



THE TORCH

ROUND LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DEDICATED 1894
CELEBRATING OUR 119TH YEAR
MAY 2013

Pastoral Ponderings

LORD, you have examined me. You know me. ²You know when I sit down and when I stand up. Even from far away, you comprehend my plans. ... Where could I go to get away from your spirit? Where could I go to escape your presence? ⁸If I went up to heaven, you would be there. If I went down to the grave, you would be there too! ²³Examine me, God! Look at my heart! Put me to the test! Know my anxious thoughts! ²⁴Look to see if there is any idolatrous way in me, then lead me on the eternal path! - Psalm 139:1-2, 7-8, 23-24 (Common English Bible)

Recently I have been occupying some of my free time by painting woodwork trim. As you probably know, when you paint woodwork it is easy to get paint on the wall or the floor depending on what the nearby surface happens to be. No matter how careful you are, paint will still end up where you don't want it when painting woodwork. Yes, I do know about the availability of tape you can use to keep from getting paint where you don't want it, allowing you to not be quite as careful while painting.

One of the areas I've been painting will not be visible unless you move the washer and dryer. Still, when paint got on the tile floor, I wiped it up. I asked myself why I was being so careful, after all, no one would ever know if there was paint on the wall or the floor. For that matter, who would know if the woodwork was painted at all in that area. I quickly answered my own question with "I'll know what kind of job I've done and I want it to be the best I can make it."

Then I started thinking and questioning further. I began to consider how often we humans justify certain behaviors with excuses such as: this won't harm anyone, except maybe me; or, no one else will know what I'm doing here. It is so easy to make up excuses that sound good for doing what our Christian faith tells us we should be more careful about doing. Continuing in my meditation I quickly realized that even if no other person knows what had been done, God would still know. Bottom line, if our behavior in any way separated us from another or more importantly from God, it is a sin.

The good news of Easter is God still loves us and wants to be in relationship with us. God comes in grace with forgiveness to each of us. God comes with a wet rag to wipe up the paint from where it shouldn't be in our lives. Even if we use tape to make clean-up easier, God comes and pulls up the tape, paint spots and all.

God is with us at all times in all places and in all ways. We simply cannot hide from God. May we each as individuals and as a congregation live out God's love, grace and forgiveness all the days of our lives.

With Christ's Peace – Rev. Jane

Scriptures in Worship

We continue the celebration of the Great Fifty Days of Easter as we continue to remember Christ's resurrection promises. The Fiftieth Day of Easter, May 19th, celebrates Pentecost, the day the gathered believers experienced the power of the Holy Spirit, God's presence with us, and began to move into all the world with the Good News of Jesus the Christ.

Sunday, May 5, 2013 *Sacrament of Holy Communion*
Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

Sunday, May 12, 2013 *Festival of the Christian Home*
Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Revelation 22:12-24, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

Sunday, May 19, 2013 *Day of Pentecost*
Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17

Sunday, May 26, 2013
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

UMW

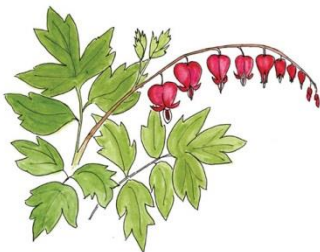
Our Garage Sale is scheduled to May 11 9am-3pm. Please bring any donations to church Wednesday, May 8 10am-12 noon, Thursday, May 9 5pm-7pm or Friday, 2pm-5pm. Items may also be brought Saturday, May 11 at 8am-9am before the sale. Please remember we **will not** be taking any **electronics**. Large items will **not** be accepted unless you are willing to come pick them up if they don't sell. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way please contact Shelda 899-2389 or Marilyn 899-7203.

Our next meeting will be May 20 at 7pm. As always we meet at 6:30 to our Fall Bazaar. Joyce is in charge of devotions and Kathy will be providing dessert. Rev Jane Baker will be doing a program on planning a celebration of life service. Whether it would be for a loved one or your own, Rev Jane will be giving us ideas so our loved ones can celebrate the way we requested. Know that anyone may join us for this program, even our men friends!

