

January

2015

CELEBRATING 121 YEARS



# THE TORCH



Upper New York  
Annual Conference

**ROUND LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

DEDICATED 1894

(518) 899-2263

**Special Interest  
Articles:**

- It Is Not Over...
- Silent Angels...
- Unopened Gifts...
- Auld Lang Syne...

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

**Individual  
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## Pastoral Ponderings... It Is Not Over

by Pastor Penny Lacey

It is easy to forget that Christmas Day is only the beginning of Christmas....so don't take those decorations down just yet! Christmas counts as the first day of Christmas and continues until January 5, which is where we get the twelve days of Christmas, with January 6 being Epiphany.

Epiphany sometimes gets lost in the busyness of Christmas and the celebration of New Year's Eve. I wanted to take this time to focus our attention on this important day in our Christian year, the day when image of God manifested in the baby Jesus to the Magi. Let us walk along with these men toward the manger after our long journey to and through Christmas. Picture yourself after this journey, kneeling in gratitude before the Christ child.....arriving for the sole

purpose of offering all you have, to this gift of Love given to all of humanity. Now it is up to us to go out into the world, anointed by the Holy Spirit and clothed in the grace of God to spread the news of Jesus Christ. We are to be His Light. "We are to be Christ's hands, heart, and spirit in the world" –Beth Richardson



## United Methodist Women (UMW)

by Carol Millington

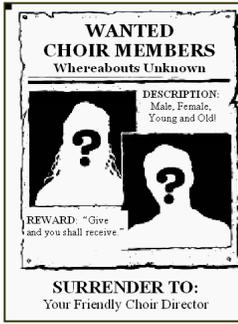
Christmas Stockings were delivered by our elves to the children of Cheryl's Lodge on December 11. The stockings were overflowing with goodies and bags of fresh fruit were also given to the children. The children were soooooo delighted to be able to bring this treat home and share it with their families. You made this project possible, thanks for supporting this mission!

Our Caroling Party December 12 was enjoyed by almost 40 church and community members. The soups were outstanding! So many villagers enjoyed

our music and the hot chocolate and goodies at All Saints Church were soooooo good!

On December 15-UMW Ladies celebrated the Christmas Holiday with a party at the home of Carol Millington. Fellowship, delicious foods, fun and games were had by 14 ladies.

Thanks to our church family for decorating our church festively for Christmas! Now it's time to undecorated. Please share some time with us on January 10 at 9am to get your church ready to start a New Year! (con't on next page).....



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



## Coffee Hour

Each Sunday after service we meet in the Tobin Room for a Coffee Hour and Fellowship.

If you would like or are able to host this time or help set up or clean up after please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Thank You!

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

With your support this year UMW was able to give to the following missions-

- Cheryl's Lodge
- Guardian House
- Pastor Penny's trip to Mozambique
- Supplies for dresses for the orphans of Mozambique
- Shipping for the dresses to Mozambique
- WRLIS for the garage sale
- Supplies for Church Dinners
- UMW's District Pledge

**A HUGE THANK YOU,  
YOU MADE THIS  
POSSIBLE,**

## Trustees Report...

With the start of 2015, Trustees welcome the return of two members of the committee for another three years. Doug Madigan and Terry Reynolds will continue as active members. We would like to thank Donna Alaskey for her service as a Trustee as she completes her term the end of December.

In January, this committee will elect their President, Vice President and Secretary for 2015. At our last Administrative Council meeting, it was decided that we will enter into a

- Special Recognition Pin
- Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis
- Services of Saratoga Co
- Volunteers in Mission
- NENY Regional Food Bank
- Church Woman United
- World Thank
- Repair of Church Organ

**YOU ARE AN  
AWESOME  
CHURCH FAMILY!!**

**Stone Soup will be resuming their meetings January 5th. We meet every Monday 1-3pm, please join us. Hope to see you there!**

by Jean Halme

contract with Andover Organ Co. to repair the reservoir on the organ. This will not take place until 2016 but plans are already under way to insure that funds are available when needed.

Trustees meet monthly on the first Wednesday of each month. Church members are encouraged to sit in on a meeting to see firsthand the work being done by the Trustees to keep our church and parsonage in good physical repair. The next Trustee meeting will be Wed. January 7, 2015 at 7pm.

## My Witness... Unopened Gifts

by Phyllis Sommerman

Have you ever hidden a gift that you purchased ahead of time, hidden so well that come Christmas and the time to put it under the tree, you can't find it?

