

The
Artwork of the 5th Annual
Upper Arlington Lutheran Church



All artwork based on Scripture
Commentary by the Artist

Organized by



Jurors for 2022:
Artist Jeff Hersey
Pastor Jeff Morlock



About the 7 Day Bible Art Challenge

The 7 Day Bible Art Challenge competition was conceived by members of the UALC Visual Arts Ministry to offer artists and viewers an “artistic encounter with the Word of God.” The rules are fairly simple:

1. Art must be original
2. Art must be produced in the 7-day time frame starting with Verse Assignment
3. Art will be based on a passage of Scripture that is assigned to the artist.

Beyond that, artists are free to express their vision in any medium or style they wish, so long as it fits in our gallery space.

In the five years of its existence, more than 150 art pieces have been produced by artists from UALC, the surrounding community, and even other states. This year, 2022, we showcase 20 artists who all were challenged by the following scriptures:

Scriptures for the 5th Annual UALC 7 Day Bible Art Challenge:

Youth: John 21:3-7 (NIV) “The Miraculous Catch”

³“I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them [his fellow disciples], and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. ⁵He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered.

⁶He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. ⁷Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

Adults: John 21:15-19 (NIV) “Jesus Reinstates Peter”

¹⁵When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

¹⁶Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

¹⁷The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

FIRST PLACE

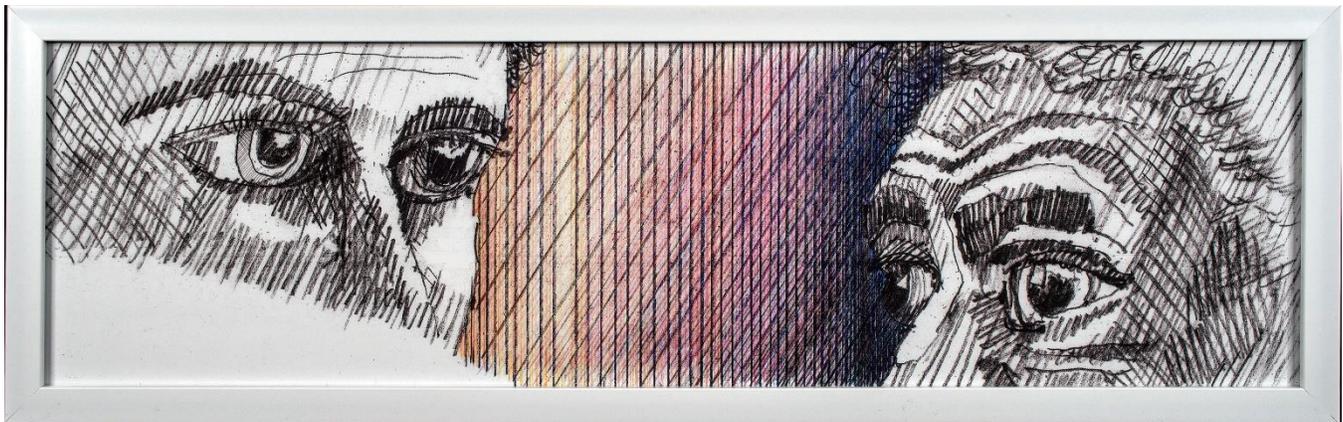
2022 A1

Do You Love Me (John 21:15)

Bob Apel

rapel@directedlifestyle.com

Pencil on Mylar, Enlarged and Printed



INSPIRATION:

Do you love me?

The eyes have it.

Jesus offers love and reconciliation to our dark rejection, just as the sun gives light to a dark moon. Therefore, the question becomes three:

Do I love him?

Do I reflect his love?

Do you love him?

EXPERIENCE:

I received the verse with some confusion as I did not see an image. Over the night I was drawn to Jesus offering love and reconciliation of our darkness. At first, I thought that was conveyed throughout the forehead, eyes and mouth. That seemed too complicated. I then focused back on the eyes with a small input from a calm forehead to a furrowed brow. The color was added to the black and white to emphasize the light going to our darkness and light reflected on our furrowed lines.

Sales of prints will benefit God's Hygiene Health Center . . . www.godshygiene.org.

