved you my whole life.”

— Unknown

H A P P Y

Father's Day



H I S T O R Y



History Comes Alive At The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

Many years ago, Miss Nettie Baker lived on Hawkins Avenue near the railroad station where she kept house for her widowed brother and his daughter. She loved our Little Brown Church at Five Corners and participated in all its activities.

She was a frail woman, but she managed to walk to church each Sunday unless a church member drove her. As time passed, her brother died, her niece moved away, and Miss Baker was left alone, but her support of our church by her presence and prayers never wavered.

When Nettie passed away in May of 1955, she left her entire estate to our church which amounted to under \$25.00. It truly was a "widows' mite". Our Pastor, the Reverend Harold Sabin used the money to buy materials to fashion the brass lamp which today shines on our bible and altar.

Reverend Sabin made the brass lamp with his own hands-fashioning it in a little building behind Newton's Garage.

In this way, Nettie Baker's final gift to our church has become a memorial of beauty-which you will not see in any other church.

Because there was no family left to remember Miss Baker, the Sunday School children filled a wooden cross, also made by the Reverend Sabin with their flowers.

This cross was made from the altar rail which graced our Little Brown Church before it was moved to its present location.

Each year on the second Sunday in June, a plain wooden cross with many holes is filled with flowers by our church members, and their children.

After the service, the floral cross is taken to the cemetery, and placed on Miss Baker's grave.

Just as she remembered her church, so we remember her in this way.

In Luke 21: Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury; and he saw a poor widow put in two copper coins. Jesus said: "I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for they contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all the living she had".

What a beautiful tribute to a woman, who would otherwise have been forgotten, but who gave all she had to the glory of God, and the church she loved.

WKS

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

H I S T O R Y

History Comes Alive At The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma



Morris Mills Hawkins was born September 27, 1867 and was baptized, confirmed and married in Parish Hall, when it was the Methodist Episcopal Church. Morris Hawkins married Lizzie Hammond on November 26, 1891. They had a son and five daughters.

Shortly after confirmation, he began his long and close association with our Church. Morris was involved in many Church committees and community activities for long periods of time. As can be seen on the following page, he was a member of the Administrative Board for 60 years, Church Treasurer for 60 years, Trustee for 27 years, Sunday School Superintendent for over 20 years, Chairperson of the Pastoral Relations Committee for over 20 years, Nominations Committee for over 20 years and many other committees for lesser periods of time.

In addition, Morris Hawkins was a Town of Brookhaven Justice of the Peace for 24 years, a Lake Ronkonkoma (Sachem) School District Trustee for 12 years and a right hand pitcher for the famous Ronkonkoma "Hawkins Nine" baseball team.

Morris Hawkins earned his living as a fruit and vegetable farmer. In addition to working his farm, Morris dug, by hand, man of the graves located behind the Church. He and others, using hand tools and horse drawn equipment dug the foundation for the Church building erected in 1906 which was located where Baker Hall now stands. He ceremoniously turned over the first spadefull of dirt when the foundation for our present Church building was dug in 1953. The 1906 Church was moved onto that foundation and was expanded into the sanctuary we now use.

Morris died June 11, 1958, 3 1/2 months before his 91st birthday. He is buried in the cemetery next to the Church.

Be sure to visit our website at
[umclr.com!](http://umclr.com)

