

Men's Empowerment Weekend

West River UMC Camp



Northeastern Jurisdiction
United Methodist Men

Men leading like Jesus



April 16–18, 2027

Keynote: Rev. Rick Vance, GCUMM

Workshop Learning Sessions

NEJUMM.org/leaders

Equipping Methodist Men

Keynote Speaker

Rev. Dr. Rick Vance, GCUMM Secretary

The Rev. Dr. Richard “Rick” Vance has served with the General Commission on United Methodist Men since 2016, joining as Director of the Center for Men’s Ministries and later becoming Director of Operations in 2021. In September 2025, he was appointed to his current leadership role with the Commission.

Dr. Vance began his professional career in healthcare and education, serving as a radiologic technologist, clinical supervisor, and instructor of radiologic sciences before entering ordained ministry. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Salisbury University, a Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry in Leadership Excellence. He was ordained an elder in the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference, where he served as a pastor and conference leader in United Methodist Men ministries.

Since joining the Commission, Dr. Vance has authored resources on leadership, discipleship, and gender-based violence prevention, and regularly leads workshops and conferences across the United States and internationally. He is widely known for speaking on spiritual gifts



Equipping Methodist Men

Northeastern United Methodist Men

Tom Leach, NEJUMM President
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Workshops

Session 1

God's Call to Young Men: Stepping Into Men's Ministry: : **Reaching the Next Generation: Building Bridges of Faith with Young Men**

Focus: Explore practical ways churches can mentor, disciple, and engage Gen Z and Millennials through Scouting, campus chaplaincy, and intentional men's tearing programs.

Session 2

NACP Goals & Conference/District Leadership: Casting Vision, Building Leaders: **The Future of Men's Ministry in Our Conferences**

Focus: Inspire Conference and District Presidents with clarity about NACP's mission, measurable goals, and strategies for multiplying men's ministries in local churches.

Session 3

Aligning with God's Will: Prayer and Purpose in Men's Lives: **Prayer That Ignites: Moving from Routine to Revival**

Focus: Discover prayer not merely as a discipline, but as a movement that stirs men of all ages toward deeper faith, bold action, and renewed passion for Christ.

Dream Big: Empowering Men – Equipping Methodist Men to Lead, Serve, and Transform Lives for Christ

Methodist Men of the Northeastern Jurisdiction—especially those under 50—this is your time to step up and lead! Join brothers from all 10 Conferences for a weekend of worship, fellowship, and practical training to equip you as a Men's Ministry leader in your conference, district, or local church.

We're bringing together Gen Z, Millennials, Gen Y, and Seniors—150 to 200 men who are ready to serve. Alongside youth, we'll take part in a hands-on service project, and you'll gain the tools, ideas, and inspiration to start, grow, or reignite your ministry.

Friday, April 16, 2027

Faith-centered & welcoming

4 pm – 6:30 pm Arrive for Registration at West River

7:30 pm Gathering and Welcome by Tom Leach NEJ UMM President

7:45 pm Bishop Message

8:00 pm Prayer Circle and Singing led by Bryon Gould, National Prayer Advocate & Jerry Meadows, NEJ UMM Prayer Advocate

9:00 pm Dismiss to Lodging

9:30 pm Lodging group Class Meetings or Prayer Groups

10:30 pm Lights out

Workshops

Session 4

Coaching & Leadership Development:
From Vision to Action: **Coaching Men to Lead with Purpose**

Focus: Learn practical coaching models that empower men to grow spiritually, lead with confidence, and disciple others—

Session 5

God's Call to Justice: A Breakout for Men of Faith: Title: Men of Justice: **Answering God's Call to Serve Our Communities**

Focus: Equip men to faithfully engage in justice ministries that resonate with younger generations, connecting service, advocacy, and discipleship as acts of faith.

Session 6

Healing & Mental Health: **ReThink Hope Ministry: Faith, Healing, and Mental Health**

Focus: Equip churches to address mental health with compassion and courage. Participants will learn how ReThink Hope Ministry creates safe spaces for honest dialogue, provides practical tools for supporting those in crisis, and helps congregations become communities of healing and resilience.

Saturday, April 17 2027

Faith in Action: Serving Together

8:00 am Breakfast at Main Hall

9:00 am Rise Against Hunger Service Project with Scouts

12:00 pm Lunch in main Hall

1:00 Keynote speaker: Rev. Dr. Rick Vance, GCUMM Secretary

2:00 pm Workshop One

1. God's Call to Young Men: Stepping Into Men's Ministry
2. NACP Goals & Conference/District Leadership
3. Aligning with God's Will: Prayer and Purpose in Men's Lives
4. Coaching & Leadership Development
5. God's Call to Justice: A Breakout for Men of Faith
6. Healing & Mental Health

♦ 3:00 pm Break

♦ 3:30 pm Workshop Two

1. God's Call to Young Men: Stepping Into Men's Ministry
2. NACP Goals & Conference/District Leadership
3. Aligning with God's Will: Prayer and Purpose in Men's Lives
4. Coaching & Leadership Development
5. God's Call to Justice: A Breakout for Men of Faith
6. Healing & Mental Health

♦ 4:30 pm prepare for dinner

♦ 5:00 pm Dinner

♦ 6:30 pm Spiritual Leadership & Local Church Renewal

♦ I Am the Church Leader: Leading with Courage When Help Is Needed— Rev. Dr. Sterling Eaton - Former Director of Men's Ministries (GCUMM) and pastor at Prospect UMC, Chester, PA – Eastern PA Conference

7:30 pm Fellowship and Singing

8:30 pm Retreat to Lodging

9:00 pm Lodging group Class Meetings or Group Prayer

Sunday, April 18, 2027

At the Table, Then Into the World

8:00 am Breakfast at Main Hall

9:30 am Worship with Bishop

10:30 am Celebration of Holy Sacrament

11:15 am Helping Us to Spread Love and Faith: Marble Ministry, Bill Weller

11:30 am Closing Remarks and Prayer: Tom Leach, NEJ UMM President.

Residential Bishops



Thomas Bickerton
New England & New York
Area



Héctor Burgos-Núñez
Susquehanna & Upper
New York Area



LaTrelle Easterling
Peninsula Delaware &
Baltimore Washington
Area



Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
Eastern Pennsylvania &
Greater New Jersey Area



Sandra Steiner Ball
Pittsburgh Area



Debra Wallace-Padgett
West Virginia Area

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