

Why just a formal acknowledgment for receiving his email because you have expressed an interest in Upper New York Conference. Don't forget to add [cornerstonedistrict@unyumc.org](mailto:cornerstonedistrict@unyumc.org) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



## JOYS & CONCERNS

Please include these prayer requests in your weekly church bulletin, in your prayers during your Sunday worship if you have a time of "pastoral prayer" and keep these pastors, their families and the Church families in your prayers throughout the week.

### April 14 (Palm Sunday)

The **Hamlet** and **South Dayton** Churches. **Pastor Nancy Preston**, her husband Rich and their family.

### April 21 (Easter)

The **Hurlbut Memorial Community** Church. **Rev. Carmen Perry**, her husband Nick and their children Nathan and Nadia and **Pastor John Jackson**, his wife Juanita and their family.

### April 28

The **Camp Street** and **Kennedy 1st** Churches. **Pastor Jennifer Delahoy**, her husband Brian and their family.

Also be in prayer for **all** who are in need of physical healing, burdened by stress, living with grief, and more.

*Nurturing Leaders. Changing Lives.*



**HIGHER EDUCATION & MINISTRY**

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### UPDATE - UNY Satellite School for Course of Study

Wesley Theological Seminary is proud to announce the opening of

the **Upper New York Satellite School for the Course of Study Program** in the 2019 fall term. This school will be held at the Upper New York Conference Center, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd., Liverpool, NY.

The UNY Satellite School will begin with three sessions, three courses each session:

1. Fall - October 18 & 19, November 15 & 16, 2019
2. Winter - January 17 & 18, February 28 & 29, 2020
3. Spring - March 27 & 28, April 24 & 25, 2020

More details/information are available by following this link:

<http://www.unyumc.org/ministries/course-of-study-extension-school>

You will find the most up-to-date information about the UNY Satellite School for Course of Study when you click on the above link. If you have questions, contact COS Registrar Betsy O'Flynn at [candidacy@unyumc.org](mailto:candidacy@unyumc.org) or 585-340-9558.

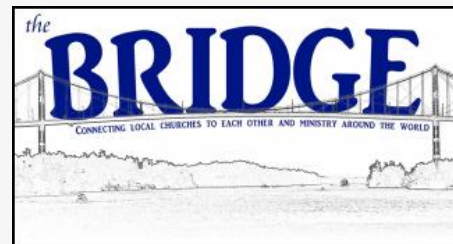
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Click [here](#) for the April edition of the Media Resource Center newsletter!

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**NEW - Make Copies of the *Bridge*!**

The **April Issue I** copy 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 necessary.



This issue focuses on the Easter Season with facts about Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Eastertide. Also included in this issue are the dates for Regional Gatherings that the Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb will host this April and May.

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**Regional Gatherings with Bishop**

Upper New York Area Resident **Bishop Mark J. Webb** has announced regional gatherings that he will be hosting throughout the Upper New York Conference in **April** and **May**. These regional gatherings will primarily focus on unpacking the Judicial Council's decision regarding the constitutionality of the petitions that made up the Traditional Plan affirmed by the delegates of the 2019 Special Session of The General Conference.

It also will be a time to help attendees to understand what becomes part of the Book of Discipline on January 1, 2020 and what does not. These times will include an opportunity for questions and conversation about

what God might be doing in and through The United Methodist Church in the future. There will be a brief time of worship at each gathering as well.

The dates, times, and locations of these gatherings are as follows:

- April 30, 2019 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Potsdam UMC
- **May 1, 2019 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Olean:Christ UMC**
- May 13, 2019 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Cicero UMC
- May 14, 2019 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Chenango Bridge UMC
- **May 15, 2019 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Clarence UMC**
- May 29, 2019 from 6:30- 8:30 p.m.: Shenendahowa UMC

### Cleaning Bucket Top 10

Is your congregation interested in assembling UMCOR cleaning kits for flood season? Do it the right way by avoiding some of the common mistakes people make when putting the kits together. For example, air fresheners and insect repellents cannot be aerosol.