GOOD TIMES



United Methodist Nursery School Art Show May 21, 2022



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma



United Methodist Youth "Lock In" May 21, 2022



The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

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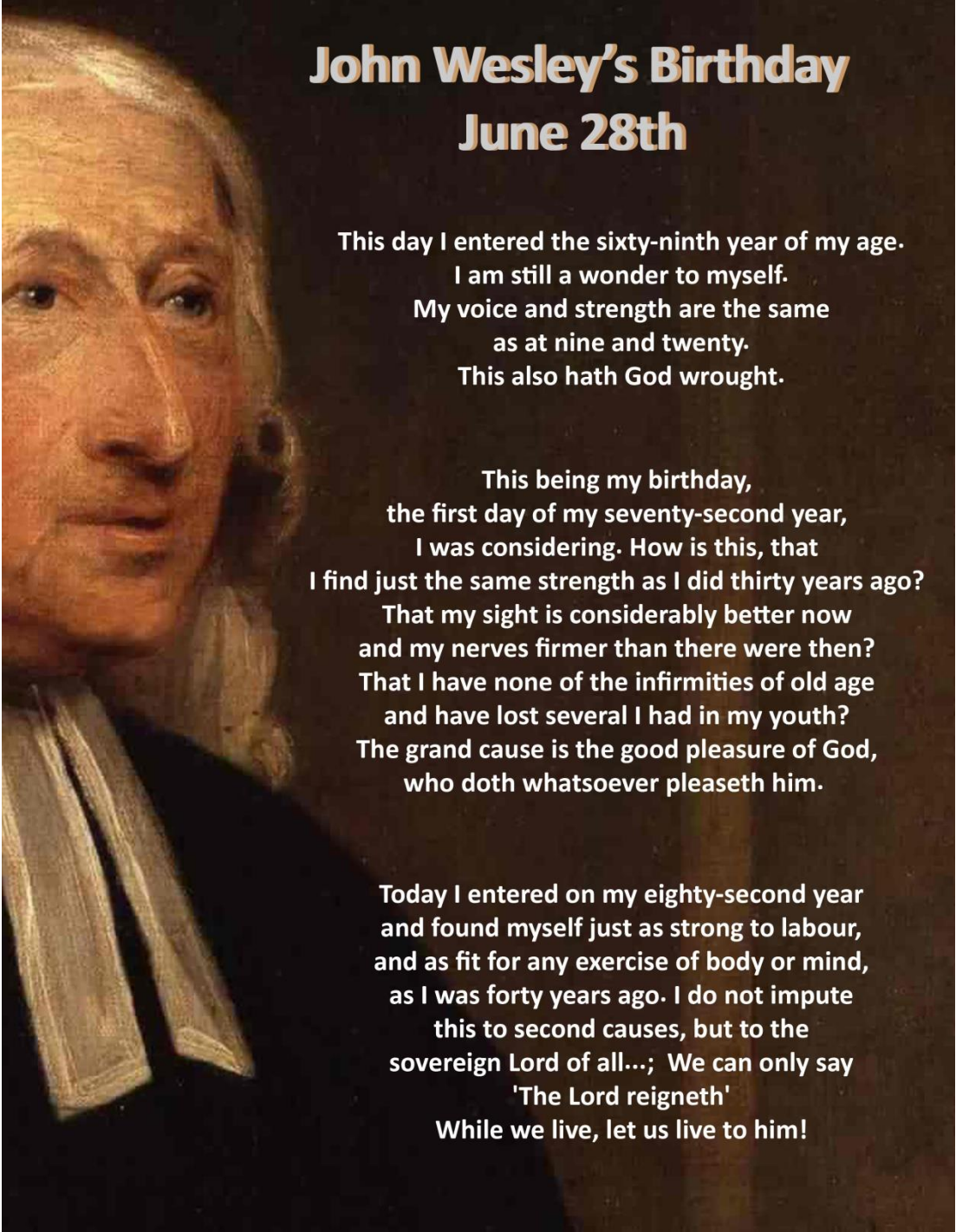
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When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Par'thians and Medes and E'lamites and residents of Mesopota'mia, Judea and Cappado'cia, Pontus and Asia, Phryg'ia and Pamphyl'ia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyre'ne, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

Acts 2: 1-12



A portrait of John Wesley, an elderly man with long, wavy white hair, wearing a dark coat and a white cravat. He is looking slightly to the left of the viewer.

John Wesley's Birthday June 28th

This day I entered the sixty-ninth year of my age.
I am still a wonder to myself.
My voice and strength are the same
as at nine and twenty.
This also hath God wrought.

This being my birthday,
the first day of my seventy-second year,
I was considering. How is this, that
I find just the same strength as I did thirty years ago?
That my sight is considerably better now
and my nerves firmer than there were then?
That I have none of the infirmities of old age
and have lost several I had in my youth?
The grand cause is the good pleasure of God,
who doth whatsoever pleaseth him.

