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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.

June 24

The **Magnolia** and **Open Meadows** Churches. **Pastor John Bowen**, his wife Cordie and their family.

July 1

The **Olean:Christ** Church. **Rev. Suzanne Block** and her family and **Rev. Carrie Wolfe**, her husband Aaron and their son Max

July 8

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

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 will begin new and/or additional appointments/assignments July 1, 2018.

Please be in prayer for **congregations** who are saying good-bye to pastors and their families and preparing to welcome new pastors and their families.

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 are moving from our District: **Pastor Ray Gilman**, his wife Andrea and their family, who will be serving Clarence Center UMC in the Niagara Frontier District effective July 1, 2018.

Rev. Rodney Mileham and his wife Trish, who will be serving Kendall UMC in the Genesee Valley District effective July 1, 2018.

Pastor Larry Russell, who will be serving Orwell & Sandy Creek UMCs in the Northern Flow District effective July 1, 2018.

Pastor Nancy Russell, who will be serving Mannsville/Lorraine UMC in the Northern Flow District effective July 1, 2018.

Rev. Dena Stevens, who will be serving Arkport and Bishopville UMCs in the Mountain View District effective July 1, 2018.

Pastor Grace Warren and her husband Ernie, who will be serving Mexico:First UMC in the Crossroads District effective July 1.

We also offer prayers and welcome to:

Pastor Kevin Costner, his wife Heather and their family, who will be serving Clymer & North Clymer UMCs effective July 1, 2018.

Pastor Jim Hankey and his wife Andra who will be serving Forestville UMC effective July 1, 2018.

Cynthia Hull (lay supply) and her husband Vince, who will be serving Machias UMC effective July 1, 2018.

Candy Scarem (lay supply) and her husband Shannon, who will be serving Ashville UMC effective July 1, 2018.

Rev. Charles Smith and his wife Kimberly, who will be serving East Randolph UMC effective July 1, 2018.

Charles Wittenbrook (lay supply) serving Charlotte Center & Pleasant Valley UMCs since May 1, 2018

And we pray for those who will be serving new/additional churches in our District, effective July 1, 2018:

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

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

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

For the complete list of 2018 Appointments, please click [here](#).



NEW - 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!

**The District Office will be closed July 2-8.
We will not be checking email during this time.
Regular office hours will resume July 9.**

NEW - 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.

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](#).



UPDATE - Small Group Meetings

Our District's eight Imagine No Racism small groups will be meeting over the next few months (six sessions total), keeping before them the vision cast at the Imagine No Racism launch on April 21:

We envision a united Upper New York Conference working together to increase the number and transformative scope of

ministries that impact racial justice in our churches and our communities and makes us a greater reflection of who God created us to be.

The small groups are loosely based on geographic areas within the District. If you have yet to affiliate with a small group (**mandatory for all clergy and lay supply**), please contact the Rev. Carrie Wolfe, INR Coordinator for our District, (carrie@christumcolean.org) and let her know which group you've chosen.

Facilitators for the groups are:

Rianna Moore, riannamoo@aol.com, Cornerstone of Cornerstone #1

Rev. Nicholas Perry, nicholasperry@yahoo.com, Cornerstone of Cornerstone #2

Pastor Wes Tessey, westessey@gmail.com, Greater Cattaraugus Area # 1

Pastor Becky Ward, beequilted55@gmail.com, Greater Cattaraugus Area #2

Rev. Carolyn Stow, pastor.carolyn.stow@gmail.com, Greater Jamestown Area #1

Joe Osborne, 5osborne@windstream.net, Greater Jamestown Area #2

Dennis Stack, dennis.stack610@gmail.com and **Pastor Clara Wilder**, cwilder@roadrunner.com, Greater Olean/East of Olean Area #1

Bob Schooley, bobschooley@aol.com, Greater Olean/East of Olean Area #2

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



BPUMC Invites You to a Block Party!

The congregation of **Bemus Point United Methodist Church** is reaching out beyond the walls of their building this summer and invites you to join them for a Block Party on **Sunday, June 24**, in the Bemus Point Village Park.

Festivities will begin at 4 p.m. with food, games, music, face painting and a photo booth. At 6 p.m. **Brothers McClurg featuring Edward Chilungu** will present a concert in the park.

The Block Party is free and open to everyone. Please download the [attached flyer](#) and help spread the word about this free, fun event!