SECOND PLACE

2022 A13

Feed My Sheep

Mike Larson

Acrylic on Stretched Canvas

614-816-0293

John 21



INSPIRATION:

I find the text inspiring. It seems that Peter didn't know what to do after Jesus' death and resurrection, so he went back to his old job, fishing. Jesus meets him on the shore and redirects him to ministry. The key message to Peter from Jesus is to be about the work of feeding his sheep. The story itself became the strongest conceptual image, and that is why the text was my biggest inspiration.

EXPERIENCE:

I consider Jesus to be my painting partner. I often pray, asking for Jesus' guidance before and during the concept and production processes. When I stop to consider what to do next, I tend to ask Jesus for guidance, making much of the painting process a spiritual encounter.

THIRD PLACE

2022 A9

Take Care of My Sheep

Sandy Kao

Watercolor

chichunkao@gmail.com

John 21:16



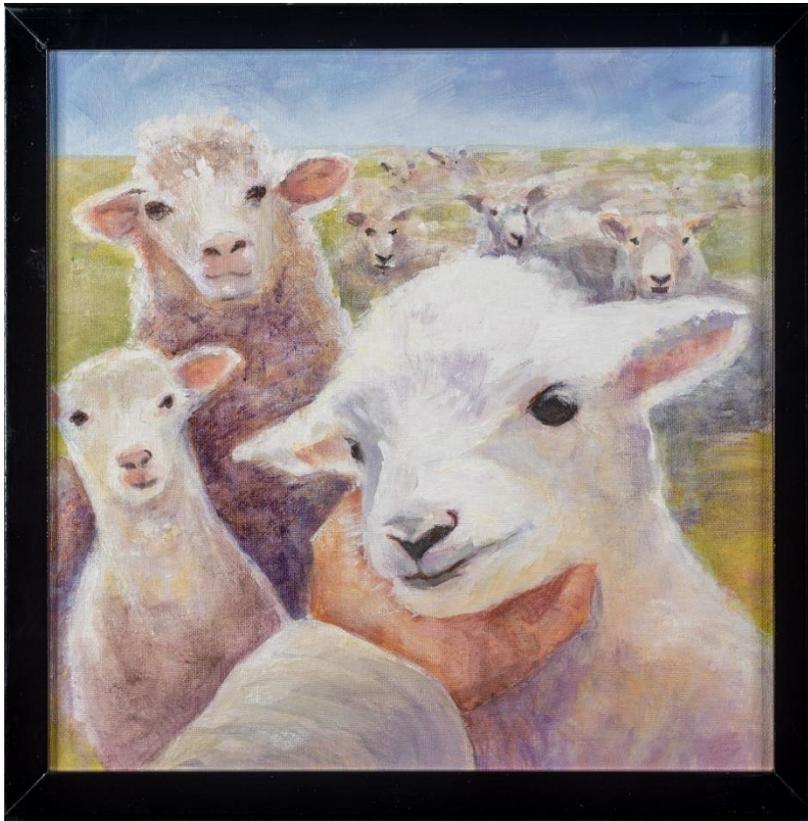
INSPIRATION:

As soon as I finished reading my assigned verse, John 21:15-19, 3 verses jumped [into] my sight: “Feed my lambs;” “Take care of my sheep;” and “Feed my sheep.” It is so obvious that Jesus cares about his people/ lambs more than anything else. From the conversation that Jesus had with Peter, Jesus asked Peter 3 times: Do you love me? It's hit me that loving Jesus isn't enough but taking care of his people is. Often as a Christian, loving Jesus is not a problem but loving someone else is. A lot of time, we, Christians, will

stay silent or stand still when there are so many people out there who need to know Jesus, believer, or non-believer. We thought, it's only few of us here. How can we do this? It is too hard... we told ourselves. Those verses reminded me that, yes, we cannot do it by the strength of our own, but we can do it by the power of God – by the power of loving Jesus.

EXPERIENCE:

It's a challenge to create an artwork in just a week. But I focused on what the verse brings to me. I wanted to draw a scattered flock of sheep who need someone to watch over and take care of them. Then I used the vast and infinitely magnificent sunset glow to show the power of God's present. I purposely used a girl figure as a shepherd to remind myself and my two daughters that we may be weak, but God's power and light shine abounds us. We can be God's instruments to help, to feed, and to lead His people to Him.



HONORABLE MENTION

2022 A8

The Flock

Deb Haller

dhallerdesign@gmail.com

Acrylic

John 21:16c

INSPIRATION:

I considered depicting this phrase with people but opted for the literal interpretation. It was important to me to show Peter's tenderness to the lamb (youth), and also the interest of the others, in how Peter would guide them along their path.



