

**MOHAWK DISTRICT
UPPER NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**THE REV. DR. SUNG HO LEE
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT**

**MARK ADSIT
DISTRICT LAY LEADER**

To unsubscribe, send email address to District Office, mohawkdistrict@unyumc.org.
Tuesdays – District and Local Church news; Thursdays – Conference News Highlights
Submit news items minimum 8 days ahead (the Monday prior) of requested publication date

Joy and Congratulations

Abigail Browka, pastor at Oneida First UMC, has been approved for commissioning and provisional membership by the Board of Ordained Ministry of The Upper New York Annual Conference! Congratulations to Pastor Abigail on her effort and perseverance as she devotes her life to God's call. May her ministry be blessed and fruitful in the years to come.

Prayers

Prayers for Rev. Sung Ho Lee and Rev. Abel Roy and their families as they are **in the midst of transition** to their new appointments from and to the District Superintendency.

(NEW INFO*)Mohawk District Learning Day-What Should We Do to Reverse the Current Trend of Decline

****Our incoming D.S. as of July 1, Rev. Abel Roy, will be with us at the District Learning Day. Come meet him and say hello!***

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Saturday, March 21
Register by March 10!

- Worship
- General session (topic: What Should We Do to Reverse the Current Trend of Decline by Rev. Sung Ho Lee)
- Breakout sessions for Committees and Ministries
 - Relational Evangelism – Leader Rev. Michael Smith, Trinity UMC, Whitesboro
 - S/PPRC – Leader Rev. Sung Ho Lee, Mohawk District Superintendent
 - Finance Committee – Beth DuPont, Finance Manager UNY Conference
 - Trustees – Rev. Alan Howe, Rome: First UMC
 - Nominations and Leadership Development – Rev. Janet Gleason, Herkimer UMC
 - Lay Leaders – Mark Adsit, Mohawk District Lay Leader

New Hartford UMC, 105 Genesee St., New Hartford

Registration Info Attached

Statistical Tables Deadline Was Sunday, Feb. 15th

Thank you very much to all who completed this important administrative task. Statistical Reporting is REQUIRED for each church on an annual basis. Statistics should be gathered for the calendar year and entered into the General Council on Finance and Administration statistical input system (EZRA).

If you haven't finished reporting, please do it right away! If you need help with accessing your church's statistical tables, contact Cindy at the Mohawk District Office, 315-797-1777, mohawkdistrict@unyumc.org.

Church Audits Due in 5 Days - March 16th

This is a vital procedure that needs to be accomplished *annually* to ensure that all is well with the church's monies and to protect those individuals who handle the funds. **Your church's 2014 annual audit must be submitted to District Office by March 16, 2015.** For a link to the Conference Audit Guide, contact the Mohawk District Office. You can also get assistance from our Conference Treasurer Kevin Domanico, KevinDomanico@unyumc.org or toll-free at (855) 424-7878, ext. 325.

Equalization Members to AC – Applications Accepted Until Spots Filled

The Sixth Session of The Upper New York Annual Conference is Wednesday, May 27, through Saturday, May 30. All laity with local church membership are invited to apply to serve as an Equalization Member. The purpose of Equalization Members is to serve as a voting member at Annual Conference to balance the number of votes between clergy and laity (non-clergy) so both groups have the same number of votes. All those willing to serve must apply annually and be approved by the Mohawk District Superintendent and Mohawk District Lay Leader. After applications are reviewed, those asked to serve will be notified and asked to register. The deadline to apply is March 1 however not all spots for Mohawk District have been filled. We will continue to accept and approve applications on a rolling basis until all spots are full or the Conference registration deadline is passed. An application is attached. For additional information, contact: mohawkdistrict@unyumc.org, 315-797-1777.

Youth Equalization Members to Annual Conference

Youth are welcome to serve as Equalization Members too! Let the Mohawk District Council on Youth Ministry Adult Leader, Rev. Brian Fellows, know you are interested and he will arrange for a meeting with the DCYM to recommend any interested youth. stpaulspastor@twcny.rr.com, 315-363-1921. **See the attached document** for Youth Equalization Members so you are aware of your duties should you be selected to serve.

Upcoming Lay Servant Courses

U M Beliefs (Heritage) Course, at Mohawk Valley: Trinity UMC, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 9 & 16. Pastor Lynn Lockwood leading. Reg. by 4-27-15.

The registration fee for each course is \$20. Please complete the attached course registration form and send it to the District Office with your registration fee.

Oneonta District Offers Four Courses

April 11 and 18 (both dates required). Elm Park UMC, 401 Chestnut St., Oneonta. Register by March 27th. Advanced courses offered: Hymnody; Go Preach; United Methodist Polity; and Working with Youth. To register or for information, see the brochure found on this page:

<https://sites.google.com/site/oneontadistrictumc/district-lay-speakers>

Alert: Churches Can Disregard Notice Claiming No Workers' Comp Coverage

The Upper New York Conference Treasurer's Office has been contacted by several churches because they have received notices from the New York State Workers' Compensation Board stating that there is no effective Workers' Compensation coverage for their church beginning on Jan. 1, 2015. This is not true. If you have received this notice, please discard it. If you receive a second notice in the near future, please contact Church Mutual at (800) 554-2642, ext. 4.

CPE Credit Opportunity

Rev. Robert C. Spilman, Director of Clinical Pastoral Education at Samaritan Counseling Center of the Niagara Frontier located in Western New York, is offering a Congregation-Based CPE class in the Binghamton area beginning in August and ending in December 2015. The typical schedule is Wed. /Thurs. every other week. Credit for one unit of CPE is offered. The class, with its systems theory focus, is designed both for experienced pastors and for student ministers in the ordination process. Pastors and student ministers use their own churches as the CPE clinical setting for ministry. The CPE information sheet and a tentative class schedule are available upon request. For information or schedule, 716-479-7933, rcspilman@roadrunner.com.

Local Church News and Events

An annual **Corned beef and Cabbage Dinner** is 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., March 14, at Vernon Center United Methodist Church. Come participate and enjoy this great tradition in the community! The dinner helps us fulfill a goal of raising money for the ecumenical food bank at Holy Family or to help needy people in our area in this time of repressed economy. Enjoy a great meal and give at the same time! Cost is: Adults, \$9; Children ages – 6-12, \$6; and children 5 and younger eat free.

The church, located at 5815 Youngs Road, Vernon Center, (at the circle of State Route 26) is accessible for people with disabilities.

The **New Beginnings Coffeehouse** will take place on Friday, March 20th, from 7-9:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church at 127 North Prospect Street, Herkimer. Bringing the evening's music will be *sigh8 with Nik Jericho and his mom, Kerin Arsenault. Over the last six years Nik and Kerin have toured the East Coast, inspiring others with their music and faith stories. Karin plays guitar and Nik with lead vocals and a variety of instruments including guitar, keyboard and bass. Everyone is invited to a great night of music, fellowship and free refreshments. Call the coffeehouse coordinator, Kim Marlowe at 894-3324 for further details.

There will be a bus trip May 29 and 30 to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA, to see **an evening performance of "Joseph"**. Many extras included. For complete details and rates, call Chris at 315-823-0632. The trip is sponsored by Dolgeville United Methodist.

MOHAWK DISTRICT OFFICE
105 GENESEE STREET NEW HARTFORD, NEW YORK 13413-2387
PHONE: 315-797-1777

E-MAIL: mohawkdistrict@unyumc.org

This is the Tuesday e-news of the Mohawk District.