

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.

March 17

The **Fredonia 1st** Church. **Pastor Annette Puleff** and her family.

March 24

The **Frewsburg:Trinity** Church. **Pastor PJ Pasioka**, his wife Lindsey and their children Peter and Leah.

March 31

The **Wheeler Hill** Church.

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

Prayers for the family of **Cathy Hall**, Cornerstone's administrative assistant. Cathy's father, Jerry, died Friday, March 8.

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



UPDATE - Follow-Up to Special Session

This Sunday, **March 17**, from **4 p.m. to 6 p.m.**, Upper New York (UNY) Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb and UNY leadership are livestreaming a time of recap and reflection on the Special Session to communication HUBS in each District (**Bemus Point UMC, 4954 Bemus-Elery Rd.**). In addition to worship sharing, and prayer, there will be a time for questions to answered. Additionally, an FAQ will be assembled based on all questions submitted, including those that may not be able to

be answered live due to time constraints.

If you have questions about the Special Session that you would like to be answered, please send them to questions@unyumc.org.

NOTE: The live stream will be recorded and available at a later date on the conference website (www.unyumc.org). We do not have an exact date it will be made available, but it will be made available for viewing after the event.

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb has recorded a special message for the members of the Upper New York Conference following the Special Session of General Conference. Click [here](#) to hear his message.

NEW - Letter from UNY Delegation

The **Rev. Bill Allen**, Head of the Upper New York Delegation, and **Greg Forrester**, Assistant Head of the Upper New York Delegation, have written a letter about their experience at the Special Session of General Conference last month in St. Louis, MO. They speak of the division and disunity they witnessed among members of the UMC family and affirmed that this was not the case of the Upper New York delegates. In this letter, you will learn how the UNY delegates exhibited love despite their various beliefs. [Click here](#) to read the full letter.

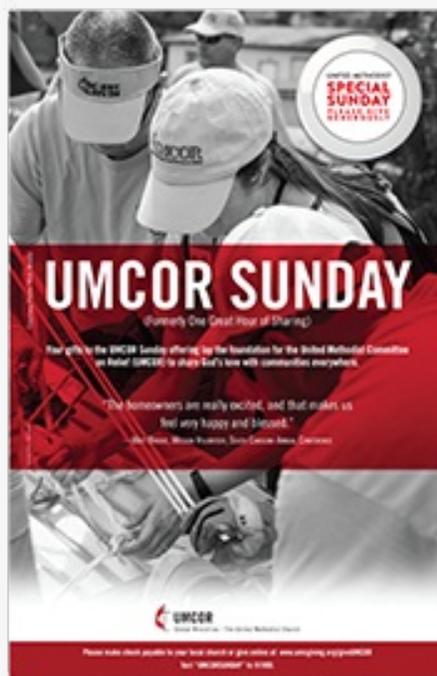
NEW - Dinner to Support Local Outreach

Little Valley United Methodist Church, 109 Court St., will hold a **Spaghetti & Meatballs dinner** to benefit their Missions Fund on **Saturday, March 16**.



The dinner will be served from **4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.** (dine in or take out) and will include salad bar, dessert and beverage. Cost is a donation. A pie sale also will be held: apple, \$10 and chocolate peanut butter, \$12.

Little Valley's Missions Fund is used to help local people in need - gas, food, utility bills, etc.



Celebrate UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) on a date that is convenient for your congregation. Official date: March 31, 2019



AC Registration Now Open

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](#).

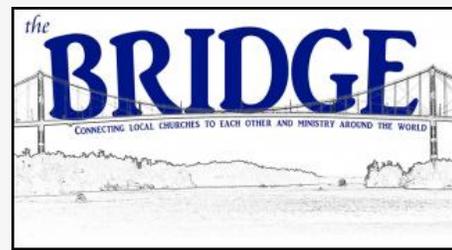
Requests or Questions? Call Erica Wentworth at (315) 898-2004.

NEW - Opportunities to Serve at the Conference Level

The **Upper New York Conference Committee on Nominations** is accepting nominations to fill vacancies on various conference leadership teams. Click [here](#) to read a letter from Chair of the Committee on Nominations, the Rev. Tony Hipes, and/or to fill out the nominations form. **March 19 is the deadline** to submit nominations.

NEW - Make Copies of the *Bridge*!

The **March 2019 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 Bishop Webb's response to Special Session, including a letter he has written to the Conference, a video he has recorded for the Conference, and a Conference-wide livestreamed time of worship, sharing, questions, and prayer that will be held on March 17.



EQ Members Needed!

It's that time of year again when we ask for **Equalization Members** to attend Annual Conference (**June 5-8 at the**

Oncenter in Syracuse). These are lay people who can vote to help balance (equalize) the clergy who are voting.

Our District has been asked to recruit 27 Equalization Members. Among our EQ members should be:

- Youth between the ages of 12 & 17 (Youth are not charged for registration or hotel if they stay in the assigned block of rooms for youth)
- Young adults between the ages of 18 & 30
- Certified Lay Ministers (CLM) and Lay Supply Pastors serving in local churches in the District
- Seminary students, including declared and certified candidates for ministry

In the case of multiple point charges where only one lay member from the charge is authorized to attend, the congregation not represented may suggest a name as an equalization member. A church/charge must send a lay member to Annual Conference in order to send an Equalization Member.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving as an Equalization Member to Annual Conference, please complete the [application](#).

