



June 8 through 10, 2022
Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center



183rd Session
Bishop John L. Hopkins - Presiding
Northern Illinois Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Annual Conference Leadership

Bishop John L. Hopkins, retired Bishop of The United Methodist Church, is serving a second year as interim bishop in the Northern Illinois Conference for 2022. He was born in Montgomery, Alabama, and spent his childhood in Montgomery, Houston, Atlanta, and Ft. Wayne. After marrying Elaine M. Smithson in 1964, he attended Indiana University, receiving a B.A. with Honors in Psychology. He graduated from Yale Divinity School and was selected for the two-year Wheelock Residency at the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College, where he practiced hospital, campus, and parish ministry. He was ordained deacon and elder in the North Indiana Conference and served a two-point charge in LaPorte, Indiana, Wesley Foundation Director at Ball State University, the Director of the Council on Ministries, and Senior Pastor at the Methodist Temple in Evansville in South Indiana. Hopkins was elected to the episcopacy in July 1996 at the North Central Jurisdictional Conference and assigned to the Minnesota Area for eight years and the Ohio East Area for 12 years until retirement in 2016.



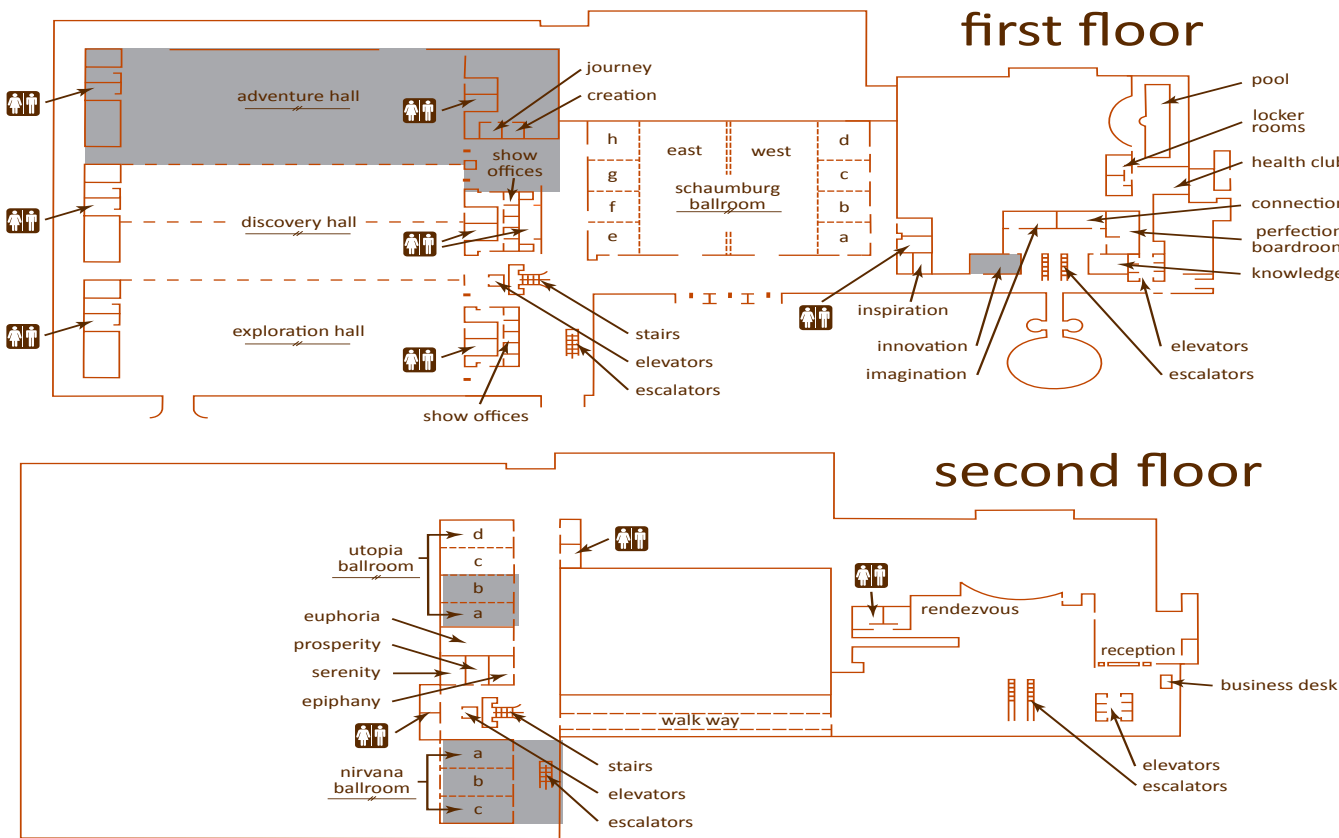
The Council of Bishops appointed Bishop Hopkins to serve as the first Chair of the Connectional Table from 2004 to 2012. During this time, Hopkins helped lead The Call to Action effort focused on increasing vital congregations worldwide. His mission travel has included Angola, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Korea, China, Japan, Mexico, Bulgaria, Germany, the Philippines, and Vietnam. He currently serves on the board of Educational Opportunities, Inc., which provides scholarships for clergy to study in the Holy Land. Bishop Hopkins and Elaine live in Indianapolis and have three sons and seven grandchildren. Bishop Hopkins enjoys exercise, technology, kite flying, music, and guitar jams.

Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton, retired Bishop of The United Methodist Church, was elected to the episcopacy in 1996 and served for 20 years in the Ohio East, Michigan, and Illinois areas. Before his election, Keaton served as a local church pastor, Associate Council Director, and District Superintendent in the Northern Illinois Conference. Keaton was elected to three General Conference delegations with the Northern Illinois Conference. An active servant on the general church level, Keaton served as a member of the General Council on Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Board of Global Ministries, and The United Methodist Development Fund, where he served as president. Keaton chaired the denominational initiative, Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC-21), from 1996 to 2008. Bishop Keaton serves as a member of the Council of Bishop’s Leadership Team on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations.



Bishop Keaton graduated with a Master of Divinity Studies from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, where he later received a Doctorate in Sacred Theology. Originally from Fort Smith, Arkansas, Keaton received his Bachelor of Science in Biology degree from Philander Smith College. Bishop Keaton has co-authored two books, *The Confessions of Three Ebony Bishops* with Bishop Edsel A. Ammons and Bishop Ernest S. Lyght and *Our Father, Where Are the Fathers?* with Bishop Ernest S. Lyght. Bishop Keaton and his wife, Beverly, have been blessed with three children and two granddaughters and live in Springfield, Ill.

Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Map



Annual Conference Leadership (continued)



Ecumenical Guest, Bishop Yehiel Curry, was born, raised and still resides on the south side of Chicago with his wife of 23 years, Lashonda, and their three daughters: Shemiah, Ashirah and Shekinah. On June 8, 2019, Rev. Yehiel Curry was elected to Bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod and began his call of service on September 1, 2019. His first involvement with ordained ministry was an uncommon one. Similarly, the congregation he served prior to his election also had an uncommon beginning. Shekinah Chapel Lutheran Church in Riverdale, Ill., grew out of a youth development and mentoring program for young African-American men called Safe in My Brothers Arms (SIMBA), on the south side of Chicago. In 1997, he was part of a team that was helping to organize a new worshipping community in Chicago with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). In 2007, Yehiel Curry began serving as the lay Mission Developer of Shekinah Chapel. Bishop Yehiel Curry was ordained on April 26, 2009, after two years of study at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) through the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) program. In 2012, Shekinah Chapel became an organized congregation of the ELCA, and in 2013, Bishop Curry received his Master of Divinity from LSTC. Bishop Curry has been blessed to minister God’s word in Liberia and Rwanda, Africa, before 35,000 youth at the Youth Gathering at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly and various synods throughout the U.S.

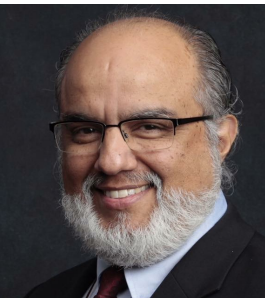
Bible Study Leader, Rev. Jane Eesley, serves as senior pastor of Christ UMC in Rockford. In 26 years of ordained ministry, she has served Chicago: Mayfair, Naperville: Community (associate), DeKalb: First, and Rockford: Christ. She holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English literature from Northwestern University. From 1990 to 1993, she served as a Mission Intern through Global Ministries, serving in a Palestinian baby clinic in Jerusalem and then with Methodist Federation for Social Action in Staten Island. Jane attended Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, where she received the Hoyt Hickman Award for Liturgical Scholarship and Practice. She helped lead Bethlehem ’99, a service-learning opportunity for youth and young adults from the Northern Illinois Conference. In 2003, she taught “Creating Interfaith Community” through Mission u. In 2013, she received a Distinguished Alumna award from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. She served on the NIC Board of Ordained Ministry for 12 years and currently serves on the UM Foundation Board. She also chairs the Prairie North District Superintendency Committee.



