

January 2024

Printed Color Copy: \$2.00 Donation

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

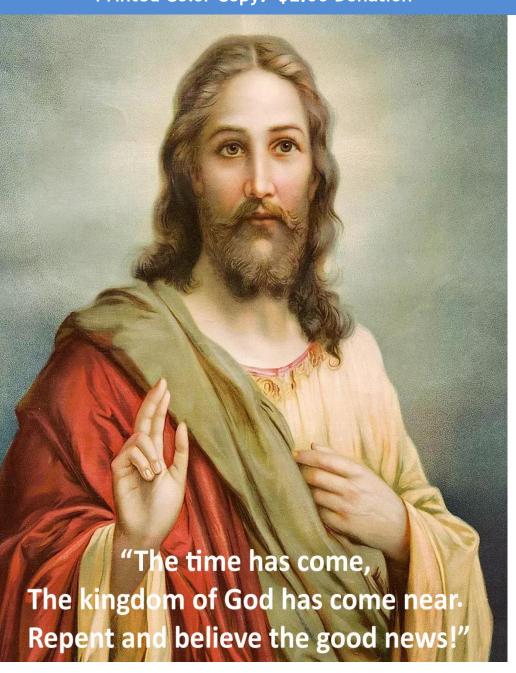
Rev. Karen A. Burger, Pastor

Filomena Thomas, Nursery School Director

Abby Preziosi, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Rex Enderlin, Choir Director

Heather Edwards-Wilson, Youth Choir Director & Organist



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.



Dear Members and Friends of UMC of Lake Ronkonkoma, It's January, and that means a time of newness for our church. We begin 2024 together with hope that our community can make a difference for one another and those around us. Embrace this new beginning with us and join in the ministries with us! We are Christ's servants together!

Just as we turn a page on the calendar, the world needs a fresh start! The world needs a new beginning. Imagine how differently things would unfold if the world practiced forgiveness and let go of longstanding hurts, prejudices, and malice based on past wrongs. Imagine how differently things would unfold if grace and mercy were the operating principles between nations and groups of people. Imagine if the bond of our shared humanity were stronger than the bonds between people of each individual nation or group. Imagine how differently our money, time and energy could be spent in the world if we practiced more of the spiritual principles we utilize in our individual lives in international relations? Imagine what cooperation and care could do and how our resources, both human and non-human, could be spent in such a world?

Friends, I pray for that every day. I pray that we might see every situation in our own lives and in our national and international lives with fresh eyes. I pray that we might not get stuck in seeing things only from one perspective, but through dialogue, keep seeing more and more of the picture of reality in each moment, something we best perceive in community, not alone. May we never close our eyes except in rest and prayer!

May God give you and your loved ones a fresh start in 2024 and may God wrap loving arms around the world! I ask in Jesus' Name. Amen!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Karen Burger

Lections

January 7
Epiphany Sunday
Baptism of the Lord

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

January 14 2nd Sunday after The Epiphany

1 Sam 3:1-10 (11-20)
Ps 139:1-6, 13-18
(UMH 854)
1 Cor 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

January 21 3rd Sunday after The Epiphany

Jon 3:1-5, 10 Ps 62:5-12 (UMH 787) 1 Cor 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

> January 28 4th Sunday after <u>The Epiphany</u>

> Deut 18:15-20 PS 111 (UMH 832) 1 Cor 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28



Ongoing Missions:

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 -7:30 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.







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





G O O D

T I M E S



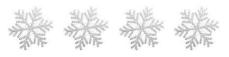


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These names are offered each month. It is an opportunity to extend to our friends and loved ones the love of Christ on these special days, and to express our thanks for the gift of their presence in our midst.

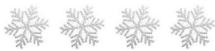
If you would like to be on our birthday list, please call the church office at (631) 588-5856 and we will gladly add your name.

