

March 16, 2016

Oneonta District Office UMC Newsletter **of the Upper New York Annual Conference**

"Living the gospel of Jesus Christ and Being God's love with our neighbors in all places."

Please share this issue of the Oneonta District Newsletter with church members and staff, teams and organizations. If you wish to include news about your missions or disciple formation ministries, please send it on Mondays to be published – that week – email to: OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org



As the days lengthen and the earth spends longer in the light of day, grant that I may spend longer in the light of your presence, O Lord, and may those seeds of your Word, which have been long –buried within me, grow, like everything around us, into love for you, and love for people; to become a visible declaration of your Lordship in my life. Grant, Father, that this Lent there may be a spring-time for my life in Christ.

Dick Williams

Together, let us pray for

Pastor Carol Coltrain- recovering from surgery

The [UNY Safe Sanctuaries Ministry](#)

District Events Coming Up

Date	Time	Item	Location
Tues. March 29	5:30-8 pm	District Board on Locations & Buildings Meeting -DBLB	First Oneonta UMC - LIBRARY 1st floor
Wed March 30	7-8:30 PM	District Committee on Superintendency Meeting- DCOS	TBA
Thurs. March 31	4pm till done	District Committee on Ministry LP Interviews - DCOM	Cobleskill UMC
Sat April 2, 2016	1-4 PM	Safe Sanctuary Training	Unadilla UMC – (607)563-7713 or email cjgs@frontiernet.net to sign up
Sat April 2 & 9th	8am-2pm	Spring Lay Servant School – click here for Brochure to Register	Elm Park UMC
Thurs., April 14th, 2016	See below	Bishop's Day on the District	Norwich Broad Street UMC See below for details
April 16,2016	4-6PM	Pre-Conference Briefing	Saratoga Springs UMC
April 23 rd	All Day	Day of prayer for the 2016 General Conference,	http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/uny-to-observe-day-of-prayer-for-gc-16
April 30 th , 2016	9-11 am	Pre-Conference Briefing	Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center in Moravia
April 30 th , 2016	3-5 pm	Pre-Conference Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">at the Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Windsor
May 9 & 10 & May 15	5:45-8:30 pm 2-5 pm	Basic Lay Servant Training – see details below to register	Unadilla UMC

Sat May 14th	3-6 pm Tentative	Celebration of our Service together –	Changing the World Service Project- Dish to Pass - Further Details TBA
June 2-4 2016		2016 UNY Annual Conference	At the OnCenter in Syracuse, NY. Click on link below for more information. http://www.unyumc.org/events/annual-conference

REMINDER TO CHURCH LEADERS Deadline for forms due

WAS March 15, 2016 (*Mail completed copy to District Office*)

20. Local Church Annual Financial Audit

If you have not completed this report please do so as soon as possible *For help logging into Church/Clergy profile system at uny.umconline.org or ezra.gcfa.org please contact Teresa at the district office. Call (607)441-5102 or email: OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org

SAVE THE DATE

A Celebration of our Ministry Together

Saturday May 14th – 3-6 pm

Location- Neahwa Park Pavilion

Back up location in case of inclement weather – Elm Park UMC

Changing the World Service Project-
Dish to Pass

Further Details TBA

Safe Sanctuaries Training

Saturday, April 2 from 1:00-4:00 at the Unadilla United Methodist Church. People may sign up by calling Claudia Jenkins at 563-7713 or e-mail her at cjgs@frontiernet.net .

Save the Date

Bishop's Day on the District

Laity and clergy gathering with Bishop Mark Webb on **Thursday April 14th, at [Broad Street Norwich UMC](#). 74 North Broad Street, Norwich, NY.**

We hope that all of Oneonta district churches will be a part of this gathering, which will include worship and communion. "Increasing Our Capacity" is the theme for evening. Bishop Webb's sermon title is "Radical Church" (Acts 2.1-13; 37-47).

Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to worship together and celebrate communion with the episcopal leader of our Upper New York Conference. Make plans now to attend!

District clergy will have lunch and a time with Bishop Webb earlier in the day, also at Broad Street Norwich UMC.

To help those preparing lunch, clergy please register : Please call or email Trish at The Broad Street Norwich UMC office **Phone (607) 334-2895 Email bsumc8@frontiernet.net**

Registration is not necessary for evening session.

Agenda for the day

10-3 Clergy w/Bishop

5 - 6:00 pm Bishop with DS & District Leadership Team

Oneonta District Lay Servant School -Spring 2016



Saturday April 2nd & 9th at Elm Park UMC

401 Chestnut St. Oneonta

Registration will begin at 8:00 and classes will run from 8:30 am - 2:00 pm

Please bring a bag lunch days.

For Registration Form, information on how to register and Course information ,
[click here for Brochure.](#)

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: FRIDAY, MARCH 25

DON'T FORGET to order your books well before class begins!

