

UMCatalyst Weekly Newsletter

1 message

New England Conference UMC <msgs-neumc-119@brtapp.com>
Reply-To: New England Conference UMC <info@neumc.org>
To: unionchurchmaine@gmail.com

Wed, Mar 5, 2025 at 2:00 PM



March 5, 2025

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

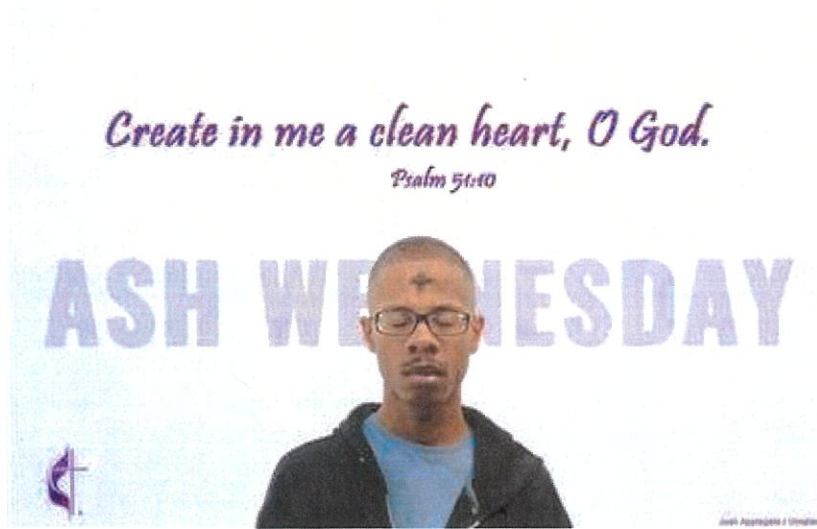


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Deadline to Submit

Monday at 5 p.m. to
communicate@neumc.org



Why does Lent begin with ashes? [Watch video](#)
[Ask The UMC: When did Ash Wednesday begin?](#)

EVENTS

March 6



Pictured, Left: 2024 Bryant Award honoree Linda Bryant, third from right, and 2024 Ziegler Preacher Rev. Heather Bailes Baker.

Call for nominations: Bryant and Ziegler awards

The New England Conference Board of Church and Society is seeking nominations for its 2025 awards recognizing prophetic preaching, the Wilbur C. Ziegler Award for Excellence in Preaching, and social justice work by a lay person, the John Bryant Award for Excellence in Social Justice Action. Learn more about these awards and find the nomination forms on our website here: <https://www.neumc.org/CSawards>

The deadline for nominations is April 30, 2025.

New England Conference staff changes

Clare J. Chapman, Conference Treasurer and Director of Administrative Services, announces the following changes to Conference staff:

Allyson Printz, who serves as the Regional Administrator (RA) for the Commonwealth East and Commonwealth West districts, will serve as RA to the Commonwealth West and Seacoast districts effective immediately. We will be seeking an RA who will serve the Commonwealth East District as well as provide general administrative support across the districts. Allyson will continue to support the Commonwealth East District during the transition. This will be an in-person role based in the Conference Center in Methuen, MA. A job posting will be [published here](#) shortly.

As of March 1, 2025, **Lisa Abbott** is no longer on the Conference staff. Lisa made many valuable contributions to our systems and processes during her time with us, and we wish her well in her future endeavors. Barbara Kearney, a consultant for Brick River Technologies and the former IT Manager for the New York Annual Conference, will be assisting us with the transition. This position will be filled. More information will be available shortly.



Learn more about the Wesley Development Group

Webinar: 7-8pm, March 6, 2025

Are the expenses of maintaining your church property inhibiting your ability to focus on ministry?

Are you concerned about the legacy of your church within your community? The UM Foundation of New England launched the Wesley Development Group (WDG) to support churches struggling with small congregations and deferred maintenance to be good stewards of their property. In just over two years, Wesley Development has helped more than 40 churches with needed consulting, hands-on building and property assistance, and transactions.

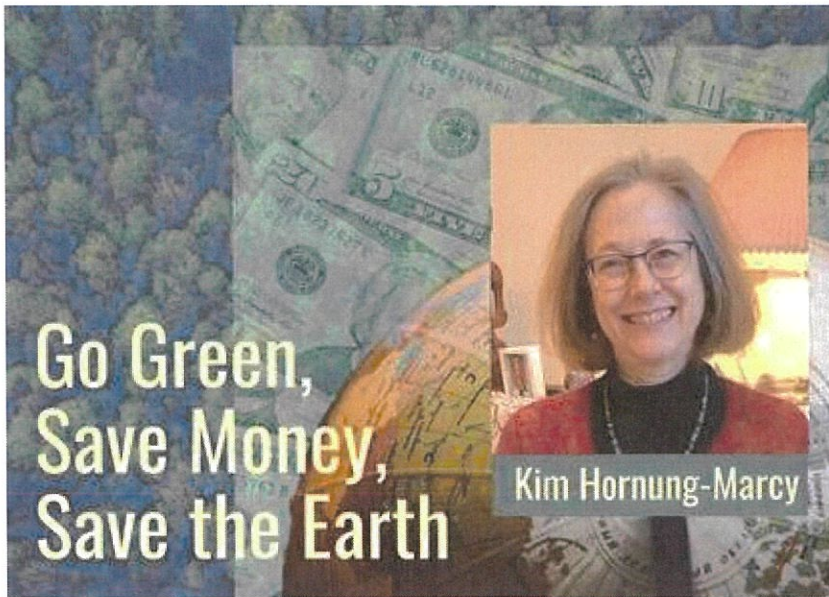
Join us to learn more about our work and what we have learned from churches like yours.