- 1 Rex Enderlin
- 1 Bill Otto
- 2 Barbara Colucci
- 3 Harry Roseen
- 5 April Paul
- 7 Joyce McVeigh
- 8 Marilee Drisgula
- 9 Ralph Pearl
- 14 Diane June
- 15 Tracy Pearl
- 20 Marilyn Wilson
- 22 John Paynter
- 22 Amanda Graf
- 23 Jennie Olivotti
- 24 Ilona Torraca
- **26 Christine Paynter**
- 26 Bill Paul
- 26 Richard Schoenemann
- 31 Jarrel Guerrero



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







Greetings from the Education Work Area,

Wishing all a Happy New Year! It is a time filled with reflection and resolution. As we reflect on the Christmas season and celebrate the story of the wise men bearing gifts let us be filled with gratitude and resolve to bear our gifts to the Lord.

We are proud of our children who presented a wonderful Christmas pageant during our worship service on December 17. Thank you to our amazing choir director, Heather Edwards-Wilson for putting it all together!

We are proud of our Youth Group for their adopt a family project. Thank you Wendy Duffy and Jennie Olivotti for teaching our youth to reach out to others less fortunate.

Our Confirmation Class is growing. We are focusing on Sunday attendance in church on the first of the month and in Sunday School the other Sundays. We are grateful that Diane Hansen has been able to join the Sunday class with Alyssa Schoenemann. It is important that our Confirmands join together and Sunday morning is the best time for this at this point. Youth Group and class on Wednesday evening also affords them this opportunity. The class is also busy fulfilling their service commitments. It is our hope that they will have a meaningful experience that helps them begin their lifelong journey in faith.

We are grateful to have the opportunity to teach our children and youth and provide programs that encourage them to serve the Lord in a variety of ways.

Wishing all in our church family a blessed and Happy New Year!

Sue Preddice Education Chair



Youth in 6th – 12th Grades Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:30

(Twice per month)

Meeting dates:

2024

January 10th and 24th
February 7th and 28th
March 6th and 20th
April 3rd and 17th
May 8th and 22nd
June 5th

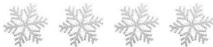
Advisors: Wendy Duffy and Jennie Olivotti

Please note!!!

The Office Hours have changed; the new hours are 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

R





G O O D





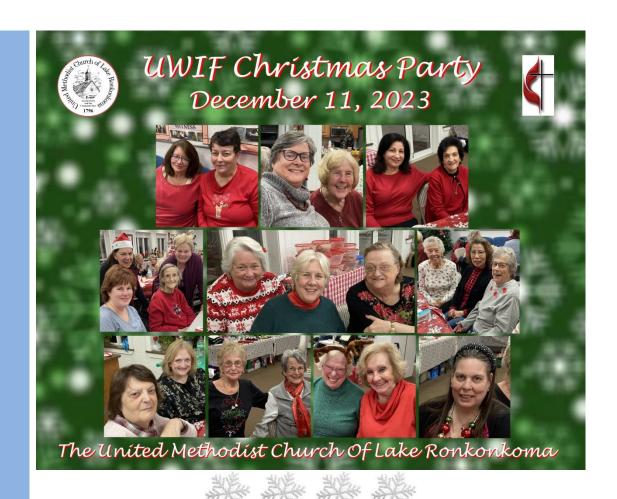
N E W S







P A R T Y



T I M E



G O O



N E W S



CHURCH



F A M I L Y





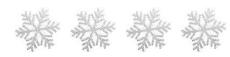




The United Methodist Men enjoyed a very tasty Christmas dinner meeting at Uncle Joe's in Lake Grove. Much fellowship and camaraderie was shared with stories abounding. We are ready for what God has in store for our group in 2024 and wish all a happy and healthy New Year.

BTW, If anyone is in need of a notary, I am one and would be happy to help our congregation.

