

# Breakout Sessions

Northeastern District Conference 2026

## **Developing Church Vision – Jeremy Gorham**

Join Jeremy Gorham as he guides you in prayerfully developing a vision for health and growth in your church, using Crosstown Alliance's vision as an example to help you discover your own commitments and drivers. Working through the following 4 areas of Two Lanes – One Vision, A Vision for Health, A Vision for Growth, and Anchoring the Vision, you'll have space to reflect, brainstorm, and create a unique vision that fits your context.

## **Finding Internal Peace in a World of Upset – Bonnie Koonsman**

When chaos around us starts to seep into us, peace can feel distant—even though God has already secured it for us through the Cross.

In a world filled with turmoil, in relationships that feel strained, amid ministry responsibilities, church conflicts, and global events...

How do we actually live in God's peace?

Join us for an open, honest discussion about experiencing peace in the midst of real-life mental health struggles, anxiety and depression, anger and frustration, stress, and the weight of both personal and professional challenges, as well as the global conflict all around us. Together, we'll explore what God says about peace and how to begin living it out more fully—even in uncertainty. Come ready to slow down, reflect, and walk away with practical tools and meaningful shifts in perspective.

## **Preaching as Disciplemaking and Persuasive Communication – Denes House**

Part 1 - Preaching as Disciplemaking - If our mission is to make disciples of Jesus, how does preaching fit into that task? Is preaching an outmoded approach to disciplemaking? How can your preaching make disciples more effectively?

Part 2 - Preaching as Persuasive Communication - What do the principles in the previous breakout look like in practice? How can a pastor intentionally grow in their preaching ability week to week? What makes preaching persuasive?