

February 2021



New England Conference
The United Methodist Church

Connected is a publication of the New England Conference of The United Methodist Church. This monthly insert is designed put Conference news directly into the hands of our local church members.

Find more at www.neumc.org.



Learn more about Missioninsite

What if you could reach your neighbors with much more precision?
What if you knew more about the households in your community?
For example, whether there are kids in the household or the gender of the residents.
How might that information help you design your outreach efforts, even in these days of COVID-19?

Missioninsite (missioninsite.com) is a powerful demographic tool available for your congregation; it continues to update its platform, making it even easier for you to develop ministry plans that can connect more meaningfully with your community.

In this one-hour webinar on led by Director of Congregational Development Rev. Rick McKinley, you'll learn the basics of using the platform and how you can use a new feature called "Neighbor Center."

Two options to attend: 1 pm or 7 pm on Jan. 25; via Zoom. Visit www.neumc.org to register.



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Webinar for local churches
from Congregational Development



New webpage: leadership training opportunities

Check out our new Leadership Training Opportunities page www.neumc.org/training

This page curates training webinars and workshops for clergy and laity – including District Resource Days – that are being offered in the New England Conference.

These events are opportunities for you to hear from gifted speakers and experts from across New England and around the nation who will offer big ideas and practical tools that can be implemented in your local church context.

And we want folks across the entire Conference to take advantage of these amazing resources. In other words, you don't have to belong to the host district to participate.

In this issue of Connected, we are highlighting some of what's coming up.



FIND EVENT DETAILS AND WHAT'S COMING UP AT
www.neumc.org/training

District Resource Days

Two chances to learn from Jason Moore



Commonwealth West District Resource Day

9 am to noon Feb. 27

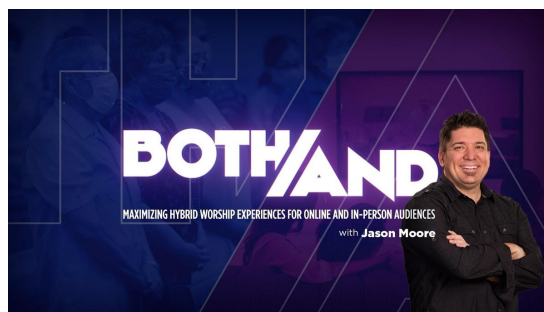
Telling the Old Story in a New Time

With the social distancing practices preventing our physical gatherings, how do we connect and make our message resonate with a world in chaos?

Now more than ever, the church has the opportunity to lead the charge in a world looking for spiritual answers. In order to lead effectively, we have to tell the old story in a new way, for a new time and with a new medium.

In the same way a book has to be consolidated and adapted for the screen in movie form, so must the worship we offer virtually. We can't continue with a "business-as-usual" approach where Sunday morning worship is concerned.

Join author, creative worship and guest readiness coach Jason Moore for a two-hour webinar for how to face these unique challenges to worship.



Seacoast District Resource Day

9 am to noon March 13

Both/And: Maximizing Hybrid Worship Experiences

In March 2020, when congregations ended in-person worship and went online (many for the first time) the methodology for streaming worship completely shifted paradigms. Everything was about the home audience.

Now we face one of the most critical moves in the next iteration of the online worship experience.

As we move back into our buildings, we mustn't return to making people at home observers. We also can't take an approach where we treat the in-person crowd as the studio audience. Neither of these audiences should feel secondary. You don't have to be in the district to participate.

Both events are free to participants, but registration is required. Find links to details and registration forms at

www.neumc.org/training

Stewardship

UM Foundation's monthly webinars

The United Methodist Foundation of New England (UMFNE) is dedicated to serving all United Methodists within the New England Conference. It is one of the largest and most successful United Methodist foundations in the United States. Local churches, conference agencies, clergy, and individuals rely on this trusted partner for a variety of stewardship, planned giving, and financial services. The UMFNE is a separate 501c3 nonprofit. It's Forum Educational Series offers a webinar on the fourth week of the month on a variety of topics. Each month there are two opportunities to participate.



"Maximizing Investment Income in 2021"

This event is via Zoom:

12:30-1:30 pm Jan. 27 or 7-8 pm Jan. 28

Discussion will include:

- Investment Basics & Strategies
- Foundation Portfolio Review
- Diversification & Risk Management
- Mission Driven Performance

Planned topics:

February: Grants - Turning mission dreams into ministries

March: Strategic Planning Process

April: Best Practices for Church Finance Committees

May: Best Practices in Stewardship

To register and learn more, visit the Foundation website

www.umfne.org

Let's Connect

Do you have a story to share? A feature idea? A question to ask? Contact Beth DiCocco, Conference Director of Communications, at communicate@neumc.org or (978) 682-8055 ext. 150