Dennis Subbiondo President UMM

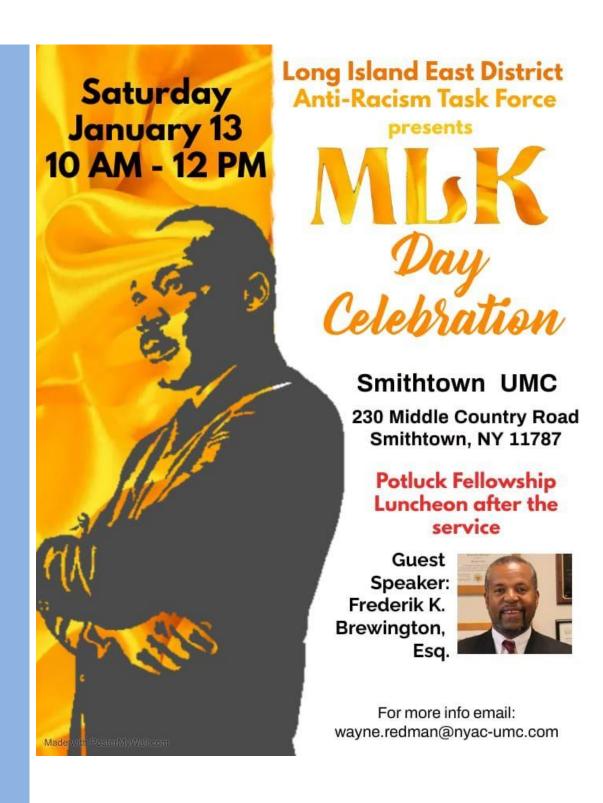


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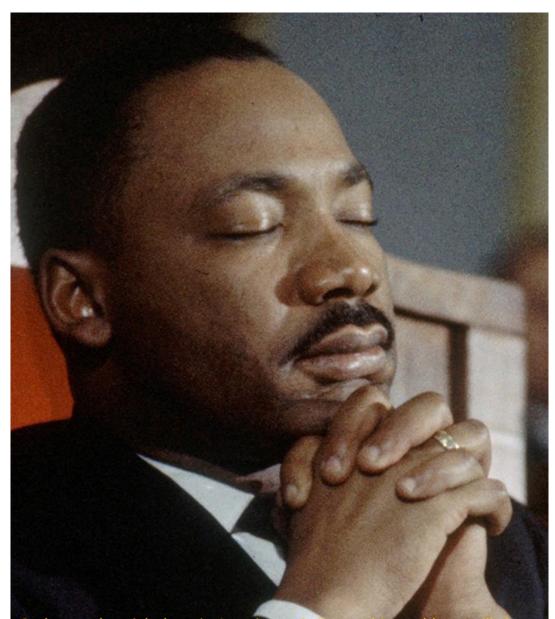
U



"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

 Martin Luther King Jr., A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches

M L K



God grant that right here in America and all his world, we w the high way; a way in which men will live together as brothers. which the nations of the world will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. A way in which every man will respect the dignity and worth of all human persons. A way in which every nation will allow justice to run down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream. A way in which men will do justly, love mercy and walk hun bly with God. A way in which men will be able to stand up, and in the midst of oppression, in the midst of darkness and agony, they will be able to stand there and love their enemies, bless those persons who curse them, pray for those individuals that spitefully use then. And this is the way they will bring us once more into that society which we think of as the brotherhood of man. This will be the day when white people, colored people, whether they are brown or whether they are yellow or whether they are black, will join together and stretch out their arms and be able to cry out: "Free at last. Free at last. Great God almighty, we are free at last."





Medical Screening Saves Lives



Medical tests are not just for diagnosing disorders once symptoms appear. Medical tests are used to screen for disorders before symptoms appear. This leads to an early diagnosis and contributes to an improved, better outcome which leads to healthier and longer life span.

Comparing screening laboratory tests, such as, Complete Blood work from year to year will help identify changes in your bodies function. Many of these changes can be addressed early with satisfactory results.

Depending on your age, your doctor will yearly schedule a physical examination, routine Blood and Urine tests, Skin Evaluation, Body Mass Index, Blood Pressure Screening, Cardiac Evaluation, Eye Examinations, review of your Immunizations, Screening for Depression, and Sexually transmitted Diseases.

Other Screenings, such as, Colonoscopies, PSA for prostate cancer and Mammograms and PAP Smears for women are a regular part of preventative health care and are covered by insurance. While the list sounds long it is not difficult.

I have the appropriate screenings each Fall when I receive my Flu Vaccine and now my Covid Booster. I had been lucky with essentially normal results. This past October 2023, my yearly mammogram identified a mass in my right breast. A biopsy and pathology study identified an Invasive Ductal Cancer. The mass was 4mm, which is very tiny and not palpable. Because of my routine annual breast mammogram screening I had a lumpectomy (cancer mass removal). I will need some radiation and possibly hormonal treatment all of which are highly effective in preventing a reoccurrence. My Screening (Mammogram) allowed an early detection of the Cancer and definitely saved my life from a dangerous cancer.

If you are hesitant about being screened, remember that whatever is changing in your body is progressing......you are just not aware. So please take a deep breath and make an appointment with your Physician to see how you are doing in the health area. Your family and friends will be glad that you are taking care of your health.

Helen Morley

History Comes Alive At The United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma



Reverend Howard J. Clinebell Jr. was born June 3, 1922, in Springfield, Illinois. The minister, counselor, educator, and author served Lake Ronkonkoma as Pastor from 1947-1950. Rev. Clinebell was a leading figure in the pastoral counseling movement that began in the 1960s. He graduated from the Garrett Theological Seminary in 1947 where he became interested in mental health; which led him to study psychotherapy.

Clinebell and his wife Charlotte arrived in Lake Ronkonkoma by train on Saturday December 6, 1947, and preached his first service the next day and found the congregation to be very responsive and reassuring.

Rev. Clinebell was still a student at Union Divinity School and only came to Lake Ronkonkoma on weekends. In December 1947, a snowstorm put down 27 inches of snow. He left Manhattan by train and arrived in Lake Ronkonkoma 7 hours later. With no ride available Clinebell walked from the LIRR station to the Parsonage. The next day he preached to a congregation of 7 people.

Rev. Clinebell did not have a car so when he visited peoples homes he rode his bicycle. Members of the congregation raised \$1,200 and bought the pastor a car. In the years of his service, he put more than 33,000 miles on the automobile.

To revitalize the youth of the church, Rev. Clinebell offered to hold a square dance in the Parish Hall. While living in Illinois, Clinebell worked part time as a square dance caller while his future wife played the piano. The Official Board agreed to allow the Square Dance if it was "properly supervised."

In May 1951, the Clinebells were reassigned to the Woodhaven Methodist Church.

Reverend Clinebell returned to Ronkonkoma for the Consecration Service on April 24, 1955, and read the Responsive Psalm. He also returned in 1956 for the 160th Anniversary service where he was the main speaker.

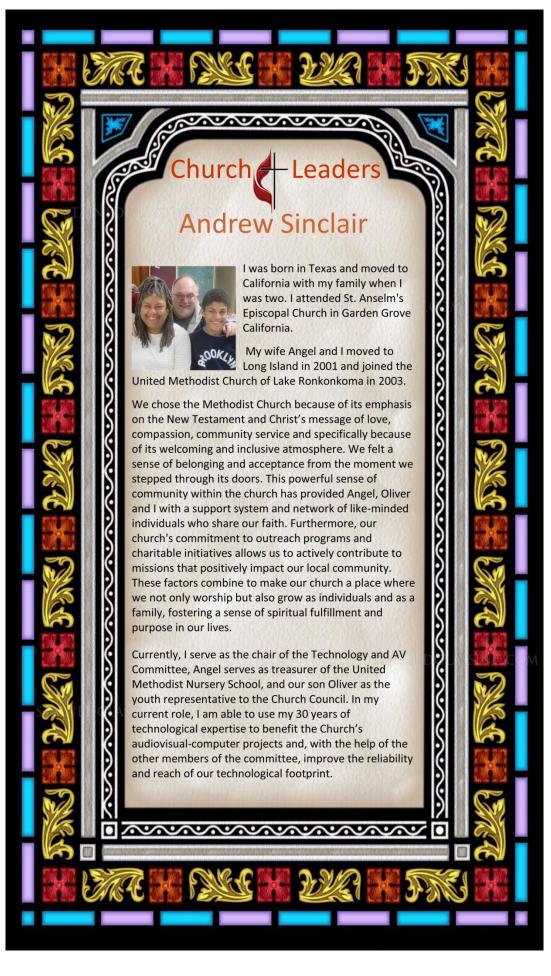
Clinebell moved to Pasadena, California, in 1957 to work as a counselor and minister. Among Clinebell's writings are Understanding and Counseling the Alcoholic through Religion and Psychology, Basic Types of Pastoral Counseling (1966; expanded edition titled Basic Types of Pastoral Care and Counseling, 1984), and Counseling for Spiritually Empowered Wholeness: A Hope-centered Approach (1995).

Clinebell died of complications from Parkinson's disease April 13, 2005, in Santa



Samuel Quiz

- 1. What was the name of Samuel's mother?
 - a. Hagar b. Dinah c. Hannah d. Elizabeth
- 2. When God spoke to Samuel for the first time, what did He tell him?
 - a. That Eli's wife would die b. That Eli would die
 - c. That Eli's sons would die
- 3. How did all of Israel know that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord?
 - a. Eli the priest announced it to the people
 - b. The Lord let none of his words fall to the ground
- 4. In the days of Samuel the prophet, what nation captured the ark of the covenant?
 - a. Jebusites b. Moabites c Philistines
- 5. What did Samuel offer to the Lord for a burnt offering while he prayed for God to save Israel from the Philistines?
 - a. A yoke of oxen b. His only son
 - c. A sucking calf d. A sucking lamb
- 6. What did Samuel do when the people had asked him to give them a king?
 - a. He prayed to the Lord b. He spoke to a priest
 - c. He traveled to Gilgal
- 7. When Samuel had poured the oil on Saul's head to anoint him, what else did he do?
 - a. Prayed for him **b.** Tugged his beard **c.** Kissed him
- 8. How long did Samuel judge Israel?
 - a. All the days of his life b. 40 years c. 30 years d. 20 years
- 9. When Samuel died, where was he buried?
 - a. In the desert near Bethel b. under an oak tree
 - c. In his house at Ramah.
- 10. After Samuel died, how did Saul contact him?
 - a. Prayed to him b. Went to a witch c. Went into a trance
 - 1. c, 2. c, 3. b, 4. c, 5. d, 6. a, 7. c, 8. a, 9. c, 10. b





