Dr. Ashley Boggan, General Secretary of the General Commission on Archives and History took us back in time to discover our challenging and complex Methodist heritage during her "Moving Forward alongside our Vile Past" teaching time. Scan the QR to read the full article.

Scan the QR code to watch a recording of Dr. Boggan's learning session.



Three 95-gallon containers of food-associated waste were diverted from landfills to composting, thanks to the efforts of the UNYAC Creation Justice Team. Items for composting included food scraps, paper plates, and



napkins. This was the first annual conference at which composting was facilitated. Scan the QR code to read the full article.

United Methodists of Upper New York rallied around the #BeUMC sign as it makes its way across the country to different annual conferences. Bishop Héctor shared an inspiring message on moving forward together. Scan the QR code to watch the video.



To find daily notes, highlight videos, articles, and more, visit the 2024 Annual Conference webpage.



The Bridge is a Conference Communications Ministry tool that delivers to local churches news and stories of ministry from around the Upper New York Conference and the world. For more news and stories visit: www.unyumc.org





"Let's embrace this call to move forward with faith and love!"

Read more on page 2

What's inside

- The Episcopal Address
- Celebrating our youth
- #BeUMC



The Upper New York Conference's vision is to live the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be God's love with our neighbors in all places.



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United Methodists of Upper New York gather for the **2024 Annual Conference**

United Methodists of Upper New York gathered for the 2024 Annual Conference on May 30-June 1 at the SRC Arena on the Onondaga Community College campus. Here's what happened.

Bishop Héctor A. Burgos Núñez delivered an inspiring message on reconnecting and celebrating our identity as followers of Jesus Christ and United Methodists during opening worship. The bishop urged us to move forward, united in love, and to share God's healing love with everyone. "Let's embrace this call to move forward with faith and love!"



Scan the QR code to watch the recording of opening worship.

In his Episcopal Address, Bishop Héctor called United Methodists of Upper New York to prioritize relationships, celebrating the conference initiatives "Together in Prayer" and "Together in Worship" and the hundreds of stories shared in the past year of the good work of Upper New York churches. Scan the QR Code to read the full article. Scan the QR code to watch a recording of the Episcopal Address.

The Celebration of Ministry and Commissioning Service celebrated four clergy members who were commissioned for the work of Elder; one consecrated Deaconess; and one received as a transfer into Upper New York. Bishop Tracy Smith Malone, resident bishop of the East Ohio Conference and the new Council of Bishops president. delivered the message "The Joy of Hope," based on the scripture Ephesians 1:15-23, encouraging the congregation to fan the flame we have already been given, to prayer Paul's Ephesians prayer for every local church. Scan the QR code to read the full article. Scan the QR code to watch a recording of the Celebration of Ministry and Commissioning

Service.

Bishop Héctor invited Victor Giso of First United Methodist Church of East Greenbush to speak about the importance of including youth in the life and decisions of the church. Bishop Héctor named the importance of investing in young people and offered the stage to Destiny Hoerbelt, a member of North Tonawanda First United Methodist Church, during the Episcopal Address. She shared

a message about coming together and moving forward as a conference. Scan the QR code to read the full article. Scan the QR

code to watch a recording of Victor's presentation.



Scan the QR code to watch a recording of Destiny's presentation.



Xavier Mann, attending Lenoir-Rhyne University, shared the impact scholarship money has had on his college



education as one of the first recipients of the Buffalo 10 Scholarship. Dr. Scott Johnson, pastor at Pendleton Center United Methodist Church, announced the names of this year's recipients: Gyan Wiggins and Antoinette Pendegrass. Dr. Johnson said, "Xavier, Gyan, and Antoinette give us hope for the day that healing will be confirmed, and justice will be our norm."

Clergy and clergy spouses who have passed away since May of 2023 were honored and celebrated during a memorial service. The Upper New York Korean Caucus sang a song of preparation, and Dr. Scott Johnson delivered a powerful sermon about weathering storms of grief, knowing that the God who knows what we need is always with us. Scan the QR code to watch a recording of the Memorial Service.

