

**Northern Illinois Annual Conference**  
**Document 100- Boards, Commissions, & Committees**  
**2024-2028**

**Bold represents the new nominations for 2025. Blanks are left intentionally for additional nominations**

<b>Conference Council on Finance and Administration (elects its own President, Vice President, and Secretary)</b>	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class	1st Year
Emery, Kim (Chair)	PN	L	W	F	A		2019
Mann, Michael (V Chair)	PC	C	W	M	A		2024
Messing, Cathleen (Katie) (Secretary)	PS	L	W	F	O		2024
Brooks, Joan	PN	L	W	F	A		2022
Christy, Scort	LN	C	A	M	A		2023
Dunfrund, William	PS	L	W	M	O		2021
Gracie, Elizabeth	LN	L	W	F	O		2024
Isaac, Brittany	LN	C	W	F	A		2024
Lagos-Fonseca, David	PC	C	H	M	A		2020
Lee, Jeremiah	PC	C	A	M	A		2024
Newby, Thomas	PS	L	W	M			2024
Oh, Grace	LS	C	A	F	A		2022
Rausa, Frank	PS	L	A	M	O		2023
Smith, Rebecca	LN	L	W	F	A		2020
Sutton, Barbara	LS	L	B	F	O		2023
Topcik, Gerold (Jerry)	PC	L	W	M	O		2023
Wasney, Richard	LS	L	W	M	O		2024
<i>Assistant to the Bishop: Anderson, Danita</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Cabinet Representative: Hwa Young Chong</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Treasurer: Moy, Elaine</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Committee on Personnel (elects its own officers)</b>	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class	1st Year
Birkhahn-Rommelfanger, Rachel (Chair)	LS	C	W	N	A		2023
Fleming, Richard	PC	L	W	M	O		2023
Hagedorn, James	LN	L	W	M	O		2023
Lee, Hyujae	PC	C	A	M	A		2023
Roderick, Paula	LN	L	B	F	A		2023
Smith, David	PS	L	W	M	O		2023
Williams, Fe (Vice Chair)	PC	L	B	F	A		2023
<i>Bishop: Schwerin, Dan</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services: Moy, Elaine</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Cabinet Representative:</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Commission on Equitable Compensation (elects its own officers)</b>	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class	1st Year
<b>Alagod, Melwyn</b>	PN	C	A	M	A		
<b>Davenport, Veronica</b>	LN	L		F			
<b>Hoffman, Scott</b>	PN	L		M			
<b>Keate, Leanne</b>	PS	C		F			
<b>Safford, Lisa K</b>	PC	C	W	F	A		
<b>Seigel, Ji Eun Mori</b>	LN	C	A	F	A		
<b>Shaw, Jarice</b>	LS	L		F			
	PS	L					
	PC	L					
	LS	C					
<b>Staff: Weaver, Cheryl</b>							
<b>District Superintendent: Chong, Hwa Young</b>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (elects its own Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer)</b>	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class	1st Year
Dangerfield, Deborah	LS	L	B	F	A	2028	2018
Fischer, Kristin	PC	L	W	F	O	2028	2022
Gaughan, Kristina	LS	L	W	F	A	2028	2018
Massey, Glynis P.	LS	L	B	F	A	2032	2024
Nicol, Harry	LN	C	W	M	O	2028	2022
Reyes-Rosario, Luis F.	PS	C	H	M	A	2032	2024
Smith, Matthew	PN	C	W	M	A	2032	2024
Swanick, Beth	LN	L	W	F	A	2028	2018

Van Haften, Dan	PC	L	W	M	O	2028	2022
<i>Cabinet Representative:</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Conference Benefits Officer: Weaver, Cheryl</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Treasurer: Moy, Elaine</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Assistant to the Bishop: Anderson, Danita</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Board of Trustees (elects its own officers)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Bailey, Grant	LN	L	W	M	Y		2023
Brace, Jeff	PS	C	W	M	A		2020
Doty, Karen	LN	L	W	F	O		2022
Dunham, Mark	LS	L	B	M	Y		2023
<b>Freiberger, Chuck</b>	<b>PC</b>	<b>L</b>		<b>M</b>			<b>2025</b>
Hong, Sarah	PN	C	A	F	A		2018
Miller, James H.	PS	C	W	M	O		2024
	<b>PC</b>	<b>L</b>					
Saavedra, Daniel	PN	L	H	M	A		2022
	<b>PC</b>	<b>L</b>					
<b>Voigt, Katie</b>	<b>PC</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>2025</b>
Wood, Bob	LS	L	W	M	O		2020
<i>Conference Treasurer: Moy, Elaine</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>							
<i>Cabinet Representative: Coon, Christian</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cabinet Representative: Nanabray, Audrea</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Red Door Fund (elected by Red Door Fund Board; information only)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Roselieb, Doug (Chair)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ashely, Corey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hutchison, Jonathon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prather, Phil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wisdom, Richard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cabinet representative: Coon, Christian</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Treasurer: Moy, Elaine</i>							
<b>Archives &amp; History</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Swinson, Dan (Conference Historian, Convener)	PS	C	W	M	O		--
Steenwyk, Marilyn		L		F			2024
Wang, Richard	PN	C	W	M	O		--
Whitcomb, Cate	LN	L	W	F	O		2024
<i>General Commission on Archives &amp; History: Noren, Carol</i>	LN	C	W	F	A		--
<b>Committee on Nominations</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Lyall, Alka (Chair, 2024)	LN	C	A	F	A		2021
Carter, Mildred	LN	L	B	F	A		2024
Cunningham, Jessie	LS	L	B	F	A		2020
Harris, Darryl D.	LS	L	B	M	A		2024
Heimann, Ben	LN	L	W	M	A		2024
Lee, Paul	PS	C	A	M	A		2018
Reid, Adonna Davis	LN	C	B	F	A		2024
Rochet, Auderine	PN	C	H	F	A		2024
Shin, Jay	PN	C	A	F	A		2024
	<b>LS</b>	<b>C</b>					
	<b>PC</b>	<b>C</b>					
	<b>PC</b>	<b>L</b>					
	<b>PC</b>	<b>L</b>					
	<b>PS</b>	<b>L</b>					
	<b>PN</b>	<b>L</b>					
<i>Cabinet Representative: Melad Jr., Victor</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Conferece Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Black Methodists for Church Renewal Rep.: Dangerfield, Deborah</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Fellowship of Asian Americans Representative: Hyon, Sophia Hyewon</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hispanic/Latine Ministry Team Representative: Meza, Noemi</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Retired Clergy Association Representative:</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>UWFaith Representative: Jayapalan, Beth</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>UMM Representative: McGregor, Craig</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<b>Annual Conference Committee</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Dangerfield, Deborah (Chair 2020)	LS	L	B	F	A		2020
Fu, James (Chair of Daily Proceedings, Vice Chair 2024)	PC	C	A	M	A		2021
Oskiwicz, Linda (Secretary, 2024)	PC	L	W	F	O		2022
Anderson, Robert	PC	L	W	M	O		2020
Bell, Veletta	LS	L	B	F	A		2021
Chapman, Kim	PN	C	W	F	A		2021
Cho, Jake	LN	LP	A	M	A		2022
Doolittle, Eric	PC	C	W	M	A		2024
George, John	LS	L	W	M	O		2021
Hoffmann, Charlette	PN	C	W	F	A		2019
Mariani, Matthew	PN	C	ME	M	Y		2020
Rice, Sharon	PC	C	W	F	A		2021
Rudy, Martha	LN	L	W	F	A		2023
Shields, Addison	LS	C	B	M	A		2020
Tipantasig-Wolverton, Jacob	PC	C	W	M	A		2024
<i>Conference Secretary: Hayes, Randy</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>UMM Representative: McGregor, Craig</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>UWFaith Representative: McIntosh, Erica</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Cabinet Representative:</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Credentials Committee Representative: Sutton, Ryan</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Conference Registrar:</i>	--	--	--	--	--		--
<i>Director of Communications: Rebeck, Victoria</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Communication Specialist: Smith, Lisa</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Bishop: Schwerin, Dan</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Credentials Committee</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Sutton, Ryan (Chair)	PN	C	W	M	A		2010
Davis, Diana	LS	L	B	F	A		2016
Lee, Rosa	PS	C	A	F	A		2024
<b>Orr, Sharon</b>	<b>PC</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>			<b>2025</b>
Pendergrass, Nancy	LN	L	W	F	A		2024
<i>Conference Registrar:</i>	--	--	--	--	--		--
<b>Board of Ordained Ministry (appointed by Bishop and elected by Annual Conference)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Bell, James	PN	E	W	M	A		2016
Blachford, Eric	PC	E	W	M	A		2021
Brock, Kathy	LS	L	B	F	A		2013
Brown, Norval I.	PC	E	B	M	O		2018
Christian, Avani-Cossett	PC	E	A	F	A		2017
Conway, Jacques	LS	E	B	M	A		2023
Cox, Brittany R. M.	LN	E	W	F	Y		2018
Cunningham, Jessie	LS	L	B	F	O		2016
Dickson, Wesley	LS	E	W	M	A		2014
Dukes, Beverly	PC	E	B	F	A		2023
Engert, Sharon	PS	RLP	W	F	O		2016
Friedrich, Laura Dean	LN	L	W	F	A		2016
Fu, James	PC	E	A	M	A		2023
Garcea, Tiffany	PS	E	W	F	Y		2019
Harris, Darryl	LS	L	B	M	A		2024
Himel, Scott	LN	E	W	M	Y		2016
Hoffman, Charlette	PC	RE	W	F	A		2019
Hong, Yong-Min (Caleb)	PN	E	A	M	O		2016
Jang, Sejoon	PS	E	A	M	A		2016
Javore, Barbara B.	LN	D	W	F	A		2018
Jayapalan, Jay	LN	L	A	M	O		2023
Johnson, Joseph	PC	E	W	M	A		2016
Kehr, GleeAnn	PC	L	W	F	A		2021
Kim, Heewon	PN	E	A	M	A		2017
Lagos-Fonseca, David	PC	E	H	M	A		2022
Lee, Hyujae	PC	E	A	M	A		2021
Lee, Paul	PS	E	A	M	A		2019
Lee, Taekhawan	PN	E	A	M	A		2024
Lewis-Davis, Kimberly	LS	D	B	F	A		2022
Lukasick, Carolyn	PN	E	W	F	A		2023

Marasigan, Ligaya	LN	L	A	F	O		2016
McBride, Carolyn J.	LS	L	B	F	A		2018
McKinney, Mary Gay	PS	RE	W	F	O		2017
Meyers, Mark	LS	E	W	M	Y		2014
Meyers, Melissa	PC	E	W	F	A		2016
Morris, Brenda	PN	LP	W	F	A		2023
Nesbit, Caitlyn	LS	E	W	F	A		2023
Newcomb, Howard	PN	E	W	M	A		2023
Oberwise-Lacock, Michelle	PC	RE	NA	F	A		2023
Oh, Hyo Sun	PC	E	A	F	A		2016
Reyes-Rosario, Luis F.	PS	E	H	M	A		2019
Rochet, Auderine	PN	LP	H	F	A		2023
Rogers, Derek	PS	E	W	M	Y		2014
Rossmiller, Pam	PN	RE	W	F	A		2014
Rutherford, Elizabeth	PN	E	W	F	A		2023
Shin, KyungHae Anna	PC	E	A	F	A		2021
Showalter-Swanson, Grant	LN	D	W	M	A		2021
Siaba, Judith	LN	L	H	F	O		2021
Smick, Megan A.	PS	E	W	F	A		2018
Smith, Brian	LN	E	W	M	A		2019
Smith, Sandra	PS	L	W	F	A		2021
Steele, Sherry	PC	D	W	F	A		2022
Sudhakar, Solomon	PS	E	A	M	A		2024
Thompson, Megan	PS	E	W	F	A		2023
Weber, Jenny	PS	E	W	F	A		2022
Wellman, Kathy	PS	D	W	F	A		2021
Wills, Jaclyn K.	PN	LP	W	F	A		2018
Yim, Dave	PN	E	A	M	A		2023
<i>Cabinet Representative: Brian Gilbert</i>	-	--	--	--	--		--
<i>Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene</i>	-	-	-	-	-		--
<b>Committee on the Episcopacy (moving to joint committee for Episcopal Area)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A		2020
Lee, Esther Eungin	LN	C	A	F	A		2020
<i>Board of Trustees Representative:</i>							
<i>NCJ Committee on the Episcopacy: Gilbert, Brian</i>	<i>PS</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>A</i>		<i>2020</i>
<i>NCJ Committee on the Episcopacy: Lyall, Ronnie</i>	<i>LS</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Y</i>		<i>2023</i>
<i>Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene</i>	<i>CS</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>O</i>		<i>--</i>
<b>Administrative Review Committee (information only)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
<i>Committee</i>							
Kim, So Young		C	A	F	A		2020
Kruse-Safford, Lisa		C	W	F	A		2020
Preston, James		C	W	M	A		2024
<i>Alternates</i>							
King, Claude		C	B	M	A		2024
Samson, Ayla		C	A	F	A		2024
<b>Committee on Investigation (appointed by Bishop and elected by Annual Conference)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
<i>Clergy</i>							
Alagodi, Melwyn	PN	C	A	M	A		2024
Bross, Jeffry		C	W	M	A		2024
Isaac, Brittany		C	W	F	A		2024
Oh, Mori		C	A	F	A		2024
<i>Alternate Clergy</i>							
Keate, Leanne		C	W	F	A		2024
Park, Sam		C	B	M	A		2024
Rawlinson, Tom		C	NA	M	A		2024
<i>Laity</i>							
Augsburger, Connie		L	NA	F	A		2024
Dexter, Chuck		L	W	M	A		2020
Lusk, Donald		L	B	M	A		2024
<i>Alternate Laity</i>							
Aves, Kris	PN	L	W	F	A		2020
Carver, Dale		L	W	M	A		2024
Maxon, John		L	W	M	A		2024

Sam, Cindy		L	B	F	A		2024
<b>Keagy Town and Rural Committee (appointed by Prairie North and Prairie South districts; information only)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Rutherford, Elizabeth (Chair)	PN	C	W	F	A		
Alagodi, Melwyn	PN	C	A	M	A		2024
Hecathorn, Ann	PS	L	W	F	A		
Keate, Leanne	PS	C	W	F	A		
Lee, Rosa	PS	C	A	F	A		
Lucas, Toni	PS	C	W	F	O		
Oorlog, Robert	PS	L		M			
Saam, David		L		M			
Thompson, Jeremiah	PS	C	W	M	A		
Prairie North District Superintendent: Chong, Hwa-Young	PN	C	H	F	A		
Prairie South District Superintendent: Gilbert, Brian	PS	C	W	M	A		
<b>Board of Laity (information only)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Augsburger, Constance	PS	L	ME	F	A		2020
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene	LS	L	B	M	A		2020
Clergy Representative: Hoffmann, Char		C	W	F	A		2012
Conference Lay Servant Ministries Director: Hansen, Peggy	PC	L	W	F	A		2016
District Lay Leader: Jones, Leonard	PC	L	B	M	A		2020
District Co-Lay Leader: Feliciano, Ellen	LN	L	W	F	A		-
District Co-Lay Leader: Lacey, Chester	LN	L	B	M	A		2020
District Co-Lay Leader: Butler, Lisa	LS						2024
District Co-Lay Leader: Shires, Dawn	LS	L	B	F	A		-
District Lay Leader: Betsy Smith	PS	L	W	F	O		2024
District Lay Leader: Aves, Kris	PN	L	W	F	A		2024
<i>UWFaith President: Farley, Barb</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>UWFaith Representative: Steenwyk, Marilyn</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>UMM Representative: McGregor, Craig</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>UMM Youth Services Representative: Loeppert, Jim</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES</b>							
<b>Board of Higher Education &amp; Campus Ministries</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Cochran, Daniel (Chair, 2024)	PC	C	W	M	A		2021
Edward, Clayton	LN	C	W	M	Y		2024
McClellan, Joel	PN	C	W	M	A		2024
Segrest, Philip	LS	L	W	M	A		2021
Tipantasig-Wolverton, Jacob	PC	C	W	M	A		2024
Ward, Tyler	PC	C	W	M	A		2021
Campus Ministry Rep., The Inclusive Collective (NIU):							
Campus Ministry Rep., The Inclusive Collective (UIC):							
Campus Ministry Rep., Korean American Campus Ministry: Hwang, Alex							2021
Campus Ministry Rep., North Central College: Birdsong, Shelley							2021
Campus Ministry Rep., University Christian Ministries: Brick, Katie							2021
<i>Cabinet Representative:</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Committee on Discipleship and Spiritual Formation</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Enright, Seamus (Chair, 2024)	PS	C	W	M	A		2024
Davis, Diana	LS	L	B	F	A		2024
Feliciano, Ellen	LN	L	W	F	O		2024
Howell, Katherine	PN	L	NA	F	O		2024
Kim, Heewon	PN	C	A	M	A		2020
<b>Morris, G</b>	<b>LS</b>	<b>C</b>		<b>M</b>	<b>YA</b>		<b>2025</b>
Shelton, Tina	PC	C	B	F	A		2021
<i>UWFaith Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Harris-Black, Yvette</i>							-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Council on Older Adult Ministries</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Reimer, Amy	LN	LD	W	F	A		2024
Bennett, Fay	LN	L	B	F	O		2021

Campanano, Juancho	LS	C	A	M	A		2018
Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A		2024
Javier Jr., Aquilino	LN	L	A	M	O		2013
Lundgren, Martha	LN	LD	W	F	A		2024
Melad, Joann	LN	LD	A	F	A		2024
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Council on Young People's Ministries</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Rice, Sharon (Chair, 2024)	PC	C	W	F	A		2021
de Castro, Fernando	LN	C	B	M	Y		2024
Hagedorn, James	LN	L	W	M	O		2023
Javore, Barbara	LN	C	W	F	O		2021
Lee, Taekhwon (TK)	PN	C	A	M	A		2024
Ostwald, Leah	LS	L	W	F	A		2024
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Board of Outdoor &amp; Retreat Ministries</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Huffman, Karen (Co-Chair, 2016)	PN	L	W	F	A		2014
Rea, Charles (Co-Chair, 2016)	PS	L	W	M	A		2016
Pries, Lynn (Secretary, 2024)	PC	C	W	M	O		2015
Dunham, Don	LS	L	W	M	O		2020
Edwards, Susan	PS	L	W	F	O		2024
Kloeping, Jason	PS	L	W	M	A		2017
Lane, James	LN	L	W	M	O		2024
Massey, Sr., Robert D.	LS	L	B	M	A		2024
McKune, Kelly	PS	C	W	F	A		2024
Nesbit, Claude	LS	L	W	M	A		2024
<i>Director of Outdoor and Retreat Ministries: Casey, Jeff</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>VITAL CONGREGATIONS MINISTRIES</b>							
<b>PATH- Plant And Thrive TEAM (for information only)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Crail, Jonathan (Chair 2020)	PS	C	W	M	A		2020
Cross, Harriette	LS	C	B	F	A		2023
Eddy, Edward	PN	C	W	M	A		2024
<b>Johnicker, Violet</b>	<b>PN</b>		<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>2025</b>
Moreno Cruz, Luis Roberto	LN	C	H	M	A		2024
Preston, James	LN	C	W	M	A		2024
Severing, Jarrod	PC	C	W	M	A		2020
Shepherding Team representative: Smick, Megan							
<i>Director of Congregational Development and Redevelopment: Coon, Christian</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Committee on Accessibility Ministries</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Crusius, Christina (Co-Chair, 2024)	LN	L	W	F	Y		2023
Dungan, Alexander (Co-Chair, 2024)	LN	L	W	O	Y		2023
Jungnickel, David	PS	C	W	M	A		2018
Kloepfer, Amanda	PN	L	W	F	A		2024
Rich, Gary	PN	C	W	M	O		2024
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Hispanic/Latine Ministry Team (information only)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Aragon, Lino (Co-Chair)	LN	LP	H	M	A		2023
Meza, Noemi E. (Co-Chair)	LN	E	H	F	A		2023
Aragon, Xiomara	LN	LP	H	F	A		2023
Cripps-Vallejo, Paula	LN	E	W	F	A		2018
Junker, Débora	PN	L	H	F	A		2024
Junker, Tércio	PN	E	H	M	A		2018
Rochet, Auderine	PN	LP	H	F	A		2024
Moreno, Luis Roberto	LN	LP	H	M	A		2023
Reyes-Rosario, Luis F.	PS	E	H	M	A		2018
Salgado, Jacqueline	LN	LP	H	F	Y		2023
<i>Director of Congregational Development: Coon, Christian</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-

<b>JUSTICE AND MERCY MINISTRIES</b>							
<b>Board of Church and Society</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Birkhahn-Rommelfanger, Rachel (Chair, 2024)	LS	C	W	N	A		2024
Chapman, Kim	PN	C	W	F	A		2021
Fetters, Piers	LS	L	W	M	Y		2020
Johnicker, Violet	PN	C	W	F	A		2024
<i>UWFaith Social Action Coordinator: Tiffin, Kathy</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Board of Global Ministries</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Samson, Ayla (Chair, 2024)	PS	C	A	F	A		2024
Boutell, Jonah	PC	C	W	M	Y		2024
Ntim, Kwadwo	LN	C	B	M	O		2022
Marasigan, Ligaya	LN	L	A	F	A		2024
Miller, Innis	LS	C	B	M	A		2024
Oh, Hyo Sun	PC	C	A	F	A		2024
Schwirblat, Siegfred	PS	C	W	M	O		2024
District Mission Secretary:	LN						
District Mission Secretary:	LS						
District Mission Secretary:	PC						
District Mission Secretary: Stanford, Dale	PN						
District Mission Secretary: Stanford, Leslie	PN						-
District Mission Secretary:	PS						-
NIC UWFaith E&I Coordinator: Messley, Karen	-	-	-	-	-		-
District UWFaith E&I Coordinator: Davis, Diana	LN	-	-	-	-		-
District UWFaith E&I Coordinator: Stratton, Marlene	PC	-	-	-	-		-
District UWFaith E&I Coordinator:	LS	-	-	-	-		-
District UWFaith E&I Coordinator:	PS	-	-	-	-		-
District UWFaith E&I Coordinator:	PN	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Disaster Coordinator: Monk, Colin</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>UMM Representative: McGregor, Craig</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Refugee Coordinator: Crail, Jonathan</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Refugee Coordinator: Crail, Rhodalyne</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>VIM Coordinator: Dunlap-Berg, Larry</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>VIM Coordinator: Aves, Kris</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Conference Mission Secretary: Pulgar-Hughes, Shirley</i>	PC	C	H	F	A		-
<i>Cabinet Rep: Hwa-Young Chong</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relations</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
<b>Hyon, Hyewon (Sophia) (Chair, 2025)</b>	<b>LS</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>2024</b>
Ahn, Kicheon (Peter)	PS	C	A	M	Y		2024
Cunningham, Jessie	LS	L	B	F	O		2019
Doh, Eunbae	LN	C	A	M	A		2019
Doolittle, Eric	PC	C	W	M	A		2024
George, John	LS	L	W	M	O		2021
Gullspie, Tura Foster	LN	L	W	F	Y		2018
Kang, Sun-Ah	PS	C	A	F	A		2024
Meza, Noemi	LN	C	H	F	A		2023
Pries, Lynn	PC	C	W	M	O		2019
<i>Ecumenical Officer: McKay, Catiana</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Conference Commission on Religion and Race</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Kanhai, Nadia (Co- Chair)	PC	L	A	F	A		2018
Alexander, Tim (Co- Chair)	PC	L	W	M	O		2024
Aragon, Lino	LN	C	H	M	A		2024
Guzman, Richard	PC	L	A	M	A		2024
Krings, Matthew	LN	C	W	M	A		2024
Lee, Alex	PN	C	A	M	A		2024
Lucas, Toni	PS	L	W	F	O		2024
Lyall, Alka	LN	C	A	F	A		2020
<b>Massey, Glynis</b>	<b>LS</b>	<b>L</b>					<b>2025</b>
Pirtle, Pamela	LS	C	B	F	A		2024
Rogers, Lisa	PC	L	W	F	A		2024
Tabb, Marcus	LS	C	B	M	A		2024

<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Smith, Rita L. (Chair)	LS	L	B	F	A		2020
Aragon-Castro, Xiomara	LN	C	H	F	A		2024
Gonzalez, Annie	LS	C	H	F	A		2024
Isaacson, Margaret (Peg)	LS	L	W	F	O		2024
Jeon, Juyeon	LN	C	A	F	A		2024
Lee, Rosa	PS	C	A	F	A		2024
<i>UW Faith Social Action Coordinator: Tiffin, Kathy</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Committee on Native American Ministries</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Oberwise Lacock, Michelle (Chair)	PS	C	ME	F	A		2014
Blade, Nancy	PS	C	W	F	A		2014
Buckholz, Bill	LN	L	NA	M	O		2018
Curiel, Michelle	PC	L	H	F	Y		2021
Green, Gene L.	PC	L	W	M	A		2022
Miller, Craig R.	PC	C	W	M	O		2017
<b>Miner, Ed</b>	<b>PC</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>O</b>		<b>2025</b>
Parks, Judy	PN	L	W	F	O		2022
Rawlinson, Thomas	LN	C	NA	M	A		2022
Rendel, Jim	LS	C	A	M	A		2017
Showalter-Swanson, Grant	LN	C	W	M	Y		2019
Stricker, Adrienne	PC	C	NA	F	Y		2012
<i>Schranz, Joseph Standing Bear (Consultant)</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Johnson, Andrew (Consultant)</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Annual Conference Shepherdng Team</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
Co-Chair: Manzi, Mark	PC	L	W	M	A		
<b>Co-Chair: Hong, Caleb</b>	<b>PN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>2025</b>
Annual Conference Committee: Dangerfield, Deborah	LS	L	B	F	A		2020
Board of Ordained Ministry: Brown, Norval I.	PC	C	B	M	A		
Board of Trustees: Bailey, Grant	LN	L	W	M	Y		2023
Committee on Nominations: Lyall, Alka	LN	C	A	F	A		2024
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene	LS	L	B	M	O		2020
Council on Finance and Administration: Emery, Kim	PN	L	W	F	A		2019
Discipleship Ministries: Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A		2024
Justice and Mercy Ministries: Cox, Britt	LN	C	W	F	Y		
Vital Congregation Ministries: Smick, Megan	PS	C	W	F	A		
Black Methodists for Church Renewal Representative: Harris, Darryl D.	PS	L	B	M	A		
FAA Rep: Lee, Jeremiah	PN	C	A	M	A		
Hispanic/Latinx Ministries Rep- Meza, Noemi	LN	C	H	F	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Prairie North: Aves, Kris	PN	L	W	F	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Prairie North: Hong, Caleb	PN	C	A	M	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Prairie South: Newby, Karen	PS	L	W	F	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Prairie South: Enright, Seamus	PS	C	W	M	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Prairie Central: Jones, Leonard	PC	L	B	M	O		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Prairie Central: Hamilton, Rob	PC	C	W	M	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Lake North: Lacey, Chester	LN	L	B	M	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Lake North: Siegel, Mori Jieun	LN	C	A	F	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Lake South: Shires, Dawn	LS	L	W	F	A		
Dist Shepherdng Team, Lake South: Miller, Innis	LS	C	B	M	A		
<i>Bishop: Schwerin, Dan</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Assistant to Bishop: Anderson, Danita</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Connectional Ministries: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<i>Director of Communications: Rebeck, Victoria</i>	-	-	-	-	-		-
<b>Committee on Eco Sustainability</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Lay Clergy</b>	<b>Race Ethnic</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1st Year</b>
<b>Cross, Harriett (chair)</b>			<b>B</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>2025</b>
<b>Alton, Richard</b>	<b>LN</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>O</b>		<b>2025</b>
<b>Blade, Nancy</b>	<b>LN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>2025</b>
<b>Brice, Melissa</b>				<b>F</b>			<b>2025</b>
<b>Burnham, Carolyn</b>				<b>F</b>			<b>2025</b>
<b>Dunlap-Berg, Larry</b>			<b>W</b>	<b>M</b>			<b>2025</b>



Hanson, Peggy				F			2025
Kerrigan, Michael				M			2025
Loeppert, Jim				M			2025
Lowmiller, Cathie				F			2025
Lowmiller, Don				M			2025
Lyll, Alka	LN	C	A	F	A		2025
Mencias, Edwin				M			2025
Pries, Lynn			W	M			2025
Robinette, Mac				M			2025
Stephens, Jennifer			W	F			2025
Stillman, Maureen	LN	C		F			2025
Tabb, Marcus	LN	C	B	M			2025
White, Josh				M			2025
Young, Sunlee			A	M			2025
Cabinet Rep: Chong, Hwa Young	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staff: Rebeck, Victoria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KEY							
<b>DISTRICT</b>							
Lake North - LN							
Lake South - LS							
Prairie Central - PC							
Prairie North - PN							
Prairie South - PS							
<b>MEMBER TYPE</b>							
Lay = L							
Deaconess = LD							
Clergy = C							
Elder = E							
Deacon = D							
Retired Elder = RE							
Retired Deacon = RD							
Associate Member = A							
Local Pastor = LP							
Retired Local Pastor = RLP							
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>							
Asian = A							
African American = B							
Hispanic = H							
Multi-ethnic = ME							
Native American = NA							
White = W							
Notes:							
Offices or committees listed before person's name indicate membership because of office. These persons are ex-officio and have both voice and vote, but are not elected by Annual Conference. They are chosen by the organizations, committees that they represent, or are members because of the office they hold.							
Consultants have voice but not vote.							