Click [here](#) to watch a video of Mike Block, Upper New York Director of Missional Engagement, presented in David Letterman-fashion, the Top 10 mistakes made in assembling cleaning kits.



### Register Now for LSM Spring Training

Cornerstone's **Lay Servant Ministries Spring Training** will be held **May 10 & 11** at **East Randolph United Methodist Church**, 122 Church St.

Click [here](#) to download the brochure or register online at [www.cornerstonedistrict.com](http://www.cornerstonedistrict.com) (click on "Resources," then choose Lay Servant Ministries to find the online registration form).

**PLEASE NOTE:** The preaching class is titled ***Called to Preach***. The student text for the class is *From Pew to Pulpit: A Beginner's Guide to Preaching* by Clifton F. Guthrie. The book is available from Cokesbury.

### NEW - Pre-Easter Party

The congregation of **Great Valley United Methodist Church**, 5063 Route 219, invite children and youth in the area to the church from **1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 13**.

An **Easter egg hunt** is planned along with a "bounce house," pinatas, toys and other activities. And pizza! So bring your basket to collect eggs and other treats and come out for a fun afternoon!





Note: If you would like any Holy Week/Easter services listed, please send information to the District office by Monday, April 15.

### **April 18 Maundy Thursday**

6 p.m., Seder service in Fellowship Hall, East Randolph UMC, 122 Church St., East Randolph, NY

6:30 p.m., Community-wide Maundy Thursday service, Reg Lenna Center for the Arts, 116 E. 3rd St., Jamestown, NY

8 p.m., Mayville UMC, 81 S. Erie St., Mayville, NY

### **April 19 Good Friday**

12 noon, Ecumenical Service at Mayville UMC, 81 S. Erie St., Mayville, NY

12 noon, 22nd annual Walk of the Cross, Olean, NY

12 noon, Way of the Cross walk in Randolph community

7 p.m., Bemus Point UMC, 4954 Bemus-Ellery Rd., Bemus Point, NY

7 p.m., Great Valley UMC, 5063 Route 219, Great Valley, NY

7 p.m., Panama UMC, 22 E. Main St., Panama, NY

### **Saturday, April 20**

6 p.m. (through 6 a.m. April 21), Prayer Vigil, East Randolph UMC, 122 Church St., East Randolph

6 p.m., Walk to the Crosses Worship (corner of Randolph Road & North Street in Panama, NY - uneven terrain) led by Panama UMC

### **April 21 Easter**

7 a.m., "Sunrise" service, I-86 East Overlook led by Bemus Point UMC

7 a.m., "Sunrise" service, South Ripley UMC, 10008 Sherman-North East Rd. (Route 6), Ripley, NY

7:30 a.m., "Sunrise" service, Knapp Creek UMC, 208 Route 16 South, Olean, NY

7:30 a.m., "Sunrise" service, Mayville UMC, 81 S. Erie St., Mayville, NY

8 a.m., "Sunrise" service, East Randolph UMC, 122 Church St., East Randolph, NY

8 a.m., Panama UMC, 22 E. Main St., Panama, NY

9 a.m., Dewittville-Hartfield UMC, 5446 E. Lake Rd., Dewittville, NY

10:15 a.m., Panama UMC, 22 E. Main St., Panama, NY

11 a.m., Mayville UMC, 81 S. Erie St., Mayville, NY

### **Easter-Fest for Kids**

A coloring contest, crafts, cooking decorating and an Easter egg hunt all will be part of the fun on **Saturday, April 20**, when **Cherry Creek-Leon United Methodist Church** hosts an Easter-Fest for children of the community (up to age 12).

Easter-Fest will be held from **10 a.m. until 12 noon**



at the church, 6813 Main St. For more information, please call 716-296-5213 or 716-338-8429.

Don't forget your Easter baskets for your eggs!

### Annual Walk of the Cross in Olean

The 22nd annual **Walk the Way of the Cross**, sponsored by the Greater Olean Association of Churches, is set to begin at 12 noon on **Friday, April 19**. Community members will make seven stops around the city for a Christian scripture reading and a brief reflection covering the events of Good Friday.



