

May 26th, 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

*Sherry Mott and her family (Unadilla UMC)– Sherry suffered a stroke Thursday May 19th and is now recovering at home
Pastor Carol Coltrain, Huntersland, continuing to recover from surgery
Rev. Diane Diluzio, Oxford and McDonough, having medical testing
Pastors and congregations preparing for appointment transitions
Those preparing for and attending the 2016 Upper New York Annual Conference at the OnCenter June 2-4th*

Please join us in

Welcoming:

- Everett Bassett – Appointed Oneonta District Superintendent – Effective July 1, 2016.
- Thomas LeBeau - Appointed as a full elder to Cooperstown UMC -effective July 1, 2016.
- Anna Blinn Cole – Appointed as Full Time Local Pastor to Warnerville/Cobleskill/Schoharie Regional Churches – Effective July 1, 2016.

Saying Farewell to:

- Gary Kubitz - Appointed as a provisional elder to Voorheesville: First UMC (Albany District) effective July 1, 2016.
- Justin Hood – Appointment as Full Time Local Pastor to Brewerton/Phoenix (Crossroads District) effective July 1, 2016.

Retiring effective July 1, 2016:

- *Jan McClary Rowell *William Delia *Nancy Dulkis Dale Schneeberger
- * Carl Phillip Young – From honorable location to retiring

NEED THE DS?

*Please contact **Rev. Jan Rowell NOW** – as she will have limited availability after Memorial Day due to Annual Conference, cabinet, etc, and will **not be available after June 16th 2016**. If you have a question or information for her, please contact her at the above phone number or email JanRowell@unyumc.org as soon as possible. Thank you.*

District Events Coming Up

Date	Time	Item	Location
June 2-4 2016		2016 UNY Annual Conference	OnCenter in Syracuse, NY. Click on link below for more information. http://www.unyumc.org/events/annual-conference

SUPPORT AFRICA 360

We can do this ! Oneonta District churches are challenged to outnumber those of churches giving in the Niagara Frontier District ,

Niagara Frontier has the highest number of churches participating at 40 for their district, Oneonta is in second place with 28 churches involved

Oneonta District Total raised in cash and pledges: \$13,997.36

Oneonta's Highest giving church: Richmondville, \$1,000



Churches who haven't already sent in funds for Africa 360 are invited to do so during opening offering at Annual Conference. Right now, 30% of churches in the conference are involved – during the opening offering, there has been a challenge to double that! There will be offering envelopes provided on each chair during the service; be sure to include your church's name so that the church and the district get credit for donations during the final counting. If your church already has sent in offerings, thank you! There will be a place on the envelopes to indicate that your church has already reached the challenge so all can participate in the opening offering. Any questions, email Laurel O'Connor at Africa360@unyumc.org

How to get involved ?

There are 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

❖ Local Church News

Position Opening : The **Sidney United Methodist Church** is seeking applications for a youth ministry coordinator to lead and grow an established Thursday evening youth and family ministry program. Duties will include reaching out to and connecting with youth in the Sidney community and recruiting adult help from within the Sidney UMC congregation. The youth ministry coordinator will be expected to attend Sunday service regularly. The work schedule will range from 8 to 10 hours per week, and pay will be between \$12 and \$15 per hour, based on experience. Position begins July 1, 2016. Please call the Sidney United Methodist Church at 607-563-1921 if you are interested.

New Berlin UMC – Plant sale, Book sale & Pie & Coffee Shop June 3 & 4, 2016, Starting at 9 A.M. @ New Berlin UMC

Our yearly Plant Sale, a perennial favorite, and a Bake Sale featuring home made pies. At the same time and same place, we are having a Fabulous Book Sale.

The plants are donated by local gardeners and we have local experts at the sale to answer questions and make planting suggestions. The pies are all homemade. Think sweet fruits and flaky crusts as well as cookies and other baked delights. The real topper is the fabulous book sale.

A retired librarian has donated an entire collection consisting of over 1500 titles to our church. These books cover the range from scholarly topics to cookbooks. All are in excellent condition and will be offered at low used book prices.

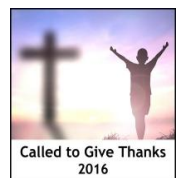
So, imagine this scenario, after shopping for plants and getting your pie, you settle down with a cuppa tea and a cookie to peruse the books, relaxing in our own BookCafe. See you there.