# Northern Illinois Conference

## 2026 Operation Budget - Document 600

<b>Income</b>	<b>2024 not audit</b>	<b>2025 Approved Budget New Format</b>	<b>2026 Budget</b>
Total Apportionment (by apportionment year) <sup>1</sup>	\$4,110,821	\$4,312,446	\$5,457,300
Uncollected Apportionment <sup>2</sup>			-\$1,146,000
General Church Apportionment <sup>3</sup>	\$814,993		
Annual Conference Registration Fee	\$73,155	\$70,000	\$80,000
GCFA Episcopal Support	\$74,015	\$42,500	\$95,000
2nd Mile, Advances <sup>4</sup>	\$707,874	\$257,472	
Donations/Misc	\$3,960		
Miscellaneous Income	\$82,291		
Restricted Income <sup>5</sup>	\$120,544		\$100,000
Dividends and Interest <sup>5</sup>	\$515,252		\$521,700
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$6,502,905</b>	<b>\$4,682,418</b>	<b>\$5,108,000</b>

### Operational Expenses

#### Cabinet Ministries

New Faith Communities	\$326,103	\$250,000	\$150,000
Church Redevelopment Programming	\$51,091	\$85,000	\$85,000
Support to Local Churches	\$150,800	\$175,000	\$150,000
Consulation/Intervention	\$32,150	\$47,500	\$50,000
Clergy Relocation Expenses	\$125,352	\$100,000	\$125,000
District Programs and Meetings	\$38,473	\$85,000	\$60,000
Assistant to Bishop <sup>6</sup>	\$5,270		\$7,500
Cabinet Administrative Expenses <sup>7</sup>		\$1,269,780	\$1,486,700
Committee on Equitable Compensation <sup>8</sup>			\$75,000
Health Benefit Credits <sup>9</sup>			\$100,000
<b>TOTAL Cabinet Ministires</b>	<b>\$729,239</b>	<b>\$2,012,280</b>	<b>\$2,289,200</b>

#### Cabinet Expenses

Ministerial Education Fund - Conference <sup>10</sup>	\$29,997
District Superintendent Salary & Benefits <sup>11</sup>	\$1,125,124
Cabinet Support Staff Salary & Benefits <sup>11</sup>	
Episcopal Support Staff Salary & Benefits <sup>11</sup>	\$235,687
<b>TOTAL Cabinet Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,390,808</b>

<b>Northern Illinois Conference and Wisconsin Episcopal Area<sup>12</sup></b>	<b>\$94,491</b>	<b>\$177,400</b>
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## 2026 Operation Budget (contd.)

### Program Ministries

Program Committees <sup>13</sup>	\$866,316	\$545,000	\$624,700
Program Administrative Expenses <sup>14</sup>	\$438,986	\$450,099	\$72,000
AC Shepherding Team <sup>15</sup>	\$45,000	\$47,500	
Jurisdictional Apportionments <sup>16</sup>	\$14,784		
General & Jurisdictional Conference Delegation <sup>16</sup>	\$19,482		
Annual Conference Sessions & Secretary <sup>16</sup>	\$225,280		
<b>TOAL Program Ministries</b>	<b>\$1,609,848</b>	<b>\$1,042,599</b>	<b>\$696,700</b>

### Connectional, Admin and Committees

Board of Ordained Ministries (BOOM) <sup>10</sup>	\$12,000	\$67,560	\$47,000
Trustee Expenses	\$109,255	\$50,000	\$135,100
Legal Fees <sup>17</sup>	\$293,824		
Archives		\$9,200	\$12,000
Audit <sup>18</sup>	\$72,751		
Administrative Staff and Benefits <sup>19</sup>	\$521,215	\$535,027	\$665,000
Other Admin Expenses	\$928,078	\$448,688	\$515,300
Informational Technology	\$97,486	\$137,205	\$84,800
Annual Conference <sup>16</sup>		\$175,000	\$175,000
Connectional - UMC <sup>16</sup>		\$18,048	\$18,000
Communication <sup>20</sup>		\$40,000	\$292,500
<b>TOTAL Connectional, Admin and Committees</b>	<b>\$2,034,609</b>	<b>\$1,480,728</b>	<b>\$1,944,700</b>

<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES<sup>21</sup></b>	<b>\$5,764,504</b>	<b>\$4,630,098</b>	<b>\$4,930,600</b>
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General Church Apportionments <sup>3</sup>	\$814,993
2nd Mile Giving and Advances <sup>4</sup>	\$707,874

<b>TOTAL Conference Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,287,371</b>	<b>\$4,630,098</b>	<b>\$5,108,000</b>
<b>Difference between Income and Expenses</b>	<b>-\$784,466</b>	<b>\$52,320</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## 2026 Operation Budget (contd.)

- 1 2026 - Total apportionment (NIC and General Church) using current apportionment formula.  
Previous years was a percentage of the amount, taking into consideration uncollected apportionment
- 2 2026 - 21% of total apportionment amount that may not be collected
- 3 2026 - General Church apportionment is collected with Total Apportionment. The amount collected for General Church will be given directly to the General Church. No need to budget
- 4 2026 - The amount collected for 2nd Mile and Advances will be given directly to those ministries.  
No need to budget.
- 5 Previous budgets did not include these sources of income. Future budget will include.
- 6 2024 - Assistant to the Bishop expenses are now located in Cabinet because  
NIC/WI Episcopal Area is only for bishop and assistants expenses.
- 7 2025 - Cabinet administrative expenses will be within Cabinet.  
Separate spreadsheet outlining expenses.
- 8 2026 - New stand alone committee per the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline
- 9 2026 - Health credits now have its own line item amount.
- 10 2025 - Moved to BOOM, under Administration
- 11 2025 - Moved to Cabinet Ministries - Cabinet Administrative Expenses
- 12 2025 - The NIC Episcopal Office expenses were under Cabinet in previous years.  
Starting in 2025, the NIC/WI Episcopal Area office needs to be a separate group.
- 13 2024 - \$400K reimbursement is due to NIC in 2025
- 14 2026 - Communication expenses are moved to communication and staff related to  
cabinet expenses are moved to cabinet
- 15 2026 - Move to Program Administrative Expenses
- 16 2025 - Move to Connectional, Administration and Committees
- 17 2024 - Related to a break away church legal costs. Line item moved to Other Admin Expenses
- 18 2024 - Forensic and Annual Audit. Line item moved to Other Admin Expenses
- 19 2026 - Includes consultants
- 20 2026 - Communication got its own group with all related expenses
- 21 2025 - New Format for 2025 Budget.  
Total of expenses and income matched previous format amounts.

## Cabinet Administration Expenses

	<b>2024</b> Not Audit	<b>2026</b>
Staff <sup>1</sup>	\$758,192	\$1,021,200
Pension <sup>2</sup>	\$144,194	\$134,100
Payroll Taxes	\$16,335	\$15,000
Insurance	\$92,844	\$218,500
Cont Ed	\$19,582	\$19,000
Travel	\$20,278	\$20,500
Telephone/Utilities	\$22,528	\$10,400
Recruitment	\$51,171	\$48,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,125,124</b>	<b>\$1,486,700</b>

- 1 In 2004, we had staffing transition with Director of Congregational Development and included an overlap of the Assistant to the Bishop. In 2026, it includes 11.5 staff persons.
- 2 Starting in 2026, Compass is the new retirement plan.

# Program Budget

2024 Budget	2024 Actuals
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## Discipleship Ministries Area

Board Higher Education & Campus Ministries	\$246,764	\$195,673
North Central College, Hyde Park UMC & Campus Ministry, Northwestern University, and University of Illinois/NIU - Inclusive Collective		
Board of Laity	\$1,200	\$78
Older Adult Ministries	\$3,000	\$158
Outdoor Retreat Ministry	\$54,000	\$461,941*
Discipleship & Spiritual Formation	\$5,000	\$11,539
Young Peoples Ministries	\$1,500	
Creative Ministries Grants	\$16,000	\$16,000
ChildServ / Kid's Above All	\$1,000	\$1,000
Methodist Youth Services	\$1,000	\$1,000
Rosecrance	\$1,000	\$1,000
<b>Total Discipleship Ministries Area</b>	<b>\$83,700</b>	<b>\$226,448</b>

## Vital Congregations Area

Accessibility Ministries	\$4,000	\$3,000
Hispanic Ministry Team	\$8,000	\$8,125
Fellowship of Asian Americans	\$9,000	\$8,994
NIC BMCR Black Methodists Church Renewal	\$50,000	\$22,762
Fresh Expressions & Vital Congregations Grants		\$0
One Matters Awards (Formerly Grants Cong. Development)	\$4,000	\$400
Keagy Town and Rural	Cabinet	\$15,735
<b>Total Vital Congregations Area</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>\$59,016</b>

## Program Budget (contd.)

### Justice and Mercy Ministries Area

	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals
Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relations		
Illinois Conference of Churches	\$5,500	\$0
Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministry	\$3,400	\$6,885
Ecumenical Officer	\$2,000	\$1,964
Dialogue Dinner with CIOGC	\$0	
SEED Grants	\$0	
Other Organizations (National Workshop on Christian Unity, World Methodist Conference and Council, Niagara - Abrahamic Table, Ecumenism Metro Chicago)	\$5,600	\$3,124
<b>CCUIR TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,500</b>	<b>\$11,973</b>
Conference Board of Church and Society		
Global Justice: CRLN	\$500	
Social Reform (Grant Program)	\$9,500	\$12,500
Rockford Urban Ministry	\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>CBCS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>	<b>\$14,500</b>
Conference Board of Global Ministries		
Mission Secretary	\$1,500	\$5,839
Migrants & Refugee	\$100	
Program/Training/Itinerancy	\$6,250	
Disaster Response Prog & Training	\$1,400	\$2,938
NetZero	\$2,000	
Volunteers in Mission	\$7,000	\$3,269
<b>CBGM TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,250</b>	<b>\$12,046</b>
Commission on Religion and Race	\$4,200	\$3,658
Commission on Status and Role of Women	\$1,500	\$0
Committee on Native American Ministries	\$3,700	\$7,380
Anti-Gambling Task Force	\$1,000	\$0
JFON	\$15,000	\$13,429
<b>Total Justice and Mercy Ministries Area</b>	<b>\$72,150</b>	<b>\$62,986</b>

### PROGRAM GENERAL BUDGET

Communications	\$40,000	\$40,000
Leadership Development (Trainings, Emerging Programs, events, registration software, etc.)	\$26,086	\$13,273
Media Resources	\$6,000	
NIC Shepherding Team (Administrative)	\$5,000	\$4,308
Strategic Goals		
Anti-Racism	\$25,000	
Discipleship	\$6,000	
Bishop's Initiatives for Program		
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM General</b>	<b>\$108,086</b>	<b>\$57,581</b>
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL PROGRAM BUDGET</b>	<b>\$585,700</b>	<b>\$867,972</b>

\* ORM will reimburse NIC \$407,688 in 2025.

**After reimbursement total Program Budget will be**

**\$460,284**

# NICUM Church Insurance Association

Statement of Financial Position  
As of December 31, 2024 and 2023

## Assets

<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>12/31/24</b>	<b>12/31/23</b>
Cash	\$1,640,459	\$1,715,434
Prepaid Insurance	\$347	\$57,426
Acct Rec - Exchange	-	-
Acct Rec - NIC Lockbox	\$685,034	-
Due from NIC	\$106,079	-
Acct Rec - Church Ins Assn	\$661,244	\$917,557
Less: Allow for Uncol Accts	-\$200,000	-\$407,779
Net Accts Rec - Church Ins Assn	\$461,244	\$509,778
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$2,893,163</b>	<b>\$2,282,638</b>
<b>Property and Equipment</b>		
Autos and Equipment	\$3,122	\$35,282
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-\$3,122	-\$12,670
<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$22,612</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>		
Investment - PACT	\$62,247	\$62,247
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$62,247</b>	<b>\$62,247</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$2,955,410</b>	<b>\$2,367,497</b>

## Liabilities and Net Assets

<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<b>12/31/24</b>	<b>12/31/23</b>
Accounts Payable	\$8,147	\$7,454
Accrued Expenses	\$2,394,915	\$2,234,022
Deferred Revenue	-	-
Accrued Insurance	-	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$2,403,062</b>	<b>\$2,241,476</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted - Undesignated	\$552,348	\$126,021
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$552,348</b>	<b>\$126,021</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,955,410</b>	<b>\$2,367,497</b>

# Red Door Fund

Statement of Financial Position  
As of December 31, 2024 and 2023

## Assets

Current Assets	12/31/24	12/31/23
Cash	\$1,240,525	\$650,718
Prepaid - Misc.	\$133,334	\$173,334
Notes Rec - Current	\$554,622	\$589,564
Due from Northern IL Conference	-	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$1,928,481</b>	<b>\$1,413,616</b>

## Long Term Assets

Interest Receivable	\$107,274	\$54,644
Notes Rec - Long Term	\$11,377,074	\$12,496,239
<b>Total Long Term Assets</b>	<b>\$11,484,349</b>	<b>\$12,550,883</b>

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$13,412,830</b>	<b>\$13,964,499</b>
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## Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	12/31/24	12/31/23
Accounts Payable	-	-
Due to Northern IL Conference	\$473,450	-
Notes Payable - Current	\$769,380	\$731,717
Accrued Expenses	\$894	\$894
Interest Rate Swap Liability (Asset)	-\$280,582	-\$342,022
Deferred Revenue	\$138,381	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,101,523</b>	<b>\$390,589</b>

## Long Term Liabilities

Notes Payable-Long Term	\$9,546,426	\$10,784,194
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$9,546,426</b>	<b>\$10,784,194</b>

## Net Assets

Unrestricted - Undesignated	\$2,764,881	\$2,789,716
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,764,881</b>	<b>\$2,789,716</b>