T H E



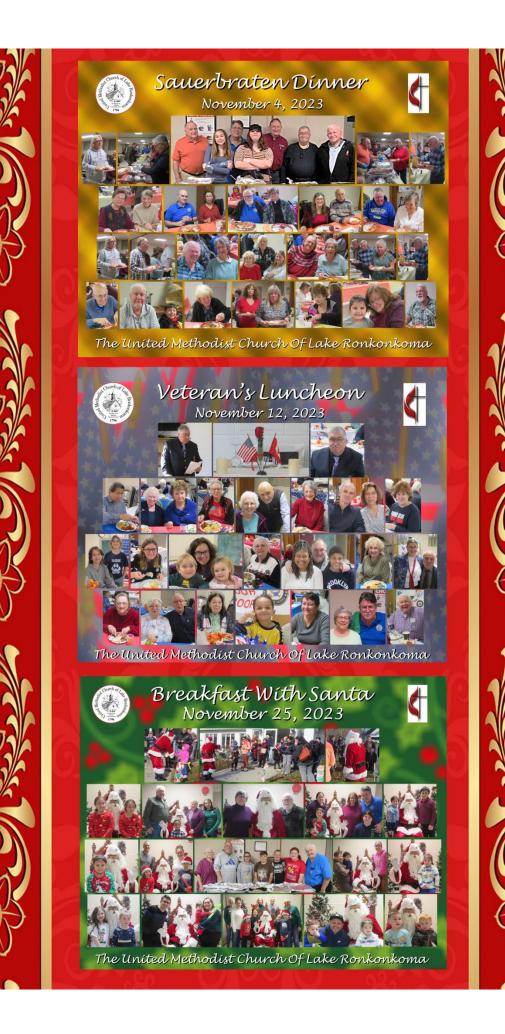
Y E A R











M A R K Y O U R

CALENDAR



Sponsored by: The Missions, Evangelization & Nurture Committee









UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

January and February -- no meetings planned at this time.....

March 11 – meeting

May 20 – Tessa's Tea Party

June 10 – Potluck dinner planning party (maybe)

SPRING RETREAT WILL BE APRIL 26, 27, 28!!!!

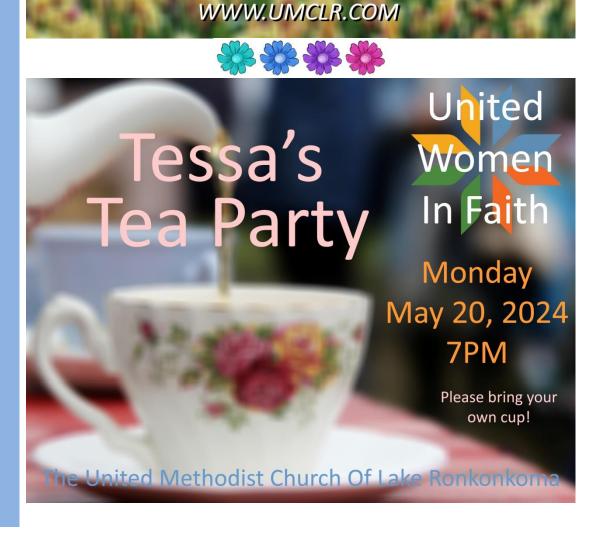
Please turn in a \$75 deposit now to save your spot for a weekend on Shelter Island - Camp Quinipet.

Thanks,

Tessa Tom and Barb C.



Spring Festival & Flower Sale United Methodist Church Of Lake Ronkonkoma "5 Corners" 792 Hawkins Avenue, Lake Grove, NY Saturday, May 11, 2024 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Rain Date May 18, 2024) Food - Flowers - Vendors - Fun For More Information & Flower Order Form Visit













A C T



19 While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples 2 and asked them,

"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered,

"No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." 3 So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied.

4 Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." 5 On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

7 There were about twelve men in all.

Acts 19: 1-7

M A R



4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. 6 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." 9 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

