

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.

October 21

The **Lakewood** and **Celoron** Churches. **Pastor Mike Childs**, his wife LeAnn and their family.

October 28

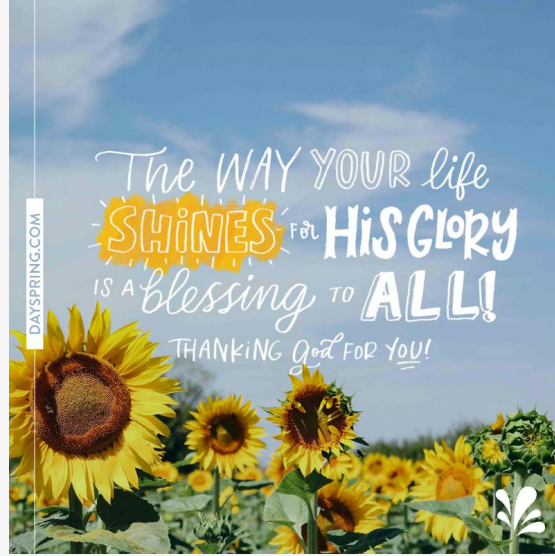
The **Machias** Church. **Cindy Hull**, her husband Vince and their family.

November 4

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

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.



**October is Pastor Appreciation Month!
Please find ways to recognize,
thank God for and
celebrate the ministry of your pastor this month!**

NEW - 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.



A Training of Trainers in the Cornerstone District has been POSTPONED. Stay tuned for information about getting this rescheduled!

NEW - Dinner to Benefit Missions Fund

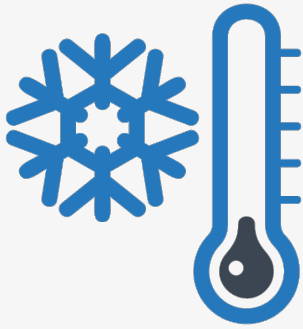
The cooks at **Little Valley United Methodist Church**, 109 Court St., invite you to come out for a Chicken & Biscuit Dinner on **Saturday, October 20**, at the church.

For a donation to the church's Mission Fund, diners will receive the main course along with salad, beverage and dessert. Food will be served from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Take out will be available.



NEW - Helping Folks Stay Warm

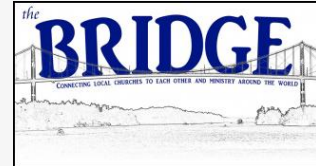
Edwards Chapel United Methodist Church, 9227 Cherry Hill Rd. in Clymer, is offering a **Cold Weather Closet** to help any community member stay warm this winter. The closet offers free gently used winter items: coats, hats, scarves, gloves & boots.



The closet is open from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on **October 27, 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.

NEW - Make Copies of The Bridge!

The **October Issue II** 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 a story about an Upper New York (UNY) Conference medical mission trip to Puerto Rico, an article explaining how folks can respond to the needs of residents affected by Hurricane Michael, as well information about a UNY disaster relief mission trip to North Carolina.



Chicken & Biscuit Dinner

The **Cherry Creek/Leon United Methodist Church**, 6813 Main St., will hold a Chicken & Biscuit Dinner from 4:30 p.m to ? on **Saturday, October 20**.

Cost is a donation (\$10 adult, \$5 child) with family pricing available. Meal includes beverage and homemade desserts.

"Psalmody" at Conewango Valley UMC

All are invited to join with the congregation of **Conewango Valley United Methodist Church**, 5517 Church St., to hear the voices of Psalmody, a group of Christian women, at **2 p.m. Sunday, October 21**.

Celebrate Laity!

Laity Sunday is a special Sunday established by the General Conference to be observed on the third Sunday of October (this year, **October 21, 2018**). Laity Sunday focuses on the celebration of the ministry of all lay Christians.



Click [here](#) for a Laity Sunday 2018: Overview.

A downloadable brochure about Laity Sunday is available [here](#).



Holiday Faire at Lakewood

A Holiday Faire for all ages will be held **Saturday, October 27**, from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the **Lakewood United Methodist Church**, 164 Shadyside Ave.

The Faire will include many wonderful vendors and their hand-crafted items for sale, plus a delicious luncheon offered from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The luncheon will include tasty soups, delectable sandwiches, and pie in variety! There will be a small emporium area of quality used items as well.

There is ample parking and the church is fully handicapped accessible: a ramp at the south end of the building and an elevator to take folks to the fellowship hall, where the majority of vendor booths and the kitchen are located.

For questions or directions, please call the church office, 716-763-9345.

A Few Words About Background Checks

All clergy in any active status or relationship with the UNY Conference whose appointment is set or approved by the bishop, every person serving as a supply pastor (assigned by the district superintendent) and retired clergy performing ministerial functions are required to have a background check every two years.

As part of UNY's Safe Sanctuaries policy, **laity** - paid workers and volunteers who have regular and direct contact with children, youth and vulnerable adults - also are required to have a background check every two years.

Please download [this document](#) for information and instructions related to Church Mutual's Trusted Employees background check service.

Opportunity to Meet with UNY Delegation

The **Upper New York (UNY) delegation** that will attend the Special Session of General Conference in 2019 from February 23-26 will be gathering at the United Methodist Center in Liverpool, on **Saturday, October 27**. Click here to learn more about the UNY delegates.