Today I entered on my eighty-second year
and found myself just as strong to labour,
and as fit for any exercise of body or mind,
as I was forty years ago. I do not impute
this to second causes, but to the
sovereign Lord of all...; We can only say
'The Lord reigneth'
While we live, let us live to him!

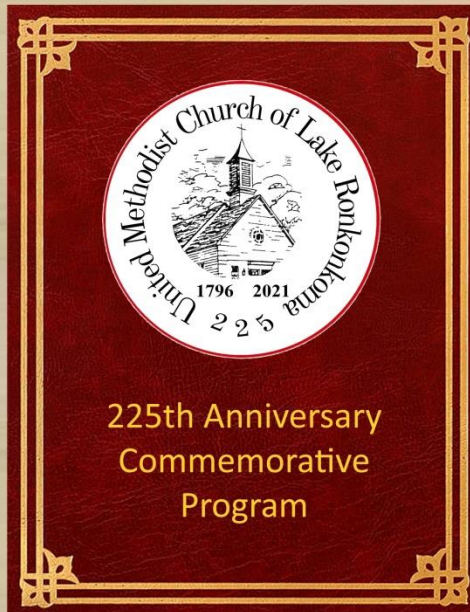
**John Wesley was born
on June 28, 1703
and died
on March 2, 1791**

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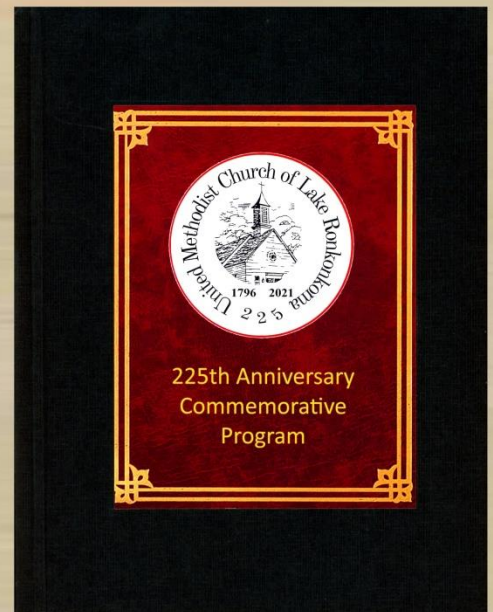
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The 225th Anniversary Programs Are Here!



Soft Cover Edition \$25.00



Hard Cover Edition \$100.00

Funds collected will go to defray the cost of printing

To order call Abby at (631) 588-5856

UMCLR
631-588-5856

◀ May							June 2022							July ▶						
Sun		Mon		Tue		Wed		Thu		Fri		Sat								
						1 Prayer Group 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.		2		3 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00		4 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 Walk to Emmaus 3:00- 6:00 UMM Breakfast Airport Diner 8:00								
5 Pentecost Communion Baptism Rev. Pak's Farewell Service and Brunch		6 OFFICE CLOSED Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00		7 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 Trustees 7:00		8 Prayer Group 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.		9		10 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00		11								
12 Nettie Baker Day Youth Sunday		13 OFFICE CLOSED Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 UMW 7:00		14 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 SPPRC 6:30		15 Prayer Group 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.		16		17 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 Game Night 7:00		18								
19 Fathers Day		20 OFFICE CLOSED Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00		21 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 Nursery School Baker Hall 5:00		22 Prayer Group 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Nursery School Graduation 11:00		23		24 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 New York		25 Annual Conference								
26 		27 OFFICE CLOSED Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00		28 Thrift Shop 9:00 – 2:00 Summer Hours Begin 9:00 - 12:00		29 Prayer Group 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.		30		 Regular Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Summer Office Hours Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 P.M.										

