

July 13th, 2016

*Oneonta District Office of the United Methodist Church
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



Together, let us pray for

*The families and loved ones of those who lost their lives in the horrific events of the past week. (The shooting deaths of Alton Sterling of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Philando Castile of St. Paul, Minnesota; and Dallas police officers, Lorne Ahrens, Michael Krol, Michael J. Smith, Brent Thompson and Patrick Zamarripa). Residents of West Virginia impacted and still recovering from flooding
Bishop Mark Webb and his family –his grandfather died on July 4th*



Reflection by Rev. Everett Bassett – Oneonta District Superintendent

This is a strange spiritual moment.

On the one hand, we are surrounded by the bounty of summer – an all-too-brief season to relish in this varying New York climate. As I begin to explore the beautiful natural setting of this district, my spirit is lifted many times.

On the other hand, we are painfully aware of the struggles of our world – particularly this summer around issues of racism-sparked acts of violence in Minnesota and Louisiana, and a violent attack on police officers in Dallas. Our pain and our outrage are also deeply spiritual expressions.

As servant-leaders for Christ, we walk somewhere between this created beauty and this human tragedy as those who are called to represent grace and peace, justice and hope. How do we hold together these two very different pulls on our souls?

In the middle of those thoughts, the lectionary for this week lifts up Jesus' visit to the home of Martha and Mary, and the two very different responses of these sisters to that visit.

Mary got quiet, 'listening' to Jesus's teaching. Martha got busy – 'distracted by many tasks.' Could these two impulses represent the two tugs we feel in this season of both beauty and struggle?

While Jesus, making a particular point about spiritual priorities, favors Mary's choice over Martha's, it seems clear that in the bigger picture he affirms the importance of both. Both moments were essential – the moment to be busy in the vineyard of God's grace, and the moment to listen and be fed.

In this summer season, may you find both moments as well – a time to listen deeply to God's voice speaking to you in beautiful ways, and a time to demonstrate for God's peace and justice in a hurting world.

It is a strange spiritual time; but God speaks powerfully in such times as this.
I am so thankful for your ministry.

Shalom, Everett

Note* July 1st - Sept 1st

District Office Hours will be flexible, please call in advance before stopping by.

District Newsletter will be published every two week (instead of weekly)

Events Coming up

August 16 – Mentor Training –(Oneonta & Mohawk District) 10am to 2pm at the Herkimer UMC, 127 N Prospect St. Herkimer, NY 13350 . Lunch is provided. [Details](#)

September 16-17 -UMM Retreat - The Oneonta and Binghamton District United Methodist Men will host UNY annual Christian Men Retreat at the Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center - [Details](#) – [To Register](#)

Oct. 25-27, 2016 - [The Bishops Retreat](#) - at the Conference and Events Center in Niagara Falls, NY



2016 Summer Camp & Retreat programs registration opens

Click below for details

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

❖ Local Church News

Bible Study - How Healthy is your church?

July 6 – August 10, Wednesdays at 6:30 – 8:00 at Unadilla Center United Methodist Church

A six week study of the health of our churches using the book, "Autopsy of a Deceased Church - 12 Ways to Keep Yours Alive" by Thom Rainer. Our time together will include group discussions based on the book, as well as time for each congregation to examine the health of their own church. Our goal by the end of the session is for each congregation to have some specific doable goals to improve the health of each of our churches, with plans on how to reach those goals that are relevant to each individual church. The book is \$5.00 from **Christianbook.com**. There will be some books available at the Bible Study. For more information **contact Claudia Jenkins at cjgs@frontiernet.net or call 607-563-7713**

Be a Super Hero for God Vacation Bible School will be held at Unadilla Center UMC August 22-26 from 9:00-11:30.

Children ages 3 through Middle School are welcome to attend all week or any day. Each day will include fun activities, crafts, music and a snack. The week will culminate with a picnic on Friday at noon and a program on Sunday during the 9:00 A.M. worship service. **Contact Claudia Jenkins at cjgs@frontiernet.net or 607-563-7713**

Women's Retreat is coming - Mark your calendars! The churches of Unadilla Center, Sand Hill and Mt. Upton are planning their second women's retreat for **Saturday, September 17 at the Sand Hill United Methodist Church Community Hall**. This year's theme is Lavendar Springs. It will be an all day event. More details to follow.



