

October 5-8, 2026



**Annual Convocation
North Central Jurisdiction Commission
on Archives & History
of The United Methodist Church**

**Dubuque, Iowa
Jointly sponsored by 4 Annual Conferences
(Iowa, Northern Illinois,
Wisconsin, and Minnesota).**

At the upcoming meeting of the North Central Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History there will be both the formal presentations listed on the agenda previously sent out, but also informal sharing and networking that has always been an important part of these gatherings. The planning committee that is putting together this year's meeting actually arose from informal discussions at last year's Convocation in Indiana.

Several of us are preparing briefer papers on topics related to Methodism in the Upper Mississippi Valley region that will be distributed at the meeting. Dick Wang of the Northern Illinois Conference Commission, who has worked for years on ethnic Methodism (Swedish Danish Norwegian), is preparing a paper on this important aspect of the Church, not only in Chicago, but the hinterland as well. Daniel Swinson of the same Commission is preparing a paper on Methodist Protestantism in the region as well (the 1875 General Conference of the Methodist Church, the northern conferences of the Methodist Protestant Church, met in Princeton, Illinois in the present bounds of the Northern Illinois Conference). Other papers may be in the works.

This mode of distribution is decidedly old-fashioned, but one suited to the in-person nature of our gathering. If you have a paper, or might like to put one together, to have distributed to the meeting, contact Daniel Swinson at djswinson7@gmail.com. Please understand, this is not a call for papers or a peer-reviewed process for publication. This is simply an extension of the kinds of conversations that we often have at these Jurisdictional gatherings. A brief (2-5 page) exploration of some aspect of the diverse families behind United Methodism in the North Central Jurisdiction would enrich our experience in many way.

For convenience, I am attaching the agenda and registration materials.

Peace,

Dan Swinson

