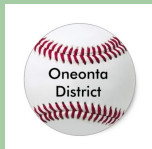
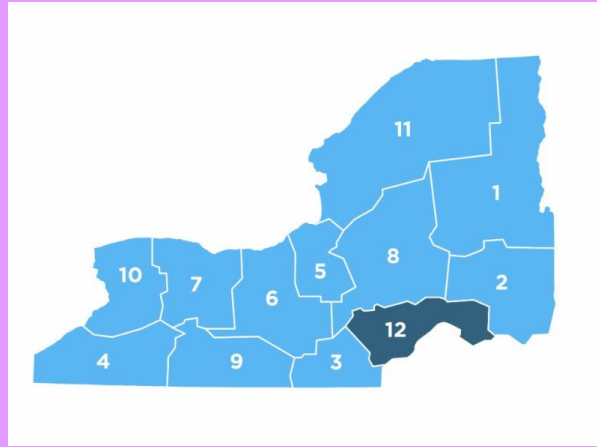


It's just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Upper New York Conference. Don't forget to add oneontadistrict@unyumc.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

Oneonta District 12



Oneonta District Newsletter January 25, 2017

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

Message from the DS

Should I speak up or not?

I knew that my session at the gym would be much more peaceful if I just held my tongue.

But the two men on the other machines were in a spirited conversation about current political events, and much of what they were saying struck me as narrow and mean-spirited.

What difference could it make to prolong this talk by throwing in my two cents? They seem pretty set in their views, and probably have no desire at all to hear another perspective. Trying to interject a contrasting idea where it was not sought has not ended well for me in the past.

On the other hand, I'd have to live with my silence all day if I didn't at least try to express an alternative to what they were saying.

So, when I caught the eye of one of the speakers, I ventured a couple remarks.

To my surprise, my input was welcomed, and a lively discussion followed. Both men seemed grateful to be engaged in a wider conversation.

As I left, I reflected that we might very well continue the dialogue in future gym visits.

I also wondered why I had hesitated to risk the discussion.

I realized how I had jumped to conclusions about these two men, and drawn stereotyped pictures of them in my mind. I pray this is a well-learned lesson in reserving



judgment.

It seems to me there are many more conversations that are needed; many more risks to be taken; many more bridges to be built.

Some of them may not turn out so well - that's the definition of risk.

But the ones that do will be worth it. They will seem like God-incidences, and like tiny steps closer to the kin-dom of reconciliation and justice promised in our faith.

Grace and peace, Everett

Prayer Request :

Please keep Mary Ann & Lyle Linder and their family in your prayers. Mary Ann fell yesterday Tuesday January 24th and sustained a head injury that resulted in a subdural hematoma. They took Mary Ann to the operating room last night to remove the large hematoma. Mary Ann is in the Intensive Care Unit at Bassett Hospital, Cooperstown.

Best hope is that she will "regain enough" to leave the hospital and perhaps go to a rehab. Lyle has requested a prayer chain would be very helpful.

GOOD NEWS:

Rev. Jan McClary Rowel (Retired Oneonta District Superintendent) has heard good news from her pathology report since her surgery in December . There are no indications of cancer anymore. Jan is still recovering from surgery and will begin another 4 months of chemotherapy for precautionary measures, starting Monday Jan 30th. Please continue to keep Jan in your prayers.

District Events - SAVE THESE DATES

Date	Event	Details
Jan. 21st	Safe Sanctuary training	<u>Sidney UMC @ 9:00am - 12:00 pm (noon)</u>
Jan. 27th	Emmaus Reunion Group - Bring Simple Dish to Pass - if you have a guitar and song leading skills - bring those too - Questions may be directed to brandilynne.craver@gmail.com	at <u>Unadilla UMC @ 6PM</u>
Feb 11	SOUL-YMPICS - Youth Event - Click here for Flyer	<u>First Oneonta UMC - From 2-6 PM</u>
March 5	Oneonta District's Listening Session with CF&A (Conference Budget review)	<u>Worcester UMC @ 2-4 pm</u>
April 1	Spring District Days	Location & Time TBA



Apr.il 2	Bishop to preach at Cobleskill UMC	
June 1 - 3	Upper New York Annual Conference	OnCenter - Syracuse NY

From Bishop Mark J. Webb

A letter of thanks from the Bishop Mark J. Webb

This year, thanks to the leadership of clergy and laity in each of our congregations, we received the highest receipt of Ministry Shares in the history of The Upper New York Conference....

