

GOOD NEWS

FROM THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF LAKE RONKONKOMA



SEPTEMBER 2015 EDITION

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.

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.



From the Pastor

By the time you read this letter, summer is almost over. Are you ready for the kick-off again? Our children will be returning to school and Sunday School, and the tardiness of the summer will be picking up the speed soon. I hope that you are looking forward to going back to your normal routine.

As we open the new chapter of the fall season of 2015, what kind of mindset and attitude should we have? I've thought about it and, the 3Rs came to my mind: Reflection, Repentance, Relationship.

First of all, I'd like our church to focus on "Reflection" individually and collectively. Without self-reflection and self-evaluation, we tend to forget who we are and whose we are. A healthy self-image and self-identity come from constant reflection. The same thing happens to the church. As the body of Christ which consists of Jesus' disciples, we also need to reflect and remind ourselves that primarily we are here to do God's ministry.

And then, we should have time to "Repent." Did we do our best to serve the Lord? Did we practice the "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" policy? Have we continually checked our soul by "Doing No Harm, Doing Good, Staying in Love with God?" Have we done things in the way we are supposed to do? Have we accepted others who are different from us without prejudice? We should accept each other as we are and respect one another. If not, we should sincerely repent and humbly ask for God's forgiveness and mercy. Let's not repeat the same mistakes over and over. If there are matters we need to change, eliminate or take down, let's act immediately and resolutely.

And, I emphasize to keep the good, healthy Relationships with God and with each other. No doubt that we all are busy, but we should intentionally carve out our time to read the Scriptures and converse with God through prayers and meditations. Join the Bible Studies and prayer groups in this fall season. Be more mindful of deepening your faith. When we habitually listen to God's small voice in our daily devotions, we can see the world with different perspectives in God's visions. When we do so, we can also truly accept one another and care for each other. Then, as the Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 16:20, we can truly "greet each other with a holy kiss." I believe that "holy kiss" Paul demanded was

the symbol of a new kind of community where lives are lived in a new kind of relationship, a relationship wherein Christ is all in all.

Be in genuine, Christ-directed relationship with all those around us. We are to respect those who are before us. We are responsible for our actions to these others. We are in relationship to these others. There are, in fact, no “others,” for this is the Body of Christ and we are the gospel incarnate. And, we are one in Christ! I envision our church to be more pro-active in building the Kingdom of God on earth, particularly, in our community, in such a time as this.

As we launch the new season, “May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you!” Amen!

Faithfully in Christ,
Pastor Constance

Mission and Evangelism



The Ronkonkoma Street Fair – Sunday, Sept. 6, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We will be manning a table to encourage members of the community to worship at our church. Anyone who would like to assist in this mission, feel free to show up. Our booth is located outside the Ronkonkoma Historical Society on Hawkins Avenue. There are handouts for us to distribute to the public. This will be an easy outing; all that is needed is a smile and a warm heart.

SAVE THE DATE – October 24, 2015, 5:30 PM

Join your church family for "THE FOUR S's....Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Song". More information to follow. This will be a Free Will Offering event.

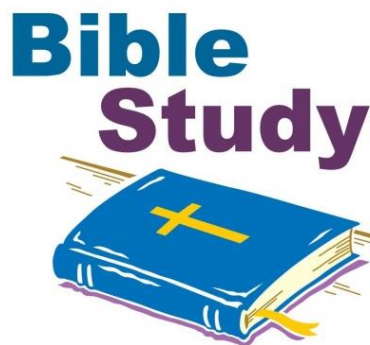
Helen Morley
Chairperson, Mission & Evangelism Committee

Sunday School will begin on
September 6th!!!



Regular Church Office hours
will start on Tuesday, September 8th.

The Office will be open
Monday through Thursday,
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Disciple Bible Study led by Rich Wahl
will return on Thursday, September 10th
at 7:30 p.m. This course will meet for
13 weeks. Be sure to mark your
calendars for this well-loved program!

Our Charge Conference date has been announced!
It will be held on Wednesday, October 7th in our Sanctuary.
Please be sure to mark your calendars.