<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$13,412,830</b>	<b>\$13,964,499</b>
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# 2024 Local Church Support

Church	Pastor	Equitable Salary Support	UM Presence (Missional Reasons)	Intentional Redevelopment Site	New Faith Community	Health Grants	Total
Argo Fay	Nadan Cho	\$740					\$740
Arlington Heights: Incarnation / Vision UMC	CJ Woo			\$6,000			\$6,000
Aurora: First Nueva Vida	Rene Bello		\$12,000				\$12,000
Barlett: Multisite- Journey of Hope	Jarrold Severing				\$6,000		\$6,000
Belvidere: Iglesia Esperanza Y Vida	Ivan Sarabia		\$6,000		\$12,000		\$18,000
Blue Island: Hispanic NFC	Saturnino Espinoza				\$9,000		\$9,000
Brookfield: Compassion NFC	Karl Sokol					\$1,730	\$1,730
Chana	Joshua Brown	\$2,486					\$2,486
Chicago: Edison Park	Arnel Vasquez					\$3,460	\$3,460
Chemung: Hispanic NFC					\$3,000		\$3,000
Chicago: Amor De Dios	Ramiro Rodriguez		\$18,000				\$18,000
Chicago: Chicago Lawn	Rosa Garcia		\$9,000				\$9,000
Chicago: Englewood/Rust	Grace Oh	\$3,000					\$3,000
Chicago: Gorham	Robert Biekman					\$3,460	\$3,460
Chicago: Greenstone	Luther Mason		\$5,000				\$5,000
Chicago: Hartzell Memorial	D. Josiah Montgomery			\$24,000			\$24,000
Chicago: Indo Pak	Vinay Pathak		\$2,000	\$2,000			\$4,000
Chicago: Kelly Woodlawn/ Englewood-Rust	Innis Miller					\$1,730	\$1,730
Chicago: Lincoln-Pilsen	Emma Lozano		\$5,000				\$5,000
Chicago: Mandell	Anthony Clausell			\$3,000			\$3,000
Chicago: Morgan Park	Beverly Dukes					\$5,190	\$5,190
Chicago: Olivet	Nick Joyner			\$15,000			\$15,000
Chicago: Parish of the Holy Covenant	Jennifer Stephens					\$1,730	\$1,730
Chicago: Ravenswood Fellowship	Ji Eun Mori Siegel	\$2,000		\$10,000			\$12,000
Chicago: Resurrection	Linny Hartzell					\$1,730	\$1,730
Chicago: South Lawn	Corren Norman					\$5,190	\$5,190
Chicago: South Shore	Marcus Tabb					\$1,730	\$1,730
Chicago: Union Avenue	Annie Gonzalez	\$5,000					\$5,000
Chicago: United Church of Rogers Park	Seth Botts					\$3,460	\$3,460
Chicago: UVC Hermosa Hispanic NFC	Juan Pablo Herrera, Jonathan Grace, Abby Holcombe				\$1,500	\$10,380	\$11,880

## 2024 Local Church Support (contd.)

Church	Pastor	Equitable Salary Support	UM Presence (Missional Reasons)	Intentional Redevelop- ment Site	New Faith Community	Health Grants	Total
Des Plaines: Nuevo Amanecer	Xiomara Aragon-Castro		\$8,400				\$8,400
Dixon: First	Young Sun Lee	\$6,000					\$6,000
Dixon: Grace	Rosa Lee					\$3,460	\$3,460
Downers Grove: Faith	Charles Yoon/ Juancho Campanano	\$6,000					\$6,000
Elgin: Cornerstone	Melissa Hood					\$3,460	\$3,460
Elgin:First UMC & Barrington UMC(Hispanic)	Felicia Laboy / Chris Winkler				\$6,000		\$6,000
Evanston: Hemingway	Dawn Gardner			\$9,000			\$9,000
Evanston: Sherman	Aaron McLeod					\$3,460	\$3,460
Flossmoor: South Suburban Korean	Charles Yoon					\$5,190	\$5,190
Franklin Park: First - Movement in the City	Roberto Moreno				\$6,000		\$6,000
Franklin Park: Living Waters O'Hare NFC	Roberto Moreno Jackelyn Salgado Moreno				\$3,000		\$3,000
Freeport: First	Natarsh Gardner	\$6,000					\$6,000
Freeport: Harmony	Eddie Eddy					\$3,460	\$3,460
Galena	Jin-Hee Kang					\$3,460	\$3,460
Genoa: Faith	Kim Chapman					\$1,730	\$1,730
Hampshire: First	Hwankyu Kim			\$3,000		\$1,730	\$4,730
Hampshire: Zion	Hwankyu Kim			\$3,000		\$1,730	\$4,730
Harmon	Leanne J. Keate	\$1,125					\$1,125
Harvard: First Hispanic NFC	Alex Lee				\$12,000	\$3,460	\$15,460
Harvey: Transformation Community	Linny Hartzell	\$5,860				\$1,730	\$7,590
Highland Park: Galilee	Jake Cho			\$4,000			\$4,000
Homewood: St. Andrews	Linny Hartzell	\$2,000					\$2,000
Joliet Area: Cristo Es El Camino Hispanic NFC	Cesar Pichardo				\$6,000		\$6,000
Leland	Abraham Moller					\$1,730	\$1,730
Lemont	Tim Casey					\$1,730	\$1,730
Lena	Melwyn Alago	\$6,000				\$5,190	\$11,190
Lombard: Faith	Beverly Dukes	\$323					\$323
Machesney Park: New Life NFC	Heewon Kim				\$14,000	\$3,460	\$17,460
Marseilles	Megan Thompson	\$1,500					\$1,500
Maywood: Neighborhood	Beverly Dukes	\$969					\$969
Mendota: First	Mary Bohall	\$1,024					\$1,024
Millington	Cherie Quillman	\$512					\$512
Mt. Carroll	Nadan Cho	\$740				\$3,460	\$4,200
Mt. Prospect: Sam Mool Korean	Misook Park		\$8,000				\$8,000

## 2024 Local Church Support (contd.)

Church	Pastor	Equitable Salary Support	UM Presence (Missional Reasons)	Intentional Redevelop- ment Site	New Faith Community	Health Grants	Total
Mt. Prospect: Trinity	Sam Park					\$1,730	\$1,730
Naperville: Woori Korean UMC	Nadan Cho				\$24,000		\$24,000
Northbrook: North Northfield	Min Hyuk Woo					\$1,730	\$1,730
Norway	Cherie Quillman	\$544					\$544
Oak Lawn: First	Amos Oladipo					\$1,730	\$1,730
Oak Park: First - Oak Park Area Redevelopment	Adonna Reid			\$24,000			\$24,000
Olympia Fields	Dennis Langdon					\$3,460	\$3,460
Oregon	Megan Smick	\$3,310					\$3,310
Oswego: Wellspring NFC	Corey Ashley				\$20,000	\$1,730	\$21,730
Ottawa: Epworth	Sayta Sudhakar	\$12,800					\$12,800
Ottaway: First	Seamus Enright					\$5,190	\$5,190
Park Forest: Grace United Protestant	Amos Olidipo	\$4,000				\$1,730	\$5,730
Paw Paw	Dave Hamer					\$3,460	\$3,460
Pecatonica UMC	Rolland Hayag	\$6,000				\$3,460	\$9,460
Polo: Faith	Joshua Brown	\$1,658					\$1,658
Poplar Grove	Tercio Junker					\$1,730	\$1,730
Prospect Heights: Central	Young Sub Cha			\$1,000			\$1,000
River Forest and UVC West NFC	Christian Coon				\$6,000		\$6,000
Rockford: Brooke Road Victory Swahili NFC	Kaskile Kimengele				\$6,000		\$6,000
Rockford: Christ the Carpenter	Chris Druce- Jones		\$12,000				\$12,000
Rockton	Carolyn Lukasick					\$1,730	\$1,730
Roselle	HyoSun Oh					\$1,730	\$1,730
Schaumburg: Salem Korean	Jake Cho			\$4,000			\$4,000
Serenan	Cherie Quillman	\$544					\$544
Shorewood NFC Planning	Dave Buerstetta				\$24,000		\$24,000
Skokie: Jesus Love	Seonwoong Hwayng					\$3,460	\$3,460
Stockton: Wesley	Melwyn Alagodi	\$6,000					\$6,000
Sugar Grove	Joe Munro					\$3,460	\$3,460
Tampico	Leanne J. Keate	\$2,130					\$2,130
Thomson	Nadan Cho	\$740					\$740
Wheeling: First Korean	Sun Hyung Jo/ Juyeon Jeon				\$24,000	\$3,460	\$27,460
Wood Dale: The Center NFC	Robert Butler				\$12,000		\$12,000
Yorkville: Trinity	Ted Steele					\$5,190	\$5,190
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$89,005</b>	<b>\$85,400</b>	<b>\$108,000</b>	<b>\$194,500</b>	<b>\$133,210</b>	<b>\$610,115</b>

1 **Document: 640.01**

2 **Name: Special Sundays with Offerings for 2026**

3 **Author(s): Conference Council on Finance and Administration**

4 **CCFA Action:**

7 **ACTION:**

9 The Northern Illinois Conference recommends the following Special Sundays with offerings for  
10 2026:

13 Special Sundays

15 General Church Offerings 2026

16 Human Relations Day January 18, 2026

17 UMCOR Sunday March 15, 2026

18 Native American Ministries Sunday April 19, 2026

19 Peace with Justice Sunday May 31, 2026

20 World Communion Sunday October 4, 2026

21 United Methodist Student Day Any Sunday in May

24 Conference Offerings 2026

25 Scouting Ministries Any Sunday in February or March\*

26 Golden Cross May 3, 2026

27 Volunteers in Mission Any Sunday in July or August

28 Christian Education September 13, 2026

29 Disability Awareness Sunday November 1, 2026

30 HIV/AIDS Awareness December 6, 2026

31 United Voices for Children Every 5th Sunday (March, June, August, November)

33 \* This fund supports Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire, 4-H, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and Amachi  
34 programs.

1 **Document: 650.01**

2 **Name: CCFA Apportionment Formula**

3 **Author(s): Conference Council on Finance and Administration**

4 **CCFA Action:**

5  
6  
7 **ACTION:**

8  
9 The Northern Illinois Conference will use the following formula to compute the total apportionment for  
10 local churches:

11 Churches with Income under \$250,000 will be apportioned 8% of Income.

12 Churches with Income at \$250,000-\$750,000 will be apportioned 10% of Income.

13 Churches with Income over \$750,001 will be apportioned 12% of Income.  
14

15 Income shall be defined by reference to the Statistical Report. It shall be computed by subtracting the  
16 amount on Line 53 from that on Line 55 (Total Income minus Capital Improvement Funds). The most  
17 recent Income information available shall be used.

18 No appeals of the apportioned amount will be permitted. Previous appeal and adjustment limitations will  
19 no longer be in effect.  
20

21 **RATIONALE:**

22 Being United Methodist means being in connection with all local churches working together toward the  
23 mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Even through the  
24 challenges of the last few years, we have been able to maintain a strong connection through our shared  
25 partnerships which we call apportionments. Apportionments are the amount a local church should give to  
26 sustain our connection.

27 In Northern Illinois, the prior apportionment formula has long been criticized as too complex. It was  
28 based upon figures from the previous 5 years, discarding high and low years, averaging, and applying  
29 data smoothing.

30 The new formula simplifies this process. It looks only to the most recent statistical year, meaning a local  
31 church can more accurately represent its current financial situation. Instead of waiting until after the start  
32 of a new year for someone to assign a figure for apportionments, a church will know its apportioned  
33 amount as they create a budget.

34 The prior practice also enabled churches to appeal the amount requested from them. Whenever a church's  
35 apportionment was reduced on appeal, its future increases were limited to 9% per year irrespective of its  
36 financial capacity. This perpetual limitation has caused churches to fall further and further short of the  
37 amount they would otherwise be apportioned. Some churches which previously appealed pay 6% or less  
38 of their Income while others which were often unaware of the appeal process pay 20% or more of their  
39 Income. Of the 96 churches that will increase their apportionment, 73% (70 churches) have received an  
40 appeal in the last 5 years.

41 The proposed process eliminates appeals, making clear what each church is asked to pay, and  
42 encouraging every church to take steps towards paying that amount.

Appportionments depend upon accurate Statistical Reports. According to NIC Standing Rules, the (Senior) Pastor is responsible for ensuring the accuracy and timely submission of Statistical Reports. NIC staff can help, if needed.

#### **IMPACT**

Using data from 2023 (the most current numbers available), there are 195 churches below \$250,000 in Income. Fifty (50) churches will be asked to increase the amount they give. One (1) church will experience no change. One hundred forty-four (144) churches will see their appportionments decrease.

There are 60 churches whose Income is between \$250,001 and \$750,000. Thirty-two (32) churches will be asked to increase their appportionment giving. Twenty-eight (28) churches will see their appportionments decrease.

There are 19 churches whose Income exceeds \$750,001. Fourteen (14) of these will be asked to increase their appportionment giving. Five (5) churches will see their appportionment decrease.

The table below summarizes this information.

	< \$250,000	250,001-750,000	> \$750,001	Total *
Total Number of Churches	195	60	19	274
Number whose Appportionment will Increase	50	32	14	96
Number with No Change	1			1
Number whose Appportionment will Decrease	144	28	5	177

\* Twenty (20) churches did not provide statistical reports.

It should be noted that several churches contribute more than the amounts they have been appportioned. The generous giving of those and ALL churches is deeply appreciated.

1 **Document: 650.02**

2 **Name: Discontinuance of Malden UMC**

3 **Author(s): District Superintendent Brian Gilbert, Prairie South District, UMC**

4 **CCFA Action:**

5  
6 **ACTION:**

7  
8 WHEREAS the Malden UMC located in the City of Malden, Illinois at the commonly known address  
9 7800 S. Loomis Blvd. in Malden Village of Bureau County, Illinois was formed and has witnessed to  
10 Jesus Christ and served its community and the world for having closed on July 1, 2023 and

11  
12 WHEREAS the Malden UMC faithfully served the community in the Village of Malden, IL and  
13 boldly risked themselves in this effort; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, pursuant to the provision of Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of The United*  
16 *Methodist Church 2016*, the Prairie South District Superintendent has recommended with the approval  
17 of the District Strategy Team that the church be discontinued effective July 1, 2023. The Prairie South  
18 District Committee on Building and Location has voted to concur with the District Superintendent's  
19 recommendation to discontinue said church and the presiding Bishop and the majority of the District  
20 Superintendents of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church have  
21 consented to the District Superintendent's recommendation to discontinue said church;

22  
23 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that to minimize the risk of loss of future bequests to the Conference,  
24 the Northern Illinois Annual Conference recommends that the said Church, though discontinued under the  
25 Canon Law of The United Methodist Church, nevertheless be maintained in perpetuity under the Illinois  
26 civil law by adopting a reincorporation thereof by the Bishop under Section 46b of the Illinois Religious  
27 Corporation Act, with the incumbent Conference Board of Trustees names as trustees of the Discontinued  
28 Church under the procedure established by Article VII "Discontinued or Abandoned Church  
29 Reincorporation" of the By-laws of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist  
30 Church; and

31  
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the said Church shall be transferred to Malden UMC  
33 in Malden, Illinois, unless any such members shall inform the pastor of the transferee church otherwise;  
34 and

35  
36 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the appropriate officers of The Northern Illinois Annual Conference  
37 of The United Methodist Church are authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the said Conference  
38 any and all such additional documents as legal counsel shall recommend to effectuate the above.