HONORABLE MENTION

2022 A14

Stretch Out Your Hands for Love

Carlos Lemos

Oil on Canvas

clemos1961@yahoo.es

John 21:18-19

INSPIRATION:

I got my inspiration from John 21:18-19 as a reference. Jesus predicts Peter's death: "but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you to where you don't want to go." The painting reflects the final moment of Peter's life. It also shows and interprets how Jesus' words are true and how they paint Peter's last moments with him.

EXPERIENCE:

It was a difficult process expressing this biblical text through a painting, [though] there were many things Jesus said that might not have been easy to express into pictures. But with hard work I made a painting that I think represents this Biblical piece of text very well.

To purchase artwork, contact the artist at phone or email listed.

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HONORABLE MENTION

2022 A15

Follow Me

Pam Mann

Quilt

John 21:15-19



INSPIRATION:

Peter denied Jesus three times on the night of Jesus' arrest. In John 21:15-19, Jesus asks Peter three times "Do you love me?" Jesus surely knows that Peter loves him. But just think how reassuring this early morning conversation on the seashore is to Peter! When Jesus charges Peter to shepherd the fledgling church, he is restating the call Peter answered three years earlier: "Follow me." What joy for Peter that he is still on the team! Likewise, for us, Jesus calls us and invites into kingdom work, even with all our screw-ups. Our resurrected Lord leads us

into the unknown future just as He led Peter. We have the same directive as Peter to follow Jesus and to nurture His Church.

EXPERIENCE:

I was sick with COVID during the seven days of the Bible Art Challenge. I kept telling myself to keep things simple and to the point. I hoped when I had the energy to work, I could work steadily and would have something completed by Wednesday afternoon. Coloring fabric with Derwert Inktense sticks is not something I've done a lot, but I liked its simplicity and speed. I chose the Galilean lake scene, the setting for much ministry that Peter experienced with Jesus. The future is a lot of unknown ahead for the disciples, just as life is for us post-pandemic. The futuristic geometric-shaped letters remind me that while the future in following Jesus may be different or unfamiliar, Jesus is with us, leading us.



Tabernacle. The Gold lines also represent the use of gold in the tabernacle. The pink strips in the circle represent God's love poured down on us. Inside the pink strips are the words, "Do you love me?" There is a strip for each time Christ questioned Peter. The vines growing out of the pink strips represent Christ's command to Peter to feed and care for His sheep. The pink in the vines show God's love and the spring green shows the fruit that grows from His reciprocated love.

2022 A2

Forgiven

Christy Beard

Fiber art using batik and hand dyed

cottons

John 21:15-19

INSPIRATION:

Forgiveness is God's precious gift. Christ, asked Peter 3 times, "Do you love me?" This question was a beautiful act of forgiveness. Peter had betrayed Christ 3 times, but Christ in His compassion lavished Peter with forgiveness and from that forgiveness and love came a Peter who went on to feed and care for Christ's sheep as Christ told him to. On the Day of Pentecost through the work of the Holy Spirit when tongues of fire fell on the crowd, Peter preached and about 3 thousand people believed.

EXPERIENCE:

The circle in this piece represents God. The colors, scarlet, blue and purple are the colors that God told Moses to have the artisans use in the building of the

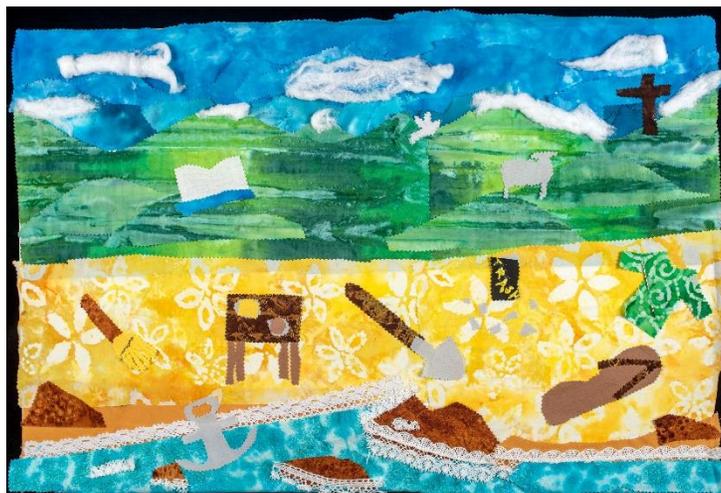
2022 A4

Service

Anne Dukat

Fabric on Canvas

John 21:15-19



EXPERIENCE:

I prayed about this and asked God for guidance. I was really led to create something that shows we can serve God in a myriad of ways. It was an interesting challenge, and I am so thankful for all the prayers and help I received. My family was a great support and help. They were asked several strange questions in the of making this: "What does a table look like?" "Does this look like a bird." I also did some research and was fascinated to learn one of the early Christian symbols was an anchor, which is reflected in the VBS theme this year, "Anchored in Jesus."

