

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

## Oneonta District Office UMC of the Upper New York Annual Conference

***“Living the gospel of Jesus Christ and Being God’s love with our neighbors in all places.”***

Please share this issue of the Oneonta District Newsletter with church members and staff, teams and organizations. If you wish to include news about your missions or disciple formation ministries, please send it on Mondays to be published – that week – email to: [OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org](mailto:OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org)



The Good Shepherd by Del Parson

**May none of God’s wonderful works  
Keep silence, night or morning.  
Bright stars, high mountains, the depths of the seas,  
Sources of rushing rivers:  
may all these break into song as we sing  
to Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
May all the angels in the heavens reply:  
Amen! Amen! Amen!  
Power, praise, honour, eternal glory  
To God, the only giver of grace.  
Amen! Amen! Amen!**  
Source unknown, 3<sup>rd</sup> century (Egypt)

**Together, let us pray for**  
All who face death and suffering and have lost hope  
All struggling with addiction  
Pastor Carol Coltrain (Huntersland UMC) –as she continues to heal  
The [Board of Ordained Ministry](#)

## District Events Coming Up

Date	Time	Item	Location
April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	8 am – 8 pm	Day of prayer for the 2016 General Conference  <b>Who:</b> All United Methodists in the Oneonta District <b>What:</b> Opportunities to pray for people, places, possibilities for the United Methodist denomination	Elm Park UMC , 401 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820 <b>Contact Pastor Donna Taylor Martin for details (607) 237-8756 or <a href="mailto:pastordonna76@gmail.com">pastordonna76@gmail.com</a></b>  <a href="http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/uny-to-observe-day-of-prayer-for-gc-16">http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/uny-to-observe-day-of-prayer-for-gc-16</a>
April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	9-11 am	Pre-Conference Briefing	Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center in Moravia
April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	3-5 pm	Pre-Conference Briefing	Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Windsor
May 9 & 10 & May 15	5:45-8:30 pm 2-5 pm	<b>Basic Lay Servant Training</b> – see details below to register	Unadilla UMC
<b>Sat May 14th</b>	<b>3-6 pm Tentative</b>	<b>Celebration of our Service together –</b>	<b>Changing the World Service Project- Dish to Pass-For Further Details see links below</b>
June 2-4 2016		2016 UNY Annual Conference	OnCenter in Syracuse, NY. Click on link below for more information. <a href="http://www.unyumc.org/events/annual-conference">http://www.unyumc.org/events/annual-conference</a>

## SAVE THE DATE

# Celebrate our Ministry with Rev. Jan McClary Rowell Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> – 3-6 pm Location- Neahwa Park Pavilion

-Back up location in case of inclement weather – Elm Park UMC-

[Click here for Details](#)

[Click here for Map and directions &](#) [Click here for Health Kit Assignments](#)

### Agenda for our Time together:

3:00-4:00 pm - Building Health Kits "Change the World Project"

4:00-5:00 pm - Eat

5:00-6:00 pm - Worship, Time of sharing /Personal Farewells

Questions regarding Health Kit assignments can be directed towards Sherry Mott at: [rsmott7@gmail.com](mailto:rsmott7@gmail.com) or call 607-761-9235

Dish to Pass - Anna Buell will be in touch with Regional Leaders about Food to bring. [abuell@hotmail.com](mailto:abuell@hotmail.com) or call 607-226-2448

RSVP by May 2nd, 2016 to: Teresa Wood at the District Office: [OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org](mailto:OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org) or call 607-441-5102 (Your RSVP's will be much appreciated and assist us in planning space)

## Oneonta District Day of Prayer for General Conference 2016



**Where:** Elm Park UMC- 401 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820

**When:** April 23, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Who:** All United Methodists in the Oneonta District

**What:** Opportunities to pray for people, places, possibilities for the United Methodist denomination

**Contact Pastor Donna Taylor Martin for details (607) 237-8756 or [pastordonna76@gmail.com](mailto:pastordonna76@gmail.com)**

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### UNY to observe day of prayer for GC '16

On April 23, members of the Upper New York Conference will observe a day of prayer for the 2016 General Conference, which will meet May 10-20 in Portland, Ore. Plans are underway for this prayer observance, and more specific information will be available in the coming weeks. The General Conference prayer observance began on December 31, leading off 131 days of continual prayer for the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. Click below for details

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/uny-to-observe-day-of-prayer-for-gc-16>



## Basic Lay Servant Training

**When:** May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 5:45pm-8:30pm AND May 15<sup>th</sup> 2-5pm

*(final meeting time may be adjusted by consensus, if needed, to suit participant's needs)*

**Where:** Unadilla UMC

**Required Materials:**

"Lay Servant Ministries" by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson  
(Basic Course Participant's Book)

Available at [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com) or <tel:800-672-1789> Also available at Amazon.com

**PARTICIPANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING THEIR OWN BOOK**

*Format:* Pre-assigned reading of the entire text, lecture, class discussion, independent "field project" due at final class meeting. Total classroom/field project learning time is 10 hours.