Note to Committee Chairs – Charge Conference Reports will be due in the church office no later than September 17th. Please be sure to include in your report all activities completed as well as your plans to the end of the year. Thank you for your timely reports.



**United
Methodist
Church**

of
Lake Ronkonkoma

**792 Hawkins Ave,
Lake Grove, NY
(Five Corners)**

**6th
Annual**

Grand Fall Auction

September 12, 2015

12:00 noon

Viewing begins at 11:00

Rain or Shine



Hundreds of exciting and diverse offerings!

View the up-to-date catalog at: www.UMCLR.com

"FAITH SHARING GROUP"

Hebrews 11:1 (CEB) *Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see.*

Is anyone interested in a group where we share what God is doing in our lives on a daily basis? Where we look for God in all the everyday routines? We know God is there, but often don't stop to actually recognize His presence.

When we share our faith, we inspire others and grow on our own spiritual path. We encourage and support one another on the journey. In community, sharing our faith is an important part of who we are.

This would be a confidential group where we would use prayer, Scripture, material from our wisdom leaders past and present, and our own sharing (as you feel called to do).

My thought was to meet around 11-12:30 am. The day could be flexible but I was thinking of Tuesdays.

If you have any interest, please contact me at 585-3111 or talk to me on a Sunday. I will have a sign-up sheet available soon.

Marilyn Becht
Chairperson, Nurture Committee
Certified Spiritual Director



*The Youth Choirs will begin practice on
Wednesday, September 9th!*

*Wesley Choir (6th – 12th grade) at 5:30 p.m.
Chapel Choir (K – 5th grade) at 6:30 p.m.*

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION AND REMINDERS:

1. 1st year confirmation registration/health form, transportation release form and payment for confirmation is due by: Aug. 12th.
2. Confirmation Orientation is: Wed. Sept. 9th, 7:30 pm.
3. First confirmation class is: Wed. Sept. 16th, 7:30 pm.

CONFIRMATION TEACHERS' MEETING IS
SCHEDULED FOR: Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, at: 7:00
pm, in the church library.

*******CONCERT*****SAVE THE DATE!!*******

"An Evening with Miles to Dayton"

Come experience their beautiful harmonious music in our Sanctuary on Friday, October 16th at 7:30 p.m. Band members consist of Jon and Krista Preddice, Leanne Preddice Strom, Alisa Preddice Rabbitt, Dave March and Brian Kroll. Tickets will be on sale in advance (\$15) and at the door. Bring your friends and family for a wonderful night.



Baptisms



Aliyah Grace Duong – July 12, 2015



Emily Vi Teuschler – July 19, 2015



Scarlett Anne Cartier – August 9, 2015



*Happy 80th Birthday
to
Barbara Meyers!*



The United Methodist Women have a very busy schedule for the fall planned. We hope you can join in the fun.

On October 10, the UMW will be holding a yard sale at the home of Eileen Torraca, 206 Holbrook Road, Holbrook. We will have many collectible items, including dolls, prints, tabletop, vintage linens, china and porcelain items, and Easter, Christmas, Halloween and Fall decorations. Too many items to describe -- something for everyone. We welcome donations of your own items that are yard sale worthy. Please bring them to Eileen's home the morning of the event.

We are also attending a half-day retreat on November 21, at 9:30-12:30 at the Congregational Church of Patchogue, sponsored by the PRC. Maybe this will help to keep us all focused as we travel through a season heavy with distractions of all sorts. We will most likely car pool from the church, and return to a lunch. A spiritual kick-off to the holiday season. The event is described below:

Waiting for Light: An Advent Retreat

November 21, 2015, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

The Congregational Church of Patchogue

Leader: Debbie Kolacki

In Isaiah 9:2 we read that "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." During the season of Advent we wait for that light to come into our own lives. Join us for a morning retreat as we prepare our hearts to receive the light of Christ through prayer, music, art, and other spiritual practices. We will also learn how to create our own sacred space at home as we wait in hope for God's light.

There is no charge for this event but we do ask that you register by November 19 so that we may have adequate supplies on hand. A free will offering will be taken.