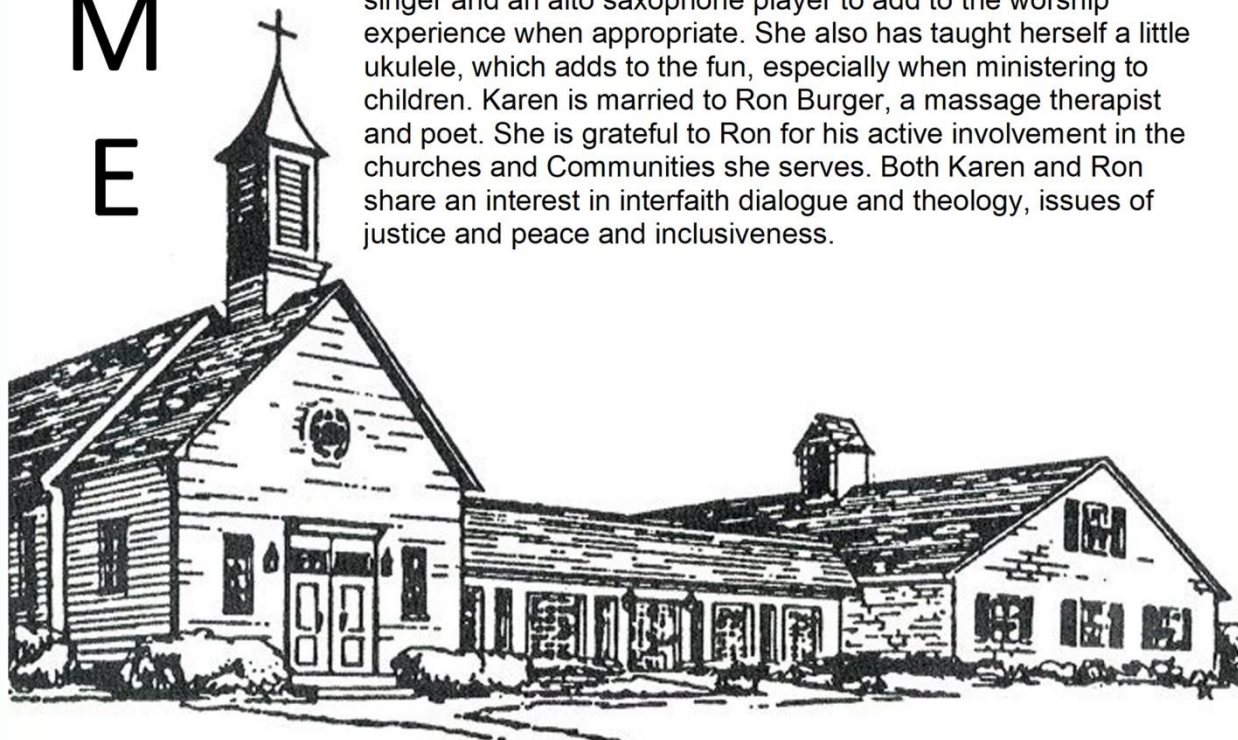
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Our New Pastor



Karen A. Burger

Karen was ordained Deacon in 1988 and Elder in 1991 in the New York Annual Conference. She earned her Master of Divinity degree (M.Div.) from Drew Theological School in 1989 and has pursued a variety of continuing education, including several courses at Blanton Peale Institute in New York, NY. She has served full-time in ministry from 1989 to the present, and her ministry as a local church pastor has taken her from Poughkeepsie, NY to Richmond Hill, Queens, to Monroe, CT, Carmel, NY, Mt. Kisco, NY, and Mamaroneck, NY. She has also served as Senior Chaplain at the Brooklyn United Methodist Church Home. Her specialties include pastoral caregiving, small group support, helping people find and use their gifts, writing, singing, and writing music. She enjoys utilizing her skills as a singer and an alto saxophone player to add to the worship experience when appropriate. She also has taught herself a little ukulele, which adds to the fun, especially when ministering to children. Karen is married to Ron Burger, a massage therapist and poet. She is grateful to Ron for his active involvement in the churches and Communities she serves. Both Karen and Ron share an interest in interfaith dialogue and theology, issues of justice and peace and inclusiveness.



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

The United Methodist Church
of Lake Ronkonkoma
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Lake Grove, NY 11755