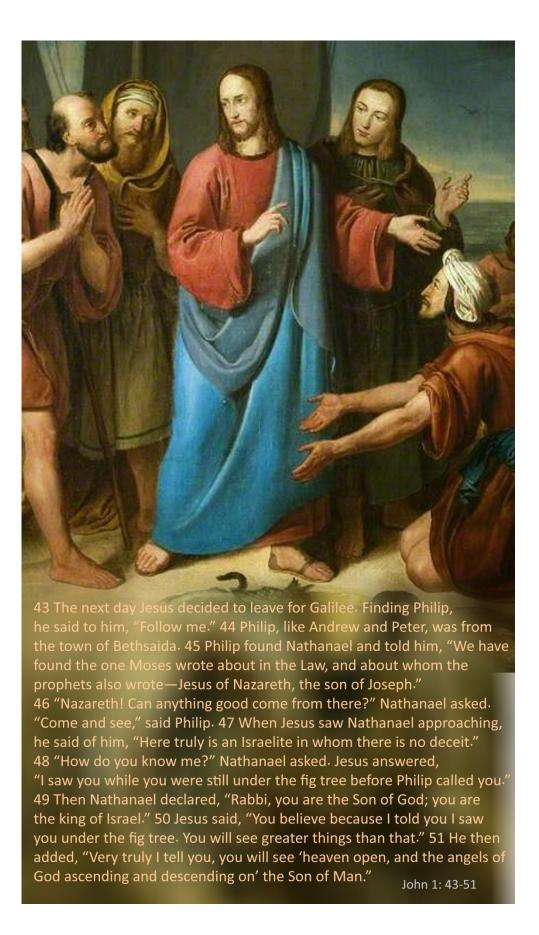
Mark 1: 4-11

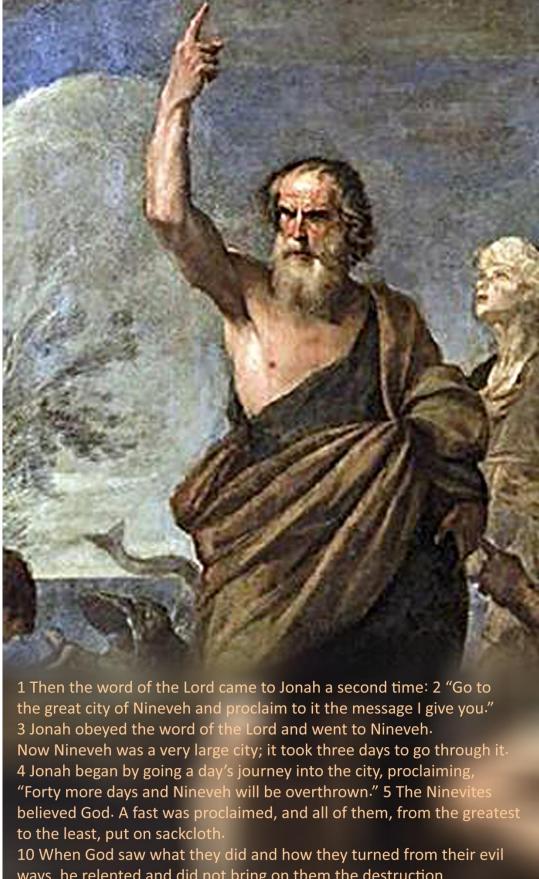
S A M



1 The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days y visions. 2 One night the word of the Lord was rare; there were not Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he ould barely see, was lying down in his usual place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, ng down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of and Samuel was lying God was: 4 Then the Lord called Samuel Samuel answered, "Here I am." 5 And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, went and lay down. 6 Again "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got u and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 8 A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. 9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 1 Samuel 3: 1-9