If you would like time to meet with the UNY delegation before the Special Session, please contact the Rev. Bill Allen at billallen@bpumc.com to schedule a time during their October 27 meeting.

DON'T MISS IT - Fall Gathering with Bishop

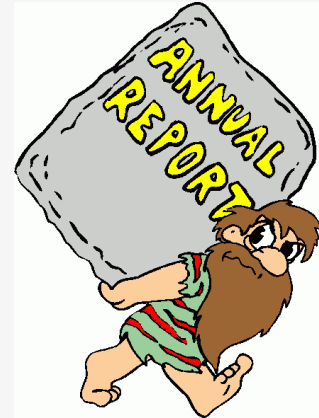
On Sunday, **October 28**, Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb will host a gathering at **Wellsville First UMC, 79 Madison St.**, in preparation for Special Session of General Conference to talk about **Commission on a Way Forward for**



Pastors, please make sure that your congregations are aware of these opportunities and make plans to carpool or caravan to the **October 28** gathering.

NEW - Online Reports

In addition to the reports that churches are required to submit for 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.

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.



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

Retreat for Deacons Planned

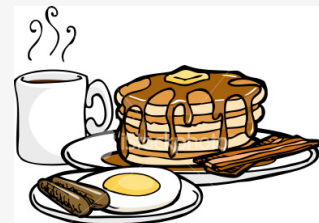
A retreat for **Deacons** and for anyone who may be in process or discerning a call to becoming a Deacon has been planned **November 7 and 8** at the **UNY Conference Center**, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd., Liverpool.

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.

NEW - 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.**

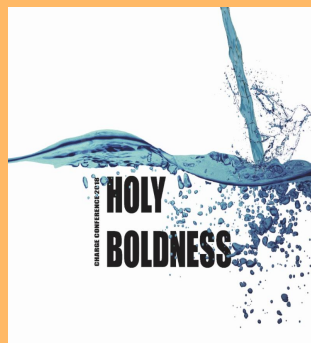
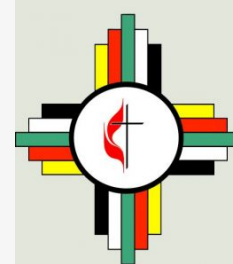


Cost is \$7 for pancakes, sausage, bacon, made-to-order eggs & omelets, home fries, biscuits & sausage gravy, orange juice & coffee.

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



2018 Church/Charge Conference Schedule

Please **mark your calendar** with the date and time for your church's annual meeting with District Superintendent Sherri Rood. Please invite not only your church leadership (Ad Council chair, committee chairs, lay leader, etc.) but any member of the congregation who is interested to participate!

Click [here](#) to download the 2018 Church/Charge Conference schedule.

Please remember to submit forms no later than two weeks prior to your church's meeting!



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.

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.



1. **Develop a ministry plan for your church.** Join Craig Kennet Miller from Discipleship Ministries for a **two-part webinar** on Developing Your Ministry Plan. The webinars come with a downloadable study guide and material to enable your church team to build an effective strategy for ministry. For more information and to register for Plan 1 at **11 a.m. EDT on October 23**, go to <https://bit.ly/2NhulGO>. For the Plan 2 webinar at **11 a.m. EDT on October 30**, go to <https://bit.ly/2xWkem5>. Both events will be available later at the webinar archive here.

2. **Approach your church's 'mission field' like a missionary.** The

book, **A Missionary Mindset: What Church Leaders Need to Know to Reach Their Community**, helps local congregations make better bridges of love and understanding in their neighborhoods. Douglas Ruffle of New Church Starts (Path 1) at Discipleship Ministries outlines how to use the same principles of E. Stanley Jones, who served in India among Muslims, Hindus and persons from many other faith traditions. The book is available in both English and Spanish from The Upper Room Bookstore [here](#).

3. Plan to help struggling people during the Christmas season.

Not all Christmases are white - some are blue, especially for those who are grieving or experiencing other struggles. Prepare to offer hope and healing through a "Blue Christmas" or "Longest Night" worship service this holiday season. The Upper Room invites you to lift up any darkness to the God of Light by sharing an online Blue Christmas video prayer service with members of your congregation. Go to <https://bit.ly/2OvXyT2>.

4. Apply for the Holy Land Discernment Pilgrimage for young adults.

This pilgrimage on August 4-14, 2019, will help young United Methodist leaders ages 18-35 understand conflict and discern their calling. One participant from each jurisdiction or central conference will be chosen to participate. The pilgrimage is being organized by Young People's Ministries at Discipleship Ministries and supported by the Young Clergy Initiative of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Applications will be accepted until **November 9, 2018**. To learn more about the event and how to apply, go to <https://bit.ly/2NiJwq>.

5. Delve deep into the traditions of Christmas.

Who came up with the idea of using nativity scenes during Christmas? Author Larry Peacock's book, **The Living Nativity: Preparing for Christmas with Saint Francis**, will help your group answer this question and others about Christmas traditions. The book offers a prayer, meditation and reflection questions for each day of Advent and a leader's guide that includes suggestions for worship, group discussion questions and a mini-retreat. To order, to go <https://bit.ly/2zMwJSy>.



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.

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](#).



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

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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