

Trinity Times

Summer 2026



In a "Calvin and Hobbes" comic strip, Calvin says to his father, "I just saw a commercial for a luxury cruise. How come we don't ever go on vacations like that?" His father answers, "Vacations are all just a matter of comparison." "Huh?" Calvin responds. His father explains, "We spend a week in cold, uncomfortable tents each year so living here the rest of the time seems like a luxury cruise. If your trips are unpleasant, your whole life is a vacation."

Soon Calvin is standing before his mother, hands clasped in supplication as he begs, "Please tell me I'm adopted."

I understand Calvin's dismay. His father's approach to vacations doesn't appeal to me either. But he is right about the element of comparison. People usually try to take a break from what they do the rest of the year. Even Jesus knew that sometimes it is necessary to disengage so that later we might be fully engaged. Theologian Thomas A. Langford wrote in *Prayer and the Common Life*: "Recreation is as much a gift of God as good hard work or as a challenging task. Recreation sets life in a different frame of reference. It opens horizons in new directions, it lets winds blow in crosscurrent, and puts persons in altered relations."

Whether your vacation will be the equivalent of spending a week in a cold, uncomfortable tent or a luxury cruise, may it be a time of recreation, refreshment, and renewal.

Wishing you a blessed summer!

Pastor Eileen



SUMMER WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Join us
in worship
every Sunday
at 10:00 am
through the summer!

And don't miss
the out-of-the-ordinary opportunities.
for worship, fellowship, and fun!

July 5

Holy Communion

July 15

Wonderful Wednesday_

6:00 – 7:30 pm

supper, fellowship, games & crafts

hamburgers & hot dogs will be supplied

bring a side dish or dessert

7:30 – 8:00 pm vesper service

July 26

Reverse Church and Hymn Sing

9:00 – 9:45 am refreshments and fellowship

9:45 am hymn sing in the sanctuary

10:00 am worship service

August 2

Holy Communion

August 12

Wonderful Wednesday_

6:00 – 7:30 pm

supper, fellowship, games & crafts

hamburgers & hot dogs will be supplied

bring a side dish or dessert

7:30 – 8:00 pm vesper service

August 30

Reverse Church and Hymn Sing

9:00 – 9:45 am refreshments and fellowship

9:45 am hymn sing in the sanctuary

10:00 am worship service

Summer Food Pantry

July Bagging – Tuesday - July 28 at 10 am in the Parish Hall.

July Distribution – Thursday – July 30 from 7- 8 pm.

Aug Bagging – Tuesday - Aug 25 at 10 am in the Parish Hall.

Aug Distribution – Thursday – Aug 27 from 7- 8 pm.

Volunteers should try to arrive by 6:30 pm.

Refrigerator space needed:

Attention Trinity Family: It should be no surprise that Food Bank offerings are not as abundant as they have been in the past. As a result, we have found that we need to order items when they are offered, rather than wait for a time closer to distribution. This affects produce. With temperatures rising and limited refrigeration space available, some produce may not survive the wait. If you have refrigerator space you don't use and are willing to share it, please let us know. Many thanks!

Marcia & Craig Grant – 845-223-5489

Round Table meets via zoom on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday evenings at 8:05.

Email Patsy Boisvert at pmboisvert22@gmail.com to join the group.

Round Table is on hiatus for the summer and will return in the fall.

Adult Bible Study

Join us via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm for this weekly adult Bible study with a time of prayer and praise.

Contact Clay Beattie at (845) 223-5584 for reading materials.

Trinity United Methodist Church
New York Annual Conference Report
June 24, 2026

The 227th New York Annual Conference was held at the Stamford Marriott Hotel and Spa from June 11 - June 14, 2026. The theme of this year's Conference was *Faith for Our Future: Loving Boldly. "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1.*

WORSHIP AND SPECIAL SERVICES

Opening worship and Holy Communion was led by Bishop Thomas J Bickerton. In his message, "No Strings", the Bishop called us to follow Jesus' commandment to love God and love God's people - there is no other way. The United Methodist Church in the United States is in a challenging position. But nothing is impossible with Jesus and our church will rise again. Our Church should not remain silent in the 21st Century. God is watching. It is time for us to stand up against injustice.

In his State of the Church Episcopal Address, Bishop Bickerton "delivered an (sic) ... address that was direct, sobering, and, in the end, more than hopeful." A summary of the Bishop's message is attached.

