

October 22nd, 2015

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, that involves Missions send it a minimum of 7 days in advance to: OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org

Together, let us pray for

The people of North Afton UMC, their worship Leader Wilfred Spalholz and Coordinating Pastor Tom Pullyblank for Beverly Harris (New Berlin Lay Leader) and her family – Bev is at Wilson Hospital and had a cardiac procedure yesterday Wed Oct 21.

all those who suffer and those in trouble

*those who struggle with addiction
refugees and migrants fleeing Syria and Iraq (see below)
all who suffer violence*

for the concerns of our local communities

neighbors served by our food pantries, community meal ministries, thrift shops

for the world, its peoples, and its leaders

*for wisdom and justice in our national and community conversations around racism
for places of conflict, near and far- for grace to see each person as a child of God*

for the Church universal- its leaders, its members, and its mission

United Methodist Committee on Relief work with refugees in Europe and around the world

District & Conference Events Coming Soon

Date	Time	Item	Location
Oct 24 th & 31 st	8 am – 2pm	Lay Servant Training	At Elm Park UMC – Click here for Flyer
Sat. Oct. 31		Safe Sanctuaries Training	Safe Sanctuaries Training Class at Elm Park – please register by using Lay Servant Training Brochure
Sun., Nov. 15th	12- food 1-Worship and business	Sidney Regional Church Conference	Sidney UMC
Mon., Nov. 16th	6pm food 7pm worship & business	Norwich Regional Church Conference	Broad St Norwich UMC (Note place change due to accessibility)
Tues., Nov. 17th	6:30 pm	Oneonta Regional Church Conference	Elm Park UMC
Wed., Nov. 18th	6pm food 7pm worship & Business	Cooperstown Regional Church Conference	Cooperstown UMC

Thurs., Nov. 19th	6pm fellowship 6:30 worship & business	Schoharie Regional Church Conference	Esperance- Sloansville UMC
Tues., Dec 1st	9am-2:30pm	Advent Day Apart for Pastors – God's Gifts of Grace	Unadilla UMC
Tues., March 1st, 2016	9am-2:30pm	Lenten Day Apart for Pastors	Cooperstown UMC
Sat., March 5th, 2016	TBA	Oneonta District Day	Elm Park UMC
Thurs., April 14th, 2016	TBA	Bishop's Day on the District	Norwich Broad Street UMC – Details TBA SAVE THE DATE

Church Conference Paperwork Deadlines Fast Approaching!

Reports are due in the district office by November 1, 2015.

We know that everyone is hard at work on these reports. It is very important that reports are submitted on time!

The following reports are due in the district office, from ALL churches, by November 1, 2015.

1. 2016 Pastor's Compensation Worksheet

1a. Housing Exclusion Resolution - *sample (if applicable)*

1b. Accountable Reimbursement Plan Resolution - *sample (if applicable)*

NOTE: For information related to report worksheet and resolutions above, please visit:

<http://www.unyumc.org/about/2016-compensation-package>

2. Local Church Lay Leadership Reports:

2a. Nominations & Leadership Development Report (using your church's format)

2c. Local Church ~ UNYAC Leadership Interface

3. Report of the Pastor

4. Volunteers in Mission & Outreach Report

5. 2014 Audit

As Applicable:

6. Lay Servant Annual Report

7. Parsonage Committee Report (for each parsonage, even if rented/leased)

8. Recommendation of Candidate for Licensed/Ordained Ministry

9. Bequest Resolution - *sample*



(Complete online, print and mail signed copy to District Office):

12. Pastor's Appointment Advisory Form (complete at <http://uny.umconline.org>)

13. S/PPRC Appointment Advisory Form (complete at <http://uny.umconline.org>)

14. Pastor - S/PPRC Covenant Form (complete at <http://uny.umconline.org>)

These online forms (uny.umconline.org) require a Username and Password to complete.

If you need help accessing the online forms or any of the Annual Report forms, please contact the District Office

Reminder for Lay Servants

A report is due from you annually and must be submitted by November 1 to be approved at your annual church conference. Reports with missing information cannot be accepted. Download a report [here](#).

