



United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma

Good News

October 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

Auction report -- 2020



On September 12th, COVID 19 was unable to sidetrack the juggernaut that IS the Grand Fall Benefit Auction!

Saturday's weather turned out to be perhaps the nicest we have ever experienced. Hertlin Hall had been filled with tables early in the week so that a few select willing hands could arrange the display of auction goods to great advantage the day before.

Plenty of eager help arrived bright and early Saturday to set up the Yard Sale, chairs, and canopies in anticipation of our guests' arrival. Would anyone come in this era of uncertainty?

Yes! The yard sale was hopping throughout the morning so that by noon the cashiers collected over \$700. Auction participants were on the light side - less than 40 bidders - but many familiar faces from far and wide were present as well as a goodly smattering of newcomers. At auction's end, the gavel oversaw the sale of lots totaling \$3,310.00.

I shall not try to name all who turned out to help for fear of omitting someone, but it was a well-coordinated effort with plenty of willing hands. People were mindful of New York State's 50-person limit on gatherings so that helpers came and went as needed. Grateful thanks to all. Your efforts are indispensable to the success of this venture.

Most sincere thanks to all who donated such a fine array of unusual and desirable sell-ables for both the Auction and the Yard Sale. Thanks also goes to everyone who spread the word to friends and neighbors far and wide.

It was an exhausting yet exhilarating day for all involved, workers and guests alike. My congratulations and heartfelt thanks to all. Now start building those piles of desirables for next year!



Rex Enderlin, auction co-ordinator

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.



2020 Grand Fall Auction



Words alone can not express the gratitude to each and everyone of you who helped make this year's Grand Fall Auction a resounding success. Thank you one and all!

The United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma

Lectios

Appreciation

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

October 4
Eighteenth Sunday
after Pentecost
World Communion Day

Exod 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Ps 19 (UMH 750)
Phil 3:4b-14
Matt 21:33-46

October 11
Nineteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

Exod 32:1-14
Ps 106:1-6, 19-23
(UMH 829)
Phil 4:1-9
Matt 22:1-14

October 18
Twentieth Sunday
after Pentecost
Laity Sunday

Exod 33:12-23
Ps 99 (UMH 819)
1 Thess 1:1-10
Matt 22:15-22

October 25
Reformation Sunday

Deut 34:1-12
Ps 90:1-6, 13-17
(UMH 809)
1 Thess 2:1-8
Matt 22:34-46

Our beloved Pastor has been extremely busy during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has been assisting parishioners and bringing food to the Eastern Farm Workers. She has been part of the team that handled the re-opening plan and ensured its adherence to not only the NY State guidelines but also guidelines by the Centers for Disease Control and the New York Annual Conference. This was an immense task that the Pastor, Debra Schild, Church Council Chairperson and Walter Schroeder, Trustee Chairperson had undertaken. She has been working diligently to provide a weekly cyber-service and as of 9/6/20 a weekly service in the sanctuary as well. All of this was being done while she was concerned for her ailing and aging Mother who is in a care facility. She is unable to see her Mother even now and telephone communication is difficult, as her Mother does not hear very well.

Sometime between August 12th and August 13th, the parsonage was broken into and personal items, as well as money, were stolen from the Pastor. Her siblings had given her money to hold for a specific purpose and it was a sizable sum. This cannot be recouped from insurance. As her loving congregation, we may not be able to replace all of the money that was stolen but the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) members would like to take up a collection. **The whole month of October, we will be collecting monetary gifts to show our Pastor appreciation that will be presented to her in November.** Show her your appreciation not only with a monetary gift, but she would appreciate a note, a card or an e-mail telling her how much you appreciate and care for her. Please send a check to the Church office and put "Pastor Gift" in the memo line of the check or if you are attending the Sunday service, you can put it in the basket.

We know you will be generous with your gifts and praise. If you have any questions, please contact Liza Wright 1-631-875-6562 or lizawright@optonline.net. Thank you.

Lovingly,
SPPRC Members



Most of us didn't know what to expect at the beginning of 2020 when we heard early news briefs about an impending pandemic. Most couldn't guess what it would bring, what it would cost our nation or what it could mean to our jobs, our lives, our families and our economy. It remains a scary and an unprecedented time in our lives.

This was/is the backdrop to what my family went through when Ilona had a "nervous breakdown" (to use an old term) in March. With all your prayers, and after three hospitalizations, I can say that she is on the mend.