A Memorial Service was held for clergy, clergy spouses, widows and widowers who passed away since our last Annual Conference. Also remembered was former New York Annual Conference Lay Leader, Renee Beverly Smith.

The Celebration of Ministry included a liturgy - *Carried by the Spirit's Wind: 30 Years of the Order of Deacons in the UMC*. Three Local Pastors were licensed and six provisional Elders were commissioned.

Ordination was held on Sunday, June 14. Included in the service was a celebration of the 70th anniversary of women's ordination in the Methodist Tradition. Five provisional elders were ordained.

BUSINESS AND CORPORATE SESSIONS

At the beginning of each session of Annual Conference, the Rev Joanne Utley acknowledged that we live and worship on lands that are not originally ours and were not justly acquired. "Do no harm" is a foundational rule of John Wesley. The New York Annual Conference recognizes the harm done and continuing to our indigenous brothers and sisters. Some of the indigenous peoples harmed by our Conference are: the Unkechaug, the Shinnecock, the Montaukett, the Schaghticoke, the Weantinock. And here in Dutchess County: the Lenape, the Mohican and the Wappinger.

Bishop Bickerton called the business session to order on Thursday, June 11 and continued on Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13. Business conducted was as follows: election of new members to Conference Boards, Commissions and Committees; Board election, Immigration Law and Justice; presentation and approval of an \$8.5M budget; reading and approval of multiple reports; presentation of multiple awards and scholarships; reading of appointments; presentation of legislative reports; presentation and approval of the Consent Calendar. Rev Dr Paul Chilcote presented two Learning Sessions: *Living Into a Vision of Love* and *Loving Boldly Through Deep Connection*.

During the Corporate session, the Board of Trustees presented its report which included the sale and purchase of church properties. Five trustees was elected. Members of the Conference approved the following: the closure of Dormansville UMC, Maybrook UMC, Seaford UMC and Woodbury UMC; the merger of Monroe UMC and Sloatsburg UMC and the abandonment of the former South Highland UMC church property in Garrison, NY.

James Perkins, Conference Chancellor, reported there are currently three cases (down from seven) pending against various defendants in New York State courts under the Child Victims Act alleging sexual misconduct. New York Annual Conference has been named as a codefendant in these cases. The sexual abuse claims that were asserted against local churches in the Boy Scouts of America bankruptcy proceeding were resolved as part of an approved plan in bankruptcy whereby the claims will be paid out of a fund established by insurance companies and defendants named in the suits. As reported, the UMC contributed approximately \$30 million to the multi-billion-dollar fund, and the NYAC funded \$770,360 of this contribution. The Conference was not named in any statement of allegations in the bankruptcy case. The case filed with New York Courts under the New York Adult Survivors Act alleging sexual misconduct against various defendants including NYAC remains pending.

Some of suits that have arose out of the Discipline paragraph #2553 disaffiliation process (which closed on December 31, 2023) remain pending.

LEGISLATIVE SECTIONS

Legislative Sections were held on June 12. The sections were: (1) Ministries of Witness - Connectional Ministries and Ministries of Nurture – Societies, Institutions and Foundations; (2) Ministries of Advocacy; (3) Leadership/Commissioning and Administration; and (4) Clergy Care and Conference Finance. Reports and petitions were voted on in the sections.

I attended Leadership/Commissioning and Administration. All reports were accepted. No resolutions were presented. We concluded our section in 16 minutes. Apparently, a new record!!

ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES FOR GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES IN 2028

General Conference:

Clergy: Rev. Roslyn Lee, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Abel, Rev. Steve Young Dong Kim

Laity: Deaconess Gail Douglas-Boykin, Tiffany French Goffe, Lonnie Chafin

Jurisdictional Conference:

Clergy: Rev. Paul Fleck, Rev. Simeon Law, Rev. Shelia Beckford

Laity: Jorge Lockward, Beth Capen, Carol Merante

Alternates:

Clergy: Rev. Denise Smartt-Sears, Rev. Josuha Jinwoo Kim, Rev. Angela Redman

Laity: Caterina Choi, Rashid Warner, Makeda Sharell Peters

The 2028 General Conference will be held in Minneapolis in May 2028.

Jurisdictional will be held in Syracuse, NY in July of 2028.

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- I am honored to be your Lay Member to New York Annual Conference. I encourage you to visit www.nyac.com to become familiar with your Annual Conference. There you can find petitions and resolutions presented at Annual Conference, the 2026/2027 Appointment Book, a calendar of Events, the Conference staff, church and clergy directories and the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline.