INSPIRATION:

I was really inspired by the idea of serving God. Peter was giving up his old way of life and changing everything in his new service for God. Service for God is serving in so many ways that may seem inconsequential, but God sees our actions. I tried to represent a few of the ways we can serve that may not seem huge and meaningful but are truly needed.



2022 A6

Quo Vadis?

Joyce Fisher

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Acrylic

John 21:

INSPIRATION:

I knew the Acts of Peter story* about Peter trying to escape from Rome and Jesus meeting him on the Appian way. “Quo Vadis?”

Many of us must go where we “do not want to go,” but Peter’s realization that he must return to Rome to be crucified reminds us all that there are destinations in life that we must find and obligations we must fulfill.

**According to Catholic tradition, St. Peter and St. Paul were both executed in Rome around the year 67 A.D. during the reign of the infamous emperor Nero. The story (found in early Christian writings but not in the New Testament), states that Peter was freed from prison in Rome after he and Paul converted their jailers. Peter was then persuaded by fellow Christians who were concerned for his safety, to flee Rome. As he left, Peter encountered the resurrected Jesus. Astonished, Peter asked “Domine quo vadis?” (Lord, where are you going?). Jesus replied, “I go to Rome to be crucified anew.” When he heard these words, Peter understood that his actions were cowardly and that he must return to Rome. There, he was arrested and crucified upside down at his request because he did not feel worthy of dying as Jesus had.*

- Melisa Palermo, writing in www.khanacademy.org. Added by editor.

2022 A7

Peter’s Commission

Alex Ferree

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Watercolor

John 21:1-17



INSPIRATION:

Illustrating Peter’s commitment at the time and place following the resurrection of Jesus using color and drama.



I tried to create the same effect through my immediate medium, digital art. It shows Jesus and Peter at the riverside where Jesus asks of Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?”

2022 A11

Follow Me

Mackenzie Kuhn

419-733-6578

Digital

John 21:15-19

INSPIRATION:

I’ve always been enamored by the beauty of stained-glass windows and the stories they tell. They are able to portray the Gospel in a way that people can admire and study even after the sermon has ended. And when the sun hits the glass just right, it’s as if God’s glory is showering His people in heavenly illumination.

I don’t have the means to piece together a stained-glass window, but I wanted to capture a similar feeling, so

2022 A12

Take Care of My Sheep

Ryan LeFever

Pastels

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John 21:16



INSPIRATION:

As an animal lover in general, when Jesus tells Peter to feed and take care of His sheep, it naturally stood out to me. What I found interesting about this passage were all the different theological parallels. Jesus repeats this to Peter three times in reference to Peter denying Jesus three times, but it is also reminiscent of the trinity itself. And even the use of sheep is a parallel to the lamb of God. So, I chose to use threes with these sheep and three missing heart shapes. The hearts in reference to Jesus telling Peter to “check his heart.”

