

March 2, 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 on Mondays to be published – that week – email to: OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org



God, Open our eyes to the suffering of our imprisoned brothers and sisters so that, by our understanding and love, we may bring them your peace and Joy.

You come to set us free.

May your light shine on the captives, relieve their suffering, and enable us all to grow toward true freedom in justice and harmony.

Pax Christi

Together, let us pray for

Pastor Kathy Brumbaugh – recuperating from surgery

Pastor Carol Coltrain- anticipating surgery

The UNY [College Ministry](#)

District Events Coming Up

Date	Time	Item	Location
Sat., March 5th, 2016	8:30 Registration 3:30 pm Departure	Oneonta District Day	Elm Park UMC
Sat April 2, 2016	1-4 PM	Safe Sanctuary Training	Unadilla UMC – (607)563-7713 or email cjgs@frontiernet.net to sign up
Sat April 2 & 9th	8am-2pm	Spring Lay Servant School – click here for Brochure to Register	Elm Park UMC
Thurs., April 14th, 2016	See below	Bishop's Day on the District	Norwich Broad Street UMC See below for details
April 16, 2016	4-6PM	Pre-Conference Briefing	Saratoga Springs UMC
April 23 rd	All Day	Day of prayer for the 2016 General Conference,	http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/uny-to-observe-day-of-prayer-for-gc-16
April 30 th , 2016	9-11 am	Pre-Conference Briefing	Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center in Moravia
April 30 th , 2016	3-5 pm	Pre-Conference Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">at the Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Windsor
Sat May 14th	3-6 pm Tentative	Celebration of our Service together –	Changing the World Service Project- Dish to Pass - Further Details TBA
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-conference

Congratulations and Thank You Oneonta District!

Thanks to your faithfulness in giving, **we are #1** among the 12 Upper New York districts in support of Ministry Shares for 2015 at 88.53% support!

Thanks to your faithfulness in reporting, **100%** of our congregations have completed all EZRA reports! Only Genesee Valley District had theirs all completed before we did!

Thanks to Teresa Wood, our District AA, for helping with login information, reminders, etc! -Great work everyone!

Rev. Jan McClary Rowell

Oneonta District Superintendent

Upper New York Conference, United Methodist Church

"To Live the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Be God's Love With Our Neighbors in All Places"

THIS Saturday –Hope to see you there

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

Plenary:

"How is it with Your Soul?: Grounding in our Wesleyan Heritage to Connect (and reconnect) Across Difference"

Rev. Colleen Hallagan Preuniger is an Elder serving as United Methodist Ecumenical Chaplain at Syracuse University. She is passionate about creating and strengthening God drenched connections within our beloved connection and is committed to a vision for the United Methodist Church that offers all people a place at the Table. She graduated with a B.A. from Hamilton College and M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary. She lives with her husband, Rev. Nicholas Preuniger, and three year old son Henry in Dewitt NY.

Workshops

AM –

- 1) -#ConnectAcrossDifference:** The three simple rules can help us embody the ethos of early Methodism for a new generation. Focusing on the power of spiritually and Biblical grounded dialogue, participants will be practicing skills of storytelling and active listening as essential tools in honest and productive dialogue. We will consider the concrete way these practices (if practiced) might strengthen connections in our local churches and beyond. We will hear of ways the United Methodist Ecumenical Campus Ministry seeks to embody and teach this on the campus of Syracuse University.- - *Rev. Colleen Preuniger*
- 2) Financial Roles in the Mission and Ministry of the Church-** Training for Treasurers, Finance committee members, and other leaders- Kevin Domanico, Upper New York Conference Treasurer
- 3) Prayer-** An overview of prayer, what it is, why we pray and a quick overview of "some " forms of prayer.- Pastor Dan Martin -, Worcester and Westford United Methodist Churches–
- 4) Creating Healthy Communication in Our Congregation-** In a culture that focuses on conflicted communication, "parking lot conversations", and cutting off those who disagree, how can the Church practice and model communication where different voices are heard, respected, and help to find the way God is calling us into decisions and a faithful future. Rev. Gary Kubitz, Afton, Bainbridge, and Sidney United Methodist Churches

PM-

- 1) Stewards of Property and Other Assets to Support the Church's Mission and Ministry-** Training for Trustees- Kevin Domanico, Conference Treasurer and staff liaison to Trustee responsibilities

2) Partners in Ministry: Training for Staff-Parish Relations Committee members and Pastors- Building a great partnership between pastor and congregation is key to effective ministry. Practices that will assist you in this work, as well as information about the appointment process will be covered. Rev. Jan McClary Rowell, District Superintendent

3) Compass Project Introduction- God has vision and purpose for every congregation, no matter what size! Are you seeking that purpose that moves you from surviving to thriving, from anxiety to promised future? The Compass Project is a small group learning process especially designed for congregations on our Oneonta District. Come and learn more about it. Anna Buell, District Lay Leader, and Pastor Rich Howard, Hartwick and Mt Vision United Methodist Churches

4) Learning to share your faith story- relationship building, listening skills and incarnational ministry. Review of books Missional Quest," "Missional Essentials," and "Sentness." - "Submerged ministry," "Shalom Spirituality," and "Shared Life" in which word and action together proclaim the good news. -Rev. Teresa Sivers, First Oneonta UMC

Books at District Day for Africa 360

It's time to pass along many wonderful books that I have found useful in ministry! Topics include prayer, spiritual disciplines, church leadership, creation care, and much more. Books will be available on March 5 at Elm Park UMC, Come, browse, and take them home **for a donation to Africa 360.** ~ Jan Rowell

To register [click here](#) or copy and paste the link below in your browser .

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ec68m1m1089a197e&llr=eroqakuab>

Lunch will be available – For donation

THIS SUNDAY One Great Hour of Sharing

In Micah 6:8b, NRSV, we read, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" United Methodists will follow that mandate on **March 6** as they participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing celebration. You play an important role in supporting the United Methodist Committee on Relief's vital work around the world when you encourage pastors and local churches in your district to celebrate this special Sunday and to urge generous giving to the special offering.



Our church is at its best when we reach out to sisters and brothers in need. Our generous gifts through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief around the world. UMCOR provides immediate assistance in the wake of disasters and participates in ongoing ministries of food, shelter, health and peace. On March 6, our congregations will receive this special offering, which ensures that when a crisis happens, 100 percent of giving for that disaster goes to those in need.

Download the Pastor's and Leader's Kit below...click here to download

<http://www.umcsgiving.org/resource-articles/one-great-hour-of-sharing-pastors-leaders-kit>

NEW – SAVE THE DATE

A Celebration of our Service together

Saturday May 14th – 3-6 pm Tentative

Location- TBA

Changing the World Service Project-
Dish to Pass

Further Details TBA

NEW - Safe Sanctuaries Training on Saturday, April 2 from 1:00-4:00 at the Unadilla United Methodist Church. People may sign up by calling Claudia Jenkins at 563-7713 or e-mail her at cjgs@frontiernet.net .

Save the Date

Bishop's Day on the District

Laity and clergy gathering with Bishop Mark Webb on **Thursday April 14th, at [Broad Street Norwich UMC](#), 74 North Broad Street, Norwich, NY.**

We hope that all of Oneonta district churches will be a part of this gathering, which will include worship and communion. "Increasing Our Capacity" is the theme for evening. Bishop Webb's sermon title is "Radical Church" (Acts 2.1-13; 37-47).

Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to worship together and celebrate communion with the episcopal leader of our Upper New York Conference. Make plans now to attend!

District clergy will have lunch and a time with Bishop Webb earlier in the day, also at Broad Street Norwich UMC.

To help those preparing lunch, [clergy please register](#) : Please call or email Trish at The Broad Street Norwich UMC office **Phone (607) 334-2895 Email bsumc8@frontiernet.net**

Registration is not necessary for evening session.

