

E-News from the Valley!!!!

(July 16, 2015)

E-News is an email communication tool (sent each Thursday) of the Genesee Valley District Office to clergy and laity across the District. For inclusion in the e-news please submit articles by noon on Wednesday.

If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, just "reply" to this message and include "remove" in the subject line. If you know of someone that would benefit from this mailing please notify the district office.

Click on any link to view the article in full

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(1) NEW! Note from the D.S.

ordinary time... in the valley...

*we...the body of Christ in the Genesee Valley District of the Upper New York Conference
of the United Methodist Church... are ...*

...to live the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be God's love with our neighbors in all places!

ordinary time...

we are not getting ready for Thanksgiving...or Christmas...or Easter...or Pentecost
we are living in a time when we can concentrate on the present moment...

christian life...

should always be about the present moment...

what is God calling us to do right now?

who is God calling us to listen to right now?

where is God calling us to lend a hand right now?

who is God calling us to be?

in this present moment...God is calling us to live our life like Jesus would live our life...

hummmmmmm.....

we are blessed by grace... to be blessings in the world!

ted

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A look at the upcoming weeks 07/17/2015 – 08/14/2015

Friday, July 17, 2015 = Ted's Sabbath

Thursday, July 23, 2015 = DA training (10:00am – 11:30pm)

Sunday, July 26, 2015 = Visit to Rochester: Covenant UMC

Thursday, July 30, 2015 = dCOM meeting @ CRCDS

Friday, July 31, 2015 = Ted's Sabbath

Wednesday, August 12, 2015 = District Leadership Team meeting @ The Anderson's (12:00)

Wednesday, August 12, 2015 = Appointment (2:00pm)

Friday, August 14, 2015 = Ted's Sabbath

****Please note: Whenever Ted is traveling or in multiple day meetings you may call the District Office and Betsy will know how to reach him.****

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(2) NEW! Joys & Concerns

Prayers and update on baby Marshall Lyles

Many thanks to those who have been praying for baby Marshall! He has enjoyed some good weeks at home with his mom and dad, the Rev. Devin and Logan Lyles. Rev. Lyles serves at the Pillar, a New Faith Community in the Rochester area. While Marshall has had some good weeks, he continues to face some physical challenges. Please continue to keep Marshall and his family in your prayers as he will be undergoing surgery on Monday, July 20.

If you have prayer concerns or joys that you would like listed on the e-news, please contact the district office. We welcome all information.

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(3) Upcoming Dates to Remember – Mark your calendars

Thursday, September 17, 2015 = Fall Clergy meeting (9-12 @ Asbury Camp & Retreat Center; 6:30-8:30pm @ CRCDS)

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 = Boundaries training at Asbury Camp & Retreat Center

Saturday, October 31, 2015 = GVD small group Church Conferences @ Geneseo UMC (9-12) & Rush UMC (2-5pm)

Sunday, November 1, 2015 = GVD small group Church Conferences @ Warsaw First UMC (3-6pm)

Saturday, November 7, 2015 = GVD small group Church Conferences @ Brockport UMC (9-12) & Penfield UMC (2-5pm)

Sunday, November 8, 2015 = GVD small group Church Conferences @ Dansville UMC (3-6pm)

Sunday, November 15, 2015 = GVD small group Church Conferences @ Elmgrove UMC (3-6pm)

February 6, 2016 = Informed to transform 7!

March 10, 2016 = Bishop's Day on the District

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(4) NEW! NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVALS in New York 2015

July 17-19 Veterans PowWow
 Seneca Nation
 Salamanca NY

July 25-26 Summer Music and Dance Festival
 Ganondagan State Historic Site Victor NY
 sponsored by Friends of Ganondagan (FOG)
 food, vendors, music, dance, educational presentations

August 7-9 Ancient Wisdom Rising 2015, Sacred Fire Foundation,
 <http://www.bluedeer.org/>, Margaretville, NY,

September 5-6 33rd Annual Iroquois Indian Festival
Iroquois Indian Museum
324 Caverns Road Howes Cave, NY

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(5) NEW! Clergy: Register now for required Boundary Awareness Training

In our life together, clergy are called to maintain boundaries as a means of maintaining covenant with each other and with those whom they serve. Understanding these boundaries and strategies to maintain them is important to doing ministry together.

Beginning in September, the Upper New York Conference Board of Ordained Ministry is offering Boundary Awareness Training for all clergy under appointment – this is not the same as Safe Sanctuary Training. This training is mandatory for all pastors in the Upper New York Conference.

The trainings will be led by the Rev. Diane Wheatley, in partnership with the Capital Region Theological Center. Rev. Wheatley is an ordained clergy member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Sessions will be held on the following dates and locations:

Sept. 24 at the [Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center](#), Moravia
Sept. 25 at the [Shenendehowa United Methodist Church](#), Clifton Park
Sept. 26 at the [Plattsburgh UMC](#)
Oct. 17 at the [Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center](#), Windsor
Oct. 27 at the [Findley Camp & Retreat Center](#), Clymer
Oct. 28 at the [Asbury Camp & Retreat Center](#), Silver Lake
Oct. 29 at the [Canton UMC](#)
Jan. 9, 2016 at the [Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center](#), Moravia

You are welcome to register for any event, pending space availability. You need only attend one event. You may register online for any event through the Capital Region Theological Center at crtc.org/upcoming/eventgroup.

The total fee for the course is \$85, which will be due upon check-in at the training. You may request a mini-grant (\$30) from your available continuing education

funds from the Board of Ordained Ministry during the registration process or by contacting the Rev. Wayne Mort at wayneamort@aol.com. You will receive notification regarding the awarding of these funds prior to the event, however, you should come to the course prepared to pay.

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(6) Update on Africa 360 progress

Churches all over the conference are answering the call to support Africa 360. The Africa 360 Challenge 2.0 was issued at Annual Conference in May, and each church has received a goal card to encourage them to participate. If your church did not receive a goal card, or has any other questions about resources, a speaker, or brainstorming creative ideas, email Laurel O'Connor, Africa 360 Field Coordinator at LaurelOConnor@unyumc.org. There are resources and information online as well: <http://www.unyumc.org/mission/africa-360>. The August issue of the Advocate is dedicated specifically to Africa 360, so keep your eyes open for that issue that will be filled with church stories, ideas, and resources that are available for use.

In other news, the Albany District Ministry Team and the "AU Breakfast Table" have initiated an endowed scholarship to honor Virgia Phoenix, a remarkable woman and this year's recipient of the Denman award at Conference. Virgia's local church, First UMC, Schenectady, has joined as co-sponsor. If you would like to give a gift to honor Virgia and the profound impact she continues to have in the Upper New York Conference, please send donations to the Upper New York Conference office, written to UNYAC with "AU-Virgia Phoenix" in the memo line. If your church would like to take an offering for the Virgia Phoenix endowed scholarship and would like specially-marked envelopes, please contact Laurel O'Connor (LaurelOConnor@unyumc.org). If a church or group of churches is interested in honoring someone and would like more details about endowing a full scholarship to Africa University, please contact the Conference Office for full details.

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(7) Interested in becoming a Certified Lay Minister?

The district is thinking of offering a Certified Lay Minister program again in the district. Is this something that you would like to know more about? Do you have

an interest in becoming a CLM? If so, please contact the district for more information. geneseevalleyumc@crcds.edu or 585-340-9525.

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(8) Committee Meetings

The Genesee Valley Lay Servant Committee meets at 4:30 pm on Third Monday's of the month at Bill Grey's in Henrietta. The next meeting is July 20th in the room behind the fireplace. All lay servants are invited and encouraged to attend when they are able. Everyone's input is valued.

Please note: the district office is available to send out reminder cards for your meetings if you notify us in advance that you wish this done.

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Local Church Events and Announcements

(9) Penfield UMC to hold a Terrific Treasures Sale

Penfield UMC will hold its annual Terrific Treasures Rummage Sale on Friday, July 31st from 9 AM - 7 PM and Saturday, August 1st from 9 AM – 4 PM. Bake Sale, Furniture, Housewares, Toys, Games, Clothes, Tools, Artwork and more! The church is located at 1795 Baird Rd, Penfield, NY.

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(10) United Church of Pittsford has Positions Open:

CHURCH ORGANIST AND ACCOMPANIST THE UNITED CHURCH OF PITTSFORD

This position will be open in September and is a full year position with vacation and optional Sundays. Our organist accompanies the choir with Sunday morning rehearsals and anthems twice a month and often accompanies soloists and ensembles, along with other worship service music. Visit our website – www.ucpittsford.org – for a full job description and how to apply.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF PITTSFORD

This position will be open mid-August and is a 20-hour/week full year position. The Christian Education director will work with the pastor and the Board of Christian Education to lead a program focused on outreach to families with children and youth. Visit our website – www.ucpittsford.org – for a full job description and how to apply.

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**Genesee Valley District
Upper New York Annual Conference Of The United Methodist
Church**

The Rev. Ted Anderson, District Superintendent

Terry Norsen & Pat VanVleck, District Co-Lay Leaders

Betsy O'Flynn, Administrative Assistant
District Office Hours Mon – Thurs 9am – 2pm
1100 South Goodman Street; Rochester NY 14620
geneseevalleyumc@crcds.edu
585-340-9525; Fax 585-340-9526
www.GeneseeValleyUNY.org