

Document: 100

Name: 2026 Nominations Report

Author(s): Annual Conference Committee on Nominations, Alka Lyall- Chair

CCFA Action:

**Northern Illinois Annual Conference
Document 100- Boards, Commissions, & Committees
2024-2028 (2026)**

Bold represents the new nominations for 2026. Blanks are left intentionally for additional nominations

Conference Council on Finance and Administration	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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
Lagos-Fonseca, David	PC	C	H	M	A	2020
Lee, Jeremiah	PC	C	A	M	A	2024
Mann, Michael (Chair)	PC	C	W	M	A	2024
Messing, Cathleen (Katie) (Secretary)	PS	L	W	F	O	2024
Newby, Thomas	PS	L	W	M		2024
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
Assistant to the Bishop: Anderson, Danita	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cabinet Representative: Hwa Young Chong	-	-	-	-	-	-
Treasurer: Moy, Elaine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Committee on Personnel (elects its own officers)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	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
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
Sarah Hong	PN	C	A	A	A	2026
Bishop: Schwerin, Dan	-	-	-	-	-	-
No Vote:						
Treasurer/Dir. of Administrative Services: Moy, Elaine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cabinet Representative:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Commission on Equitable Compensation	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Bell, John (chair)	LS	C	W	M	A	2025
Davenport, Veronica	LN	L	B	F	A	2025
Hamack, Janeen	PC	L	W	F	OA	2026
Hoffman, Scott	PN	L	W	M	A	2025
Shaw, Jarice	LS	L	B	F	YA	2025
Swanick, Beth	LN	L	W	F	A	2025
	PC	C				
	PS	C				
Staff: Weaver, Cheryl						
District Superintendent: Gilbert, Brian	-	-	-	-	-	-
Board of Pensions and Health Benefits						
Board of Pensions and Health Benefits	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Dangerfield, Deborah	LS	L	B	F	A	2018
Fischer, Kristin	PC	L	W	F	O	2022
Gaughan, Kristina	LS	L	W	F	A	2018
Massey, Glynis P.	LS	L	B	F	A	2024
Nicol, Harry	LN	C	W	M	O	2022
Nolan, Marilyn	PN	C	W	F	OA	2026
Reyes-Rosario, Luis F.	PS	C	H	M	A	2024
Smith, Matthew	PN	C	W	M	A	2024
Swanick, Beth (Chair)	LN	L	W	F	A	2018
Van Haften, Dan	PC	L	W	M	O	2022
		L		M		
		L		M		
Cabinet Representative: Gilbert, Brian	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conference Benefits Officer: Weaver, Cheryl	-	-	-	-	-	-
Treasurer: Moy, Elaine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assistant to the Bishop: Anderson, Danita	-	-	-	-	-	-
Board of Trustees						
Board of Trustees	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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
Freiberger, Chuck	PC	L	W	M	A	2025
Lukasick, Carolyn	PN	C	W	F	A	2026
McIntosh, Mike	PC	L	W	M	A	2026
Miller, James H.	PS	C	W	M	O	2024
Paradiso, Krista	LN	C	W	F	A	2025
Saavedra, Daniel	PN	L	H	M	A	2022
Wood, Bob	LS	L	W	M	O	2020
Voigt, Katie (President)	PC	C	W	F	A	2025
		L		F		
	PC	L		F		
Conference Treasurer: Moy, Elaine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cabinet Representative: Coon, Christian	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cabinet Representative: Nanabray, Audrea	-	-	-	-	-	-