Please think about attending our meeting May 20 at 7pm.

Stone Soup

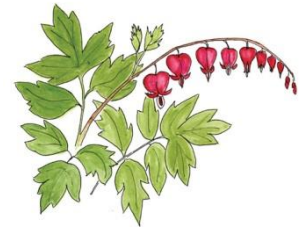
Our Stone Soup meetings will be suspended for the summer. The last meeting will be May 20. Meetings will resume the first Monday in October. Have a wonderful summer!



Trustees

Thanks to a hardy group of people, the outside clean-up of the church and parsonage grounds was completed on April 20th.

With this done, we will now focus on a number of outside projects that still remain. Trustees are looking to bury the drainage pipes at the back of the church and gather quotes to replace and repair the front entrance doors.



We will also be preparing and planting the garden area at the north side of the church. As soon as weather permits, we will send out information as to our needs for help weeding and specific plants for this site.

Please mark your calendars for the weekend of the Antiques Festival, June 22 and 23. Trustees will be sponsoring the parking at this event and we hope that you will consider participating to help make this a huge success.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday May 1st at 7pm.

Finance

First and foremost the finance committee would like to thank everyone for the selfless contributions received during the fuel campaign. The total for the 13 weeks was \$1408. The total of the fuel for the parsonage and church from Jan 1 thru Mar 31, 2013 was \$1412. With spring in the air we have covered this expense with flying colors. The figures for the **1st quarter** are as follows:

INCOME:	\$25681
EXPENSES:	\$25688
NET:	\$-7
OUTSTANDING BILLS:	\$4450 (MINISTRY SHARES)
Paid toward ministry shares \$463	



The remainder of stock investment monies received in 2012 (\$3270) were used to pay the conference for health and pension expenses in 2013. We still continue to be about \$1300 short each month. The Trustees have allowed us \$7000 to use for the conference. The conference expense each month total is \$2194 plus the ministry shares of \$1638.

If you have any questions please contact Dom DeLorio, Treasurer 899-7203 or Kathy Washburn, Finance Manager, 664-5057. Next finance meeting is on May 14, all are invited.

April
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30

May 2013

June
S M T W T F S
1
2 3 4 5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Upper New York Annual Conference Syracuse Trustees 7pm	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4 
5 Worship 9:30am	6 Stone Soup 1pm Nurses Day	7 Bible Study 10:30am	8	9 Choir 7pm	10 Pre-Conference Briefing at Shenendehow a UMC at 6:00pm	11 Garage Sale starting at 9am
12 Worship 9:30am Mother's Day	13 Stone Soup 1pm	14 Bible Study 10:30am	15	16 Choir 7pm	17	18 Armed Forces Day
19 Worship 9:30am	20 Stone Soup 1pm UMW 7pm	21	22	23 Choir 7pm	24	25
26 Worship 9:30am	27 Memorial Day Observed	28	29	30 Choir 7pm Memorial Day	31	

Special Days in May Birthdays
 3 Christopher Milczarek
 6 Michelle Stata
 8 Linda Milkins
 11 Mina Cranston
 11 Ruth Dodds
 11 Kristopher Gregorek
 15 Rhonda Agnew
 16 Todd Sievers
 24 John Davey
 27 Edna Walter
 27 Megan Cranston
 28 Nancy Meager
 31 Casey Stata

Anniversaries
 18 Scott and Helen DeVoe
 24 John and Marion Milczarek
 29 Walt and Rhonda Agnew

May

Ushers

5 Dave Meurs/Ron English
 12 Eugene LaDue/Ron English
 19 Dave Meurs/Ron English
 26 Dan Baker/Ron English

Readers

Dan Baker
 Joyce Meurs
 Duane Colson
 Jean Halme

Counters

Linda Milkins/Nancy LaPine
 Shelda Roerig/Jean Halme
 C.Christopher/Steve Mitchell
 Walt Agnew/Terry Reynolds

Round Lake United Methodist Church
 Round Lake, New York