For more information contact:

Maxine Christman

Phone:(518) 895-2671

Email: ladymaxinec@gmail.com

Basic Lay Servant Training

When: May 9th and 10th 5:45pm-8:30pm AND May 15th 2-5pm

final meeting time may be adjusted by consensus, if needed, to suit participant's needs)

Where: Unadilla UMC

Required Materials:

"Lay Servant Ministries" by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson

(Basic Course Participant's Book)

Available at www.cokesbury.com or <tel:800-672-1789> Also available at Amazon.com

PARTICIPANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING THEIR OWN BOOK

Format: Pre-assigned reading of the entire text, lecture, class discussion, independent "field project" due at final class meeting. Total classroom/field project learning time is 10 hours.

Participants must attend all three sessions to complete the course for certification.

Registration: E-mail or call Pastor Brandilynne Craver at : brandilynne.craver@gmail.com

607-761-3688

Deadline for registrations: 5/2/16

To Pastors and Lay Leaders of the Oneonta District UMC- UNYAC

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

I am a retired UMC pastor from Washington State. My wife, Colleen and I would like to spend some time in your area near the end of July this coming summer. We especially want to attend the Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on July 24th. In exchange for a place to stay I am offering to provide pulpit supply

July 17th and/or 24th. In addition we would offer a place to stay in our home on Whidbey Island in Puget Sound north of Seattle to anyone interested.

Please contact David G. Lura directly at : lura.david.colleen@gmail.com , if you are interested in this opportunity.

Please feel free to check us out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/david.lura>

**Respectfully,
David G. Lura**

Pastor, United Methodist Church, retired -Chaplain, United States Navy Reserve, retired -Chaplain, Oak Harbor First Reformed Church, part-time Chaplain, Oak Harbor Area Council of Navy League, volunteer
<http://www.oakharbornavyleague.org/>

Check out "Attractional Church Model

The Gathering" by Upper New York Conference on Vimeo. **(Featuring First Oneonta UMC)** The video is available for your viewing pleasure at <https://vimeo.com/151041305>

Also Supper Church Video at : <http://www.unyumc.org/news/video/serving-up-supper-scripture-in-salem>

If you like this video, make sure you share it, too! Vimeo is filled with lots of amazing videos. See more at <https://vimeo.com>.

NEW - Registration opens for the 2016 Annual Conference session

Registration is now open for the Upper New York Annual Conference session, held June 2-4 at the OnCenter in Syracuse. [Click here](#) to visit the registration page, which includes a link to the online form, the Registration and Event Guidelines, and the Housing Form.

Questions about registration can be addressed to Julie Valeski at julieva-leski@unyumc.org. [Click here](#) for more news and information about the 2016 Annual Conference session.



Announcement: Explaining why your 2016 Workers' Compensation bill may have increased -

Due to the 2014 payroll audit that was conducted by Church Mutual last year, your church's 2016 Workers' Compensation Insurance bill may have increased. The results of this audit most likely indicated that your church was *underbilled* for workers' compensation insurance in previous years. If you have questions with regard to this issue, please contact Church Mutual at (800) 554-2642, option #4. It would be helpful to review the information you supplied to it for the audit and for any errors prior to calling so that Church Mutual can make the appropriate adjustments.

The Equitable Compensation application for July – December 2016 is now available online. To apply go to: <http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/equitable-compensation-application-for-july-december-2016-available>

Please use the application with the April 1, 2016 deadline, not previous versions, as some of the questions have changed.

Deadline: April 1 - Churches need to have the application with appropriate documents (compensation forms, church budget and Ezra church summary report) to the District Superintendents. Award letters will be mailed out in mid-May.

NEW-22th Annual PALESTINIAN Dinner: Friday, June 3rd at the Plymouth Congregational Church at 232 E. Onondaga St. (2 ½ blocks from On Center)

Authentic Palestinian buffet beginning at 5:30 PM sponsored by the UNY Task Force on Peace and Justice in Palestine/Israel Cost of dinner is \$15.00.

Program: Rev. Gary Kubitz will speak about his Interfaith Peace Builder Olive Harvest trip in October/November. Gary's wife Sarah and Task Force member, Gary Doupe's wife, Elaine, were also on the trip.