[Click Here](#) to read entire letter

Announcement: Bishop Mark J. Webb names new Northern Flow District Superintendent and extends three others - [Click to read](#)

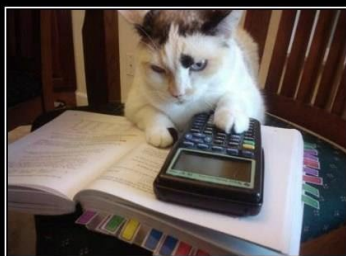
Bishop Webb announces clergy appointments

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb has announced 13 new appointments and three retirements, pending approval at the 2017 Clergy Session during Annual Conference. View the full list of changes - [here](#)

Important DATES TO REMEMBER:



Don't Wait Until the Last Minute - Login in to EZRA and Complete your Statistical Reports.



**43A-64B = 64 MINUS
WHAT WAS REPORTED
ON 44**

Praying for those still crunching those Statistical Tables!

WWW.EZRA.GCFA.ORG

This is to remind you that your church's 2016 Statistics report must be completed as of **February 15, 2017**.

You will complete your Statistical submission by using the Ezra system. Please log in at www.ezra.gcfa.org. Type in your username and password. If you need assistance and cannot locate this information, please contact the District Office.

Carefully read the message from the Conference Office on the homepage before beginning your reports.

When you are ready to begin your 2016 reports, please:

1. Update your church's contact information by clicking on "Account" at the top of the homepage.

2. To begin updating your statistics, click on "Enter Stats" on the homepage.

PLEASE DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY INSERT 2015 DATA. ACCURACY IS VERY CRUCIAL for both your church and reporting to the General Church.

[Click here](#) to read some stats basics prepared for you by the UNY Conference.

Due by Feb. 15, 2017 (Mail completed copy of each to District Office) *

[Report of the Trustees](#)

[Report of the Finance Committee #](#)

2016 Year End Financial Report (*your format*)

2017 Church Budget (*your format*)

Due Wednesday, March 15, 2017 [-Local Church Audit-](#)The 2016 annual audit of your church financial records is due in the District Office

- **What's going on at YOUR Church ???**

- If your church has events that you would like advertised in this section please email Teresa at OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org

NEW - Fly Creek UMC- Organ Recital

On Saturday, February 11 at 3pm the Fly Creek United Methodist Church will host an organ recital to benefit its window restoration project. Organist Peter Deysenroth, member of the American Guild of Organists and organist at Cooperstown First Presbyterian Church, will present a program featuring works by J.S. Bach, Buxtehude, Widor, Pachelbel and others. Donations will be accepted at the door which will help the church with the expenses of repairing the glass windows that line the sanctuary and foyer. [-Click here for flyer](#)

Safe Sanctuaries Training Opportunities

Safe Sanctuaries training at [Sidney UMC](#) on Saturday January 21, 2017 - from 9:00-12:00. To register please contact Claudia Jenkins at : Call: 607-563-7713, or email at : cjgs@frontiernet.net.

Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries® Training of Trainers

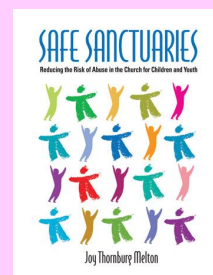
WHO:

Individuals interested in facilitating Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries Training as part of their District training team and/or for their local church.

WHEN: Saturday, February 11, 2017 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Lansing United Methodist Church, 32 Brickyard Road, Lansing, NY 14882

Lunch will be provided for those participating in both morning and afternoon sessions.



Registration is limited to 15 participants with those desiring to be a members of their District's training team having priority.

PRE-REQUISITE: Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries Training is a prerequisite for Training of Trainers. The 3-hour Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries Training course can be completed in the morning or at a previous time but must be the standard learning station format offered since Fall 2012 by a certified UNY Safe Sanctuaries trainer. This is non-negotiable.

Members of the District training team must be affirmed by their DS. This is your responsibility.

Advanced Lay Servant course credit is available.

There is no charge as Ministry Shares benevolences from local churches cover the expenses.