Have you ever felt great disappointment that the gift you gave someone, hoping they would just love it, goes un-noticed? Even un-opened? God has. How great is His love for us, in the gift of His Son, the gift of forgiveness, and how great His pain when His Gift goes un-opened.

If you have felt the nudge of a new direction you feel you want to take, and you are waiting to turn the calendar or the page in your journal to a new year, take courage and open it now. Step out of the boat. God waits, with great anticipation, to see how you will use it. Would God give you the gift without wrapping it in love? He sent Jesus.

The gift could be something like writing, or singing, or letting go of anger and resentment. It could be finally receiving (opening) God's gift of forgiveness, forgiving yourself first, and then another. Serving in Prison Ministry, I witnessed through my tears and theirs, inmates opening this VERY LOVING GIFT from God. It empowered them with courage and trust to stand before other inmates and tell about the change they were feeling in their hearts.

I believe it took great courage for Pastor Penny to open the gift of compassion and immerse herself into a very needy group of people. She took the step. In the book by John Ortberg, "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat", the author says "most people love to hear stories and see images about the powerful God we serve. We can read much information to assure us that God's power is sufficient. But information alone cannot transform a person's heart and character. Certain actions are required. We have to take the first step."

The Lord goes with you wherever you go. He is waiting for you to open His gift, and take the first step.

Peter experienced God's power from taking a huge risk and taking that first step out of the boat. He Turned His Eyes Upon Jesus. For as long as he kept his eyes on Jesus, the gift of Trust kept Peter on the water.

The gift of a new day, and a new year, offers many gifts. Believe, get your feet wet, keep your eyes on Jesus, and you will walk on water believing that opened gift is given with love and the power of an Almighty God.

Want Calendar details? Check out the interactive version @ [RoundLakeUMC.weebly.com](http://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](mailto:RoundLakeUMC@gmail.com) Attn: Calendar Event!

But Whom Do You Say That I AM?

Crossword  
Challenge

ETACOVDAEWH
RURETSAMFOG
AVRSUSEJLNO
WRETMWAYICL
VINYDAAKDDO
RATSGNINROM
DAYSTARCPTSA LDNATSRIFORERUNNER
EVGFNOPHHOTUJGROLESNUOCHCNARBO
NMPEIAGONOFUORHADUJFONOILIFEIT
EEMVMIMOSRSFKHORNOSALVATIONSA
RSAAHOF FETKEENDOGYTHGIMLAMENHI
ASSQNGDDOILANINOSNETTOGEBYLNOD
ZITJOUNNNNDECAEPFOECNIRPHYPLPE
AAEDYOE GACORSTNENIVDIVADFONOSM
NHRZWHSLQARS DPOCJTLAMBOFGODBVF
RHORATOU C I R
PHPOCSNDEGE
ELRLDRSGRHD
NDOFAEOERTE
TRPOINLVUHE
EEHDDRAESBM
RVEREOTRESE
EOTOLCILRHR
VSNLIKOAVET
ISGRVVNSAPS
GADAE RBTNHI
WPSDRV S I TER
AGSGEVONORH
LOWORDHGS DC
NOITADNUOFY

Advocate  
Almighty  
Alpha and Omega  
Amen  
Apostle  
Beloved Son  
Bishop  
Branch  
Bread  
Captain  
Carpenter  
Chosen  
Christ  
Consolation  
Cornerstone  
Counselor  
Day Star  
Deliverer

Door  
Emmanuel  
Everlasting  
Faithful and True  
First and Last  
Forerunner  
Foundation  
Governor  
Head  
High Priest  
Holy and Just One  
Horn of Salvation  
I AM  
Jesus  
Judge  
King  
King of Kings  
Lamb of God

RHORATOU C I R  
PHPOCSNDEGE  
ELRLDRSGRHD  
NDOFAEOERTE  
TRPOINLVUHE  
EEHDDRAESBM  
RVEREOTRESE  
EOTOLCILRHR  
VSNLIKOAVET  
ISGRVVNSAPS  
GADAE RBTNHI  
WPSDRV S I TER  
AGSGEVONORH  
LOWORDHGS DC  
NOITADNUOFY

Lawgiver  
Life  
Light  
Lion of Judah  
Lord  
Lord of Lords  
Master  
Master  
Mediator  
Messiah  
Mighty God  
Morning Star  
Nazarene  
Only Begotten Son  
Passover  
Priest  
Prince of Peace  
Prophet

Redeemer  
Resurrection  
Rock  
Savior  
Servant  
Shepherd  
Son of David  
Son of God  
Son of Man  
Vine  
Way  
Wonderful  
Word



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Counters, Readers and Ushers... by Jean Halme

January 4<sup>th</sup> ~

Usher(s): *tba this could be you*  
Greeter(s): Marilyn DeLorio  
Counter(s): C.Christopher/S.Mitchell  
Reader(s): Joyce Meurs

January 25<sup>th</sup> ~

Usher(s): *tba this could be you*  
Greeter(s): Eloise Wood  
Counter(s): J.Halme/S.Mitchell  
Reader(s): Jean Halme



January 11<sup>th</sup> ~

Usher(s): *tba this could be you*  
Greeter(s): Gail Dean  
Counter(s): B.Washburn/T.Reynolds  
Reader(s): Katie Madigan

**Interested in volunteering to be a Usher, Counter or Reader? Sign up on the bulletin board after church, see Jean Halme or send an email to:**

January 18<sup>th</sup> ~

Usher(s): *tba this could be you*  
Greeter(s): Mina Cranston  
Counter(s): S.Roerig/L.Milkins  
Reader(s): Duane Colson

[RoundLakeUMC@gmail.com](mailto:RoundLakeUMC@gmail.com)  
with Attn:  
Counters/Ushers/Readers  
in the subject line.

**'Auld Lang Syne'**  
*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld lang syne!*  
*For auld lang syne, my dear, For auld lang syne.  
We'll take a cup o'kindness yet, For auld lang syne.*

Meaning of Auld Lang Syne and Cup O'Kindness: The Meaning of 'Auld' is the meaning of 'Lang Syne' is "Long Since". The lyrics "We'll take a cup o'kindness yet" refers to the tradition of raising a glass, or a cup o' kindness meaning with "good will, friendship and kind regard" and in remembrance of "noble deeds". The custom of drinking a "health" at a special gathering to the prosperity of good health of another dates back into antiquity. The old Christmas term 'Wassail' derives from Old Norse phrase 'ves heill' meaning "be healthy". So next time you sing Auld Lang Syne you'll now know it meaning! What is your pick for a New Year's Resolution? Mine will be to do more for people to bring a smile to their faces. Happy is to be healthy. Think what you can do for yourself and others and try to stick to it. If you tell others, you are more likely to stick to it.

**"WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR!"**

## Round Lake United Methodist Church

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

## Upcoming Scriptures for Worship by UMC GBOD



**Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 ~Epiphany~**

Isa 60:1- 6; Ps 72:1-7, 10-14; 1 Eph 3:1- 12;  
Mtw 2:1-2

**Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015~Baptism of the Lord**

Genesis 1:1-5; Ps 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mk 1:4-11

**Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 ~**

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

**Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015~Ecumenical Sunday**

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

## Mission Offerings...

**January's Special Sunday offering is  
January 18 Human Relations Day**

We will be using the mission offerings from the other Sundays for local missions and from the first Sunday to go towards the repairs for our historic organ. More

by Katie Madigan



information on local missions and the organ repairs will be forthcoming so keep an eye out in future editions.

For more info on special Sundays check out this website:

<http://www.umcgiving.org/how-we-give#sundays>

## Silent Angels Amongst Us

by a silent angel

Among our church family we have many silent angels who care for one another all year long. They without thinking share soup, do lawn care, housekeeping, personal needs, sits with friends while their caregivers go to church or do errands, take caregivers to lunch, slips money to help the burdens of daily living, bakes cookies or delivers meals, sends card, says a kind word, cleans our church stove, does a coffee hour, greets you at church, serves on a committee so our church runs smoothly, takes care of our church financial records, set up and cleans up for church events, manages our church website and torch, sings in the choir, does

special music, rings our bell, plays our church bells throughout the village at Christmastime, helps with mind boggling paperwork, visits shut-ins, does repairs around church and the parsonage, call to check to see how you are, and so many other kind deeds. If you are not part of this caring angel network, please join us. You will receive more than you give.

Round Lake United Methodist's Silent Angels who without a second thought gives of themselves to brighten the day of someone and expects nothing in return. Our Angels do without asking for a thank you. As long as God see's our Angel's good deeds that's all the thanks they need.

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