

September 2023

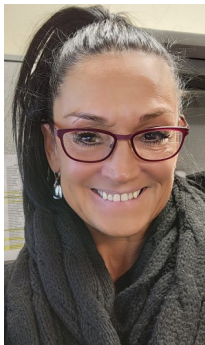


Connected is a publication of the New England Conference of The United Methodist Church. This monthly insert is designed put Conference news directly into the hands of our local church members.

Find more at [www.neumc.org](http://www.neumc.org).

### Welcome Jodi Morris

The New England Conference is pleased to announce that Jodi Morris has joined the Conference staff as Regional Administrator. She supports of the centralized district ministries and the office of Connectional Ministries.



Based at the Conference Center in Methuen, MA, Morris began on July 17, 2023.

“Jodi comes to us with excellent experience and qualifications. Please join me in welcoming her to our Conference team,” said Clare J. Chapman, treasurer/director of administrative services.

Morris joins Regional Administrators Allyson Printz, serving the Commonwealth East and Commonwealth West districts; Phyllis Riviere, serving the Green Mountain and Granite districts, and Lori Umberhind, serving the Katahdin and Many Waters districts.

Morris has worked as an executive assistant and administrative assistant for nearly 20 years.

“I am super excited to be a part of the New England Conference team,” Morris said. “I am a proud graduate of Katharine Gibbs School in Boston, and looking forward to putting my skills to use in this role.”

A native New Englander, she enjoys working out and outdoor activities.

Reach Morris at (978) 682-8055 ext. 201 or [admin-support@neumc.org](mailto:admin-support@neumc.org)



## Celebrating 75 years



By Jarod Richmond, Mechuwana Site Committee

Two of the NEAC’s camp and retreat centers are celebrating 75 years in ministry this month, and you’re invited to join the celebrations.

### Mechuwana

Noon Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023  
Camp Mechuwana  
Mechuwana Lane  
Winthrop, ME 04364

Come any time after 12 pm; worship service (and freewill offering) begins at 2:30 pm outside the Commons, followed by an early supper. Please RSVP [campmechuwana@gmail.com](mailto:campmechuwana@gmail.com)

### Rolling Ridge

10 am Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023

Rolling Ridge  
Retreat and Conference Center  
660 Great Pond Road  
North Andover, MA 01845

Join us as artists, authors, and musicians fill the gardens with a celebration of the arts. Tours of the house, grounds, and gardens will be offered. Food will feed the body with SoulCare workshops feeding the spirit.

At 2 pm, we highlight the "diamonds" that have sparkled in the 75-year history of the Ridge. We will also have a dedication of the Memorial Garden benches and pavers, and launch a Jim Todd Memorial with the new Todd Hall. Visit [www.rollingridge.org](http://www.rollingridge.org) to RSVP



FIND MORE ABOUT ALL THESE ITEMS ON OUR WEBSITE  
[www.neumc.org](http://www.neumc.org)

## Katahdin and Commonwealth East welcome new superintendents

## Webinar

### Ministry with those in recovery



Mark Bebee

This month, the NEAC will host a webinar on being in effective ministry with those who are in recovery from addictions.

In her August newsletter, Bishop Peggy A. Johnson writes, "There is a pandemic of addiction in our society, and it affects everyone on some level. ... September is National Recovery Month, and an excellent time to take up this call to action. There is much that our churches can do."

Read the bishop's full message in the [email archive](#) on our website. Our guest speaker will

be Pastor Mark A. Bebee, executive director of Recovery at [Cokesbury Network](#), which provides a Christ-centered, biblically oriented recovery program based on the 12-Step program of meetings and accountability.

**7-8 pm Monday, Sept. 18, 2023**  
Webinar ID: 913 9532 1311  
Passcode: 219206

### Katahdin District

Rick McKinley



1 pm Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023  
Bangor First UMC  
703 Essex St.  
Bangor, ME 04401  
Rev. Rick McKinley will be installed as Katahdin District Superintendent in an in-person service. There will be refreshments following the installation. Questions? Contact [kadistrict@neumc.org](mailto:kadistrict@neumc.org)

### Commonwealth East District

1 pm Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023  
Wilmington UMC  
87 Church Street  
Wilmington, MA 01887  
Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan will be installed as Commonwealth East District Superintendent in an in-person service. There will be refreshments following the installation. Questions? Contact [cedistrict@neumc.org](mailto:cedistrict@neumc.org)

Nizzi Santos Digan



## Special Sunday

# World Communion Sunday is Oct. 1

One of The United Methodist Church's Special Sundays, World Communion Sunday provides racial and ethnic students with scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development. In 2022, you gave over \$457,000 to this offering.

Your donations provided scholarships for undergraduate or graduate level studies for both international and U.S. students. Your generosity allows those unable to afford an education to become leaders who embody the mission of The United Methodist Church. Learn more and get resources at [www.resourceumc.org](http://www.resourceumc.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](mailto:communicate@neumc.org) or (978) 682-8055 ext. 150