❖ For the community

Greater Chenango Cares - July 15 – July 24th - 8:00 am- 5:00 pm - at Norwich City High School, Midland Dr. Norwich, NY

Services Are Provided at **No-Cost**

Dental: This service must be pre-scheduled Cleanings, Fillings, Fluoride Treatments, and Simple Extractions

Medical: Sports and School Physicals, Prescription Consults, Risk Assessment for: risk factors for Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, Nutrition Counseling, Pain Management, etc.

Optometry: This service must be pre-scheduled testing for Cataracts, Glaucoma and Macular Degeneration. Visual examinations for single-focal distance or reading prescription glasses. Your choice of one pair of prescription glasses (distance or reading) manufactured on-site for pick-up and fitting. No charge! Last day to pick-up glasses morning of July 24th.

Veterinary This service must be pre-scheduled: Spay and Neuter- No schedule appointments available at this time **NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED** -Rabies Vaccinations for companion animals (dogs/cats)

Dental and Optometry Services: 607-337-4320

Want to Volunteer? Contact: Chenango United Way at: 607-334-8815 or June 1st check their website @ www.volunteer.chenangouw.org/aem

No residency, income or insurance requirements. Walk-ins welcome for Medical.

Check us out on Facebook: www.facebook.com/GreaterChenangoCares **or**

Contact us by email at: greaterchenangocares@gmail.com



WHAT: Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries Training

WHO: All church leaders and all individuals who have responsibility for the safety of children, youth, and vulnerable adults in the churches' ministries especially pastors, those responsible for Christian education and youth group leaders. This is a prerequisite for Training of Trainers

WHEN: Saturday, Aug.13, 2016 9 a.m. - noon

WHERE: St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 551 Sayles St., Oneida, 13421

WHAT: Safe Sanctuaries® Training of Trainers

WHO: Individuals interested in facilitating Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries Training as part of their District training team and/or for their local church. Members of the District training team must be recommended by the DS. Completion of these two courses will certify individuals to present UNY's Safe Sanctuaries training in the Conference, District and local church. Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries Training is a prerequisite for Training of Trainers. This 3-hour course can be completed in the morning or at a previous time (since Fall 2012).

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016 1:00-4:00 pm

WHERE: St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 551 Sayles St., Oneida, 13421

PRE-REGISTER: Please pre-register by Aug. 5.

Pre-registration information need to include:

- Session(s) attending - morning and/or afternoon
- Name, contact email address and telephone number, local church

Pre-register by contacting Cindy Muder, Mohawk District, 315-797-1777, mohawkdistrict@unyumc.org.

QUESTIONS: Questions should be directed to Carol at carolb@htva.net or 607-687-4793.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY : UNY SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING TEAM And funded by Ministry Shares from local churches.

[Legacy Ministry website has launched](#)

The *Legacy* Ministry website is now available. The website will introduce people to *Legacy* Ministry and what it's about so they can see if it is something they want to explore. *Legacy* Ministry seeks to help congregations that are "having trouble staying in operation and who express that they're having..."

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/legacy-ministry-website-has-launched>

Trip planned to Leadership Institute at the Church of the Resurrection

Time is running out, but you can still register for Church of the Resurrection Leadership Institute in Kansas City. The Leadership Institute at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection brings together clergy, church staff, and volunteers who share a passion for renewing churches. The Upper New York Annual Conference has organized a trip to share in this great event. Join us for an exciting learning opportunity at Church of The Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas on September 28-30, 2016.

The group from the Conference will fly out of Syracuse on Tuesday evening, September 27 and return on Friday evening, September 30. Registration includes airfare, conference registration, and ground transportation. Total cost if registration is completed by **July 13 (registration will go up after July 13)** is \$700. Lodging and meals would be on your own ([Click here](#) for a list of hotels). After July 10, the registration cost increases to \$750, and the final deadline to register is August 22.

