New Mexico Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church



Carlo A. Rapanut Resident Bishop Alli J. Newsom Executive Assistant to the Bishop

DATE: April 1, 2025

TO: Lay and Clergy Members of the New Mexico Annual Conference (NMAC)

FROM: Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut, residential bishop of the New Mexico Annual Conference

RE: Call to the New Mexico Annual Conference Regular Session 2025

Dear United Methodists in the New Mexico Annual Conference,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

With this letter, I hereby call the 150th regular session of the New Mexico Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church to meet on June 19-21, 2025, at St. John's United Methodist Church in Albuquerque, NM.

Our theme this year is **Lean In, Live Out** based on Micah 6:8. As we continue to find our bearing after a season of disaffiliations and unexpected transitions, we have the exciting opportunity to step into the future and the new ways of being church that God invites us to. To do so, we are invited to **lean in** to each other - to listen to each other's stories, affirm each other's uniqueness and in our diversity, find shared values and a common call so that we might **live out** what is required of us as Christian disciples: to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God. I invite you to reflect on our theme and scripture passage as we prepare for our time together.

Your attendance is always essential for building our covenant community, and even more so this year, because we will be voting on the <u>ratification of four Constitutional Amendments</u>, which the 2020/24 General Conference acted on. Each vote is crucial, and I trust you will take that responsibility seriously and make plans to attend.

Information is now available on the <u>Conference website</u>. Please pay attention to the due dates for registration and other submissions, and I ask you to please abide by these deadlines. Doing so will greatly help the continuing planning of the conference. It will avoid causing undue stress on our staff and volunteers. I trust you will do your part as beloved members of our covenant community.

I am so excited to be with all of you for what will be my first annual conference session with you as your bishop! May the Holy Spirit work in our minds and our hearts, even now, as we prepare for this important work of holy conferencing.

Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut

