

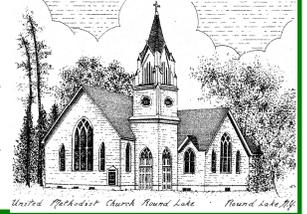
March

2015

CELEBRATING 121 YEARS



THE TORCH



United Methodist Church Round Lake Round Lake, Ill.

Upper New York
Annual Conference

ROUND LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DEDICATED 1894

(518) 899-2263

**Special Interest
Articles:**

- Pastoral Ponderings...
- Administrative Council...
- OOPs in Bulletins...
- Mission Note...

**Open Minds,
Open Hearts,
Open Doors.**

**Individual
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Pastoral Ponderings...

by Pastor Penny Lacy



Because of the need to meet submission deadlines to the Torch, I am writing this while it is still February. I would imagine by now, most of us are pretty weary from the snow and cold of Old Man Winter! Today as I drove by the church, I saw John and Jean Halme shoveling out the church and all of its various entrances, what a team! Bundled up and barely visible behind the large snow banks, they worked tirelessly. I am sure they will gladly trade in the snow shovels for garden hoses this summer! **But take heart.....HOPE is in the air**, just seeing the words M-A-R-C-H reminds me of longer days, warmer temperatures, and the sound of melting snow.

We are now celebrating the Lenten Season

of the church, a time of moving forward toward the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all our **HOPE**. As difficult as it can be, we must walk the Lenten trail before we can fully arrive at Easter. The Light of our Lord keeps us focused and hopeful, but it is not without our dedication to prayer, devotion, and worship during this defining season of the Church. May we approach our journey to the cross with the same determination I witnessed on this cold, blustery, day as John and Jean shoveled to keep the church accessible. I would like to share a quote written by Jan Richardson.

From the rending of Ash Wednesday to the resurrection of Easter Sunday, Lent invites us to travel a path that engages all of who we are. Most of all, Lent invites us to know how completely God loves us, and to let go of all that would keep us from recognizing, receiving, and responding to that love.

United Methodist Women (UMW)

by Carol Millington

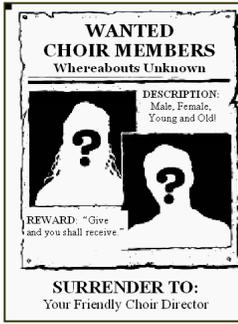
“...he [Jesus] touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him.”

Matthew 8:15

In early years of the women’s mission organizations, the women focused on sending missionaries and helping to change the world. But something happened! Women found that they were being changed. A sisterhood developed between the recipients and givers. The concerns of one became the concerns of others. The boundaries of mission expanded beyond geographical areas to include all areas of life in need of the touch of the Holy Spirit.

February was a wonderful treat for those of us who delivered Valentine Bags to our Shut-Ins. If you were kind enough to deliver one of these bags, you benefited more than the person receiving it. Twenty ladies and gentlemen were overwhelmed to be thought of and visited with. Thanks to all of you who contributed to this mission.

Spring Bags for the children of Cheryl’s Lodge will be delivered in early April. We will be collecting 40 large boxes of cereal for the children to eat for breakfast during spring break. There will be a box in the Tobin Room to hold the cereal boxes due in by March 29. (con’t on next page).....



*We are the Round Lake
United Methodist
Church...
Opening doors,
Opening hearts,
Opening minds!*



**RPI Ballroom
Competition**

RPI will be holding their annual Ballroom Competition on Saturday, March 14th at the Alumni Sports and Recreation Center (known as The Armory). The event is scheduled to start at 8 AM and continue until 5 PM with ballroom, Latin, and fun dances. **Admission is \$5 at the door.** Church members Tom and Tamara Russell will be competing in the Smooth and Standard dances scheduled to run from 8 – 2. The final schedule and more information can be found at the website, <http://ballroom.union.rpi.edu/index.php?page=competition>, or by contacting Tamara at marykaytamara@yahoo.com or 376-4658.

