



185th Northern Illinois Annual Conference
Sunday, June 16 - Tuesday, June 18, 2024
Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center
1551 N. Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg Ill.
umcnic.org/AC2024

IMPORTANT DATES

April 3 - Online Registration Opens

April 15 - Legislation & Historical Documents due

to JoAnn Ray through an online submission form. Form and full instructions at umcnic.org/AC2024docs.

April 15 - Presentation Requests due

Form and full instructions at umcnic.org/AC2024.

May 1 - Applications for display tables due

Guidelines and application on umcnic.org/AC2024. Send questions to George Groves at groves101@comcast.net.

May 9 - Submission of names and photos of AC lay members who have died since May 2023 due

Send to ACMedia@umcnic.org.

May 16 - Legislation & documents posted online

Please print or download these materials to your own devices before arriving at AC.

June 12 - 7 p.m. Virtual Pre-Conference Briefing

June 13 - 10 a.m. Virtual Pre-Conference Briefing

Under the theme “Yield,” clergy and elected lay members will gather for Northern Illinois Conference’s 185th session. Bishop Dan Schwerin chose the theme from John Wesley’s Covenant Prayer, which includes the promise that “I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.” Many Methodist and Wesleyan Christians renew this covenant at the beginning of the new year.

“As we gather, we come ready to yield to God’s will as we offer our whole selves to the service of Christ through the work of the church,” says Bishop Schwerin. “For the new church that is emerging, more than ‘a zipper merge’ is needed; we all need to yield to God’s newness,” he says, alluding to the yielding needed in traffic.

The scriptural grounding is James 3:17: “the wisdom from above . . . is willing to yield.” Bishop Sally Dyck will preside and preach at the ordination and commissioning service. Bishop Dan Schwerin will preach at the memorial service. Leading the Bible study will be Rev. Dr. AHyun Lee, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, Care, and Psychotherapy at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Rev. Dr. Addison Shields Jr. will lead worship, and Rev. D. Josiah Montgomery will provide musical accompaniment. A mass choir, led by Pastor Jacob Tipantasig-Wolverton, will assist in worship during the ordination and commissioning service.

REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 3

April 3 - April 29 Early bird registration \$115/person

May 1 - May 29 \$130/person

Note: There will be NO on-site registration

Watch for updates and details in the NIC eNews and website at umcnic.org/AC2024.





BISHOP'S APPEAL

Giving Abundantly, Generosity Overflowing

This year's Bishop's Appeal will benefit United Voices for Children. UVC, a coalition of congregations, agencies, and individuals in the Northern Illinois Conference, speaks and acts on behalf of children, youth, and families in need. The three primary affiliated organizations are Kids Above All, MYSI, and Rosecrance. Please urge your church to take up an offering and/or raise funds for the Bishop's Appeal and bring the total gift to annual conference session.

RESOURCES

An **Accessibility Coordinator** will be present to help with any needs (vision, movement, hearing, etc.) within our ability. Please indicate your requests in the registration process. Closed captioning will be provided for all sessions. Large print programs will be available.

Blueprint for Wellness Screenings will be held on-site June 16 and 17 for those on NIC health insurance.

Distribution of print materials will be limited as we continue to be good stewards of the environment. The Annual Conference Secretary, Randy Hayes, must preapprove any material to be distributed on the AC floor. Only ushers may distribute materials. Groups may provide handouts at their display tables. Other handouts may be placed at the lobby table. Announcements during AC will be projected on the screen after approval. Submissions can be sent to ra50h1y9s@comcast.net.

Group meals are encouraged for conference-related organizations and groups at the hotel. Plated meals, buffet, and reception-style food station options are available. Participants will be able to sign up for group meals when they register for conference session. For more information, contact Bri Wadlington at events@umcnic.org

Hotel Reservations can be booked at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel. The cost is \$185 plus tax/fees per night. Booking link at umcnic.org/ac2024.

Live Streaming of the conference can be viewed on the NUC YouTube channel.

On-site childcare not be offered. Based on survey results, the Annual Conference Committee will again offer grants to offset childcare costs. They will also try to connect families who may want to coordinate their childcare plans. Find the grant form at umcnic.org/AC2024. Request deadline is May 15.

OBSERVANCES & SESSIONS: Wednesday, June - Clergy Session

Sunday, June 16

- Afternoon - Laity Session
- Evening Ordination & Commissioning Service

Monday, June 17

- Morning Retirement Service

Tuesday, June 18

- Morning Memorial Service

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We need ushers, plenary pages, greeters, secretarial pool members and more to help Annual Conference run smoothly and efficiently. Please contact Briana Wadlington, Events Administrator, at events@umcnic.org if you are interested in serving as a volunteer for a day or even part of a day or if you have questions. No previous experience is necessary.

MISSION CHALLENGE

We will be collecting items for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center more information coming soon.

ORDINATION CHOIR

Do you have a gift for singing? Consider joining the mass choir that will participate in the Ordination and Commissioning Service on June 16. Worship planners hope that each church will send four or five singers. Those interested should fill out the form at umcnic.org/AC2024.



Northern Illinois Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH