



The Connection

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UMCOR kits to be collected at Session

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) flood buckets and kits will be collected at Annual Conference Session Saturday, May 22 at Christ United Methodist Church, 54 Bay St., Glens Falls. The Volunteers-in-Mission (VIM) Tool Trailer will be on site to collect the kits.

Hank Coghill, Disaster Relief Coordinator for Troy Conference, says that the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has said it has an abundance of health kits, but now needs birthing and layette kits.

To assemble a Birth Kit:

In a one-gallon, sealable plastic bag, put:

- 1 hotel-size bar of soap (1 oz. and up)
- 1 pair of clean latex gloves
- 1 square yard of clear 4 mil plastic sheeting
- 3 pieces of clean string each 12" long
- 1 clean single use razor blade (carefully wrap the blade in paper or plastic to protect it and keep it from causing injury)
- 2 flannelette receiving blankets, each 1 square yard

To assemble a Layette Kit:

- 6 cloth diapers
- 2 shirts or 2 one-piece body suits
- 2 baby washcloths
- 2 gowns or sleepers
- 2 diaper pins
- 1 sweater open in the front
- 2 receiving blankets

Bundle the items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with the diaper pins.

It is important to note that all items included in kits must be new. The kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations and to meet other government's product entry policies, so only include items listed above in the kits.

Do not include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment. For more information, visit <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/Umcor/>.



The closing session of Troy Annual Conference will be held Saturday, May 22, at Christ United Methodist Church, above. The church is located at 54 Bay Street in Glens Falls, N.Y. Parking is available in the church lot as well as the lot on the north side of Washington St. A retirees' celebration will be held on Friday night, May 21, at the church, beginning at 7 p.m.

Special Conference Session Edition

Celebrating the past, looking to the future

Ten years before the outbreak of the American Revolution, Methodists began meeting in Albany, N.Y. Originally part of the New York Conference, the New York portion of Troy Conference organized in 1832 and the first Annual Conference Session was held in 1833.

The Vermont Conference was organized in 1844. Over the years, Vermont has been part of five different conferences—New York, New England, New Hampshire, Vermont and, in 1940, the Green Mountain State became part of Troy Conference.

At the conclusion of the 178th

Annual Conference Session, Troy Conference on May 22, Troy Conference will close. Vermont churches will become part of the New England Annual Conference, and the New York churches will become part of a new conference in the Upper New York area.

As the people of the United Methodist Church in Troy Conference move forward to the future in their new connections, they will carry with them a tradition and history of a Methodist movement in eastern New York and Vermont.

Registration for the closing ses-

sion will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Christ United Methodist Church in Glens Falls, N.Y. All members of Troy Annual Conference, which includes local church lay members or reserve members, clergy and equalization members, are expected to attend.

On Friday, May 21, the Clergy Session will convene at 9:15 a.m. at the Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church, 175 Fifth St. The session is expected to close at 3 p.m.

Anyone with questions or conflicts regarding attendance should contact their District Superintendent as soon as possible.

The Preconference Journal is only available on-line at www.troyac.org>Annual Conference Session. Clergy and Lay Members of Session should download a copy of the booklet to bring to both the district meetings and Annual Conference Session.

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Vermont Mission Fair draws 100 people

By George Klobck

Nearly 100 people gathered at the Rutland UMC on April 10 to celebrate ways United Methodist churches serve their neighbors. Representatives from 20 United Methodists—from Burlington to Rutland to Brattleboro to Barre and places in between—and from many parts of New England gathered, sharing displays that told the story of missions and actions done to express the love of Christ.

Greg Smith led worship and prayers were lifted for people in need in communities throughout the world, especially those recovering from earthquakes

in Haiti and floods in Rhode Island.

Greg Forrester, Northeast Jurisdiction Volunteer-in-Mission Coordinator, shared his own story with the gathering. In 1995, Forrester was a New York State Trooper. Despite an aversion to church, he joined his father-in-law, a United Methodist pastor, on a Volunteer-in-Mission trip to Haiti. The experience change Forrester's life and he was eager for other opportunities to serve with VIM teams.

