

January 21st, 2016

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."

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 a minimum of 7 days in advance to: OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org



*And now to God who is able to keep us from falling, and lift us from the dark valley of despair to the bright mountain of hope
from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy;
to God be power and authority, for ever and ever.*

Martin Luther King

(Blessing spoken to his congregation in Montgomery as he left them to devote all his time to political action)

Together, let us pray for

Maxine Getty and her family. Maxine serves as Administrative Assistant for Albany District. Maxine's mother died Jan 18th.

Kathy Brumbaugh – Having health concerns

The UNY Conference Council on Youth Ministry (CCYM)

District Events Coming Up

| Date | Time | Item | Location |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Sun. Feb. 28th | 10:00 am Social Hour and Lunch to Follow | Bishop Webb preaching in Unadilla | Unadilla 1 st UMC |
| Tues., March 1st, 2016 | 9am-2:30m | Lenten Day Apart for Pastors | Cooperstown UMC |
| Sat., March 5th, 2016 | 8:30 Registration 3:30 pm Departure | Oneonta District Day | Elm Park UMC |
| Thurs., April 14th, 2016 | TBA | Bishop's Day on the District | Norwich Broad Street UMC |
| April 30 th , 2016 | 9-11 am | Pre-Conference Briefing | Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center in Moravia |
| April 30 th , 2016 | 3-5 pm | -Conference Briefing | <ul style="list-style-type: none">at the Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Windsor |
| June 2-4 2016 | | 2016 UNY Annual Conference | At the OnCenter in Syracuse, NY. Click on link below for more information. http://www.unyumc.org/events/annual- |

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|--|--|--|-------------------|
| | | | <i>conference</i> |
| | | | |

Bishop Webb names new district superintendents

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb is pleased to announce the appointment of two new district superintendents.



The Rev. Vonda Fossitt, pastor at the High Street United Methodist Church in Binghamton, will be superintendent of the Genesee Valley District.



The Rev. Everett Bassett, pastor at the Cicero UMC, will be superintendent of the Oneonta District.

The appointments are effective July 1, 2016. – [Click here to read more](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 – Lenten Day Apart for Pastors - at Cooperstown UMC
9:am – 2:30 pm



Theme- Wesley's Three Simple Rules
Leaders- Brandi Craver, Bill Delia, George Gallandorm
Lunch will be served – for Donation

To register please contact Teresa at the District Office (607) 441-5102 or email:
OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org –

When you contact us about registration please let us know of any Dietary restrictions.
Deadline to Register is Feb. 20, 2016
Be watching for further details to follow in weeks to come!

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, March 5, 2016 – District Day, at Elm Park UMC Oneonta –8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Registration begins at 8:30 am

Rev. Colleen Preuniger, Syracuse University Chaplain, Keynote



Workshops so far...



Finance and Trustees
with Kevin Domanico, Conference Treasurer



Pastor/Parish Relations Committee
with Rev. Jan Rowell District Superintendent

WATCH DISTRICT NEWS FOR MORE INFO COMING! And how to register for this event.

Lunch will be available – For donation

Deadline to register is Monday Feb.22, 2016

REMINDER TO CHURCH LEADERS Deadline approaching for forms due

February 15, 2016 (*Mail completed copy of each to District office*)

Report of the Trustees ·
Report of the Finance Committee ·
2015 Year End Financial Report (*your format*)
2016 Church Budget (*your format*)

2015 Statistical information must be entered in the Ezra System by Feb. 15. Note: the EZRA site will open on Jan. 4. Statistics cannot be uploaded until that date. User names are the same as in the past (Your Churches 6 digit GCF&A #). **All passwords have been set to stats2016.** Once you've logged in you can change your password. Click here to sign on: <http://ezra.gcfa.org/>



Due by March 15, 2016 (*Mail completed copy to District Office*)

20. Local Church Annual Financial Audit · · · · · **Fund Balance Report**

***For help logging into Church/Clergy profile system at uny.umc.org or ezra.gcfa.org please contact Teresa at the district office. Call (607)441-5102 or email: OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org**

NEW- Winter VBS will be held at Unadilla United Methodist Church on February 15 and 16 from 1:00-4:00. The program will be Outback Rock from GROUP Resources. Children will enjoy Bible Stories that come to life, games, a snack, and energetic music all set in the Australian outback. On this down-under Aussie adventure, kids explore God's monumental love and discover what it means to have an unshakable faith. The two day VBS is open to children ages 3 - middle school of all denominations. Registration is not required but is appreciated for planning purposes. For more information call Claudia Jenkins at 563-7713.

Available to a good home: Hammond electronic organ.

Fly Creek UMC is reorganizing its fellowship hall and Sunday School space, and the organ currently stored there needs a good home and someone who will appreciate it! Two manuals, multiple stops, good working condition. Please message Pastor Sharon at pastorsharon@windstream.net if you are interested

A SPECIAL INVITATION

On January 31, 2016 following worship at 10:30 p.m. and the dish to pass luncheon Pastor John and his wife of fifty years Emily invite you to travel with them from Budapest, Hungary to Amsterdam as we view the photos of our recent 50th Wedding Anniversary Cruise. We will be at approximately 12:30 p.m. and depending on the questions we could take up to two hours to see everything. There will be a potty break. When we get to Passau, Germany you will hear part of an organ recital we attended using the 17,000 pipe organ. Come for as much or as little of the trip as you want. We will meet at Treadwell UMC, 68 Church Street, Treadwell, NY. We have a very large screen and up to the minute projection and sound system. All are welcome. If you have a question email Pastor John at: <mailto:obejohn@frontiernet.net>.

Thank you to the following congregations for Paying 100% of your 2015 Ministry Shares

Barnerville
Cooperstown

Central Bridge
Cooperstown Junction

Cobleskill
Davenport

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Delanson | East Worcester | Edmeston |
| Emmons | Esperance-Sloansville | Fly Creek |
| Franklin | Gallupville | Grosvenors Corners |
| Guilford | Hartwick | McDonough |
| Middleburgh | Middlefield | Morris |
| Mount Upton | Mount Vision | New Berlin |
| North Afton | North Norwich | Norwich: Broad Street |
| Oneonta: Elm Park | Otego | Oxford |
| Plymouth | Preston | Richmondville |
| Roseboom | Sand Hill | Schenevus |
| Schuyler Lake | Sherburne | Smithville Center |
| Smyrna | Treadwell | Unadilla Center |
| Unadilla | Warnerville | West Davenport |
| West Exeter | Westford | Westville |
| Worcester | | |

Questions regarding your church's Ministry Share may be directed to Mike Weaver in the Conference Finance Office at (855) 424-7878 ext. 315 or MikeWeaver@unyumc.org.

W2 forms and Affordable Care Act reporting regulations

All local churches must provide W2s to their employees, including pastors employed by the local church, by Jan. 31. For information on local church W2 reporting responsibilities, [Click Here](#). Please note, religious organizations continue to be exempt from having to list the cost of health insurance on W2s. For W2 samples and instructions, refer to the [Church Employer page](#) on the Upper New York Conference website.

Many churches may have recently seen information about the "2015 Internal Revenue Code Section 6056 Reporting - Employer-Provided Health Insurance," including 1094-C and 1095-C reporting requirements. This requirement only applies to applicable large employers; therefore, all of our local churches are exempt from this reporting requirement.

If you have any questions about W2 reporting or Affordable Care Act (ACA) regulations, please contact the Conference Benefits Office at BenefitsOffice@unyumc.org.

SUPPORT AFRICA 360

Help Oneonta District move into first place participation in Africa 360!

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 (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), 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
315-424-7878 ext. 327

Field Coordinator, Africa 360
Africa 360: Health and Education for Generations

Upper New York Conference

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

Webinar: When Mercy and Justice Meet

Drew University is offering a webinar: "When Mercy and Justice Meet: Advocacy for Clergy and Congregations," led by Katey Zeh. **Feb. 18, 25, and March 3, 2016** / 1-2:30 pm. \$20/session / .5 CEU credits available. Find details on the Drew University Website: [Click here for information](#)

Resources - January 2016

Each month, the Upper New York Conference Communications Ministry Team provides a list of dates and links to resources that churches and individuals may find helpful in preparation for worship and other occasions. Click on the links to find resources and more information.

- Jan. 18-24 - [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity](#) develops Christian unity through prayer and fellowship.
- Jan. 24 - [Ecumenical Sunday](#), part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Upper New York Annual Conference - Important Dates/Deadlines for 2016

Be sure to mark the following dates and deadlines on your calendar for 2016:

- **Feb. 15:** Final day to update 2015 statistical information in EZRA system (*Note: The EZRA site will open on Jan. 1 - statistics cannot be uploaded until that date.*)
- **March 15th – 2015 Financial Audit of your church records is due to the District Superintendent**
- **April 16:** Pre-Conference Briefing 4-6 p.m. at the Saratoga Springs UMC
- **April 30:** Pre-Conference Briefing 3-5 p.m. at the Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Windsor

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 or by phone : (607) 441-5102

Attention Youth Leaders! - SOLID Youth Retreats are coming up soon

- consider coming to the event **February 5th-7th, 2016**



We know that putting together a dynamite retreat can be a challenge. The SOLID Youth Retreat is here to help!

SOLID was created to give local church youth groups the opportunity to connect

with each other and

with other youth groups from around the state. We focus on how teenagers can have a solid faith in an ever-changing world. SOLID has been designed to help each youth explore the importance of asking tough questions, listening for the answers, and living their life in the way God would want them to.

Our hope is that youth have a wonderful time participating in the awesome activities and living in community for a weekend. But our intention, beyond all this, is for youth to grow in their relationship with God and learn what it means to have a solid faith. The four large group sessions combine impactful worship and dynamic speakers. After each large group session, youth groups meet together to dig deeper into their walk with God and how the message relates to their lives.

Grades: 7 - 12 (We recognize that youth groups may be comprised of grades 6-12. If your youth group includes youth in 6th grade, they are welcome to attend SOLID.)
For more information and registration forms, please [Click here](#).

UMM Event -You are Invited

The UMM in the Binghamton District are planning a men's Christian overnight at Sky Lake in September 2016. We would like to invite all men from the Oneonta District to attend. If you are interested in attending please contact john.conklin@mindspring.com

Conference Revolving Loan Fund Activated

The Upper New York Conference is pleased to announce the activation of the Revolving Loan Fund. These funds are now available for lending to UNY churches with capital needs, when alternative financing is unavailable. As a loan is paid back, the money collected will be made available for new loans, hence the fund's name: Revolving Loan Fund. For more information and to download an application form: [Click here](#)

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.

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.

Contact info for the Upper NY Conference is as follows:

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

Quick links

[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 Re-](#)
[sponse](#) * [Finance](#) * [Forms](#) * [Imagine No Malaria](#) * [Media Resource Center](#) * [Volunteers-in-](#)
[Mission](#) * [UNYAC Weekly Digest 2016 Standard Mileage Rate](#)

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

