

THE MOUNTAIN VIEW-POINT
In the Midst of Mountains...
On the Forefront of Disciple-Making
March 11, 2010

The times, they are a changing....

Good Thursday to you! Somehow that doesn't sound right, but I'm not sure you will be reading this in the morning or afternoon.

As I have traversed the conferences and districts through these past few weeks I have noticed that some of us are responding to the upcoming conference and perhaps district changes in ways that we have often struggled with in other people's behavior at times.

That's not the way we do it. Why can't we all do it the way our conference does it?

These are not whining words, they are words of anxiety. For many pastors, it might be a good check up from the neck up because our congregations often get anxious when we feel the need to bring about change in our local churches, and we don't always understand why people don't just jump on board right away. They say things like, "we've never done it that way before."

Yesterday the District Trustees met, and we always enjoy one another's company, it's a good, no great, group of colleagues. They have honored and respected, cared for and helped to preserve ministries in the district, whether through the creation of our District Office (the best one I think) or the investments that pay for things like camp scholarships or church development. They are good stewards and good people, and we laugh together as well as work together.

Our conference, WNY, is the only one in the bunch that will become the new conference, that has district trustees. Did you know that? You probably hadn't given it much thought. After all, we get to be pretty certain that everyone else does it the way we do it. I found myself in the midst of a conversation, myself included, that used terms like them and us, we and they. At one point I clarified and said, "wait a minute, we are they and they are we!!" We laughed about it, and there were both wise words of faith and anxious words of letting go.

"Mountain View Money" becomes a part of the new Annual Conference money. Hmmm, how does that make us feel? I can remember a church where the trustees tithed to the current expense budget, and there was trustee's money and church money. What's wrong with that statement? Remember the words of Paul, spoken so often throughout the epistles, let us be of one mind, let us take on the mind of Christ who is our savior, let us consider ourselves the body of Christ, every part dependent on the others.

The mission of the United Methodist Church is the same in the new conference as in our existing conference, "Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Soooo, when we speak in our local churches about it not being our money, but God's as is everything we have. Then wouldn't it be the same as we walk across this bridge into the new annual conference? The leaders of this new annual conference, they are you and I. Their mission and vision is what we all proclaim and say we believe. They might have names you don't know, and their offices might be someplace you haven't been, but they are us! We are connected, a connectional church, a connectional denomination. We are connected in our common faith in the grace of God, given to us as a gift, through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Worrying today won't make tomorrow different. Living into our faith today, living into the possibilities...that will make tomorrow different.

New conference lines, new district lines, at the end of the day will that rob you or your ministry of purpose or value?

If your neighbor church becomes a part of a different district, it doesn't take that church or pastor and move them someplace else, does it? They will still be there, your neighbors. Or maybe the neighbor church will become a part of your district....hmmm some new possibilities there!

Our ministry, our mission, our vision- from the Bishop to the teeniest tiniest church, we are one. As for me and my house? We will continue to serve the Lord as we are called, and serving the Lord with a new name or new neighbors, well, that just makes the serving all the richer and the neighbors all the more.

You will not be lost.
You will not become invisible.
You will not lose your purpose.
You are not out there on your own.

From the prophets to the disciples, from John Wesley to you and I, we look into the face of change and adversity and know, without a doubt that God will be our strength, that Jesus Christ will be our Savior, and the Holy Spirit will help us to prevail as messengers of the gospel.

We have stood the test of time, now let us rise this sleeping giant called the United Methodist Church and proclaim that it is good!

Cathy

DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

MAR. 12 R-SPACE Youth Center 7 to 9 PM – Taco/Fiesta Night
MAR. 13 UMM Youth Honors Banquet – Houghton College
MAR. 26 R-SPACE Youth Center 7 to 9 PM – Glow Bowling Night

CATHY'S CALENDAR

MAR. 11 Communion and Conversation – Machias UMC 10 a.m.
MAR. 12-13 Teaching Course of Study
MAR. 13 UMM Youth Honors Banquet – Houghton College
MAR. 14 Canisteo – Worship
MAR. 15 Andover/Greenwood PPRC
MAR. 16 DCOS Meeting – District Office Conference Room
MAR. 18 Cabinet Meeting

SAVE THE DATES MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY 2010 DATES FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE – PASTOR'S PLEASE PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR AND DO NOT PLAN WEDDINGS OR OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES FOR THESE DATES

NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE for Pre-Conference Briefings. You will need to attend one.