UMW (Con't from pg 1)....

*The children were thrilled with their Spring Bags last year, please consider putting a large box of cereal in your shopping cart for this mission.
UMW is planning a Ladies Spring Tea on April 25th, this will replace our Annual Ladies Dinner. Details will be in the April Torch.
UMW's next meeting will be April 20th. Joyce will be giving devotions, Ruth will be serving a*

delicious dessert and we will have a program about The Quest for Grace Foundation. Kenneth DeCerce will be presenting the program on The Quest for Grace Foundation which is a nonprofit that provides foster children with gently used clothing, equipment and toys, all free of charge. The program will start at 7pm and dessert will follow. Please consider joining us to hear about this caring organization.

Trustees Report...

Trustees are definitely thinking spring when it comes to projects that we are hoping tackle once the ground thaws. The sidewalk at the back of the church is in need of repair. When this is scheduled, we will also be tying in the downspout drain on the east side of the door to the sewer.
An updated "Building Use Policy" has been

by Jean Halme

written for AA groups using our facility. One of the refrigerators downstairs has stopped working. It has now been removed and Trustees are looking for a replacement. The Organ Fund continues to grow with over \$2,000 already donated. The next Trustee meeting will be Wednesday March 4, 2015 at 7pm.

Administrative Council

The monthly Council Meeting was cancelled for February, because of all the snow that came pouncing down on us, covering us with a wondrous white blanket of dimensional snowflakes, no two alike. After all, it is winter, so the Groundhog says!
What's happening? Well two more pipe organs were colored in on the Organ Poster, which means an additional \$500 was added towards our goal. Thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our church in great repair. Another thank you goes out to the individuals who volunteer their time...the multi-task persons, to keep our church running like a fine

Chairperson Joyce Meurs

running machine. They give so much more than you realize. Please consider to be a part of this group...even if it is just a little bit of your time, such as setting up the coffee hour with goodies to share, or to usher when you are called, or a greeter to welcome all who come into the church, or to help Barb on occasion when she can't be running the overhead, or take down the minutes for one of the Ministries, we have one person that does minutes for three Ministries; I'm sure she could use some help. Every little bit helps. Please feel free to contact me at any time at Home: 237-0788 or Cell: 858-8466.

We Sang our Glad Hosannas shared by Phyllis Sommerman

and thus his death assured.
We sang our glad hosannas
and waved our branches high
But some were silent, frowning,
as Jesus rode on by
They sought a royal savior,
but did not understand
A king could rule by loving
instead of by command
We heard an angry Jesus
in Temple courts declare
"Be gone you money changers!
This is a house of prayer!"
Though many came for healing
and stayed to hear his word
Still others, hostile, plotted

and thus his death assured.
We served him at the table
with wine, unleavened bread
"The One who will betray me
now eats with me." He said
His friends would not believe him
but one by one that night
As soldiers came to take him,
they scurried out of sight.
We saw a suffering Jesus
alone, without a friend
And heard the voices shouting
abuse until the end
We wept as we stood watching?
God tell us, tell us why?

Want Calendar details? Check out the interactive version @ RoundLakeUMC.weebly.com
 Want to update or add your event, birthday, anniversary, etc.? See Barbara Gregorek after Sunday Service
 or Email it to RoundLakeUMC@gmail.com Attn: Calendar Event!

Shamrock Maze

With no rainbow in sight, only you can help this little leprechaun find his way to the pot of gold.



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Counters, Readers and Ushers... by Jean Halme

March 1st ~

Usher(s): John Halme
Greeter(s): Duane Colson
Counter(s): T.Reynold/W.Agnew
Reader(s): Katie Madigan

March 8th ~

Usher(s): Mike Cranston
Greeter(s): Meghan Dudley
Counter(s): C.Christopher/J.Halme
Reader(s): Duane Colson

March 15th ~

Usher(s): Carl Millington
Greeter(s): Carol & Carl Millington
Counter(s): C.Christopher/S.Roerig
Reader(s): *this could be you!*

March 22nd ~

Usher(s): Dan McDermid
Greeter(s): John Davey
Counter(s): J.Halme/L.Milkins
Reader(s): Steve Mitchell

March 29th ~

Usher(s): Tom Lyman
Greeter(s): John Davey
Counter(s): B.Washburn/J.Halme
Reader(s): Joyce Meurs

***Interested in volunteering to be
 a Usher, Counter or Reader?
 Sign up on the bulletin board in
 the narthex.***



“Oops” in church bulletins.