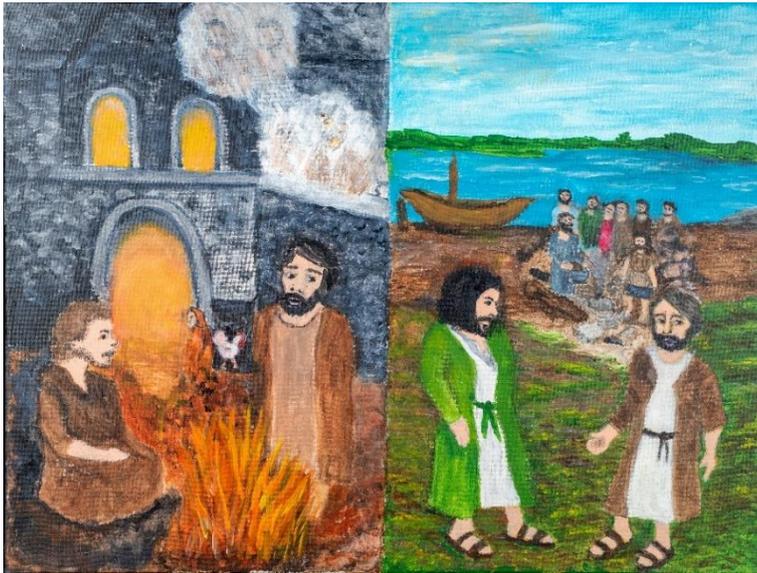
2022 A16

Our Fear & Sin and God's Grace

Ellen Miller

Acrylic on Canvas

John 21



quit painting. I asked God, "Do you want me to keep going," and I was told, "Yes."

INSPIRATION:

I am very literal, so reading the verse and other ones around it, it struck me that Jesus always gives us a chance and way to be redeemed. His Mercy and Grace is amazing.

EXPERIENCE:

God was with me giving me more ideas. One thing didn't work but something different did. I had a very busy week of birthday parties and helping neighbors. Then a lightning bolt on Monday evening kicked out my internet, trying to make me

2022 A17

Reconciliation

Donna Nesbitt

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Watercolor

John 21:17b



INSPIRATION:

I read and reread the passage, jotting down words and concepts that came to mind. Then I doodled images. I kept coming back to roosters, fish and sheep. The roosters remind us of Peter's denial of Christ in chapter 19. The fish and sheep come from the assigned passage. I also wanted to show the compassionate way the Lord held Peter accountable, and then restored him to his status as a leader of the flock. The boat is overturned to show that Peter is leaving behind his career as a fisherman.

The fire is a symbol of faith that refers to the fire where Peter was warming himself during the denial as well as the breakfast fire on the shore. The fish refer to the catch-of-the-day and the Lord's promise to make the apostles fishers of men. The sheep foreshadow the growth of the church.

EXPERIENCE

For artists, the process is more important than the product. The key word for God's role in the creative process is "hope." Through my dissatisfaction with early drafts, I knew that with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit I needed to keep going. I wanted to produce a piece of work that would help the viewer think just a little more deeply about the passage. I hope this image accomplishes that goal.

Morning Talk
Abigail Pidock
 Colored Pencil
 John 21:15-19

**INSPIRATION:**

My piece depicts Jesus talking with Peter, just after Jesus provided a miracle catch of fish for the disciples, who were still shocked by Jesus' resurrection.

When Jesus was arrested before his crucifixion, Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, out of fear. On this morning, Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved him. Peter was grieved, and his denials had a heavy weight. His brow is furrowed at Jesus' asking, expressing his grief.

But Jesus provides Peter a

redeeming, merciful second chance by matching those three denials with asking his question three times, as well as a calling: paraphrased, "If you love me, feed my sheep". I depicted Jesus gesturing out towards the other disciples and the city full of people as He says this. I find it interesting that just that morning, it was Jesus who provided fish, and Jesus who did the messy work preparing it to feed His disciples breakfast. To love and follow Jesus, Peter (and anyone who follows Jesus) is called to follow Jesus' example- to serve and love others sacrificially, perhaps at times also with food, but most essentially, with God's truth and love.

I also wanted to depict how Jesus, though God, was down to earth and intimate. He was (and is) relational with us broken humans. I felt that a nature scene (my favorite) with dirt and dust, but also beauty; a campfire, with friends; illustrated this. The sky is darker behind Peter and grows lighter towards Jesus.

EXPERIENCE:

I've been a bit overwhelmed lately and wasn't sure if I should do the art challenge. But I was torn, because an art challenge like this is such a neat way to engage with God, ourselves and others. I signed up at the last minute (like, 11:57pm). I wasn't sure how I'd have inspiration or energy to complete a piece. I wasn't able to get myself to restfully, focusedly sit with God enough. But I was able to anxiously sit with God. I told him how I've been overwhelmed. How I've felt like a bit of a mess. I told him I was sorry, and tired, and drained, on time and energy; and I needed his help. That is one of the things so beautiful about Jesus. He meets us where we are. That's why He came here as a man who scaled and gutted fish on a shore and nailed wood as a carpenter and was nailed onto wood as a substitutionary atonement.

