

THE GLORY SOUND

LeRoy United Methodist Church, Inc.

April 2017



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

On March 21st our elected church leaders and I met in our church office for an important exploratory conversation with our Genesee Valley District Superintendent, Rev. Vonda Fossitt. I had told Rev. Fossitt of my desire to retire from pastoral ministry on June 30, 2017 and for Mary Lou and me to continue making LeRoy UMC our church home. That meant that LUMC would be without a pastor on July 1st. She worked and prayed with us to explore options for the future of LUMC. Together we sought to answer the question, "Where do we go from here?"

For clarification, I want you to know that the next paragraphs are taken from my personal notes of that meeting and have not yet been formally approved by the other persons in attendance. However, the group granted me permission to publish my comments for the benefit and purpose of keeping the whole congregation informed. So here goes. I hope you are as enthusiastic as we are about the possibilities.

From humble beginnings almost 200 years ago, LUMC became a compelling Christian influence on the values and attitudes of the LeRoy community. It grew as the community grew. For many years LUMC's imposing architecture with tall steeples was a testament to God's love and glory! An awe-inspiring Este pipe organ accompanied hundreds of Christian believers singing the praises of God. Today, it is no longer as we once knew it. It shrank as the community shrank. To the surprise of visitors and casual observers, LUMC appears to be approaching its end years.

Business and industry leaders, as well as other churches and service organizations in our community, know a thing or two about endings. Jell-O Foods, LeRoy Plow Manufacturing, United Steel, Elm Dairy and Lapp Insulator Manufacturing once dominated this local and regional economy. They were wealth generators and large contributors to our local churches and service organizations. However, with the passing of time most of them have become displays in the museum across the street or have withered to mere shadows of their former glory.

While we accept that these same economic, political and cultural/social changes are also impacting LUMC, we intend to acknowledge them, understand their implications on the Christian life, and assess our ministry challenges and opportunities in light of them. We are prepared to risking everything we have, if need be, in order to ensure that our ministry efforts are relevant and productive in this community.

We fully intend to enjoy now what is apparently being lost. At the same time, intend to create an environment in which Jesus Christ can be more effectively represented in this community. Can we do it? Our history says we can. Our faith, our hearts, and our daring spirits say, "With God's help, we can accomplish what seems impossible—the revitalization of LeRoy UMC.

Our methods? To model the life of Christ in and through us. Disciple making; recruiting and training people in the knowledge and love of God through Jesus Christ. Committed Christian living, for our joy and God's glory. We are on the path to heaven and we are inviting as many as possible to come with us. This isn't a pipe dream.

We have a solid foundation on which to build. This church is within earshot of celebrating two centuries of representing Jesus Christ in daily life. Two hundred years of successfully adapting to countless trends and innovations encourage us. Our methods of prayer, worship, education and witness in the work of Christ served us well in the past. We must now adapt them to the social, political, and spiritual circumstances of our day. We are encouraged by the knowledge that God can work wonders "under the circumstances" of any day. And "under *these* circumstances" we are

expecting to see the wonders of God.

Years from now, I predict we'll look back on this critical time of decision-making as fondly as old timers recall riding to LUMC in their horse-drawn buggies, setting up chairs to accommodate overflow crowds for worship services, hosting the Western New York Annual Conference, and praying that the Lord would bless their efforts in ministry. The Lord answered those prayers in ways we consider miraculous! If we commit ourselves to praying as passionately and boldly as our predecessors, surely the Lord will respond to us as well.

Good news! Fire melts ice. When invited, God's Holy Spirit takes the chill off our hearts and lights a fire within us. Let's seek the inspiration and guidance of God in this matter. From now until July 1, 2017, let's be in prayer together about all this. We will soon set a day and time to meet once a week for group prayer. The only point of prayer focus will be "the future of this church." It won't be a Bible study. It will be prayer meeting. And when our hearts are clear, we'll praise God and go back home.

Fortunes were made here in LeRoy. It was boom, decline, bust and eventually shuttered windows. There are already too many faded examples of grandeur in LeRoy. This church doesn't need or want to be another one.

Thank God -- Praise God – Trust God—And get ready to be blessed!

Blessings and Joy,

David



Annual UMW Communion Brunch

Attention all ladies and lady friends of LeRoy UMC, the Genesee Valley District of the Upper New York Annual Conference will be hosting the annual United Methodist Women Communion Brunch at four locations throughout the District this year.

When we hosted this event two years ago, there was such a positive response from the ladies of the other churches that LeRoy UMC has been asked to host again. That speaks volumes about the warm reception our ladies extended to our guests, not to mention the delicious feast that Betsy Darby and her crew prepared.

Registration and gathering begins at 9:30 AM. At 10:00 AM we will meet in the Sanctuary for the Service of Holy Communion. The Rev. Linda Haight, pastor of Stafford UMC, will bring a message focusing on remembrance. Cost is \$8, but if you are unable to afford this but would like to attend, our church will have funds to cover you.

After worship we will proceed to the Great Room to partake of another delicious feast prepared by Betsy Darby and her galley crew.