Tentative schedule (times along the route are approximate):

- 12 noon, United Pentecostal Church, 1100 Homer St.
- 12:52 p.m., Bethany Lutheran Church, 6 Leo Moss Dr.
- 1:44 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church, 131 N. 9th St.
- 2:16 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church, 419 Laurens St.
- 2:33 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 212 Laurens St.
- 3 p.m., St. Mary's, 202 S. Union St.
- 3:22 p.m., First Baptist Church, 133 S. Union St.



### 2019 Conference Speakers Announced

The 2019 Upper New York Annual Conference will be held June 5-8, 2019 at the Oncenter in Syracuse. The quadrennial theme of Together in Prayer continues with an emphasis on Moving Beyond Our Comfort Zones.

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb is pleased to announce this year's speakers:

The **Rev. Dr. Vance Ross**, Pastor of the Historic Central UMC in Atlanta GA, will be the **study leader**. Dr. Ross also is Dean of the Chapel of Spiritual Life at Emory University and previously served as Director of Annual Conference Relations/Annual Conference Strategist for Vital Congregations at Discipleship Ministries.



The **Rev. Dr. Sherri Rood** will be the **Memorial Service speaker**. Dr. Rood is currently serving as the District Superintendent of the Cornerstone District for the eighth consecutive year. Prior to her role as District Superintendent, she served as pastor of North Chili UMC.

**Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball** will be the speaker for the **Service of Commissioning and Ordination**. She is the Resident Bishop of the West Virginia Conference and was one of the moderators of the Commission on a Way Forward. Prior to being elected as Bishop and assigned to the West Virginia Conference in 2012, Bishop Steiner-Ball served as Director of Connectional Ministries for the Peninsula-Delaware Conference.



### Avoid the \$50 Late Fee - Register NOW

Registration for **Annual Conference** is open! If you are serving a church, are your church's Lay Member to Annual Conference or have applied to serve as an EQ member for Cornerstone District, please register online or request a paper registration form and mail it along with full payment to:

**UNYAC**

**Attn: Annual Conference Registration  
7481 Henry Clay Blvd.  
Liverpool, NY 13088**

Registration for the Annual Conference will stay **open until 11:59 PM on May 3, 2019**. After that, the next opportunity to register will be **on site** at the OnCenter with an **additional \$50 fee**.

Additional information ("What You Need to Know About Annual Conference") can be found by clicking [here](#).

Requests or Questions? Call Erica Wentworth at (315) 898-2004.

### **NEW - Save the Date: Annual Palestinian Dinner**

The **27th Annual Palestinian Dinner** will be served at **5:15 p.m. Friday, June 7**, at **Plymouth Congregational Church**, 232 E. Onondaga St. in Syracuse (2 1/2 blocks from the Oncenter).

Huwaida Arraf, a Palestinian-American lawyer and human rights activist, will speak on current human rights abuses.

Make your reservation by calling **Linda Bergh, 315-492-8507** or **Karen Peterson, 607-739-3141**. Cost is \$20 for the meal. Please make checks payable to "UNYAC" with "Palestinian Dinner" in the memo line. You also may contribute to the Gary Bergh Scholarship Fund, which enables young adults and adults to travel to Palestine/Israel to learn first-hand about peace and justice issues.

### **NEW - Bow Tie and Hat Day at AC!**

Continuing **Bishop Mark Webb's** tradition of wearing a **bow tie** on the Friday of Annual Conference, join the fun this year by wearing a bow tie or hat (or both!) on **Friday, June 7**.

Go crazy! Be creative! Any type of headwear works - ball cap, head band, fascinator - you've got time to find the perfect accessory. Last year, the Niagara Frontier District Lay Leader Jessica wore Minnie Mouse ears.

Looking forward to seeing all the ways we celebrate **Bow Tie (and Hat) Day** at Annual Conference!

