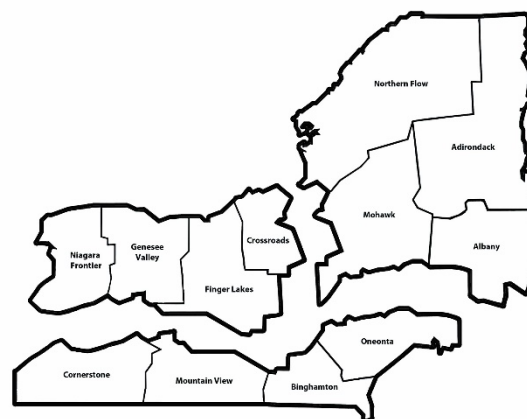


# New connections and new ways of leading:

## a Regional strategy for the Superintendency in UNY

- **Mission:** Amid constant change, the mission of the Church, our mission remains constant. We are called to do all we can to partner with God in inviting others to know the love of Jesus Christ and be transformed by that love. We are called to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. That purpose never changes, and we must always seek ways in which we can live the mission even more effectively and fruitfully than we have in the past.
  
- **Reality** is the context in which we live out our mission. Reality does not change our mission, but it certainly impacts how we attempt to accomplish it. The reality of The United Methodist Church is one of uncertainty.
  
- **Sustainability** evaluates the ways in which the resources God has given us for ministry and mission are being trusted, offered, and used. We are facing a shortage of pastoral leaders as faithful leaders move toward retirement and the number of new leaders being discovered, developed and deployed has lessened. While the congregations of Upper New York have been faithful in their sharing of financial resources, we continue to struggle in many local congregations and at the conference level to realize the financial resources necessary for the goals we have established.
  
- **The Plan**
  - o Effective July 1, 2020
  - o Maintain 12 current Districts
  - o Maintain current District Offices
  - o Maintain 12 District Administrative Assistants
  - o Create 3 Regions, consisting of four Districts per Region
    - **Region 1** will include the Albany, Adirondack, Northern Flow, and Mohawk Districts
    - **Region 2** will include the Crossroads, Finger Lakes, Genesee Valley, and Niagara Frontier Districts
    - **Region 3** will include the Oneonta, Binghamton, Mountain View, and Cornerstone Districts.
  - o Appoint nine District Superintendents in teams of three within each Region
  - o Every pastor and local congregation will have one assigned District Superintendent, being part of a Region led by a team of three District Superintendents
  - o Reallocate resources to create Regional/District Associates who will work with local churches on behalf of the District Superintendents
  - o Continue to develop District Leadership teams to carry out the work they have begun



Our mission and reality create an opportunity to experiment with careful intention. There will be growing pains, and this may not work, but we believe we must give it a try. We will be committed to evaluation and adjustment if necessary, believing that with risk comes reward. Visit [unyumc.com/Districts](http://unyumc.com/Districts) for Frequently Asked Questions. Send questions to [questions@unyumc.org](mailto:questions@unyumc.org).