[Learn more and register](#)

March 9



Rolling Ridge: Journey with us through Lent



Go Green, Save Money, Save the Earth: Fight food waste

In this month's blog on caring for the environment, Rev. Kim Hornung-Marcy shares tips for storing produce that will help you avoid food waste.

[Read more](#)



Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News

Early Response Team Training

The objective of Early Response Team (ERT) training is to equip United Methodist volunteers with the essential components of initial disaster response including roof tarping, clearing out damaged residences, providing spiritual and emotional support, and following team protocols. These in-person training sessions are open to all individuals aged 18 and older. Participants who successfully complete this training will

March 15



Taste the sweet life at Wanakee's Maple Sugar Saturday

Join us on 8:30 am to 6 pm on Saturday, March 15, 2025, to see how maple syrup is made! Bring the whole family and experience the whole process of maple sugaring, from tapping the tree to smothering your pancakes. Enjoy 3 meals and plenty of maple treats. You will even bring home some Wanakee syrup to share with your family and friends! All ages are welcome at this family event. Children aged 17 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Cost: Adults (18+) \$60, Youth (4-17) \$30, Toddlers (0-3) FREE
Meet at Wanakee Log Cabin (just around the corner from the Farmhouse) at 149 Arbutus Hill Road, Meredith, NH.
[Learn more and register](#)

[Check out our Local Church Events calendar and add your upcoming events](#)

DON'T FORGET

[Online VIM Team Leader training offered](#)

March 19-April 9 or April 12-May 3

receive an Early Response Team (ERT) badge. Each participant will be subject to a background check conducted by UMCOR and must also complete Safer Sanctuary training.

Sessions are being scheduled in each of our districts. All trainings are 9 am to 5 pm on Saturdays. Lunch is included. Cost is \$35.

[Learn more and register](#)

[Learn more about the 2025 Vermont Mission Team Blitz](#)

OBITUARIES

Curtis, Susan

02/28/2025

UMC NEWS

Survey: 3% of US adults are United Methodist

DES MOINES, Wash. — The latest Religious Landscape Study from the Pew Research Center came out in late February. Among the survey's findings is that slightly fewer than 3% of U.S. adults identify as members of The United Methodist Church, down from 5% in 2007. Both the Southern Baptist Convention and The United Methodist Church remain the largest Protestant denominations in the U.S. Patrick Scriven of the Greater Northwest Area reflects on the survey's findings.

[Read Greater Northwest Area reflection](#)

[Read Religious Landscape Study](#)

Celebrating female central conference bishops

WASHINGTON — In honor of Women's History Month, the United Methodist Commission on Religion and Race is shining a spotlight on the work of three female central conference bishops — each of whom is helping to build a globally interconnected Beloved Community. Bishops Joaquina F. Nhanala, Ruby-Nell M. Estrella and Rosemarie Wenner remain faithful to their calling while dismantling stereotypes and empowering more women to seek leadership roles.

[Read story](#)

UMC News

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Conference leadership training for SPRCs

First published Feb. 12, 2025



Trustee training is March 20, 2025

First published Feb. 19, 2025



United Women in Faith Announces Call for Workshop Proposals for Assembly 2026

First published Feb. 19, 2025



Resources for immigrants and allies

This webpage provides information for congregations and individuals who want to stand as allies with our immigrant neighbors.

First published Feb. 3, 2025



**Register now for
Pilgrimage to Scotland**

There are only six openings left!
Register and pay in full by **March 30, 2025.**

[Learn more and register](#)

**Apply now for 2025 Mustard
Seed grants**

Ongoing

First published Jan. 29

**Find our newsletter
archives here**

CLASSIFIEDS

**Nursery Attendant - Hampden
Highlands, ME**

**First UMC in Bangor is Seeking
a Youth Ministry Leader
Bangor, ME**

**Intended Appointment
Changes**

2025 Clear Openings

Updated Feb. 17, 2025



NEW HOPE EPISCOPAL AREA

THE NEW ENGLAND AND NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCES

◀ THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

