

any joy in your life and your praying and thanksgiving. If you have expressed an interest in the New York Conference. Don't forget to add 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.

July 8

The **Panama** Church. **Rev. Steve Taylor**, his wife Stacy and their children Ben and Abby.

July 15

Pastor Vicki Hedlund (chaplain, **Olean General Hospital**), her husband LeRoy and their family.

Rev. Tim Phelps (chaplain, **Chautauqua Hospice & Palliative Care**), his wife Liz and their family.

July 22

The **Ripley** and **South Ripley** Churches.

We rejoice with **graduates**, from pre-school to graduate school, as they celebrate and prepare for the next steps on their journey.

Please be in prayer for **all pastors and their families** who have begun new and/or additional appointments/assignments and the **congregations** who have welcomed them.

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

UPDATED - Changes in the Cornerstone District

We join with our friends in the Cornerstone District in sending prayers and best wishes to those who have moved from our District:

Pastor Ray Gilman, his wife Andrea and their family, serving Clarence Center UMC in the Niagara Frontier District.

Rev. Rodney Mileham and his wife Trish, serving Kendall UMC in the Genesee Valley District.

Pastor Larry Russell, serving Orwell & Sandy Creek UMCs in the Northern Flow District.

Pastor Nancy Russell, serving Mannsville/Lorraine UMC in the Northern Flow District.

Rev. Dena Stevens, serving Arkport and Bishopville UMCs in the Mountain View District.

Pastor Grace Warren and her husband Ernie, serving Mexico:First UMC in the Crossroads District.

We also offer prayers and welcome to:

Pastor Kevin Costner, his wife Heather and their family, serving Clymer & North Clymer UMCs.

Pastor Bruce Fish and his wife Sue who will be serving Napoli UMC effective August 1, 2018

Pastor Jim Hankey and his wife Andra, serving Forestville UMC.

Cynthia Hull (lay supply) and her husband Vince, serving Machias UMC.

Candy Scarem (lay supply) and her husband Shannon, serving Ashville UMC.

Rev. Charles Smith and his wife Kimberly, serving East Randolph UMC.

Charles Wittenbrook (lay supply) serving Charlotte Center & Pleasant Valley UMCs.

And we pray for those who are serving new/additional churches in our District:

Pastor Craig Buelow, his wife Diane and their family, serving Northern Allegany County Churches (Belfast, Caneadea, Friends in Christ & Rushford).

Pastor Mike Childs and his wife LeAnn, serving Lakewood UMC in addition to Celoron UMC.

Prayers and congratulations to **Pastor Nancy Preston** and her husband Rich on Nancy's retirement.

[Click here](#) for the complete list of 2018 Appointments.

IMPORANT - Changes at Church?

If there are changes in the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses for you, and/or any of your committee chairs, please contact the District Office with the changes.

If your church has not sent in the [interface form](#) (which was due soon after your 2017 charge conference), we do not have the names and contact information



on your 2018 church officers. **Please check to see that yours is filled out and was sent in.** Thanks!

NEW - Share Your Thoughts About Annual Conference

Bishop Mark Webb and the Upper New York Conference staff thanks those of you who attended the 9th session of the Upper New York Annual Conference. If you haven't done so already, please fill out a [brief survey](#). Your input is valued as plans are made for future Annual Conference sessions.

**The District Office is closed through July 8.
If you need to reach the DS during this time,
please call the office and leave a message - 716-665-2423.
We will not be checking email during this time.
Regular office hours will resume July 9.**



NEW - VBS at Panama Central School
Created by God, Built for a Purpose is the theme for vacation Bible school hosted by **Panama United Methodist Church**. Sessions will be held from **6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, July 8-11, at Panama Central School**, 41 North Street in Panama.

The theme for the week is based on **Matthew 7:24** - "Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock."

Parents may register their children online at www.panamaum.org or call the church office, 716-782-4031.

Monthly Breakfast to Benefit Cemetery Assoc.

Join the folks at **Ripley United Methodist Church**, 84 W. Main St., for their monthly All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast on **Saturday, July 14**.

Menu includes breakfast favorites: pancakes, bacon, sausage, sausage gravy & biscuits, made-to-order eggs, toast, fried potatoes, coffee & orange juice. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. until 11 a.m.; cost is \$7 per person.

Proceeds from the July breakfast will benefit the South Ripley Cemetery Association.

Napoli Golf Tournament

Calling all golfers! Breezewood Golf Links, 4335 Dean Rd., Falconer, will be the site of **Napoli United Methodist Church's** annual golf tournament on **Saturday, July 14**.

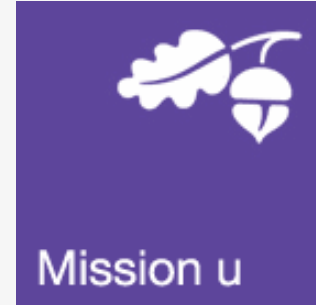


This is a four-person scramble; play will begin at 9:30 a.m. with lunch at the turn and dinner at the completion of play. Entry fee is \$55 per person (\$50 if you enter by June 22). **The deadline for entries was Monday, July 2**; to check if you're still able to sign up, call Nancy Wares, 716-938-9237, Tim Wares, 716-640-0989 or Brian Keesler, 716-938-6478.

Mission u 2018

"Learning Together for the Transformation of the World" is the theme for Upper New York UMW's **Mission u**, scheduled **July 20 & 21** at **Asbury Camp & Retreat Center** in Silver Lake.

Mission u is open to all: men, women, youth, laity & clergy. The session includes worship, singing and fellowship and offers opportunities to study current issues that have an impact on society. Martie Fischer, a retired United Methodist pastor, will lead all in a study of "Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living."



You may download the 2018 Mission u brochure [here](#). Questions may be directed to Valerie Clark, dean, at vdjphilly@gmail.com or 585-233-9808.



NEW - VBS at Little Valley UMC

Operation Overboard: Go Deep With God! is the theme for the **July 23 - July 26** vacation Bible school at **First United Methodist Church**, 109 Court St. in Little Valley.

Operation Overboard is an invitation and a challenge to dive into the deep waters of God's word and discover what it means to have deep faith. Sessions will be held from **6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** Monday through Thursday. A VBS "wrap up" will take place at the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, July 29.

If you have questions or would like to register, please call the church, 716-938-6150.

NEW - VBS at Bemus Point UMC

Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus is the theme for the **July 30 through August 3** vacation Bible school at **Bemus Point United Methodist Church**, 4954 Bemus-Ellery Rd.



Class will be held from **9 a.m. to 12 noon each day**. Participants will venture onto an uncharted island where they will survive and thrive and become anchored in the truth that Jesus carries them through life's storms.

Parents may register their children online (www.bpumc.com) or call the

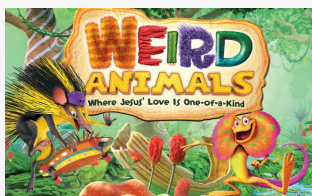
church office, 716-386-3401, if they have questions.

NEW - Community-Wide VBS at East Randolph UMC

Randolph area churches - **East Randolph United Methodist**, Grace Episcopal, Randolph Presbyterian & St. Patrick Catholic - are joining together for vacation Bible School **August 6 through August 10** at **East Randolph UMC**, 122 Church St.

Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus is the theme for the week. Class is scheduled from **8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.** each day.

Registration forms are available at participating churches. If you would like to volunteer to help or need more information, please call Louise Freeman, 716-358-2635.



NEW - VBS at Ripley UMC

Weird Animals - Where Jesus' Love is One of a Kind is the theme for a weekly vacation Bible school at **Ripley United Methodist Church**, 84 W. Main St.

The summer program will meet from **4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays in August** (August 6, 13, 20, 27). Each week will explore a different situation - when you feel left out, when you feel different, when you don't understand, when you do wrong or are afraid - and affirms that nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus.

If you have questions or would like to register, please contact Bob Ebert, 716-951-2192 or Darlene Meeder, 814-881-1411

NEW - LSM Fall Training at Kidder

Cornerstone's **2018 Lay Servant Ministries Fall Training** is scheduled **October 12 and 13** at **Kidder Memorial United Methodist Church**, 385 S. Main St., Jamestown. Gathering/registration begins at 5 p.m. on Friday followed by class time until approximately 9p.m. Class is held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Classes to be offered include:

1. ***Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course***
2. ***Class Leaders*** (Accountable Discipleship is a prerequisite for this class)
3. ***Planning Worship***
4. ***Transforming Evangelism***



Cost, which includes snacks on Friday (no meal) and snacks/lunch on Saturday is \$25 per person. Cost of overnight lodging is extra. Checks must be made payable to UNYAC; you must be paid in full to be considered registered for a class.

Watch for a brochure (paper and online) which will be available later this summer!

[Click here](#) for the June/July issue of the Media Resource Center newsletter!



2018 Native American Festivals

July 7-8 Tuscarora Field Days
Tuscarora Nation, Lewiston, NY

July 20-22 Seneca Veterans PowWow
Salamanca, NY

July 28-29 Summer Music and Dance Festival
Ganondagan State Historic Site, Victor, NY

September 1-2 33rd Annual Iroquois Indian Festival. Iroquois Indian Museum, 324 Caverns Road, Howes Cave, NY

September 8-9 Akwesasne Pow Wow. Grand entry at 12 noon. Akwesasne Territory, Mohawk Nation, Anowarakowa Arena, Cornwall Island, Ontario

September 16 Saratoga Native American Festival. National Museum of Dance at Saratoga Spa State

September 21-23 Native Nations Festival, Watson Homestead, 9620 Dry Run Road, Painted Post, NY

September 28-29 Seneca Indian Fall Festival, Cattaraugus Territory

November 11 Canandaigua Treaty Celebration. 12 noon - 9 pm, Courthouse lawn, Canandaigua and Elementary School

Around the Corner is published twice a month in the summer. The next ATC will be published July 19.

Is Your Church Using VitalSigns?

One item coming out of the 2018 Upper New York Annual Conference is a recommendation from the Conference Leadership Team **strongly encouraging all UNY congregations** to begin using the **VitalSigns Dashboard** on September 1, 2018.



The VitalSigns Dashboard is a tool developed through GCFA that allows you to track your weekly worship attendance, professions of faith, small group participation, missional participation and financial giving for your congregation. It is a tool designed to help congregations follow their progress on the goals that they set for each year, based upon the goal-setting challenge initiated by the Vital Congregations work. It was

developed in response to the Call To Action to focus on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective in the mission of The United Methodist Church.

A number of churches in our District already use the VitalSigns Dashboard with great success/results. A downloadable (PDF) guide for local churches is available [here](#). To sign up to record your weekly VitalSigns, [click here](#).



Disaster Preparedness

You can't prevent disaster. But you can prepare. United Methodist Insurance has created a comprehensive, robust handbook on **Emergency Preparedness for Natural Disasters and Extreme Weather for Churches**.

[Click here](#) to download the eBook.

Editor's Note: The following is a follow-up about the Water Sensor Program from Church Mutual that was discussed during the Trustee's Report at the Upper New York Annual Conference.



Each year, more than 3,500 Church Mutual Insurance Company customers are affected by water damage. Unchecked, water can wreak havoc on unmonitored facilities, causing thousands of dollars in clean up and repairs.

To help prevent future losses, Church Mutual has developed the CM Sensor Program to help protect your organization against water damage. **This innovative program is offered at no cost to you as a Church Mutual customer.** The program alerts you to temperature fluctuations and the presence of water in your facility. To date, more than 5,000 houses of worship have already enrolled in this innovative program!

Enroll at <https://www.churchmutual.com/sensors/registration.cfm> or call (800) 554-2642, option 1 to receive your no-cost CM Sensor kit. For a limited time, enrollment in the sensor program comes with FREE professional installation! *

Find more information on the CM Sensor Program at <https://www.churchmutual.com/sensors/>.

*Professional installation is not required. Sensors are designed to be self-installed.



DON'T FORGET - UMM Fall Retreat

The **United Methodist Men of the Upper New York Conference** are inviting all men, women, children and families to ***Transformation Through Christ: Turn 180 Degrees***, a weekend-long retreat **September 7 & 8** at **Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center** in Windsor, NY.

The theme of the retreat is based on Romans 12:2a: *Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind.* (GNB)

The retreat will feature **Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.** of the Mississippi Conference and President of the General Commission on United Methodist Men. **UNY Bishop Mark Webb** and the **Rev. Mark Kimpland** from Endwell UMC also will be speaking at the retreat.

The retreat promises to be a dynamic, spiritual weekend with the opportunity for all attendees to take a fresh look at their relationship with the Lord! Listen to what Bishop Webb says about the retreat [here](#)

For more information and to register online, [click here](#). You also may register by mail using a [paper form](#).

Spread the word about the retreat with this [bulletin insert](#). For more information, call or email Sanjay Solomon, (937) 626-5247 or sanjsol@aol.com.

2018 Bishop's Retreat

Cornerstone clergy are asked to save **October 23-25** on their calendars for the annual **Bishop's Retreat**, which will take place at the **Genesee Grande Hotel** in Syracuse.

"Living, Leading and Equipping for Biblical Stewardship" is the theme for the 2018 retreat. Dr. Cliff Christopher, M.Div, CRFE, will be the keynote speaker. In addition, a variety of workshops will be offered Wednesday morning (October 24).

Please click [here](#) for the retreat's full schedule and more information about Dr. Christopher. **Deadline to register is Friday, September 28.**

UPDATE - Collection Site for Red Bird

Robert Ebert has volunteered to coordinate the drop-off of shoeboxes for Red Bird Mission. **Ripley United Methodist Church**, 84 W. Main St., will be the drop-off site. **Drop-offs must be scheduled by calling Bob**, 716-951-2192.

Again this year **Dave Alexander** and the **Endwell**



United Methodist Church in the Binghamton District will be coordinating delivery of shoeboxes to Redbird Mission in Beverly, KY. **Pick-up and transport of items will take place the first week in December.**

If drop-off is not able to be scheduled at Ripley, there is a storage site in Endwell where shoeboxes and other items ([see this list](#)) may be

delivered.

Please consider being part of this vital mission. If you have any questions, please call the Endwell UMC at 607-754-5735 or Dave Alexander at 607-743-8955.

UPDATE - Summer Camp 2018

Aldersgate:

July 8-11 - Summer Camp: Beginnings (Ages 6-9)

July 8-13 - Summer Camp: Campolodeon & You Can't Do That At Aldersgate (Ages 7-18)

July 13-15 - Family: Family Life Weekend (All Ages)

July 14: Summer Camp - One Day Adventure (Ages 4-8)

October 13, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. - Volunteer Work Day (All Ages)



Asbury:

July 1, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. - Open House (All Ages)

July 15-19 - Reach Out: Community Mission Experience (Youth & Adults)

July 22-25 - Retreat: Asbury Express I (Ages 7-9) and Asbury Express II (Ages 10-12)

July 29-August 1 - Retreat: Asbury Express III (Ages 13-18)

August 5-7 - Family: Together Time: A Family Retreat (All Ages)

August 19-21 - Retreat: Welcome to the Table: A Women's Retreat (Adults)

