

February 9, 2026

Dear River Conference Family,

I am happy to announce that **Rev. James Leman has been elected as the next Superintendent of the River Conference**. We look forward to this next chapter and to all that God will continue to do in and through the River Conference.

Rev. Leman brings a deep love for Jesus and a pastoral heart shaped by years of ministry and discernment. His commitment to helping people center their lives on Christ and to building authentic, Christ-centered community will serve the River Conference well in the season ahead.

I want to express heartfelt gratitude to the Superintendent Search Committee for their diligent, prayerful, and faithful work throughout this process. Their service has been a true gift to the River Conference.

I also want to extend deep appreciation to **Superintendent Michael Traylor** for his years of faithful leadership and dedication to the River Conference. His ministry has strengthened churches, encouraged pastors, and left a lasting impact for which we give thanks.

Thank you for your prayers and faithfulness throughout this season. Please continue to lift up **Rev. Leman, his wife Abby, and their family** in prayer as they prepare for the transition into this new role.

In Christ's service,



Bishop E. Kenny Martin