Please return the completed application by **March 21**. The application must have your pastor's signature and the Lay Member from your church must be listed.

We will notify those who have been selected by April 1. **Do not register until you have been notified that you will serve.**

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

NEW - Bishop Announces Appointments, Retirements

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb has announced six

new appointments and four retirements pending approval of clergy session. View the full list of changes [here](#).

Save These Dates!

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



Four Advanced courses will be offered:

Class Leaders (the office of Class Leader in the Wesleyan Methodist tradition)

Justice in Everyday Life (Social Principles)

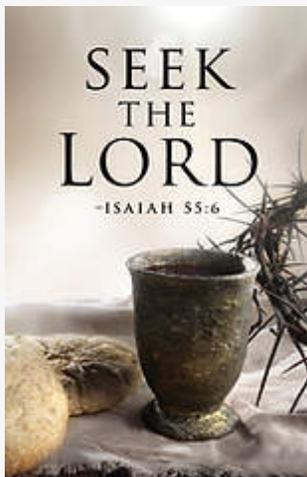
Life Together in the United Methodist Connection (United Methodist Polity)

You Can Preach! (for those who have not completed formal preaching training, for pastors who seek a basic refresher course & for others who are called upon to preach in the pastor's absence)

A brochure/registration information are coming soon - put these dates on your calendar and stay tuned!

Outreach at Cherry Creek-Leon UMC

An ongoing outreach, **Coffee Talk**, is held at **9 a.m.** every **Wednesday** at Cherry Creek-Leon United Methodist Church, 6813 Main St. For a break in routine and a chance to get together with friends and neighbors and learn more about Cherry Creek-Leon UMC, come join us!



Weekly Services During Lent

The congregation of Ripley United Methodist Church invites the greater community to join them for a weekly **Bread & Broth Supper & Service** at **Meeder's Restaurant, 19 E. Main St. in Ripley**.

The light meal (soup, bread & a beverage) will be served at **6:30 p.m.** followed by a brief service or worship. The supper & service will be offered every Wednesday during Lent (through April 10).

A flyer for you to share with your church may be downloaded [here](#).



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.

Friday, March 15

Please make sure that the District Office has your church's **2018 Local Church Financial Audit** by this date. Please click [here](#) for the form.

All **Resolutions & Petitions** for the **2019 Annual Conference** session (June 5-8 at the OnCenter in Syracuse) must be submitted by email to petitions@unyumc.org no later than this date (March 15).

Saturday, March 16

5th Annual Learning Day for Laity & Clergy

Bemus Point United Methodist Church, 4954 Bemus-Ellery Rd.
Morning & afternoon learning opportunities, inspiring worship and a great time of fellowship together. Click [here](#) for registration information.

Sunday, March 17

Conference-Wide Follow-up to Special Session with Bishop Webb

All laity & clergy are invited to attend this event from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Bemus Point United Methodist Church, 4954 Bemus-Ellery Rd. Please make plans now to attend!

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.

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.

Marketing & Outreach Grant

Is your church active in your community but needs some support and guidance to **maximize outreach efforts**? Apply for a **Marketing Services and Promotional Grant**! The United Methodist Communications team might be able to assist your church in a variety of ways, including:

- Social media consultation and auditing
- Website development and SEO optimization
- Advertising
- Branding/logo assistance
- Stationary and business card design



The application period is open now! Apply [here](#) for Marketing Services and Promotional Grants. Click [here](#) for the Website Development Grant application. Questions? Email localchurchservices@umcom.org.



Register for Summer Camp!

Registration for Summer Camp 2019 is now OPEN! **Upper New York Camp & Retreat Ministries** is pleased to offer a wide variety of fun, exciting, and meaningful programs this summer including classic favorites and brand new adventures!

Whether you want to live on the edge and experience all the fast-paced action we have to offer, or something more relaxed and laid-back is your style, we have a program for you!

All of our programs offer opportunities for spiritual growth and renewal, and diverse styles of meaningful worship experiences. This year we will learn how God calls us to be Agents of Change in our communities, and how we can transform those communities through Generosity, Compassion, Inclusion, Justice, and Forgiveness.

Come experience how a week at camp can Transform Lives! We can't wait to see YOU this summer!

To register for Aldersgate: aldersgate.campbrainregistration.com

To register for Casowasco: casowasco.campbrainregistration.com

To register for Sky Lake: skylake.campbrainregistration.com

To register for Skye Farm: skryfall.campbrainregistration.com

Check out our retreat offerings throughout the year, including summer, at
Asbury Retreat Center. To find out more, visit asburyuny.org.



Cornerstone District

Upper New York Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Sherri Rood

District Superintendent
sherrirood@unyumc.org

Rich Preston

District Lay Leader
rnpreston@hotmail.com

Cathy Hall

Administrative Assistant

716-665-2423
cornerstonedistrict@unyumc.org
www.cornerstonedistrict.com