39  
40 **RATIONALE:**

41  
42 After many faithful years of service, ministry and mission in the name of Jesus Christ, Malden  
43 UMC has come to a place of transition and closure as membership and attendance have declined. The  
44 congregation has expressed its desire to celebrate its past ministry but to no longer remain in service as  
45 Malden UMC. The closure has been recommended by the Board on Church Location and Buildings and  
46 the District Superintendent.

1 **Document: 650.03**

2 **Name: Discontinuance of Franklin Grove UMC**

3 **Author(s): District Superintendent Brian Gilbert, Prairie South District, UMC**

4 **CCFA Action:**

5  
6 **ACTION:**

7  
8 WHEREAS the Franklin Grove UMC located in the City of Franklin Grove, Illinois at the  
9 commonly known address 223 Middle Street Franklin Grove, IL 61031, in Lee County Village of  
10 Bureau County, Illinois was formed and has witnessed to Jesus Christ and served its community and the  
11 world for having closed on July 1, 2024 and

12  
13 WHEREAS the Franklin Grove UMC faithfully served the community in the Village of  
14 Franklin Grove, IL and boldly risked themselves in this effort; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, pursuant to the provision of Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of The United*  
17 *Methodist Church 2016*, the Prairie South District Superintendent has recommended with the approval of  
18 the District Strategy Team that the church be discontinued effective July 1, 2024. The Prairie South  
19 District Committee on Building and Location has voted to concur with the District Superintendent's  
20 recommendation to discontinue said church and the presiding Bishop and the majority of the District  
21 Superintendents of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church have  
22 consented to the District Superintendent's recommendation to discontinue said church;

23  
24 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that to minimize the risk of loss of future bequests to the Conference,  
25 the Northern Illinois Annual Conference recommends that the said Church, though discontinued under the  
26 Canon Law of The United Methodist Church, nevertheless be maintained in perpetuity under the Illinois  
27 civil law by adopting a reincorporation thereof by the Bishop under Section 46b of the Illinois Religious  
28 Corporation Act, with the incumbent Conference Board of Trustees names as trustees of the Discontinued  
29 Church under the procedure established by Article VII "Discontinued or Abandoned Church  
30 Reincorporation" of the By-laws of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist  
31 Church; and

32  
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the said Church shall be transferred to Franklin  
34 Grove UMC in Franklin Grove, Illinois, unless any such members shall inform the pastor of the  
35 transferee church otherwise; and

36  
37 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the appropriate officers of The Northern Illinois Annual Conference  
38 of The United Methodist Church are authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the said Conference  
39 any and all such additional documents as legal counsel shall recommend to effectuate the above.

40  
41 **RATIONALE:**

42 After many faithful years of service, ministry and mission in the name of Jesus Christ, Franklin Grove  
43 UMC has come to a place of transition and closure as membership and attendance have declined. The  
44 congregation has expressed its desire to celebrate its past ministry but to no longer remain in service as  
45 Franklin Grove UMC. The closure has been recommended by the Board on Church Location and  
46 Buildings and the District Superintendent.



**Document Number: 680.01**

**Name: Benefit Programs**

**Author(s): Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits**

**CCFA Action: No action required**

**Action:**

The Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, partnering with Wespath recommends the following policies for clergy and other eligible participants enrolled in welfare, health and pension benefits. Moving forward, this will become Policy 703-07 Benefit Programs. Legislation will be proposed in future years to update parts as needed.

**I. Health Insurance**

The Conference Board of Pensions recommends that the Annual Conference establish the following policies and procedures for administration of the Conference Health Care Program, effective January 1, 2026.

**A. Mandatory Coverage**

1. The following categories of employees are mandated to participate in the Annual Conference health insurance program. In all cases, the spouses and dependents (such as children) of eligible employees may enroll in the health plan at the election of the participant.

Category	<i>Discipline 2020</i>
Elder in full connection (including those from another Methodist denomination and those from another conference) appointed to full-time service to a conference local church or campus ministry	338.1, 346.1, .2, &,.3
Associate member appointed to full-time service	321
Provisional Members on elder track appointed to full-time local church service	326.1
A full-time local pastor who is under Episcopal appointment to a charge located in the conference	318.1

2. Elders appointed to disability status prior to age 65 will be covered under the conference plan at the cost of the Conference Board of Pensions and health benefits until they are eligible for Medicare or for Social Security disability coverage. At age 65 from a premium payment standpoint, each will be treated as retired pastors and subject to the HRA guidelines explained in Section D of this Resolution.

**B. Release from Mandatory Coverage – THE PILOT PROGRAM**

1. Clergy members may waive mandatory coverage only with the consent of the Conference Board of Pensions when enrolled in an Affordable Care Act plan, Medicare, Tricare, CHAMPUS, or on a plan provided by a spouse's employer.

~~The objective of allowing Churches to opt out of HealthFlex is to provide a means to help Churches lower the cost of medical insurance and be able to maintain the promised medical benefit to NIC pastors. To elect this option the Churches agree to the following:~~

- ~~a) Agree to pay the monthly health care premium established by the Conference Board of Pensions.~~
- ~~b) Each quarter the Church will receive a rebate of one month's premium.~~
- ~~c) The clergy person will receive a reimbursement check from the conference equal to the amount of the alternative coverage and an estimate of the taxes owed for the amount. The maximum amount the Conference Board of Pensions will provide in cash is \$1,000 per month to support clergy to~~

~~enroll with an alternative carrier and to help pay for additional personal taxes. The amount provided by the Conference is considered as taxable cash compensation.~~

~~d) If Churches fail to make premium payments the Conference holds the right to discontinue the cash support provided to the pastors.~~

Beginning July 1, 2025, the “PILOT PROGRAM” as described above in 680.01 (B) will sunset and any current **participants** on the program as of June 1, 2025, will be allowed to remain at their current benefit level. This benefit level will reside with the current participant (Clergy) and not the church, should the clergy move to a new appointment. The Board of Pensions and Insurance will accept requests from clergy to waive mandatory coverage, but the following will be the provisions of the Release from Mandatory Coverage policy:

a) Clergy will not receive any reimbursement from the Conference to be on alternative coverage.

b) Churches will still be responsible for paying the Clergy Flat Rate.

### C. Local Church and Extension Ministry Coverage Options

1. A local church or extension ministry may elect health insurance in the conference plan available to participants in the following categories **who meet the required eligibility criteria:**

Category	<i>Discipline 2020</i>	Premium Billed to
Ordained elder appointed to extension ministries within the connectional structure (other than a unit of the conference or general agency), within an ecumenical agency, within a GBHEM endorsed extension ministry or within a special ministry outside the connectional structure	344.1a(3), 344.1a(4), 344.1b, 344.1d	Salary Paying Unit
Ordained elder from another denomination (other than UMC) appointed to half-time or more service to a Conference local church or a unit of the Conference	346.2, 346.3, 338.2, 346.1	Salary Paying Unit
Provisional, Associate or full clergy member granted voluntary leave of absence not to exceed 1 year	354.1 354.2	Participant
Clergy member granted Sabbatical Leave from a local church appointment for up to one year if enrolled in the health program at time of request and Board of Ordained Ministry designates a premium paying unit with their approval.	351	Board of Ordained Ministry or participant
Elder of the Annual Conference granted Medical leave from an appointment to an NIC local church or within the connectional structure for up to one year.	357	Board of Pensions
Deacon in full connection appointed to full-time basis in a conference local church, beyond the local church, or UMC related agencies and schools.	331.1a, 331.1b	Salary Paying Unit
A Provisional member on the Deacon track appointed to serve on a full-time basis to an NIC congregation or to the conference.	326.1	Salary Paying Unit
75% of eligible Lay Employees of a local church in the conference normally scheduled to work at least 30 hours per week inclusive of a calendar year		Salary Paying Unit

2. In accord with Illinois law, state recognized civil union partners of lay or clergy employees are eligible for coverage in a manner similar to their spouses.

3. The decision to offer coverage is made by the salary paying unit. The choice to accept the offer of coverage shall be made by the participant. The salary paying unit may elect to offer health insurance to one or all categories of persons listed above in Section C. 1. The salary paying unit must make health

insurance available to and will be billed for all persons within any specific category employed with the agency or local church. Failure to make prompt payment results in termination of the participant in the plan.

4. Each salary paying unit must execute annually a sub-adoption agreement with the annual conference, should they desire to offer health coverage to persons in these categories.

5. These categories of persons are also eligible for coverage :

Category	Billed for Active's Premium
Surviving spouse or dependent children enrolled in the health plan at time of a participant's death for a period of up to one year	Participant pays 25%, Salary Paying Unit (or Board of Pensions) 75%
Divorced spouse enrolled in the plan at time of divorce for 2 years or in accordance with State and Federal law or court order	Divorced Spouse

#### **D. Retirement Health Administration –**

- For 2026, the Conference extends a program of support for some retired clergy persons in continued clergy relationship to the Conference. The program commitment is for one year only and is a nonvested benefit to certain clergy retirees of the annual conference. To qualify, the retired clergy person must be a member of the Conference on January 1, 2026, or be a dependent of a current clergy member or surviving spouse of a clergy person in good standing at the time of death
- Clergy persons enrolled in the health plan or participating in the pilot program (Section B, above) at Mandatory Retirement (Discipline paragraph 357.1), Early Retirement (Discipline paragraph 357.2b), Full Retirement (Discipline Paragraph 357.2c), or Involuntary Retirement (Discipline paragraph 357.3) may be eligible for health benefits in retirement through the conference plan if such enrollment or participation is for the continuous five years prior to retirement. No clergy member retiring under the “20 year rule” (Discipline paragraph 357.2a) is eligible for retiree health coverage.
- A clergy spouse (or surviving spouse after death of an active member) enrolled in the health plan 5 consecutive years before retirement or enrolled when first eligible for coverage (when prior to participant's retirement) is eligible for coverage after retirement. The family status of the participant cannot change during retirement, except in cases of adoption, childbirth or death. Participants electing to not participate in retirement health plan at time of retirement may not elect to enroll at a later time.
- Upon retirement the annual conference shall establish a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for the household in the name of the retiree. Participants and their spouses who meet the retiree eligibility rules may use HRA funds to pay for medical expenses including premiums, co-pays, deductibles, dental services, medical services, coinsurance, etc. Like a savings account, the funds do not need to be expended by the end of the calendar year and balances roll forward when unused.
- For 2026, the annual conference will provide a benefit equal to \$100 \$125 per year of ministerial service (as limited by I.D.7. below). An additional \$100 \$125 per year of service is also extended to the Pastor's spouse. This amount is subject to change in future years based on the needs and circumstances of the Conference and/or participants.
- Only the first 40 years of service shall be tabulated when determining the amount of benefit. In the case of clergy couples, the clergy member with the highest number of years of service, up to the cap of 40, shall determine the benefit amount.
- Ministerial service years are determined by the Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits. Years of service will be defined as full calendar years in positions appointed by the Bishop of the Northern Illinois Conference, in good standing, regardless of location, throughout the Connection. Only years served under appointment to Northern Illinois Conference local churches or connectional structure are considered in the HRA calculation. Special exceptions may

be made based on approval by NIC Board of Pensions. ~~Any counting of service years earned by service to non-Northern Illinois Conference appointments recognized in prior years will not be recognized effective January 1, 2024 or after.~~

8. The Conference at the discretion of their Board of Pension has the right to change or modify the retiree benefit and/or contributions at any time. The annual conference does not make a commitment to additional funding in future years.
9. Full Time Lay Conference employees of the annual conference with 5 continuous years of coverage before retirement will have a contribution equal to \$100 per year of service to the annual conference deposited in their HRA annually. Eligibility for the HRA is contingent on a participant's enrollment in Medicare B and engagement with the Conference's selected provider.
10. The Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits engages Via Benefits to aid clergy retirees aged 65 and above in selection of suitable Medicare supplement coverage and to act as a patient advocate when necessary. To receive the HRA benefit eligible participants must enroll through the Via Benefits program and be enrolled in Medicare B. Clergy who retire prior to 65 and meet the eligibility rules will have the HRA equivalent deducted from the cost of their conference provided medical coverage until they reach Medicare eligibility, enroll in Medicare B and enroll in Supplemental programs through Via Benefits. Retired clergy will be responsible for costs of coverage in excess of that HRA amount.

#### **E. Active Health Administration**

- ~~1. Monthly premiums are billed to each charge or salary-paying unit at rates established by the Conference Board of Pensions. Premiums are due the first of each month. Accounts 90 days in arrears are subject to termination as explained in accordance with the Wespath arrearage policy. approved by the Board and the NIC Cabinet. This policy describes the efforts that will be made by the Conference office and the Cabinet to work with Churches that are more than 90 days in arrears. If all efforts to receive payment or develop a payment plan have been exhausted, then termination of coverage may be the final option. Notification of accounts in arrears will be provided to the District Superintendent, the pastor, the local church PPRC chair, and the local church treasurer prior to termination. Any unpaid clergy benefit invoices shall be collected from the sale of a closed church when sold by the Conference Trustees, and, requested from the proceeds of church building sales in local church mergers.~~
- ~~2. If a participant enrolls in one of the HealthFlex Exchange programs that require a payroll deduction to the Conference and those deductions are not made the Conference can have the participant placed in a plan that does not require a payroll deduction.~~
3. Churches should care that tax reporting is correctly administered for all payroll deductions around health insurance provisions.
4. Active participants are able to make choices in the provision of their coverage through the enrollment period, as made available through Healthflex administration. Problem resolution and inquiries regarding coverage should be directed ~~to the HealthFlex Team at Wespath 1-800-851-2201.~~ Quantum Care Coordinators at 833.762.0876.

