

LEBANON, PENNSYLVANIA – AUGUST 21-23, 2015

NEW BIRTH UMC (NUEVO NACIMIENTO), 1025 LEHMAN ST., LEBANON, PA 17046, 717.273.5331

The United States is experiencing a wave of new United Methodist churches – the most new Wesleyan faith communities that our nation has seen in about three generations! It is a wondrous and amazing time! Conferences that planted only a few faith communities in a decade are thinking about planting up to ten in a single year! Yet, in this new blitz of church planting, many of yesterday's strategies don't work as well as once they did. Some of the strategies that work in the heartland don't work as well on the coasts.

The Path 1 Team of The United Methodist Church is committed to resourcing United Methodist people in all fifty states to plant new churches appropriate to the missional challenge in each community.

TRAINING FOR NEW CHURCHES

PREPARE FOR YOUR FIRST 18 MONTHS!

LAUNCHPAD is a three-day training event for leaders and teams planting new faith communities. This summer celebrates our fifth year of Launchpad. The training is based on what we are learning from partnership with hundreds of church planting leaders across the USA. **The training is offered fully in both English and Spanish.**

In the past five years, several hundred leaders from all over America – both lay and clergy have gone through LaunchPad training as a part of getting started in the work of planting a new congregation. But LAUNCHPAD was originally designed for the planting context of the northeastern United States. We realized that our mission field was changing so radically, that we wanted to create a training really customized to this part of the USA.

Who is leading it?

- Paul Nixon has coached around 100 new church projects in the last few years: many of them in areas where participation in organized religion is falling. He is author or coauthor of seven books including *Multiply Your Impact* (2013). Paul has planted in the past in Florida, and today lives in Washington, DC, and resources the Northeastern Jurisdiction of the UMC for Path 1.
- Sam Rodriguez is one of the foremost United Methodist experts on church planting within Hispanic communities, having worked with diverse planting projects all over the USA involving diverse cultural backgrounds. He is the project leader for Path 1's Lay Missionary Planting Network, which has prepared hundreds of laity across the United States for leadership in church planting. Sam lives in El Paso, TX.

Successful planters from throughout the U.S. will appear via video to address the seasons of church planting.

HERE'S HOW LAUNCHPAD WORKS:

1. A three-day training experience will guide planters and their teams as they sketch out ministry plans for the next nine months. Subjects covered will include theology and call, affinity groups, vision-casting, best practices, community networking, bonding with the mission field, fund-raising, and leading effective meetings one-on-one or with a group.
2. How does LAUNCHPAD differ from Planter Bootcamp?
 - The basics are very similar.
 - The pacing is somewhat less rigorous to allow more focus on a few critical areas.
 - We give significant attention to emerging models of new church that are less "attractional" and more "missional," specifically based on what has been working in the last few years in the NONE zones of the USA.
 - The registration fee enables the planter and her/his emerging launch team to share in two additional days in the winter of 2015, with web-based plenary sessions for them.
 - The planter leader may bring a spouse to the 2014 event for no additional registration fee.
3. An optional yearlong group coaching process is offered to all participants who have not yet contracted with a planting coach, at a fraction of the typical cost for competent coaching. The planter peer groups will meet together virtually with an experienced church planting guide on a monthly basis, September 2015, through June 2016. *This is not the equivalent of a church planter coach assigned to the plant, but offers a valuable format for learning and leadership development.*
4. Church plant leaders will gather up to a dozen persons from their emerging launch teams to share in a web-based seminar and local team retreat on January 29-30, 2016, linked with other planting teams from across the country. Planters and their team members will work on visioning and planning together, with leadership from the national Path 1 staff. They will gather in their local communities during this mid-year distance-learning retreat – something not typically offered in church planter training programs.

This mid-year training will build on the earlier training and will include small group development, "taste-and-see" community events, and planning for public worship launch.

HERE'S WHAT IT COSTS:

- The rate for event registration, all materials, and lunch on Friday and Saturday is \$ 100 for the Planter and \$50 for each additional team member. Spouses of the Planter are free. Deadline for registration is August 1. In some cases, late registration may be possible, but the registration fee may increase.
- Register for this Launch Pad event at [HTTPS://EPAUMC.SMARTEVENTS.COM](https://EPAUMC.SMARTEVENTS.COM)

HOW TO GET THERE AND WHERE TO STAY

Lebanon, Pennsylvania is about 30 miles east of Harrisburg at exit 85 off of Interstate 76. Harrisburg is nearest major airport. The host church is located in the heart of the downtown area. Many of the major chain hotels are near. Here are a few:

1. Holiday Inn Express, 2205 East Cumberland St, Lebanon. 1-800-315-2605 (or book online) 3 miles.
2. Days Inn Lebanon Valley, 625 Quentin Rd, Lebanon. 1-717-273-6771 (or book online) 1 mile.
3. Comfort Inn Lebanon Valley- Fort Indiantown Gap. 16 Marsanna Lane, Jonestown PA. 717-865-8080. 10 miles
4. Best Western Lebanon Valley Inn and Suites. 4 Fisher Ave, Jonestown PA. 717-865-4234. 10 miles

HERE'S WHERE TO SEND QUESTIONS:

Registration questions: 267-258-9507 or gordonacts6@gmail.com

Training content questions: path1@gbod.org

Spanish track: Sam Rodriguez (srodriguez@gbod.org)

LAUNCHPAD REGISTRATION
New Birth UMC (Nuevo Nacimiento)
1025 Lehman Street, Lebanon, Pa. 17406
717-273-5331
AUGUST 21 – 23, 2015
Deadline: August 1, 2015

Training begins at 8:30 AM on August 21, 2015 and concludes on August 23, 2015

Planters Name: (Cost \$100.00 includes spouse)

Spouses Name:

Address:

Telephone #

E-mail Address

Conference:

District:

Church:

Team Member #1 (Cost \$50 per Team Member)

Team Member #2

Team Member #3

Team Member #4

Team Member #5

Payments are due in full at the time of registration
No refunds will be issued less than 30 days prior to the event

CREDIT CARD

_____ I permit the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the UMC to charge my credit card in the amount of
\$_____

Signature

Date

Credit Card Number

Date

Name on Card _____

Address of Card holder: _____

Telephone #: _____

BY CHECK

Mail to: Eastern PA Conference: P.O. Box 820 Madison Avenue, Valley Forge, PA 19482 Attention: Felicia
Anderson Checks payable to EPA Conference