Four years later, he became the first VIM coordinator for the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

As part of his job, Forrester has

traveled for the church to many countries on every continent as well as many places in the US. He shares his wealth of knowledge and experience, often sharing humorous anecdotes, and telling about the joys that come from forming relationships everywhere volunteers-in-mission may go. Sometimes it is to help people recover from a disaster, but often it is going to give people a boost, e.g. by helping build a hospital or a school. But, always it is learning about other people's lives and concerns and sharing Christian friendship that builds faith.

Other speakers included Green

Mountain District Superintendent Brigid Farrell, who will become the District Superintendent of the Vermont District; Jay and Cathie Dunkleberger, Troy Volunteers-in-Mission Coordinators; Fay Flanary, Secretary of Global Ministries for the New England Conference; Dave Stackpole, VIM Coordinator for the New England Conference; Bill Elwell, Troy Conference Disaster Response Coordinator for Vermont; Becky Mackin of Covenant Hills Christian Camp; and Rene Wilbur on behalf of the Summer Learning Fellowship, camping in Vermont.

News in Brief

Peace with Justice funds to be used for scholarships

The Board of Church and Society announces that the Troy Conference share of Peace with Justice funds will be used to award scholarships to high school and college youth who successfully complete a short essay on achieving peace with justice guided by the Social Principles. Essays should be no more than one page, or in any creative form desired. i.e, e-mail, video, DVD etc.

The writer must include in their essay one action that can be taken to influence public policy. Submissions are due by June 5.

At least 12 awards will be given ranging from \$250 to \$1,000.

Successful essays will be concise and clearly show that the writer has a good understanding of how the Social Principles inform the application of peace with justice to the human condition.

For more information, contact Virgia Phoenix, Peace with Justice Coordinator at VPhoenix12@aol.com.

AUMS congregational hosts for campers

The Albany United Methodist Society (AUMS) seeks Troy Conference congregations to host 25 summer campers for a Friday field trip in July and August. Congregations plan a day of fun activities outdoors, either at the church or in another location, and provide lunch. Campers range in age from 6 to 13 and are accompanied by counselors ages 14 through 17 as well as adult supervisors from Americorps.

Contact Peter Fish at aums@troyac.org or (518) 432-0818 for more information.

BOOM commits \$1,800 for Mozambique MEF

For a number of years, Troy Conference clergy enjoyed a healthy balance in the Ministerial Education Fund (MEF) and committed \$20,000 of that fund to clergy colleagues in Mozambique. Due to recent downturns in the economy, the MEF balance is not as healthy as was previously anticipated. The Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM) has committed \$1,800 from the fund and will receive an offering for Mozambique clergy at the Clergy Session of Conference to be held on Friday, May 21, at Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church, N.Y. The board encourages clergy members to give generously to this offering.

Christian tour hosts needed

Educational Opportunities will host a travel Tour Host luncheon meeting for those interested in becoming or who are tour hosts on May 18, at Ponderosa Restaurant, 416 S. Main St., Rutland, at noon. Rev. Dr. Robert Duncan, Executive Director of Travel Ministries from E.O. and the Reverends Deborah and Roger Waldron, area Directors of Travel Ministries representatives, will be there, and information on all trips will be available. For more information or to make a reservation, contact (315) 858-1134.

Sign up for bus tour of old Vermont Conference

The Northeastern Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History will meet May 11 through 13 at the Hilltop Inn in Barre, Vt. A tour of the Old Vermont Conference will be offered Wednesday, May 12, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The bus will stop at Wolcott United Methodist Church, Grace United Methodist Church in St. Johnsbury, Newbury Community Church, the site of the Newbury Academy, Mother Peckett's grave site and North Barre Italian mission sites. The cost is \$25. Contact Karen Staulters, registrar, at (518) 587-1295 or jkstaul@aol.com to make a reservation.

New York West area to redistrict

Bishop Marcus Matthews announced the realignment of districts currently in the New York West Area of The United Methodist Church following the closing sessions of the North Central New York and the Western New York Annual Conferences. The realignment is effective July 1.

The realignment will eliminate the Central Lakes District, currently part of North Central New York, reducing the total number of districts in the New York West area to eight. Earlier this year, Bishop Susan Hassinger announced similar redistricting in the Albany Area, also reducing the number of districts in the New York portion of the Albany Area to four effective July 1. The remaining districts are Adirondack, Albany, Binghamton, Cornerstone, Crossroads, Finger Lakes, Genesee Valley, Mohawk, Mountain View, Niagara Frontier, Northern Flow and Oneonta.

