

Why just a reminder and you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Upper 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.



PLEASE NOTE: The District Office FAX line is not working. If you need to send something to the District Office, please use USPS or email. We will let you know when the FAX line is operational.

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.

November 4

The **Napoli** Church. **Bruce Fish**, his wife Sue and their family.

November 11

The **Ripley** and **South Ripley** Churches. **Pastor Becky Ward** and her family.

November 18

The **Wesley** and **East Otto** Churches. **Pastor Wes Tessey**, his wife Bernie and their family.

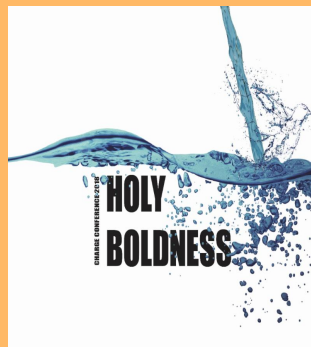
Condolences and prayers for The **Rev. Dr. Roy** and **Mrs. Valerie Miller** as they grieve the loss of Roy's father, Raymond "Ray" LeFevre Miller, age 95. Mr. Miller passed from this mortal life into life eternal with his Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ on October 20. Funeral services were held on October 26 at the First United Methodist Church, 145 S. Prairie St., in Whitewater, WI.

Please keep the family of the **Rev. Donald Modisher** (retired) in your prayers. Rev. Modisher, 98, died on October 17. He was appointed to several Upper New York churches, including Fredonia UMC, and served as Jamestown District Superintendent before the merger, and as a U.S. Army Chaplain during his many years of service. Condolences can be sent to Rev. Modisher's wife, Carolyn Modisher, at 15 Burton Hills Blvd, Apt. 201, Nashville, TN 37215. A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. on November 10 at Belmont United Methodist Church in Nashville.

Please keep the family of **Mike Block**, Upper New York Conference's Director of Missional Engagement, in your prayers. Mike's mom, Carolyn Block, was recently admitted to the hospital with an illness.

As we move closer to the special-called session of **General Conference**, we invite everyone to pray and ask for God's guidance. If there is ever a place where we can be one, it's in the space where we meet God.

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



NEW - Church Conferences Begin November 4!

As we prepare to gather to tend to the business of Cornerstone's local churches at Annual Church Conferences, a couple of reminders:

Each church should bring **copies of their reports** for those who are planning to attend. Sherri will have the "master copy" of the reports that have been submitted in advance to the District Office. If you have reports that **were not submitted previously**, please make sure that Sherri gets a copy.

Form 14 Church/Charge Conference Recording Secretary's Minutes Form (due at the close of the meeting) and **Form 15 Church/Charge Conference Sign-In Sheet** will be available at the Church Conference.

Business items at the Church Conference (items that require a vote) are:

- Pastoral Compensation for 2019
- Election of Trustee(s) (by paper ballot, Form 2)
- Election of Lay Leadership (Form 2a)
- Approval of Candidates for Ministry or Certified Lay Ministers (as applicable)
- Recommendation of Lay Servants (as applicable)
- Acceptance of Bequest or Other Gifts (as applicable)

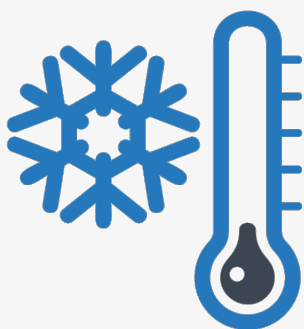
- Removal of Members from the Rolls (as applicable)
- Approval of the 2017 Local Church Audit
- Approval of the 2017 Church Conference minutes

Thanks to all of you for your timely submission of reports for these meetings. Your diligence and commitment are much appreciated!

Please be in prayer Sherri, our church leaders and our pastors as we gather for this time of celebrating the work of all Cornerstone churches.

UNY Responds to Hurricane Michael

Editor's Note: Please download this [letter](#), sent on behalf of **Mike Block, Director of Missional Engagement**, about how you and your church can respond to Hurricane Michael.



Helping Folks Stay Warm

Edwards Chapel United Methodist Church, 9227 Cherry Hill Rd. in Clymer, is offering a **Cold Weather Closet** to help any community member stay warm this winter. The closet offers free gently used winter items: coats, hats, scarves, gloves & boots.

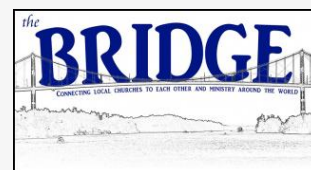
The closet is open from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on **November 10** and **November 24** and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on **November 14**. The ministry also is available by special request, call 716-355-9955 and leave a message or email coverededwardschapel@yahoo.com.



DON'T FORGET!
RETURN TO STANDARD TIME ON NOVEMBER 4!

NEW - Make Copies of The Bridge!

