

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 7

The **Forestville** Church. **Pastor Jim Hankey**, his wife Andra and their family.

October 14

The **Hinsdale** and **Ischua Union** Churches. **Pastor Dennis Stack**, his wife Kim and their family.

October 21

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

Please be in prayer for the family of **Janice Trudnowski**, who died September 25, 2018. Her funeral was held October 2 at St. John's Lutheran Church in West Seneca, NY.

Pattie and **Johnnie Lukaszewski** of Cherry Creek lost their home to fire on Monday, September 25. Please be in prayer for them in the days and

weeks ahead.

The extent of the damage caused by **Hurricane Florence** to North and South Carolina is still unknown, leaving parts of both states in crisis. Many families are now without power, homes, and some even lost their life. **Upper New York Director of Missional Engagement, Mike Block**, says there's a need for help. [Click here](#) to read the full response and what you can do to help today.

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 - Upcoming Trainings

Fayetteville United Methodist Church

(Crossroads District), 601 E. Genesee St., will be the site of two UNY Safe Sanctuaries trainings on **Saturday, October 20**.



The **Basic Safe Sanctuaries** training will be offered from **9 a.m. to 12 noon**. Class size is limited to 40 participants.

The Basic training is required before taking UNY's **Safe Sanctuaries Training of Trainers**, which will be offered from **1 p.m. to 4 p.m.** the same day. Class size is limited to 15 with preference given to those willing to serve on their District's Safe Sanctuaries training team.

Please see the attached [flyer](#) for more information and instructions on how to register.

Also, watch this newsletter for information about a dual training day in the **Cornerstone-Mountainview** area on **December 1**.



DON'T MISS IT - Fall Gathering with Bishop

This fall, Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb is hosting six gatherings around the Conference in preparation for Special Session of General Conference to talk about **Commission on a Way Forward for The United Methodist Church**.

We in the Cornerstone District are fortunate to have **two options** to hear Bishop Webb talk about A Way Forward: with our sisters and brothers in the Niagara Frontier District on **Sunday, October 14** at **Clarence UMC, 10205 Greiner Rd. in Clarence, NY**, or with our sisters and brothers in the Mountain View District on **Sunday, October 28** at **Wellsville First UMC, 79 Madison St. in Wellsville, NY**.

The regional gatherings will include a presentation of the plan and process of General Conference, a time to remember our mission, and worship

and prayer.

Pastors, please make sure that your congregations are aware of this opportunity and make plans to carpool or caravan to the **October 14** or **October 28** gathering.

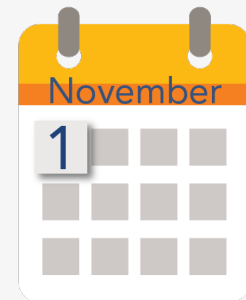
Opportunity to Meet with UNY Delegation

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.

NEW - Forms Due by November 1

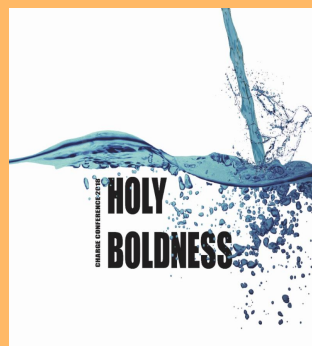
Three very important forms are due in the District Office **no later than Thursday, November 1: Form 16**, the Pastor's Appointment Advisory Form; **Form 17**, the S/PPRC Appointment Advisory Form; and **Form 18**, the Pastor-S/PPRC Covenant Form.



These online forms are found at www.uny.umconline.org. 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.

The information shared on these forms are important for Sherri to have as she prepares for the Cabinet's Appointive Retreat the first week in December. It's hoped that the forms encourage open conversation between pastors and S/PPRCs as they prepare and share these forms together.

If you have any questions, please call or email the District Office.



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!

