PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

**Online NEJ Mission E-Academy**

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission announces that it will offer many of the courses from its annual Northeastern Jurisdiction Mission Academy in an online webinar format throughout May and June 2020. The full calendar of courses can be found at [https://umvimnej.org/training/e-academy.html](https://umvimnej.org/training/e-academy.html). All courses are free, though donations are suggested to UMVIM and its partners who are offering these courses to the public.

UMVIM has connected with Global Ministries, UMCOR, Church & Society and community partners like New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS) to offer several of the courses. The others are being offered by leaders within the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

Rev. Tom Lank, NEJ Coordinator for United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, said “We are excited to be able to offer these courses to a wider audience. Sometimes crises help us find new opportunity and push us toward needed change. We hope lots of United Methodists get more involved in God’s mission and the work of the church through the NEJ Mission E-Academy.”
Courses in the E-Academy include:

- Crisis Spiritual Care (NYDIS)
- Systemic Racism and Discrimination During COVID-19 (Church & Society)
- Foundations of Disaster Ministry (UMCOR)
- Yes! We Have Missionaries! (Global Ministries special for the NEJ)
- UMC Social Principles in the Context of Mission (Church & Society special for the NEJ)
- Connecting Neighbors: A Disaster Readiness Curriculum (NEJ trainers)
- Forming Boundary-Crossing Mission Partnerships (Global Ministries special for the NEJ)
- Volunteers in Mission Team Training (NEJ trainers)

Questions can be directed to Rev. Tom Lank, UMVIM-NEJ Coordinator, at coordinator@umvimnej.org or 919-428-0461.

###