

the world. This system is an acknowledgement of God's love with our neighbors in all places. Supporting our United Methodist Ministries around the world is our obligation, but we fulfill this obligation with joy, knowing we are supporting ministry far greater than what we could do alone."

The Rev. Susan Ranous, Chair of the Conference Council on Finance & Administration, said, "It feels great that we have been on an excellent track for the past three years—

paying 100 percent of our General Church apportionments! I am grateful for consistent Ministry Share giving and the hard work of CF&A and our finance team to help make this accomplishment possible for three years in a row."

Bishop Webb concurs with Rev. Ranous. He said, "I too am grateful for the tremendous effort that the Conference Council on Finance & Administration and other leaders

God loves. God gives.

We love. We give.

Together We Do More



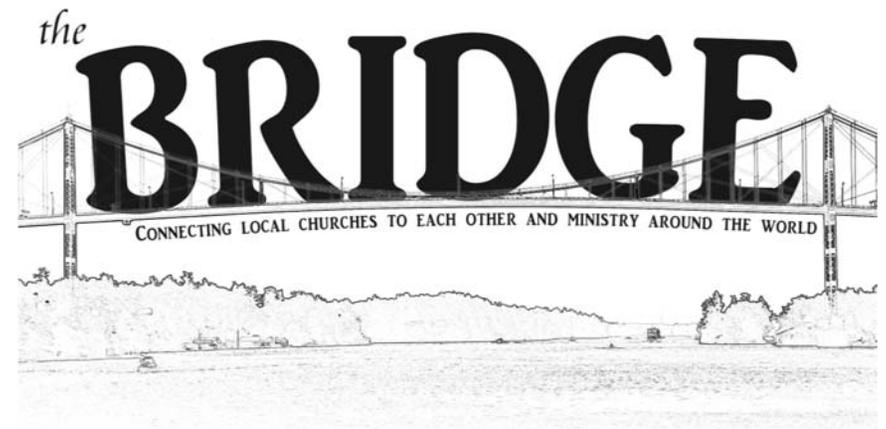
have put forth in managing our spending."

Meeting 100 percent of General Church apportionments is one way that local churches in UNY are helping to fund General Church funds such as the World Service Fund, The Black College Fund, and the Ministerial Education Fund. Visit [http://bit.ly/UMC\\_apportionments](http://bit.ly/UMC_apportionments) to learn about more funds supported by General Church apportionments.

*The Bridge is a Conference Communications Ministry tool that delivers to local churches news and stories of ministry from around the Upper New York Conference and the world. For more news and stories visit:*

**[www.unyumc.org](http://www.unyumc.org)**

Visit <http://www.unyumc.org/events/special-session-of-general-conference> for more about the Special Session.



The Upper New York Conference's vision is to live the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be God's love with our neighbors in all places.

## A look inside!

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## Praying for the Special Session of General Conference



As the Special Session of General Conference approaches (Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis, MO), members of the Upper New York Delegation are sharing their prayers on video. Look forward to prayers from eight of the delegates between now and Special Session.

Visit <http://bit.ly/RevAllenprayer> to view a prayer recited by the Rev. Bill Allen, head of the Upper New York Delegation where he asks God to come in

power to guide the delegates and support those watching and praying about Special Session.

You are also invited to share your prayers for Special Session by commenting on any of the posted vlogs in this series, on our Facebook page where the vlogs will also be shared (<https://www.facebook.com/uppernewyork>), or by sending your prayer to [news@unyumc.org](mailto:news@unyumc.org).

## UNY pays 100 percent of their General Church apportionments

By Shannon Hodson

For the third year in a row, the Upper New York (UNY) Conference was able to give 100 percent of our General Church apportionments, supporting life changing ministry around the world.

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb said, "Our ministry togeth-

er through the giving of Ministry Shares truly multiplies the impact of the Gospel around the world. I want to personally thank every congregation in the Upper New York Conference for your continued giving. Your Ministry Shares have made it possible for us to pay 100 percent of our commitment to the General Church

## Connecting with Special Session

Utilize your Conference website and social media platforms to stay connected to the Special Session of General Conference from Feb. 23-26.

From our website ([www.unyumc.org](http://www.unyumc.org)), you will be able to access the livestream of Special Session.

Visit the news section of our website for updates throughout Special Session (<http://www.unyumc.org/news/stories>).

Visit our blog (<http://www.unyumc.org/news/perspectives>) to see written blogs as well as vlogs (short 1-minute videos) from our delegates. They will be blogging and vlogging responses to prompting questions that will give you a glimpse of the atmosphere of Special Session, personal reflections they have, and prayer requests that are on their minds.

Visit and like our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/>



[uppernewyork](https://www.facebook.com/uppernewyork)) to see Facebook Live clips as well as photos from our delegates.

Visit our Twitter Feed (<https://twitter.com/uppernewyork>) and Instagram site (<https://www.instagram.com/uppernewyork/>) for tweets and photos of Special Session.

for the third year in a row. This is an amazing accomplishment."

Bob Flask, UNY Conference Treasurer said, "Although the Conference did fall a little short of our budgeted Ministry Share collection, we made the decision to draw on our reserves in order to, once again, reach our annual goal of payment

of 100% of our General Church apportionments."

He continued, "It is with these apportionment payments the Methodist Church remains connectional. This connectional system allows our ministry to create Disciples of Jesus Christ around

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