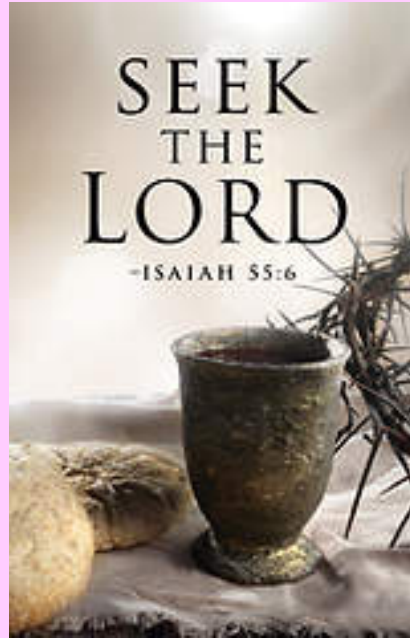


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JOYS & CONCERNS

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 7

The **Great Valley** Church. **Pastor John Green**, his wife Janet and their family.

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.

Please keep the family of **Louise Howe** in your prayers. Louise, 90, died on March 21. She was predeceased by her husband, the Rev. Phillip Howe, who served several Upper New York churches, including West Seneca: Seneca and Clarence UMCs in addition to serving as Superintendent of the former Olean District. The funeral was held March 30 at Fredonia First United Methodist Church. Condolences may be sent to Louise's daughter, Rebecca Krzyzanowicz, at 40 Chestnut St., Fredonia, NY, 14063.

Cathy Hall, administrative assistant for the Cornerstone District, and her

family thank you for all your prayers and expressions of sympathy shared at the time of her father's death. Your thoughtfulness has brought us great comfort.

Prayers for **Pastor Carol** and **Jim Dill** are appreciated as Jim continues to address health concerns.

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 or 585-340-9558.

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



NEW - 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

NEW - 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 (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.

Deadline Approaching!

The **Falconer United Methodist Church's** unit of United Methodist Women will host Cornerstone's **Spring event** on **Saturday, April 13** at the church, 201 N. Work St.



Pastor Heather Allport-Cohoon will preside at a Communion service beginning at **9:30 a.m.** followed by brunch. Cost is \$8 per person and reservations are **due by April 8**. Make checks payable to Falconer UMW and send your name, contact information, the UMW unit you are a member of and any dietary restrictions to Pam Vanstrom, 2133 Buffalo St. Ext., Jamestown, NY, 14701.



NEW - 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!

NEW - 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.



NEW - 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.



Less Than One Month to Register!

Registration for **Annual Conference** is open! If you are clergy or your church's Lay Member to Annual Conference, it's not too early to register.

Please review these [guidelines](#) before you register. Click [here](#) to 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.

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!

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@unyumc.org.

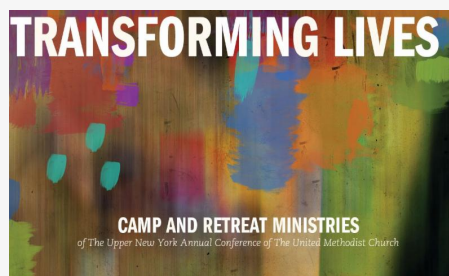
Details on Court Ruling for Clergy Housing Allowance

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.](#)



NEW - 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.

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



EQ Members **STILL NEEDED!**

If you or someone you know is interested in serving as an **Equalization Member** - lay people who can vote to

help balance (equalize) the clergy who are voting - to Annual Conference (**June 5-8** at the **Oncenter** in **Syracuse**), please complete the [application](#) and return to the District office **ASAP**.

If you have questions, please contact Cathy in the District Office: 716-665-2423 or cornerstonedistrict@unyumc.org



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) 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

Apply Now for Undergraduate Scholarship

The **Upper New York Conference College Ministry Team** invites high school and college undergraduate students to apply for the **Lottie Brown Grant**. The application deadline is **April 10**.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.



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