NEW - Need Help with Reports?

It's that time again - time to prepare multiple reports for your church's Regional Church Conference. This does not have to be frustrating!

This year, your friends in the Oneonta District Office want you to know about a new resource that we hope will be of help. We now have a workstation in the office that you can use to complete any of the reports listed on the 2015 Annual Report Form Check List. You may schedule a time to complete, print and submit your church's reports in one stop! This may be especially helpful in completing the online reports (numbers 12 through 16 and 19 on the Check List).

The work station will be available for use during regular office hours. If you're interested in scheduling a time to use this work station, please call (607-441-51020 or email Teresa at OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org).

Local Church News

This event is sponsored in conjunction with the Schoharie Regional ministry outreach program.

All are invited to attend a Forum on Alcoholism and the Family

Date: Sunday, October 25

Time: 2 pm - 4 pm

Place: Delanson United Methodist Church

Members of Alanon and Alcoholics Anonymous will share their experience with the disease of alcoholism and answer questions on the subject.

- The Portlandville and Milford churches will be collecting for the Red Bird Mission and will provide a location for the truck to pick up the items. If there are persons in other churches who would like to donate but do not have a local church collecting, they are welcome to join us in this endeavor. I do not have a pickup date as of yet, but persons can contact me at coump.2011@yahoo.com Sue Hulbert

Wanted: Set of hand bells : Milford UMC would like to either purchase, or borrow, a set of handbells. We have a lot of enthusiastic volunteers, but no hand bells to play! If you can help, please call 434-7188 and speak to Pastor Sylvia Barrett. Thank you!

Members of the **Unadilla 1st United Methodist Church Administrative Council and Trustee body have approved a proposal by The Village Green to use the church and parsonage grounds as a Community Permaculture Park**

The village of Unadilla will soon join a list of communities across our nation that have been implementing sustainable public edible food gardens. Members of the Unadilla 1st United Methodist Church Administrative Council and Trustee body have approved a proposal by **The Village Green** to use the church and parsonage grounds as a Community Permaculture Park, designed as a perennial food forest, open to the community for harvesting, with interpretive signage throughout to provide education and a gathering space for discussion, meditation and celebration.



[Click Here to read more](#)

Registration Open for Conference Council of Youth Ministry's



Mark your calendars for Fall Gathering West Nov. 20-21 at the Aldersgate UMC in Rochester.

The cost for the event is \$40 per person. This cost provides not just floor space for sleeping, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday, but also fantastic workshops, speakers, worship with live bands, time for fun and fellowship, and praise of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ!

The specifics for each event are still being finalized, but you can be sure that all the CCYM teams will have great things to help us all encounter God and put into practice: Do Something: Disciple's Edition.

Masters of ceremony for Fall Gathering West in Rochester will be Katie Allen and Elgin Scalzi. Registration for the fall gatherings is now open. [Click Here to Register!](#)

What is the United Methodist Church doing for the European migration crisis?

Thomas Kemper, General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries, has written [an open letter](#) regarding The United Methodist Church's response to the ongoing European migration crisis. In his letter, Kemper outlines the scope of the crisis, requests prayer as an immediate response, and highlights the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). To lend your financial support, please send donations to UMCOR through the Upper New York Conference, 324 University Ave., 3rd floor, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210 (please denote "Advance #982450" for International Disaster Response on your check). Additionally, UMCOR is providing food packets and hygiene kits on the island of Kos and Lesbos. [Click here](#) for details of how to assemble UMCOR relief kits. [Click here](#) to read more about The UMC's aid to European refugees.

