

Why just a reminder and you are 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 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.

November 11

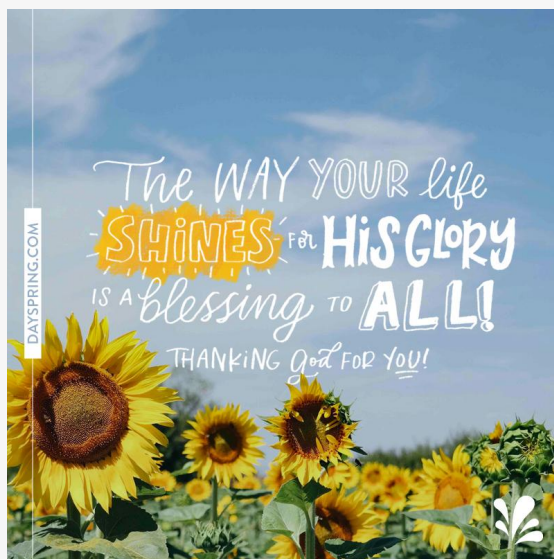
The **Ripley** and **South Ripley** Churches. **Pastor Becky Ward** and her family.

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.

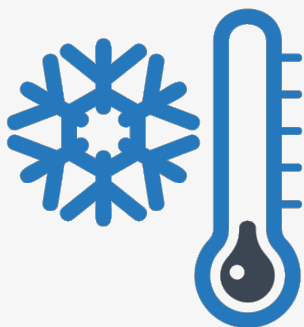
Also be in prayer for all who are in need of physical healing, burdened by stress, living with grief, and more.



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

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.



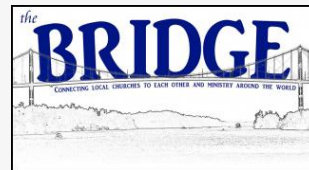
Helping Folks Stay Warm

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 **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.

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.



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.

NEW - Festivities at Christ First

The Buffalo Street parking lot at **Christ First United Methodist Church** in Jamestown will be the scene for games and prizes, music, popcorn and of course, candy, when the church hosts

Trunk or Treat from **6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** on **Wednesday, October 31**.



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.



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.



DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

General Board of Discipleship

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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,

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.

Online Reports

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.



NEW!

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.



**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.

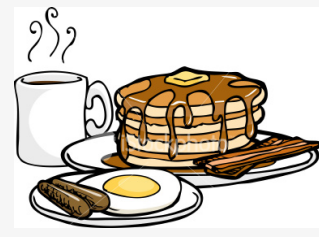
Click [here](#) for the announcement for the retreat which includes a link to the online registration.

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.

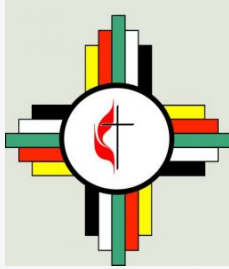
Monthly Breakfast at Ripley

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.**



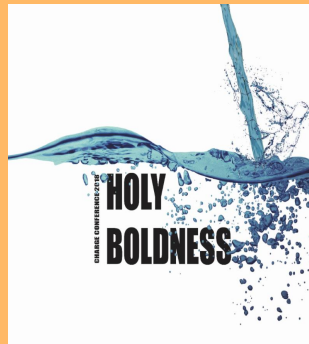
Cost is \$7 for pancakes, sausage, bacon, made-to-order eggs & omelets, home fries, biscuits & sausage gravy, orange juice & coffee.

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



2018 Church/Charge Conference Schedule

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!

NEW - 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



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.

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.



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](#).



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