Saturday 5/15/10

9:30-noon – Oneida St Paul's UMC

3:00-5:30 pm – Gouverneur UMC

Sunday 5/16/10

3:00-5:30pm – Elmira: New Beginnings UMC

Saturday 5/22/10

9:30-noon – Olean: Christ UMC

3:00-5:30pm – Henrietta: Faith UMC

JUNE 4 (Friday) Clergy Session and 6 pm Memorial Service at Asbury First

JUNE 4 (Friday) Laity Session is at Covenant UMC, 1124 Culver Road, Rochester, NY 14609 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

JUNE 5 (Saturday) Annual Conference (One day session to bring us to a close) Asbury First, Rochester

JUNE 19 (Saturday) Uniting Service of Four Annual Conferences (On Center Syracuse) 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 11 (Saturday) Adjourned Session of Annual Conference and Uniting Worship Service (Empire State Plaza Albany) 9 a.m to 4 p.m.

NEW: Buses: I have a bus arranged for us for June 19 to go to Syracuse. We will be leaving from Olean with a pickup in Hornell. It will be a Motor Coach that will seat 55 people. If we get more than 55 people sign up we will look into a second bus. We will not stop for breakfast (you might have a couple minutes to grab something in Hornell) but we will stop on the way home on the Thruway for dinner. The cost per person is \$30.00 for the bus and then your money for your meal(s). Remember: This is the cost if we have all 55 seats taken!! I will let you know of the exact pick-up times now that I have received word from the Bishop's office of the start time and end time on the 19th. If you are interested in taking the bus please send your check for \$30.00 to: The Mountain View District Office, 1801 West State St., Olean, NY 14760 by June 1.

We will also provide a bus to Albany for the meeting on September 11th so watch for the details in the coming months for those arrangements.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

The Western New York Conference regrets to inform you that Mrs. Marjorie Calkins died Saturday, March 6, 2010. She was 93 years old. She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years the Rev. William S. Calkins, Jr. Rev. Calkins served pastorates in the New Jersey Conference, Genesee Conference and the WNY Conference for close to 40 years. The Calkins served WNY Conference at Gainesville, North Gainesville, Olean: People's, Allegany, Bolivar, Perry, Elmgrove, Rochester: West Avenue, Millville, Friendship, Sardinia, Garwoods, Swain, and Belmont. Calling hours are Friday, March 12 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Eaton-Watson Funeral Home, 98 North Main Street, Perry, NY. A funeral service will be held Saturday, March 13 at Perry: First UMC, 35 Covington St., Perry, NY at 2:00 pm with the Revs. Doug Wilson and Wilson Jones officiating. The Committal will be at the Irondequoit Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to William Calkins III, 2821 Puccini Place, Tucson, AZ 85741.

Pastor Tim Middleton would like you to please keep his wife, Connie, in prayer as she continues her treatments for Breast Cancer.

An update on my cousin Wendy who was in the motorcycle accident . . . she had the halo removed from her head and appears to have healed well in her upper spinal column. She is now starting to do rehab for her legs to see if they can get any motion below the waist. Please pray that she will heal more than is expected. Thanks, Bill Allen

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES FOR HAVING ALL REPORTS IN TO OUR OFFICE: Arcade, Dalton, Machias, Nunda, Olean: Christ, West Sparta, Wellsville, Centerville, Rushford, Holland, Olean: Trinity, Hornell, Allentown, Friends in Christ, Alfred, Belfast, Caneadea, Cuba

NEW: PHOTOS FOR UPPER NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Churches are invited to send photos for Upper New York Annual Conference session. Send a photo capturing a moment in the life and ministry of your congregation – be creative! Include as many people as possible, in an activity or setting that expresses your ministry!

E-mail photos to Sandy Brands, Communicator in Troy Conference: sbrands@troyac.org. Photos should be of at least "medium" resolution. Include contact information including e-mail and phone, and the name of the church. Photos will be used on the web and at conference gatherings – share the life of your congregation with your sisters and brothers of Upper New York.

NEW UPPER ROOM CONNECTION

Make sure you read the **March/April** issue of the [Upper Room Devotional Magazine](#). It has a devotional in it written by Rev. Craig Gommer, Pastor of Tunkhannock UMC. He wrote it about a year ago for the Trucksville UMC Lenten devotional. Also featured is Carolyn Rickman, a member of Hilton UMC, on March 23, 2010.