Worship Leader, Rev. Dr. Addison Shields, Jr., is an ordained Elder of the United Methodist Church and retired July 1, 2014, after serving the denomination for 34 years. He pastored six congregations in the Northern Illinois Conference before his retirement. Dr. Shields also served as the District Superintendent for the former Rockford and Chicago Southern Districts. He is currently serving as senior pastor for Transformation Community United Methodist Church in Harvey, Ill. Dr. Shield’s musical ministry started at a young age. He was the organist for many churches across the Chicago Metropolitan area. He studied voice under the late Thelma Wade Brown at American Conservatory of Music at Roosevelt University. While singing with the Kennedy-King College Community Choir, he was part of the guest chorale performing with the Ohio Philharmonics, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and performances at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Dr. Shields sings baritone as a member of the South Holland Master Chorale in South Holland, Ill.

Annual Conference Leadership (continued)

Music, Rev. Dr. Tércio Bretanha Junker, has been a Brazilian Methodist Elder since March 1992 and a N.I.C. Affiliate member since May 2020. He holds a Ph.D. in Liturgical Studies from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, two master’s degrees in Theology/Ecclesiastical Music and Master Theology Studies – Church Music and Choral Conducting, and a bachelor’s degree in Theology. Rev. Dr. Junker returned to the U.S. in June 2006 when he was appointed the Assistant Professor of Worship and Director of the Sweeney Chapel at Christian Theological Seminary through June 2015. From July 2015 to November 2020, Rev. Dr. Junker worked at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary as the Regional Director of the Course of Study and Dean of the Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful, where he also taught liturgy courses. Rev. Junker began serving as pastor of Poplar Grove United Methodist Church, Ill., in January 2021. As a liturgist, musician, and composer, he has vast experience in ecumenical contexts in Brazil, Latin America, Caribe, Europe, and the U.S. As a Choir Conductor and producer, he’s recorded six choral CDs. He has also written several articles, book chapters, and liturgical resources and is the author of “Prophetic Liturgy: Toward a Transforming Christian Praxis.” Rev. Dr. Junker is married to Dr. Débora Barbosa Agra Junker, the Associate Professor of Critical Pedagogy at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. They have two daughters, one son, and one granddaughter.



Pianist, Arnold Sevier, was born the second of six children to Carl and Lessie Lowe-Sevier April 18, 1949, in Chicago, IL. His musical pursuits began in 1957 under the tutelage of Frances R. Murrell, a local music instructor, and attending the Chicago Conservatory of Music under Blanche McGuire-Zhouk. His formal education was in the Public Schools of Chicago-John D. Shoop Elementary, 1963 graduate and Morgan Park School, 1967 graduate. He later attended Kennedy-King CCC and Chicago State University, 1968-71. During all of these years, Arnold played piano for various churches throughout the Chicago metropolitan area. He later attended Jackson State University, Jackson, MS, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1995/97 with B.M. and B.M.E. degrees. He currently is Director of Music for the Transformation Community UMC in Harvey, Ill., under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Addison Shields, Jr. He is also known for his compositions, especially his choral adaptation of *Precious Lord/Prof. Thomas A. Dorsey*.



Annual Conference Committee Chair, Deborah Dangerfield, has been an active member of Maple Park UMC in Chicago since 1963. In the NIC, she serves or has served on the Nominations Committee, Board of Pensions, ACST, BMCR, and the Inter-Ethnic Strategic Development Group. She has also served as a jurisdiction delegate. Deborah has a master’s degree in both business and health care.



Annual Conference Committee Vice Chair/Daily Proceedings Chair, P. Joanne Ray is a member of Grace United Methodist Church in Joliet and is a leader in their music and audiovisual teams. She is a founder and principal of Consultants in Association Philanthropy (CAP). Joanne is a graduate of Valparaiso University.



Conference Secretary, Randy Hayes, is a retired Licensed Local Lay Pastor, active member at Faith United Methodist in Polo, and former Conference Co-Chair of the Bishop’s Initiative on Children & Poverty. Randy spent his professional career in Behavioral Health as a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor and Certified Addiction and Drug Counselor.

The Annual Conference Cabinet



Bishop John L. Hopkins



Rev. Arlene Christopherson
Asst. to the Bishop/Director
of Connectional Ministries



Rev. J. Martin Lee, Director
Congregational Development
and Redevelopment



Rev. Jeffery Bross
Prairie Central
District Superintendent



Rev. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer
Prairie North
District Superintendent



Rev. Brian Gilbert
Prairie South
District Superintendent



Rev. Brittany Isaac
Lake North
District Superintendent



Rev. Jacques Conway
Lake South
District Superintendent



A Message from the Bishop



Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 2022 Northern Illinois Annual Conference. With this 183rd session of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference, we convene to continue a long and faithful journey as baptized Christians in the United Methodist Church. I look forward to this in-person gathering, having presiding as your interim bishop at two virtual sessions in 2021.

While our gathering is couched in precautions and concern as we move through our 3rd year of a global pandemic, we gather “Connected in Christ,” our anchor in this and every era. The core of our Christian identity can be found in the baptism of Jesus. As the heavens opened and a dove descended on the shores of Galilee, God proclaimed a blessing on Jesus “this is my son in whom I am well pleased.”

Our identity as the church grows out of this grounding in Jesus’ baptism. For 2000 years, we have been rooted in Christ, while finding ways to live out our faith in the Christian community. While disconnected and isolated these past few years, we witnessed the power of connection in new ways. Through Zoom, online worship, missions, acts of compassion, and opportunities for social justice, the connection has held strong.

This week we strengthen those connections as we engage in our denomination’s discernment and democratic process of conferencing. Through careful listening, debate, legislative sections, and plenary action, we continue to strengthen and further the cause for Christ and Christ's church in the world.

I invite you to immerse yourself in these next three days. Through prayer, worship, Bible Study, celebration, reports and fellowship, we come to the waters that can quench our souls, renew our strength and support our community.

May God bless us in these days ahead,

John L. Hopkins

Voting Rights for Clergy and Lay Members at the 2022 Annual Conference

Clergy WHO ARE eligible to vote:

- Clergy members in full connection
- Provisional clergy members
- Associate clergy members
- Full-time and part-time local pastors

Clergy WHO ARE NOT eligible to vote:

- Clergy from other conferences or denominations
- Clergy on Honorable Location or Administrative Leave
- Clergy on Involuntary Leave of Absence

Clergy WHO HAVE VOICE BUT NO VOTE:

- Affiliate Members
- Ordained and provisional clergy from other annual conferences
- Ordained clergy from other Methodist denominations

Voting Rights for Lay Members (¶ 602.6)

Laities ARE eligible to vote for:
All business of the 2022 annual conference.

Agenda

Wednesday, June 8

11:00 am	Mission Truck Opens	Next to Conference Center Parking Lot
11:00 am - Noon	Laity Session	Schaumburg G
11:00 am	Memorial Service Rehearsal	Adventure Hall
Noon	Doors Open and Credentials Available	Adventure Hall Foyer
Noon	Nirvana Threshold Display Tables Open	Nirvana Threshold
12:30 - 1:00pm	Orientation for New Attendees	Schaumburg G
1:00 pm	Family Reception for Memorial Service.....	Innovation (Hotel Side)
1:30 pm	Opening and Memorial Service	Adventure Hall
	- Call to Order	
3:00 pm	Break	
3:30 pm	Plenary 1	Adventure Hall
	- Organizing Motions	- Daily Procedures Motions
	- Historic Reports	- BBC (Monitoring) Introduction
	- Table Talk	- Introduction to Sections
4:00 pm	Mission Truck Closes	Next to Conference Center Parking Lot
4:00 pm	Adventure Hall Foyer Display Tables Open	Adventure Hall Foyer
5:00 pm	Dinner Break	
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Legislative Sections.....	Utopia A & B, Nirvana A, B & C
	- Section 1 - Utopia A	- Section 2 - Utopia B
	- Section 3 - Nirvana A	- Section 4 - Nirvana B
	- Section 5 - Schaumburg G	
7:30 pm	Display Tables Close	Nirvana Threshold & Adventure Hall Foyer

Thursday, June 9

7:00 - 10:00 am	Health Screening	First Aid Office/Adventure Foyer
7:00 am	Mission Truck Opens	Next to Conference Center Parking Lot
7:30 am	Display Tables Open	Nirvana Threshold & Adventure Hall Foyer
8:30 am	Plenary 2	Adventure Hall
	- Introduction of Consent Calendar	
	- Retirement Service	
10:00 am	Break	
10:30 am	Plenary 3	Adventure Hall
	- Deadline for petitions to be removed from consent calendar	
	- Episcopal Address	- Board of Pensions Presentation
	- UM Foundation Annual Meeting	- Vote on Consent Calendar
	- Bishop's Appeal Offering	
Noon	Lunch Break	
1:30 pm	Plenary 4	Adventure Hall
	- Bible Study	- Annual Conference Shepherding Team Report
	- Strategic Goals Updates	- CCFA Presentation
2:00 pm	Mission Truck Leaves.....	Next to Conference Center Parking Lot
3:00 pm	Break	
3:30 pm	Plenary 5	Adventure Hall
	- Laity Address	- Table Talk
	- Ordination Class Introduction/Historic Questions	
	- Video Presentations	

Agenda

Thursday, June 9 (continued)

