

September 30th, 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 Morris and Edmeston UMCs and Pastor Becky Parry

all those who suffer and those in trouble

those who struggle with addiction

refugees and migrants fleeing Syria and Iraq (see below)

all who suffer violence

for the concerns of our local communities

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

United Methodist Committee on Relief work with refugees in Europe and around the world

for the congregations of Hyndsville, Dorloo, and Mineral Springs

Pope Francis' visit to the US and his message of grace and care for the poor

509 Health Kits and Counting!



Thanks to all congregations of our district for your contributions to the health kit project at Saturday's "Connect and Revive" event! Those kits will go to MissionCentral in Pa this weekend, and from there to people all around the world, including refugees in Europe, and others facing disasters, have fled their homes, and are in need of the love and support of God's people.

UNY Notes -**Sept. 15, 2015 -What is the United Methodist Church doing for the European migration crisis?** Thomas Kemper, General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries, has written [an open letter](#) regarding The United Methodist Church's response to the ongoing European migration crisis. In his letter, Kemper outlines the scope of the crisis, requests prayer as an immediate response, and highlights the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). To lend your financial support, please send donations to UMCOR through the Upper New York Conference, 324 University Ave., 3rd floor, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210 (please denote "Advance #982450" for International Disaster Response on your check). Additionally, UMCOR is providing food packets and hygiene kits on the island of Kos and Lesbos. [Click here](#) for details of how to assemble UMCOR relief kits. [Click here](#) to read more about The UMC's aid to European refugees.

District & Conference Events Coming Soon

Date	Time	Item	Location
Sun Oct 4th	3 PM	Service of Love and Reconnection	Warnerville UMC
Sat Oct 10th	9am- 1 pm	Oneonta District UMW Fall Meeting “Transforming the World”	Sherburne UMC, 11 Chapel St, Sherburne, NY Cost: \$5.00 (pay at registration) Register with Sue Olmstead, 607-563-3750 or 607-561-7390 email: solmstead1@stny.rr.com
Sat Oct 17th		Boundaries Training	Sky Lake Camp and Retreat Center, Windsor see details below to register
Oct 24 th & 31 st	8 am – 2pm	Lay Servant Training	At Elm Park UMC – Click here for Flyer
Sat. Oct. 31		Safe Sanctuaries Training	Safe Sanctuaries Training Class at Elm Park – please register by using Lay Servant Training Brochure
Sun., Nov. 15th	12- food 1-Worship and business	Sidney Regional Church Conference	Sidney UMC
Mon., Nov. 16th	6pm food 7pm worship &business	Norwich Regional Church Conference	Broad St Norwich UMC (Note place change due to accessibility)
Tues., Nov. 17th	TBA	Oneonta Regional Church Conference	Elm Park UMC
Wed., Nov. 18th	6pm food 7pm worship & business	Cooperstown Regional Church Conference	Cooperstown UMC
Thurs., Nov. 19th	6pm fellow- ship 6:30 wor- ship &business	Schoharie Regional Church Conference	Esperance- Sloansville UMC
Tues., Dec 1st	9am- 2:30pm	Advent Day Apart for Pastors – God’s Gifts of Grace	Unadilla UMC
Tues., March 1st, 2016	9am- 2:30pm	Lenten Day Apart for Pastors	TBA
Sat., March 5th, 2016	TBA	Oneonta District Day	Elm Park UMC
Thurs.,	TBA	Bishop's Day on the Dis-	Norwich Broad Street UMC – Details TBA

April 14th, 2016		trict	
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NEW -

The ministry shares report for month ending August 2015, indicates the following congregations have paid 100 % of their Ministry Shares that which has been billed at this point. **Congratulations and thank you** for your important part in our commitment to support one another as United Methodists in ministry together.

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Barnerville UMC | Central Bridge UMC | Cooperstown Junction UMC |
| Davenport UMC | Delanson UMC | East Worcester UMC |
| Edmeston UMC | Emmons UMC | Esperance-Sloansville UMC |
| Fly Creek UMC | Franklin UMC | Gallupville UMC |
| Grosvenors Corners UMC | Guilford UMC | Hartwick UMC |
| Middleburgh UMC | Middlefield UMC | Milford UMC |
| Mount Upton UMC | Mount Vision UMC | New Berlin UMC |
| North Norwich UMC | Otego UMC | Plymouth UMC |
| Preston UMC | Richmondville UMC | Roseboom UMC |
| Sand Hill UMC | Schuyler Lake UMC | Sherburne UMC |
| Smithville Center UMC | Smyrna UMC | Treadwell UMC |
| Unadilla Center UMC | Unadilla UMC | Warnerville UMC |
| West Davenport UMC | Westville UMC | |

'Track' your Ministry Shares progress

Through Ministry Shares, your local church supports amazing ministries around the world and in your backyard. The majority of Upper New York Conference churches are currently on track to pay 100 percent of their Ministry Share benevolence for 2015. [Click here](#) to see the full list of on-track churches. Or go to : <http://www.unyumc.org/about/churches-on-track>



Oneonta District UMW Fall Meeting "Transforming the World"

When: Saturday, October 10, 2015 -9am – 1pm, morning refreshments & light luncheon provided
 Where: Sherburne UMC, 11 Chapel St, Sherburne, NY
 Hosted by Sherburne UMW & Smyrna UMW
 Cost: \$5.00 (pay at registration)
 Register with Sue Olmstead, 607-563-3750 or 607-561-7390 email: solmstead1@stny.rr.com

FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON. – Services of Healing in Schoharie Region

Pastor Maryellen Moore of Middleburgh UMC and retired Rev. Janice Palm offered a service of Love and Reconciliation at the Middleburgh United Methodist Church on July 29. The invitation went out to all fifteen United Methodist Churches in the Schoharie Valley Cooperative: "...A Time to Heal..." For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. In order for us as church folk to move forward, we need a Time to Recognize and Honor where we are, so we can begin *A Time to Heal* and *A Time to Move For-*

ward. [Click here to read more...](#)

The Warnerville congregation offers an open invitation for October 4 at 3:00 p.m., for time of Scripture, prayer, music, and a renewal of baptism. You are asked to bring a symbol of your faith to be placed on the altar (It will be returned to you).

In Peace and Love,
Maxine Christman
CLM Warnerville United Methodist Church

NEW – Equitable Compensation Application for January-June 2016 available

The Commission on Equitable Compensation has issued guidelines and an application form for salary grants to local churches for the period Jan. 1 to June 30, 2016. **Salary grants are available only to churches with a pastor under full time appointment.**

To apply for salary assistance from the Equitable Compensation Fund, applicants should review the policies and procedures in the application document for guidance, and then complete the application according to the directions provided by the [Oct. 9, 2015](#) deadline.

Please note the following documents must be submitted with your application to be considered complete:

Copy of the Clergy Compensation Form for all churches the UNY clergy person currently serves
Copy of church's most recent budget (if serving more than one church, include budgets from all)
Ezra Church Summary 6-Part Graphic Report

Attach the application, along with the above documents, to an email or print them to mail to your District Superintendent for receipt by Oct. 9.

NOTE: The application is set up as a template. To add text, tab through the document to each box and start typing. Once completed, save the document to your computer as "[your church name] Jan 2016." The Commission anticipates notifying churches of its determination by mid-November. [Click the link](#) for the application form.

Or go to: <http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/equitable-compensation-application-for-january-june-2016-available>

Local Church News

Red Bird Mission - The Portlandville and Milford churches will be collecting for the Red Bird Mission and will provide a location for the truck to pick up the items. If there are persons in other churches who would like to donate but do not have a local church collecting, they are welcome to join us in this endeavor. I do not have a pickup date as of yet, but persons can contact me at

coump.2011@yahoo.com Sue Hulbert

Wanted: Set of hand bells : Milford UMC would like to either purchase, or borrow, a set of handbells. We have a lot of enthusiastic volunteers, but no hand bells to play! If you can help, please call 434-7188 and speak to Pastor Sylvia Barrett. Thank you!

NEW - Marriage Encounter Weekend, October 23 - 25

Settling for a secure, comfortable, yet sometimes lonely relationship? Yearning to recapture the romantic love and affection that first brought you together? Could be you and your spouse have been so busy meeting the demands of jobs, children, friends, and community that you have neglected to keep in touch with one another.

At Marriage Encounter Weekend, reconnect with one another, hone those skills that came so naturally in your courting days, and learn a communication method you can use at home to grow in understanding and love for one another each day. Asbury Camp & Retreat Center, Silver Lake, New York, October 23 - 25, 2015. 7 p.m. Friday night to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information, or to register for a weekend visit our website: encounter.org. Or contact Keith & Diane Sherwood (315) 492-2372 today.

Support Africa 360

Africa 360 sweatshirts are available for a limited time (the online portal is open through October 1), and can be shipped straight to your home: <http://www.booster.com/Africa360>- make a donation today!

Looking for a way to connect your youth or Sunday School to Africa 360? A church in the Crossroads district has helped create a new 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

Rev. Jorge Acevedo coming to UNY

Opportunities for the entire AC to be a part of his time in UNY. Please refer to the article open to all on evangelism (see this story- <http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/be-inspired-to-rethink-evangelism-this-fall-with-the-rev.-jorge-acevedo>).