Please let me know if you are interested in attending. (phone # 656-9678)

Our next meeting will be on September 14 at 7 in Hertlin Hall. Pastor Pak will provide a program regarding her trip to Eastern Europe. Please come and join the fellowship. Refreshments will be served!

Catherine Carlson
UMW President

September Stewardship

Coming in September, personal witness from 4 of your sisters and brothers in Christ.

Be here to hear Chris Davieds, Natasha Fleuriant, Bill Morris and Leanne Strom offer their personal witness.
September 13, 20 and 27

Are You Living up to your promise to uphold the Church?

PRAYERS - Are you able to pray for those on our prayer list, for your family, for God's will in your life?

PRESENCE - Are you able to be a representative of Jesus Christ to others through your words and actions?

GIFTS - Are you able to share your Gifts, including your talents, and your tithes and offerings?

SERVICE - Are you able to serve others in your community or through your Church?

WITNESS - Are you able to witness to others about your faith and your belief?

Prayers - Set a time each day to Pray. Use the prayer request sheet as a guide and pray for those individuals and organizations scheduled to meet this week.

Presence - Be a Christian presence for others through your actions and words at home, at work and in your neighborhood.

Gifts - Increase your giving to help fund programs and missions at the Church.

Service - Offer your talents to your Church to teach, greet, serve on a committee or serve in some other capacity to love others as yourself.

Witness - Opportunities exist for you to provide your personal witness to our congregation through the Good News, through speaking during service, or in other ways.

For more information about any of these please contact the Church office at 588-5856 or Warren Ferry at 631-875-5204.

ALL BBQ-MASTERS AND THEIR COWPOKES
HAD A WONDERFUL TIME AT THE
BBQ COOK-OFF ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH!!!



A big "Thank You!" to our judges: Wes Sprague, Eileen Torraca and Jean McNeill.
And special "Thanks!" to our coordinator, Catherine Carlson!



"Congratulations" to our winners!

BBQ: Doreen Forte

Sides: Catherine Carlson

Dessert: Laura Delaosa

Thank you to Laura & Joel Delaosa for cleaning up and weeding the front flower bed for the BBQ occasion! The entrance looks lovely!

Financial "Notes"

A Request & An Opportunity



THE REQUEST: Now that vacation time is once again interfering with our regular attendance at the Lake Ronkonkoma UMC, we strongly urge you to attend services wherever you may be and to remember your "home church" by filling your stewardship envelopes and sending them to the church office or setting them aside to bring in and "catch-up" when you and your family are back. Summer is a hard time for the church financially and we really need everyone to help by continuing to give what they can.

THE OPPORTUNITY: The Finance Committee is looking for help. Starting in September, we will need a "Recorder" to keep track of each member's contributions during the year [for Income Tax Records]. This is a great opportunity for someone to "get their feet wet". We would love to see someone "new" get involved on a path to greater servanthood.

The job simply consists of recording the amounts on the envelopes each week [usually about 60] onto the same numbered pages. I'm told that it takes less than an hour. It can be done once a week or even once a month. For more information, talk to Ron or Angel.



Yours in Christ,
Ray Becht
Finance Chairperson



**THE UMM WILL HAVE A BREAKFAST MEETING ON
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH AT 8:00 A.M. AT THE CHURCH.
ALL MEN ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**



BEAUTY IS ALL AROUND US!

(THANK YOU TO WARREN FERRY FOR SHARING THIS LOVELY PHOTO.)

MARTHA'S PLACE THRIFT SHOP



SEPTEMBER IS ALREADY HERE! WE HAVE BEEN BUSY OPENING BOXES OF CLOTHES THAT ARE FULL OF AUTUMN AND WINTER CLOTHING. BUT IT IS HARD TO HANG UP THE REAL HEAVY CLOTHING WHEN IT IS 90 DEGREES OUTSIDE, SO WE HAVE BEEN SELECTIVELY HANGING THE IN-BETWEEN CLOTHING INSTEAD, AT PRESENT. WE'LL GET TO THE HEAVIER ITEMS IN MID-SEPTEMBER.

