



UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

2020 CHARGE CONFERENCE

Equipping spiritual leaders to make vital congregations for the transformation of the world.



*Be strong and courageous and do the work, Do not be afraid or discouraged
for the Lord, my God is with you. - 1 Chronicles 28:20*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Welcome to the 2020 Charge Conference.

Thank you for your ministry and leadership during this most challenging year. GNJ congregations and clergy have been courageous in this season adapting and changing to serve our congregations and community.

Greater New Jersey's strategic plan calls us to cultivate and equip clergy and laity leaders who make disciples who make disciples. The goal setting and connections that are shared at church conference unite our ministry and set us on a path together so that we can focus on our mission: making disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

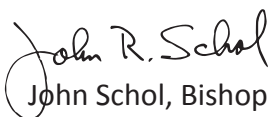
As United Methodists in Greater New Jersey, we share core values:

- Centered in Christ
- Compassionate and just
- Welcome diversity
- Innovative and risk taking
- Excellence for the glory of God.

I hope the resources outlined in this book will help you in your leadership. I encourage you to share them with your congregations, participate in workshops, trainings, events and celebrations and dare to go deeper and wider in your ministry. Your leadership has never been more important. I look forward to hearing about your ministry from our superintendents.

Greater New Jersey leaders are courageous, and I know the Lord our God is with you. Thank you for your ministry. I am blessed to serve next to you.

Keep the faith!


John Schol, Bishop

RESOURCES

A brief description of the resources listed for clergy and laity is included below with website links as appropriate. More information can also be found on Greater New Jersey's website: www.gnjumc.org.

BACK TO BASICS/FOUNDATIONAL DAYS | Annual trainings for specific leadership roles in the congregation. | *Look for schedule announcements in the GNJ Digest and District Superintendent newsletters.*

BREAKTHROUGH | Worship resource that include best practices so that GNJ congregations can focus on what really matters - preaching the gospel to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. | www.gnjumc.org/breakthrough

CLERGY COACHING | Coaches walk beside GNJ clergy to help achieve leadership goals and action plans. | www.gnjumc.org/clergy-coaching

CLERGY LEADERSHIP SEMINAR | Monthly seminar for clergy that focuses on experiential learning, practical application and implementation focusing on leadership and congregational competencies. *By invitation.*

COKESBURY | The retail division of The United Methodist Publishing House which provides quality services and resources to churches. | www.cokesbury.com

DAYS OF LEARNING | Regional programs that equip congregational leaders to grow in vitality and impact. | *Look for schedule announcements in the GNJ Digest and District Superintendent newsletters.*

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES WORSHIP RESOURCES | Quality United Methodist music, liturgy and preaching resources for faithful and vital local church worship. | www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP RESOURCES/WEBINARS

Regularly updated materials on stewardship and church finances. |

www.umcdiscipleship.org/leadership-resources/stewardship

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAYS | A workbook and video developed by the GNJ Connectional Ministries Team that helps church leaders define, outline and implement a clear discipleship pathway within the congregation. | www.gnjumc.org/newdisciples

GNJ DIGEST | Weekly newsletter from GNJ leadership with information and event announcements for vital congregations. | www.gnjumc.org/thegnjdigest

HOPE CENTERS | Asset based community and congregation partnerships that bring hope to people within and outside of the church. Hope Centers are located throughout GNJ and offer mission opportunities for churches. | www.afuturewithhope.org

IGNITE YOUTH CONFERENCE | Three day conference that brings together hundreds of youth from around GNJ. | www.ignitenj.org

IGNITE YOUTH LEADERS DAY | Training day for leaders of youth groups. | www.ignitenj.org

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY | An annual program sponsored by the GNJ Board of Laity to develop best practices in the areas of worship, small groups, new disciples, mission and giving.

LAY SERVANT MINISTRY | A pathway for GNJ laity to focus on growing their witness and leadership within their congregation and beyond. Classes are offered for Basic Lay Servants, Lay Speakers, Certified Lay Servants, Lay Missioners and Certified Lay Ministers.
www.gnjumc.org/lay-servant-ministries

MINISTRY MATTERS | Articles, blogs, books, sermon guides and worship resources for Christian leaders. | www.ministrymatters.com

MIRACLES EVERYWHERE | A GNJ mission fund to raise \$6.2 million for Next Generation, A Future With Hope, hurricane recovery, making disciples in Tanzania and the COVID-19 Relief Fund.
www.gnjumc.org/miracleseverywhere

MISSION U | An annual education opportunity cosponsored by GNJ's United Methodist Women to study effective mission and ministry. | www.gnjumc.org/mission

MISSIONINSITE | Tool to provide demographic data for your church and community, customized and available for all GNJ churches. | www.gnjumc.org/mission/missioninsite

MULTIPLICATION COHORT | A group of GNJ pastors identified as likely to innovate and launch new faith communities. | www.gnjumc.org/newdisciples

NEXT GENERATION SUMMER CAMPS | Opportunities for middle and high schoolers to participate in week-long camping programs at Pinelands Center. | www.gnjnextgen.org

PACE GROUPS | Cohort groups for GNJ clergy that meet monthly to focus on a particular theme for growth in worship planning, leading change, fundraising, self-care and other topics.
www.gnjumc.org/pace

READINESS360 | An in-depth church evaluative process that identifies behaviors, patterns and attitudes that contribute to success or failure when developing new places for new people or stepping out in bold risk-taking mission. | www.readiness360.org

RETREATS AT PINELANDS CENTER | Year-round facilities at Mt. Misery in the Pine Barrens suitable for adult and youth spiritual retreats. | www.gnjnextgen.org

SMALL GROUP RESOURCES FROM GNJ | Dozens of free resources for small group leaders that have been curated and recommended by the Connectional Ministries Team.

www.gnjumc.org/smallgroups

STEWARDSHIP FOUNDATION | The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of GNJ is a GNJ vital mission partner which has tools for stewardship, capital and endowment campaigns, planned giving, financial planning, investment and online giving. | www.gnjumc.org/umsf

TEAM VITAL | An intensive training for leaders in congregations of 75 or more in worship to create a strategic ministry plan using the five markers of vitality. | www.gnjumc.org/team-vital

UMCOR | The humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church that offers mission and giving opportunities for congregations to connect with the global community. www.umcor.org

UMVIM NEJ | United Methodists Volunteers in Mission the Northeastern Jurisdiction train, equip, connect and mobilize for short-term mission in locally, nationally and internationally. www.umvimnej.org

VITAL MISSION PARTNERS | GNJ's strategic non profit partners including, A Future With Hope, Next Generation Ministries, The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of Greater New Jersey, and the Centenary Fund. | www.gnjumc.org

THE WAY WE GATHER MAKES A DIFFERENCE | A guide to assist congregations in being authentic to who you are today, while preparing for growth tomorrow. www.gnjumc.org/congregationalvitality



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