**Participants must attend all three sessions to complete the course for certification.**

**Registration:** E-mail or call Pastor Brandilynne Craver at : [brandilynne.craver@gmail.com](mailto:brandilynne.craver@gmail.com)

**607-761-3688**

**Deadline for registrations: 5/2/16**

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**2016 Conference Journal now available**

The 2016 *Upper New York Conference Journal, Vol. I* (formerly known as the *Pre-Conference Booklet*) is now available for download as a free PDF and for purchase through online publisher Lulu.com. [Click here](#) to download the PDF; [click here](#) to purchase it for \$5 (plus shipping and applicable sales tax) from Lulu.com.

If you have any questions about the materials presented in Vol. I of the *Journal* or the Upper New York Annual Conference Session in general, please send them to [ACQuestions@unyumc.org](mailto:ACQuestions@unyumc.org). The Conference Communications Ministry Area will assemble pertinent questions and answers and post them as a FAQ on the Conference website.

For further discussion of the materials in the *Journal*, six Pre-Conference Briefings have been scheduled at locations across the Conference; [click here](#) for details



Here is some exciting news about an upcoming Conference-wide event: **"Take A Bite Out of Malaria"**

Churches of and communities within the Upper New York Conference can ["Take a Bite Out of Malaria"](#) on **World Malaria Day, April 25**.

Conference-wide, churches are asked to work with local restaurants to receive a portion of their revenue on April 25 - which will

go toward [Imagine No Malaria](#), an integral part of [Africa 360](#) - and then encourage members and friends to eat out that day.

Participating businesses will get their name and hours placed on the Conference website with a reminder email blast sent the week before the event.

This is a win-win for businesses and churches. It can help churches "spread the net" wider and invite family and friends to help save lives from a preventable, treatable, and beatable disease.

The website will be updated as restaurants are added to the list; please use **this letter** to connect your congregation with a local restaurant. To read more about other Africa 360 celebrations during April, [click here](#).

Many thanks for helping to spread the word and make this a big event!

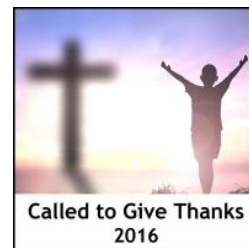
In peace,  
Laurel O'Connor /Field Coordinator, Africa 360

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Colleagues & Christian Friends: **The Older Adult Focus Group's next meeting will be Tuesday April 26th at 6:30 PM at the Richmondville UMC.** Thanks to John Sagendorf we will be having a guest presentation by Nancy Dingee, Director of the Schoharie County Office of the Aging as to what they provide within the county for Older Adults and it should be a very interesting discussion about areas that possibly we as Christians volunteers can help at and make a difference in the lives of others. This is open to all who wish to attend so please pass the word around and I ask the Pastor's to announce it in church over the next three weeks. Good opportunity to become informed and aware of what is being provided and what we can help with if we as individuals are so moved. All are welcome, refreshments will be served as is our Methodist tradition.  
Blessings to all Pastor Jeff Smith & the Older Adult Focus Group

## Registration is opened for the 2016 Annual Conference session

Registration is now open for the Upper New York Annual Conference session, held June 2-4 at the OnCenter in Syracuse. [Click here](#) to visit the registration page, which includes a link to the online form, the Registration and Event Guidelines, and the Housing Form.



Questions about registration can be addressed to Julie Valeski at [julievaleski@unyumc.org](mailto:julievaleski@unyumc.org). [Click here](#) for more news and information about the 2016 Annual Conference session.

## IMPORTANT – All Clergy - Clergy need to request to be excused from AC '16 if unable to attend

It is expected that all clergy will attend the 2016 Annual Conference session in its entirety. However, if there is a vital reason that you need to be excused from part or all of this year's session, you must write a letter stating the reason for your request and send it to Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb, Episcopal Office, Upper New York Area, 324 University Ave., 3rd Floor, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210 or via email to: [bishopsoffice@unyumc.org](mailto:bishopsoffice@unyumc.org). A copy should also be sent to your district superintendent's office. This is required even if you have already spoken with your district superintendent about your absence

## Looking to fulfill the requirement of Safe Sanctuary Training?

The First UMC at Voorheesville is offering training to anyone in the Albany District. If you are interested please contact the Church or Susan Bell at the numbers below.