PRE-REGISTER FOR THE COURSE by February 1, 2017. Contact Pam Deckard at the Finger Lake District Office ~ fingerlakesdistrict@unyumc.org or 315-781-0188



A message from the Upper New York United Methodist Men

[Click here to read](#)

Resources



Find LEADING Ideas From the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary

[Click to READ MORE....](#)

[Developing Intentional Discipleship -](#)

10 Ways to Reach Unchurched People at Christmas

[Click here to read leading Ideas article](#)

6 Ways to Jumpstart Leadership Formation

[Click to read more](#)

Lay Servants Can Fill in for Pulpit Supply

Is your church in need of a trained person to fill the pulpit while your pastor is away? The Oneonta District Lay Servant Team has a list of Certified Lay Servants who are well-equipped to do just that. [Find a list by clicking here.](#)

A Discount on TurboTax

GCFA is happy to announce our continuing relationship with Intuit for 2017. Intuit,

the company that brings you TurboTax, is offering United Methodists discounts on its popular tax preparation software.

When a member visits <http://turbotax.intuit.com/affiliate/gcfa> they can choose the package that best suits their needs. This is a convenient way for members to save on the cost of tax preparation. In addition, Intuit will donate a portion of the total spend from United Methodists purchasing TurboTax to the Church's global sustainability initiatives.

This offer does not supersede anyone's need to consult professionals about their tax liability. But it is a way for most people who prepare their own taxes to take advantage of a cost savings

UM HANDBOOK

[The New United Methodist Handbook](#) is now available in an easy-to-read and share digital format. [Click here](#)

Mission Insite - Mission Insite is a web-based demographics provider for local church use. In planning ministry, it is important to know the context.

Mission Insite provides demographic data that is updated on a regular basis and the reports are user friendly to the novice or experienced demographer. The reports are free to the local church because the Annual Conferences is under contract with Mission Insite. [Click here for more details and how to register to use this tool.](#)

NOTICE

There will be no gatherings for Pre- Conference briefings this year. It will be done by video and posted on the UNYAC website in April.

NEW- 2016 Conference Journal Vol. 2 now available



The 2016 Upper New York Conference Journal Vol. 2 is now available. There are two ways to receive this publication: in print from publisher Lulu.com or online through issuu.com. A PDF can also be downloaded for free through issuu.com.

[Click here to order a printed copy](#) the 2016 Journal Vol. 2 (\$17.48 plus tax and shipping). [Click here to view the 2016 Journal Vol. 2 online or download a PDF.](#)

2016 UNY Conference Directory now available

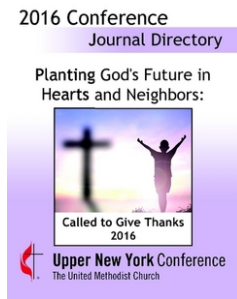
The 2016 Upper New York Conference Journal Directory is now available. This directory contains up-to-date contact information of all UNY churches, clergy, members to Annual Conference, and surviving spouses for the 2016 Upper New York Annual Conference Session. There are two ways to receive the Journal Directory:

- [Click here](#) to purchase a hard copy from online publisher Lulu.com OR

- [Click here](#) to download a free PDF version

If you order directly from Lulu.com, you can have it delivered to the address of your choice (Note: You will need a major credit card to place an order). A hard copy of the Journal Directory costs \$6.26 plus tax and shipping.

Vol. 2 of the Journal will be available later this fall. [Vol. 1](#) of the Journal (published last spring), the Journal Directory, and Vol. 2 of the Journal will make up the entirety of the 2016 Journal.



News from Upper New York Annual Conference

Annual Conference 2017 Worship Team Seeks Your Help

The Worship Planning Team for Annual Conference is looking for musicians, artists, and liturgists from our Upper New York membership. Specifically, they are seeking the following:

- * Musicians (any singer, instrument, drums, etc.)
- * Bands/Choirs (any variety)
- * Artists (of any kind, including graphic design, photo/video)
- * Liturgists/Writers
- * Liturgical Dancers

If interested, please contact the Rev. Rachel Morse at pastor.rachel.morse@gmail.com with the following:

- * Name
- * Contact info (email and phone)
- * A brief description of what you do



What's cooking in your kitchen?

