

August 12th, 2015

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

"Living the gospel of Jesus Christ and Being God's love with our neighbors in all places."



Together, let us pray for

The people of Franklin and Treadwell UMCs and Pastoral Leader John Hill

all those who suffer and those in trouble

those who struggle with addiction

all who suffer violence

for the concerns of our local communities

*for all children, teachers, and school staff, that summer vacation will bring renewal and joy to each one
neighbors served by our food pantries, community meal ministries, thrift shops*

for the world, its peoples, and its leaders

*for wisdom and justice in our national and community conversations around racism
for places of conflict, near and far- for grace to see each person as a child of God*

for the Church universal- its leaders, its members, and its mission

New faith communities in Upper New York Conference

Pastors and congregations in the midst of transition to new appointments

for the congregations of the Schoharie Region

PLEASE NOTE:

Teresa will be on vacation the week of August 14th through August 25th – so the office will be have limited hrs. Please call in advance before stopping by.

Our Next District Newsletter: will be distributed on August 26th

District & Conference Events Coming Soon

Date	Time	Item	Location
Mon., Aug 17th	5:30 pm	dLT - District Leadership Team	Elm Park Fellowship hall
Mon., Aug. 31st	6 pm	dCOM - District Com- mittee on Ministry	First Oneonta UMC – first floor /Basement area

Wed., Sept 9th	4:30 pm	dBLB -District Board of locations and Buildings	Downstairs District Office
Thurs., Sept 10th	2:30 - 6 PM 5:00-8:30 pm	Fall Orientation for pastors and Lay Lead- ers	First Oneonta UMC - Embury Room
Tues., Sept. 22nd	5:30 pm	dCOS - District Com- mittee on Superintend- ency	Downstairs District Office
Fri. Sept. 25, 2015		Boundaries Training	Shenendehowa UMC, Clifton Park see details below to register
Sat. Sept 26th	TBA	Connect and Receive District Gathering	Cobleskill UMC See attached Flyer
Sat Oct 17th		Boundaries Training	Sky Lake Camp and Retreat Center, Windsor see details below to register
Oct 24 th & 31 st	TBA	Lay Servant Training	At Elm Park UMC – Details TBA
Sun., Nov. 15th	Following Worship Service	Sidney Regional Church Conference	Sidney UMC
Mon., Nov. 16th	TBA	Norwich Regional Church Conference	Oxford UMC
Tues., Nov. 17th	TBA	Oneonta Regional Church Conference	Elm park UMC
Wed., Nov. 18th	TBA	Cooperstown Regional Church Conference	Cooperstown UMC
Thurs., Nov. 19th	TBA	Schoharie Regional Church Conference	Esperance- Sloansville UMC
Tues., Dec 1st	TBA	Advent Day Apart	TBA
Tues., March 1st, 2016	TBA	Lenten Day Apert	TBA
Sat., March 5th, 2016	TBA	Oneonta District Day	Elm Park UMC
Thurs., April 14th, 2016	TBA	Bishop's Day on the District	TBA

Boundary Awareness Training for Pastors

**This training is mandatory for all pastors and lay worship leaders
under appointment**

in the Upper New York Annual Conference.

(This is not the same as Safe Sanctuary Training!)

In our life together, we are called to maintain boundaries as a means of maintaining covenant with each other and with those whom we serve. Understanding these boundaries and strategies to maintain them is important to our ministry together.

Beginning in September 2015, the Upper New York Conference Board of Ordained Ministry is offering Boundary Awareness Training for all clergy under appointment. **This training is mandatory for all pastors in the Upper New York Annual Conference.** The trainings will be led by the Rev. Diane Wheatley, in partnership with the Capital Region Theological Center. Rev. Wheatley is an ordained clergy member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

Sessions will be held on the following dates and locations:

Sept. 24, 2015 Casowasco Camp and Retreat Center, Moravia - Filled -

Sept. 25, 2015 Shenendehowa United Methodist Church, Clifton Park

Sept. 26, 2015 Plattsburgh United Methodist Church, Plattsburgh

Oct. 17, 2015 Sky Lake Camp and Retreat Center, Windsor

Oct. 27, 2015 Findley Camp and Retreat Center, Clymer

Oct. 28, 2015 Asbury Camp and Retreat Center, Silver Lake

Oct. 29, 2015 Canton United Methodist Church, Canton

Jan. 9, 2016 Casowasco Camp and Retreat Center, Moravia

You are welcome to register for any event, pending space availability. You need only attend one event. You may register online for any event through the Capital Region Theological Center at <https://crtc.org/upcoming/eventgroup>.