Safe Sanctuary Training will take place at the First UMC, Voorheesville NY on Saturday, June 11, 2016

Basic Safe Sanctuary Training will be offered from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

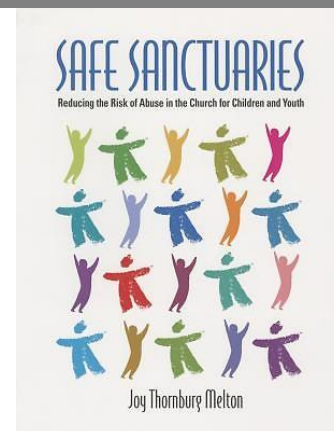
Train the Trainer will be offered from 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Instructors are: Carol Barnes from UNYUMC Conference Sexual Ethics and Arlene Schmidt, Ballston Spa

Childcare will be provided for morning session

Registration: 518-765-2895 (church) or with Susan Bell at 518-869-3713 (Home)

The 2011 Safe Sanctuary Policy resolves that we covenant "to educate all of our workers with children, youth, and vulnerable adults regarding the use of appropriate policies and methods." The 2011 Minimum Standards state that the UNYAC "shall make available a standardized training program to assist each charge, district, agency, and ministry to fulfill the covenant to educate all of our workers with children, youth, and vulnerable adults regarding the use of appropriate policies and methods." Our Safe Sanctuaries training and Training of Trainers is the standardized training program.



## How to get involved ?

There are all new materials – brochures, bookmarks, envelopes can be ordered online, printable display, liturgy, and more at [www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa-360](http://www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa-360) (churches can find tools at the Africa 360 toolkit, linked to that page as well) For youth, a local church in the Crossroads district has created a project, complete with video and craft project (downloadable from [www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa-360-Toolkit](http://www.unyumc.org/mission/Africa-360-Toolkit)), and includes cross-generational experiences for congregations that are interested: <http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/prayer-partners-another-life-saving-tool-in-the-africa-360-toolkit>

Laurel O'Connor      Field Coordinator, Africa 360      Upper New York Conference  
315-424-7878 ext. 327      Africa 360: Health and Education for Generations

*If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. –African Proverb*

**22th Annual PALESTINIAN Dinner: Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Plymouth Congregational Church at 232 E. Onondaga St. (2 ½ blocks from On Center)**

Authentic Palestinian buffet beginning at 5:30 PM sponsored by the UNY Task Force on Peace and Justice in Palestine/Israel Cost of dinner is \$15.00.

Program: Rev. Gary Kubitz will speak about his Interfaith Peace Builder Olive Harvest trip in October/November. Gary's wife Sarah and Task Force member, Gary Doupe's wife, Elaine, were also on the trip.

**For reservations:** Linda Bergh (315-492-8507), 116 Edna Rd., Syracuse, NY 13205 or Karen Peterson (607-739-3141), 116 Greenridge Drive, Horseheads, NY 14845

**Make checks payable to UNYAC ("Palestinian Dinner" on the memo line)**

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**Limited copies available to purchase**

**A Disciples Path – Daily Workbook** (Deepening your relationship with Christ and the Church)

By: James Harnish with Justin LaRosa

Cost \$ 8.00 ea. – If you would like to purchase this workbook please contact Teresa at the District Office – Email : [OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org](mailto:OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org) or by phone : (607) 441-5102

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**June 16-18, 2016**

**Northeastern Jurisdiction UMW**

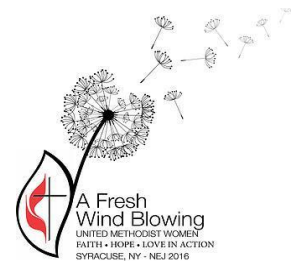
**Quadrennial Meeting at the On Center, Syracuse, NY**

The theme is A Fresh Wind Blowing based on John 3:8 The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit.

The program includes daily worship services with dynamic music throughout the time together. The purpose is also to elect women to the board and there will be time for workshops, which include topics of Maternal Health, Poverty, Racial Justice, and Ubuntu opportunities, which is working at area missions. For more information and registration [Click Here](#)

Early registration deadline is January 31, 2016 of \$175.00 which includes Friday meals of a boxed lunch and banquet. Regular registration is open until April 30, 2016 - \$200 and late registration is \$250 closes May 15, 2016.

Phyllis Doane, NEJ UMW President, from Canton, NY would like to invite you to come and celebrate the legacy of United Methodist Women. Don't miss this opportunity to meet your sisters and brothers in Christ from Maine to Virginia, to worship and pray together.



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**New - Volunteers in Mission team to Nicaragua – March 2017**

A VIM opportunity in Nicaragua is being planned for late March – early April 2017. The team will work with Accion Medica Cristiana (Christian Medical Action/ AMC). Our UM missionary, Belinda Forbes, DDS, is our primary contact person. She and her agency, AMC, work with the "poorest of the poor" in this beautiful country, which is the second poorest in our hemisphere. The tasks of the team have not yet been determined, but they will include projects that will improve the lives of some of the people in Nicaragua. Possible projects might be construction of a pharmacy or community center, health education, assisting with dental care, or painting a clinic building. Hands-on, direct medical care will not be one of the projects. Team members will also have the opportunity to form relationships with the warm, friendly people with whom they work.