5:00 pm	Dinner Break	
5:00 pm	Ordination Service Rehearsal	Adventure Hall
7:00 pm	Plenary 6	Adventure Hall
	- Legislation	- Presentations
	- Together Again: Celebration and Bishop's Reception.....	Nirvana B & C
7:30 pm	Display Tables Close	Nirvana Threshold & Adventure Hall Foyer

Friday, June 10

7:00 - 10:00 am	Health Screening	First Aid Office/Adventure Foyer
7:30 am	Display Tables Open	Nirvana Threshold & Adventure Hall Foyer
8:30am	Plenary 7	Adventure Hall
	- Cabinet Report	- One Matters Awards
	- Bible Study	- Video Presentations
	- Legislation - Nominations	
10:00 am	Break	
10:30 am	Plenary 8	Adventure Hall
	- Video Presentations	- BBC (Monitoring) Report
	- Award Recognition	- Missions Collection Report
	- Legislation - 2023 Budget	
	- Courtesies and Privilege	
12:00 - 1:30pm	Lunch Break	
1:30pm	Ordination Service.....	Adventure Hall
	- Post Ordination Reception	Nirvana B & C
2:00 pm	Display Tables Close	Nirvana Threshold & Adventure Hall Foyer

Prayer Stations

Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.
- James 4:8 NRSV

As we gather together for worship, decision making and fellowship of the Annual Conference, all are invited to draw near to God with prayer. Come, listen to the soft sounds of water, sit or kneel in prayer and meditation, and remember your baptism. Be refreshed, renewed and reinvigorated for the work of living in Christ. Connect with others, through the display of droplets, by writing down your prayers and adding to the display. The prayer stations are located along the back wall of the main conference room opposite the stage.

What makes you proud to
#BeUMC?

United Methodist Communications has launched the #BeUMC campaign with key themes intended to highlight what unites us as United Methodists and what we are working towards, together.

Look for the #BeUMC video booth in the Adventure Hall Foyer (times vary on Thursday & Friday) and share what makes you proud to be United Methodist.

Learn more at ResourceUMC.org/BeUMC.

Memorial Service

Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 1:30pm

Gathering Songs - *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

The Faith We Sing #2153

I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.
I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work so (work so) God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime
I'm gonna work so (work so) God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime

I'm gonna pray so (pray so) God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime
I'm gonna pray so (pray so) God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime

Conference Song - *O Healing River* by Terry MacArthur

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 O healing river, send down your waters,
send down your waters upon this land.
O healing river, send down your waters,
and wash the blood from off the sand. | 3 Let the seed of freedom awake and flourish,
let the deep roots nourish,
let the tall stalks rise.
O healing river, send down your waters,
O healing river, from out of the skies. |
| 2 This land is parching, this land is burning,
no seed is growing in the barren ground.
O healing river, send down your waters,
O healing river, send your waters down. | |

Call to Worship

Luther Mason

Leader: All who thirst, come to the water.
Come, all who are weary;
come all who yearn for forgiveness.

**All: The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ
has washed over us, and our gracious and holy God
beckons and blesses us.**

Leader: Drink deeply of these living waters.

All: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you. AMEN.

From Leader, Summer 2014. ©2014 MennoMedia.

Processional Song - *Wade in the Water* by Sweet Honey in the Rock *(see words on the screen)*



Memorial Service *(continued)*

Welcome and Opening

Mark Manzi and Bishop John L. Hopkins

Opening Hymn - *For All the Saints*

UMH 711

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest,
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou was their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia, alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Greeting and Prayer

Bishop John L. Hopkins

Act of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Epistle Lesson - Hebrews 11:1-10 (The Voice Translation)

Scripture passages will be read in segments as those who have gone before us are named

Retired Clergy

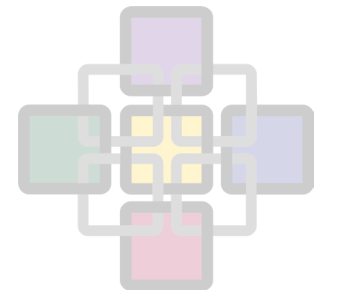
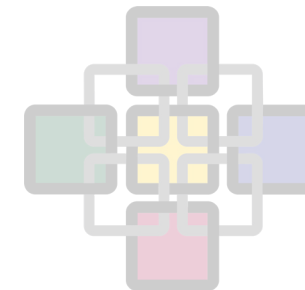
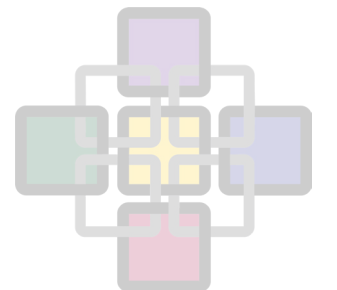
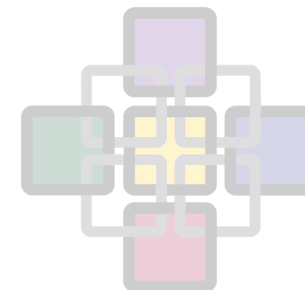
Fred Arthur Berchtold, June 28, 2021
Richard M. Boyer, August 6, 2021
Fred H. Conger, June 11, 2021
Leo M. Constantino, August 10, 2021
Gregg Downs, May 5, 2022
Cylde Galow, November 13, 2021
Judith Marie Geise, September 29, 2021
Edward Leon Heyer, May 31, 2021
Bruce Janes, April 19, 2022
Robert Keller, April 25, 2022
Evaristo Loaiza, February 13, 2022
J. Peter Lovell, June 29, 2021
Thoreau May, July 29, 2021
Andrew Carson Noxon, August 29, 2021
Rogelio Pangilinan, December 27, 2021
Flora M. Robinson, July 20, 2021
Orrell Charles Ruth, March 21, 2022
Henry Vellinga, September 20, 2021

Spouse of Active Clergy

Milton Wayne Wills, January 19, 2022

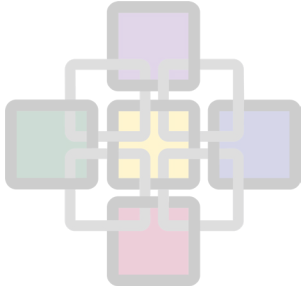
Child of Active Clergy

Amos Innis Miller, April 24, 2022



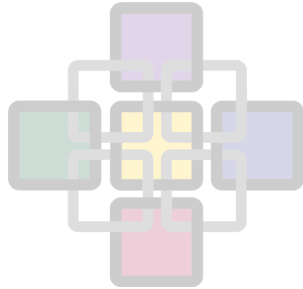
Memorial Service (continued)

Spouses of Retired Clergy



Ben Allen-Stewart, November 13, 2021
Johanna Berman, April 29, 2022
Robert L. Brandner, April 14, 2022
Clara McLaughlin, May 9, 2022
Kay Potenza, May 8, 2022
Leanne Rolfe, October 1, 2021
Marcia L. Ruth, September 13, 2021
Betty L. Waynick, December 9, 2021

Surviving Spouses



June B. Cummings, November 14, 2021
Gwendlyn Kleinschmidt, December 6, 2021
Iris Morales, August 18, 2021
Loretta Stein, June 25, 2021
Mary Eleanor Wall, February 21, 2022

Lay Members of the Conference

Donald Linder, March 12, 2022
Paul Stevens, April 19, 2022
Mike Galati, October 9, 2021
Stephen Somuah Sr., April 11, 2022

Singing Together - Marching to Zion

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Gospel Acclamation - Alleluia

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia

UMH 486

The Gospel - Matthew 3:13-17 NRSV

Pamela Pirtle

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Sermonic Selection - I Can Only Imagine by Bart Millard

Addison Shields, Jr.

Memorial Service (continued)

Sermon - Connected in Christ: Come to the Water

Bishop John L. Hopkins

Responding in Faith

It Is Well with My Soul

UMH #377

It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.
(x3)

Closing Prayer

Bishop John L. Hopkins

Closing Song/Recessional - When the Saints Go Marching In African American Heritage Hymnal 595

O when the saints go marching in,
O when the saints go marching in,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.

O when they crown Him Lord of all,
O when they crown Him Lord of all,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when they crown Him Lord of all.

O when the sun refused to shine,
O when the sun refused to shine,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the sun refused to shine.

Thank you to our Participants

Bishop John L. Hopkins, Julie Bunt (Scripture Reader), Juancho C. Campanano (Scripture Reader), Kim Chapman (Percussionist), Irma Clark (Scripture Reader), Randy Hayes (Conference Secretary), Tyrone Himes (Bass Guitarist), Tercio Junker (Music Coordinator), Jeremiah Hong-kien Lee (Scripture Reader), Steven Mann (Saxophonist), Mark Manzi (Conference Lay Leader), Luther Mason (Liturgist), Pamela Pirtle (Scripture Reader), Arnold Sevier (Pianist), Addison Shields Jr. (Song Leader), Marcus Tabb (Scripture Reader)

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We're Marching to Zion, Watts/Lowry, © 1867 Public Domain, CCLI #E1459355

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Retirement Service: A Ritual to Honor Retirees and Pass the Mantle

Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 8:40 am

Gathering Song - *Come to the Water (v 1-2)* by John Foley

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 O let all who thirst,
let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing,
let them come to the Lord:
without money, without price.
Why should you pay the price,
except for the Lord? | 2 And let all who seek,
let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing,
let them come to the Lord:
without money, without strife.
Why should you spend your life,
except for the Lord? |
|---|--|

Welcome

Greeting Bishop John L. Hopkins

Call to Worship - *Psalms 63* Kimberly Davis

Leader: Oh God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where no water is.