Total fee for the course is \$85, which will be due upon check-in at the training. You will have the option to request a mini-grant (\$30) from your available continuing education funds from the Board of Ordained Ministry during the registration process or by contacting the Rev. Wayne Mort at wayneamort@aol.com. You will receive notification regarding the awarding of these funds prior to the event. You should come to the course prepared to pay.

Local Church News

Pianist needed for 10:00 AM Sunday worship services at Preston UMC. Familiarity with *UM Hymnal* and *The Faith We Sing* essential. Compensation negotiable. Call 607-656-4533 or 607-334-5881.

12 old Pews available ranging from size 6 feet to 10 feet long - Please contact Sylvia Barrett at (607) 434-7188 if you are interested.

Summer Vacation Bible School Scheduled

If you would like us to spread the word about you planned VBS this Summer please send info to OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org

Unadilla Center -VBS at Unadilla Center UMC will be **August 10-14 from 9:00-11:30 A.M.** The theme is Waterworks and we will learn the different ways water can remind us of God and Jesus. Preregistration is appreciated but not required. All children ages 3 and up are welcome. Each day will include music, a story time, craft, activity, snack, and games. Call Claudia Jenkins at 563-7713 for more information.

Mount Vision & Hartwick United Methodist Churches are again joining the Laurens Presbyterian Church & St Matthew's Lutheran Church to offer Ecumenical Community Vacation Bible School. The Laurens Presbyterian Church is hosting the 2015 week of fun and adventure themed: "Camping in God's Beautiful World." Join us at 3 Main St, Laurens, **August 10-14th, 6:30-8pm.** For more information, call Mount Vision United Methodist Church: 607-432-0397

New – Red Bird Mission

Red Bird Mission Shoebox Project - 2015

It is time to begin filling shoeboxes for the Red Bird Mission Christmas Shoebox Project. This is a most worthwhile project serving the Red Bird Mission Conference of the United Methodist Church and their clientele. This project is worthy of your consideration. *For more information about Red Bird Mission and the Christmas 'Shoebox project, [click here.](#)*

Nicaragua 2016

A VIM team will be going to Nicaragua in 2016. Tentative dates are March 3—17. The team will be working with Dr. Belinda Forbes, UM missionary dentist. Belinda works with Accion Medica Cristiana (Christian Medical Action/ AMC), an agency that works with some of the poorest people in Nicaragua, the second poorest country in our hemisphere. The team will probably do health related work but not direct medical care. Work might include assisting with dental care, health education, construction, etc. AMC will look at the team's skills and the community's needs to determine the work and the location. It is expected that the team will go to the northeastern region, the RACCN, which is regarded as the poorest area of Nicaragua.

The team is being sponsored by First UMC, Schenectady, which has a covenant relationship with Dr. Forbes. Anticipated cost will be \$2000-2500. Team leader is Cindy Schulte. You can contact her at tacks5@hotmail.com or 518-374-3012 for more information or an application. You can also contact Jan Huston for more information at hustonjp24@gmail.com or 518-399-0919. AMC has a website where you can learn more about the work they do with the warm, friendly people of this beautiful country – <http://amcenglish.org>. It is hoped that the team will be formed by mid-Sept. so get your application in soon!

Support Africa 360

Churches all over the conference are answering the call to support Africa 360. The Africa 360 Challenge 2.0 was issued at Annual Conference in May, and each church has received a goal card to encourage them to participate. If your church did not receive a goal card, or has any other questions about resources, a speaker, or brainstorming creative ideas, email Laurel O'Connor, Africa 360 Field Coordinator at LaurelOConnor@unyumc.org. There are resources and information online as well: <http://www.unyumc.org/mission/africa-360>. The August issue of the Advocate is dedicated specifically to Africa 360, so keep your eyes open for that issue that will be filled with church stories, ideas, and resources that are available for use.

