



mation, information, and inspiration. His sermon was centered on Acts Chapter 3—the telling of James and John making their way into a temple when they saw a man unable to walk begging for alms. James and John, holding the man’s hand, said, ‘Silver and Gold, we have none, but such as we have, we give to thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... rise up and walk.’ The man rose, walked, leaped, and praised God.

In terms of giving affirmation, Bishop Proctor said, “Peter and John paid attention to the man, holding his hand, affirming they hear his call.”

Speaking of the gift of information, Bishop Proctor said, “Peter and John did not take the credit for the power to perform a miracle; they said, ‘In

the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth...’ Bishop Proctor continued, “You must be willing to tell the world who Jesus really is.”

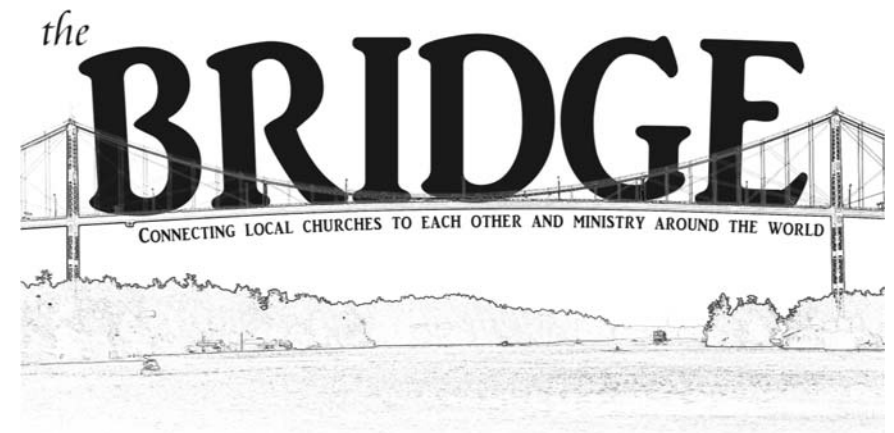
As for inspiration, Bishop Proctor reiterated how the man in the temple not only walked, but he leaped, praising God. He said, “This man had new energy...he was not only healed physiologically, but also psychologically...it’s not you, me, us, but the power that works through us.”

For a full list of the 2018 commissioners and ordinands and more on Bishop Proctor’s sermon, visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018ordination>.

For a full Annual Conference 2018 wrap-up including notes and videos, visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018wrapup>.

*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:*

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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!

Upper New York Annual Conference boldly lives our call

Page 2

Upper New York Annual Conference boldly lives our call



Members of the Upper New York Annual Conference gathered for the ninth session May 30 – June 2 at the SRC Arena in Syracuse, NY.

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop, Mark J. Webb officiated and led the Conference around the theme Boldly Living Our Call.

“If we are to boldly live our call – if we are to be effective in the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ – our identity must be grounded in the identity of Christ,” Bishop Webb said, during opening worship. “We must acknowledge Christ! We must acknowledge who Christ is, not based on who the world says he is or based on our ideas, our definitions, our understandings, but on who Jesus said he was in word and in action. We must confess Jesus as our Savior and Lord.”

Conference Teacher, Rev. Dr. L. Gregory Jones led two study sessions. The first focused on not going back to Egypt.

“Each one of us has a ‘back to Egypt’ part of our souls,” Rev. Jones explained. “We get a glimpse of what God is calling us to do, and we get uncertain. And we say, ‘I don’t think so. Egypt sounds just fine to me.’ Oh how often we just settle for ‘going back to Egypt.’”

Visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018RevJones1> to view the first study session in full.

The second study session focused on getting the past out of our eyes to attain an extraordinary future.

“If we are going to boldly move into our call, if we are really going to be able to understand the summons coming from God, we need to recognize all that needs to be unlearned so we can change,” Rev. Jones said.

Visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018RevJones2> to view the second study session in full.

The Rev. Corey Turnpenney was the speaker for this year’s Memorial Service; visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018memorialservice> for the full article and the listing of those who were remembered.

Bishop Webb honored retirees, new local church appointments, ordinands, commissioners, and the Cabinet at the Service of Blessing and Anointing. Visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018blessingandanointing> for the full article.

Last year’s Harry Denman evangelism award winners Sandi Pearl (clergy) and Mark Jones (laity) presented this year’s Denman Award. Mark Jones presented the Denman award, posthumously to laity recipient Kevin T. Dunn. Kevin’s wife Amara, parents John and Wanda, and grandmother Eloise accepted the award for him. Pastor Perl presented the clergy recipient of the Harry Denman evangelism award to Pastor Mike Kelly.

Several recommendations were addressed through holy conferencing:

The Conference Leadership Team Recommendation that every UNY congregation be required to use the VitalSigns Dashboard starting Sept. 1, 2018, was

supported as amended to strongly encouraged rather than required; visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018leadershipreport> for details.

Board of Pension & Health Benefits recommendations one and two, both supported; visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018pensionandhealthreport> for details.

Equitable Compensation recommendations one through five were all supported or supported as amended; visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018equitablecomp> for details.

Visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018recs> for details on the remaining recommendations.

Eleven resolutions were discussed; visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018resolutions> for a full article on the resolutions and to learn which were supported and which



were not supported.

The ninth session of the Upper New York Annual Conference concluded with the service of Ordination and Commissioning. Bishop Dennis V. Proctor from the North Eastern Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church was the preacher.

Bishop Proctor’s message was about what we can all give to help others: affir-

Continued on page 4