The following are from
 “Church Ladies with Typewriters”
 and actually appeared in bulletins
 or were announced at church services:



- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands!
- The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be, 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I Will Not Pass This Way Again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment, and gracious hostility.
- Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5 p.m. – Prayer and medication to follow.

Round Lake United Methodist Church

34 George Street
Post Office Box 485
Round Lake,
New York 12151

PHONE:
(518) 899-2263

E-MAIL:
RoundLakeUMC
@gmail.com

PASTOR:
Penny Lacy
Home
(518) 289-5578
Cell
(518) 844-5385
Email
pbrink@nycap.rr.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.RoundLakeUMC.
weebly.com](http://www.RoundLakeUMC.weebly.com)

Upcoming Scriptures for Worship by UMC GBOD



Sunday, March 1st, 2015 ~2nd Sunday in Lent

Gen 17:1-7,15-16; Ps 22:23-31 (UMH 752);
Rom 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

Sunday, March 8th, 2015 ~3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17; Ps 19 (UMH 750);
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Sunday, March 15th, 2015 ~ 4th Sunday in Lent

Num 21:4-9; Ps 107:1-3, 17-22 (UMH 830);
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Sunday, March 15th, One Great Hour of Sharing

Sunday, March 22nd, 2015~ 5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ps 51:1-12 (UMH 785)

Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

Sunday, March 29th, 2015~ Passion/Palm Sunday

Mark 11:1-11; Ps 118:1-2,19-29 (UMH 839); Isaiah
50:4-9a; Ps 31:1-16 (UMH 764); Philippians 2:5-11;
Mark 14: 1-15, 47; or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)



Mission Offerings...

March 15 – **One Great Hour of Sharing**, celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent, enables the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to live out its mission to alleviate human suffering. UMCOR responds to natural or human made disasters - those interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. The UMCOR ministries that provide food, shelter, health and peace do so across the globe.

by Katie Madigan

Maine Mission: It is not too late to make a donation to the Maine Mission fund to support the work of members from the Valley Falls and Round Lake United Methodist churches. Simply write Maine Mission on the memo line on your check or on an envelope including your donation. The United Methodist Economic Ministry truly appreciates the support of this church and the money is always used to support people who need it. The 2015 trip is scheduled for July 25-August 1. They are always looking for volunteers in addition to monetary support.

A Note From Missions...

Dear Friends,
Here is it February 1 and I'm testing the water. No, not the water in the Hoosick River. I feel pretty confident I know what that feels like today. Rather, I speak metaphorically about discovering who may be interested in being part of this year's Round Lake UMC mission trip to Salem, Maine. The dates I have for the mission are July 25 through August 1. Yes, I know that is nearly six months away but I keep thinking about the trip. I can't wait any longer to begin to visualize who will be part of the group!

by Rev. Ralph Marino

So, if you would like to be included as the planning proceeds, kept informed as details emerge and share the anticipation of the trip, kindly get back to me so I can narrow down the address list and begin to get our team in focus. Also, perhaps you know of someone not on the list above who would be interested in the trip. If so, I'd be glad to have their email address so they can be kept in the loop as well. And, just to be clear, I know much can happen in six months. As the time gets closer, I'll be asking for a firmer commitment. Right now I'm just dipping my toe in the water and asking for a little splash from you. With affection, Ralph =

 **ROUND LAKE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
34 George Street
Post Office Box 485
Round Lake, New York 12151



RECIPIENT NAME
STREET ADDRESS
CITY, STATE 00000