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!

Mission work at its best this fall

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UNY UMM hosting a Work Day at the UNY Mission Central HUB—Nov. 9

Save the date of Saturday Nov. 9, 2019 to join the Upper New York United Methodist Men (UNYUMM) for a “Sharing the Blessings” work day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The main project for this work day will be constructing wooden blessing boxes. Pizza will be served for lunch. Men, women, and children welcomed as are those with all levels of experience.

Blessing boxes are a great way to support those in need. Volunteers will build the boxes and distribute them to churches to post outside and congregations can decide how to fill them.

Let’s see how many blessing boxes can be made on this work day! Preregister for this event by Monday Oct. 28 by contacting Mike Block at 315-898-2066 or mikeblock@unyumc.org OR Mark Jones at 315-749-3700 or mjswelshman@yahoo.com.

UNY Potato Drop—Nov. 16

On Saturday Nov. 16, 50-pound bags of potatoes will be available to pick up at no cost for local food pantries, individuals, families, and community organizations that feed the hungry. Tom Pelkey from the Society of St. Andrew and a group of volunteers will be at UNY United Methodist Center in Liverpool, NY, distributing potatoes from 8-11 a.m. to all those that registered. The deadline to register is Nov. 1.

The Society of St. Andrew is an organization that collects excess food from farmers to provide to the hungry. To order 1-100 50-pound bags for pick-up, contact Tom Pelkey at (315) 559-3832 or email at Thompelkey@verizon.net. Tom can also inform you if there are potato drops taking place closer to you.

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
Mission work at its best this fall in Upper New York

There are several mission opportunities for you this fall in the Upper New York Conference. Get involved to help fulfill the Conference’s vision to be God’s love with our neighbors in all places.

The High Five Relay Challenge

Get church members together and take our High Five Relay Challenge!

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) warehouses across the country are starting to clear out due to recent natural disasters near and far. From flooding in parts of Texas to hurricanes hitting the Bahamas and areas along the East Coast, there is a great need for cleaning and hygiene kits.

In order to help, Upper New York Mission Central HUB began a high five campaign. Mission Central HUB challenges you to start your own high five relay and raise funds and supplies for items needed to assemble UMCOR-approved cleaning and hygiene kits.

So how does the challenge work? Gather your church, committee, or group members together and have a high five relay. Each person contributes $5, or as much as they can, and the total amount is sent to the Upper New York Mission Central HUB. Make all checks payable to UNY Conference with “Mission Central HUB” written in the memo line. Please then mail the check to 7481 Henry Clay Blvd., Liverpool, NY 13088. You can also submit your donation online by visiting bit.ly/UNYHUBdonation.

Follow the lead of the Conference Office staff and volunteers. UNY Mission Central HUB challenges your church to be next. Visit www.unyumc.org/mission/high-five-relay-challenge to see others completing this challenge.

Post your videos to Facebook and tag @Upper New York Conference or email the video of your relay to news@unyumc.org and the Communications Ministry will share it for you.

Red Bird Shoeboxes

Dave Alexander and the mission team at Endwell United Methodist Church are again coordinating the collection and delivery of shoeboxes for the Red Bird Mission. Red Bird Mission is a poverty-relief organization that serves a remote, impoverished population in Bell, Clay, and Leslie counties in southeastern Kentucky.

The Red Bird Missionary Conference is one of three United Methodist Missionary Conferences in the United States. It is the most comprehensive mission effort of the United Methodist Church, providing outreach and services that minister to the whole person (spiritual, physical, social, and economic).

For several years, the Upper New York Conference has participated in the shoebox mission. Last December, four volunteers drove two 26-foot trucks to the mission in Kentucky, transporting 2,700 shoeboxes, over 60 bedspreads, 110 sheet sets, 300 bags of clothing, and numerous books, school supplies, and cleaning supplies.

There are two different styles of shoeboxes: adult and children. All items should be put in clear plastic shoebox sized storage containers with lids. Please do not wrap the boxes.

Items needed for the adult shoe boxes (please mark for a man or woman) include a comb/brush, shampoo, hand lotion, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, Chapstick, full-size bar of bath soap, washcloth, disposable razors, shaving cream, nail care supplies, mittens, scarf, hat, socks, and work gloves.

Items for the children’s shoe boxes (please mark for a boy or girl) include two or three small toys, two or three school items, bar soap, children’s toothbrush, children’s toothpaste, shampoo, lotion, washcloth, comb/brush, Chapstick, mittens, hat, socks, and small flashlight.

A suggested donation of $1 is requested per shoebox to help with shipping costs. This monetary donation should not be placed inside the box, rather it should be placed in an envelope and taped to the box. Red Bird is also in need of brand-new pillows, blankets, and sheet sets for twin and full-size beds.

Additionally, Red Bird Mission will accept gently-used clothing.

Items can be dropped off at any of these locations between Nov. 1-Nov. 22:

- **Adirondack District Office**
  South Glens Falls UMC - 15 Maplewood Pkwy, So. Glen Falls, NY 12803
  518-480-4866

- **Binghamton District**
  Endwell UMC – 3301 Watson Blvd., Endwell, NY 13760
  607-754-5735

- **Cornerstone District**
  Ripley UMC ‐ 84 W. Main St., Ripley, NY 14775
  716-736-3090

- **Crossroads District**
  Upper NY Conference Center Mission Central HUB

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