NEW FROM THE RESOURCE CENTER:

DID YOU KNOW?

Churches of the WNY Conference can order resources from the North Central NY Conference, Troy Conference and Wyoming Conference in addition to the WNY Conference Resource Center?

Here are the links:

WNY CONFERENCE

http://www.wnyumc.org/resource_find.asp

Email resource@wnyumc.org

TROY CONFERENCE

http://www.troyac.org/resource_find.asp

Email wallyd@troyac.org

NORTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

http://www.ncnyumc.org/resource_ctr.html

Email conferencemail@ncnyumc.org

WYOMING CONFERENCE

<http://www.wyomingconference.org/pages/detail/971>

Email dalexander@wyomingconference.org

NEW! PRAYER EVENT WITH REV. DR. ROY MILLER

Want to boost the best of your prayer ministry and feel empowered personally to offer other possibilities?

so much to pray about in our churches, for our new conference and in the world - prayer can make a difference!

Trinity UMC, Grand Island, opens their doors and hearts to all, April 17-18 for an inspirational prayer event with rev. Dr. Roy Miller. He leads in worship, teaching and interactive prayer experiences to help individuals and churches "discern their call to prayer ministry". As founder of "the better place inc.", prayer and retreat ministries in Jamestown following his 22 years in parish ministry and 6 as a district superintendent, he is well equipped to know um churches of every size. As speaker and instructor in a five state area, Roy brings deep prayer experience, wisdom and a warm, upbeat presentational style.

Saturday: will have opening worship, 4 teaching segments, breaks for prayer and discussion and light breakfast and lunch. Start time is 8:30 till 3:30 closing.

Sunday: Dr. Miller will be preaching at the 8, 9. And 10:30 services. Check the March transitions newspaper, and trinity's web site, www.gitumc.org, for full registration info and the easy directions to find the church, which has accessible, one floor meeting space. Child care is available. Registration covers meals, printed materials for the day and child care, if needed. Adults, \$15, \$25 for a family, youth \$5, 1 adult free with 4 purchased from one church.

Trinity UMC, 2100 Whitehaven Rd., (box 38), Grand Island, NY, 14072, 716-773-3322, registration deadline April 12

NEW: CAMP ASBURY WORK DAY Camp Asbury is having its Spring Work Day on Saturday, May 1 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Churches can earn overnight credits for their youth groups to have a retreat. They can get more details from me at Camp Asbury. Please let me know how many are coming from your church so that we can provide lunch. Bring rakes, gloves, outdoor working tools.

Thanks.

Larry Wiliford

YOU MAY BE ON THE MOVE!!

WHAT: Managing Transition in a Spiritual Community

WHEN: March 25th, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Clifton Springs UMC, 1 East Main St., Clifton Springs NY

This is an event that is for clergy and spouses, or anyone who is at least in their teens and affected by a possible pastoral change.

Many pastors will not know if they are moving by March 25 but a number of you are either changing status or have indicated a desire to move, so if you fit either of these categories your attendance at this event would be helpful for you.

You have received the brochure via e-mail. You can register by e-mailing or calling the Mountain View District Office.

WYOMING CONFERENCE LOCAL PASTOR LICENSING SCHOOL

The Wyoming Conference will be doing a Local Pastors Licensing School Sunday Evening April 18-Friday Afternoon April 23, 2010 and also Sunday evening May 2- Friday afternoon May 7, 2010. A copy of the brochure is attached to this email.

ORDER OF ELDERS TO MEET

Bishop Marcus Matthews will convene the Western New York Annual Conference Order of Elders following the retirement luncheon scheduled for **May 20**. The exact time and place will be announced later, but all ordained Elders serving in the Conference are asked to please hold the afternoon for the gathering. Thank you.

Rev. J. Paul Womack, Dean
Pastor, Hurlbut Memorial Community Church PO Box 33 Chautauqua, NY 14722

UNITED METHODIST COMMUNICATIONS ANNOUNCES INFOSERV CHANGE

NASHVILLE: InfoServ, the official information service of The United Methodist Church, will become exclusively an e-mail and online information service effective April 1, 2010. At that time, telephone support services will be discontinued.

InfoServ is a ministry of United Methodist Communications, which announced in August some program and staff reductions in response to a growing budget deficit and a restructuring plan.

