



July/August 2010

The Courier

Catskill Hudson District New York Annual Conference

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A Word from your DS: Notes from Annual Conference

The recently concluded 2010 session of Annual Conference was especially significant for several of our Catskill Hudson pastors. **Three of our clergy - Bob Kersten, Dottie Morris and Anne Rossini - were ordained**, reaching that goal after many years of study, personal growth, spiritual discernment and pastoral service while in the status of “provisional members” of the annual conference. Also ordained were two of our former Catskill Hudson pastors, Dale Ellen Krazmien (who served in Chatham) and Mandy Iahn (Bullville and Town of Esopus UMC). Having demonstrated their capacity for fruitful service, and having been approved after a vigorous time of testing, these pastors have now been ordained into a life-long relationship with the annual conference, and given authority to “preach the word of God, administer the sacraments, and order the life of the church,” in the words of the ordination liturgy



Rev. Dottie Morris



Rev. Anne Rossini



Rev. Bob Kersten

..... In that same service **Halley Low**, who will be coming to the UMC of Greenville and Norton Hill as associate pastor, was commissioned as a “provisional member” of the conference..... And in one additional matter of clergy status, it was announced that **John Thomason**, who has been on loan to us from the Texas Conference, has now been officially transferred into the NYAC. So, we give thanks for these newly ordained folks and the gifts they have been bringing us, we welcome Halley as he begins his ministry here, and we celebrate that John, who had already been making such positive contributions to our conference’s work, is now officially one of us.

This conference also marked the retirement of a group of pastors, including two of our clergy, Joyce Wilkerson and Vicky Annin. Though there is no such thing as retirement from Christian life, and though these faithful pastors will surely find new ways to use their gifts in God’s service (whether in pastoral work or in some other endeavor) this conference marked the formal conclusion of their service in full-time pastoral work. Thank you, Joyce and Vicky, for the ways you have served in the churches of our district!

Another significant moment for a Catskill Hudson pastor came in the presentation of the **“Denman Award for Evangelism.”** This honor goes to one lay person and one clergy person each year, to people who have been especially faithful and effective in sharing their faith and bringing others into relationship with Christ. **Rev. Darlene Kelley**, of Clinton Ave. UMC was this year’s honoree, in recognition of the great work she has done in welcoming a diverse new group of people into that congregation. Congratulations, Darlene, and congratulations to the entire congregation of Clinton Avenue church, for this well-deserved honor!



Rev Darlene Kelley

Here are a few additional observations about the conference: The music at worship was inspiring, led by Jorge Lockward and a team of singers that included **Tom and Carol June** of Catskill and also Rev. Joyce Wilkerson..... **Fran Reed** had the significant duty of serving as an assistant secretary, taking notes of all

the proceedings for the Conference Journal..... The conference approved a **budget for 2011** with apportionments to the churches that increase by just over 1%..... Initial plans were shared for the establishing of **six new faith communities** in the coming year. As we find that some churches are closing, it is wonderful to see that new seeds are being planted, in the hope that come of these faith communities will eventually be strong congregations..... **Mark and Song Del Giudice** made a witness with regard to the wellness programs encouraged by Healthflex, our denominational medical insurance plan. In the past year Mark has lost 90 pounds and Song has lost 60, and they have significantly reduced the medications they take for diabetes and other medical concerns. What wonderful testimony about stewardship of the bodies God has given us!



Rev. Mark and Song Del Giudice

Finally, it should be mentioned that the conference concluded with **an amazing festival, attended by some 5,000 United Methodists.** All ages were present – babies, children, youth, young adults, middle-agers and seniors. People of all races were there – Asians, Africans, African-Americans, Hispanics, Caucasians, etc. – as we celebrated the God who makes us one. The morning activities took place in three huge tents, with displays and experiences reflecting the Church’s missions, ministries, camps, children’s programs, and advocacy groups. Two stages were set up, with a constant offering of

live music performed by church groups from all over the conference..... In the afternoon we moved into the arena, for a parade of banners, brief witnesses about churches that are “building up a healthy body of Christ,” that included a presentation by **Dottie Morris** of Harpersfield, and a powerful evangelistic sermon offered by visiting Bishop James Swanson. At the conclusion of his sermon he issued an altar call, and many people came forward – some to offer their lives to Jesus, some to make renewals of commitment, some to seek prayers for guidance and help. As one of those who met with people at the altar, your DS was deeply moved to share in such a significant moment. It was an inspiring gathering of God’s people, with the Holy Spirit moving in powerful ways.



