

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](mailto: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 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.

### November 25

The **Bemus Point** Church. The **Rev Bill Allen** and the **Rev. Kristen Allen** and their children Emily, Katie and Will.

We've received word that **Craig Buelow's** grandmother died. Please keep Craig, Diane and their family in your prayers.

Please keep the family of **Audrey Foley** in your prayers. Audrey, 87, died on November 3. Audrey was predeceased by her husband, the Rev. Donald Foley, in 2008, who served several Upper New York churches, including Edwards Chapel, Wilson, Ashville-Blockville, and others. The

funeral was held November 7 at Prudden & Kandt Funeral Home located at 242 Genesee Street in Lockport. Click [here](#) to read the full obituary.

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.

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.



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### **NEW - Deadline for Red Bird Shoe Boxes**

**Tuesday, November 20**, is the last day to get shoe boxes for Red Bird Mission to our drop-off site at **Ripley United Methodist Church**, 84 W. Main St. **Drop-offs must be scheduled by calling Bob Ebert**, 716-951-2192.

Many thanks to Bob for coordinating this effort and our Cornerstone churches who are

participating!

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### **NEW - District Office Holiday Hours**

Cathy will be out of the office November 19-21 and the office will be closed November 22 and 23 for Thanksgiving. There will be no Around the Corner on November 22. Telephone and email **will not** be monitored this week.

If you need to reach Sherri November 19-21, please email her directly (sherrirood@unyumc.org) or call her (585-217-3359). Please **do not** text.

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### **NEW - Database Updates**

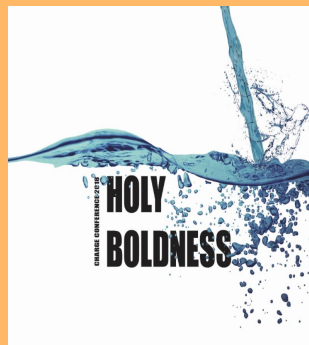
Many **thanks** to the churches who have submitted **Form 2b.UNYAC-Local Church Leadership Interface Sheet** along with their

reports for the Church Conference. Interface forms received to date exceed the total number received in 2017-18!

The information on these form allows me to keep the Conference database up-to-date. Sherri and I use the database daily and it's great to know that the information is current.

Again, thank you for your help with this. Keep up the good work!

-- Cathy



### **Church Conferences are Underway!**

As we 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.

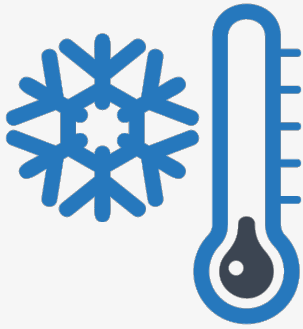
**Form 14 Church/Charge Conference Recording Secretary's Minutes Form** (due at the close of the meeting) and **Form 15 Church/Charge Conference Sign-In Sheet** will be available at the Church Conference.

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.



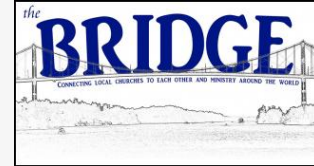
**Edwards Chapel United Methodist Church**, 9227 Cherry Hill Rd. in Clymer, is offering a **Cold Weather Closet** to help any community member stay warm this winter. The closet offers free gently used winter items: coats, hats, scarves, gloves & boots.

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](mailto:coverededwardschapel@yahoo.com).

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### 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](mailto:egcollinsworth@gmail.com) or 315-745-0047.

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### **NEW - Youth Winter Weekend**

Calling your Youth Group to come be a part of a **weekend getaway designed specifically for youth groups!** Scheduled **January 4-6 at Asbury Camp & Retreat Center**, cost is \$89 per person and includes two nights lodging, four meals and one snack. For every 8 paying youth, one adult leader may attend the weekend for **FREE!**

Our theme this year is **SEEKER**: come join us for a weekend full of fun spirited games and activities, dynamic worship sessions with speaker **Jay Trainer of Infuzion Ministries**, amazing food (we know how important food is!), and opportunities to discuss your relationship with Christ. Come grow closer as a body of Christ and make some new friends! Oh, and we can't forget about A Night of Gametivities and our Annual Sledapalooza! Your group does not want to miss this weekend!

Click [here](#) for a flyer that you can post at your church. Contact [info@asburyuny.org](mailto:info@asburyuny.org) or 585-237-5262 for a registration form.



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>.

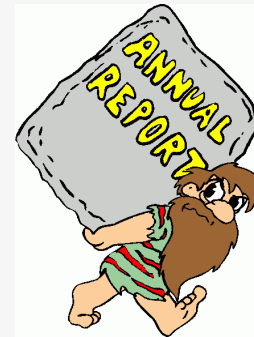
### November 1 Reports are PAST DUE!

If you haven't yet done so, please submit the following reports 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.

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### 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

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### 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](mailto: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](mailto:dmasland@unyumc.org).

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### 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](mailto:mikeblock@unyumc.org).

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### 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.

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**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](#).**

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# Cornerstone District

Upper New York Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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