"In these challenging economic times, we must find ways to continue providing high-quality service in a more cost effective manner," said the Rev. Larry Hollon, chief executive of United Methodist Communications. "Telephone calls to InfoServ have been decreasing over the past couple of years as more people take advantage of the Web or use e-mail to request information. We're committed to continuing to provide answers quickly and accurately, but technology allows us to do so more economically."

Customers will be able to submit questions via e-mail at infoserv@umcom.org. Answers to the most frequently asked questions are also available online at www.infoserv.umc.org. In addition, other customer-friendly options such as live chat and leaving a callback number will be explored during the transition period. Depending on the demand, some limited hours for telephone availability may be offered after April 1.

REGISTRATION FORM NOW AVAILABLE FOR LEONARD SWEET: "AWAKENING TO THE GOD WHO IS ALREADY THERE" MAY 1ST

The Evangelism Ministry Team of the WNY Conference is now accepting registrations for the Leonard Sweet seminar on Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 10am to 4:30 pm at Faith United Methodist Church, Pittsford, NY. To download a registration form go to:

http://wny.brickriver.com/files/oEvent_Calendar_EUXQLB/EMT

WE NEED YOUR HELPING HANDS! MORE PRECISELY, YOUR HAND PRINTS!

The Worship Team for the Founding Conference to be held in Syracuse on June 19, has designed an opening celebration that will incorporate colored hand prints from across the entire Upper New York Area. Here's what you can do to help us:

Make your hand print with finger paint or tempa paint on plain white paper. Young and old alike are needed. Use your imagination when it comes to color combinations and the shape of the imprint from your hand--open palm, front of hand, back of hand, closed fist. Each 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of paper should have only the number of hand prints on it that do not touch or overlap. The handprints will be separated for...we'll you'll just have to come to conference to find out.

We would like as many hand prints from as many people and as many different churches as possible, remembering "many hands make light work" and in this case, many hand prints will make for a brighter celebration. There will be opportunities at upcoming pre-conference briefings for those in attendance to make hand prints at that time.

Mail your hand prints to Rev. Richard Sivers, First UMC, 144 Cedar St., Corning, NY 14830. Please DO NOT fold your papers to avoid creases, chipping and cracking. All hand prints should be received by Rev. Sivers on or before June 10. If you have any questions, you can email Rick at fumchchurch@stny.rr.com.

Make sure you have a hand in this monumental celebration as we become one new conference together.

MISSIONINSITE READY FOR UPPER NEW YORK AREA CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT!

Dear Pastors and Church Leaders,

You may have heard that the Upper New York Area has been working to get Mission Insite up and functioning. Mission Insite is a web based demographics provider that you can use from your local computer. As we plan ministry it is important to know the context of that ministry. Mission Insite provides demographic data that is updated on a regular basis and reports that are user friendly to the novice or experienced demographer. The reports are free to the local church because the Annual Conferences is under contract with Mission Insite. But in order to access the website you will need to register your local church. The attachments provide instruction for you to register and establish the user name and password for your local church. Rev. Lauren Swanson and myself are designated administrators for this site and so if you have problems you can call Michelle Saxon at Mission Insite or either of us. Our contact information is:

Rev. Dr. Ronald Isaman at 716-397-9993 or email ronisaman@wnyumc.org.

Rev. Lauren Swanson at 315-420-8852 or email lauren@ncnyumc.org

A website has been set up for you to access this information. Please go to:
<http://wnysite.brickriver.com/page.asp?PKValue=1251>

LISTENING SESSIONS PLANNED

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Western New York Board of Laity invites all laity in leadership roles to be a part of "**Stirring up the Gift.**" As all of our brothers and sisters have a part to play in fulfilling God's mission, we seek to be in conversation with all laity in leadership about how the new conference can help you achieve those goals. We look to celebrate your successes, answer your questions, and assist your ministries in any way we can. Many challenges are before us, but none is greater than the God we serve. Please come and share how the connection can bless you as you fulfill Christ's call.

The scheduled dates for listening sessions throughout the WNY Conference are as follows:

March 20, Sat 9-12 Noon @ Sinclairville UMC
March 23 Tues 7-9 PM @ Emmanuel UMC in Rochester

For more information contact Scott Johnson at JOHNSOSL@BuffaloState.edu

DISTRICT DAYS

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION REGARDING THE UPPER NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE SHARED MINISTRIES, CLERGY BENEFITS (PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE), AND CLERGY MINIMUM COMPENSATION LEVELS

If you were not able to attend the District Days in the Mountain View District you can attend one of the two held in March.

Cornerstone District's is March 15 at Christ First UMC, 633 Lakeview Ave., Jamestown 14701 (starting time is 9:00 a.m.)

Genesee Valley District's is March 16 at Victor UMC, 106 East Main St., Victor 14564. (starting time is 9:00 a.m.)

If you have questions feel free to give the District Office a call.

4WORD 2010

The 6th Annual event for the youth in grades 7-12 of North Central NY, Troy, Western NY, and Wyoming Conferences! Bring your youth group to praise God and form new friendships!

WHERE? Holiday Inn, Liverpool, NY (Syracuse)

WHEN? April 23-25, 2010

SPEAKERS: Youth . . . from each conference

Registrations must be postmarked by April 9, 2010. To download a registration form or for more information go to: http://wny.brickriver.com/files/oEvent_Calendar_EUXQLB/4WORD_Registration

CHANGE THE WORLD - APRIL 24-25, 2010

What if...on one weekend all around the world, 11 million United Methodists came together to work with their local communities? What if...as we serve people locally, we unite globally to eliminate a preventable, treatable disease that kills one child every 30 seconds?

On April 24 and 25th, your congregation is invited to participate in Change the World, an event that will reveal the many ways that faithful Christians everywhere are serving God.

Getting Started:

Consider how your congregation currently impacts its community. Do you have a food pantry, a clothing closet, an ESL program, a tutoring program, etc.?

Schedule an activity for either an existing or new outreach ministry on either April 24 or 25, 2010.

Invite both your congregation and local community to be involved.

Use the Rethink Church World Malaria Day Sermon Starter coming soon to

(<http://www.rethinkchurch.org/changetheworld>) .

Collect a special offering to combat malaria.

There is one body in Christ and through the United Methodist connection, we can sense its heartbeat in a coordinated event such as Change the World. Go to <http://www.rethinkchurch.org/changetheworld> for more information, or send an email to changetheworld@umcom.org.

GENESEE VALLEY LAY SPEAKING MINISTRY COURSES BEING OFFERED

The Genesee Valley District Lay Speaking Ministries courses that are being sponsored this spring are available for download.

Basic Lay Speaking information go to: http://www.wnyumc.org/event_detail.asp?PKValue=2388

Advanced Lay Speaking information go to: http://www.wnyumc.org/event_detail.asp?PKValue=2389

Registration Deadline is March 16th.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE

The 2010 WNY Annual Conference Registration form will be emailed to all clergy and lay members to Annual Conference under a separate email. Registration is also available on-line by going to:

<http://www.wnyumc.org/annconf2010>. You can also download a printable form to mail in with your payment to the WNY Conference Office from the same link. The registration deadline is April 21, 2010.

THRESHOLDS OF THE SPIRIT: WATER, WIND, RHYTHM & FIRE

A Five Day Academy will be **May 3-7, 2010** at The Trinitarians Retreat Center in Baltimore, MD.

"Thresholds of the Spirit" will follow the Academy rhythm with morning presentations by Dr. Bob Morris on Psalms as Thresholds of the Spirit. In the afternoon we'll be crossing creative thresholds that continue the daily theme, followed by Eucharist and evening options. Evening listening circles will draw us into the intimacy of the Spirit before concluding the day with Night Prayer and entering the Great Silence.

Go to <http://www.upperroom.org/academy/fivedayacademies.asp> for a registration form and brochure.

Save your place and get an early bird discount savings of \$70 by pre-registering before **March 1, 2010**.

Contact Donna Bryant, Coordinator of The Academy for Spiritual Formation, Upper Room Ministries, GBOD - The United Methodist Church, PO Box 340004, Nashville, TN 37203-0004 at dbryant@gbod.org or by calling 877-899-2781 ext. 7233, for more information or to pre-register by phone. All meals and lodging are included in the registration fee.

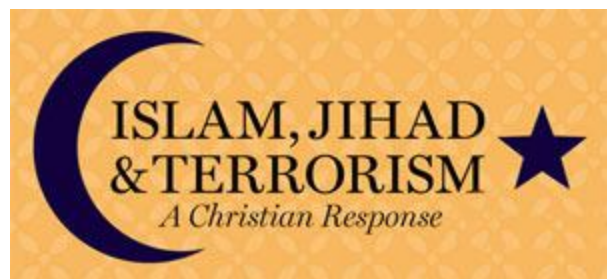
Islam, Jihad & Terrorism – A Christian Response Many Christians are puzzled by the rising profile and influence of Islam across the world and in the United States and Canada. They see much in the news about violence and terror in connection with Muslim extremism and find it disturbing.

It is increasingly common to have friends and family who are involved in the United States presence in Afghanistan and Iraq. Christians suspect there is more to understand about Islam than what they see in news clips or read in brief articles in papers.

Are all Muslims inclined towards terrorism? What is jihad? How should one think about Allah versus the God whom Christians worship? What is our responsibility as Christians in relation to Muslims we meet?

We invite church leaders to a conference at Houghton to consider these questions, on Thursday, March 18, 2010.

Take advantage of the expertise and experience of Houghton faculty and speakers. Strengthen your ability to respond knowledgeably to questions and concerns that arise within your own church family on this important topic.



Islam, Jihad & Terrorism - A Christian Response

Date: Thurs, March 18th, 2010

Time: 8:15 am - 4:30 pm

Find out more and register on the [conference website](#). Sign up by March 1st for our early registration discount!

We hope to see you there!

Office of Church Relations
Houghton College
Houghton, NY 14744
churchrelations@houghton.edu
800-777-2556

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE DAY MARCH 27TH

Bona Responds is having an International Service Day on March 27. Please note that Bona Responds is working with United Methodist churches, and UM members are encouraged to participate.

<http://bonaresponds.org/>

UPDATING OFFICERS FOR 2010

Church Conferences are over – you all have voted on your new slate of officers. Please remember to go onto the WNY webpage at www.wnyumc.org and login and update your Church officers for 2010. If you have misplaced your username and password, feel free to contact the district office. Accurate information is needed in order to ensure that materials being sent out from this office as well as the conference office get to the right people. Please make sure that your Lay Member to Annual Conference, PPRC Chair, Lay Leader, Trustee Chair, Treasurer and Administrative Board Chair are all correct. Also if you want to make sure your church receives information on the Summer Camps Offered at our Church Camps please make sure your Camping Coordinator is listed. Thanks in advance for your help!

CAMPING SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

The Mountain View District will once again offer Camp Scholarships for children and Youth from our District attending one of our United Methodist Church camps this summer. If you need an application you can contact the District office and we will e-mail or mail you one. The deadline for the applications is April 30, 2010.

SUMMER CAMP STAFF NEEDED: Camp Asbury is now taking applications for 2010 Summer Staff. It appears that we will only need 3 new staff persons - 1 Kitchen Assistant, 1 Waterfront-Pool Lifeguard, and 1 Female Core Counselor. Interested persons should contact Rev. Larry Wiliford at 585-237-5262 or asburymanager@rochester.rr.com. Thanks.

Larry Wiliford
Camp Asbury Director

NEWS FROM UPPER NEW YORK

New ACT Convener Bill Gottschalk-Fielding offers new year's thoughts on his [Convener's Corner blog](#)

WNY CONFERENCE EVANGELISM TEAM WORKSHOP PRESENTS LEONARD SWEET

“Awakening to the God who is Already There”

WHEN: Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Faith United Methodist Church, 174 Pinnacle Rd., Henrietta, NY

COST: \$35.00 per person – includes lunch

Professor and Author Leonard Sweet will be with us to give us a revolutionary look at evangelism; one which refuses to separate evangelism from discipleship.

To express interest in attending contact Rev. Keith Griswold at WNYEMT2010@yahoo.com

Workshop Offered

“BUT WE’VE NEVER DONE IT THAT WAY BEFORE”

If you’ve ever heard those words in your church - Have we got a workshop for you!

RESHAPING CONGREGATIONAL CULTURE: From Staid Traditionalism to Healthy Responsiveness

PRESENTER: Rev. Tony Pappas

Executive Minister of American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts
Keen Interpreter of Traditional Church Culture
20 Years Experience as Small Church Pastor

WHEN: Sat. April 10, 2010 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30)

WHERE: Olean First Baptist Church, 133 S. Union Street 1-716-372-5151

TARGET AUDIENCE: For all pastors and church leaders who desire to bring about lasting change in their church’s health.

Members of all denominations are invited.

Spread the Word!

BENEFIT TO PARTICIPANTS:

- **Recognize the invisible force known as congregational culture.**
- **See how congregational culture can be used as a positive asset.**
- **Move from “Can’t do” to “Can do”.**
- **Gain insights and practical tools to move from traditionalism to healthy responsiveness.**
- **Articulate an exciting future vision.**
- **Lead more happily much of the time!**

COST: Includes Lunch/Snacks

Early Bird (Postmarked by March 22nd) - \$15

After March 22nd - \$20

TO REGISTER: Make checks payable to “First Baptist Church” and include list of attendees. Send to the address below.

QUESTIONS: Contact Rev. Larry Poelma at

First Baptist Church
17 South Street, Cuba, N.Y. 14727
585-968-1531
Rev_poelma@cubafirstbaptist.org

Hosted by The Stateline Straddlers 2 Together In Ministry Lay and Clergy Group

2010 WNY SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS: IMPORTANT NOTICE

Deadline dates for scholarship and Loan applications have changed, they will be earlier than in previous years. For more information see the web site: <http://wnyumc.org/page.asp?PKValue=885>

Do Not Delay!

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS WILL BRIDGE TWO DAYS

Although the 2010 Western New York Annual Conference session will have a one-day agenda, all members are encouraged to plan to spend two days together at Asbury First UMC, Rochester, New York.

The last Clergy session will be held on Friday, June 4 followed by a Memorial Service Friday evening at 6 pm. The Laity session is scheduled Friday as well. It will be held at Emmanuel in Rochester from 3 to 4 pm.

Clergy and Laity will process in together for the Memorial Service for the bishops, bishop's spouses, clergy and clergy spouses who died since the last annual conference. Families and churches of those to be remembered will receive invitations.

This service offers the last opportunity the Western New York Conference has Communion together before becoming part of the new Upper New York Conference.

Those spending the night Friday will need to make their own room reservations, however a list of hotels where blocks of rooms will be available as will a list of restaurants nearby.

The Annual Conference agenda will include only those actions and reports necessary to close out the Western New York Conference and to facilitate moving into the new. All business should be concluded by 5 p.m. A list of those actions will be available as early as possible in the spring and pre-conference briefings are planned. All reports are needed by March 10.

Churches are reminded their budgets need to reflect funding for overnight accommodations, food, and travel to the Western New York Annual Conference in Rochester June 4/5, as well as the Uniting Conference in Syracuse on June 19 and the adjourned session and celebration in Albany on September 11.

Stories sought

All persons with stories to share about ministry in the Western New York Conference are invited to submit them. Watch for details as to how and when. This collection of stories will be brought together with stories from Troy, Wyoming, and North Central New York Conferences and will become part of the combined history of the Upper New York Area.

LOCAL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Houghton College Choir Concert

"Earth to Heaven...Heaven on earth"

Theme focus is on: How will we meet God, and how does God meet us?

Christ United Methodist Church, Olean, NY

Saturday, March 20, 2010
7:30 P.M.

Treat yourself to a night out and invite a friend to come with you.
You won't want to miss this performance.
A love offering will be taken.

Alfred UMC will dedicate its new roof on March 14. A dedication service will take place at 4:00 PM, with a soup and sandwich meal to follow and after that a concert featuring praise groups from Panama, NY.

Need church pews with cushions!! Excellent condition.
Call Ed - 716-557-8354.

LENTEN SERVICES: March 18th 7 p.m. South Dansville UMC, Pastor Gregory White Preaching
March 25th 7 p.m. Bishopville UMC, Pastor Gary Wickard Preaching

LENTEN LUNCHESES: March 17th Centerville UMC
March 24th Short Tract UMC

Pastor of the church will share a brief devotional. Come enjoy Soup, Sandwich and fellowship.

Friends in Christ UMC is holding a 5K Fun Run/Walk to help raise money for the repair of their stain glass windows.

Date: Saturday, March 20, 2010 11 a.m Runners, 11:15 a.m. Walkers
Race Day Check in: 10:30 Runners, 10:45 Walkers – at the Fillmore Central School
Proceeds go to: Friends in Christ UMC Stain Glass Window Repair
Entry Fee: Adults \$10.00, Age 13-18 \$5.00 and 12 and under \$3.00
Sponsor: Friends in Christ UMC, Fillmore NY
Incentives: Giveaways will be handed out.

1801 West State Street
Olean, New York 14760
716-372-8047
mtnviewumcds@verizon.net
www.wnyumc.org