



(Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19CLDevotion> to learn more.)

- Imagine No Racism workshops (Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19INRworkshops> to learn more.)
- The Service of Blessing and Anointing where 34 retirees and others were recognized (Visit [http://bit.ly/UNYAC19\\_ServiceofBlessingandAnointing](http://bit.ly/UNYAC19_ServiceofBlessingandAnointing) to learn more.)
- Young People's Service focusing on



both the love and the pain associated with the Church (Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19YoungPeoplesService> to learn more.)

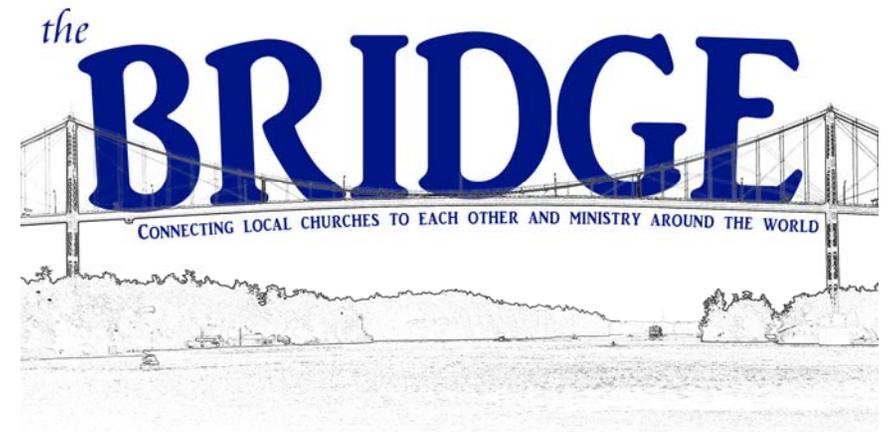
The 2019 Upper New York Annual Conference concluded with the Service of Commissioning and Ordination; seven individuals were commissioned as Elders; three individuals were ordained as Deacons; and five individuals were ordained as Elders. Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19Ordination> for a full article about the service.

For in-depth daily notes and the Daily Wrap videos, recapping the events of each day of Annual Conference visit the main Annual Conference 2019 page, visit <http://www.unyumc.org/events/annual-conference-2019>.

*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:*

**[www.unyumc.org](http://www.unyumc.org)**

More coverage of the 2019 session of the Upper New York Annual Conference is available on the Conference website at [www.unyumc.org](http://www.unyumc.org)



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!

UNY Annual Conference moves beyond its comfort zones

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# UNY Annual Conference moves beyond its comfort zones



The 10th session of the Upper New York Annual Conference convened June 5 – 8 at the Oncenter in Syracuse, New York. Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb presided.

The time began with Opening Worship centered around this year's Annual Conference theme, "Together in Prayer, Moving Beyond our Comfort Zones."

"We need a fresh word! We need to be reminded of who we are and whose we are ... we need to be reminded that amid this season, God is doing a new thing," said Bishop Webb during Opening Worship.

Bishop Webb then went on to share

about his vision for a new kind of unity in the United Methodist Church. Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19OpeningWorship> for a full article, including a video of the entire service and a transcript of Bishop Webb's message.

Following Opening Worship, the Conference moved into the clergy and laity sessions. Information about the Laity Session can be found by visiting <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19Laitysession>.

Later, members of the Upper New York Annual Conference moved into their first full plenary session. After a bit of confusion about the voting devices, both clergy and laity would take their first ballot. Balloting continued throughout Annual Conference with the following delegates being elected to General and Jurisdictional Conference.

#### **The clergy delegates, in order elected for General Conference are:**

- The Rev. Bill Mudge
- The Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady II
- The Rev. Beckie Sweet
- The Rev. Carmen Perry
- The Rev. Rachel Morse



#### **The lay delegates, in order elected for General Conference:**

- Carmen Vianese (delegation head)
- J.J. Warren
- Ian Urriola
- Marthalyne Sweet
- Sam Smith

#### **The clergy delegates, in order elected for Jurisdictional Conference are:**

- The Rev. Dr. Michelle Bogue-Trost
- The Rev. Carlos Rosa-Laguer
- The Rev. Martha Swords-Horrell
- The Rev. Drew Sperry
- The Rev. Rebecca Laird

#### **The lay delegates, in order elected for Jurisdictional Conference are:**

- Samuel Mudge
- Drew Griffin
- Rachel John
- Linda Barczykowski
- Melysa Acevedo

#### **The clergy reserve delegates are:**

- The Rev. Bill Allen
- The Rev. Harold Wheat

#### **The lay reserve delegates are:**

- Dan Fuller
- Rachel Giso

The members of the Annual Conference also spent their time voting on a variety of petitions and resolutions. Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC2019results> for a full list of voting results for petitions and resolutions.



The Annual Conference was also treated to two times of learning with Study Leader the Rev. Dr. Vance Ross, pastor of the Historic Central UMC in Atlanta and is also dean of the Chapel of Spiritual Life at Emory University. Both sessions explored prayer.

"Let's have the courage, the audacity, and the unmitigated love to dream God's dream, praying in the closet, and not being scared of our comfort zone being pushed," Rev. Ross said.

Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19studysession1> for a full article of his first time of learning.

Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19studysession2> for a full article of his second time of learning.

Other Annual Conference highlights included:

- The Memorial Service (Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19MemorialService> to learn more.)
- The Hat Challenge that raised over \$5,600 for New Faith Communities (Visit <http://bit.ly/UNYAC19HatChallenge> to learn more.)
- A lectio divina prayer experience led by the Conference Leadership Team

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