- Yours in Christ,
- Patsy M Boisvert
- Lay Member to Annual Conference

2026 State of the Church Address: Bishop Bickerton Shares a Vision for Our Changing Church



Now FAITH IS CONFIDENCE IN WHAT WE HOPE FOR AND ASSURANCE ABOUT WHAT WE DO NOT SEE. Hebrews 11:1

June 18, 2026

At the 227th Annual Conference Session, Bishop Bickerton delivered a State of the Church address that was direct, sobering, and, in the end, more than hopeful. The message: Due to a convergence of pressures, the Church can no longer conduct business as usual.



Using a nautical analogy, he said a sea change in what we do and how we do it is necessary. Now is the time to leave the comfortable shoreline of our current location and venture into uncharted waters. Bishop Bickerton stressed that this change needs to happen now, and he offered both vision and the tools to help get us there.

Bishop Bickerton framed the moment through the story of the Israelites leaving Egypt. God assured them they would not be alone. They witnessed miracle after miracle. And still, when they reached the edge of the Promised Land, they pulled back. Fear won. The result was 40 years of wandering. "This is not only a historical, biblical account," he said. "It is a remarkably accurate story about the human condition from the beginning of time."

Woven throughout Bishop's address was a conviction that this moment, as uncomfortable as it is, carries real possibility. The door has been unlocked, Bishop Bickerton said. The question is whether we have the courage to walk through it and the ability to do it together.

Using a nautical image, Bishop described three phases every transition requires: letting loose of the shoreline, raising our sails on the open sea, and setting our sights on an unseen destination. He drew on the work of transition experts William and Susan Bridges to name what each phase demands, and he drew on Scripture to anchor all of it.

For local churches, he offered a framework built around four questions: What is our purpose? What does our picture of a new beginning actually look like? What is our plan, and who is held accountable to it? And what part is each person called to play? "Our greatest push," Bishop said, "must be to nurture the call of ministry within our laity, empower them, and hold them accountable to the ministry that is theirs."

The full address is available in multiple formats below. Share these resources with your congregation. The conversation Bishop Bickerton started at Annual Conference should not end there.

Download the full article: <https://bit.ly/3SwmEUA>

Download the video to share: <https://bit.ly/4vlquyA>

Download a transcript of the address: <https://bit.ly/4vZfeYx>

Download the PowerPoint presentation: <https://bit.ly/4vCDPCR>

There is more to come from Annual Conference 2026...

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Communications,

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| Phone: 914-615-2218 | Email: communications@nyac.com

Trustee Corner

Members: Mike Tucci, Royal Ricci, Ralph La Casio, Chris Freeman, Ann Sherer, Bob & Patsy Boisvert, Mike Bangert, Ron Lemar

Fellowship Hall Kitchen stove has been repaired and all burners and ovens are working.

Work is underway to move the A/V System from the Chancel to the back of the sanctuary on the left side.

Landscaping work will occur sometime in July or August depending on the contractor's schedule.

Yoga

Beginner/All Levels "Align & Refine"
RajaHatha Yoga

Trinity United Methodist Church

Tuesday Class 5:30 - 6:45 pm
Thursday Class 6:00 - 7:15 pm
Saturday Class 9:00 - 10:15 am



Please arrive 10 minutes prior to start of class.

Class cost: \$5 (20% donated to church)

Trinity Piecemakers



Trinity Piecemakers will meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm. Meeting dates will be posted during church. Please contact Debbie Beattie at: 845-223-5584 for more information.

Trinity United Methodist Church

Webpage: <https://trinityumclagrange.org>

Worship Recordings

Use this link to see the worship recordings on the Trinity YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/@tumclagrange8619>

Trinity United Methodist Church
6 South Cross Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540



DATES TO REMEMBER

July 4 th	Independence Day
July 5 th	Worship Service Holy Communion
July 15 th	Wonderful Wednesday
July 26 th	Reverse Church and Hymn Sing
July 28 th	Food Pantry Bagging
July 30 th	Food Pantry Distribution
Aug 2 nd	Worship Service Holy Communion
Aug 12 th	Wonderful Wednesday
Aug 16 th	Worship Service Ad Council
Aug 25 th	Food Pantry Bagging
Aug 27 th	Food Pantry Distribution
Aug 30 th	Reverse Church and Hymn Sing

The Trinity Times

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Organist: Heidi Tucci

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