For reservations: Linda Bergh (315-492-8507), 116 Edna Rd., Syracuse, NY 13205 or Karen Peterson (607-739-3141), 116 Greenridge Drive, Horseheads, NY 14845

Make checks payable to UNYAC ("Palestinian Dinner" on the memo line)

Students: Apply now for 2016 UNY Conference scholarships

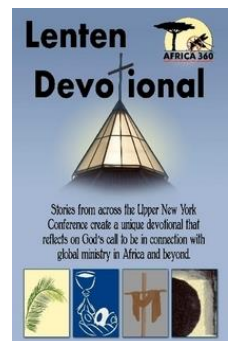
United Methodist high school seniors and college students are invited to apply for two scholarships offered by the Upper New York Conference: Conference Merit Awards and Lottie Brown Grants. Application forms and guidelines are available now. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

SUPPORT AFRICA 360

The Africa 360 Lenten Devotional is now available. It includes daily stories, reflections, and prayers from lay folks and pastors all around Upper New York, **including 2 days from our own Pastor Becky Parry of Morris and Edmeston!**

This 76 page devotional is available in two formats – as a free PDF for download from the Conference website (right at the top of the [Africa 360 toolkit](#)) and as a full-color printed hard copy from online publisher Lulu.com at www.tinyurl.com/A360LentenDevo2016. (If you would like the long, full version of the address instead of the tinyURL it is: <http://www.lulu.com/shop/upper-new-york-conference/lenten-devotional/paperback/product-22540675.html>.)

We thank you for helping us to get the word out about this exciting devotional/small group ministry tool! . [Click here for half-page bulletin insert](#) to add to your weekly newsletter .



How to get involved ?

There are all new materials – brochures, bookmarks, envelopes can be ordered online, printable display, liturgy, and more at www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa-360 (churches can find tools at the Africa 360 toolkit, linked to that page as well) For youth, a local church in the Crossroads district has created a project, complete with video and craft project (downloadable from www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa-360)

[360-Toolkit](#)), and includes cross-generational experiences for congregations that are interested:
<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/prayer-partners-another-life-saving-tool-in-the-africa-360-toolkit>

Laurel O'Connor Field Coordinator, Africa 360 Upper New York Conference
315-424-7878 ext. 327 Africa 360: Health and Education for Generations

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. –African Proverb

Limited copies available to purchase

A Disciples Path – Daily Workbook (Deepening your relationship with Christ and the Church)

By: James Harnish with Justin LaRosa

Cost \$ 8.00 ea. – If you would like to purchase this workbook please contact Teresa at the District Office – Email : OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org or by phone : (607) 441-5102

UMM Event -You are Invited

Oneonta / Binghamton Districts Men's Communion and Breakfast

C O M M U N I O N

MEN'S
7:30am MARCH 19th
BREAKFAST



Look forward to seeing all of you

7:30 am Coffee hour and fellowship
8:00 am Worship and Communion
Breakfast and meeting/fellowship

Location: Otego United Methodist Church
10 Church Street Otego, NY 13825
contact: Pastor Brandlynn Craver
phone: 607-988-2866
email: otegomc@yahoo.com



The Oneonta/Binghamton district men's communion and breakfast is coming up quick and now is the time to save the date. The breakfast is to be on **Saturday, March 19th at the Otego United Methodist Church** on Church Street in Otego, which is off I88 Exit 12, easy to get to. The coffee hour starts at 7:30 am with worship to follow at 8:00 am. Breakfast and program to follow.

Feel free to download the PDF flier to post in your church. The contact person is Brandi Craver, pastor and can be reached at 607-988-

2866 and the email is otegomc@yahoo.com . Please contact that person and let them know how many are coming from your church. This is open to men and boys so please spread the word. Send me contacts if you can so we can expand our list. **-David Barnes-** VP Binghamton District Men

5th annual New Faith Community Event focuses on



Registration is now open for the Upper New York Conference's 5th annual New Faith Communities Event that takes place **April 8-9 at the Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center in Moravia**. "What is the Upper New York New Faith Communities Annual Event? It is a chance for every person who is interested in the planting movement in Upper New York to gather, to learn, to network, and to be inspired by the amazing things God is doing throughout the Conference," said the Rev. Dave Masland, UNY Conference Director of New Faith Communities. Click here to

register <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ebzfdjto62476836&oseq=&c=&ch=>

The deadline for the early bird registration - \$100 which includes meals and lodging and \$30 for commuters - is March 16; the registration increases to \$120 and \$45 respectively after that date.

UNY to observe day of prayer for GC '16

On April 23, members of the Upper New York Conference will observe a day of prayer for the 2016 General Conference, which will meet May 10-20 in Portland, Ore. Plans are underway for this prayer observance, and more specific information will be available in the coming weeks. The General Conference prayer observance began on December 31, leading off 131 days of continual prayer for the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. Click below for details

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/uny-to-observe-day-of-prayer-for-gc-16>



Youth: 'Do Something' at CCYM's UP! WORD 16 - Registration is now open for the Upper New York Conference Council on Youth Ministry's UP!WORD '16 to be held **April 22-24** at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool. The theme for last year, "Searching God," helped youth better understand their relationship with God; this year's theme takes that understanding and suggests it is time to "Do Something" with it. "Do Something: Disciples' Edition" will provide youth and youth leaders with multiple opportunities to see how they can each do something as Christ's disciples. Click here to register.