Mental illness remains scary to so many and when unprecedented behavior is displayed, we feel fear and anxiety towards the person. For any of you that felt that way, it's understandable. Let me assure you that someday (if we ever get back to normal worship in church), you'll see the same Ilona Torraca who successfully led the UMW for two years.

Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, cards and pastor's meals to sustain me. Without them I would not be as well as I am (questionable some might say 😊). My church family has been my stabilizing force, my north star through many trials and tribulations and I thank each and every one of you for bringing God's light and love into my life.

Stay well so we can all be together again at coffee hour.

Eileen Torraca





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Our pumpkin delivery date has been rescheduled.
New date will be announced soon.
Sales through 11/1 – – – Sign up now to help sell!

Pumpkins are coming!

Email:
PumpkinPatch
@UMCLR.com

- ❖ Sign up is now online! Tap on the link, use code 74123
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAEAC2AABFCC25-p>
- ❖ FAMILY GROUP INVITE:
Take an evening or an afternoon together
- ❖ Questions? Comments? 631-585-0157 or send us an email!



Right in line with the season, here are 10 No-Bake *Allrecipes* Pumpkin Desserts to Enjoy This Fall -

https://www.allrecipes.com/gallery/no-bake-pumpkin-desserts/?utm_source=emailshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=email-share-gallery&utm_content=20200929



Martha's Place
Thrift Shop
Open
Friday & Saturday
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Welcome Home!

Martha's Place Thrift Shop

Martha's Place
Thrift Shop

631-981-9749

Hours:

Fridays
10 am - 1 pm

Saturdays
10 am - 1 pm



Our shop is still open on Fridays and Saturdays only, but we are looking forward to opening Mondays and Tuesdays soon, we hope.

We have been slammed with donations so we are asking our congregants and others to hold donations for the next few weeks. We will be able to take them once again on October the 16th and 17th. We hope this won't be a problem for you, but our volunteers have been overworked recently and I want to keep them!!

A special thank you to our nurse, Helen Morley, who asks the Covid questions and keeps good contract tracing records.

Thank you!

In God's service,
Marilee Drisgula and all volunteers



We have a received a donation of this special baby formula. Please contact the church office at 631-588-5856 if you have a need for this product.

Church Reopening - September 6, 2020



Pastor Pak greets Congregation



Debra Schild & Rex Enderlin play the Anthem



George Doukas reads Scripture Lessons



Pastor Pak celebrates Communion

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Please Help

Our Nursery School Needs:

- * *Lysol Disinfecting Spray*
- * *Sanitizing Wipes*
- * *Paper Towels*
- * *Liquid Hand Soap*

*Please Bring Your Donations To The Church Office
Monday - Thursday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM*

OCTOBER 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.

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|--------------------|
| 7 | Ryan Pearl | 18 | Doris Coniglio |
| 7 | Brendon Dent | 19 | Marilyn Almonaitis |
| 7 | River Edwards-Wilson | 20 | Beth Ann Graf |
| 10 | Thomas Bullock | 20 | Alaina Drisgula |
| 11 | Pegi Germain | 23 | Sharon Millard |
| 12 | Jacqueline Paynter | 24 | Paul Guerrero |
| 12 | Rich Tom | 24 | Gerald June |
| 12 | Steven Duffy-Corvaia | 25 | Joriel Guerrero |
| 16 | Angelique Sinclair | 25 | George Doukas |
| 17 | Georgene Clark | 25 | Michael Drisgula |
| 18 | Alisa Rabbitt | | |

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

WHICH PRESIDENT SAID IT?

- _____ “We recognize no sovereign but God, and no King but Jesus!”
- _____ “A thorough understanding of the Bible is better than a college education.”
- _____ “When you have read the Bible, you know it is the word of God, because it is the key to your heart, your own happiness, and your own duty.”
- _____ “The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time.”
- _____ “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and Bible.”
- _____ “The rights of man come not from the generosity of the State, but from the hand of God.”
- _____ “Before all else, we seek upon our common labor as a nation, the blessings of Almighty God.”
- _____ “Religion, by teaching man his relationship to God, gives the individual, a sense of his own dignity and teaches him to respect himself by respecting his neighbors.”
- _____ “We are never defeated unless we give up on God.”
- _____ “Sir, my concern is not whether God is on my side; my greatest concern is to be on Gods side, for God is always right.”