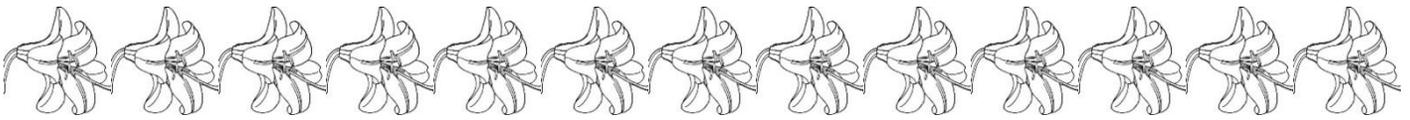
Please join us for a beautiful worship service, delicious meal, and fabulous fellowship with women from our sister churches who share our love for Jesus Christ and His church.

What: Annual UMW Communion Brunch

Where: LeRoy UMC

When: April 8, 2017 at 9:30 AM

Hope to see you there!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

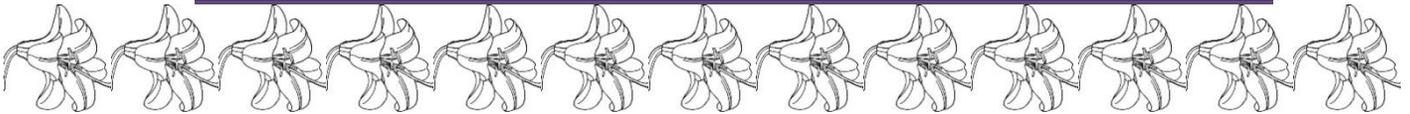
April 13th (Holy Thursday): We will host a traditional Seder meal at our church @ 6 pm. Sign Up sheets will be available for attendance and to help.

April 14th (Good Friday): 1st Baptist Church will hold a Good Friday Worship Service at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday:

Sunrise Service @ 7 am at the gazebo on the banks of the Oatka Creek. Breakfast immediately follows at Mary Margaret & Scott Ripley's home on corner of Lake & Red Mill St.

Easter Celebration Service at 10:30 am at our church!



Third Sunday Breakfast

Are we going to have to come up with yet another name for our monthly breakfasts? Remember the old saying that "if you want something done, you ask a busy person"? Well, sometimes when an event requires a number of BUSY people to make it happen, you run into some days when most of them are too busy doing some of those other things that make them busy people. That was the case this past month, so we had to cancel last month's breakfast. Because of a busy schedule this month, we made the decision to have our breakfast in April on the fourth Sunday (April 23rd.), the third being Easter Sunday.

Remember, you are welcome to invite other people in or out of our congregation. This could be a good way to share our ministry with others. If you do plan to bring extra people, just let the cooks know so that we have enough food. We don't want anyone to go away hungry for food or spiritually. We do ask for a VOLUNTARY donation of \$3.00 for the food and our support of the "Upper Room Ministry". I stress that this donation is not a requirement to attend.

Hopefully we can get back on schedule for May and June. I still believe that these "Breakfast/Bible Study" mornings are an important part of our ministry where our church family and friends can come together to break bread and worship in a less structured setting. We are always interested in new ideas. If anyone has some ideas, let us know. You can contact any of the following people:

Worship:

Lay Leader, Don Keys --- [585-768-6216](tel:585-768-6216)

Pastor David Jones --- [585-445-8265](tel:585-445-8265)

Wayne Papke --- [585-768-6148](tel:585-768-6148)

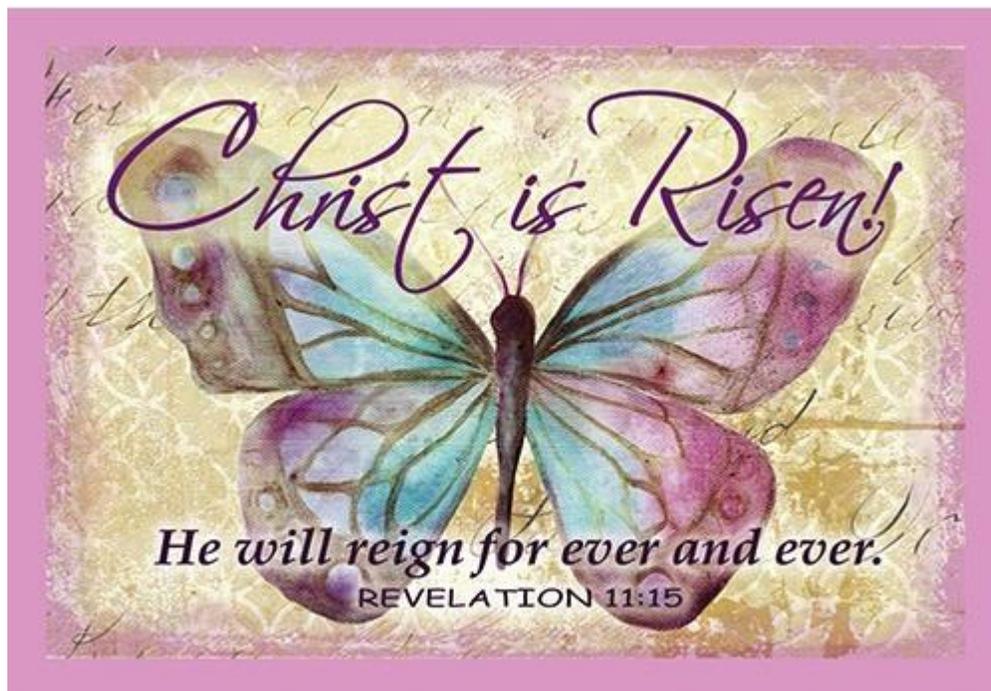
Food (the men and women usually alternate months for food preparation):