<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ec63d58fec226e6d&oseq=&c=&ch>

June 16-18, 2016

Northeastern Jurisdiction UMW

Quadrennial Meeting at the On Center, Syracuse, NY

The theme is A Fresh Wind Blowing based on John 3:8 The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit.



The program includes daily worship services with dynamic music throughout the time together. The purpose is also to elect women to the board and there will be time for workshops, which include topics of Maternal Health, Poverty, Racial Justice, and Ubuntu opportunities, which is working at area missions. For more information and registration Click Here

Early registration deadline is January 31, 2016 of \$175.00 which includes Friday meals of a boxed lunch and banquet. Regular registration is open until April 30, 2016 - \$200 and late registration is \$250 closes May 15, 2016.

Phyllis Doane, NEJ UMW President, from Canton, NY would like to invite you to come and celebrate the legacy of United Methodist Women. Don't miss this opportunity to meet your sisters and brothers in Christ from Maine to Virginia, to worship and pray together.

Bishop Webb names new district superintendents

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb is pleased to announce the appointment of two new district superintendents.



The Rev. Vonda Fossitt, pastor at the High Street United Methodist Church in Binghamton, will be superintendent of the Genesee Valley District.



The Rev. Everett Bassett, pastor at the Cicero UMC, will be superintendent of the Oneonta District.

The appointments are effective July 1, 2016. – [Click here to read more](#)

Chuck Knows Church videos on The Committee at <http://www.chuckknowschurch.com> The latest is Evangelism.-Other good ones are the Pilot, Hospitality, Reflecting the Community, and Our Purpose. Great for use with your Administrative Council or other leadership group! There is a downloadable discussion guide available for each segment.

Conference Job Posting - Anyone inquiring about any open positions can go to <http://www.unyumc.org/about/jobs> and use the online application system for applying for open positions.

Current Job Openings at Upper New York 4 Total Job(s)
[Click here for Details](#)

The Upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to building a diverse team. We strongly encourage women and men from all races and backgrounds, individuals with disabilities, and veterans to apply.

**The Binghamton District's United Methodist
Men's Night at the Ball Game
Thursday, June 23rd -NYSEG Stadium in Binghamton.
Tickets are \$8.00 (and will be available in early March)**

Binghamton District Superintendent the Rev.Dr. David Kofahl will throw out the first ball. Last year's event was the best in its eight-year run - it raised \$1,800.00 for the Society of St. Andrew, \$300.00 for the Upper Room Prayer Line, and \$300 to enable another UMM Conference project.

This year, the largest portion of proceeds will go to the Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse (CHOW) and the Broome County Council of Churches, and lesser amounts will be sent to the Upper Room Prayer Line and the Society of St. Andrew to feed the hungry.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Ken Summers at (607)785-0406 or kensummers28@gmail.com

2016 Summer Camp & Retreat programs registration opens

Upper New York Camp & Retreat Ministries (CRM) is excited to announce that registration is now open for its 2016 Summer Camp & Retreat programs. "We are excited about the high quality and excellent variety of programs being offered this summer," said Mike Huber, UNY Conference Director of Camp & Retreat Ministries. "The CRM team, in collaboration with hundreds of volunteers, has created programs specifically designed for spiritual growth, birth, and renewal." Click below for details

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/2016-summer-camp-retreat-programs-registration-opens>

Contact info for the Upper NY Conference is as follows:

Upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church
324 University Ave., 3rd Floor, Syracuse, NY 13210
315) 424-7878 * Toll-Free (855) 424-7878 * Fax (315) 478-4869 * Email: www.unyumc.org

Quicklinks

[Oneonta District Calendar](#) * [Oneonta District Newsletter](#) * [Advocate](#) * [Africa-360](#) * [Background Checks](#)
[Benefits/Pension](#) * [Bishop Mark J. Webb](#) * [Bridge](#) * [UNYAC Calendar](#) * [Camp & Retreat Ministries \(CRM\)](#) * [Classifieds Conference Council on Youth Ministries \(CCYM\)](#) * [Contact UNYAC](#) * [Disaster Response](#) * [Finance](#) * [Forms](#) * [Imagine No Malaria](#) * [Media Resource Center](#) * [Volunteers-in-Mission](#) * [UNYAC Weekly Digest](#)
[2016 Standard Mileage Rate](#)

The District Newsletter can be found at the Oneonta District website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/oneontadistrictumc/> and at Conference Webpage at:
<http://www.unyumc.org/district/oneonta> See us on Face book: [Oneonta District United Methodists](#)

P.O. BOX 668 Oneonta NY, 13820 Phone/Fax: (607)441-5102

Your Partners in Ministry at the Oneonta District Office,
Rev. Jan Rowel, District Superintendent and Teresa Wood, Administrative Assistant



Oneonta District

Upper New York Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH