

# The News of Mohawk District



## Church growth

Several Church Growth Workshops were held in April on Mohawk District. Rev. Lauren Swanson, Director of Congregational Development for our conference, gave a presentation on how to develop ministries that reach out to people in the community, how to envision and develop a process for new ministries, and how to use spiritual gifts in ministry. The workshop was offered in six different places, with 114 people, including 21 clergy, from 35 churches attending. Brian Ethington, District Lay Leader, said, "I feel (the workshops) were an excellent starting point and got people thinking about different possibilities they can use to help their churches grow spiritually and numerically. It is my prayer that the seeds which have been planted will take root and grow. I am excited about how the Lord of the Church will use this."

**District Day for Clergy  
with the Bishop  
Monday, May 19  
9:30 AM to 1 PM**

**Christ United Methodist Church, Sherrill,  
New York**

I am so pleased and excited to announce that Bishop Violet Fisher will be with us to worship and have time together with us. I hope and pray that you will be able to be a part of this great event. You are asked to bring \$5 for lunch. Lunch will be prepared by the Sherrill Christ UMC. This is a special time for the Bishop and all Pastors to be together and share information and concerns.

## Agenda

**9:30 – 9:45 a.m, Gathering  
9:45 – 10:30 a.m., Worship  
10:30 – Noon, Time with Bishop Fisher  
Noon – 1 p.m., Lunch**

**Sung Ho Lee D.S.**

## **NORTHERN FLOW DISTRICT & MOHAWK DISTRICT LAY SPEAKERS RETREAT at CAMP ALDERSGATE**

**MAY 16, 17, 18; Arrival: 3 p.m.; Departure: 1pm**

**LEADER: REV. BETH BENHAM**

**"STEP INTO THE FRAY"**

"You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family." Matthew 5:9, The Message

How might you better step into the fray of congregational conflict?

Bible study, role plays, worship, tools for problem solving,

Know yourself – your reactions, your style, your contribution.

Going for an "everybody wins" outcome. PLUS: fun, food, fellowship!

COST: \$129 (includes lodging and meals)