The team/s will be jointly sponsored by the Jonesville UMC and First UMC, Schenectady. Details have not yet been determined. There might be options to go for either 10 days or 2 weeks. Cost will be approximately \$2000--\$2500. This amount includes airfare, food, transportation in the country, lodging, translator fees – everything except souvenirs. Scholarship aid is often available.



If you are at all interested in being part of this opportunity and would like to receive information as details are worked out, contact Amy Pelc at [me911j@hotmail.com](mailto:me911j@hotmail.com) or 518-698-5024 or Cindy Schulte at [tacks5@hotmail.com](mailto:tacks5@hotmail.com) or 518-374-3012 or Jan or Peter Huston at [hustonjp24@gmail.com](mailto:hustonjp24@gmail.com) or 518-399-0919. Replying to this is not a commitment – just an indication of interest in learning more. Please also share any concerns or questions you have when you reply.

We hope you will be able to participate in the wonderful opportunity to be part of a Volunteers in Mission team to Nicaragua!

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**Chuck Knows Church videos on The Committee at** <http://www.chuckknowschurch.com> The latest is Evangelism.-Other good ones are the Pilot, Hospitality, Reflecting the Community, and Our Purpose. Great for use with your Administrative Council or other leadership group! There is a downloadable discussion guide available for each segment.

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**Conference Job Posting** - Anyone inquiring about any open positions can go to <http://www.unyumc.org/about/jobs> and use the online application system for applying for open positions.

**Current Job Openings at Upper New York 4 Total Job(s)**

[Click here for Details](#)

*The Upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to building a diverse team. We strongly encourage women and men from all races and backgrounds, individuals with disabilities, and veterans to apply.*

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**The Binghamton District's United Methodist  
Men's Night at the Ball Game  
Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> -NYSEG Stadium in Binghamton.  
Tickets are \$8.00 (and will be available in early March)**

Binghamton District Superintendent the Rev.Dr. David Kofahl will throw out the first ball. Last year's event was the best in its eight-year run - it raised \$1,800.00 for the Society of St. Andrew, \$300.00 for the Upper Room Prayer Line, and \$300 to enable another UMM Conference project.

This year, the largest portion of proceeds will go to the Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse (CHOW) and the Broome County Council of Churches, and lesser amounts will be sent to the Upper Room Prayer Line and the Society of St. Andrew to feed the hungry.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Ken Summers at (607)785-0406 or [kensummers28@gmail.com](mailto:kensummers28@gmail.com)

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**2016 Summer Camp & Retreat programs registration opens**

Upper New York Camp & Retreat Ministries (CRM) is excited to announce that registration is now open for its 2016 Summer Camp & Retreat programs. "We are excited about the high quality and excellent variety of programs being offered this summer," said Mike Huber, UNY Conference Director of Camp & Retreat Ministries. "The CRM team, in collaboration with hundreds of volunteers, has created programs specifically designed for spiritual growth, birth, and renewal." Click below for details

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/2016-summer-camp-retreat-programs-registration-opens>



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**Contact info for the Upper NY Conference is as follows:**

Upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church  
324 University Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Syracuse, NY 13210  
315) 424-7878 \* Toll-Free (855) 424-7878 \* Fax (315) 478-4869 \* Email: [www.unyumc.org](http://www.unyumc.org)

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### Quicklinks

[Oneonta District Calander](#) \* [Oneonta District Newsletter](#) \* [Advocate](#) \* [Africa-360](#) \* [Background Checks](#)  
[Benefits/Pension](#) \* [Bishop Mark J. Webb](#) \* [Bridge](#) \* [UNYAC Calendar](#) \* [Camp & Retreat Ministries \(CRM\)](#) \* [Classifieds Conference Council on Youth Ministries \(CCYM\)](#) \* [Contact UNYAC](#) \* [Disaster Response](#) \* [Finance](#) \* [Forms](#) \* [Imagine No Malaria](#)  
\* [Media Resource Center](#) \* [Volunteers-in-Mission](#) \* [UNYAC Weekly Digest 2016 Standard Mileage Rate](#)

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The District Newsletter can be found at the Oneonta District website: <https://sites.google.com/site/oneontadistrictumc/> and at Conference  
Webpage at: <http://www.unyumc.org/district/oneonta> See us on Face book: [Oneonta District United Methodists](#)

**P.O. BOX 668 Oneonta NY, 13820 Phone/Fax: (607)441-5102**

*Your Partners in Ministry at the Oneonta District Office,  
Rev. Jan Rowel, District Superintendent and Teresa Wood, Administrative Assistant*