Red Door Fund (elected by Red Door Fund Board; information only)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Roselieb, Doug (Chair)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ashely, Corey	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blade, Nancy	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gracie, Liz	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mann, Michael	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sutton, Barbara	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prather, Phil	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cabinet representative: Coon, Christian	-	-	-	-	-	-
Treasurer: Moy, Elaine						
Archives & History	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Swinson, Dan (Conference Historian, Convener)	PS	C	W	M	O	--
Steenwyk, Marilyn	PS	L	W	F	O	2024
Wang, Richard	PN	C	W	M	O	--
Whitcomb, Cate	LN	L	W	F	O	2024
General Comm. on Archives & History: Noren, Carol	LN	C	W	F	A	--
Black Methodists for Church Renewal Rep.:						
Fellowship of Asian Americans Representative:						
Hispanic/LatinX Ministry Team Representative:						
Committee on Nominations	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Carter, Mildred	LN	L	B	F	A	2024
Dean, Marc	LS	L	B	M	A	2026
Heimann, Ben	LN	L	W	M	A	2024
Lyall, Alka (Chair, 2024)	LN	C	A	F	A	2021
Meyers, Mark	LS	C	W	M	A	
Reid, Adonna Davis	LN	C	B	F	A	2024
Rochet, Auderine	PN	C	H	F	A	2024
Severing, Jarrod	PC	C	W	M	A	2026
Shin, Jay	PN	C	A	F	A	2024
	LS	L				
	PN	L				
	PC	L				
	PS	L				
	PS	C				
Cabinet Representative: Melad Jr., Victor	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Methodists for Church Renewal Rep.: Dangerfield, Deborah	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fellowship of Asian Am. Representative: Hartzell, Linny	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic/LatinX Ministry Team Representative: Meza, Noemi	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retired Clergy Association Representative: Murph-Heath, Darneather	-	-	-	-	-	-
UWFaith Representative: Jayapalan, Beth	-	-	-	-	-	-
UMM Representative: McGregor, Craig	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Board of Ordained Ministry (appointed by Bishop and elected by Annual Conference)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Bell, James	PN	E	W	M	A	2016
Blachford, Eric	PC	E	W	M	A	2021
Brown, Norval I. (chair)	PC	E	B	M	O	2018
Christian, Avani-Cossett	PC	E	A	F	A	2017
Conway, Jacques	LS	E	B	M	A	2023
Dukes, Beverly	PC	E	B	F	A	2023
Engert, Sharon	PS	RLP	W	F	O	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
Hong, Yong-Min (Caleb)	PN	E	A	M	O	2016
Javore, Barbara B.	LN	D	W	F	A	2018
Jayapalan, Jay	LN	L	A	M	A	2023
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, 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, Melissa	PC	E	W	F	A	2016
Morris, Brenda	PN	LP	W	F	A	2023
Nesbit, Caitlyn	LS	E	W	F	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
Rutherford, Elizabeth	PN	E	W	F	A	2023
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
Cabinet Representative: Brian Gilbert	PS	--	--	--	--	--
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene	-	-	-	-	-	--

Dist Comm on Ordained Ministry (Lake North)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class
Carter, Mildred	LN	L	B	F	A	
Edwards, Clayton (Recording Secretary)	LN	C	W	M	A	
Gunnell, David	LN	L	W	M	A	
Melad, Victor (District Superintendent)	LN	C	A	M	A	
Lyall, Alka (Chair)	LN	C	A	F	A	
Park, Sam (Registrar)	LN	C	A	M	A	
Sathuri, Robert	LN	C	A	M	A	
Siaba, Judy (Scheduler)	LN	L	H	F	A	
Stigger, Judy (Psych coordinator)	LN	L	W	F	A	
Dist Comm on Ordained Ministry (Lake South)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class
Dangerfield, Deborah	LS	L	B	F	A	
Davis, Kimberely	LS	C	B	F	A	
Kim, GaHyung	LS	C	A	F	A	
Meyers, Mark	LS	C	W	M	A	
Nanabray, Audrea (District Superintendent)	LS	C	B	F	A	
Nesbit, Caitlyn	LS	C		F	A	
Oladipo, Amos	LS	C	B	M	A	
Rand, Cerna	LS	C	A	F	A	
Sumner, Debbi	LS			F	A	
Ward, Sandy	LS			F	A	
Williams, Eugene	LS	L	B	M	A	
Vosteen, Christina (Registrar)	LS	C	W	F	A	
Dist Comm on Ordained Ministry (Prairie Central)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class
Bee, Lori (Recording Secretary)	PC	C		F	A	
Blachford, Eric (Vice Chair)	PC	C	W	M	A	
Christian, Avani-Cosset S.	PC	C	A	F	A	
Cho, Jake	PC	C	A	M	A	
Hansen, Peggy	PC	L	W	F	A	
Hardin-Hermann, Wendy (District Superintendent)	PC	C	W	F	A	
Lee, Soon Sun (Mentor Coordinator)	PC	C	A		A	
Meyers, Melissa (Chair)	PC	C	W	F	A	
Neace, Kim	PC	C		F	A	
Scott, Tammy	PC	C	W	F	A	
Singh, Ashish (Registrar)	PC	C	A	M	A	
Dist Comm on Ordained Ministry (Prairie North)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class
Alagodi, Melwyn (Vice- Chair)	PN	C	A	M	A	
Hong, Caleb	PN	C	A	M	A	
Lee, Jeremiah	PN	C	A	M	A	
McClellan, Joel (Chair)	PN	C		M	A	
Messley, John	PN	L		M	A	
Smith, Matthew (Secretary)	PN	C	W	M	A	
Thomson, Lynette (Registrar)	PN	L		F	A	
Wills, Jackie (Local Pastor)	PN	LP		F	A	