THIS HAS BEEN A TOUGH FEW MONTHS WITH PEOPLE ON VACATIONS AND ONE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEER WHO CAN'T WORK WITH US ANY LONGER. MILLIE IS ALREADY MISSED GREATLY AND WE WISH HER LOVE AND SUPPORT WHILE SHE BATTLES HER ILLNESS!!!!

BECAUSE MILLIE WORKED AT THE DESK FRIDAYS WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED FOR 1 OR 2 VOLUNTEERS TO SHARE THE FRIDAYS. PLEASE SEARCH YOUR HEARTS TO HELP THE SHOP CONTINUE WITH FEWER VOLUNTEERS.

OUR HOURS ARE: MONDAY, TUESDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY FROM 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR YOUR THRIFT SHOP. WE ARE EVER GRATEFUL FOR ALL YOUR DONATIONS OVER THE YEARS.

Yours in Christ,
Marilee Drisgula and all volunteers





**Be sure to mark your calendars for our
Pumpkin Delivery Day
on Saturday, October 3rd at 9:00 AM.**

*Parish Resource Center
of Long Island
1985 - 2015
Happy 30th
Anniversary*



**PRC
Practical Resources
for Churches
2015 →
Toward the future
& moving!**

New Name - New Locations - Same Great Service
consultants - webinars - workshops - resources



PRC – Commack
In the Presbytery of Long Island building
42 Hauppauge Rd., Commack NY 11725
Walk in the main door; turn to the left.
631-486-4350

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs,
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Summer hours June, July & August
Closing is at 3:00 pm.



PRC – Patchogue
In the Congregational Church of Patchogue
95 East Main Street, Patchogue, NY 11772
Parking lot off Oak Street behind the church
631-821-2255

Wed & Thurs, **Friday & Saturday**
10:00 am - 5:00 pm 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Summer hours June, July & August
Closing is at 3:00 pm.



Join us for ~~Game~~ *Game* Night on
Friday, September 18th at 7:00 p.m.
Bring your favorite game or
play one brought by others.
All adults are welcome to attend.



Be sure to like us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/UMCLR

September 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 588-5856 and we will gladly add your name.

- 1 Kyle Pearl
- 6 Christopher Otto
- 7 Lori Siebert
- 11 Matthew Brady
- 13 Andrew Sinclair
- 14 Max Carroll
- 17 Chip Almonaitis
- 17 Melissa Lipani
- 19 Mike McElhone
- 22 Paul Smith
- 24 Mildred Falce
- 24 Bruce Smith
- 29 Patrick Napolitano

a reminder:



Articles for the
October Good News
are due in the church office
no later than September 15th.



CONNECTING THE CHURCH IN MISSION

July 1, 2015

General Board of Global Ministries
Conf-Dist-Donor: 3417500003630
175 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115
212-870-3600 • umcmmission.org

Lake Ronkonkoma
United Methodist Church
792 Hawkins Ave
Lake Grove, NY 11755

Dear Friends in Mission:

Thank you for your gift received on 06/09/15 of \$1,000.00 to the Imagine No Malaria campaign through The Advance, the designated mission giving channel of The United Methodist Church. We are pleased to share that **100 percent** of your contribution will go towards eliminating one of the world's most deadly diseases. Giving through The Advance enables United Methodists to support one another in mission and ministry around the world. Thank you for partnering with us in God's mission.

Through gifts like yours, Imagine No Malaria has already distributed 1.2 million insecticide-treated bed nets throughout Africa. We have also trained more than 5,400 community health workers to personally deliver mosquito nets and measure usage rates. Today, because of the dedicated and generous support of people like you, **malaria's impact has been cut in half!**

Your gift supports the work of the United Methodist Church and our many partners including The Global Fund to Fight AIDS; Tuberculosis and Malaria; The United Nations Foundation; the International Federation of the Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies, Nets for Life©, and United Methodist central conferences across Africa.

Please visit www.imagenomalaria.org to learn more about how your support is making an impact with a full range of interventions to combat malaria. If you have questions about your gift, please feel free to contact the Gift Processing Unit at 212-870-3611.

May God grant you a sense of hope and joy as you continue your support for mission and as we advance towards a day with no malaria.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roland Fernandes".

