

SPECIAL SUNDAYS

Northern Illinois Conference

Scouting Ministries Sunday - NIC Fund #783

Any Sunday in February or March

This fund supports Scouting America, Girl Scouts of the United States of America, Campfire, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America.

Golden Cross Sunday/ United Adults Services Sunday - NIC Fund #775

First Sunday in May

Supports the six retirement and long-term adult facilities within the Northern Illinois Conference and provides education scholarships for persons pursuing careers in the field of adult services.

Volunteers in Mission - NIC Fund #901375

Any Sunday in July or August

Helps promote any short-term mission trips in your congregation, especially those organized under the auspices of the VIM program of Global Ministries. To learn about VIM or how to organize a team in your congregation, visit umcnic.org/VIM.

Christian Education Sunday - NIC Fund #776

First Sunday in September

Informs the congregation of the crucial church growth ministry of Christian Education and recognizes teachers and leaders for their dedicated service.

Accessibility Sunday - NIC Fund #782

First Sunday in November

Supports the award of accessibility grants to local churches. The worship service should call church members to recognize and celebrate persons with handicapping conditions in their congregation and community, including those persons in the service of worship, and recognizing the gifts of all God's people. Resources may be obtained from the NIC Accessibility Committee or visit umcnic.org/accessibility-ministries.

World Aids Day - NIC Fund #780

First Sunday in December

Funds ministries to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families and commemorates those who have died from an AIDS-related illness and works to raise awareness/education of HIV/AIDS.

United Voices for Children Sunday - NIC Fund #778

Each fifth Sunday in months with five Sundays

United Voices for Children (UVC) is a coalition of NIC congregations, agencies, groups and individuals that speaks and acts on behalf of children, youth and families in need. Funds are divided among the institutions in the UVC coalition: Kids Above All, Rosecrance Health Network and MYSI.

Learn more at unitedvoicesforchildren.org.

Special Sundays are:

- A way for your church to join with other congregations across our connection to recognize specific kinds of ministries.
- May involve receiving an offering, having a "minute for mission" about the day, or to recognize ministry in your specific context, such as a Scout troop or Volunteers in Mission (VIM) team.
- Set by the General Conference and the Northern Illinois Conference (NIC).



General Conference-Designated Special Sundays

Connectional Giving has created a resource to assist us in being better stewards of the church's money. Pew cards to promote and teach members about the Special Sunday Offerings and the importance of giving to support these causes are [available to order or download](#). There is now one offering envelope for ALL Six Special Sunday Offerings. **Remember you can celebrate any Special Sunday on a day of your choosing.**

January • Human Relations Day | [Leader Kit Download](#)

This offering supports ministries of social justice and outreach like the Community Developers, Volunteer Service and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. This fund is administered by Global Ministries and The General Board of Church and Society.

Northern Illinois Fund #770

Fourth Sunday in Lent • UMCOR Sunday | [Leader Kit Download](#)

This offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs ensuring that 100% of gifts during times of crisis help those who need it most. This fund is administered by Global Ministries.

Northern Illinois Fund #771

Third Sunday of Easter • Native American Ministries Sunday | [Leader Kit Download](#)

This offering advocates for and recognizes the contributions and gifts of Native peoples to the church and their communities around the globe. Half of the offering remains in the NIC. The other half supports scholarships and general church funds administered by the General Board of High Education and Ministry and Global Ministries. **Northern Illinois Fund #769**

May • United Methodist Student Day | [Leader Kit Download](#)

This offering helps provide for over 70 scholarships available for United Methodist students to further their education and enrich the life of the Church. The fund is administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. **Northern Illinois Fund #772**

First Sunday after Pentecost • Peace with Justice Sunday | [Leader Kit Download](#)

These gifts support Peace with Justice work in the NIC, the United States and around the world. Half of this offering is administered by the conference Peace with Justice coordinator and half by the General Board of Church and Society. **Northern Illinois Fund #773**

October • World Communion Sunday | [Leader Kit Download](#)

This offering makes a global impact for Christ by supporting a diverse mix of national and international ethnic young adults. Half of the offering benefits World Communion Scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries; the remainder assists Ethnic Scholarships for U.S. and international undergraduates studying in the U.S. and Ethnic In-Service Training. These funds are administered by the General Boards of Higher Education and Ministry and Global Ministries.

Northern Illinois Fund #774