

## 2021 UNYUMC Annual Conference Daily Notes Saturday June 19, 2021

### Morning

- **Juneteenth Service:** The morning began with worship service via a video compilation of various members of the UNY Conference, who used John 8:32, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." to celebrate Juneteenth.
- **Advanced Specials:** Advanced Special churches are permitted to request support from other churches in the Conference. This year's Advanced Specials, found on page 18 in the *Journal Vol. 1*, were supported.
- **Mission of Peace offering:** Sam Lasher presented about how many young people throughout our Conference have been able to go on Mission of Peace (MOP) trips, developing relationships with people from different cultures. Sam went to India in January of 2020 for Mission of Peace and was able to visit everything from a health clinic in a slum to the Taj Mahal. He said the trip helped him and all youth who experience these mission trips to stay connected to God no matter what country they are in. Bishop Webb explained how many youths experience a call to ministry through MOP trips. To give to MOP, visit <http://bit.ly/UNYACDONATE>.
- **2020 and 2021 retirees recognized:** A video was shown to recognize the combined 1,095 years of service provided by the 36 clergy members that retired in 2020 and 44 clergy members that retired in 2021.
- **Course of Study participants recognized:** A video was shown to recognize the eight individuals who completed the Course of Study since the 2019 Annual Conference.
- **Appointments:** The Rev. Michael Weeden, Dean of the Cabinet explained how the appointment process works and thanked those appointed for following their call to ministry. Upper New York Area Resident Bishop, Mark J. Webb, asked the appointed clergy to acknowledge that they are the hands and feet of Christ. He then prayed for these pastoral appointments and that through Christ, they will be guided and rewarded by; the lives they will change.
- **Celebrating 11 years of the UNY Conference:** The Rev. Bill Gottschalk Fielding, Director of Connectional Ministries and Assistant to the Bishop, talked about the formation of this Conference 11 years ago. Then, a celebratory video created by the Communications Department, was shown, illustrating dozens of wonderful ministries that have been accomplished since the formation of the UNY Conference. Bishop Webb thanked the Conference for their ministries.
- **Bishop Webb expressed gratitude:** Bishop Webb thanked the Conference for their patience using the virtual platform; he thanked the Sessions committee for making this gathering possible; he thanked the Conference staff for their service and commitment to their work; he thanked the Communications Ministry Area for their dedication; he expressed gratitude for Rachel Dupont and the entire Annual Conference worship team; he thanked Tara Barnes for volunteering her time to help the Communications Team (she is the phenomenal editor for the United Methodist Women's *Response* magazine (subscribe at [unitedmethodistwomen.org/response](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/response)); he thanked his episcopal office (the Rev. Bill Gottschalk-Fielding and Mary Bradley) for their wonderful service; he thanked Drew Griffin for his service as a lay leader; he thanked the Rev. Carolyn Stow for becoming the new Conference Secretary; he thanked the Rev. Jeff Hodge for his service as Conference Secretary since the inception of the Conference; he thanked the Rev. Sue Ranous for her 11 years as head teller; he also thanked the Cabinet for their desire to have their congregations be as fruitful as they can be; and he thanked the District Administrative Assistants for their ministry among us.
- **Adjournment:** The Rev. Jeff Hodge adjourned the Conference and announced that next year's Annual Conference will be June 2-4 in Syracuse. The motion to adjourn was supported.

### Afternoon:

- **Ordination Service:** The day ended with the Service of Ordination and Commissioning. This was an uplifting, in-person service at Cicero UMC, by invitation-only. It was also livestreamed. Olga E. Gonzalez Santiago, Sherry Lynn Mahar, and Jennifer K. Piatt were commissioned for the work of elder. Deborah M. Coatsworth was commissioned as work of deacon. Jennifer Faye Glaser and Brian P. Lothridge were ordained for the work of deacon. Cheryl Ann Brown, Jongdeok Park, Cindy L. Schulte, and Rachel Erin Stuart were ordained for the work of elder. Bishop Webb delivered an inspiring message, entitled, "God Chasers."