UNY Conference Trustees activate Revolving Loan Fund

The Upper New York Conference is pleased to announce the activation of the Revolving Loan Fund. Upper New York's predecessor conferences had loan funds to assist churches for certain expenditures, primarily associated with real property, such as major repairs and capital improvements. These funds are now available for lending to UNY churches with these capital needs, when alternative financing is unavailable. [DETAILS](#)

SUPPORT AFRICA 360

Looking for a way to connect your youth or Sunday School to Africa 360? A church in the Crossroads district has helped create a new project, complete

with video and craft project (downloadable from www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa-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>

There are all new materials – brochures, bookmarks, envelopes can be ordered online, printable display, liturgy, and more at www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa360 (churches can find tools at the Africa 360 toolkit, linked to that page as well)

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

Older Adult Ministry

The Older Adult Ministry Team of the Upper NY Conference would like to invite you to a Retreat at Camp Casowasco on November 4th and 5th that is specifically focused on education and best practices for older adult ministry. **Registration deadline is October 22nd.**

[Click here to download a print copy](#) of this invitation and Registration Form.

'Track' your Ministry Shares progress

Through Ministry Shares, your local church supports amazing ministries around the world and in your backyard. The majority of Upper New York Conference churches are currently on track to pay 100 percent of their Ministry Share benevolence for 2015. [Click Here](#) to see the full list of on-track churches. Or go to : <http://www.unyumc.org/about/churches-on-track>



Rekindle Your Relationship

Settling for a secure, comfortable, yet sometimes lonely relationship? Yearning to recapture the romantic love and affection that first brought you together? Could be that you and your spouse are so busy meeting the demands of jobs, family, friends, and community that you have neglected to keep in touch with each other.

Consider attending a **Marriage Encounter Weekend**, to reconnect with one another, hone those skills that came so naturally in your courting days, and learn a communication method you can use at home to grow in understanding and love for one another each day.

There will be a Marriage Encounter Weekend at **Asbury Camp & Retreat Center**, Silver Lake, New York, **October 23 - 25, 2015**. The program runs from 7 p.m. Friday night to 4 p.m. Sunday afternoon. For more information, or to register for a weekend visit our website: www.encounter.org . Or contact Keith & Diane Sherwood (315) 492-2372 today.

Red Bird Mission

Red Bird Mission Shoebox Project – 2015 - It is time to begin filling shoeboxes for the Red Bird Mission Christmas Shoebox Project. This is a most worthwhile project serving the Red Bird Mission Conference of the United Methodist Church and their clientele. This project is worthy of your consideration. *For more information about Red Bird Mission and the Christmas 'Shoebox project, [click here](#).*

Nicaragua 2016

A VIM team will be going to Nicaragua in 2016. Tentative dates are March 3—17. The team will be working with Dr. Belinda Forbes, UM missionary dentist. Belinda works with Accion Medica Cristiana (Christian Medical Action/ AMC), an agency that works with some of the poorest people in Nicaragua, the second poorest country in our hemisphere. The team will probably do health related work but not direct medical care. Work might include assisting with dental care, health education, construction, etc. AMC will look at the team's skills and the community's needs to determine the work and the location. It is expected that the team will go to the northeastern region, the RACCN, which is regarded as the poorest area of Nicaragua.

The team is being sponsored by First UMC, Schenectady, which has a covenant relationship with Dr. Forbes. Anticipated cost will be \$2000-2500. Team leader is Cindy Schulte. You can contact her at tacks5@hotmail.com or 518-374-3012 for more information or an application. You can also contact Jan Huston for more information at hustonjp24@gmail.com or 518-399-0919. AMC has a website where you can learn more about the work they do with the warm, friendly people of this beautiful country – <http://amcenglish.org>. It is hoped that the team will be formed by mid-Sept. so get your application in soon!

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.

NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVALS in New York 2015

November 11 **Canandaigua Treaty Celebration** 12 PM till 9pm . Court house lawn Canandaigua and Elementary School Commemorates the 200+ years of the treaty - parade, food, vendors, educational presentations, social

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.*

Resource Center Links : Resource Center website: <http://www.unyumc.org/resources/media-resource-center>
And the current Newsletter: <http://www.unyumc.org/resources/monthly-newsletter>

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

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](http://www.facebook.com/OneontaDistrictUnitedMethodists)

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