Phil Tooze --- [585-409-1729](tel:585-409-1729)

Jeff Nicoll/ Beth Nicoll --- [585-768-6314](tel:585-768-6314)

Kym Horning --- [585-820-3627](tel:585-820-3627)

If I missed anyone on the food staff, my apologies. Just let me know for future Newsletters.
Yours in Christ, Don



GRACE'S CLOSET

Welcome Spring!! We at the closet are looking forward to a change in the weather after the last two weeks of storms. It won't be long and we will change out our shelves. Remember us when you're going through your closets for your spring cleaning.

Thank you to all the volunteers for the hours they give willingly. I really appreciate all of you.

Janice Cooper, Chairperson

April Liturgists:

4/2 Mary Lou Jones
4/9 Janice Cooper
4/16 Catie Long
4/23 Betsy Darby
4/30 John Compton

April Birthdays:

April 3	Eleanor Wilcox
April 7	Joan Iannello
April 13	Janice Cooper
April 15	Ryan Oliver
April 20	Beth Nicoll
April 26	Maveric McKenzie

GENESEE VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

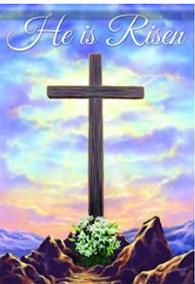
On Wednesday, April 19th, the Genesee Valley Civil War Round Table will have its second meeting of the season!

Our guest speaker will be Earl McElfresh, who will be speaking on the Top Union Generals--several of the more popular Union Generals. A period of discussion will follow the program. Several of his maps will be on sale.

The meeting doors will open at 6:30 pm at the LeRoy United Methodist Church, 10 Trigon Park in the Village of LeRoy. Please enter using the 3rd door from the left, following the long walkway. The meeting begins promptly at 7:00 pm.

New members are always welcome! Please join us!

April 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						I
2 Communion Sunday	3	4 3:15 pm: Girl Scouts 3:30 pm: Bible Study 5 pm: Grace's Closet	5 9:30- 11:30 am: Grace's Closet	6 9:30- 11:30 am: Grace's Closet	7	8 9:30 am: UMW Ladies Communion Breakfast
9 <i>Palm Sunday</i>  Hurley Baptism 12:15 pm: Council mtg.	10	11 3:30 pm: Bible Study 5-6:30 pm: Grace's Closet	12 6:30 pm: Girl Scouts	13 6:00 pm: <i>Holy Thursday</i>  <i>Seder Meal</i>	14 	15
16 	17 No Office Hours	18 3:15 pm: Girl Scouts 3:30 pm: Bible Study 5-6:30 pm: Grace's Closet	19 6:30 pm: G V Civil War Round Table	20 9:30- 11:30 am: Grace's Closet	21	22
23 8:00 am : 3 rd Sunday Breakfast	24	25 3:30 pm: Bible Study 5-6:30 pm: Grace's Closet	26 6:30 pm: Girl Scouts	27	28	29
30						

LeRoy United Methodist Church, Inc.
10 Trigon Park
LeRoy, NY 14482



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*"We are a church for all seasons
going faith forward,
journeying together
and experiencing the Light of God."*

LeRoy United Methodist Church



*"We are a church for all seasons, going faith forward,
journeying together, experiencing the light of God"*

- ❖ Worship Hours: 10:30 AM Sunday Mornings
- ❖ Pastor: Rev. Dr. David Ursal Jones
- ❖ Pastor's Office Hours: Tuesdays from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
- ❖ Administrative Assistant: Susan Miller
- ❖ Office Hours: Mon & Tue: 12:30 – 4:30 pm; Wed & Thu: 2:30 – 4:30 pm
- ❖ Music Director/Organist: Valorie Stotz
- ❖ Web Administrators: Kym Horning & Mary Lou Jones

Getting In Touch With Us:

- ❖ Office Phone Number: (585) 768-8980
- ❖ **Mailing Address & Physical Location:** 10 Trigon Park, LeRoy, NY 14482
- ❖ Office Email Address: leroyumc@outlook.com
- ❖ Facebook: LeRoy Methodist Church
- ❖ Office's Physical Location: 12 Trigon Park, LeRoy (back entryway)

Open Hearts  Open Minds  Open Doors