- A. George Washington
- B. John Adams
- C. Thomas Jefferson
- D. Abraham Lincoln
- E. Theodore Roosevelt
- F. Woodrow Wilson
- G. Franklin Roosevelt
- H. Dwight Eisenhower
- I. John Kennedy
- J. Ronald Reagan

WKS

D-I-F-C-A-I-H-G-J-D



Join the Book Group! They will be meeting on Monday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m. The next title that will be read is “Saving Amelie” by Cathy Gohlke. All are welcome.



E D U C A T I O N

Greetings from the Education Work Area!

We encourage everyone to watch the cyber service that has been provided for us throughout these challenging times. Each Sunday the Children's Message invites family conversation about the lesson of the day. Many times it coordinates with the Scripture and Sermon for that Sunday. We are all anxious to get back together but must be patient and continue to do what is best for our safety. We will be running our programs virtually at least until January and then decide what the best plan is after that.

I would like to thank all involved in the cyber service for keeping us connected and uplifting our spirits. I would then like to thank those that have kept our children's programs going. Thank you, Heather Edwards-Wilson, for putting together beautiful anthems featuring our children's choir during the cyber service. They will also meet in the sanctuary to play instruments while social distancing this fall. If you have a child that is choir age, elementary through middle school, please contact the church office for details on how to join. Tammy Edwards-Wilson has called the Sunday school church families and is forming a plan with our teachers to begin Zoom instruction on the first Sunday of October at 11:00 A.M. for our elementary school children. Please contact the church office for more info if you have not spoken to Tammy.

Alyssa Schoenemann has moved to Germany. We would like to wish her well on her new adventure. The best way would be to make sure all of our secondary students show up for her secondary Sunday school class via Skype at 1:00 P.M. on Sunday afternoons. Yes, she would like to continue her class. It will be a wonderful opportunity for our students. We are so very grateful for her service to our UMC as past education chairman, children's message speaker and wonderful teacher. We will miss her being here but are most grateful that she will continue to teach and stay in touch.

Rich Tom will be teaching our confirmation class via Zoom and has contacted the students to make plans for the class to get started. Diane Hansen will help coordinate the program as we look forward to confirming more students this spring. Thank you to our leaders and teachers for your commitment to help guide our young people in their faith journey.

We are always looking for more participants. We can only contact those that have previously registered at this point. If your contact information has changed or you have not been contacted and would like to participate, please call the church office and let us know.

Please pray for all of our children, their families, and their teachers as they return to school in these very uncertain times. We pray that they can learn and grow in a healthy and safe environment.

Sue Preddice
Education Committee Chairperson

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Dear fellow congregants,

Our Church complex has begun to re-open after being closed for more than 6 months due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. Your Trustees, in conjunction with our Sexton, have prepared 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.

Sanitizing all areas being used is done daily. The floors in Baker Hall, Fellowship Hall and the Parish Hall have been polished. The carpets in Hertlin Hall, Narthex, Hallway, and Offices have been deep cleaned.

The new oak floor has been installed in the Sanctuary, and the chairs have been steam cleaned and the wax on them has been removed. Thank you to all who helped make this project a smashing success!

The Nursery School donation to the Church will resume in September. With the resumption of some outside meetings in October, the group donations will begin to return. 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.

Thank you to Quinn Vollgraff for painting the arrows in our parking lot. Thank you to Keith Bowes for expediting the removal of a dead tree located between the cemetery and Thrift Shop.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 6th at 7:00 PM.

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

Walter Schroeder – Keith Bowes
&
Your Board of Trustees

We are grateful!!



The Sanctuary Floor Team would like to thank NHI Construction of Lake Grove and its proprietor, Robert Napoli, for the gracious and generous loan of a pneumatic flooring nailer.



Food Pantry Donations Needed

Canned Goods
Boxed Milk
Decaf Instant Coffee
Tea Bags
Facial Tissue
Paper Towels
Bath Soap
Shampoo
Toothpaste
Toothbrush

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**

To my wonderful church family:

I would like to mention something that I was never aware of. In any and all courts, when asked “Is this the truth and whole truth...” *so help me God* has been eliminated by act of Congress. First prayer was removed from our schools. The Ten Commandments removed from buildings. Now God has been removed from our courts. This is only the beginning. What other areas of our government is this happening?

Let us not be “silent Christians”. And – please – vote! “Vote your faith!”

God Bless,
Georgene Clark

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

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