All: So, I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

All: So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Sung response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, thirsting for you my God.

Leader: My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
when I think of you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

All: for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

Sung response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, thirsting for you my God.

Leader: But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down in to the depths of the earth;

All: they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals.

Leader: But the king shall rejoice in God;

All: all who swear in God's name shall glory; but the mouths of liars will be stopped.

Sung response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, thirsting for you my God.

Retirement Service (*continued*)

A Prayer of Praise (in Unison)

All: God of creation, who formed heaven and earth, we are grateful to you,
Creator of us all, for being our source of living water –
the One who satisfies our souls deepest desires with the joy of salvation. Amen.

Scripture Reading - 2 Kings 2:9-15 Amos Oladipo

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.’ Elisha said, ‘Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.’ He responded, ‘You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.’ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, ‘Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!’ But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, ‘Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?’ When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over. When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Recognition of the Retirees

The Bishop: Retirees and spouses, please stand. Beloved friends in Christ, you came to us from congregations and ministry settings where the Spirit of the Lord was upon you. In your baptism you become a part of the community of faith. You were charged to love, serve and pray for all people among whom you worked, care for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. These things you have done.

All: We give thanks to God for the lives that have been changed through your faithful witness and service.

The Bishop: At your ordination, you received authority to read the Holy Scriptures in the church of God, to preach the Word, to celebrate the Sacraments, and to Order the life of the church. At your commissioning, you received authority to equip the people of God, and to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. In your licensing, you received God's grace to do many things that seemed to be beyond your power.

All: We give thanks to God for the courage you have shown and the steps of faith you have taken.

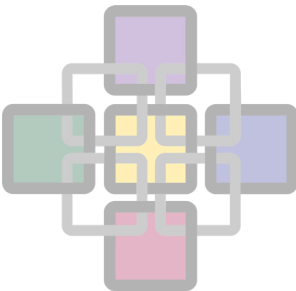
Retirement Service (continued)

The Bishop: Never think lightly of the great good that God has wrought through you. Continue to be true to your calling. May God’s love and power be with you always. Let us pray together.

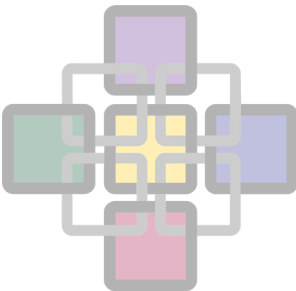
All: God of grace, you fill your servants with vision. You empower your servants with your Spirit. We give thanks for the ministry of these women and men, and for the ways in which you have ministered to us through them. Give them a sense of your abiding presence that they may continue to love and serve you, and ever grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Introduction and Reflections of Retirees Arlene Christopherson

Retiring Class of 2022 (Years of Service)



- Robert B. Campbell (27.75)
- Larry Edward Dunlap-Berg (43)
- Sharon Engert (13.5)
- Richard M. Fassig (12.75)
- Vickie L. Hadaway (19.5)
- Michelle Oberwise Lacock (36)
- Teri Jean Lafferty (11.75)
- Cheryl Magrini (18)
- Catiana P. McKay (23)
- Deborah A. Percell (21)
- Peter R. Pereira (35.5)
- Pamela M. Rossmiller (13)
- Bonny S. Roth (9.5)
- Michelle Taylor Sanders (21)
- Cheri Lynn Stewart (16)
- Daniel L. Swinson (43)



Questions and Response from the Retiring Class

- In keeping with our theme, “Connected in Christ: Come to the Water,” the retiring clergy were invited to reflect on one of the following questions:
1. What were experiences in your ministry where you felt deeply connected to Christ?
 2. Was there a time in your ministry when you felt the unquenchable Spirit?
 3. How have you connected with Christ during your ministry particularly during the pandemic?
 4. Give an example of how you have included the connection of water to Christ in your ministry?

Retirement Service (continued)

Special Music - How Great is Our God

Passing of the Mantle

Closing Song - Come to the Water (v 3-4) by John Foley

- 3 And let all who toil,
let them come to the water.
And let all who are weary,
let them come to the Lord:
all who labor, without rest.
How can your soul find rest,
except for the Lord?
- 4 And let all the poor,
let them come to the water,
Bring the ones who are laden,
bring them all to the Lord:
bring the children without might.
Easy the load and light:
come to the Lord.

Benediction

The Bishop: For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven. So, too, there is a time for movement, new adventure, fields of service not yet touched. With love, we send you forth in the spirit of John Wesley; May the world be your parish.

People: Go into the world and respond to the love of Christ in all you do. Live out the vision God has given you. May God’s mercy, grace, and peace be with you. May you be channels for god’s mercy, grace, and peace to the world wherever you may be!

Postlude - What A Fellowship No 133 UMH

Thank you to our Participants

Bishop John L. Hopkins, Kim Chapman (Percussionist), Arlene Christopherson, Kimberly L. Davis (Worship Leader), Tercio Junker (Music Coordinator), Amos Oladipo (Reader), Arnold Sevier (Pianist), Addison Shields, Jr. (Song Leader), Megan Alexandra Dean Tabola (Passing of the Mantle), Michele Taylor-Sanders (Passing of the Mantle)

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A Service of Commissioning and Ordination

Friday, June 10, 2022, 1:30pm

You are welcome to stand at the times in the service when individuals are recognized, commissioned and ordained. As we stand where we are in silent, prayerful support, we embody the Church in affirming the work of the Holy Spirit in these persons.

In keeping with the significance of the occasion, please refrain from the use of photography or videography, especially at the times of commissioning and ordination.

Please do not approach the worship platform with phones, cameras or video recorders. Photos will be available online at <https://nicordination22.shutterfly.com/> to download for free.

Following the service, all are invited to greet the newly commissioned and newly ordained persons in the Nirvana Rooms B&C

Prelude Music - *Prelude #8* by Claude Debussy

***2nd movement of The Cinnamon Grove Suite* by Robert N. Dett**

The Procession - *Come, All You People/Uyai Mose* by Alexander Gondo

***O For A Thousand Tongues* by Charles Wesley/Mark Miller**

(see words on the screen)

Presentation

Greeting and Prayer

Bishop John L. Hopkins

Bishop: The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you!

Bishop: We come together to praise God, to hear the Holy Word, and to seek for ourselves and others the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit.

All: Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts. Give your grace to all servants of your church, that we may with diligence and faithfulness fulfill our various ministries. Grant that we your people may follow where you lead, perfect our ministries, and live in joyful obedience to your will, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Ecumenical Introduction & Greetings

Bishop Yahiel Curry
Chicago Synod, ELCA

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (*continued*)

Recognition of Our Common Ministry

The Bishop: Ministry is the work of God, done by the people of God. Through baptism all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers, the church, Christ's body, made visible in the world. We all share in Christ's ministry of love and service for the redemption of the human family and the whole of creation.

As the Spirit hovered over the waters of creation, and spoke to Jesus at the River Jordan, so now may this same Spirit speak to us, renewing within us the power to express the mind and mission of Christ through our common life of gratitude and devotion, witness and service, celebration and discipleship.

Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry,
I call upon all God's people gathered here and at home:

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

The People: We remember our baptism and affirm our common ministry.

Opening Hymn - *Spirit Song*

No 347 UMH

Oh, let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love;
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul
Oh, let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit, like a dove,
Will descend upon your life and make you whole

Refrain: Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs

Oh, come and sing the song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name
Oh, give him all your tears and sadness, give him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name

Refrain x2

Commissioning to the Office of Deaconess

Bishop: Friends in Christ, we rejoice that you have purposed
to devote your life to Christian mission...
Bishop will continue with questions and candidate will answer.

Bishop: We invite you to pray in silence for this person who will be commissioned.
Let us take a moment in prayer.
The people pray for the candidate in silence

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

Bishop: Almighty God, Source of all mercies,
graciously behold this your servant
now to be commissioned as deaconess of your Church.
Anoint her with your Holy Spirit,
enrich her with your heavenly grace,
and strengthen her for the tasks which lie ahead;
that in all her works,
she may glorify your holy name,
and advance your blessed work;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Singing Response - Holy Spirit Come to Us by Jacques Berthier Sung by the musicians

The one to be commissioned will kneel. As hands are laid on her, the Bishop says:

Geraldine (Gigi) Velasco Mencias
I commission you to take the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ into all the world,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Respond:Amen.

Bishop to congregation:
Christian friends, I commend to you this person
whom we this day have recognized and commissioned
to carry into all the world
the sacred and imperishable message of eternal salvation

Presentation of Persons to Be Commissioned and Ordained

Mark Manzi, Lay Leader and Mark Meyers, BOOM Chair
Mary Gay McKinny and Lynn Mikels, Elder and Deacons Registrar

To be commissioned for the work of an elder:

Kicheon Ahn
Kimberly Dawn Chapman
Dana M. Cox
Joel Scott McClellan

To be ordained a deacon:

Annie A. Lockhart-Gilroy



A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

To be ordained an elder:

Seamus J. Enright
Jin Ho Hong
Pamela L. Pirtle
Keri Leigh Rainsberger
Megan Alexandra Dean Tabola
DaeGyu Dave Yim

The Bishop: These persons are by God’s grace
to be ordained, commissioned, or recognized for set apart ministry
in Christ’s Holy Church.
Those authorized by the Church to inquire about them
have discerned that they are persons
of sound learning and of Christian character,
possess the necessary signs of God’s grace,
and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ.
Therefore, they believe them to be duly called to serve God.