## **II. Pension Programs**

- A. **Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) Compass Eligibility.** The General Conference of the United Methodist Church established Compass as the primary pension program for United Methodist clergy in 2007. 2026. Mandatory participation is required when both 1 and 2 are met:
  1. The clergy member relationship to the conference is as a:
    - a. Commissioned Members (Deacon or Elder)
    - b. Elders in Full Connection
    - c. Members of Other Conferences appointed in the Northern Illinois Conference (paragraph 346.1 appointments)
    - d. Full Time Local Pastors

- e. Deacons in Full Connection
- f. Members of other denomination, appointed to service in an NIC local church if no other pension is provided by their denomination.
2. The clergy member is under Episcopal appointment half-time or more to the following service types:
  - a. to local churches in the Northern Illinois Conference
  - b. to the Conference (staff or Cabinet)
  - c. to a Conference controlled entity (such as a campus ministry or ORM)
  - d. to Incapacity leave with CPP benefits
3. In order to waive participation, a half-time or more appointed clergy member must sign a waiver form at time of appointment. Please note that persons assigned, but not appointed are not eligible in the program.
4. Local churches are encouraged to enroll as a plan sponsor of ~~UMPIP~~ Compass and to make employer contributions into the accounts of clergy appointed quarter-time.
5. **The Church contribution rate for the ~~Defined Benefit component~~ of CRSP Compass shall be set annually by the Joint Board of Pensions and Insurance to meet the annual amount billed to the Northern Illinois Annual Conference by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (Wespath) to fund Compass.**
6. **Funding for Compass is by direct payment by each charge to the Northern Illinois Annual Conference.**

**C. Billing Methods.** ~~The Annual Conference will invoice local churches monthly 16% (3% (CPP) + 3% (CRSP DC) + 10% (CRSP DB) based on clergy plan compensation required for support of the CRSP and CPP programs. Increases may be necessary in the future.~~

**B. Clergy Retirement Security Program. Comprehensive Protection Plan.**

1. **Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP).** The Comprehensive Protection Plan is the primary death and disability benefit for enrolled clergy. The billing rate for CPP will be established by the Conference office. Appointments with compensation less than full-time and those that were considered under special arrangements will be covered and billed based on rates established by UMLifeOptions.
2. **~~CRSP Defined Contribution~~**
  - a. ~~The CRSP pension program includes a defined contribution component. Each clergy member will have 2% of plan compensation deposited in an individual account at the Wespath. All contributions into the account are invested and the enrolled clergy member receives the appreciated value of the account upon retirement.~~
  - b. ~~Clergy persons are encouraged to contribute 1% of their plan compensation into their UMPIP account as a salary deduction. The annual conference will match the first 1% of UMPIP contributions paid into the participants CRSP DC account.~~
3. **~~CRSP Defined Benefit program.~~** ~~With the defined benefit component each enrolled clergy member will receive a monthly cash benefit from the plan upon retirement. Funds collected from local churches are used for annual contributions made by the conference will be invested by Wespath so that the NIC obligation can be met. A portion of defined benefit funding may accrue to a reserve fund for funding future variation in market results and other benefits to retirees and future retirees.~~

**D. Pre-82 Defined Benefit Past Service Rate for 2026**

1. The Conference Board of Pensions recommends that the annual pension rate for service prior to 1982, effective January 1, 2026, be \$605 per service year, an increase of 0% from 2025. Surviving spouses shall be supported at the rate of 85% of participant pension benefit amounts. Special grants will be provided as identified in Section F.

1  
2 **E. Excludable Housing allowance for retired clergy.** In accordance with the Private Ruling Letter from  
3 the Internal Revenue Service, the Northern Illinois Conference Annual Conference Session reaffirms the  
4 limits to housing allowance exclusion for retired and disabled clergy found in the Standing Rules, at  
5 Section IV. C. 1, which states: *Disabled clergy have the same legal relationship to an Annual Conference*  
6 *as do the retired clergy and, thus, this Conference is also the appropriate organization to designate a*  
7 *housing/rental allowance for disabled ordained or local pastors who are members of this Conference. An*  
8 *amount equal to 100% of the pension payments received by a retired clergy, or 100% of the disability*  
9 *payments received by a disabled clergy, is designated as rental/housing allowance respectively for each*  
10 *retired or disabled ordained or local pastor of The United Methodist Church who is or was a member of*  
11 *the Northern Illinois Conference at the time of retirement or disability.*  
12

### 13 **F. Special Grants**

- 14 1 Beginning in 2020 Northern Illinois Conference Session the Board of Pensions approved grants  
15 for participants meeting the following eligibility criteria:  
16 a. Members of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference who retired from an appointment in  
17 the conference;  
18 b. Who have at least 15 years of service prior to 1982 compensated at the Past Service Rate  
19 (excludes those at the DBSM rate); and,  
20 c. Who have less than 10 years of service to Northern Illinois Conference appointments  
21 served while enrolled in the MPP program.  
22 2. For 1/1/2026 the amount provided to eligible participants will be \$700 times their pre-82 years of  
23 service calculated at the PSR. This amount will remain in place until otherwise changed by the  
24 Board of Pensions.

### 25 **III. Group Life Insurance**

26 The Conference Board of Pensions enrolls in the UMLifeOptions program. Every eligible retired clergy  
27 person will be enrolled in the plan with a benefit of \$5,000 at no cost to the participant. Active clergy  
28 persons **not eligible for CPP** have \$10,000 in coverage at the NIC expense when an application is filed  
29 during the open enrollment period. Coverage beyond this amount is at the cost of the participant and will  
30 be billed directly from UMLifeOptions.

**Document Number: 680.02**

**Name: Minimum Salaries for Full-Time Elders**

**Author(s): The Equitable Compensation Committee. Beth Swanick, Lisa Kruse-Safford, Leanne Keate, Mori Oo, Melwyn Alagodi, Jarice Shaw, Veronica Davenport, Scott Hoffman, Wendy Hardin-Hermann.**

**CCFA Action:**

**ACTION:**

- 1) Minimum cash salaries for full-time Elders appointed in the NIC will be as follows, showing an increase of 7.0% for the next fiscal year:

Status	2023 actual	2024 actual	2025 actual	2026 recommended	2027 projected
Elder	(\$37,450)	(\$40,763)	(\$43,616)	(\$46,669)	(\$49,936)
LLP	(\$37,450)	(\$40,763)	(\$41,782)	(42,868)	

- 2) Local churches are to provide a minimum of \$2,500\* for accountable reimbursements for their appointed Elder(s). This covers the costs of providing travel, continuing education, and other expenses incurred in the course of providing pastoral ministry. Information about accountable reimbursements can be found at: [Accountable Reimbursement Policy Q&A](#)  
*\*Ideally the church maintains \$5,500 but, in an effort to maintain full-time, some churches may need to reduce the reimbursement to \$2,500. Anything lower will not allow the pastor to engage in fruitful ministry.*

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- The Equitable Compensation Task Force (ECTF) recommended a minimum salary for fulltime Elders to be approximately \$50,000 by 2026 for FY 2027, achieved by 7.0% increases during the years (2025, 2026, and 2027). The Equitable Compensation Committee is following these recommendations and recommending a minimum for fulltime Elders \$46,669 in FY 2026 and projecting \$49,936 in FY 2027.
- The United Methodist Book of Discipline does not require Annual Conferences to establish a minimum salary for LLPs. However, to responsibly recognize changes in buying power, the Equitable Compensation Committee recommends that the minimum salary for Licensed Local Pastors at least mirror the Cost-of-Living Index (2.6%) as defined by governmental agencies FY2026 (\$42,868).

**RATIONALE AND METHODOLOGY:**

- The current Equitable Compensation Committee is following the rationale below of the Equitable Compensation Task Force (ECTF) formed in 2023.

- The ECTF submitted surveys to all US Annual Conferences and received 18 replies. The NIC is currently second to last in minimum salary (by a sliver margin of \$165) among the 18 annual conferences responding to the survey. Had the 2023 Annual Conference not approved the 8.7% increase, bringing the current minimum to \$40,763, NIC would be at the bottom. Current minimums across annual conferences range from \$40,598 to \$50,923.
- The Equitable Compensation Committee (ECC) is also aware and recognizes that increasing the minimum salary may be a financial burden that some churches cannot bear. As we move forward, fewer single-charge full-time appointments will most likely be the new normal. The ECC is committed to continuing to monitor the trends and work with the Cabinet and churches on ways to equitably compensate clergy.
- The ECTF determined that their recommendation would be focused on base compensation only, having found it impossible to identify/consider values of parsonages, housing allowances, or health insurance benefits due to the wide disparities between conferences and the extreme difficulties in assigning dollar values.
- This survey showed that a lower minimum salary for LLPs is consistent with the other annual conferences responding to the survey.
- The UMBoD ¶342 speaks only to “*Elders in full connection*” who assume “*the obligations of the itinerant ministry*” and who bear the burden of extensive student loans from the required master’s degree. Further, “*the Church shall provide, and the ordained minister is entitled to receive, not less than the equitable compensation established by the annual conference for clergy members.*”
- The UMBoD states in ¶625.2(a) that the Equitable Compensation Commission be responsible for “*recommending conference standards*” for pastoral salaries, and (b) “*administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation.*”



**Document: 700.01**

**Name: Reaffirming Our Commitment to Connectionalism in the Northern Illinois Conference**

**Author(s): Hope Chernich**

**CCFA Action:**

**ACTION:**

In response to our bishop's call to make 2025 a year of grace, we members of the Northern Illinois Conference reaffirm our commitment to connectionalism. Amid the changes in our denomination and in our national politics, we gather as United Methodist across Northern Illinois fully aware of the immense diversity we represent. We are old and young. We are rural, urban, and suburban. We are men and women and nonbinary. We are cisgender, and transgender; gay and straight. We are from nations all over the world. We are wealthy and poor. Retired, professionals, home makers, and working class. We are lay and clergy. We are a people with different types of legal status and those without government documentation. We are from different races and ethnicities. We speak different languages. We have different political views.

Even with all of these differences that the world says must divide us, we the people of the Northern Illinois Conference look to our tradition for wisdom. Connectionalism is a gift that enables us to stand in unity amidst our diversity. Connectionalism means no one can be discarded regardless of their ideology. In prayer, worship and mission, we are connected by our need for God's grace and our commitment to share that grace with one another and the world.

As an Annual Conference, we do not always agree, yet we reaffirm a commitment to stand in love and act in grace toward another.

We affirm our commitment to connectionalism by:

- Recognizing that in our diversity we more fully reflect God's intention for creation. We celebrate one another and respect differences.
- Praying for the flourishing of each of our churches and all of our clergy. We care for each other and understand that when one part of the body suffers, we all suffer.
- Giving our full apportionments to support ministry across our conference, nation, and world.

We stand together in Christ as one body made up of many members. In our diversity, we find our strength. May this affirmation of connectionism be a witness to our communities and to our nation.

**RATIONALE:**

As the United Methodist Church navigates a season of transition and redefinition, the Northern Illinois Conference seeks to affirm its identity as a spiritually grounded, mission-driven, and inclusive body connected by grace, not uniformity. In John 17 Jesus prayed that those who followed him would be one in the same way that our trinitarian God is one.

1 As United Methodist we live into that oneness through our connection. According to the BOD Paragraph  
2 125- We live out our connection in prayer, mission and worship. Rooted in the Wesleyan tradition of  
3 social holiness, this declaration proclaims that we are not Christians in isolation but disciples together,  
4 working toward the common good in prayer, worship, and service.

5 This statement offers a pastoral word of encouragement to local churches and clergy who may feel  
6 isolated or uncertain, reminding them they are part of a wider body that prays for and supports their  
7 flourishing. By reaffirming our commitment to paying full apportionments, we acknowledge the vital role  
8 of shared financial stewardship in sustaining connectional ministries across the conference and the global  
9 church.

10 By taking this action, we embody the biblical image of the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)—  
11 many members, different gifts, united by love and purpose. It reminds us that our differences are not  
12 liabilities but signs of God's creative abundance.

13 This affirmation invites both members within and neighbors beyond the church to witness a  
14 countercultural model of community—one that rejects division and embraces grace as the common  
15 ground.

1 **Document: 700.02**

2 **Name: Who Are Our Neighbors? Standing with our Immigrants, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers**  
3 **Communities**

4 **Author(s): NIC Methodist Federation for Social Action, Luis F. Reyes, Alka Lyall, and Elisa Gatz,**  
5 **co-chairs; Paula Roderick, Broadway UMC**

6 **CCFA Action:**

7  
8 **ACTION:**  
9

10 The NIC reaffirms its commitment to support the rights of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers to  
11 legal services, health, housing, education, and other necessary services to become full members of our  
12 communities. We urge NIC members to renew our commitment to:

13  
14 1. Support Immigration Law and Justice Network (formerly national JFON) and other  
15 advocacy and support groups such as Interfaith Immigration Coalition, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant  
16 and Refugee Rights, and Chicago LGBT Asylum Support Program (CLASP).

17 2. Join JFON and other advocacy groups in taking legislative advocacy at the State level to  
18 urge our elected officials to take bolder actions to increase the funds available for legal resources; to  
19 strengthen the TRUST Act (link below in Rationale) to adapt to federal changes and close the loopholes;  
20 to require medical financial information be made available; to expand and protect healthcare for all low-  
21 income immigrants age 42 or older and children age 18 and younger, regardless of their immigration  
22 status, to provide safe schools for all-Illinois must take affirmative steps to ensure parents are not  
23 discouraged from sending and children are not discouraged from attending schools, as is their right; and  
24 to take other actions to benefit not only migrants but other low income communities.

25 3. And, we urge our churches to work with immigrant rights groups such as JFON, Refugee  
26 One, and Illinois Coalition For Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR) to educate our members,  
27 including hosting or cosponsoring “know your rights” trainings, organize rapid response teams and how  
28 best to make our sanctuaries, churches, and communities safer and welcoming to our newcomers; and,

29 4. To challenge the current administration to stop its criminalization, detention, and  
30 deportation of immigrants and instead to work on ways to make pathways to citizenship easier and not  
31 more restrictive.  
32

33 **RATIONALE:**  
34

35 The current administration has declared war on immigrants and has taken every step to dismantle the  
36 immigration system in the United States. There is an anti-immigrant sentiment that has been built and  
37 immigrants are being signaled out as criminals and as the enemy. There have been several executive  
38 orders ending refugee and asylum protections denying asylum seekers at the border their basic human  
39 rights to seek safety. Asylum seekers are being denied entry and interviews at the boarder. The CBP  
40 application that allowed asylum seekers to register for an appointment was ended and all appointments  
41 were cancelled. Cancellation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)- There have been over half a million  
42 migrants impacted by the executive orders cancelling Temporary Protected Status.  
43

44 Many migrants are facing fear of being deported back to a country and a situation that is not safe for them  
45 to live in. Many victims of war do not have a place or a home to go back to and many displaced families

1 are in fear of hunger and violence if they are forced to return to countries, they came seeking refuge from.  
2 Stand against family detention, or detaining immigrant parents with their children in jail-like conditions,  
3 often for significant lengths of time.