My art week included tears, chocolate, little sleep, and an unusual number of ants. Somehow, I made a finished piece. I could not turn it in on time, which felt defeating- but serves as a reminder of my human-ness, but how there is still much value. Art and its process are never perfect, and neither are we; but it sure is valuable and worth it- and (even, or especially, according to God) so are we.

AGE GROUP Kindergarten thru Grade 3



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

2022 Y1

Rainbow Fishing

Melody Chia

Grade 1

Watercolor

John 21:3

INSPIRATION:

When they said that they did not catch any fish, I got interested about how God can help them, so I drew a rainbow to show God was there. I also draw Jesus was there too, to give them instructions of where the fish is.

ART ACHIEVEMENT

2022 Y-2

John 21

Samantha Meisterheim

Grade 1

John 21:1,6



INSPIRATION:

I thought my drawing matched the verse. In the top corners are pictures of Jesus and his holy rays, and Mary is in the left bottom corner. The net is holding the words and fish. The sun is behind everything. There is an oar dipping down on the right side of the boat. Jesus is on a little piece of land by the boat, instructing the disciples. On the right and left sides of the boat are waves, and the dots on top of the waves are foam.

EXPERIENCE:

“He helped me with ideas.”



EXPERIENCE

I took my time. I sort of forgot about it, but on Tuesday I got more into it because I did not have much time left before the contest was over. So, I got wrapped up with it and finished it. Jesus helped me in the way He made the Scripture passage, and the Scripture passage helped me create my artwork.

ART ACHIEVEMENT

2022 Y3

Catching Fish

William D. Meisterheim

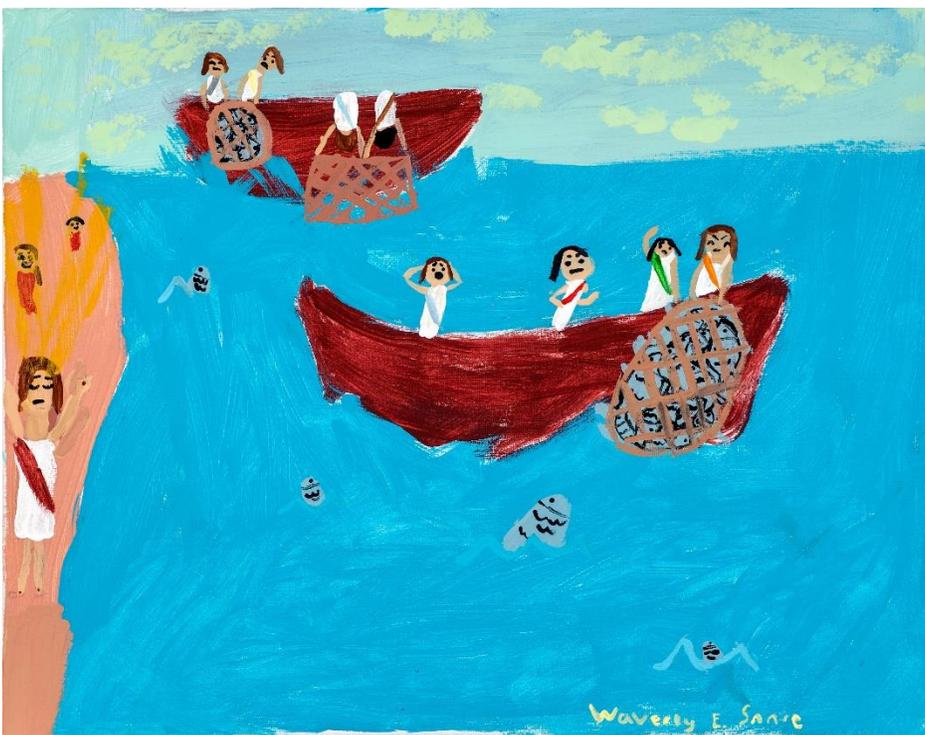
Grade 2

John 21:6

INSPIRATION:

The water is choppy, and the disciples are not having much luck. Jesus is on the far shore, but they do not know it is Jesus. Jesus calls out to them, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat." They throw their net on the right side of the boat and when they lift it again, they cannot pull in the catch because there are so many fish. Peter and Andrew are the disciples pulling in the net, and the rest are helping.

