



*United Methodist Church
of
Lake Ronkonkoma*

Good News

MAY 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



holy week

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.

Newsletter Submission from the Missions, Nurture and Evangelism Committee May 2020

"Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually!"
I Chronicles 16:11

Updates:

- May 31st Blood Drive is postponed
- Food Pantry is still open on the first Tuesday of the month from 3-5

How are you? Really...

As we are practicing physical distancing, there have been changes in our personal and professional status quo. We have been reading and hearing about the good, bad, and the in-between, both locally and globally. Now more than ever, we have the opportunity to care for one another in unique ways. The Missions, Nurture and Evangelism Committee wants you to know that you are being thought of, prayed for, and missed. Please know that we are a phone call away.

As I share some thoughts, there are three words that truly resonate, as we strive to use our gifts for the glory of God in the midst of a pandemic, and for me, they are: **RELATE, REFLECT, RELEASE.**

Relate: a big thank you to all forms of social media as a forum for us to connect, communicate and even care for one another. Like everything, there is a down side and that can be the divisiveness that seems to be permeating our nation as we "relate" to one policy, practice, party etc. Words like "us" and "them" have a mighty power to blind us to the beautiful commonalities shared both locally and globally. Yet, we have been wonderfully and fearfully made by God to be individuals. The word "relate" seems to also conjure up Covey's Habit 5 of his 7 Habits of Highly-Effective People: *Seek first to understand, then be understood.* Now that's a tough one even in the best of times. Perhaps, if we add the word empathy, our ability to relate to what someone else is going through can be more effective. Each of us are experiencing this unprecedented time differently and on behalf of the Missions, Evangelism and Nurture Committee, we are here for you as a part of your church family.

*"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you."
Ephesians 4:32*

Reflect: taking a moment to take it all in. This pandemic has afforded our global community the time to pause, if for what will be a brief moment in history. God's modern day disciples have performed as essential workers, working to keep us safe at the expense of their own health and the safety of their families. As David's faith allowed him to slay the powerful Goliath, we see

Lections

May 3
Fourth Sunday
of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
Ps 23
(UMH 754 or 137)
1 Pet 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

May 10
Fifth Sunday
of Easter
Mother's Day
Festival of the
Christian Home

Acts 7:55-60
Ps 31:1-5, 15-16
(UMH 764)
1 Pet 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 17
Sixth Sunday
of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
Ps 66:8-20 (UMH 790)
1 Pet 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 24
Ascension Sunday
Aldersgate Day
Heritage Sunday

Acts 1:6-14
Ps 68:1-10, 32-35
(UMH 792)
1 Pet 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 31
Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Ps 104:24-34, 35b
(UMH 826)
1 Cor 12:3b-13
John 7:37-39

those on the “front lines” doing a job that is nothing less than heroic. As we reflect, we might ask, “what can we do to better protect the people who are working on our behalf?” As we reflect, we are humbled to our knees in prayer and gratitude for these amazing disciples. As we reflect, our silent and collective prayers are lifted for those who have ascended into heaven during this time and the families that could not be with loved ones as they passed into life eternal. As we reflect, we also must not forget what humanity is enduring. As we reflect, our compassion and ability to see more clearly grows. As we take that time to look around, we are enlightened to the fact (with gratitude) that as the world paused, our natural environment was given a chance to breathe, heal and undergo restorations in its vast and vital ecosystems. It is my prayer that as a world, when we reflect on the impact of this pandemic, we will have learned and we have grown and we can relate to what others have endured.

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

Release: is defined, as a verb, to let go. So what are we willing to let go? What do we need to release? Each of us from time to time has experienced pain, sickness, heartbreak and suffering and when told that we should “let go” of those feelings, we act almost in opposition. We have to go through what we have to go through. Whether guilt, shame, fear, regret, please know that whatever you are going through, that you are not alone. “We are one in the spirit, we are one in the Lord.”

“He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds”

Psalms 147: 3

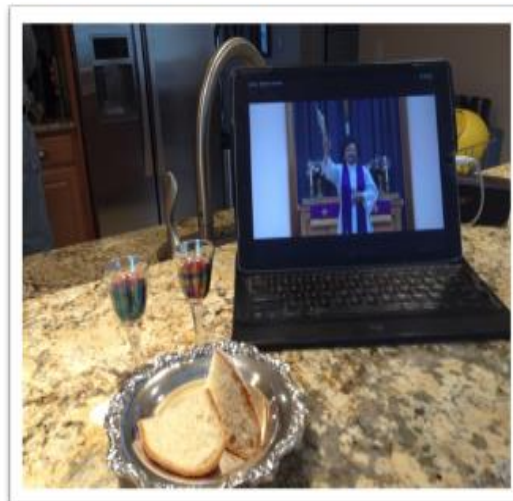
Perhaps there is a fourth word we need to remember... REUNITE. While we so miss one another, Pastor Pak has worked so hard to keep us together, virtually, and in spirit. There will be a time when we can come together again. Until then, the Missions, Evangelism and Nurture Committee is here for you. We are keeping our church family in our prayers and praying for our global family during this time. Let's work on how we can better relate to one another, take a moment to reflect upon our own lives and release all obstacles that we can and ask for help and guidance when needed. It is amazing to see how so many of our beloved congregation members are using their gifts to the glory of God and the world. Sending love to you all.

“Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous hand.”

Isaiah 41:10

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Bowman

Staying Connected



Staying Connected





Greetings from the Education Committee! We miss you and are praying for each one of you that you and your families are safe and well and using your time to grow in faith. Many of you are enjoying more time with your family. That gives us all a source of strength and hope. Many of you are also worried about someone you love who is sick or working to help those in need. Some of you are fighting illness. In these uncertain times as we shelter in our homes to avoid the Covid 19 virus, we are reminded that we cannot control our lives as we would like to think we can. We need God's help and our faith to get us through. We are having more time to think about what is most important in our lives. This is a good time to read our Bibles, pray and share our faith as a family. We are also looking for people to share their faith during our children's message during our cyber service with our church family. Please let Pastor know if you would like to do so. We are an Easter people and filled with hope that we can soon feel safe and will be able to gather together. Spring is upon us and as we look out our window and see the birds building nests, the trees growing leaves and the flowers blooming let us feel assured that God is with us. Invite Him in. God Bless.

Sue Preddice
Education Committee Chair

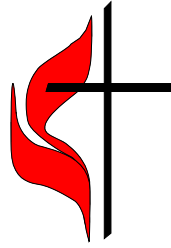


MAY BIRTHDAYS

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	Olivia Holmes
3	Katie Pfeil
5	Rudy Gibiser
7	Susan Filipowich
9	Azalea Edwards-Wilson
11	Paula Filipowich
11	Sarah Graf
12	James Baumann
12	Gabriella Czerw
15	Art Ricker
15	Loretta Taliercio
16	Adam Subbiondo
16	Art Germain
17	Rosemarie Heiserer
21	Ashley Cartier
27	Tammy Edwards-Wilson
28	Nancy Zukowski
29	Orion Edwards-Wilson
29	Katy Carroll



Dear fellow congregants,

Our Church complex has been closed for more than 6 weeks due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. During this time, your Board of Trustees has been preparing our buildings for the return of our Nursery School teachers and students, our Congregation, and all the special groups that call the United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma home.

We have directed our new custodian to continue “deep cleaning” all buildings so that when we are permitted to reopen, everything will be completely sanitized and disinfected. During the closure, the floors in Baker Hall and Fellowship Hall will be polished.

To make sure that the areas treated are safe for our reopening, we ask that anybody entering the buildings in our Church Complex inform the Trustees immediately as to where they were so that the areas can be re-sanitized.

In order to save money, all heating has been set at 60 degrees. Please do not raise the temperature.

The Parish Hall (Nursery School building) should be considered off limits to all until further notice. The building has been completely sanitized, and unregulated entry will force us to deep clean again.

The Trustees must remind all church members that all our rental monies, and Nursery School donations have stopped. Please, if at all possible, continue to support your Church by donating as much as you can to offset the shortfall, which will be sizeable this year due to the Covid-19 forced closure.

Our Spring Fair & Flower Sale has been cancelled.

We are hoping to plant the donated Easter flowers around our Church complex. If you can help, please let us know.

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

God will see us through this difficult time. Pray, and this too will pass.

Walter Schroeder & Keith Bowes, Co-Chairs
&
Your Board of Trustees

We thank Ali Bracciodieta for donating the beautiful, hand-made masks!! There are a few left to distribute. If you are in need of one, please contact the church office at 631-588-5856.





You've been
Rainbows
Bombed!!!!

1. Copy this letter (photocopy or by hand).
2. Choose 2 rainbows to keep.
3. Make 6 new rainbows.
4. Choose 2 people who you miss.
5. Send each person 4 rainbows (1 from me and 3 you made yourself) and a copy of the letter.

Spread hope, love, and rainbows!!!!

GOOD NEWS

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	Cathy@umclcr.com
Church Website	umclcr.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	Debra Schild
Staff Parish Pastor Relations	Liza Wright
Lay Leader	Marilyn Becht
	Angelique Sinclair
	Diane Hatton
Lay Members to Conference	Bill Wahl

Board of Trustees	Walter Schroeder Keith Bowes
Endowment	Sharon Millard
Memorials	Janet Baumann
Finance	(Needed)
Financial Secretaries	Angelique Sinclair Bernice Waleski
Stewardship	Warren Ferry
Worship	Heather DeSanto
Lay Servant Coordinator	Heather DeSanto
Education	Sue Preddice
Sunday School Superintendent	Tammy Edwards-Wilson
Youth Coordinator	Wendy Duffy
Missions, Evangelism & Nurture	Soon Bowes
Martha's Place Thrift Shop	Marilee Drisgula
Soup Kitchen Representative	Diane Hatton
UMM Representatives	Keith Bowes Dennis Subbiondo
UMW Representatives	Ilona Torraca Leslie Ann Alessi
Church Historian	Walter Schroeder
Comm. & Tech.	(Needed)
Disaster Prep. & Response	Warren Ferry
Good News Editor	Cathy Mitchell
Circulation	Leslie Ann Alessi

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