In other news, the Albany District Ministry Team and the "AU Breakfast Table" have initiated an endowed scholarship to honor Virgia Phoenix, a remarkable woman and this year's recipient of the Denman award at Conference. Virgia's local church, First UMC, Schenectady, has joined as co-sponsor. If you would like to give a gift to honor Virgia and the profound impact she continues to have in the Upper New York Conference, please send donations to the Upper New York Conference office, written to UNYAC with "AU-Virgia Phoenix" in the memo line. If your church would like to take an offering for the Virgia Phoenix endowed scholarship and would like specially-marked envelopes, please contact Laurel O'Connor (LaurelOConnor@unyumc.org). If a church or group of churches is interested in honoring someone and would like more details about endowing a full scholarship to Africa University, please contact the Conference Office for full details.

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

Camping & Retreat Ministries - <http://www.unyumc.org/about/crm>

Sign Up for a Summer Program TODAY!

Wild action and pure fun, sun-soaked days, friends, great food, and all in a spectacular setting. What makes summer camp so special? We love kids! And we're built from the ground up for kids to experience an unforgettable, life-changing week. Step out of the everyday and soar into another world! Sign up today at www.campsandretreats.org for a choice of over 180 summer programs for children and youth PLUS we have over 30 programs for adults, families, special needs adults, and clergy! Questions? E-mail us at info@campsandretreats.org or call us at 315-424-7878 ext. 309 or TOLL FREE: 855-424-7878 ext. 309. See you soon!

Director's Invitational accepting nominations

The 2015 Director's Invitational, held at the [Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center](http://www.casowasco.org) in Moravia, is now accepting nominations of young leaders (ages 14 through 2015 high school graduates) for this five-day program. Director's Invitational, which begins Aug. 9, is a spiritual leadership seminar that helps young people recognize their style of leadership and develop their own unique, God-given gifts. [DETAILS](#)

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.

NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVALS in New York 2015

September 5-6 **33rd Annual Iroquois Indian Festival** Iroquois Indian Museum 324 Caverns Road
Howes Cave, NY

September 12-13 **Seneca Indian Fall Festival** Cattaraugus Territory

September 12-13 **Akwesasne Pow Wow** Grand entry at 12 noon. Akwesasne Territory, Mohawk Nation, Anowarakowa Arena Cornwall Island, Ontario.

September 12-13 **Saratoga Native American Festival** Victoria Pool Mall Saratoga Spa State Park

September 18-27 **2015 World Indoor Lacrosse Championship** First ever international sporting event held on Indigenous lands. Thirteen nations will compete for the championship in Syracuse For more info ><http://wilc2015.com><

September 25-27 **Polishing the Silver Covenant Chain:** Building Relationships for the good of the Earth Six Nations Grand River Reserve, Ontario, Canada. To register: [406-587-1002](tel:406-587-1002) or email Eric Noyes: at Eric@twocircles.org.

November 11 **Canandaigua Treaty Celebration** Noon till 9pm Court house lawn Canandaigua and Elementary School Commemorates the 200+ years of the treaty parade, food, vendors, educational presentations, social

For the Full list of 2015-16 Appointments go to :<http://www.unyumc.org/news/appointments>

Conference Job Posting - *Anyone inquiring about any open positions can go to <http://www.unyumc.org/about/jobs> as we now have an online application system for applying for open positions.*

Resource Center Links :

Resource Center on the website: <http://www.unyumc.org/resources/media-resource-center>

And the current Newsletter: <http://www.unyumc.org/resources/monthly-newsletter>

Contact info for the Upper NY Conference is as follows:

Upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church

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(315) 424-7878 * Toll-Free (855) 424-7878 * Fax (315) 478-4869 * Email: www.unyumc.org

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](http://www.unyumc.org/district/oneonta)

See us on Face book: [Oneonta District United Methodists](#)

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