We ask you, people of God,
to declare your assent
to the ordination, commissioning, reception or recognition of these persons.

Do you trust that they are worthy, by God’s grace,
to be ordained, commissioned, received or recognized?

The People: We do! Thanks be to God!

Will you uphold them in their ministry?

The People: With God’s help, we will.

The General Examination

After the examination, the candidates for ordination are seated and commissioning
sponsors robe those to be commissioned.

The Examination of Persons Being Commissioned

Singing Response - Holy Spirit Come to Us by Jacques Berthier Sung by the musicians



A Service of Commissioning and Ordination *(continued)*

The Prayer of Commissioning with the Laying on of Hands

Bishop: God of the apostles and prophets, of the martyrs and teachers,
you raise up people to be apostolic leaders in your church.
By your Holy Spirit
help these, your servants,
to understand and live the mystery of your love with boldness and joy.
Deepen their sense of purpose
as they exercise commissioned ministry.
Empower them, and those who will walk with them to guide their ministry,
together with all of your people,
to heal the sick,
love the outcast,
resist evil,
preach the Word,
and give themselves freely for your name's sake.

*The bishop, standing behind and
laying both hands upon the shoulders of each candidate, prays:*
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon . . .
Send them now to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ,
to announce the reign of God,
and to equip the church for ministry,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Welcoming Those Commissioned

Bishop: I present to you these newly commissioned members of the Northern Illinois
Conference of The United Methodist Church!



A Service of Commissioning and Ordination *(continued)*

The Word Proclaimed

Scripture Reading - Acts 8:26-40

Mark Manzi

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

Musical Interlude – “Take me to the Water”

Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

Musical Interlude – “Take me to the Water”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Musical Interlude – “Take me to the Water”

This is the word of God for the people of God.

The People: Thanks be to God.

Special Music - *Eternal Life* by Olive Dungan

Addison Shields, Jr.

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

Sermon Take Me To The Water
Bishop Jonathan Keaton

Our Response

Invitation to Offering and Prayer - Hannah Hwa-Young Chong, BOOM Treasurer
The offerings given today will support the ongoing work of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. Through the boards work, candidates for ministry are recruited, empowered, and sent to serve on behalf of our conference locally and around the world.

Prayer for the Offering: Matthew Mariani

Offertory Song - Blessed Assurance Jesus is Mine No 369 UMH

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
- Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest.
I in my Savior am happy and bless'd,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
- Refrain

Examination of Elders and Deacons

Bishop: A deacon
is called to share in Christ’s ministry of servanthood,
to relate the life of the community to its service in the world,
to lead others into Christian discipleship,
to nurture disciples for witness and service,
to lead in worship,
to teach and proclaim God’s Word,
to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion,
to interpret to the church the world’s hurts and hopes,
to serve all people, particularly the poor, the sick, and the oppressed,
and to lead Christ’s people in ministries of compassion and justice,
liberation and reconciliation,
especially in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice.
This is the rule of life and work of a deacon.

Do you believe that God has called you
to the life and work of a deacon?

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

Response: I do so believe.

Bishop: Will you, for the sake of the church’s life and mission,
covenant to participate in the order of deacons?
Will you give yourself to God through the order of deacons,
in order to sustain and build each other up
in prayer, study, worship, and service?

Response: I will, with the help of God,
and the help of my siblings in the order of deacons.

Bishop: An elder
is called to share in the ministry of Christ
and of the whole church:
to preach and teach the Word of God
and faithfully administer
the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;
to lead the people of God in worship and prayer;
to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ;
to exercise pastoral supervision,
to order the life of the congregation and the connection,
to counsel the troubled,
and declare the forgiveness of sin;
to lead the people of God
in obedience to Christ’s mission in the world;
to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people;
and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church
and in service in and to the community.

This is the rule of life and work of an elder.

Do you believe that God has called you
to the life and work of an elder?

Response: I do so believe.

Bishop: Will you, for the sake of the church’s life and mission,
covenant to participate in the order of elders?
Will you give yourself to God through the order of elders,
in order to sustain and build each other up
in prayer, study, worship, and service?

Response: I will, with the help of God,
and the help of my siblings in the order of elders.

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination *(continued)*
Laying on of Hands and Prayer for the Ordinands

Singing Response - *Holy Spirit Come to Us* by Jacques Berthier *Sung by the musicians*

Prayers

Laying on of Hands

The candidate for ordination as deacon is invited to kneel before the bishop as directed.
The bishop lays both hands on the head of the ordinand, praying:
Almighty God, pour upon (name) the Holy Spirit,
for the office and work of a deacon in Christ’s holy church.

All Respond: Amen.

The candidate places hands on a Bible as the bishop lays hands on the hands of the ordinand and says:
(Name) take authority as a deacon to proclaim the Word of God,
and to lead God’s people in ministries of compassion and justice;
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Respond: Amen

Singing Response - *Holy Spirit Come to Us* by Jacques Berthier *Sung by the musicians*

Candidates for ordination as elder are invited to kneel before the bishop one at a time as directed.
The bishop lays both hands on the head of each ordinand, praying:
Almighty God, pour upon (name) the Holy Spirit,
for the office and work of a elder in Christ’s holy church.

All Respond: Amen.

The candidate places hands on a Bible as the bishop lays hands on the hands of the ordinand and says:
(Name) take authority as a elder to proclaim the Word of God,
and to lead God’s people to serve the world;
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Respond: Amen

Singing Response - *Holy Spirit Come to Us* by Jacques Berthier *Sung by the musicians*

Presentation of New Deacons and Elders to the Church

The Bishop: I present to you these newly ordained deacons and elders in the Northern Illinois
Conference of The United Methodist Church!

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination *(continued)*
Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Confession

**God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.**
**Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word,
we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Assurance

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s
Love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ. You are forgiven!

The Great Thanksgiving

Bishop: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Bishop: Life up your hearts.
People: We life them up to the Lord
Bishop: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Bishop: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere
to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

You build your church on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, And
instituted a holy ministry so that your prophetic and apostolic Word might be
heard until the end of time.

And so, With your people on earth
And all the company of heaven
We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus *(Repeat after Cantor)* by William Loperena, O.P., Puerto Rico
Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Le lo le lo lai lo, le lo le lo lai lo
le lo le lo lai lo, lo le lo le lo lai.

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

Bishop: Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ ...
... And so, In remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ’s offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Memorial Acclamation (Repeat after Cantor) by Jorge Lockward
Jesus Christ has died;
Jesus Christ is risen;
Jesus Christ will come again.

Bishop: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...
... All honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
Now and for ever.

Amen (Repeat after Cantor) by Jorge Lockwood
Amen, amen.
Amen, amen.
Amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.

The Lords’ Prayer
(Please pray in the language or from the tradition that is most familiar to you, while the prayer is said.)

Giving and Receiving of the Elements

Prayer After Thanksgiving

Bishop: Let us pray.
We thank you, gracious God, for this holy mystery
In which you have given yourself to us,
And united us in the communion of your Holy Spirit.
We bless you for raising up among us faithful servants.
Clothe them and us with your righteousness
And grant that we, with them,
May glorify you by giving ourselves to others,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth



A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

Blessing and Benediction Bishop John L. Hopkins, Annie A. Lockhart-Gilroy
Bishop: The grace of Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all always.
Ordained Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve God and your neighbors in all that you do!

The People: We are sent in Christ’s name. Thanks be to God!

Closing Song: O Healing River by Terry MacArthur

- 1 O healing river, send down your waters,
send down your waters upon this land.
O healing river, send down your waters,
and wash the blood from off the sand.

2 This land is parching, this land is burning,
no seed is growing in the barren ground.
O healing river, send down your waters,
O healing river, send your waters down.
- 3 Let the seed of freedom awake and flourish,
let the deep roots nourish,
let the tall stalks rise.
O healing river, send down your waters,
O healing river, from out of the skies.