Rev. Dottie Morris

As we look back on this conference we have many reasons for giving thanks to God, and celebrating the connection we share with our United Methodist Christian brothers and sisters.

Your DS and Friend,
Jim Moore

PS: For an extensive gallery of pictures of annual conference please check out the conference web site, www.nyac.com.



Folks from Andes UMC

Appointment Changes in Catskill Hudson

As always, a new conference year brings some changes in pastoral appointments, so that we say “Thank you and God bless you as you go to your new beginnings” to some who are departing and “Welcome to your new place of belonging and service” to others.

Joyce Wilkerson will be retiring from Catskill UMC, and she and her husband Bennie will be moving to Virginia. We thank her for her faithful work in Catskill and previously in Clinton Ave. UMC. Joyce, prior to her career as a pastor, had a significant career working for the Board of Global Ministries **Rev. Ronald Cox**, who has been serving in Rocky Hill, Ct. will be the new Catskill pastor. Ron, who was with the Salvation Army before becoming United Methodist, is also a musician who has composed and arranged a lot of Christian music, including original tunes for all the Wesley hymns in our hymnal. Ron and his wife Jean have three grown children and several grandchildren.

Rev. Vicky Annin, of Milton/Marlboro, will also be retiring and moving to Florida. She wants to use the coming year as a time of discernment, knowing that God has more work for her to do, but needing time to discover just what that work might be. We are so grateful for her service here – two years as a student pastor at Westbrookville and nine years in Milton The new pastor at Milton/Marlboro will be **Jody Spiak**, who has served as assistant pastor in the UMC of Greenville and Norton Hill for five years. Jody is in the process of finishing his seminary education, primarily through on-line courses with Luther Seminary. He is attending Local Pastors’ Licensing School this July. Jody and his wife Jennifer have two young girls – Abbey, who will turn 6 in July, and Aria who is two and a half ... Coming to Greenville and Norton Hill, succeeding Jody Spiak, is **Halley Low**. Hal, as he likes to be called, is a newly commissioned pastor, a 2009 graduate of Drew Seminary. He has been working as the assistant pastor in our church in Northport, LI. Hal has spent most of his life in New York City and suburban Long Island, and looks forward to his life in Catskill Hudson as a new adventure and time to explore a new part of God’s world.

Dave Houston, who has served at Olivebridge and Samsonville for the last three years, is “re-retiring.” After a distinguished pastoral career, which included a term as Superintendent of the Hudson North District, Dave has reached 50 years in ministry and 75 years of age which, he says, are nice round numbers for coming to a conclusion. He has provided wonderful leadership at Olivebridge and Samsonville, and will be missed, but we are grateful that **David Johnson** will be succeeding him Dave, after a career with IBM as an electrical engineer, entered ministry in 1994. While attending Drew Seminary he served the Town of Esopus UMC, and thereafter was pastor in our Yorktown Heights and Pound Ridge churches. He retired from full-time ministry in 2009, but after a year off is ready to resume pastoral work on a half-time basis. Coming to Olivebridge and Samsonville has a special emotional component for Dave, since his father (a

local pastor) served there from 1970 until his untimely death at age 57 in 1972. Dave and his wife Ria live in Saugerties. They have two grown children.

Joon Woo Lee, who has been a faithful and beloved pastor at Margaretville and Fleischmanns (Upper Catskill Larger Parish), will be moving to Connecticut to assume leadership in Rocky Hill and Higganum. Joon has been a wonderful example of the blessings that can come in a cross-cultural ministry, bringing his deep faith and loving presence to a ministry in which Korean and Caucasian cultures were transcended in Christian love. He will be missed in the parish and in our district Our new pastor in Margaretville and Fleischmanns will be **Larry Dunlap**, who is no stranger to the Catskills, having served in the Malden charge, Prattville and Lexington, and also at Walton. Most recently Larry has been the pastor in Sharon and Lakeville Ct. He and his wife Kathy have three grown sons. Larry is especially interested in new ways of communicating the gospel, and has done a fair amount of radio ministry over the years.