Dist Comm on Ordained Ministry (Prairie South)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	Class
Arends, Ann	PS			F	A	
Burke, Tom	PS			M	A	
Gilbert, Brian (District Superintendent)	PS	C	W	M	A	
Hayes, Randy (Registrar)	PS	L	W	M	A	
Lovelady-Smith, Elizabeth	PS	L	W	F	A	
Reyes, Luis F.	PS	C	H	M	A	
Schwingle, Jamie	PS				A	
Smick, Megan (Chair) starting July 1, 2026	PS	C	W	F	A	
Sudhakar, Satya	PS	C	A	F	A	
Committee on the Episcopacy (moving to joint comm. for Episcopal Area)						
District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year	
Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A	2020
Lee, Esther Eungin (chair)	LN	C	A	F	A	2020
Yoon, Charles	LS	C	A	M	A	2026
Board of Trustees Representative: Voigt, Katie	PC	C	A	F	A	2025
NCJ Committee on the Episcopacy: Gilbert, Brian	PS	C	W	M	A	2020
NCJ Committee on the Episcopacy: Lyall, Ronnie	LS	L	A	M	Y	2024
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene	CS	L	B	M	O	--
Administrative Review Committee (information only)						
District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year	
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
Committee on Investigation (appointed by Bishop, elected by AC)						
District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year	
<i>Clergy</i>						
Alagodi, Melwyn	PN	C	A	M	A	2024
Bross, Jeffry	LN	C	W	M	A	2024
Isaac, Brittany	LN	C	W	F	A	2024
Oh, Mori	LN	C	A	F	A	2024
<i>Alternate Clergy</i>						
Keate, Leanne	PS	C	W	F	A	2024
Park, Sam	LN	C	B	M	A	2024
Rawlinson, Tom	LN	C	NA	M	A	2024
<i>Laity</i>						
Augsburger, Connie	PS	L	NA	F	A	2024
Lusk, Donald	LS	L	B	M	A	2024
<i>Alternate Laity</i>						
Aves, Kris	PN	L	W	F	A	2020
Carver, Dale	LS	L	W	M	A	2024
Maxon, John	PC	L	W	M	A	2024
Sam, Cindy	LS	L	B	F	A	2024