### **Dinner is Served!**

**Cherry Creek-Leon United Methodist Church**, 6813 Main St. in Cherry Creek, invites the community to join them for a **Swiss Steak Dinner** on **Saturday, April 13**, at the church.



The meal will be served from **4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.** In addition to the entree the menu includes choice of salad, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, dinner roll, dessert and beverage. Cost is \$10 adult, \$5 children and \$25 family. Local guitarist/soloist Ken Phillips will entertain.

Make plans now to attend!



### **NEW - Roast Beef Dinner**

The congregation of **Great Valley United Methodist Church**, 5063 Route 219, will be serving a **Roast Beef Dinner** from **4 p.m. to 7 p.m.** on **Thursday, April 18**. Cost is \$10 per person.

### **Denman Evangelism Award**

Nominations are open for the **2019 Harry Denman Evangelism Awards**. The awards honor United Methodists in each Conference whose exceptional evangelism brings people into a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. Each year, Annual Conferences join the Foundation for Evangelism in recognizing one youth, one clergy member, and one lay person in their Conference.

The deadline for nominations is **April 19**. Contact Judy Campany at [dcmoffice@nyumc.org](mailto:dcmoffice@nyumc.org).

### **NEW - May 3 Deadline for Cady Grant**

Applications for the **Ercil Cady Grant** are available now through May 3. Grant(s) of up to \$5,000 may be awarded to individual United Methodists, local United Methodist churches, or Upper New York district and conference ministry teams. As directed by the originator of the Ercil Cady Grant, priority shall be given to educational proposals that benefit minority groups or individuals, preferably black and American Indians.

In recent years, the following exciting grants have been awarded:

- **Hendricks Chapel Creative Non-Fiction Writing Contest:** an opportunity for African American and Native American university students to creatively share their experiences of spirituality/spiritual formation. Contest included cash awards.
- **Hogansburg UMC's Buddy-Bench Caring, Sharing & Respect Project:** a two-pronged approach to counter bullying, namely, building benches and educating the school board, school children and staff about the anti-bullying, safe-place benches that are located in strategic places on school grounds and parks.
- **Covenant UMC's Praise & Play Program:** a weekly opportunity for community children to build relationships, learn about Jesus and cultivate their faith through music, art, service projects & followed by full course suppers with families.
- **Central Park Buffalo's Young Men & Women of Faith Program:** provided opportunities for educational trips to learn about our country's history of racial discord, women's rights, and the brave efforts of people and the United Methodist Church in racial, social & restorative justice.

Click [here](#) to download the grant application. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, May 3**; awardees will be notified by May 15.

## NEW - Native American Ministries Sunday

Mark your calendars for the next denominational Special Sunday on **May 5!** Our generosity on **Native American Ministries Sunday** empowers spiritual development and educates Native American seminary students to serve God faithfully. A kit of resources is available to support your efforts, including a planning calendar, a "how to" resource guide, age level resources, audio devotionals, worship resources and more. Click [here](#) to download.



As a member of The United Methodist Church, your gift on this day (or another Sunday convenient for your congregation) equips Native congregations - like New York's Onondaga Nation UMC and Nebraska's Native American Sacred Winds congregation - to worship and serve as only they can. This work, and hundreds of other ministries, are possible because you give.

## NEW - Sexual Harassment Prevention Training

**Bemus Point United Methodist Church**, 4954 Bemus-Ellery Rd., will hold a **Sexual Harassment Prevention Training** from **11 a.m. until 12 noon** on **Wednesday, May 15**, in the BPUMC Worship Center.

New York State is a national leader in the fight against sexual harassment and is partnering with employers across the state to further our commitment to ending sexual harassment in the workplace. Training is required of all employers in the state, including churches, and is in compliance with the training developed by the State Department of Labor and Division of Human Rights.

There is no cost for the training but an RSVP is appreciated. For additional



information or reservations please contact Suzanne Allen at 716-386-3401 or [suzanneallen@bpumc.com](mailto:suzanneallen@bpumc.com).

