

2019 UNY AC Laity Session Agenda 1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. June 5, 2019

Kae Wilbert, representing CONAM, opens our time together by offering a blessing and reminder that this land was traditionally sacred to our Native American sisters and brothers.

Susan Hardy, UNY Conference Lay Leader, welcomes everyone, identifies housekeeping items (exits, restrooms, etc.) and introduces Bishop Mark Webb.

Bishop Webb offers his remarks and appreciation for the presence and work of laity here and throughout our Upper New York Annual Conference.

Susan Hardy introduces Carmen Vianese, UMW President for UNY UMW, Finance Chair of UMCOR, and a Director for Global Ministries.

Carmen Vianese celebrates the 200th anniversary of Global Ministries and the 150th anniversary of United Methodist Women. (2 brief videos and about 20 minutes of informative remarks)

Drew Griffin, Associate Conference Lay Leader and District Lay Leader for the BI District, introduces Rachel John, CCYM Co-Chair.

Rachel John, CCYM Co-Chair and member of Conference Board of Laity, offers a Power Point presentation to inform laity about youth ministry opportunities this past year.

Helping Hands offering is distributed and collected by designated tellers as we all enjoy a brief stretch time. (This annual offering is available to assist laity in local congregations who face an unusual hardship/challenge.)

Susan Hardy introduces **Neil Law** and **Sharon Bassett** from our Oneonta District. They asked, "What can we do together (as a group of regional congregations) that we cannot do alone?" They explained how a cooperative parish concept grew out of reading Community: The Structure of Belonging by Peter Block. Both described how 11/12 congregations discovered that this also resulted in intentional discipleship plans!

Drew Griffin introduces Young Adult Co-Chairs, **Elyse Muder** and **JJ Warren**, who convey a renewed energy for participation and inclusiveness among our conference young adults.

Susan Hardy addresses Laity Session with a message based on our 2019 theme of “Together in Prayer—Moving Beyond Our Comfort Zones”. Susan reports on her many responsibilities throughout 2018-19, highlighting serving on Extended Cabinet, Conference Leadership Team, and attending the NEJ Association of Conference Lay Leaders in Springfield, Massachusetts in October 2108, as well as the Annual Association of Conference Lay Leaders in Santa Fe, New Mexico in April 2019.

Jessica White, Niagara Frontier District Lay Leader, and **Shafeegh Habeeb**, Finger Lakes District Lay Leader, introduce potential delegates to General Conference 2020 and North Eastern Jurisdictional Council 2020, then lead the session in prayer over these faithful and courageous nominees.

Drew Griffin closes the session with prayer.

As always, this session was planned through the cooperative vision and efforts of our UNYAC Board of Laity, and the work and gifts of each member are deeply appreciated!

Susan Hardy, CLL

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