J O H N

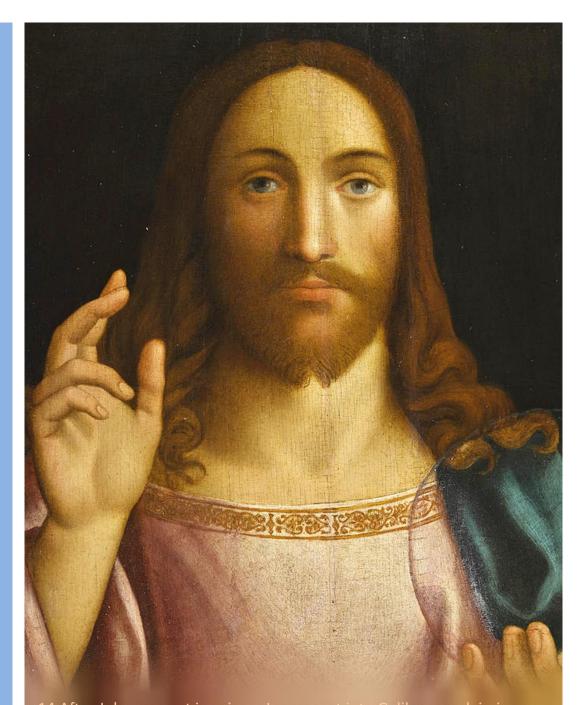




ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

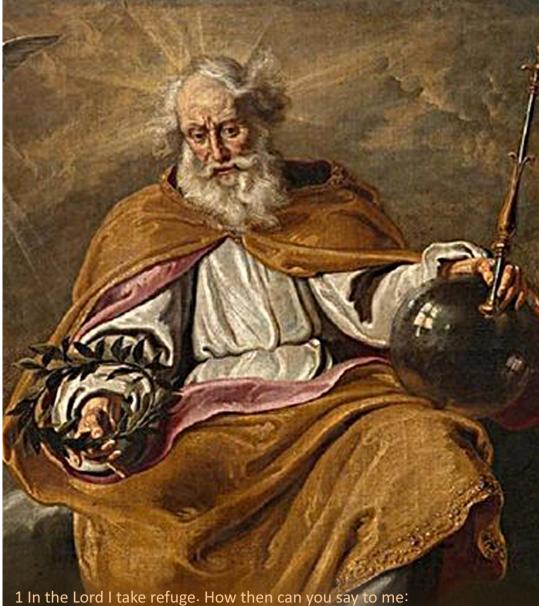
Jonah 3: 1-5 & 10

M A R K



14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" 16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." 18 At once they left their nets and followed him. 19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Mark 1: 14-20



"Flee like a bird to your mountain.

2 For look, the wicked bend their bows;

they set their arrows against the strings to shoot from the shadows at the upright in heart.

3 When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

4 The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord is on his heavenly throne. He observes everyone on earth;

his eyes examine them.

5 The Lord examines the righteous, but the wicked, those who love violence, he hates with a passion.

6 On the wicked he will rain fiery coals and burning sulfur; a scorching wind will be their lot.

7 For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice; the upright will see his face.

Psalm 11

M A R K



21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. 23 Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, 24 "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" 25 "Be quiet!" said Jesus. "Come out of him!" 26 The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. 27 The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." 28 News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.





Epiphany

Three Kings Day

1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." 3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." 9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2: 1-12

224

Prayer For The Future

Dear Heavenly Father,
As we face the unknown of the future,
we are comforted knowing You guide our
path. Bestow upon us wisdom for the
challenges ahead and strengthen our
bonds of family and faith.

We pray for global unity, and leaders who act with compassion. Protect our loved ones and rekindle the church's passion for the Gospel.

Amidst life's uncertainties, our hope remains steadfast in You. As we journey into tomorrow, we trust in Your divine plan.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Church Office (631) 588-5856 Church FAX (631) 588-0753 Nursery School (631) 467-9601 Martha's Place Thrift Shop (631) 981-9749 (631) 585-4968 Parsonage Church Email abby@umdr.com Church Website umdr.com

Resident Bishop Rev. Thomas Bickerton

Rev. Julia Yeon-Hee Yim District Superintendent

Pastor Rev. Karen A. Burger

CHURCH STAFF:

Administrative Assistant Abby Preziosi Nursery School Director Filomena Thomas Chancel Choir Director Rex Enderlin Organist

Children's Choir Director

Church Council

Staff Parish Pastor Relations Lay Leader

Lay Members to Conference

Heather Edwards-Wilson Heather Edwards-Wilson

Sue Campbell Liza Wright Marilee Drisgula Angelique Sinclair

Michael Zukowski

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Education Sunday School Superintendent

Youth Coordinator Missions, Evangelism & Nurture Martha's Place Thrift Shop UMM Representative UWF Representative Church Historian

Comm. & Tech. Disaster Prep. & Response Keith Bowes Sharon Millard Janet Baumann William Otto Angelique Sinclair

Bernice Waleski Warren Ferry (Needed) (Needed) Sue Preddice Sharon Corvaia Wendy Duffy Soon Bowes Marilee Drisgula Dennis Subbiondo Barbara Colucci Walter Schroeder

Andrew Sinclair

Warren Ferry

Lake Grove, NY 11755 792 Hawkins Avenue of Lake Ronkonkoma The United Methodist Church