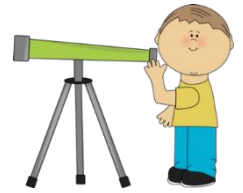
Roland Fernandes
General Treasurer
General Board of Global Ministries

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Miller".

Emily Miller
Associate General Secretary
Communications and Development
General Board of Global Ministries

Please retain this letter as your receipt. In compliance with IRS regulations, no goods or services were provided by the General Board of Global Ministries in consideration of your contribution. PRLS2-32

Looking Ahead to Coming Events...



October 3	Pumpkin Delivery Day	9:00 AM
October 7	Charge Conference	8:00 PM
October 10	UMW Tag Sale at Eileen Torraca's	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
October 16	Miles to Dayton Concert	7:30 PM
October 18	Laity Sunday	10:00 AM
October 21	Confirmation Covenant Service	7:30 PM
Oct. 23 – 25	Youth Retreat at Quinipet	
October 24	Soup, Salad & Song Dinner	5:00 PM
November 7	Sauerbraten Dinner	6:00 PM
November 14	Youth Alive 2015	6:30 PM @ Farmingdale UMC
November 20	Game Night	7:00 PM
November 21	Waiting for Light Advent Retreat at Congregational Church of Patchogue	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
November 22	Thanksgiving Sunday, Youth Sunday Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Dedication	10:00 AM
November 24	Pre-Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at St. Mary's Church	7:30 PM
December 4	UMW Christmas Party (Location TBA)	6:00 PM
December 5	LI Flute Club Holiday Concert	3:00 PM
December 13	Christmas Cantata UMW Christmas Cookie & Gift Sale Blue Christmas Service	10:00 AM 4:00 PM
December 16	Christmas Caroling	
December 18	Game Night	7:30 PM
December 20	Christmas Pageant	10:00 AM

~ September 2015 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 5 AA 7 & 8:30 Trustees 7:30 Emmaus 7:30	2 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Club 12 Confirmation Teachers Meeting 7:00	3 Soup Kitchen 5	4 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Quilting 1:30 AA 9	5 Thrift Shop 10 – 2
6 Sunday School Begins Ronkonkoma Street Fair 11 AM – 6 PM	7 Labor Day Church Office Closed Thrift Shop Closed NA 7	8 Regular Church Office Hours Begin (9 AM – 2 PM) Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 5 AA 7 & 8:30	9 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Club 12 Wesley Choir 5:30 Jr. & Sr. MYF 6:15 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation Orientation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	10 Day Disciple Group 1 PM Soup Kitchen 5 Daisies 6:15 Disciple Bible Study 7:30	11 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Quilting 1:30 AA 9	12 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Grand Fall Auction – Viewing 11 AM, Bidding at Noon
13 Stewardship Sunday #1	14 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Art Club 2 – 3:30 NA 7 UMW 7	15 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 5 AA 7 & 8:30 Finance 7:30	16 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Club 12 Wesley Choir 5:30 Jr. & Sr. MYF 6:15 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation Begins 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	17 Soup Kitchen 5 Daisies 6:15 Disciple Bible Study 7:30 Nomination Committee	18 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Quilting 1:30 Game Night 7 AA 9	19 Thrift Shop 10 – 2
20 Stewardship Sunday #2 Baptism Sunday	21 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Art Club 2 – 3:30 NA 7	22 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 5 Mommy & Me Music 6 Daisies AA 7 & 8:30 Church Council 7:30	23 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Club 12 Wesley Choir 5:30 Jr. & Sr. MYF 6:15 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30	24 Soup Kitchen 5 Daisies 6:15 Disciple Bible Study 7:30	25 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Quilting 1:30 COPE 7 AA 9	26 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Nursery School Anniversary
27 Stewardship Sunday #3 UMM Breakfast 8 AM	28 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Art Club 2 – 3:30 NA 7 Vision Committee 7	29 Thrift Shop 10 – 2 Soup Kitchen 5 Mommy & Me Music 6 Daisies AA 7 & 8:30	30 Morning Prayer 7 AM Craft Club 12 Wesley Choir 5:30 Jr. & Sr. MYF 6:15 Chapel Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Chancel Choir 7:30			