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## Details on Court Ruling for Clergy Housing Allowance

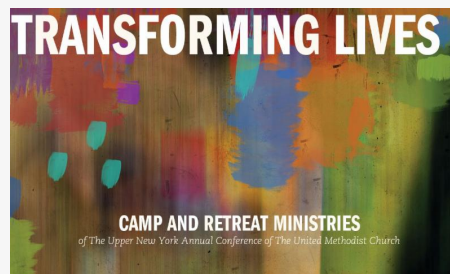
Wondering if your **Clergy Housing Allowance** will still be tax free in the future? United Methodist News Service has the story.

"In a unanimous decision released March 15, three judges on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit reversed a 2017 federal court ruling. The lower court had found that the tax exemption amounted to an unconstitutional establishment of religion.

The appeals court concluded the 1954 law is constitutional, saying the law 'has a secular legislative purpose, its principal effect is neither to endorse nor to inhibit religion, and it does not cause excessive government entanglement.' The ruling also noted that Congress has provided federal tax exemptions for religious organizations as far back as 1802.

[Read the article.](#)

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## Work Days, Open Houses at UNY Camps

In preparation for the summer camping season, Upper New York's Camp & Retreat Ministries would like to invite you to some "special events" they have planned. Click [here](#) to print a flyer and help recruit volunteers for Work Days at three camp & retreat sites; click [here](#) to print a flyer to help promote upcoming Open House events at all five UNY camp & retreat sites.

In addition, please review the schedule below to see the variety of retreats that are available throughout our conference. To learn more, click on [www.campsandretreats.org](http://www.campsandretreats.org).

April 11-14, Quilt By Faith: Spring Retreat (women), Casowasco

April 26-28, Rejuvenate: A Spring Ladies of the Lake Experience (women), Sky Lake

May 9-11, LEAD (Leadership Enrichment and Development) (adults) Sky Lake

May 12, Mother's Day Brunch (all ages), Casowasco

May 17-19, Craft & Quilt Retreat (women), Asbury

May 24-27, Spring Fling Family Weekend (families & adults), Sky Lake

May 24-27, Family Camp (families & adults), Skye Farm

May 28-31, Lifeguard Training (ages 16+), Casowasco

July 2-4, Together Time: A Family Retreat (families & adults), Asbury

July 12-14, Family Life Weekend (families & adults), Aldersgate

July 14-18, Reach Out: Community Mission Experience (youth & adults),

Asbury

July 21-24, Asbury Express I & II (ages 7-9, 10-12), Asbury

August 4-7, Asbury Express III (ages 13-18), Asbury

August 8-11, Silver Lake Experience (families & adults), Asbury

August 10-13, Intergenerational Camp (families & adults), Sky Lake

August 30-September 2, Labor Day Family Weekend (families & adults), Casowasco

August 30-September 2, Labor Day Family Weekend (families & adults), Sky Lake

September 19-22, Quilt By Faith: Fall Retreat (women), Casowasco

September 27-28, Paint & Sweets Women's Retreat (women), Skye Farm

October 11-13, Ladies of the Lake (women), Sky Lake

October 18-19, Adirondack Fishing Men's Retreat (men), Skye Farm

October 25-27, Craft & Quilt Retreat (women), Asbury

December 6-8, Be Still [a silent retreat] (adults), Casowasco

December 14, Holiday Party Reunion (all ages), Skye Farm

December 30-January 1, Camp Echo (ages 7-18), Casowasco



## Important Dates for Your Calendar!

### March 1 through May 3

Registration for the 10th Session of the Upper New York Annual Conference is open. Go to the UNY Conference website ([www.unyumc.org](http://www.unyumc.org)) to register.

### April 14

**Palm Sunday**

### April 15-20

**Holy Week**

### April 21

**Easter**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

### May 5-11

**Local Pastors' Licensing School** at Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center

### May 10-11

**Lay Servant Ministries Spring Training**, East Randolph United Methodist Church, 122 Church St.

### May 23

**Right Start Workshop** for Pastors changing appointments and Retirees  
9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Springville 1st United Methodist Church

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## **Cornerstone District**

Upper New York Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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