September 28-30 - Retreat: Craft & Quilt Retreat (Adults)

Casowasco:

June 24-August 3 - Summer Camp: Various Programming (Ages 6-18)

August 5-8 - Special Needs: Summershine (Ages 16+ with Special Needs)

August 5-8 - Family: Father-Son Adventure (Ages 4+); Mother-Daughter Adventure (Ages 4+); Family Camp (All Ages)

August 5-9 - Leadership: Director's Invitational (Ages 14-18)

September 1 - Leadership: Youth Worker's Training Day (Adults)

September 20-23 - Retreat: Quilt By Faith (Adults)

December 5-7 - Retreat: Be Still {a silent retreat} (Adults)

December 30-January 1, 2019 - Retreat: Camp Echo (Ages 7-18)

Sky Lake:

June 24-August 3 - Summer Camp: Various Programming (Ages 5-18)

June 24-August 10 - Special Needs: Various Programming (Ages 15-70 with Special Needs)

August 12-15 - Family: Intergenerational Camp (All Ages)
August 31-September 3 - Family: Labor Day Family Weekend (All Ages)
October 5-7 - Retreat: Ladies of the Lake (Adults/Women)
October 21 - Retreat: S'MORE Time (Grades 6-12)
November 8-10 - Leadership: L.E.A.D. (Leadership Enrichment & Development) (Adults)

Skye Farm:

June 24-August 3 - Summer Camp: Various Programming (Ages 6-18)
August 5-8 - Family: Family Adventure Camp (All Ages)
August 10-13 - Family: Alumni Reunion (All Ages)

THERE ARE SPACES for campers, families, and retreat-goers in almost all of our programming for this summer/fall, so it's not too late to inquire about or register for camps and retreats! If there are any questions, please contact Camp & Retreat Ministries (toll free), 855-414-6400 or info@campsandretreats.org.

Ask The UMC

No matter how old we are or where we are on our faith journey, our need to learn never fades.

Do you have questions about **The United Methodist Church**? Need help deciphering the hows and whys of who we are or what we believe? Maybe you have a faith question you've been pondering?

We invite you to **Ask The UMC**. Ask The UMC houses an online library of frequently asked questions and their answers so that you can research denominational stances on key issues, details about beliefs, interesting facts, and much more. This resource is designed to support your congregation as they grow in their faith, but it's likely that you'll learn something new, too.

[Click here](#) for Ask The UMC.

Ways to Connect with the UNY Conference

The Conference Communications staff have a number of ways to share information throughout Upper New York. Here are a few of them:

UNY Notes are simple text-based emails that will immediately alert you to important news and events of the Upper New York Conference. UNY Notes are targeted email blasts in nine categories from which to choose: *From the Desk of Bishop Webb, Alerts, Prayer Concerns, Announcements, Missions, Justice, Camp & Retreat, Young People and Death Notices*. If you prefer fewer emails, remember that all of the week's UNY Notes are included in the **Weekly Digest**, published on Wednesdays. [Click here](#) to subscribe to UNY Notes and [here](#) to subscribe to Weekly Digest.

You're also encouraged to "like" Upper New York Conference on [Facebook](#). Here you'll find pictures, short videos, questions from fun to serious, the latest news from the Conference and ways to try to engage with our followers. These posts will appear in your news feed along with posts from your other Facebook friends.

You may follow Upper New York on [Instagram](#) to see pictures and short videos from around the Conference. Posts will appear in your news feed along with everyone else you follow on Instagram.

So stay connected and up-to-date with your friends and churches from throughout the Conference!

Cornerstone District

of the Upper New York Conference

Rev. Sherri Rood, *District Superintendent*

Richard Preston, *District Lay Leader*

Cathy Hall, *Administrative Assistant*

663 Lakeview Ave., Jamestown, NY 14701

(716) 665-2423 * CornerstoneDistrict@unyumc.org