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. 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



Information about 2016 Annual Conference

The 7th Session of the Upper New York Annual Conference will be held June 2-4, 2016 at the OnCenter in Syracuse, NY.
Annual Conference Registration is now CLOSED!

Bishop Webb issues annual Call to Conference

In his annual Call to Conference video, Upper New York Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb stands amidst the quiet halls of Syracuse's OnCenter to highlight the worship, learning, and business that will occur during the 2016 session of Annual Conference. "This has become a familiar place for United Methodists in Upper New York. It's quiet here at the OnCenter now, but soon this place will come alive as we will gather for the 7th session of the Upper New York Annual Conference. From June 2nd through June 4th we will have the privilege of being together for the purpose of strengthening our relationships with Jesus Christ, each other and the world around us," said Bishop Webb.

[Watch the video](#)

Worship booklets available for download

To better utilize Conference resources and be responsible stewards of the environment, there will not be a general printing of the worship booklet this year. The service information will be available on the large screens at the session, and a PDF of the information is available to download on the Conference website. [Click here](#) to download.

A limited number of large print versions of the booklets for Opening Worship and the Memorial Service will be available at the OnCenter for those who need it. A separate commemorative booklet of the Memorial Service will be available exclusively for family members. The program for the Celebration of Ministry and the booklet for the Service of Ordination and Commissioning will be printed; you will not need to download these items.

[Click here](#) for the latest news about the 2016 Annual Conference Session

Pre-Conference Briefing video now available

The 2016 Pre-Conference Briefings for this year's Annual Conference session came to a close on May 7. If you were unable to attend any of the six briefings, there is a video - filmed at one of the briefings - available online. [Click here](#) to watch.

Human Sexuality Task Force invites churches to cut fabric

Last year, the Upper New York Conference Human Sexuality Task Force brought [conversation circles](#) to the 2015 Annual Conference session to facilitate chances for members to be involved in the process of conferencing and balloting. This year, in March, the team hosted the "[Human Sexuality and Biblical Interpretation](#)" forum, featuring theologians, at the Liverpool United Methodist Church.

Now, the task force has built a cross for the 2016 Annual Conference session. Throughout AC session, members will be invited to write prayers on fabric strips and attach them to the cross. Fabric strips have been made for AC members, but the task force would like to invite churches to cut fabric strips and write prayers on it with their home churches. [Click here](#) to read the full story.

UMCOR kit collection

A truck will be parked in the lot across from the OnCenter from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 3 to collect all of your United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) kits. DETAILS

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. 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

22th Annual PALESTINIAN Dinner: Friday, June 3rd 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)

Upper New York Annual Conference Safe Sanctuaries® Team

WHAT: Upper NY's Safe Sanctuaries® Training

WHO: 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, June 11, 2016 9:00 a.m. – noon

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, June 11, 2016 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Lunch will be provided for those participating in morning and afternoon sessions.

WHERE: Voorheesville UM Church, 68 Maple Avenue, Voorheesville, NY
(Albany District; about 13 miles west of downtown Albany)

PRE-REGISTER: Please pre-register by June 5. Pre-registration information need to include:

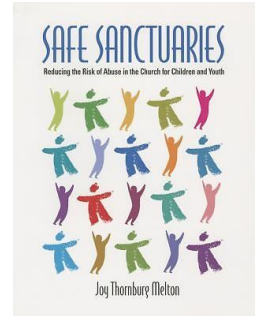
>Session(s) attending - morning and/or afternoon

>Name, contact email address and telephone number, local church

Pre-register by contacting Carol Barnes at carolb@htva.net (anytime) or 607-687-4793 (after May 9)

QUESTIONS: Questions should be directed to Carol at carolb@htva.net or 607-687-4793 (after May 9)

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: UNY Safe Sanctuaries Training TEAM And funded by Ministry Shares from local churches



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 or by phone : (607) 441-5102

June 16-18, 2016 - Northeastern Jurisdiction UMW

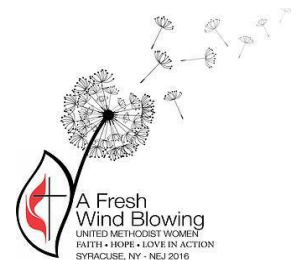
Quadrennial Meeting at the On Center, Syracuse, NY

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](#)

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.



Men's Night at the Ball Game
Thursday, June 23rd -NYSEG Stadium in Binghamton.
Tickets are \$8.00 (and are available now)

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

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.

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

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[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*