What is UMVIM? UM Volunteers in Mission (VIM) exists to promote, encourage, and enable Christians to exemplify "Christian Love in Action" through short-term mission service in the United States and abroad. It provides opportunities for service by developing and nurturing relationships with domestic and international leaders.

Who should attend team leader training? Anyone interested in learning more about being a VIM team leader or if you want to be a better team member! Team Leader Training is required for all first time UMVIM team leaders, but all interested persons are welcome to attend.

What will be covered in the training? Topics will include picking a project, team roles, choosing members, making a budget, fundraising, necessary forms, youth teams, safe sanctuaries, team health and safety, telling the story, cultural considerations, spiritual development, and international and medical teams.

When, where, and how to register for the training – It will be held Sat. Oct. 24, 9AM – approximately 4PM, at the Jonesville UMC in Clifton Park. \$20 fee includes materials and lunch. Course will be taught by Cathie and Jay Dunkleberger and Jan and Pete Huston. **For more information** contact Jan and Pete Huston at hustonjp24@gmail.com or 518-399-0919 or Jay and Cathie Dunkleberger at jaydunkleb@gmail.com or 518-371-7071. **Register by contacting the Hustons. Registration is required by Oct. 17.**

NEW - Advanced Lay Servant Ministry Course – Nonviolent Communication

-- Note change of day of week --

An Advanced Lay Speakers Course will be offered at First UMC, Schenectady, during October. Sessions will be led by Steve Anderson, a trained instructor with over 150 hours of personal engagement in training, including field experiences in several parts of the world.

The text will be **Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life**, an authoritative book in this area, by Marshall B. Rosenberg.

This course has been approved by the Conference and District Lay Servant Ministries Coordinators to be an Advance Course of Study for Lay Servant Minister participants who need credits for yearly certification or re-certification.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF WEEK. Sessions will be held at First UMC, Schenectady, from 7:00 – 8:30 pm every Wednesday evening in October [7,14,21, 28]. The sessions will include learning new materials, exercises in using what is learned, and dialogue with response.

Participants are asked to either purchase their own book, or to ask that a book be ordered for them when registering. The cost of the book is \$15.00. If this cost is prohibitive, the cost will be subsidized. For those seeking Lay Servant Ministry credit, a \$5.00 registration fee is required by the District.

Register via email at First UMC, Schenectady, fumcschenectady@yahoo.com, or with Bob Long, Bikealong2@nycap.rr.com, as early as possible so that an adequate supply of books will be available.

UNY Notes : Keep your fall schedule open for these opportunities

- Opportunity for developing leaders and increasing vitality is ***Tending the Fire***. For more information and registration, [click here](#).
- For more information about these or any of the Vital Congregations opportunities, contact the Rev. Dr. Aaron M. Bouwens, Conference Director of Vital Congregations, at aaronbouwens@unyumc.org or (315) 424-7878, ext. 338.

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!

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

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

NEW - Job Posting - Information Technology Manager

Posting Date: 9/24/2015

Location: Conference Office - Syracuse, NY

The Upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is accepting applications for a full-time Information Technology Manager. The IT Manager will be responsible for the overall planning, organizing, budgeting, and execution of all information technology related functions for the Conference and its associated offices and ministries. This includes directing all IT operations to meet organization requirements, oversight of end-user computer support, as well as the maintenance of existing infrastructure, applications, and the development of resources and solutions to meet future needs. Other responsibilities include preparation and set-up for meetings, including computer, audio-visual, and telecommunication requirements.

The successful candidate will have a minimum of five years experience in IT-related work, specifically information systems with a focus on networking and communications. Bachelor's degree in Information Systems or a related field is required. Masters degree in computer science, MIS, or business is preferred. Salary range in mid-upper 50's. Please refer to the [job description](#) for complete list of qualifications and responsibilities.

Application Instructions: To be considered for this position you must apply online at <http://www.unyumc.org/about/jobs> and include the following

- Completed online application
- Resume
- Cover letter
- Contact information for three professional references

Application Deadline: Friday, October 9, 2015 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.

Warning

Please be aware that there is a caller named Joseph Viscusi. He is known as having been wanted for scamming churches in Massachusetts and has previously tried scamming in the Adirondack area. He has now shown up in the Albany District having called churches in the Northville area. Please be careful and do not engage with this individual.

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

324 University Ave., 3rd Floor, Syracuse, NY 13210

(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](#)

P.O. BOX 668 Oneonta NY, 13820 Phone/Fax: (607)441-5102