Please note after the first ten spots are filled the price may change because of changes to the cost of airfare. A non-refundable first payment of \$200 is due with your registration. The full balance is due no later than September 1. To take advantage of this group pricing, [click here](#) to register. [Details](#)

[Click here for Information about 2016 Annual Conference](#)

Download the AC wrap-up issue of the *Bridge* - The Annual Conference wrap-up issue of the *Bridge* is now available for download. It is available in both color and black & white formats. [Click here](#) to select the version you prefer and make copies as needed. This issue of the *Bridge* features a comprehensive wrap-up of the 2016 session of the Upper New York Annual Conference.

Registration is now open for The 2016 Bishop's Retreat -Oct. 25-27, 2016 at the Conference and Events Center in Niagara Falls, NY. [Click here for information and to register .](#)

Wesley in Ireland, 2017

From Rev. Jeff Matthews, Albany District. Have you ever thought you'd like to explore our religious/ Wesleyan/ or even your own cultural background a bit more? Have you ever thought you'd like to visit Ireland? You can combine all those goals by joining me for "Wesley in Ireland 2017". I'll be leading a tour group there departing on May 16, 2017 and I'd love to have you join me.

The beauty of the land and the friendly hospitality of the people are well known. Many of us trace a good deal of our own family history there as well. But did you know that part of the history of "Methodism" takes place there? I'm excited about this opportunity to learn more and I hope you will be as well. You can view some of the details of the trip by [clicking here](#).

The cost of the basic 10 day trip for May begins at \$3,298. It includes round trip airfare (departing from Newark, NJ), all hotels, buses, touring, admissions, gratuities and 2 meals per day. If you choose the post-trip extension to North-ern Ireland it will be an additional \$998. These prices are based on double occupancy.

If you have questions or if I can be helpful in any way, please feel free to contact me by email at jmdiv83@hotmail.com or by phone at 518-463-1293. I'll look forward to saying, "WELCOME ABOARD" as we plan for the experience of a lifetime. You can register online or by US Mail. Be sure to include host number 02509 on your registration to be included in our group. I'll be happy to assist you by sending a brochure or with your online registration.

Blessings and peace,

Jeff Matthews, Host Pastor

What Does It Mean to Be a Healthy Family?



Join Discipleship Ministries, GCSRW, and Wespath for an interactive webinar series that will help participants discern the church's role in supporting family health. Sessions start Aug. 2nd but also will be archived to view later.

[Click here](#) to get registered or learn more!

UMM Retreat in September

The Oneonta and Binghamton District United Methodist Men will host UNY annual Christian Men Retreat September 16-17 at the Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Windsor. This year's theme is "Giving God your all." Former Harvard University and Seattle Seahawk linebacker Isaiah Kacyvenski - who was the Seattle Seahawks' Special Teams Captain three years in a row, helped lead the team to Super Bowl XL, and grew up in Endicott - will serve as the keynote speaker. The retreat will also feature the Mark Bolos Praise Band. **For [Flyer click here](#) – [To register click here](#) o, contact UNY UMM President Mark Jones at (315) 749-3700 or msjwelshman@yahoo.com.**



Lay Servants Can Fill in for Pulpit Supply

Is your church in need of a trained person to fill the pulpit while your pastor is away? The Oneonta District Lay Servant Team has a list of Certified Lay Servants who are well-equipped to do just that. Find a list of these folks by [clicking here](#).

Register now for Tending the Fire

Registration is now open for the 2016-2017 sessions of Tending the Fire. See the registration [link](#). For details

Global United Methodist Clergywomen Gathering

Dates: Aug. 29-31, 2016. Location: Houston, TX.

Theme: One: Birthing a Worldwide Church For more information about the Conference, [click here](#).

We're excited to announce our **new website and mobile guide** for you to use through Guidebook! See the website at <http://guidebook.com/guide/41946> or get the mobile guide <https://guidebook.com/g/global-clergywomen/> to access the most up-to-date information about our event, including schedules, maps, and much more.

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 or 518-698-5024 or Cindy Schulte at tacks5@hotmail.com or 518-374-3012 or Jan or Peter Huston at 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!

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. [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.

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

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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. Everett Barrett, Superintendent and Teresa Wood, Administrative Assistant*