4 Since the beginning of the administration there has been an increase in the threat of deportation and  
5 family detention and the detention of children. Asylum seekers, refugees, TPS holders, DACA recipients,  
6 and all immigrants that call the United States their home are in fear of being deported and being separated  
7 from their families.

8 This administration has invoked the alien enemies act and is using this abuse of power to detain and  
9 deport individuals without charges and without any court process, even if they have status in the U.S.  
10 This is a clear violation of due process protections. The abuse and overreach of this authority increases  
11 racial profiling in the U.S and targets individuals based on their national origin.

12 According to the Department of Homeland security themselves, there is no safe or humane way to detain  
13 human beings. ([https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Report/2016/ACFRC-sc-](https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Report/2016/ACFRC-sc-16093.pdf)  
14 [16093.pdf](https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Report/2016/ACFRC-sc-16093.pdf)). Even short periods of detention cause irreparable harm to children's physical and mental  
15 health. We demand that family detention be ended and that the administration stops criminalizing families  
16 that are seeking refuge. We stand against any kind of jailing of families and children and against the  
17 separation of families. We call for strengthening the TRUST Act  
18 (<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=3818>).

19 The administration has also tried to silence and go after legal workers, threatening the work of  
20 organizations like Justice for Our Neighbors. We stand for all of the legal workers and advocates  
21 representing immigrants and vulnerable communities.

22 In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." and he  
23 reminded us: "The time is always right to do what is right." As Jesus said "I was a stranger and you  
24 welcomed me." Matthew 25:35B; and "do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that  
25 some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2; "When an alien resides with you in  
26 your land, you shall not oppress the alien." Leviticus 19:33.

27

1 **Document: 700.03**

2 **Name: Supporting Human Rights Advocacy and the Right to Engage in Nonviolent Actions**  
3 **including Boycotts and Free Speech**

4 **Author(s): Methodist Federation for Social Action, Elisa Gatz, Alka Lyall, Luis F. Reyes, co-chairs;**  
5 **Paula Roderick, member Broadway UMC.**

6 **CCFA Action:**

7  
8  
9 **ACTION:**

10  
11 The Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church (“the Conference”):

- 12  
13 1. Calls upon its clergy, lay leaders, and members to support the right to engage in nonviolent  
14 resistance including the use of boycotts and divestments.  
15 2. Urges its clergy, lay leaders, and church members, to educate themselves about the damage anti-  
16 boycott laws have done to free speech rights and other nonviolent actions;  
17 3. Urges its clergy, lay leaders, and members to consider the dangers posed by the 2015 Illinois anti-  
18 boycott law, that penalizes companies for engaging in actions critical of Israel, even when those  
19 actions are taking out of concern for human rights.  
20 4. Urges its clergy, lay leaders, and church members, on their own behalf to contact (write, call, or  
21 meet) their Illinois State Representatives and Senators to urge them to support the Illinois Human  
22 Rights Advocacy Protection Act, H.B. 2723/ S.B. 2462. This legislation would restore  
23 protections for peaceful advocacy by repealing the state's 2015 anti-boycott law targeting  
24 advocates for Palestinian rights. The 2015 law has had serious consequences for human rights  
25 advocacy. The most prominent example came when the state divested from Unilever after Ben &  
26 Jerry's, a wholly owned autonomous subsidiary of Unilever, decided to stop selling ice cream in  
27 illegal Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian territories due to human rights concerns. The  
28 Human Rights Advocacy Protection Act would also restore protections for peaceful advocacy,  
29 remove legal uncertainty for Illinois organizations, realign state law with fundamental democratic  
30 principles, and protect civil society's ability to engage on humanitarian issues.  
31

32 **RATIONALE:**

33  
34 In 2005, after years of occupation and oppression, Palestinian civil society issued an urgent cry to the  
35 international community to use boycott divestment and sanctions (“BDS”) actions until Israel: 1) provides  
36 equal rights to Palestinian/Israeli citizens inside Israel, 2) recognizes the right of return for Palestinian  
37 refugees, and 3) ends the occupation of Palestine.  
38

39 In recent years, this Palestinian-led movement has garnered international support from churches —  
40 including the United Methodist and other denominations - universities and other institutions as it seeks to  
41 apply economic pressure on Israel over its treatment of Palestinians.  
42

43 United Methodists have a long history of encouraging the use of boycotts or divestment initiatives in  
44 efforts to advance the rights of marginalized groups, including in support of the rights of Palestinians to  
45 be free from occupation. In 2012 the United Methodist General Conference approved the resolution  
46 "Opposition to Israeli Settlements in Palestinian Land" (#6111)(re-adopted 2016, 2024), which calls on  
47 “all nations to prohibit...the import of products made by companies in Israeli settlements on Palestinian  
48 land,” i.e. calls for an international boycott of products made in the Israeli settlements. Moreover eleven  
49 annual conferences, including the NIC, and one jurisdiction have voted specifically to affirm the right to  
50 peacefully address injustice through boycotts, divestment and sanctions.  
51

1 However, governmental measures such as the current Illinois anti-boycott law impose penalties on  
2 citizens and corporations for encouraging support for the rights of Palestinians by engaging in boycotts or  
3 divestment. Our current Illinois law is contrary to the spirit and intent of UM and NIC measures to stand  
4 up for social justice.<sup>1</sup>

5  
6 The United Methodist Book of Discipline calls on all Christians to resist unjust governmental interference  
7 in the work of the church (The United Methodist Book of Discipline 2016, ¶164B). The UM 2024 GC  
8 resolution calling for the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice urged all United Methodists to advocate  
9 against the suppression of time-honored and nonviolent means of addressing injustice. Protecting the  
10 right to free speech and supporting the Illinois Human Rights Advocacy Protection Act will further the  
11 intent to fulfill the call to protect non violent actions including the right to boycott.

<sup>1</sup> Illinois' anti-boycott statute permits a seven-member board to determine that a company is "boycotting" Israel and/or "any territory controlled by Israel," and place that company on the prohibited investment list. In just the past few years, this Board has invoked the statute to threaten Air BnB, Ben and Jerry's, Air Canada.

1 **Document: 700.04**

2 **Name: Resolution to Support the Call to Boycott Chevron**

3 **Author(s): Methodist Federation for Social Action, Elisa Gatz, Alka Lyall, Luis F. Reyes, co-chairs,**  
4 **and Paula Roderick, Broadway UMC**

5 **CCFA Action:**

6  
7  
8 **ACTION:**  
9

10 The Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church supports the call to support the  
11 Chevron Boycott that has been proposed and adopted by UM General Board of Church and Society at its  
12 March 2025 board meeting. United Methodists for Kairos Response (UMKR) and the Methodist  
13 Federation for Social Action (MFSA) also have joined the call to boycott Chevron. Chevron supplies  
14 Israel's war machine with energy via the operation and co-ownership of the major gas fields off the coast  
15 of colonized Palestinian land. Both Chevron and Israel enrich themselves from these projects – continuing  
16 a pattern of ongoing violence and apartheid. We are proud to join the growing international call to  
17 respond to the call from Palestinian civil society and urge church members, organizations and  
18 congregations to sign onto the global boycott on UMKR's website. The American Friends Service  
19 provides additional background and supporting reasons for how to support this call to boycott "everything  
20 Chevron," including its affiliates.

21  
22 Palestinians deserve full human rights. Despite the ceasefire in Gaza (which Israel broke again in March  
23 2025), the destruction of Palestinian homes, businesses, water reservoirs, and olive trees continues in the  
24 West Bank and elsewhere. Chevron's alliance with the Israeli government helps support this destruction.  
25 The boycott is designed to break that alliance by applying financial disincentives and negative publicity  
26 for Chevron. If Chevron pulls out of its alliance with Israel, the Israeli government may be pressured into  
27 conforming with international law in protecting the human rights of Palestinians.

28  
29 NIC calls on our Conference to support the GBCS resolution to join ongoing global campaign to boycott  
30 Chevron products, to sign the UMKR petition calling for a Chevron boycott, available on UMKR's  
31 website, and to support the efforts of our faith leaders to join in this boycott and educate our members  
32 about crucial importance of such non violent resistance means such as this boycott.

33  
34 **RATIONALE:**  
35

36 Individually, it may appear that one person cannot have much of an effect in addressing the atrocities  
37 being committed against Palestinians. But, when we join forces in a boycott, our united voice can have a  
38 genuine impact as evidenced by boycotts of decades past: the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Nestle  
39 Boycott, the Grape Boycott, and the Anti-Apartheid Boycott of South Africa. Link to the UMKR Petition  
40 is available on UMKR's website, <https://umkr.salsalabs.org/chevron-stopfuelinggenocide/index.html>.<sup>1</sup>  
41

<sup>1</sup> Last year, NIC observed "[S]ince 2009, no fewer than six authoritative studies have declared Israeli actions as creating an apartheid condition as defined by international law that describes apartheid as a "crime against humanity." NIC Resolution: Condemning Apartheid in Palestine and Israel.

1 NIC and GC<sup>2</sup> has supported various opportunities to engage in boycott, divestment, and sanctions, to  
2 promote the rights of all people living in Israel and Palestine, and to vigorously defend the right to engage  
3 in nonviolent protest.<sup>3</sup>  
4

5 Chevron<sup>4</sup> is co-owner of gas fields in occupied Palestinian land. It also operates the pipeline between  
6 Israel and Egypt. Chevron currently supports the Israeli government and its devastation of Gaza.  
7

8 Palestinians, including the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center, have asked for the boycott.  
9 They want to pressure Chevron to divest from its holdings in Israel. Conditions in Gaza have only  
10 become worse.<sup>5</sup> After pressure from social justice activists, in 2022, Chevron pulled out of Myanmar,  
11 citing its human rights abuses. A boycott of Chevron could persuade Chevron to end its operations in  
12 Palestine.<sup>6</sup> Chevron is a key participant in the Israeli economy; it's withdrawal would be a potent  
13 message against Israel's settler colonialism.  
14

15 In the NIC Resources for Putting Faith into Action, NI Church and Society proclaims "United Methodists,  
16 rooted in the teachings of Jesus and the prophets, have a long history of speaking out against injustice."  
17

<sup>2</sup> The GBCS resolution states "In support of its commitment to human rights, peace, and international law, the board resolved to join an ongoing global campaign to boycott Chevron products," and "We stand in solidarity with the United Methodist Kairos Response, and other United Methodists in this boycott campaign, until the company terminates all contracts with Israel that allow it to profit from the military occupation of Palestine and ceases operations in the gas fields off the coast of Palestine/Israel." GBCS notes: "Chevron Corporation is an American multinational energy company specializing in oil and gas. The company operates natural gas extraction and pipelines off the coast of Palestine/Israel, making it a significant partner in the military blockade of Gaza and the exploitation of Palestinian land and resources."

<sup>3</sup> For example, in 2023, NIC passed; Supporting the Right to Free Speech and to Engage in Nonviolent Actions Including Boycotts. In 2019, NIC called on Wespeth to divest from Israeli bonds; and action that the denomination took in 2024. And in 2024, UMs continued to affirm our support as a denomination of the Palestinian call for boycott divestment and sanctions in passing a resolution calling for divestment of bonds of countries engaged in prolonged military occupation, including Israel, and re-adopting our longstanding resolution calling for a global boycott of settlement products.

<sup>4</sup> UMKR wrote to Michael K. Wirth, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Chevron, asking Chevron to end "such contracts and operations ... and advising him that if Chevron did so, then UMKR would end its call for this boycott. To date, Chevron has not responded.  
[https://www.kairosresponse.org/chevronboycott\\_umkrletter.html](https://www.kairosresponse.org/chevronboycott_umkrletter.html)

<sup>5</sup> Towards the end of this Ramadan season,, Israel again broke the fragile ceasefire with an attack that left over 400 people dead, many of them children. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/3/18/why-did-israel-break-the-ceasefire-in-gaza> What will happen in Gaza by the time this resolution is before our annual conference remains to be seen.

<sup>6</sup> Links to resources here: website (<https://umkr.salsalabs.org/chevron-stopfuelinggenocide/index.html> ). The American Friends Service Committee (<https://afsc.org/BoycottChevron> ).



1 **Document: 700.05**

2 **Name: Opposition to Unjust Theologies: Challenging Religious Nationalism**

3 **Author(s): Methodist Federation for Social Action, Elisa Gatz, Alka Lyall, Luis F. Reyes, co-chairs;**

4 **Paula Roderick, member Broadway UMC**

5 **CCFA Action:**

6  
7  
8 **ACTION:**

9  
10 The Northern Illinois Conference recognizes the challenges that the rise in religious nationalism - the  
11 dangerous conflation of religion and nationalism used to demean and deny the humanity of other people -  
12 increasing hate crimes, vitriolic exchanges, and distorted theologies that have endangered our  
13 communities. NIC denounces religious nationalisms in all its forms as a distortion of the Christian faith,  
14 and commits to opposing it wherever it appears, for the sake of the gospel and the good of our human  
15 family.

16  
17 We encourage our pastors and lay leaders to promote conference-wide educational programs that address  
18 the serious and harmful effects of religious nationalism, to support the work of organizations such as The  
19 Religious Nationalisms Project to bring ongoing awareness of the religious nationalism to congregations,  
20 to promote mentorship and support for leaders to work with diverse communities that may be affected by  
21 the harm of religious nationalism. NIC encourages faith leaders to study and share within their  
22 congregations the NIC “Resources for Putting Faith Into Action,” particularly those sections on how to  
23 have courageous conversations and on denouncing Christian Nationalism and General Board of Church  
24 and Society, Faith & Facts, Christian Nationalism.

25  
26 We encourage NIC UM faith leaders to reach out to and work with members of different communities to  
27 ensure that our neighbors of all faiths know our NIC churches are supportive, aware of the dangers they  
28 may be experiencing, or indeed the harm that some Christians may even be causing. We encourage our  
29 conference to form a task force or discussion group to explore and identify the biblical and theological  
30 reasons some Christians have offered in justification of Christian Zionism and Christian Nationalism.