The **November 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 features lessons learned from Dr. Clif Christopher at the 2018 Bishop's Retreat on the importance of stewardship every day of the year. It also features an inspiring story of how one church welcomed nearly

600 community children into their church for their Annual Trunk-or-Treat event.

NEW - Lakewood UMC Announces Opening of Blessing Box

"What in heaven's name is a Blessing Box? That's what the congregation of Lakewood United Methodist Church, 164 Shadyside Ave., are discovering through this new outreach mission.

The cupboard-like structure is located on church property and is stocked by church members with food items, personal care products, cleaning supplies and miscellaneous items. Described as "the Lord's pantry," the goal of the Blessing Box is to serve the greater community.

"It is an opportunity for a person to bless someone else or for a person to receive a blessing - anonymously," according to Pastor Michael Childs.



United Methodist congregations can face potentially difficult discussions about plans submitted by the Commission on a Way Forward by using resources available from the **Courageous Conversations project** at Discipleship Ministries.

The commission's three plans, which will be presented to the 2019 Special Session of General Conference, offer ways to move the denomination past its decades-long struggle with issues around LGBTQ.

"So how do we have conversations about the plans so that congregations are best informed?" asked Scott Hughes, director of Adult Discipleship at Discipleship Ministries. "Courageous Conversations is a toolbox that local churches can use to inspire and encourage the church and individuals to participate in conversations that might seem difficult."

A sample outline for how to plan and conduct a Courageous Conversation about the Way Forward proposals is available online [here](#). The outline includes four sessions, with PowerPoint® presentation templates, but allows for flexibility to meet a specific congregation's needs. The resources also include links to support materials and videos produced by the Way Forward Commission and Council of Bishops.

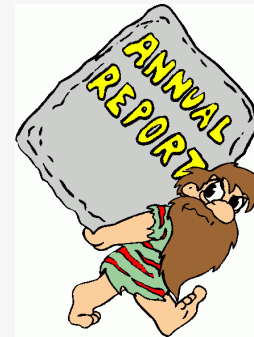
An online pamphlet, How to Have a Courageous Conversation, is available [here](#).

Courageous Conversation outlines are available from Discipleship Ministries on other topics, including Gun Violence, Race, Immigration, Climate Change and Human Sexuality.

For more information about Courageous Conversations, including tools for leaders, sample outlines, sample guidelines, webinars, prayer guide and blog, go to <https://bit.ly/2MpVn3v>.

DUE TODAY - Are Your Nov. 1 Reports In?

In addition to the reports that churches are required to submit two weeks prior to the Annual Church/Charge Conference, there are several online reports (www.uny.umconline.org) that are due during this "season":



DUE November 1, 2018 (Complete online, print & mail signed copy to the District Office)

16. Pastor's Appointment Advisory Form
17. S/PPRC Appointment Advisory Form
18. Pastor-S/PPRC Covenant Form

DUE December 1, 2018 (Complete online ONLY)

19. Church Profile
20. Pastor's Profile

The information on these forms is used by Bishop Webb and the Cabinet as they prepare for the Cabinet's Appointive Retreat December 3-5. User IDs and passwords are required to access the forms, so please don't hesitate to call or email the District Office if you need help with logging in or if you have any questions.



The congregation of **Brocton Tri-Church Parish**, 41 E. Main St. in Brocton, invites you to join them for a **Fall Harvest Ham Dinner** on **Saturday, November 3**.

The meal will be served from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$8 for children ages 5 to 9, children age 4 and younger are free. Take out available.

Equitable Comp App for January-June 2019 Available

The **Commission on Equitable Compensation** has issued guidelines and application forms for salary grants to local churches for the period **January 1 to June 30, 2019**.

To apply for salary assistance from the Equitable Compensation Fund, applicants should review the policies and procedures in the application document for guidance, and then complete the application according to the directions provided by the **November 2, 2018 deadline**.

Click [here](#) to review the policies and procedures or to complete the application.



Sale at Cherry Creek/Leon

Cherry Creek/Leon United Methodist Church, 6813 Main St., will hold a Rummage Sale at the church on **November 2 and 3**.

Sale hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. A Bake and Bag Sale will be featured on Saturday.

If you have good, clean donations (no electronics, please) that you would like picked up, please call 716-296-8083.

Retreat for Deacons Planned

A retreat for **Deacons** and for anyone who may be in process or discerning a call to becoming a Deacon has been planned **November 7 and 8** at the **UNY Conference Center**, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd., Liverpool.

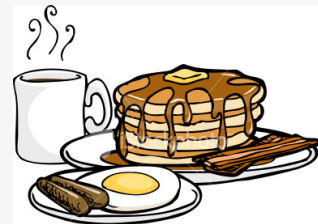
Click [here](#) for the announcement for the retreat which includes a link to the online registration.