AGE GROUP GRADE 4-7



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

2022 Y5

The Miracle

Waverly Snare

Grade 4

Acrylic

John 21:6

INSPIRATION:

He said, "Throw your net out into the sea and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. That is part of the verse I painted. I wanted to show the amazement on the disciples' faces while Jesus is performing the miracle.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

2022 Y4

Jesus Returns

Bronwyn Snare

Grade 8

Felt/Clay (Soft
Sculpture)

John 21:6-7



INSPIRATION:

In reading this verse, I recalled the first time Jesus had performed this miracle. It seemed to be a key point and I decided to emphasize that this art depicts the moment of the miracle and the recognition of Jesus.

EXPERIENCE

In making & sculpting these figures, I felt this is what God must have in mind as He creates us, the loving detail He exacts in every person. This was a very connecting experience.

Comments by the Jurors

Artist Jeff Hersey

I was honored to be selected to help jury the 7 Day Art Challenge - 2022 exhibition at UALC.

I was fascinated by all of the different art styles and media employed including acrylic paint, oil paint, watercolor, pencil, colored pencil, brush pen, felt, clay, fiber, hand dyed cottons, felt, organic materials, electronic media, and some media which I was challenged to identify. I was impressed with the unique applications of these media which revealed unexpected textures and shapes and unique applications of traditional media.

Specifically, when judging a piece of art, I focus on the following:

- What do I notice first when I look at a work?
- What is the overall visual effect or mood of the work?
- Effective use of color and value, e.g. light/dark, bright/dull colors, to create interest, contrast, depth and highlight focal points.
- Overall composition, proportions, shape, scale, and medium.
- Overall presentation including framing, substrate and quality of materials and craftsmanship used throughout the artwork.

I really enjoyed working with Pastor Jeff Morlock who focused on the scriptural interpretations of each of the juried artworks. I was impressed with the artists who took the challenge to express their interpretations of the selected scriptural references in very creative and interesting ways.

As a juror, I look for originality, and was impressed by gorgeous, masterful craftsmanship, and use of mixed media and its unique application by many of the artists. Few things can surpass the sense of wonder that is inspired by art made with consummate skill and an eye for harmony.

I would like to thank UALC, organizers Howard Zimmer, Steve Puffenberger, and Pastor Jeff Morlock and all the artists for offering me new ideas and moments of great inspiration and beauty, along with the certainty that UALC will remain a community leader in promoting artists and their creations.

Pastor Jeff Morlock

According to 1 Corinthians 12, each believer in Jesus has been given gifts by the Holy Spirit for the building up of the Church. When these gifts flourish, so does the body of Christ! It was my privilege, but also difficult task to be one of the jurors for this year's 7 Day Art Challenge. I'm grateful to all who participated as creators and to the UALC Visual Arts Ministry team whose careful planning and servant leadership made this event possible. I'm grateful too, for the opportunity to participate and to have my own faith inspired!

The Scriptures we selected for the Youth Division and Adult Divisions both come from John 21. As UALC has been studying the book of John together on Sunday mornings and in small groups since the beginning of 2022 this seemed a natural choice. The quality of the works this year was superior, and congratulations are due to each entrant who won an award. I pray that each of you who submitted a piece will continue to pursue your craft by expressing the gift God has given you.

As your art is displayed these weeks, it will proclaim to viewers the forgiveness of Jesus that overcomes sin, guilt, shame, and alienation. It will proclaim the grace of Jesus that turns deniers into shepherds who serve others and follow Jesus in the way of the cross. May the Lord powerfully use these works to draw those who see them to himself.

7day Bible Art Challenge™

TENTATIVE DATES for the 6TH Annual UALC 7 Day Bible Art Challenge:
Entry Deadline: Feb 12, 2023; Verse Assignment Feb 15, 2023; Turn-In Feb 22, 2023
Awards Reception March 5, 2023

Entries open August 2022 at www.ualc.org/7dayart

If you would like an alert when the Call for Entries is issued, email visualarts@ualc.org
(Participating artists are already on the mailing list.)

To learn about organizing a 7 Day Bible Art Challenge in another community
or to support spreading this concept nationwide, visit
www.7dayart.com

Acknowledgements and Thanks to:

Sponsors/Donors

Advent Media, Inc./Advent Digitizing
Bob Bruce

Jurors

Pastor Jeff Morlock, UALC
Artist Jeff Hersey, Terra Gallery, Dublin, OH

Radio Promotion

Bob Burney, WRFD 880am/98.5fm

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Upper Arlington Lutheran Church

David Bowersox: Financial Director
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Ministry. You need not be an artist to
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