Agenda for the day

10-3 Clergy w/Bishop

5 - 6:00 pm Bishop with DS & District Leadership Team

6:30-8 Laity & Clergy Session w/Bishop

Due to parking demands for the 6:30 combined session , we recommend arriving around 6pm if possible. Parking attendants will also be available to direct folks to alternatives.

REMINDER TO CHURCH LEADERS Deadline approaching for forms due

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

20. Local Church Annual Financial Audit

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

During Lent on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 AM Pastor Rich Howard has begun offering a "live" online Centering Prayer experience. He is also posting a video recording of each session on YouTube. The session for Week 1 contains an explanation about Centering Prayer and 10 minutes of praying time. It can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/fwihGMJzdE>. Subsequent sessions will be less talk and more time in centering prayer. Sessions will last approximately 15 minutes.

If anyone wants to participate "live" they can join us for the remaining sessions. Video on the participant's end is not enabled, so don't worry that someone will see you. Here is the information:

Topic: Centering Prayer for Lent - Week 4
Time: Mar 2, 2016 6:30 AM Eastern Time

Topic: Centering Prayer for Lent - Week 5
Time: Mar 9, 2016 6:30 AM Eastern Time

Topic: Centering Prayer for Lent - Week 6

Time: Mar 16, 2016 6:30 AM Eastern Time

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/6074320397>

Or by Telephone:

Dial: +1 408 638 0968 (US Toll) or +1 646 558 8656 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 607 432 0397

Please note: Those who are charged for their long distance calls by their phone carrier will have a charge for the length of the call.

May these times of centering prayer help each of us just to "be" with God during our journey through Lent.

The YouTube Channel link to the weekly video recordings will be found at

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtng7pgdFBvpY-zVC38VR_Q

To Pastors and Lay Leaders of the Oneonta District UMC- UNYAC

Dear Colleagues in Ministry.

I am a retired UMC pastor from Washington State. My wife, Colleen and I would like to spend some time in your area near the end of July this coming summer. We especially want to attend the Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on July 24th. In exchange for a place to stay I am offering to provide pulpit supply July 17th and/or 24th. In addition we would offer a place to stay in our home on Whidbey Island in Puget Sound north of Seattle to anyone interested.

Please contact David G. Lura directly at : lura.david.colleen@gmail.com , if you are interested in this opportunity.

Please feel free to check us out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/david.lura>

Respectfully,

David G. Lura

Pastor, United Methodist Church, retired -Chaplain, United States Navy Reserve, retired -Chaplain, Oak Harbor First Reformed Church, part-time Chaplain, Oak Harbor Area Council of Navy League, volunteer
<http://www.oakharbornavyleague.org/>

NEW- Check out "Attractional Church Model - The Gathering" by Upper New York Conference on Vimeo. **(Featuring First Oneonta UMC)** The video is available for your viewing pleasure at <https://vimeo.com/151041305>

Also Supper Church Video at : <http://www.unyumc.org/news/video/serving-up-supper-scripture-in-salem>

If you like this video, make sure you share it, too! Vimeo is filled with lots of amazing videos. See more at <https://vimeo.com>.

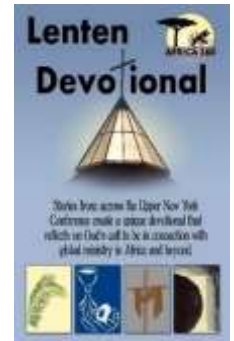
Students: Apply now for 2016 UNY Conference scholarships

United Methodist high school seniors and college students are invited to apply for two scholarships offered by the Upper New York Conference: Conference Merit Awards and Lottie Brown Grants. Application forms and guidelines are available now. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

SUPPORT AFRICA 360

The Africa 360 Lenten Devotional is now available. It includes daily stories, reflections, and prayers from lay folks and pastors all around Upper New York, **including 2 days from our own Pastor Becky Parry of Morris and Edmeston!**

This 76 page devotional is available in two formats – as a free PDF for download from the Conference website (right at the top of the [Africa 360 toolkit](#)) and as a full-color printed hard copy from online publisher Lulu.com at www.tinyurl.com/A360LentenDevo2016. (If you would like the long, full version of the address instead of the tinyURL it is: <http://www.lulu.com/shop/upper-new-york-conference/lenen-devotional/paperback/product-22540675.html>.)



We thank you for helping us to get the word out about this exciting devotional/small group ministry tool! . [Click here for half-page bulletin insert](#) to add to your weekly newsletter .



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 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

Bishop's Confirmation Retreat

Friday – Saturday March 11-12 2016, the Upper New York Camp & Retreat Ministries, in partnership with the Episcopal Office and Upper New York clergy, will host a Bishop's Confirmation Retreat for youth who are preparing for reception into the United Methodist Church through Confirmation. The Confirmation Retreat will be held simultaneously across the Upper New York Conference at Asbury, Casowasco, and Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Centers and at 3 United Methodist Churches in Queensbury, Massena and Olean Christ.

Our time together will include worship, learning, and fellowship through activities that are specifically designed to offer youth a chance to encounter God in new ways with peers who are at similar points in their faith journeys. Using technology, participants at all sites will also have opportunity to interact with each other and to connect live with Bishop Mark J. Webb. This retreat is not intended for a stand-alone Confirmation preparation retreat and is intended to bring an experience outside the United Methodist local Church with other youth on the journey.

The cost will be \$60.00 at Camp & Retreat Site and \$40.00 at Local Church sites.

Online registration is available www.unyumc.org

Any questions please contact Dee Finch at:585-330-2710

Available : Leftover Sign Board Letters

Metal with top lip, black letters on white, 3 sizes: 1 1/4", 2 1/8", 3".

Free. The sorted and boxed letters will be at Oneonta District Day March 5.

Or call: Pastor Bill Delia: (607) 547-9540 or Merrilyn O'Connell :(607) 547-9515 Cooperstown UMC

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

UMM Event -You are Invited



The Oneonta/Binghamton district men's communion and breakfast is coming up quick and now is the time to save the date. The breakfast is to be on **Saturday, March 19th at the Otego United Methodist Church** on Church Street in Otego, which is off I88 Exit 12, easy to get to. The coffee hour starts at 7:30 am with worship to follow at 8:00 am. Breakfast and program to follow.

Feel free to download the PDF flier to post in your church. The contact person is Brandi Craver, pastor and can be reached at 607-988-2866 and the email is otegoumc@yahoo.com. Please contact that person and let them know how many are coming from your church. This is open to men and boys so please spread the word. Send me contacts if you can so we can expand our list.

Thanks and have a great day. -**David Barnes**- VP Binghamton District Men

5th annual New Faith Community Event focuses on



Registration is now open for the Upper New York Conference's 5th annual New Faith Communities Event that takes place April 8-9 at the Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center in Moravia. "What is the Upper New York New Faith Communities Annual Event? It is a chance for every person who is interested in the planting movement in Upper New York to gather, to learn, to network, and to be inspired by the amazing things God is doing throughout the Conference," said the Rev. Dave Masland, UNY Conference Director of New Faith Communities. Click here to register

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ebzfdjto62476836&oseq=&c=&ch=>
The deadline for the early bird registration - \$100 which includes meals and lodging and \$30 for commuters - is March 16; the registration increases to \$120 and \$45 respectively after that date.

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>



Youth: 'Do Something' at CCYM's UP! WORD 16 - Registration is now open for the Upper New York Conference Council on Youth Ministry's UP!WORD '16 to be held April 22-24 at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool. The theme for last year, "Searching God," helped youth better understand their relationship with God; this year's theme takes that understanding and suggests it is time to "Do Something" with it. "Do Something: Disciples' Edition" will provide youth and youth leaders with multiple opportunities to see how they can each do something as Christ's disciples. Click here to register.



<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ec63d58fec226e6d&oseq=&c=&ch>

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.

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](#)

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.

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.

**The Binghamton District's United Methodist
Men's Night at the Ball Game
Thursday, June 23rd -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

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>

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

Quicklinks

[Oneonta District Calender](#) * [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](#)

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