Sunday, November 4

1 p.m. at Belfast UMC (Belfast, Caneadea, Centerville, Friends in Christ, Rushford)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than October 22.**

Monday, November 5

7 p.m. at Cuba UMC (Cuba, Friendship, Machias, River's Edge)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than October 22.**

Tuesday, November 6

7 p.m. at Findley Lake UMC (Clymer, Edwards Chapel, Findley Lake, North Clymer, Ripley, South Ripley, Watts Flats)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than October 23.**

Wednesday, November 7

7 p.m. at East Randolph UMC (East Randolph, Great Valley, Little Valley, Napoli, Steamburg)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than October 24.**

Thursday, November 8

7 p.m. at St. Paul's UMC in West Valley (Delevan and St. Paul's)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than October 25.**

Sunday, November 11

11:15 a.m. at Christ UMC in Olean

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than October 29.**

Sunday, November 11

3 p.m. at Trinity UMC in Olean (Hinsdale, Ischua Union, Limestone, Knapp Creek and Trinity)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than October 29.**

Thursday, November 15

7 p.m. at Brocton Tri-Church Parish (Brocton Tri-Church Parish, Dunkirk 1st, Forestville, Fredonia 1st, Laona Emmanuel and Sheridan)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 1.**

Sunday, November 18

Following worship at Bemus Point UMC

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 5.**

Sunday, November 18

7 p.m. at Lakewood UMC (Ashville, Celoron, Lakewood, Magnolia, North Harmony and Open Meadows)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 5.**

Monday, November 19

7 p.m. at East Otto UMC (Cherry Creek-Leon, Conewango Valley, East Otto, Hamlet, South Dayton and Wesley)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 5.**

Tuesday, November 20

7 p.m. at Westfield 1st UMC (Dewittville-Hartfield, Hurlbut Memorial, Mayville 1st and Westfield 1st)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 6.**

Monday, November 26

7 p.m. at Christ First UMC in Jamestown

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 12.**

Tuesday, November 27

7 p.m. at Park UMC in Sinclairville (Charlotte Center, Ellington, Falconer, Gerry, Pleasant Valley and Park)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 13.**

Wednesday, November 28

7 p.m. at Trinity UMC in Frewsburg (Busti, Camp Street, Fentonville, Kennedy 1st, Trinity and Wheeler Hill)

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 14.**

Tuesday, December 11

6:30 p.m. at Panama UMC

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 27.**

Wednesday, December 12

7 p.m. at Kidder Memorial UMC

*Reports are due in the District Office **no later than November 28.**

If you have any questions or have trouble accessing the reports, please call 716-665-2423 or email cornerstonedistrict@unyumc.org.



NEW - 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.

Need is Urgent!

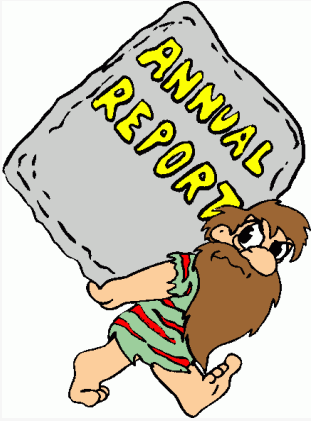
UNY Mission Central HUB is in great need of **UMCOR cleaning kit supplies** and help assembling and verifying buckets. While some of these buckets are used to help our own area, they're also used around the world.



According to Mike Block, Director of Missional Engagement, and Joe

Auslander, UNY Conference Disaster Response Coordinator, warehouse contents are limited, and help is critical at this time.

Click [here](#) for a list of UMCOR certified supplies used in cleaning kits and click [here](#) for your closest drop-off location. If you or a few friends can help assemble kits in the very near future at the UNY Mission Central HUB, please contact Mike Block at (315) 898-2066 or mikeblock@unyumc.org.



More About Reports

First things first: Review the [2018-19 Annual Report Form Check List](#). It may be helpful to look at Form 14. Church/Charge Conference Minutes. The meeting will follow this form, which, along with Form 15 (Church/Charge Conference Sign-In Sheet) will be provided for you at the meeting.

Action items are **1. Pastoral Compensation for 2019** (Forms 1, 1a and 1b); **2a. Lay Leadership/Elections - Trustees** (Form 2) and **2c. Election of Lay Leadership** (Form 2a - your

church's format).

Items 3-5 (Forms 3-6) are submitted/acted on as applicable to your church along with Other Business Items: 1. Acceptance of Bequest or Other Gifts (Form 7), 2. Removal of Members from the Rolls and 3. Other Business Items.

Other items for approval are the **2017 Audit** and the **2017 Church/Charge Conference Minutes** (8 on the Check List). You should have both documents on file as part of the 2017 Church/Charge Conference.

The final portion of the meeting is recording Reports Received. Corresponding forms are 9, 9a, 10, 11 and 12. Please note that as long as the church owns the home, Form 10 Parsonage Inspection & Committee Report is required regardless of whether or not the clergy family lives there.

Thank you in advance for preparing and submitting these forms **two weeks prior to your scheduled church conference**. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email the District Office.

**PASTORS -
Register online for Pre-Advent Retreat
November 13-14 at Asbury Camp & Retreat
Center.**

**www.cornerstonedistrict.com/Resources/2018-19
Information for Pastors
Click [here](#) for flyer.**



World Communion Sunday

On World Communion **Sunday, October 7**, the denomination will offer generous support to national and international students who rely on scholarships to pursue graduate-level education. Download tools (including social media tools, graphics, videos, bulletin inserts, offering talks, preaching helps and more) to encourage your congregation to empower students who are following God's call.



Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!

September 15-October 15 is designated as **Hispanic Heritage Month** in The United Methodist Church, giving local congregations the opportunity to celebrate the importance and contributions of the Hispanic culture in worship.

United Methodist publications are rich in musical resources that may be included throughout the year, but especially during this month. To learn more, go to <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/celebrating-hispanic-heritage-month-1>.



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.

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](#).

DON'T FORGET - Collection for Red Bird

Robert Ebert has volunteered to coordinate the drop-off of shoeboxes for Red Bird Mission.

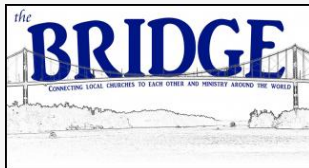
Ripley United Methodist Church, 84 W. Main St., will be the drop-off site. **Drop-offs must be scheduled by calling Bob**, 716-951-2192.



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.



Make Copies of The Bridge!

The **September 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 young person Rachel John's reflection of the Global Young People's Convocation she attended this summer in Johannesburg, South Africa. This issue also celebrates the annual Upper New York United Methodist Men's Retreat that for the first-time welcomed women and children as well. Additionally, this issue features the urgent need for UMCOR cleaning kits (flood buckets) at the Upper New York Mission Central HUB.

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.

Concert with Brent Vernon & Sam

Brocton Tri-Church Parish, 41 E. Main St., will welcome

Brent Vernon and Sam from Hobe Sound, FL, for a concert of Gospel songs at **7:30 p.m. Friday, October 12.**

Brent is a gifted singer, songwriter, pianist, ventriloquist and children's book author. He has a heart for God and uses his talents to minister to others.

The Brocton Tri-Church congregation invites the community to join them for this special event.



Click [here](#) for poster for Ripley UMC's October 13 All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast.



Leadership Development - Evaluating Ministry Leaders & Building New Leadership Teams

DATE RECORDED: **Tuesday, October 9, 2018**

DURATION: 60 min

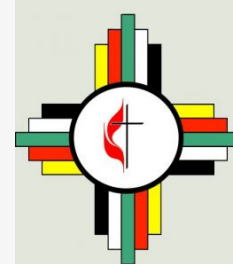
PRESENTER: Jacqui King, Director, Leadership for Congregational Vitality

Was the year so full of planning that you missed time for reflective thinking and Sabbath? How should your leaders evaluate, prepare, pray, and develop ministry action plans for the upcoming year? Focusing on building and transforming small groups, this webinar will share insights about moving forward with implementing healthy annual learning schedules that promote increasing spiritual practices to support leadership development, small groups, and community mission experiences.

Click [here](#) to register.

2018 Native American Festivals

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



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

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