Lucy Jones, pastor at Reservoir since 2002 and also serving at Phoenicia since December of 2009, will be moving into a different kind of ministry. She will be the director of The Grail, a women's spirituality group that has members all across the country but is based in Cornwall, NY. We pray God's blessing on Lucy as she assumes a new kind of service, and thank her for her faithful work here in Reservoir and Phoenicia **Dorothy Caldwell**, who has served in New Paltz since 2003 will be succeeding Lucy. Dorothy, who is a credentialed chaplain, and who served fulltime in a hospital for number of years, brings her pastoral skills and love of creative worship and the arts to her new assignment. Dorothy has two children – Rachel, a high school student, and Jon, a student at SUNY Albany.

Bette Johnson Sohm will be coming to New Paltz. Bette is a 2010 graduate of Drew seminary, and served our churches in Pine Plains and Astoria during her student years. Her college education was in theater, and she brings a creative spirit to worship and all of ministry. She has been involved in the Wellspring program, and has served as a retreat leader in various settings. Bette and her husband Glen have an adopted daughter, Stephanie who will remain in the NYC area, but looks forward to having a “country home” in New Paltz.

Camp Meeting, May 22nd, Another Glorious Day

Our 2011 Camp Meeting was, like the 2009 version, a wonderful event. About 225 people attended, and it certainly appeared that a good time was had by all. Inspiring music was provided by the band called “Cast Out”..... Christian clowns George and Linda Hart provided humor as well as thought-provoking reflections on the faith PET again brought some Personal Energy Transports (hand cranked scooters built for 3rd world people who have lost the use of their legs) and set up an obstacle course so we could experience what a blessing PETs provide The first annual clergy vs. laity volleyball game provided comic relief and good fun (and it is hoped that we are better at preaching and leading in the church than we are at playing volleyball!)



.....People enjoyed the canoes, ropes course, trails, animals, and peaceful beauty of Camp Epworth Kids played games, some organized by adults and some that they just got started on their own New lay speakers and newly trained Emergency Response Team members were honored..... The DS reported on the state of the district and we elected our leaders for 2010-2011..... A video prepared by Tony Zirilli shared some of our churches' efforts on “Faith in Action Sunday” and another video experience prompted us to prayer for our congregations as we viewed photos of the district's church buildings We shared a delicious barbeque, prepared by the Epworth staff. All in all it was a fun, inspiring and uplifting day.



It certainly appeared that the planning committee's goal of bringing people together to affirm our connection and encourage relationships among our churches and members was accomplished. Many people commenting on the event began by saying "Now when we do this next year....." so keep watch for whatever the 2012 version might be.

Many thanks should go to the Epworth staff members and to the committee that organized and implemented the Camp Meeting, and in particular Lynne Taylor who was the chairperson. Others on the team were Gene Knoth, Donna Jolly, Darlene Kelley, Janet Veale, Fran Reed, Tony Zirilli and Jim Moore.



Your District Lay Leaders: Wanderings – Part Deux

On a sunny May afternoon at Camp Epworth we were all re-elected for another year as your Co-Lay Leaders for the Catskill Hudson District of the NYAC. We are all very grateful for the opportunity to serve once again and are humbled by our selection to this very important position. It's hard to believe that an entire year has passed and yet so much has been accomplished. If you get a chance please check out our report in the District Booklet.

All our energies right now are focused on the NY Annual Conference at Hofstra University from June 9th through 12th. We hope that all your new members are being encouraged to attend the Saturday event. It promises to be a day of fun and fellowship and an example of the best that we as United Methodists have to offer in Christian love and joy. We have Good News to share and this is only one opportunity to do just that.

We have plans to offer our Celebration of Lay Leaders sometime in the fall and we hope that those of you who were unable to attend this past spring will make an effort to attend then. It has been well received by both Pastors and Lay Leaders, and we know it will be a benefit to you all in your ministry as Lay Leaders.

This summer my plans are to visit the remaining churches in my cluster that I have not visited yet. Each time I worship with a new congregation is a learning experience for me, from the travel time to the welcome to the worship service and the fellowship afterwards. I am always lifted up as I see God's grace working in our Catskill Hudson District.

I think I can speak for all of us when I say we are here to help you in whatever way we can. And if you have something special going on this year we'd love to hear about it. Communication is vital in a District as large as ours so keep us informed of the many wonderful things you are doing in your little corner of the world ...

May you all have a safe and blessed summer season growing in the sunshine of God's love and grace.

In Christian love,

Toni Vessey for Gerry Rosenberger, Margaret Howe and Fran Reed



CATSKILL HUDSON DISTRICT

Parsonage Family

BBQ

When? Sunday, September 12th

3:00 hors d'oeuvres

4:30 dinner

Where? District Parsonage

(71 Van Dale Rd., Woodstock, NY 12498)

Who? All Pastors, families, and significant others

Games, fellowship, good food, and fun! MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!

SAVE THE DATE!



Lay Speaking Ministries
Catskill Hudson District
MargaretHowe, howemarg@aol.com
Gene Knoth, knothheat@yahoo.com

Greetings:

It is hard to believe that Holly is asking for material for the summer edition of the *Courier*. It seems we just completed the Lenten Lay Speaking Series.

This will be a very brief article....because following this article are two registrations forms:

1. Summer Course *Leading in Prayer* to be taught by Rev. Dottie Morris at the Grand Gorge Church on Monday and Wednesday August 9,11,16,and 18. The registration form has all the details. Hope we might see some of you there!
2. Youth Basic Course at Epworth Camp & retreat Center on September 11. This is an ideal course for students 6th grade through high school. If you have youth who are entering or just completing Confirmation, this is another opportunity for them to recognize their gifts and talents. Think about early registration.

I hope all of you enjoy your summer activities. Many of you, I know, will be preaching for vacationing pastors. Others will be traveling. When on vacation and you go to church on Sunday, you might be hearing a Lay Speaker as well. If so, introduce yourself and delight in the joy of sharing the role of Lay Speaker and the opportunity for networking outside our District.

Be safe and know that God loves us all.

Blessings,

Margaret Howe

Co-Director, Lay Speaking Ministries

The deadline for the September/October Courier will be September 6th.

Rev. James Moore, District Superintendent
Margaret Howe and Gene Knoth, Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries

Lay Speaking Classes

Leading in Prayer

To many people, prayer remains a mystery, and praying in public is a test of faith left to the “professionals” of the church.

This course teaches others to encourage deeper and more vital prayer among all Christians.

Instructor: Rev. Dottie Morris

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Grand Gorge UMC	Monday and Wednesday August 9,11,16,18	6:30 to 9:00pm

Registration Deadline - July 15 - cost \$35.00

Second Deadline - August 1 - cost \$40

It is important to register by the deadline so that we might be sure to have the course materials

If you are coming from work....bring a brown bag supper....drinks will be provided

(Keep a copy of this registration for yourself)

Lay Speaking Classes - Summer 2010 - Leading in Prayer - Cost \$ 35.00/\$40.00

Name: _____ Email _____ Phone _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Church: _____ Pastor: _____

Please return this portion and your Registration Fee to:

Gerald Norris, PO Box 151, Andes, NY 13731 (gerlyn@catskill.net)

Make checks payable to: Catskill Hudson Lay Speaking Committee

(for office use: date received _____ registration fee paid _____)

Catskill Hudson District Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries
Rev. James Moore, District Superintendent
Margaret Howe and Gene Knoth, Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries

Lay Speaking Classes

Youth Basic Course Epworth Camp & Retreat Center

September 11, 2010

8:00am - 6:00pm

Cost \$25.00 (partial scholarships available)

Watch for details - Early registration by August 1

Many think of the youth as the church of the future.

In reality, youth are the church of today!

Youth Basic Course helps young people recognize their gifts and talents
in today's ministry setting.

For questions or information contact Gene Knoth or Margaret Howe

(Keep a copy of this registration for yourself)

Lay Speaking Classes - Youth Basic Class - Sept 11, 2010 - Cost \$25.00

Name: _____ Email _____ Phone _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Church: _____ Pastor: _____

Please return this portion and your Registration Fee to:

Gerald Norris, PO Box 151, Andes, NY 13731 (gerlyn@catskill.net)

Make checks payable to: Catskill Hudson Lay Speaking Committee

(for office use: date received _____ registration fee paid _____)

Thinking about our churches and families-

Life isn't easy. Perhaps it never was, but it seems that so many people are going through tough times now. Finances, busy schedules, emotional tolls weigh heavy on many people both "in and out" of our churches and trying to stay true to our mission and calling is not easy. At St. James we are making use of "God sightings," small written testimonies of where and how people have seen God at work in their lives. The God sightings help us to remember that our God, the author of all life, creator of the whole universe, is ever mindful of us, ever present with us, and always more than able.