Do you have a favorite dish you like to bring to church potlucks? Let us know so we can share it on our blog. Send your recipe with a photo (if you have one) and why it is your favorite to news@unyumc.org and we will consider it for our blog. To see an example of a submitted recipe click here to see Bishop Mark J. Webb's wife, Jodi Webb's favorite recipe on her recent blog entry.

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/perspectives-entry/jodi-webb-broccoli-cheddar-soup>

Job Posting - District Administrative Assistant

Posting Date: 1/13/2017 -

Application Deadline: TODAY January 25, 2017

Location: Northern Flow District Office, Gouverneur, NY

The Upper New York Conference of The United Methodist Church has an exciting new opportunity for the right individual to join our mission-based team as part-time Administrative Assistant for our Northern Flow District Office in Gouverneur, NY (up to 29 hours per week). This position is responsible for providing complete and confidential administrative support to the District Superintendent in his or her work as outlined in the most current version of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church. Job duties include reception, answering telephones, database management, mailings, maintaining calendar, meeting setups, filing of all church and clergy related files, direct communication with churches and Pastors related to annual reports, and making travel arrangements.

The successful candidate will be highly organized and able to work independently. A high school diploma or equivalent, experience with Microsoft Office products, especially Word, Excel, Access and Outlook, and 3 years of clerical or equivalent experience, and customer service experience is required.

Please refer to the job description for a complete list of qualifications and responsibilities.

Application Instructions: To be considered for this position you must apply online at <http://www.unyumc.org/about/jobs> and include the following:

- * Completed online application
- * Resume
- * Cover letter
- * Contact information for 3 professional references



New Conference Building Update

With all of the walls in place, the new UNY Conference Center will soon be ready for carpeting installation and paint! It's coming together nicely. Keep watching for updates as we continue to

move forward with construction at 7481 Henry Clay Blvd. in Liverpool.

The UNY Communications Team gives weekly updates in the Upper New York Conference Weekly Digest (<http://www.unyumc.org/news/weekly-digest>).

Do You Have a Petition/Resolution for 2017 UNYAC?

The opportunity is here, once again, for UNY clergy and laity to offer petitions and resolutions for consideration at the 2017 session of the Upper New York Annual Conference, June 1-3.

Appropriate petitions and resolutions will be in accord with the Conference's purpose and seek actions that advance its vision. [Click here](#) for submission instructions and to find the appropriate form for your submission.

The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions is charged with overseeing the submission, review, and presentation of petitions and resolutions to the Annual Conference. The deadline for individuals, churches, and unofficial bodies of UNY to submit petitions and resolutions for the 2017 session of the Upper New York Conference is **February 1, 2017**.

NEW - 2016 Ministry Shares Update

The Upper New York Conference celebrates the achievement of the 621 congregations that as of January 17 have paid 100 percent of their 2016 Ministry Shares. Because of their faithfulness, the people of the Upper New York Conference are making disciples of Jesus Christ and transforming the world.

To see a list of congregations that have paid 100 percent of their 2016 Ministry Share, [click here](#). This list will continue to be updated as needed.

Questions regarding your church's Ministry Share may be directed to Mike Weaver at (855) 424-7878 ext. 315 or MikeWeaver@unyumc.org.

NEW - 2018 Narrative Budget Draft Available

An initial draft of the 2018 narrative budget is now available on the Upper New York Conference website (www.unyumc.org). [Click here](#) to download.

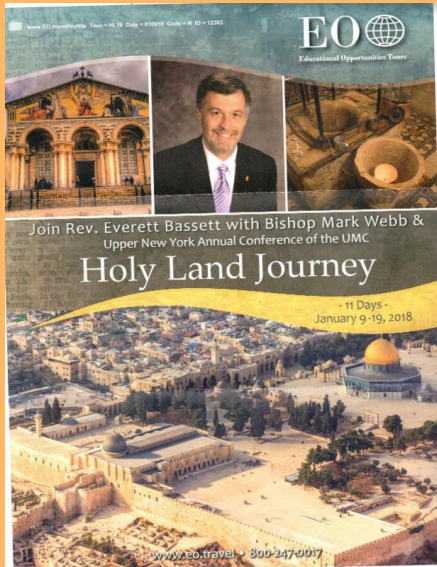
This draft is being made available two weeks before the first deadline for petitions and resolutions as a result of the action of the 2016 Annual Conference Session. [Click here](#) for details of the action taken at the 2016 Annual Conference Session regarding the 2018 budget.

Please be mindful that this is a very early draft of the 2018 budget that is being released to aid in the dialog around how we do ministry together. Please send questions, concerns and potential edits to budget@unyumc.org.

The dialog around the 2018 budget will continue through the development of an FAQ on the Conference website, one-on-one interactions and local listening sessions that are being organized by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration.

Cornerstone's listening session is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, March 11, at East Randolph United Methodist Church. Please help spread the word about this session.

This dialog will culminate in an informed discussion of the 2018 budget at the 2017 Annual Conference Session when it is put forward for approval.



Earn your way to the Holy Land

Join Rev. Everett Bassett with Bishop Mark J. Webb & Upper New York Annual Conference of the UMC on a trip to the Holy Land. An 11-day trip (January 9-19, 2018) to the Holy Land through Educational Opportunities Tours for anyone in the Conference to join. [Click here](#) for Brochure and registration form. If you would like to join them, the earlier you register, the more you can save. For example, register by February 9, 2017 to save \$150.

Pastors are also able to promote the tour and earn their trip. They will earn Tour Host credits for each full-paying passenger they recruit. The tour is based on one earned trip for every five full-paying passengers. Five full-paying passengers will cover the pastor; five more will cover the spouse, etc. [Click here](#) to learn how to become a Tour Host.

Other Information

UNY Media Resource Center is moving

The UNY Media Resource Center's long anticipated move to the new UNY Conference Center in Liverpool, N.Y. is almost here! In order to prepare for the move, the Media Resource Center will be closed from February 22 through March 7. As January and February are busy months at the Media Resource Center in preparation for Lent, Media Resource Center director Diane Miner encourages you to plan early for the resources you will need. [Click here](#) to read more.

Media Resource Center newsletter now available

The January issue of Upper New York's Media Resource Center newsletter is now available for download. The Media Resource Center - a free lending library supported through your shared ministry dollars - publishes the monthly newsletter, which features new resources that are currently available or coming soon along with assorted pieces

of information about the resource center from Director Diane Miner. [Click here](#) to view and/or download the current newsletter. If you have questions, please contact Diane at diane@unyumc.org

New York State Minimum Wage poster available

Effective **December 31, 2016**, New York State minimum wage has been increased to \$9.70/hour. Employers in the Upper New York area, regardless of number of employees, must pay non-exempt employees minimum wage. An updated NYS Minimum Wage poster must be posted at your worksite for your employees to see. The poster is now available on the Conference Church Employer webpage under [Employment Law Compliances & Posters](#). You can find additional information on NYS Minimum Wage on the [Department of Labor website](#). If you have any questions about wage and hour regulations, please contact Debi Marshall in Human Resources or 315-424-7878 ext. 302.

Other Quick Links

Oneonta District Website

You can find the District Newsletter and Calendar on the District Website. [Click here](#)

[2016-17 Clergy Appt List](#)

[Oneonta District Calander](#)

[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 \(CCYM\)](#)

[Conference Job Postings](#)

[Contact UNYAC](#)

[Chuck Knows Church](#)

[Disaster Response](#)

[Finance](#)

[Forms](#)

[Imagine No Malaria](#)

[Legacy Ministry](#)

[Media Resource Center](#)

[Safe Sanctuaries](#)

[Tending the Fire](#)

[Volunteers-in-Mission](#)

[VIM to Nicaragua](#)

[UNYAC Weekly Digest](#)

[Wesley in Ireland, 2017](#)

[2016 Standard Mileage Rate](#)

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: OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org

Also - If you have ideas for making our District Newsletter better - we would like to hear from you .

**Oneonta District Office
of the Upper New York Conference
of the United Methodist Church**



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

Your Partners in Ministry at the Oneonta District Office

Rev. Everett Bassett, District Superintendent

Teresa Wood, Administrative Assistant

64 Chestnut St. (GPS)/ PO Box 668 (Mailing), Oneonta, NY 13820

(607) 441-5102 * OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org

The District Newsletter can also be found and downloaded in 3 different formats at the Oneonta District website: <https://sites.google.com/site/oneontadistrictumc/> and also at <http://www.unyumc.org/district/oneonta>