The leaders for this event will be Dr. Margaret Ann Crain and Dr. Jack Seymour (co-authors of A Deacon's Heart) and they will be addressing the theology and ecclesiology of Deacons.

For more information, please contact Nancy Dibelius, Associate Director of Vital Congregations for Spiritual Life, Nancy.Dibelius@gmail.com.

Monthly Breakfast at Ripley

Ripley United Methodist Church, 84 W. Main St., will host an All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast **Saturday November 10**, from **7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.**



Cost is \$7 for pancakes, sausage, bacon, made-to-order eggs & omelets, home fries, biscuits & sausage gravy, orange juice & coffee.

Proceeds from the November breakfast will benefit Love Bear Project.



2018 Native American Festivals

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

Regional Youth Gathering

All Cornerstone District youth are invited to join their friends in the Mountain View District for a **Fall Gathering** on **Saturday, November 17**, at **Centenary United Methodist Church**, 3 W. Washington St. in Bath, NY.



"Love: Digging Deep, Branching Out," is the theme for the gathering, based on 1 Corinthians 13:13, 14:1a. Scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., the event will include worship with praise music, games and creative prayer stations.

Cost is \$10 per person and includes morning donuts and lunch. Click [here](#) for a registration form. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Eleanor Collinsworth, egcollinsworth@gmail.com or 315-745-0047.



DON'T FORGET - Collection 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.

NEW - From New Faith Communities

There are a series of GREAT learning opportunities coming up soon, and I want to make sure you know about all of them. Please read below, and let me know if you have any questions.



-- Rev. David Masland, Director, New Faith Communities

Learning Opportunity #1: Become a Spiritual Entrepreneur

Taught by Nancy Raca sharing important information she learned in a recent continuing education experience.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, November 15
UNY Conference Center, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd., Liverpool

In this hands-on workshop, we will learn how entrepreneurs think about products, marketplace, return on investment, and innovation. We'll apply entrepreneurial principles to our own situations as we begin to develop our own "lean" (read: short and sweet) business plans for our churches. If you are planting a new faith community and would like to think strategically about its future with a group of your peers, this workshop is for you! Bring your creative juices, an open mind, and a member of your team!

Cost is \$25 and includes lunch. Please contact Anne Hutchins to register, 315-898-2029 or crossroadsdistrict@unyumc.org. Deadline to register is 4 p.m. Friday, November 9.

Learning Opportunity #2: Planter Leader Development Group

Led by David Masland, Director of New Faith Communities

Six monthly meetings, November through May. Meetings will be held (dates to be negotiated, during the first one, by the group) from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays. We will be reading and discussing four important books about the spiritual life of the leader, developing a disciple-making system in your New Faith Community, and being an effective adaptive leader in our changing mission field:

- Canoeing the Mountains by Tod Bolsinger
- Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership by Ruth Haley Barton
- Developing an Intentional Discipleship System by Junius Dotson
- A book of the group's choice (options to be discussed at first meeting)

Each meeting will provide time for going deeper spiritually, talking about our wildly important goals, celebrating the victories and supporting one another through the challenges of leading a New Faith Community, discussing the book of the month, setting goals around action steps, praying together and holding one another accountable to the goals we set.

The first meeting is scheduled at **9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 27**, at the UNY Conference Center. No cost to participate, just your time and energy!

Bottom line: This is a peer learning group! There will be no lectures by experts! It will be us learning and growing together as we continue to try to figure out how to make disciples of Jesus Christ in our unique new faith communities, in our unique mission fields!

To sign up, email Dave Masland, dmasland@unyumc.org.

Golden Bucket Award

The Upper New York Conference of the United Methodist Church **Mission Central HUB** is announcing the Golden Bucket Award to the District that donates the most UMCOR Cleaning Kits!

Monthly recognition will be shared throughout the conference with a certificate to be displayed at the District Office. The District that collects the most UMCOR Cleaning Kits throughout the period will be awarded the prestigious Golden Bucket Award!

This award started on October 1 and runs till May 25, 2019. The Golden Bucket will be awarded at the 2019 Annual Conference.

It is important to follow the [UMCOR Cleaning Kit list](#), last updated May 2018.

Any questions, please contact Mike Block, 315-898-2066 or mikeblock@unyumc.org.



Order of Elders Gathering

All **Upper New York (UNY) elders** are invited to join UNY Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb as he welcomes Bishop Grant Hagiya from the California-Pacific Annual Conference on **December 6, 2018** from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. for an Order of Elders Gathering at the **Holiday Inn in Liverpool**.

This will be a time of worship, learning, and fellowship and qualifies for .5 CEU. The registration cost is \$25 and includes lunch. The registration deadline is

November 28. [Click here](#) to see the schedule for the day and/or to register.



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](#).



Cornerstone District

Upper New York Conference

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