NEW - Is Your Church Holding VBS This Summer?

If your church is offering a VBS program this summer and you would like it in the District Newsletter, please send the following information to

TITLE of VBS Program

WHEN: Month & date(s), 2018

WHERE: Name of church or facility, physical address (Street, City, State, Zip)

TIME: Time period that event is being held

REGISTRATION/CONTACT NUMBER: Phone number for registration or questions.

OTHER: Any details that you would like to share



NEW - 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). **Deadline for entries is Monday, July 2.**

[Click here](#) for a flyer. For more information call Nancy Wares, 716-938-9237, Tim Wares, 716-640-0989 or Brian Keesler, 716-938-6478.

NEW - 2018 Native American Festivals

June 23-24 Strawberry Festival

Kanatsiohareke, 4934 State Highway 5, Fonda, NY

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



Around the Corner is published twice a month in the summer. The next ATC will be published July 5.

NEW - 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**

[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!

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.

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:

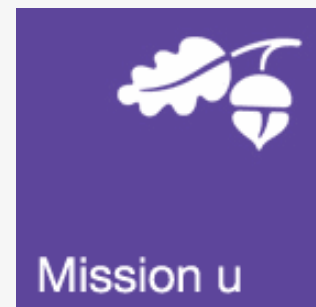
June 24-August 3 - Summer Camp: Various Programming (Ages 6-18)
August 5-8 - Family: Family Adventure Camp (All Ages)
August 10-13 - Family: Alumni Reunion (All Ages)

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.

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."





1. Pray daily for the church.

Join United Methodists around the world at a special website to help church members "Pray Our Way Forward" as we prepare for a special session of General Conference next February in St. Louis. A video message from Bishop Debra Wallace Padgett of the North Alabama Conference includes an invitation from the Council of Bishops for every United Methodist and each UM church to join in prayer and fasting. See the video, sign up for regular email prayer posts and download resources to share the word at UMCPrays.org.

2. Grants available for new church starts. New United Methodist faith communities can apply for up to \$2,500 in promotional products provided by a grant from United Methodist Communications, in partnership with New Church Starts (Path 1). The grant is a one-time, nonmonetary award to help raise awareness of new churches, so these churches can, in turn, #SeeAllThePeople in their area of influence. To be eligible, applicants must be either new church communities or newly organized places of worship for making disciples of Jesus Christ, and be within the first five years of development. For more information and to apply, go to <https://bit.ly/2kSUyjp>.

3. Include your annual campaign in a stewardship strategy. Join Ken Sloane, Director of Stewardship & Connectional Ministries at Discipleship Ministries, for a free webinar about planning your church's annual campaign on July 12 at 6:30 p.m. (CDT). He will explore annual campaign resources, time-tested tools and a year-round strategy to keep generosity before your people all the time. Each online attendee will receive a free digital campaign resource (a \$15 value) just for participating in the live webinar. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/2sD4WQG>.

4. YOUTH 2019 is one year away! Start planning now to attend Love Well - YOUTH 2019, the national gathering for United Methodist youth in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 10-14, 2019. YOUTH 2019 is open to all 6-12 grade students and their adult leaders. Join thousands of youth for a big-time discipleship event with big room worship, awesome workshops, meaningful service opportunities, chances to dig deeper into faith, and of course, a ton of fun. To receive notifications about registration, worship artists and more, go to <http://youth2019.com>.

5. Grow deeper in your faith with an evangelism course. Join Mark Teasdale, E. Stanley Jones Associate Professor of Evangelism at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and Heather Lear, Director of Evangelism at Discipleship Ministries, for the six-week webinar course, Evangelism for Non-Evangelists. The first session will be on September 6, and space is limited. For more information and to register, go to <https://bit.ly/2AdIO3N>.

2018-19 Course of Study, Buffalo Extension

The **Buffalo Course of Study Extension** is a program of the United Methodist Church designed to help equip local pastors for ministry.

The summer session of Course of Study, Buffalo, NY Extension School is **August 10-11** and **September 13-14**, 2018. Registration is due by June 11. Tuition is due by June 26.

[Click here](#) to download the 2018-19 COS brochure and [here](#) for the 2018-19 registration form. Questions? Call (716) 875-5091 or e-mail bufcosoffice@gmail.com

NEW - 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*

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