The churches of the Embury and Green Mountain Districts will become part of the Vermont District of The New England Annual Conference. while the Scranton and Wilkes-Barre Districts of the Wyoming Conference will become part of the new Susquehanna Conference in Pennsylvania.

VIM team to blog from Ireland

For the fifth year, a Troy Conference Volunteers-in-Mission (VIM) team will travel to Ireland, beginning May 4. Known as the VIM Belfast Peace Project Team, the group will work on projects with the Springfield Road Methodist Church and Forthspring Intercommunity Group, building relationships with the people and communities of Belfast. Follow the groups' journey by reading the project's blog beginning May 4 at <http://web.me.com/pmthomas6/Belfast2010/Blog/Blog.html>.

The 12 members of the team are Rod Aldrich of Pauling Avenue United Methodist Church, Troy, N.Y.; David Beals of Ballston Spa; Rev. Matthew Bowles of Shaftsbury and Bennington United Methodist Church, Vt.; Martin Carr of Damascus Methodist Church in Maryland; Barbara Frasier of Centenary United Methodist Church, Greenwich, N.Y.; Pastor Jim Knapp of Lake Pleasant and Grace United Methodist Church in Speculator, N.Y.; Doug Porter of First United Methodist Church, East Greenbush, N.Y.; and Paula Miller, Holly Rogers, Pastor Dolly Waxman and Mike and Pat Thomas, all of Burnt Hills United Methodist Church, N.Y.

Conference office in Saratoga to remain open

The Troy Conference Office in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., will remain open at least until Dec. 31 as part of the new conference in the Upper New York Area. The office will be staffed by some current Troy Conference employees, who have been given the option of continuing in their positions until Dec. 31. The employment of the Conference Minister, Treasurer and Director of Communications will end June 30 as the new executive staff in the Upper New York area begin their employment by July 1.

Youth Director sought

The 15 United Methodist Churches of the Greater Schoharie County Region seek a part-time youth director able to build a community of youth in the area, develop and empower youth leadership, serve as a communications link between local churches, youth, parents, youth leaders and the conference, and maintain and develop a network of contacts. Send resume and cover letter to umschohariyouth@gmail.com or mail to Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel St., Suite 1, Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043.

Camping and retreat board to celebrate ministry

The Board of Camping and Retreat Ministries is planning to celebrate its life and ministry with a celebration Saturday June 12 at the Whitehall United Methodist Church, 56 Greenmount Cemetery Lane. Those who have been members of the Board of Camping and Retreat Ministries and its predecessor, the Board of Camps and Conferences, persons who have served on the board's committees, i.e., Site, Program, Personnel, Finance and Long Range Planning--are among those invited to the celebration.

"We have a great ministry which includes work at Skye Farm, Covenant Hills, Missisquoi, Buck Lake and Riverside," said the Rev. Art Hagy, retired Troy Conference Elder. "Of course, this also includes United Church of Christ in Vermont leaders who have contributed so much to the ministry and life of Covenant Hills."

The celebration opens with a soup and salad luncheon at noon. Worship begins at 1 p.m. followed by a time of "memories, milestones, melodies (that means camp songs) and mesmerizing moments of meaningful musings," Hagy said.

Stuart Williams, chair of BCRM, will Emcee.

"Troy Conference set the bar in camping, whether they knew it or not, for the past 50 years," said the Rev. David Murphy, retired Troy Conference Elder.

Register with Judy Palmer by contacting her at (518) 753-6067, judypalmer235@aol.com or 235 Casey Road, Schaghticoke, N.Y. 12154.



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2010 First Quarter Honor Roll

The following churches are paid in full for the year in all apportioned funds

<u>Adirondack</u>	<u>Albany</u>	<u>Embury</u>	<u>Green Mountain</u>
North River UMC	Northampton UMC		Bloomfield UMC

The following churches are paid in full for the first quarter in all apportioned funds

<u>Adirondack</u>	<u>Albany</u>	<u>Embury</u>	<u>Green Mountain</u>
Ausable Forks *	Albany / McKownville UMC	Averill Park: Church of the Covenant UMC	Bakersfield UMC *
Ballston Spa UMC	Alplaus UMC *	Barnerville UMC *	Bethel UMC *
Blue Mountain Lake UMC	Barnerville UMC	Boynntonville UMC *	Bradford UMC
Bolton Landing UMC *	Bleecker UMC	Brattleboro UMC *	Burlington UMC
Chestertown UMC	Brainard UMC *	Brownsville UMC	Chelsea West Hill UMC
Dannemora UMC	Broadalbin UMC	Cambridge UMC	Danville UMC
Essex UMC *	Burnt Hills UMC	Central Bridge UMC	East Middlebury/Ripton
Fortsville UMC *	Central Bridge UMC	Grafton UMC *	Enosburg Falls UMC
Glens Falls: Christ UMC	Cobleskill UMC	Melrose UMC	Essex UMC
Glens Falls: Queensbury UMC	Delanson UMC *	Pittstown UMC	Essex Junction UMC
Granville UMC	Delmar UMC	Poultney UMC	Ferrisburg UMC *
Indian Lake UMC	Dorloo UMC *	Proctorsville UMC	Groton UMC
Long Lake UMC	East Stone Arabia UMC *	Rutland UMC	Hardwick UMC 12345*
Malta Ridge UMC	Edinburg UMC	Shenendehowa UMC	Highgate UMC
Middle Grove UMC	Fonda-Fultonville UMC *	Tinmouth UMC	Hinesburg Federated *
Moriah UMC	Freysbush UMC	Troy/Christ UMC	Jericho UMC
Morrisonville UMC	Gallupville UMC	Troy/Hope UMC	Korean-American UMC of Vermont
Newcomb UMC	Grosvenor Corners UMC	Troy/Pawling Avenue UMC	Middlesex UMC
Plattsburgh UMC	Hagaman UMC	United Church of Ludlow *	Monkton Federated UMC
Pottersville UMC	Hyndsville UMC *	West Hebron UMC *	Montgomery UMC
Quaker Springs UMC	Malden Bridge UMC *		Montpelier UMC
Riparius/Wevertown/Johnsburg UMC	Mayfield UMC *		Morrisville UMC
Sanford's Ridge UMC	Middleburgh UMC		New Hope UMC
Saranac UMC	Mineral Springs UMC *		Newport United *
Saratoga Springs UMC	Newtonville UMC		North Ferrisburgh UMC
South Glens Falls UMC	Niverville-Chatham Center UMC *		Rice Hill UMC
Speculator UMC	Rensselaer: Broadway UMC		Shelburne UMC
Ticonderoga UMC	Richmondville UMC		St. Albans UMC
West Fort Ann UMC *	Schenectady: First UMC		St. Albans Bay UMC
Willsboro UMC *	Schenectady: Carman UMC		St. Johnsbury UMC
Wilmington/Whiteface UMC	Schenectady: Faith UMC		Underhill United Church *
Wilton: Trinity UMC	Slingerlands UMC		Union Village UMC *
	Voorheesville UMC		United Church of Thetford *
	Wells UMC		Vergennes UMC
			West Addison UMC
			Waterville Union
			White River Junction UMC *
			Worcester UMC *

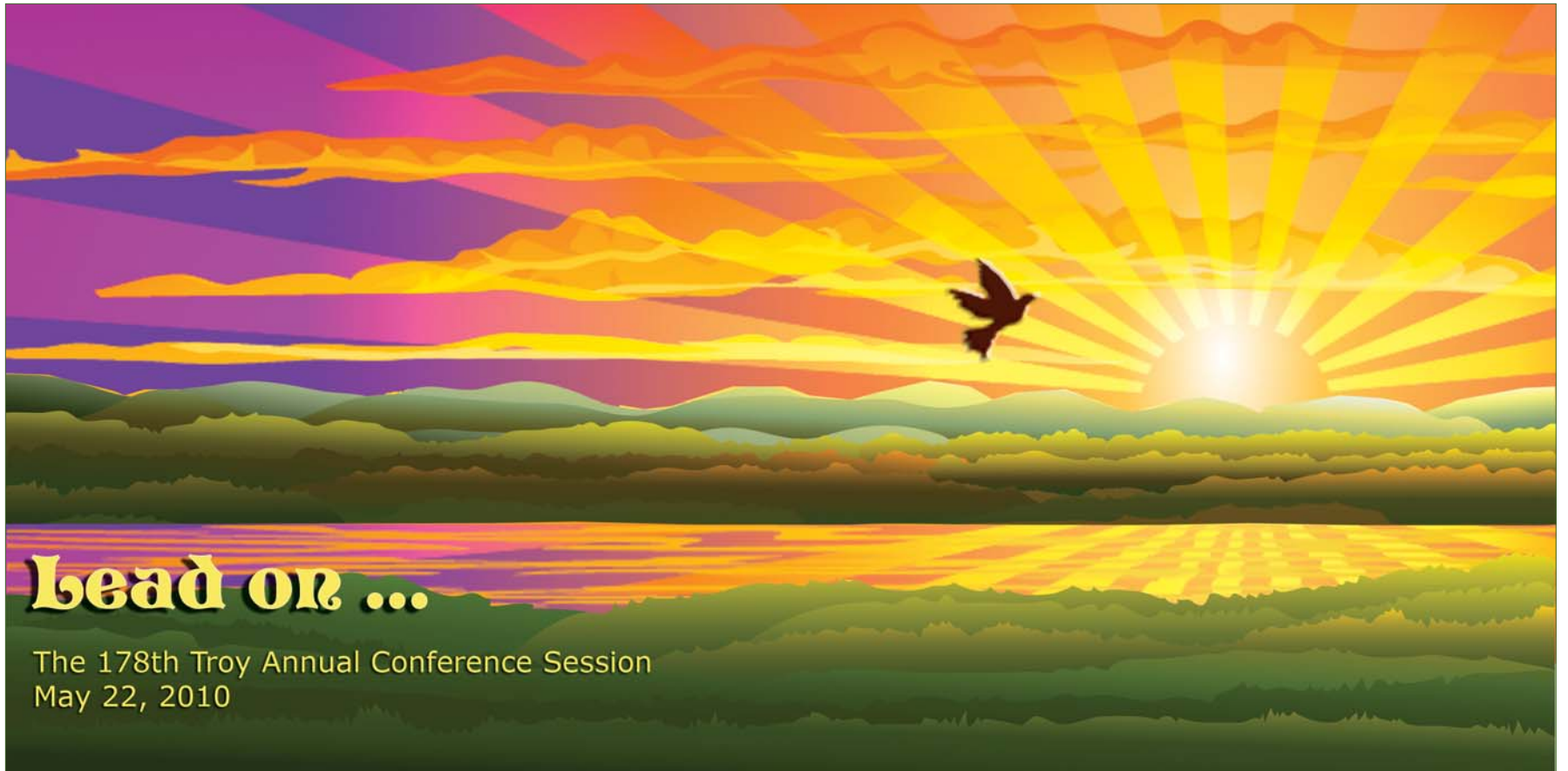
The following churches are paid in full for the first quarter in the apportioned funds listed

<u>Adirondack</u>	<u>Albany</u>	<u>Embury</u>	<u>Green Mountain</u>
Argyle UMC 6	Albany Emmaus UMC 12345	Center Brunswick UMC 1*	Adamant UMC 345
Bloomington UMC 1*	Albany/Pine Grove UMC 12345	Clifton Park UMC 5	Barre UMC 6
Champlain Three Steeples UMC 6	Ames/ Sprout Brook UMC 6	Fair Haven UMC 1*	Binghamville UMC 6
Corinth UMC 1 *	Amsterdam UMC 6	Greenwich UMC 16	Bristol Federated 6
Crown Point UMC 12345	Castleton UMC 6	Johnsonville UMC 6	Elmore UMC 345*
Ellenburg/Ellenburg Center UMC 345	Center Glenville UMC 3456	Jonesville UMC 6	Fairfax United Church 16
Galway UMC 12345	East Greenbush UMC 12345	North Hoosick UMC 2345*	Georgia UMC 3456
Hartford UMC 6	Fort Plain UMC 6	Pownal UMC 12345	Greensboro Bend 12*
Hudson Falls UMC 12345	Gloversville: Foothills UMC 345	Round Lake UMC 6	Lincoln United 1*
Keeseville UMC 2345	Gloversville: North Main UMC 6	Salem UMC 45	Lyndonville UMC 12345
Lake Placid UMC 6	Latham UMC 16	Shaftsbury UMC 1*	Marshfield United 1345*
Lake Pleasant UMC 2345	Nassau UMC 6	Shushan UMC 1*	Middlebury UMC 6
Moors UMC 6	North Chatham UMC 12345	South Cambridge UMC 126	Northfield Parish 6
North Creek UMC 6	Northville UMC 6	South Royalton Federated 345	Rochester Federated Church 2*
North Granville UMC 6	Ravena UMC 6	Springfield UMC 66	Sheldon UMC 6
Raceville UMC 6	Rotterdam UMC 23456	Valley Falls UMC 16	South Burlington UMC 6
Rock City Falls UMC 1345*	Schenectady: Albany Street UMC 6	Weston UMC 6	Swanton UMC 6
Saranac Lake UMC 6	Schenectady: Eastern Parkway UMC 12345	West Sand Lake UMC 6	Williamstown Federated 2*
Schuylerville UMC 16	Schenectady: Stanford UMC 13456		
South Corinth UMC 6	Scotia UMC 3		
	South Bethlehem UMC 6		

**1=Admin. Apportionment; 2=World Service & Conf. Benevol.; 3=Ministerial Ed. Fund; 4=Black College Fund; 5=African Univer. Fund; 6=Pension Fund.

*Church is not responsible for pension payment because it either doesn't have a pastor or is being served by a pastor from another denomination or annual conference.

Questions or concerns? Contact the Treasurer's Office at (518) 584-8214 or (800) 684-9377, ext. 16; e-mail lrobinson@troyac.org.



Schedule 2010 Annual Conference Session

Registration	8:30 a.m.
Opening worship & Memorial Service	9:30 a.m.
Bishop Hassinger Preaching, conference offering received	
Break	10:30 a.m.
First business session	10:45 a.m.
Organization of conference-opening motions	
Election of Interim Offices (Trustees)	
Enabling Legislation	
Lunch	12:30 p.m.
Second Business session	1:30 p.m.
Gathering in Song	
Youth Report	
Legislation	
Awards, recognitions and thanks	
Historic Questions	
Reading of Appointments	
Closing Motions (Including transfers of voting memberships)	
Closing Communion Service	4 p.m.
Depart for home	5 p.m.

Retiring this year ...

The conference will honor 14 retiring clergy members and the bishop's administrative assistant at the Retirees' Celebration on Friday evening, May 21. Retiring this year are:

Eileen Deming
Herman Benhamin
Elizabeth Griffin
Cheryl Heater
Richard Hibbert
Peter Kelly
Samuel Newton
W. George Pattison

Pamela Pearson
Virginia Pierce
Janice Rathbun
William Sheldon
Denise Stringer
Robert Zittel
Jane Schweikert

Calendar

May 8

District Conferences will be held at the following locations: Adirondack District: Christ United Methodist Church, Glens Falls, N.Y.; Albany District: Faith United Methodist Church, Schenectady, N.Y.; Embury District: Shaftsbury United Methodist Church, Vt.; Green Mountain District: Northfield United Methodist Church, Vt.

Registration for all district conferences will begin at 9 a.m.; worship begins at 9:30 a.m.

May 21

Clergy Session, Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church, 175 Fifth St., 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Retirees Celebration, Christ United Methodist Church, 54 Bay St., Glens Falls, N.Y., 7 p.m.

May 22

Troy Annual Conference Session, Christ United Methodist Church, 54 Bay St., Glens Falls, N.Y., 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



June 5

Vermont District Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church, Montpelier, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

June 16

New England Clergy Session, June 16, Gordon College, Wenham, Mass.

June 17 through 19

New England Annual Conference Session, Gordon College, Wenham, Mass.

Mass.

June 19

Upper New York Area Uniting Conference and Adjourned Session, OnCenter, 800 South State St., Syracuse, N.Y. Session begins at 8:30 a.m.

Sept. 11

Upper New York Area Worship Celebration and Adjourned Session, Empire State Plaza Convention Center, Albany, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