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A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

Order of Procession

Lamp – Cerna Rand
Christ Candle - Hannah Hwa-Young Chong
Cross - Amos Oladipo
Bible - Luther Mason

Pitcher - Connie Schweitzer
Chalice - Eric Blanchford
Bowl & Towel - Juancho C. Campanano

2022 Candidates for Commissioning & Ordination

The Licensed, Commissioned, Consecrated, and Ordained Ministers
of The Northern Illinois Conference of The United Methodist Church

Mark Meyers, Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry
Mary Gay McKinney, Elder’s Registrar, Board of Ordained Ministry
Lynn Mikels, Deacon’s Registrar, Board of Ordained Ministry
Martin Lee, Director for Congregational Development and Redevelopment
Brittany Isaac, Superintendent, Lake North District
Jacques Conway, Superintendent, Lake South District
Jeffry Bross, Superintendent, Prairie Central District
Fabiola Grandon-Mayer, Superintendent, Prairie North District
Brian Gilbert, Superintendent, Prairie South District
Mark Manzi, Conference Co-Lay Leader
Arlene Christopherson, Assistant to the Bishop/DCM
Bishop Jonathan Keaton, UMC Bishop, Retired
Bishop Yehiel Curry, Assisting Bishop, Ecumenical Guest, ELCA
Bishop John L. Hopkins, Presiding Bishop, Chicago Episcopal Area

Order of Recession

Lamp – Cerna Rand
Christ Candle – Hannah Hwa-Young Chong
Cross – Amos Oladipo
Bible – Luther Mason

Pitcher - Connie Schweitzer
Chalice - Eric Blanchford
Bowl & Towel - Juancho C. Campanano

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Brian Gilbert, Superintendent, Prairie South District
Martin Lee, Director for Congregational Development and Redevelopment
Lynn Mikels, Deacon’s Registrar Board of Ordained Ministry
Mary Gay McKinney, Elder’s Registrar, Board of Ordained Ministry
Mark Meyers, Chair Board of Ordained Ministry

2022 Newly Commissioned and Ordained

A Service of Commissioning and Ordination (continued)

Thank you to our Participants

Bishop John L. Hopkins, Bishop Jonathan Keaton, Bishop Yahiel Curry, Eric Blanchford,
Juancho C. Campanano (Scripture Reader), Kim Chapman (Percussionist), Hannah Hwa-Young Chong,
Irma Clark (Scripture Reader), Tyrone Himes (Bass Guitarist), Tercio Junker (Music Coordinator),
Jeremiah Hong-kien Lee (Scripture Reader), Mark Manzi (Conference Lay Leader), Matthew Mariani,
Luther Mason, Mary Gay McKinney (BOOM Elder's Registrar), Mark Meyers (BOOM Chair),
Lynn Mikels (BOOM Deacon's Registrar), Amos Oladpo, Cerna Rand, Connie Schweitzer,
Arnold Sevier (Pianist), Addison Shields Jr. (Song Leader)

Deaconesses (and home missionaries) are laity called by God to a lifetime relationship in The United Methodist Church for engagement with a full-time vocation in ministries of love, justice and service. (¶ 1913) Deaconesses are consecrated by a bishop, then commissioned in their local annual conference.

Local Pastors answer God’s call to serve the mission of Jesus Christ in a local congregation under the authority of a license for pastoral ministry. They are not itinerant ministers and are not ordained or elected into full membership of the annual conference. A local pastor’s authority is within their appointment setting and does not extend beyond it.

Deacons are called by God, authorized by the church, and ordained by a bishop to a lifetime ministry of Word, Service, Compassion, and Justice. They serve the community and congregation in a ministry that connects the two. The deacon’s ministry connects the church’s worship with its service in the world (¶¶ 328-331).

Elders are called by God, authorized by the church, and ordained by a bishop to a lifetime ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service. The elder serves in ministry and servant leadership giving pastoral leadership to order the life of the congregation. (¶¶ 332-335).

Commissioned/Provisional Members are in the ordination step between candidacy and full membership. Those applying for ordination serve as a provisional member for a minimum of two years. Provisional membership ends with ordination. (¶¶ 324-327).

Full Connection/Full Members are an ordained deacon or elder that serves as a full member in an annual conference. Their life and work is amenable to the annual conference and they are supported by and accountable to that annual conference.

What makes you proud to

#BeUMC?

#BeUMC honors the core values that connect the people of The United Methodist Church (The UMC). No matter the challenges we face, God is with us, and we continue to have opportunities to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world! This grassroots campaign, built upon powerful stories of congregations and people living their faith, celebrates what draws us to The UMC and what we aspire to be. Learn more at [UMC.org/BeUMC](https://umc.org/BeUMC).

Share your story on social media

The hope is that as many United Methodists as possible will share their personal experiences, values, hopes and heritage – illustrations of why they continue to **#BeUMC**.

Your story is important.



Who We Are

OUR MISSION (Why)

"The purpose of the annual conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God." (Par. 601)

OUR VISION (Where)

"Making and supporting vital Christians in vital congregations that engage with their communities and the world for peace, justice and mercy."

OUR PRIORITIES (What)

1. Equip both Leaders and Churches:
 - With strategies to reach new members.
 - To help members grow as disciples.
 - To be more effective in community outreach.
2. Resource struggling churches.
3. Rethink how to be vital churches.
4. Cultivate trust within the conference.

OUR VALUES (How)

- Focus on mission
- Evaluation, accountability and support for growth
- Experimentation and risk-taking (with room for failure) for the purpose of learning
- Transparency honesty and graciousness with each other
- Safe spaces for sharing
- Building relationships
- Providing resources/services closer to the local church
- Fostering and celebrating diversity (as a conference, in our community & in the world)

Based on Landscape Survey and Annual Conference Presentation June, 2016

2022 Awards and Recognition

ONE MATTERS DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES AWARD

The One Matters Discipleship Award was created by the Discipleship Ministries (GBOD) in 2015 with the purpose of lifting up churches who have in recent years moved from 0 baptisms and 0 professions of faith into positive numbers as they redirected their focus toward intentional discipleship. In addition to the One Matters Discipleship plaque, each church will receive \$1,000 to encourage the continuation of their work in discipleship. The Northern Illinois Conference is one of the most diverse conferences in The United Methodist Church, so instead of recognizing one congregation, we have the opportunity to offer five awards, with the help of the Office of Connectional Ministries. Most importantly, as we celebrate these churches and hear their stories, we are invited to ask "What are they doing differently that is helping them to turn things around by God's grace?" And when we discern an answer to that question, we can ask ourselves, "What can we do to make a difference?" Each person matters to God!

This we celebrate!

PRESENTED TO:

- *Lake North: West Ridge Community United Methodist Church in Chicago*
- *Lake South: Grace United Methodist Church in Blue Island*
- *Prairie Central: Our Saviour's United Methodist Church in Schaumburg*
- *Prairie North: Cedarville United Methodist Church*
- *Prairie South: East Jordan United Methodist Church*

Questions about One Matters? Please contact Rev. J. Martin Lee,
Director of Congregational Development and Redevelopment,
at mlee@umcnic.org or 312-346-9766, ext. 708.
For narratives, visit www.umcnic.org/onematters.

Annual Conference Strategic Goals



GOAL #1
To grow and reach new disciples of Jesus Christ

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19: ESV)



GOAL #2
To live out the conviction that racism is incompatible with Christian teaching

[Jesus said] "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself". (Matthew 22:36-39: ESV)



GOAL #3
To increase the number of highly vital congregations

All of you together are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of that body. (1 Corinthians 12:27: ICB)

2020 Rainbow Covenant Awards

Due to the pandemic and virtual Annual Conference last year, we are acknowledging the following Northern Illinois Conference churches for becoming 2020 Rainbow Covenant Churches. Your generous and faithful contributions during this difficult time have supported so many as it extends a helping hand to our neighbors across this conference and around the world.



Shirley Pulgar-Hughes,
Conference Mission Secretary

The Philip Otterbein Award: “Highest Total Rainbow Covenant Giving” United Methodist Church of Libertyville: \$22,000

Also of note:

Church	Total Apportionments	Total RC Dollars	Per Capita
Arlington Heights: First	\$75,192	\$15,432	21%
Hinsdale	\$66,168	\$13,125	20%
Schaumburg: Our Saviour’s	\$54,900	\$8,452	15%
Freeport: Faith	\$30,783	\$8,430	27%

The John Wesley Award: “Highest Rainbow Covenant Giving per Member” Hanover United Methodist Church: 47%

Also of note:

Church	Total Apportionments	Total RC Dollars	Per Capita
Stockton: Wesley	\$6,732	\$2,250	34%
Mount Morris: Disciples	\$16,824	\$4,935	29%
Freeport: Faith	\$30,783	\$8,430	27%
Argo Fay	\$1,920	\$501	26%

All 2020 Rainbow Covenant Churches

Church	Total Apportionments	Total RC Dollars	Per Capita
Argo Fay	\$1,920	\$501	26%
Arlington Heights: First	\$75,192	\$15,432	21%
Carol Stream: St. Andrew	\$16,992	\$1,258	7%
Cary	\$11,448	\$700	6%
Chana	\$7,404	\$640	9%
Chicago: First (Temple)	\$113,028	\$2,222	2%
Coleta	\$7,500	\$786	10%
Des Plaines: First	\$24,984	\$3,193	13%
Downers Grove: First	\$70,160	\$8,212	12%