For me and my family, one incredibly significant way that God has shared God's love, presence and power with us is through the Wellspring program, in which both Donna and I have participated. I serve on the Leadership Team of Wellspring now and while that influences my desire to see the program grow, what truly inspires me to write is my conviction that God will use a clergy or lay person's participation to strengthen families and church families. My experience is that Wellspring takes us as fertile soil that God has planted with the best of seeds, and helps to till that soil, add nutrients to it, give it some time to rest between plantings, and water and feed that soil, and then bring forth fruit.

Wellspring helped grow my faith which in turn helped me to grow more loving, trusting, effective and less reactive and volatile in the difficult moments. In these times of troubled waters (and always) our Lord is, and has, all we need. Still God expects much from all of us who are blessed with much. Please prayerfully consider investing a portion of yourself, your time and resources for God, family, self, and church. Peace to you and yours.

Dave Jolly- Pastor St. James UMC, Kingston

Wellspring 8



Wellspring Institute for Spiritual Growth is offering its eighth class this September. The class is for laity and clergy who thirst for a deeper understanding and response to God's call in their lives. Over the past 18 years, about 140 individuals have been part of the Wellspring community.

Wellspring's purpose is to support personal growth and spiritual deepening within God's gift of a gathered Christian Community. This gift of Christian Community will assist us in learning about ourselves, our gifts, God's call to each of us, and will help us to examine our place in the human community of God's sacred creation. It is in the challenge ... *of such a time as this...* that we come to discern the Spirit's beckoning.

This path of Spiritual discovery will use spiritual disciplines, a variety of prayer forms, worship, and covenant groups, as well as creative learning experiences. The program is rooted and grounded in Christ, especially as practiced in the Christian contemplative way, and the Wesleyan tradition. We, in the NYAC, are united in our desire to increase our *Passionate Spirituality*, and this experience of spiritual formation is a proven benefit to all faith communities.

Wellspring is a two-year program meeting monthly at Bethany Spirituality Center in Highland Mills, New York (with summer off). The application and the formal dates are available at <http://www.nyac.com/site/search?controller=&keywords=wellspring>. If you have questions, or desire a hard copy of the application or flyer, please contact Gail Erdie at 845-255-8058 or gerdie@hvc.rr.com.

Catskill Hudson District United Methodist Women

District UMW Day Apart



... It was a cold & stormy day in April, but 20 women's hearts were strangely warmed as Pastor Bette Sohm shared her experiences of the Taize community. During the morning of the District UMW Day Apart, she described how Brother Roger, from the Reformed tradition, moved to Taize, France and how a community devoted to growing a culture of peace among the world's youth developed. Most people travel as part of a weekly group of 5,000 from all around the world, paying at the entrance according to their worldly goods. The permanent host community has grown to only 100 brothers. Both community and brothers are spare in income and possessions, devoted only to the expression of

communal worship. The weekly guests' days alternate between small-group bible studies (different languages, no leader) and community prayer and song. Basic meals are provided, appearing plenty to some, sparse to others. All attendees are given chores to perform. Throughout, all Taize structures are focused on the young peoples' worship, as they are the future.

The Day Apart ended, with Pastor Bette's help, in the experience of Taize song and prayer. Bible verse with silent meditation, litany, hymns that lasted as long as needed, were the worship experienced by all.

2010 July UMW article – District Newsletter



District United Methodist Women: Summer – time for Recreation, time to Recreate

We all look forward to summer, some relaxation time, some time to do some rest & rethinking about what we do.

Rethinking during this more restful time could benefit your church's United Methodist Women's unit as well. Spending quiet time with other women from the District during the July or August Day Apart at Kingswood can refresh a woman, and perhaps her unit, too. Meet others in a peaceful setting, follow the guided prayer/meditation session, walk the grounds. See the flyer in this newsletter for the details.

Another way to reconnect & refresh your UMW unit is to send somebody to the NYAC School of Christian Mission. Worship occurs throughout the day. Study & discuss with others. Hear how other women's units reach their hands out to others.

Barbara Sanborn, President



In the woods, beside the lake, or on a trail, find peace, tranquility and a time for quiet thoughts and prayers which nourish the soul. Plan now: Take a day off. Use a resource our churches own. Meet a leader for orientation to the property, receive worship suggestions and find a friend. Retreat to explore 700 acres and return to share lunch. Afternoon can be swim time, napping, socializing, more exploration.

Stay over at Capra Inn Motel in Hancock and return to camp the following day if you can, and continue to luxuriate in Creation.

Catskill Hudson United Methodist Women

SUMMER DAY

APART

at **KINGSWOOD**, United Methodist Camp in
Hancock NY

Tuesday, July 13 – 9 a.m.-3p.m.
or
Wednesday, August 18 – 9a.m.-3p.m.
rain or shine
lunch provided

Psalm 1:3 “... like a tree planted by the water.”



Leaders: July – Sheila Peiffer

August: Fran Reed

Register by July 6 or August 11 ++ Mail to Joan Johnson, PO Box 236, Callicoon, NY 12723,
845-887-4071, jemsong@hvc.rr.com
Write check to “Catskill Hudson District United Methodist Women”.

Name _____

Address _____



Phone _____

e-mail _____

Cost: \$15 (\$5 camp one-day insurance, \$10 lunch and UMW program fee)
Directions and list of needs for the day will be mailed to you in a confirmation letter or e-mail.



Save the Date -September 25

Meet & Greet your District Sisters in Christ

Celebrate what Your Unit does: Please bring a Poster showing your Missions

Remember our Departed Sisters in the Memorial Service

**Speaker: Donna Jolly and the
Youth Ambassadors in Mission to Cambodia:
Where We've Been, Where We're Going**

St. Marks UMC
Napanoch, NY

9:15-9:45 Register, coffee & treats, meet & greet

Welcome

Program

Business Meeting

Brown-bag Lunch

Memorial Service

Communion

2:45 Conclusion

Please Register with Sharon Snider, your District UMW Communications Coordinator.

By email: Ssec22@aol.com

Or regular mail:

Mrs. Sharon Snider, 24 Aquetuck Road, Ravena, NY 12143

(Registration cost to be announced by August, payable at door)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Church: _____

Please freely post and distribute this copy of the COURIER. Contact the District Office (cathudnyac@aol.com) if you would like to be deleted or added to our database for receiving the COURIER online

United Methodist Camps

Kingswood Campsite (www.kingswoodcampsite.org), located in Hancock, NY, is one of our three NYAC Camps. It has over 700 acres where programs revolve around traditional tent camping. A highlight of Kingswood's summer season is the two-week Woodsmoke youth summer camp.

Until now, camping options included only equipped and unequipped (whether or not families bring their own tent and cooking gear or whether they rent a site already set up). Kingswood is now experimenting with a third option.

Recognizing the public's increasing preferences for creature comforts, and also the popularity of "camping" with recreation vehicles, Kingwood has created two pilot RV sites with approval from the Department of Health to expand to ten sites. We are encouraging people who may be interested in renting a future RV site for a week or a whole season to come look at this new RV camping area (the two pilot sites are currently rented seasonally). For more information contact Peter Seirup at (203) 431-6595 or peterseirup@gmail.com

Calendar

- July 6:** District UMW Summer Day Apart, Kingswood Campsite, 9-3
- July 22-24:** School of Christian Mission, Western CT State University, Danbury
- Aug. 9,11,16,18:** Lay Speaking Classes: Leading in Prayer, Grand Gorge UMC, 6:30-9 p.m.
- Aug. 11:** District UMW Summer Day Apart, Kingswood Campsite, 9-3
- Sept. 11:** Lay Speaking Class: Youth Basic Course, Camp Epworth, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Sept. 11:** Newly appointed pastors seminar, New Rochelle UMC, 9:30-2:30
- Sept. 12:** Parsonage Families BBQ, District Parsonage, afternoon
- Sept. 18:** District Leadership Training Day
- Sept. 19:** District Leadership Training Day
- Sept. 21:** Local Pastors and District Hires Group, Quarryville UMC, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 25:** District UMW Annual Meeting, St. Mark's UMC (Napanoch), 9:15
- Sept. 27,28:** Bishop's Retreat, Mt. St. Alphonsus, 10 a.m. Monday through lunch Tuesday
- Oct. 19,20:** Anti-racism Seminar for pastors, Mt. St. Alphonsus
- Oct. 30:** Festival of Praise, Overlook UMC (Woodstock), 4 p.m.
- Jan. 28,29,30:** District UMW Retreat, St. Joseph's Villa, Saugerties