31  
32 **RATIONALE:**

33  
34 As the National Council on Churches stated “While upholding the positive role of religions in civic  
35 society, [our] statement on Religious Nationalism addresses the dangerous conflation of religious belief  
36 and violent or exclusionary nationalism which continues to beleaguer and undermine many societies. ....  
37 [T]he misuse of religious traditions to exclude or harm whole segments of populations damages societies  
38 and obscures the positive contribution of religion. Religious Nationalism is here understood as any  
39 merging of a religious tradition, political outlook, and national loyalty that brings harm to those with  
40 different religious commitments...”<sup>1</sup>

41  
  
<sup>1</sup> Source: The Problem of Religious Nationalism, in the US and Globally: A Policy Statement of the National Council of Churches, Adopted October 18, 2024.

1 Christian Nationalism “is defined as a political ideology that seeks to merge Christianity and a particular  
2 type of American identity, distorting both the Christian faith and the United States constitution.  
3 According to Christians Against Christian Nationalism “it often overlaps and provides cover for white  
4 supremacy and racial subjugation”... For years, many U.S. faith leaders have warned about the dangers of  
5 blending faith and nationalism as a threat to religious freedom and to the separation of church and state as  
6 outlined by the U.S. Constitution...”<sup>2</sup> In 2022, NIC called on members to “Overcome Christian  
7 Nationalism,” utilizing resources such as Christians Against Christian Nationalism,  
8 <https://www.christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org/statement>.

10 There is a growing awareness in understanding Christian Zionism and Zionism. In 2022, NIC passed the  
11 “Opposition to Unjust Theology Regarding the Holy Land,” declaring its opposition to any theology or  
12 biblical interpretation that would justify denying or violating the human rights of Palestinians and other  
13 religious and ethnic minorities in Israel/Palestine.” The resolution stated that “Christian zionism is  
14 having a significant and dangerous impact on U.S. policy regarding Israel...” Other UM annual  
15 conferences have adopted similar resolutions.<sup>3</sup> GBCS urged UMs to become more aware of the dangers  
16 of Christian Zionism and the work with which many interfaith groups are engaging.<sup>4</sup>

18 Last year, at General Conference, United Methodists took the bold step to address Hindu nationalism.  
19 “Not to be confused with the peaceful practice of Hinduism, Hindu nationalism is a relatively recent  
20 ideology first conceived by leaders seeking to import European fascist ([https://forsea.co/how-fascism-](https://forsea.co/how-fascism-nazism-influenced-hindu-nationalism/)  
21 [nazism-influenced-hindu-nationalism/](https://forsea.co/how-fascism-nazism-influenced-hindu-nationalism/)) concepts of racial purity into India. With the ascent of India’s  
22 current prime minister, Narendra Modi, and his political party, the Bharatiya Janata Party, Hindu  
23 nationalism has become India’s unofficial ideology, with Modi and BJP-ruled states passing numerous  
24 laws to criminalize (<https://www.uscifr.gov/publications/indias-state-level-anti-conversion-laws>),  
25 marginalize (<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/15/world/asia/india-hijab-ban-schools.html>) and  
26 demonize the practice of other faiths, particularly Islam and Christianity. As the second-largest Protestant  
27 denomination in the United States, with over 5 million members domestically and 10 million  
28 internationally, the UMC’s vote constitutes a timely and urgent response.” Source: “Why the UMC took  
29 a historic stand and condemned Hindu nationalism,” Religious News Service, May 24, 2024, Neal  
30 Christie.

32 As Christians we know, “scripture is consistent in the call for followers of Christ to love our enemies  
33 (Matthew 5:44-45a), forgive others their trespasses (Matthew 6:14-15), to overcome evil with good  
34 (Romans 12:21), and to seek peace and pursue it (Psalm 34:14).

<sup>2</sup> As our Book of Discipline provides “Separation of church and state means no organized union of the two, but it does permit interaction.” UM Book of Discipline, Par. 164.

<sup>3</sup> 2024 East Ohio Annual Conference, “Opposition to Unjust Theology Regarding the Holy Land” which observed “Christian Zionism is having a significant and dangerous impact on U. S. policy regarding Israel, by obstructing efforts to achieve a just peace and promoting U.S. acceptance of unjust treatment of Palestinians...”

<sup>4</sup> See, Interfaith Groups Call Out Dangerous Ideology of Christian Zionism, Colleen Moore, August 6, 2024

1 **Document: 700.06**

2 **Name: It's Time To Divest From Countries Involved in Prolonged Military Occupations**

3 **Author(s): Paula Roderick, Broadway UMC**

4 **CCFA Action:**

5  
6  
7 **ACTION:**

8  
9 In 2019, the Northern Illinois Conference voted to support the Resolution to Exclude Sovereign Debt  
10 (Also Known As Government Debt) of Countries Involved in Prolonged Military Occupations in  
11 Violation of International Law. We urged our own investment managers, including Wespath, as well as  
12 boards and agencies throughout the connection to “exclude the purchase of bonds from three governments  
13 that maintain prolonged military occupation and that have been the subject of United Nations Security  
14 Council resolutions and / or International Court of Justice rulings until the time when each government  
15 ends their occupation and ceases their human rights violations.” NIC identified three nations: Morocco  
16 which has occupied Western Sahara since 1976; Turkey, occupying Northern Cyprus since 1974; and  
17 Israel, occupying the Palestinian Territories since 1967. In 2024, the UM General Conference adopted  
18 the resolution urging UM investors not to invest in the bonds of these countries because they are  
19 maintaining prolonged illegal military occupations.  
20

21 In support of this call to divest, UMKR has initiated a petition calling on Wespath to take further action to  
22 screen out investments from bonds of three nations engaging in prolonged military occupation. We call  
23 on all clergy and lay members of NIC who have accounts with Wespath to faithfully consider joining in  
24 this call, and to sign UMKR’s petition, as individuals and in their role as faith leaders.  
25

26 Moreover, Illinois also has invested more than \$40 million dollars of taxpayer funds in Israeli bonds since  
27 2023; and currently has over \$145 million dollars invested there. We call on our conference leaders to  
28 share both our own resolution and our GC resolution with lawmakers here in Illinois, to respectfully  
29 request that they direct the Illinois Treasurer to divest Illinois public funds from Israeli government bonds  
30 as well, and to discern other ways to support the NIC and UM GC resolutions.  
31

32 **RATIONALE:**

33  
34 When we buy sovereign debt (government bonds) we lend our funds to governments without any formal  
35 mechanism for advocacy. Governments conducting prolonged military occupations are violating  
36 international law and human rights standards. Such investments are morally wrong and financially risky.  
37

38 “Sovereign debt” describes bonds issued by a nation’s government as a means of borrowing money from  
39 organizations or persons; governments use money raised from the sale of such bonds at their discretion.  
40 Holders (buyers) of government bonds are therefore on record as supporting, through their purchase,  
41 whatever activities the country that issues (sells) the bonds may choose to do.  
42

43 The NIC and GC resolutions call on Morocco, Turkey, and Israel to end their *prolonged* military  
44 occupations. People who have been subjected to those occupations are being denied their self-

1 determination in violation of Article 73 of the Charter for the United Nations.<sup>1</sup> The above-named  
2 occupying powers have been named by the United Nations Security Council and/or the International  
3 Court of Justice as having engaged in *prolonged* military occupations, are violators of international law  
4 and responsible for human rights abuses including reduction of food assistance to refugees, failure to  
5 protect civilian persons, land confiscation, home demolition, and violence against civilians<sup>2</sup>. We have  
6 seen Israel’s occupation of Palestine with respect to the people of Gaza intensified as Israel intentionally  
7 withholds food, water, access to health care, access to electricity from this largely young, refugee  
8 population.

10 UMKR explains the need for this new petition<sup>3</sup> “It has been almost a year since that landmark decision at  
11 General Conference. Given the urgency of this moment – in particular the devastation that Palestinians in  
12 Gaza and the West Bank are facing – UMKR has drafted a petition for those who would like to see this  
13 important call from the General Conference fulfilled in our church... It clearly is the position of the  
14 General Conference – the only body that speaks for our denomination – that **United Methodists should**  
15 **not be invested in these bonds** that fund illegal and destructive occupations, causing suffering to  
16 millions.”

18 As people of faith, if we seek to hold our investment boards to a standard that excludes from investment  
19 “the sovereign debt of any country demonstrating a prolonged and systematic pattern of human rights  
20 abuses...”<sup>4</sup>, we must also take steps to address where our state invests public funds.

<sup>1</sup> Source: <http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-xi/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> Source: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2004/07/108912-international-court-justice-finds-israeli-barrier-palestinian-territory-illegal#.WltesTLMzfY>; [http://undocs.org/S/RES/2430\(2018\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2430(2018))

<sup>3</sup> See link here for text of petition and other information:  
[https://www.kairosresponse.org/wespath\\_petition\\_2025.html](https://www.kairosresponse.org/wespath_petition_2025.html).

<sup>4</sup> Wespath’s Human Rights Investment Guideline speaks to addressing human rights abuses, and it has developed the Social Values Choice Bond Fund, which does not hold bonds from Israel, Turkey, or Morocco. However, to date, Wespath has not applied this standard to all its investment funds.

**Document: 700.07**

**Name: LGBTQIA+ Ministry**

**Author(s): Elisa Gatz, Alka Lyall, and Luis F Reyes, Leadership Team of NIC MFSA and NIC RMN**

**CCFA Action: Budget needed. Recommend referral to ACST for inclusion in budget request process and structure.**

**ACTION:**

The Northern Illinois Annual Conference calls on our Nominations Committee to create a conference-level Committee on Inclusion for the purpose of:

1. Actively supporting the LGBTQ+ laity, clergy, and candidates for licensed/ordained ministry in the Northern Illinois Annual Conference with community-building, faith and leadership development, solidarity, and advocacy.
2. Centering and amplifying the voices and experiences of the LGBTQ+ community, especially those who have been marginalized by church and society, most notably, transgender and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) persons.
3. Monitoring Annual Conference committees and policies, as well as the status and needs of candidates and clergy under appointment to ensure justice and equity on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression, and to report findings to the Annual Conference.
4. Curating, creating, and sharing resources to equip local churches for:
  1. relationship building and continuing education
  2. meaningful ministry with and for LGBTQ+ church and community members
5. Collaborating with ministry-specific areas, particularly children's ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry in the desire to safely and most effectively be in ministry with and for LGBTQ+ people of all ages.

The Committee on Inclusion will be established within 3 months of annual conference adjournment, hold its first meeting in 2025, and include:

1. LGBTQ+ persons that make up at least  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the total membership
2. Intentional diversity of age
  1. At least 2 members under the age of 25
  2.  $\frac{1}{3}$  membership under 35
  3.  $\frac{1}{3}$  membership 36 to 55
  4.  $\frac{1}{3}$  membership 56 and up
3. Intentional diversity throughout all genders
4. Intentional diversity throughout all races and ethnicities
5. Lay and clergy representatives from each district
6. Members with established leadership in the area of LGBTQ+ justice and inclusion

The Committee on Inclusion shall be fully included in all future annual conference processes related to ensuring an appropriate budget, representation on other committees, reporting to the annual conference, and ongoing membership based on the above criteria.

**RATIONALE:**

The 2020/2024 General Conference of The United Methodist Church removed Book of Discipline policies targeting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) community and mandating discrimination throughout the denomination.

1  
2 Dismantling discrimination and harm cannot be realized through legislation alone, but requires ongoing  
3 engagement in the context of relationship, including but not limited to: policy change, story-sharing and  
4 dialogue, education, support, leadership development, solidarity, advocacy, monitoring, and  
5 accountability.

6  
7 The ministry of CCORR and CCOSROW models the importance of having dedicated and empowered  
8 teams who focus on specific areas of injustice and provide conference-wide opportunities for growth.

9  
10 The Northern Illinois Annual Conference seeks to be proactive in building relationships, learning, and  
11 living into all that is now possible for ministry with and for LGBTQ+ persons.  
12

1 **Document: 702.02**

2 **Name: Amend the Standing Rules to separate the joint Board of Pensions, Health Benefits, and**  
3 **Equitable Compensation**

4 **Author(s): Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits (Luis Reyes-Rosario, Wendy Hardin**  
5 **Hermann, Kristin Gaughan, Dan VanHaften, Deborah Dangerfield, Matt Smith, Kristin**  
6 **Fischer, Glynis Massey, Harry Nicol, Danita Anderson, Beth Swanick, Cheryl Weaver,**  
7 **Elaine Moy)**

8 **CCFA Action:**

9  
10  
11 **ACTION:**

12  
13 **The Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits recommends reversing the 2024 amendment**  
14 **to the Northern Illinois Conference Standing Rules: to remove Equitable Compensation**  
15 **responsibilities (2016 BoD ¶625) from the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (2016 BoD ¶639),**  
16 **as approved at the 2024 Northern Illinois Annual Conference, and create a stand-alone NIC**  
17 **Equitable Compensation Committee, separate and distinct from the NIC Board of Pensions and**  
18 **Health Benefits.**

19 This action will direct the NIC Committee on Nominations to establish membership according to  
20 2020/2024 Book of Discipline guidelines (¶624) for the Equitable Compensation Committee.

21 **RATIONALE:**

22  
23 The 2024 NIC Annual Conference action was based on the 2016 Book of Discipline. 2024 General  
24 Conference action established direction in the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline that makes the Joint Board  
25 of Pensions, Benefits, and Equitable Compensation, as approved at the 2024 NIC Annual Conference  
26 incompatible with the now current Book of Discipline.

27  
28 1: *“There shall be in each annual conference a commission on equitable compensation. ... It is the*  
29 *purpose of the commission on equitable compensation to support full-time clergy serving as pastors in the*  
30 *charges of the annual conference. The commission shall meet at least twice a year for the purpose of: (a)*  
31 *recommending conference standards for pastoral support; (b) administering funds to be used as base*  
32 *compensation supplementation...” 20/24 BoD ¶ 624.1,2*

33 2: *There shall be organized in each annual conference a conference board, auxiliary to Wespath, to be*  
34 *known as the conference board of pensions... that shall have charge of the interests and work of providing*  
35 *for and contributing to the support, relieve, assistance, and pensioning of clergy and their families, other*  
36 *church workers, and lay employees... 20/24 BoD ¶638.1*

37  
38 Reestablishing the Board of Pensions, as separate and distinct from the Commission on Equitable  
39 Compensation, allows each group to examine the rewards of pastoral work: pension, benefits, and base  
40 compensation, giving each the full attention those rewards require.