2020 Rainbow Covenant Awards *(continued)*

Church	Total Apportionments	Total RC Dollars	Per Capita
Earlville	\$6,192	\$450	7%
Elgin: First	\$46,776	\$4,806	10%
Elgin: Journey of Hope	\$21,204	\$1,125	5%
Elk Grove: Prince of Peace	\$16,152	\$600	4%
Esmond	\$5,712	\$400	7%
Freeport: Faith	\$30,783	\$8,430	27%
Galena	\$12,816	\$2,000	16%
Hanover	\$4,284	\$2,022	47%
Harmon	\$1,392	\$140	10%
Hinckley: First	\$18,072	\$2,120	12%
Hinsdale	\$66,168	\$13,125	20%
Kingston	\$4,428	\$900	20%
Leon	\$5,712	\$600	11%
Libertyville	\$98,520	\$22,000	21%
Lockport: First	\$21,168	\$3,100	15%
Maple Park: Grace	\$8,160	\$300	4%
Millbrook	\$3,243	\$180	6%
Milledgeville	\$7,104	\$600	8%
Morris: First	\$39,924	\$2,745	7%
Morrison	\$22,068	\$2,647	12%
Mount Hope	\$5,760	\$744	13%
Mount Morris: Disciples	\$16,824	\$4,935	29%
Naperville: Community	\$86,004	\$8,317	10%
New Lenox	\$60,060	\$4,863	8%
Norway	\$2,640	\$462	18%
Orland Park: Faith	\$46,812	\$2,970	6%
Oswego: Good Shepherd	\$31,668	\$5,419	17%
Ottawa: First	\$15,960	\$769	5%
Reynolds	\$10,536	\$855	8%
Rockford: Aldersgate	\$20,160	\$450	2%
Rockford: Beth Eden	\$16,548	\$1,225	7%
Rockford: Evans	\$7,320	\$150	2%
Roscoe	\$65,332	\$776	1%
Roselle	\$22,005	\$1,730	8%
Schaumburg: Our Saviour’s	\$54,900	\$8,452	15%
Sheridan	\$6,000	\$483	8%
St. Charles: Baker	\$74,904	\$5,100	7%
Sterling: Wesley	\$23,628	\$5,903	25%
Steward	\$7,968	\$1,331	17%
Stockton: Wesley	\$6,732	\$2,250	34%
Tampico	\$7,008	\$330	5%
Thomson	\$5,832	\$349	6%
Waukegan: First	\$45,576	\$1,410	3%
Winfield: Community	\$6,744	\$590	9%
Zion: Memorial	\$15,288	\$819	5%

2021 Mission Links Awards

Thank you to the following Northern Illinois Conference churches for becoming 2021 Mission Links (formerly Rainbow Covenant) churches. These churches have given 100% of their apportionments and supported project in each of the 7 giving areas. (Special Sundays, Global Advance Projects, Missionary Support, UMCOR/Emergency Relief Projects, U.S.-Based Advances, NIC Conference Projects, and NIC District Projects).

Thank you for living out the beatitudes and being a blessing for projects around the block and around the world.

Learn more about our Mission Links program and download the booklet with detailed listings of all the missionaries and projects our Annual Conference supports at www.umcnic.org/MissionLinks.

Shirley Pulgar-Hughes,
Conference Mission Secretary

The Philip Otterbein Award: “Highest Total Mission Link Giving” United Methodist Church of Libertyville: \$34,000

Also of note:

Church	Total Apportionments	Total ML Dollars	Per Capita
New Lenox	\$64,372	\$24,185	38%
Arlington Heights: First	\$74,895	\$20,946	28%
Freeport: Faith	\$25,620	\$12,592	49%
DeKalb: First	\$57,417	\$11,135	19%

The John Wesley Award: “Highest Mission Link Giving per Member” Triumph United Methodist Church: 55%

Also of note:

Church	Total Apportionments	Total ML Dollars	Per Capita
Freeport: Faith	\$25,620	\$12,592	49%
Sterling: Wesley	\$20,000	\$8,552	43%
Oak Park: Euclid Avenue	\$19,800	\$7,632	39%
Hanover	\$4,054	\$1,549	38%

All 2021 Mission Link Churches

Church	Total Apportionments	Total ML Dollars	Per Capita
Antioch	\$29,758	\$6,899	23%
Argo Fay	\$2,016	\$293	15%
Arlington Heights: First	\$74,895	\$20,946	28%
Brookville	\$1,788	\$250	14%
Cary	\$12,468	\$4,020	32%
Chana	\$7,260	\$1,120	15%

2021 Mission Links Awards (continued)

Church	Total Apportionments	Total ML Dollars	Per Capita
Chicago: Humboldt Park	\$7,644	\$660	9%
Chicago: Wesley	\$12,836	\$1,036	8%
Coleta	\$7,449	\$300	4%
DeKalb: First	\$57,417	\$11,135	19%
Des Plaines: First	\$23,772	\$2,075	9%
Earlville	\$6,072	\$500	8%
Elgin: Journey of Hope	\$25,314	\$2,093	8%
Esmond	\$5,604	\$1,360	24%
Freeport: Faith	\$25,620	\$12,592	49%
Galena	\$11,988	\$3,154	26%
Hanover	\$4,054	\$1,549	38%
Harmon	\$1,327	\$175	13%
Hinckley: First	\$18,378	\$3,450	19%
Hinsdale	\$60,904	\$8,866	15%
Kingston	\$4,740	\$935	20%
Leland	\$6,384	\$441	7%
Lemont	\$18,310	\$3,670	20%
Leon	\$6,216	\$600	10%
Libertyville	\$106,258	\$34,000	32%
Lockport: First	\$23,052	\$5,075	22%
Manhattan	\$13,836	\$2,067	15%
McHenry: Mount Hope	\$3,023	\$635	21%
Mendota: Zion	\$9,792	\$2,366	24%
Milledgeville	\$7,332	\$1,150	16%
Morris: First	\$38,952	\$6,694	17%
Naperville: Community	\$68,700	\$7,788	11%
New Lenox	\$64,372	\$24,185	38%
Norway	\$2,640	\$686	26%
Oak Park: Euclid Avenue	\$19,800	\$7,632	39%
Oswego: Good Shepherd	\$28,000	\$7,717	28%
Ottawa: First	\$16,663	\$800	5%
Princeton: First	\$30,192	\$2,192	7%
Rockford: Aldersgate	\$21,000	\$450	2%
Rockford: Christ	\$82,594	\$7,202	9%
Rockford: Evans	\$6,600	\$150	2%
Roscoe	\$66,172	\$1,487	2%
Schaumburg: Our Saviour’s	\$49,956	\$5,480	11%
Sheridan	\$6,000	\$312	5%
Sterling: Wesley	\$20,000	\$8,552	43%
Tampico	\$7,533	\$400	5%
Thomson	\$5,304	\$1,302	25%
Triumph	\$2,088	\$1,143	55%
Winfield: Community	\$6,600	\$407	6%
Zion: Memorial	\$16,644	\$2,143	13%



Lay Member Reporting Guide

Theme: CONNECTED IN CHRIST: Come to the Water

Dear Lay Member to Annual Conference,
The Board of Laity provides this reporting guide in order to help you fulfill one of your responsibilities as a Lay Member to Annual Conference. As outlined in our *Book of Discipline*, “The lay member(s) of the annual conference, along with the pastor, shall serve as an interpreter of the actions of the annual conference session. These persons shall report to the local church council on the actions of the annual conference as soon as possible, but no later than three months after the close of the conference.” Your Board of Laity suggests that you also make a report to your entire congregation during worship or in a written report in your church newsletter. This reporting guide will provide a means for you to take notes on personal highlights and takeaways from the various sessions of Annual Conference.

Day One – Wednesday, June 8

LAITY SESSION – 11:00AM

MEMORIAL SERVICE – 1:30 PM

PLENARY 1 – 3:30PM

LEGISLATIVE SECTIONS – 7:00PM

Day Two – Thursday, June 9

PLENARY 2: 8:30AM, RETIREMENT SERVICE: 8:45, PLENARY 3 & EPISCOPAL ADDRESS: 10:30AM

PLENARY 4: 1:30PM, PLENARY 5 AND LAITY ADDRESS: 3:30PM, PLENARY 6: 7:00PM

Day Three – Friday, June 10

PLENARY 7: 8:30AM, PLENARY 8: 10:30AM

ORDINATION SERVICE – 1:30PM

CONFERENCE BOARD OF LAITY

Co-Conference Lay Leaders:

Connie Augsburg
Mark Manzi
Eugene Williams

District Lay Leaders:

Lake North: Ellen Feliciano, Chester Lacey, and Bonnie Lill
Lake South: Lisa Butler and Dawn Shires
Prairie Central: Leonard Jones
Prairie North: Scott Stich
Prairie South: Karen Bonnell and Tom Weber

Members by Virtue of Office:

Peggy Hanson, *Director of Lay Servant Ministries*
George Groves, *UMM Conference President*
Jim Loepert, *UMM Director of Scouting*
Marilyn Steenwyk, *UWFaith/UMW Conference President*
Barb Farley, *UWFaith/UMW Representative*
Rev. Dr. Char Hoffmann, *Clergy Representative*
Rev. Arlene Christopherson, *Assistant to the Bishop/*
Director of Connectional Ministries

Table Displays


This year we have display tables in two areas, in front of Adventure Hall where we will have the majority of our business and in the area outside the Nirvana rooms at the top of the escalators.

Nirvana Theshold

Wed, June 8 - 12 noon to 7:30 pm
Thurs, June 9 - 7:30 am to 7:30 pm
Friday, June 10 - 7:30 am - 2:00 pm

Adventure Hall Foyer

Wed, June 8 - 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Thurs, June 9 - 7:30 am to 7:30 pm
Friday, June 10 - 7:30 am - 2:00 pm

Cokesbury

Cokesbury will not have a booth on-site but is extending the following offers to the clergy, lay members, and visitors at annual conference sessions:

- Free Adult Bible Studies Starter Bundle, worth over \$100, with leader guide, commentary and six participant books.
- In addition to everyday pricing, take \$10 off a \$100 Purchase during annual conference.

Simply visit
cokesbury.com/annual-conference-2022
and use code AC2022.

Anti-Racism Task Force.....	Nirvana Threshold
Bethany North Suburban Group/Bethany Methodist.....	Nirvana Threshold
Center for Changing Lives.....	Nirvana Threshold
Chicago Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Inc.....	Nirvana Threshold
Commission on Religion & Race.....	Nirvana Threshold
Deaconess and Home Missioner Order	Nirvana Threshold
Discipleship Ministries.....	Adventure Hall Foyer
Discipleship Task Force.....	Nirvana Threshold
Eco-Sustainability Task Force.....	Adventure Hall Foyer
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.....	Nirvana Threshold
Kids Above All (formerly ChildServ)	Nirvana Threshold
Lay Servant Ministries.....	Adventure Hall Foyer
Midwest Mission Distribution Center.....	Nirvana Threshold
NCJ UMVIM	Adventure Hall Foyer
NIC Board of Trustees	Adventure Hall Foyer
NIC Commission on Church Unity and Interreligious Relations (CCUIR)	Nirvana Threshold
NIC Global Ministries	Adventure Hall Foyer
NIC Risk Management	Nirvana Threshold
Northern Illinois Justice for Our Neighbors	Nirvana Threshold
Pan-African Rural Health & Social Services (PRHeSS)	Nirvana Threshold
Reconciling Ministries Network	Nirvana Threshold
Rosecrance	Nirvana Threshold
Scouting Ministries / UMM	Nirvana Threshold
United Methodist Communications.....	Adventure Hall Foyer
United Methodist Foundation.....	Nirvana Threshold
United Methodist Men	Adventure Hall Foyer
United Women in Faith	Adventure Hall Foyer
Wesley Theological Seminary	Nirvana Threshold

Acronyms

ABLC – Appointed Beyond the Local Church	GCSRW – General Commission on Status and Role of Women
ACST – Annual Conference Shepherdng Team	GCFA – General Council on Finance Administration
ACC – Annual Conference Committee	GCORR – General Commission on Religion and Race
BBCR - Building Beloved Community Reflections	ICD – Institute for Congregational Development
BMCR – Black Methodists for Church Renewal	LN - Lake North District
BOD – Book of Discipline	LS - Lake South District
BOL – Board of Laity	MARCHA – The Methodist Association Representing the Cause of Hispanic Americans
BOOM – Board of Ordained Ministry	MFSA – Methodist Federation for Social Action
CBOP – Conference Board of Pensions	NIC – Northern Illinois Conference
CCUIR – Conference Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships	NCJ – North Central Jurisdiction
CCFA – Conference Council on Finance and Administration	NIJFON – Northern Illinois Justice for Our Neighbors
CLM – Certified Lay Minister	OAM – Older Adult Ministries
CLS - Certified Lay Servant	ORM – Outdoor and Retreat Ministries
CCORR – Conference Commission on Religion and Race	PC - Prairie Central District
CodeRED - Committee on Congregational Development and Redevelopment	PN - Prairie North District
CONAM - Committee on Native American Ministries	PS - Prairie South District
COSROW – Commission on Status and Role of Women	SR – Standing Rules
DCOM – District Committee on Ordained Ministry	UMC – United Methodist Church
DS – District Superintendent	UMCOM – United Methodist Communications
DST – District Shepherdng Team	UMCOR – United Methodist Committee on Relief
FAA – Fellowship of Asian Americans	UMF – United Methodist Foundation
GBCS – General Board of Church and Society	UMM – United Methodist Men
GBGM – General Board of Global Ministries	UMGAF – United Methodist Global AIDS Fund
GBHEM – General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	UMPH – United Methodist Publishing House
GBOD – General Board of Discipleship	UMRC – United Media Resource Center
GCAH – General Commission on Archives and History	UWFaith/UMW – United Women in Faith/ United Methodist Women
	VIM – Volunteers in Mission

Terms

Alternate Member: One who is elected to serve should the member of their congregation be unable to attend or participate in Annual Conference.

Bar (of the Conference): The boundaries that define the area in which votes for Annual Conference matters may be cast.

Building Beloved Community Reflections: Provided by CORR and COSROW reminding us of our diversity and inclusion.

Consent Calendar: Groupings of legislation addressed in legislative sections that receive at least 80% of votes for approval or 80% of votes disapproving. The consent calendar is placed before the body at least two hours before action is taken on this grouping of legislation.

Daily Proceedings: Order of business while we are together as an Annual Conference.

Delegate: One is elected as a delegate to General or Jurisdictional Conference.

Legislative Sections: All members to annual conference are assigned to a legislative section where they vote on assigned documents to build the AC consent calendar.

Member: One is a clergy or lay member of Annual Conference.

Motion: The way the Conference acts on legislation. For example, should someone want to amend a piece of legislation that is before the Annual Conference, you would seek the Bishop's attention and state "I move we amend ____" (*filling in the blank with the way they would like to see the document amended. Amendments are also needed in writing*). If that motion is seconded, it would be brought before the Conference for action.

North Central Jurisdiction: The Northern Illinois Annual Conference is part of the North Central Jurisdiction, which includes the conferences of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Every four years the North Central Jurisdiction and other jurisdictional conferences meet to discuss and vote to elect new bishops, converse about matters of the Jurisdiction, worship, and fellowship together.

Order of the Day: The agenda as agreed upon by the Annual Conference and established by the Chair of Daily Proceedings in consultation with the Bishop.

Organizing Motions: Motions made at the beginning of our work so that we all know what the agreed upon rules for working together are, for example: where people with a vote are allowed to sit, where people without a vote are allowed to sit (there are other rules as well).

Plenary: The plenary compromises all members entitled to be seated within the bar of Annual Conference.

Point of Order: A call to attention to make sure that the correct procedure is being followed.

Robert's Rules of Order: Rules by which we have agreed to function as we meet. A motion needs a second in order for it to be voted upon, etc. so that there is a method to our work together.

Second: Someone agrees with the motion and desires the body proceed to work with motion.

Acknowledgments & Appreciation

Annual Conference Committee

Presiding Bishop: Bishop John L. Hopkins, Deborah Dangerfield (Chair), P. Joanne Ray (Vice Chair/Daily Proceedings), Ryan Sutton (Chair, Annual Conference Committee on Credentials), Danita Anderson (Legislative Section Coordinator), Robert Anderson, Valetta Bell, Kim Chapman (Co-Worship Design Coordinator), Arlene Christopherson (DCM), Anthony Clausell, Marc Dean (Accessibility Coordinator), James Fu, John George, Anne Marie Gerhardt (Director of Communications), George Groves (UMM, Display Table Coordinator), Randy Hayes (Conference Secretary), Scott Himel (Ordination Head Usher), Char Hoffman (Pre-Conference Briefing Coordinator), Laura Lopez (Conference Events Coordinator), Mark Manzi (Conference Co-Lay Leader), Matthew Mariani, Erica McIntosh (UMW), Linda Osikowicz (Secretary), Tennile Power, Connie Schweitzer (Co-Worship Design Coordinator), Addison Shields Jr., (Worship Design Team Coordinator), Lisa Smith (Communications Specialist)

Annual Conference Committee on Credentials

Roger Curless, Diana Davis, Rose Faulkner, Christopher Druce Jones, Laura Lopez (Conference Registrar), Ryan Sutton (Chair)

Worship Team

Melwyn S. Alagodi, Robert Anderson, Kim Chapman, Andrea Davidson, Kimberly Davis, Tércio B. Junker, Luther Mason, Amos Oladipo, Cerna C. Rand, P. Joanne Ray, Connie Schweitzer, Addison Shields Jr.

Northern Illinois Conference On-Site Staff

Marva Andrews, Jeff Casey, Amania Drane (Strategic Goals Project Manager), Anne Marie Gerhardt, Dwayne Jackson, Laura Lopez, Nicole Minter, David Quinn, Debbie Rogers, Lisa Smith

Annual Conference Secretary:

Randy Hayes

Secretarial Pool: Paul Lee, Marcia Peddicord, Cherie Quillman, Debbie Rogers, Tammy Scott, Megan Smick

Sign Interpreter: Debra Potts

Accessibility Coordinators: Marc Dean, Susan Harkness, Violet Johnicker

Memorial: Melwyn S. Alagodi, Robert Anderson, Andrea Davidson, Luther Mason (chair)

Retirement: Kimberly Davis, Amos Oladipo, Cerna C. Rand (Chair), P. Joanne Ray

Ordination: Kim Chapman, Tércio Junker (Co-Chair), Connie Schweitzer, Arnold Sevier, Addison Shields, Jr.(Co-Chair)

Visuals: Kim Chapman, Connie Schweitzer

Prayer Station: Kim Chapman, Connie Schweitzer

Stage Manager/Director: Andrea Davidson

Eric Joob and the AV3 Productions Team

All Volunteer Hosts, Ushers, Legislative Section Leaders, and Greeters



Northern Illinois Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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