Keagy Town and Rural Committee (appointed by Prairie North & Prairie South districts; for info only)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Rutherford, Elizabeth (Chair)	PN	C	W	F	A	
Alagodi, Melwyn	PN	C	A	M	A	
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	PN	L	W	M	A	
Saam, David	PS	L		M	A	
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	
Board of Laity (information only)						
	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Augsburg, Constance	PS	L	ME	F	A	2020
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene	LS	L	B	M	A	2020
Clergy Representative: Hoffmann, Char	PC	C	W	F	A	2012
Conf. Lay Servant Ministries Director: Emery, Kim	PN	L	W	F	A	2026
District Lay Leader: Lynch, Kimberly	PC	L	B	M	A	2026
District Co-Lay Leader: Feliciano, Ellen	LN	L	W	F	A	-
District Co-Lay Leader: Lacey, Chester	LN	L	B	M	A	2020
District Lay Leader: Carver, Dale	LS	L	B	F	A	2026
District Lay Leader: Newby, Karen	PS	L	W	F	O	2026
District Lay Leader: Aves, Kris	PN	L	W	F	A	2024
UW Faith President: Farley, Barb	-	-	-	-	-	-
UW Faith Representative: Steenwyk, Marilyn	-	-	-	-	-	-
UMM Representative: McGregor, Craig	-	-	-	-	-	-
UMM Youth Services Representative: Loeppert, Jim	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Discipleship Ministries						
Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministries	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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
Mowry, Keck	LN	C	W	M	A	2025
Princer, Jason	PC	LP	W	M	A	2025
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
The Inclusive Collective (NIU) rep:						
The Inclusive Collective (UIC) rep:						
Korean American Campus Ministry rep: Hwang, Ale				M		2021
North Central College Campus Min rep: Birdsong, Shelley				F		2021
University Christian Ministries Campus Min rep: Brick, Katie				F		2021
Shepherding team rep: Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A	2024
Cabinet Representative:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Board of Outdoor & Retreat Ministries	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Rea, Charles (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
Kloepping, Jason	PS	L	W	M	A	2017
Lane, James	LN	L	W	M	O	2024
Loeppert, James	PC	L	W	M	O	2025
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
Board of Trustee representative: Brace, Jeff	PS	C	W	M	A	2025
Shepherding team rep: Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A	2024
Director of Outdoor and Retreat Ministries: Casey, Jeff	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Committee on Discipleship and Spiritual Formation						
Committee on Discipleship and Spiritual Formation	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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
Garcea, Tiffany	PN	C	W	F	A	2026
Howell, Katherine	PN	L	NA	F	O	2024
Kim, Heewon	PC	C	A	M	A	2020
Morris, G	LS	C	B	M	A	2025
Shelton, Tina	LS	C	B	F	A	2021
UWFaith Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Inserra, Catherine	LN	LD	W	F	A	-
Shepherding team rep: Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A	2024
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council on Older Adult Ministries						
Council on Older Adult Ministries	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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 (chair)	LN	LD	A	F	A	2024
Shepherding team rep: Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A	2024
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council on Young People's Ministries						
Council on Young People's Ministries	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
de Castro, Fernando	LN	C	B	M	A	2024
Hagedorn, James	LN	L	W	M	O	2023
Javore, Barbara	LN	C	W	F	O	2021
Lee, Taekhwan (TK)	PN	C	A	M	A	2024
Rice, Sharon (Chair, 2024)	PC	C	W	F	A	2021
Shepherding team rep: Hayag, Joy	PN	L	A	F	A	2024
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

VITAL CONGREGATIONS MINISTRIES

Committee on Accessibility Ministries	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Crusius, Christina (Co-Chair, 2024)	LN	L	W	F	Y	2023
Chisholm-Wynter, Debbie	LN	L	B	F	A	2026
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
Nolan, Marilyn	PN	C	W	F	OA	2026
Shepherding team rep:						
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Hispanic/LatinX Ministry Team (information only)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Aragon, Lino (Co-Chair)	LN	LP	H	M	A	
Meza, Noemi E. (Co-Chair)	LN	E	H	F	A	
Aragon, Xiomara	LN	LP	H	F	A	
Cripps-Vallejo, Paula	LN	E	W	F	A	
Junker, Tércio	PN	E	H	M	A	
Rochet, Auderine	PN	LP	H	F	A	
Moreno, Luis Roberto	LN	LP	H	M	A	
Reyes-Rosario, Luis F.	PS	E	H	M	A	
Salgado, Jacqueline	LN	LP	H	F	Y	
Shepherding team rep:						
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Fellowship of Asian Americans (information only)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Christy, Scott (Connectional)	LN	C	A	M	A	
Fu, James (Treasurer)		C	A	M	A	
Guevarra, Agnes (Scholarship coordinator)		L	A	F	A	
Hyon, Sophia Hyewon (Secretary)	LS	C	A	F	A	
Lee, Jeremiah		C	A	M	A	
Rand, Cerna Castro (President)	LS	C	A	F	A	
Shepherding team rep:						
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Chicago BMCR Exec Board (information only)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Cecil, Dwayne		L	B	M	A	
Dangerfield, Deborah		L	B	F	A	
Dowlen, Madison (V.President)		L	B	M	A	
Dukes, Beverly		C	B	F	A	
Gulledge, Sandra		C	B	F	A	
Hall, Pearl		L	B	F	A	
Harris, Darryl		L	B	M	A	
Hart, Lillye (Treasurer)		L	B	F	A	
Jarkloh, Jr. G. Morris		C	B	M	A	
Mason, Luther		C	B	M	A	
Massey, Glynis P.		L	B	F	A	
McBride, Carolyn		L	B	F	A	
Miller, Innis		C	B	M	A	
Shields, Addison		C	B	M	O	
Tabb, Marcus		C	B	M	A	
Woolery, Charles A. (President)		C	B	M	A	
Shepherding team rep:						
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
PATH- Planting and THriving Team (for information only)						
PATH- Planting and THriving Team (for information only)	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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
Johnicker, Violet	PN	C	W	F	A	2025
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:						
Director of Congregational Dev. and Redev.: Coon, Christian	-	-	-	-	-	-
JUSTICE AND MERCY MINISTRIES						
Board of Church and Society	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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
Hererra, Juan Pablo	LN	C	H	M	A	2026
Johnicker, Violet	PN	C	W	F	A	2024
Mede, Deanna	PN	C	W	F	A	2025
UWFAith Social Action Coordinator: Tiffin, Kathy	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shepherding team rep:						
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Board of Global Ministries	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Boutell, Jonah	PC	C	W	M	Y	2024
Marasigan, Ligaya	LN	L	A	F	A	2024
Miller, Innis	LS	C	B	M	A	2024
Ntim, Kwadwo	LN	C	B	M	O	2022
Oh, Hyo Sun	PC	C	A	F	A	2024
Samson, Ayla (Chair, 2024)	PS	C	A	F	A	2024
NIC UWFaith E&I Coordinator: Stratton, Marlene	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disaster Coordinator: Monk, Colin	-	-	-	-	-	-
UMM Representative: McGregor, Craig	-	-	-	-	-	-
Refugee Coordinator: Crail, Jonathan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Refugee Coordinator: Crail, Rhodalyne	-	-	-	-	-	-
VIM Coordinator: Dunlap-Berg, Larry	-	-	-	-	-	-
VIM Coordinator: Aves, Kris	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conference Mission Secretary: Pulgar-Hughes, Shirley	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cabinet Rep: Hwa-Young Chong	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shepherding team rep:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Committee on Creation Care						
Committee on Creation Care	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Cross, Harriette (chair)	LS	C	B	F	A	2025
Alton, Richard	LN	L	W	M	O	2025
Blade, Nancy	LN	C	W	F	A	2025
Burnham, Carolyn	PC	L		F	A	2025
Buscato, Debbie	LN	L	A	F	A	2026
Doh, Eun Bae	PC	C	A	M	A	2026
Lowmiller, Cathie		L		F	A	2025
Lowmiller, Don		L		M	A	2025
Mede, Deanna	PN	C	W	F	A	2026
Mintchell, Gary	PC	L	W	M		2026
Shepherding team rep:	LN	C	W	F	A	
Staff: Rebeck, Victoria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Committee on Inclusion						
Committee on Inclusion	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Smith, Donna	PS	L	W	F	A	2025
Cox, Britt (co-chair)	LN	C	W	F	A	2025
Wahlskog (Voinovich), Andi (co-chair)	PC	C	W	NB	YA	2025
Heimann, Benjamin	LN	L	W	M	A	2025
Shepherding team rep:	-	-	-	-	-	-

Committee on Native American Ministries	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Oberwise Lacock, Michelle (Chair)	PS	C	ME	F	A	2014
Blade, Nancy	PS	C	W	F	A	2014
Buchholz, Bill		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
Miner, Ed	PC	L	W	M	O	2025
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
Schranz, Joseph Standing Bear (Consultant)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Johnson, Andrew (Consultant)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shepherding team rep:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conf. Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relations	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Alendry, Shailesh Kumar	PC	L	A	M	OA	2025
Christopherson, Arlene	LS	C	W	F	OA	2026
Del Porto, Susan	PC	L	W	F	A	2026
Doh, Eunbae	LN	C	A	M	A	2019
Gullspie, Tura Foster	LN	L	W	F	Y	2018
Hyon, Hyewon (Sophia) (Chair)	LS	C	A	F	A	2024
Meza, Noemi	LN	C	H	F	A	2023
Pries, Lynn	PC	C	W	M	O	2019
Rendell, Jim	LS	C	A	M	A	2026
Strand-Jordan, Megan	LS	L	W	F	YA	2025
Tobola, Megan (ex-officio)		C	B	F	A	
Zaki, L Zaki	PC	C	O	M	A	2025
Ecumenical Officer: McKay, Catiana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shepherding team rep:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conference Commission on Religion and Race	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Alexander, Tim (Co- Chair)	PC	L	W	M	O	2024
Aragon, Lino	LN	C	H	M	A	2024
Choi, Chan Ik	PC	C	A	M	A	2025
Guzman, Richard	PC	L	A	M	A	2024
Kanhai, Nadia (Co- Chair)	PC	L	A	F	A	2018
Krings, Matthew	LN	C	W	M	A	2024
Lee, Alex	PN	C	A	M	A	2024
Lucas, Toni	PS	L	W	F	O	2024
Massey, Glynis	LS	L	B	F	A	2025
Rogers, Lisa	PC	L	W	F	A	2024
Tabb, Marcus	LS	C	B	M	A	2024
Lyall, Alka- member GCORR board	LN	C	A	F	A	2020
Shepherding team rep:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-

Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
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
Smith, Rita L. (Chair)	LS	L	B	F	A	2020
UW Faith Social Action Coordinator: Tiffin, Kathy	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shepherding team rep:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Annual Conference Shepherding Team						
Annual Conference Shepherding Team	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Co-Chair: Manzi, Mark	PC	L	W	M	O	
Co-Chair: Hong, Caleb	PN	C	A	M	A	2025
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: Voigt, Katie	LN	L	W	M	Y	2025
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:						
Vital Congregation Ministries:						
BMCR Representative: Woolery, Charles	LS	C	B	M	A	
FAA Rep: Rand, Cerna	LS	C	A	F	A	-
Hispanic/Latinx Ministries Rep- Meza, Noemi	PS	C	H	F	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Prairie North: Aves, Kris	PN	L	W	F	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Prairie North: Lee, Jeremiah	PN	C	A	M	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Prairie South: Newby, Karen	PS	L	W	F	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Prairie South: Enright, Seamus	PS	C	W	M	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Prairie Central: Lynch, Kimberly	PC	L	W	F	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Prairie Central: Hamilton, Rob	PC	C	W	M	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Lake North: Lacey, Chester	LN	L	B	M	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Lake North: Siegel, Mori Jieun	LN	C	A	F	A	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Lake South: Cisneros, Vanessa	LS	L	H	F	Y	-
Dist Shepherding Team, Lake South: Miller, Innis	LS	C	B	M	A	-
Bishop: Schwerin, Dan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assistant to Bishop: Anderson, Danita	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dir, of Connectional Min.: Grandon-Mayer, Fabiola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Director of Communications: Rebeck, Victoria	-	-	-	-	-	-

Conference Positions:	District	Lay Clergy	Race Ethnic	Gender	Age	1st Year
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Augsburg, Constance	PS	L	NA/W	F	A	2020
Conference Co-Lay Leader: Williams, Eugene	LS	L	B	M	O	2020
Conference Secretary: Hayes, Randy	PS	L	W	M	O	2020
Assistant Secretary for Standing Rules: Pendergrass, Nancy	LN	L	W	F	A	2024
Secretary of Global Ministries: Pulgar-Hughes, Shirley	PC	C	H	F	A	2013
Treasurer: Moy, Elaine	LN	L	A	F	A	2024
Statistician: Quinn, David	-	L	W	M	A	2021
Conference Chancellor: Godfrey, Richard	-	-	-	-	-	
Conference Historian: Swinson, Dan		C	W	M	O	
Conference Lay Servant Ministries Director: Emery, Kim	PN	L	W	F	A	2026
Conference Registrar: Alonso, Ariel	--	L	W	F	A	--
Committee on Nominations: Lyall, Alka	LN	C	A	F	A	2024
Conference Ecumenical Officer: McKay, Catiana		C	W	F	A	
Conference Disaster Coordinator: Monk, Colin	PS	L	W	M	A	
VIM Coordinator: Berg-Dunlap, Larry		C	W	M	A	
VIM Coordinator: Aves, Kris	PN	L	W	F	A	
Refugee Co-Coordinator: Crail, Jonathan	PC	C	W	M	A	
Refugee Co-Coordinator: Crail, Rhodalyne	PC	L	W	F	A	

KEY
DISTRICT
Lake North - LN
Lake South - LS
Prairie Central - PC
Prairie North - PN
Prairie South - PS
MEMBER TYPE
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
RACE/ETHNICITY
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

2027 DRAFT Budget

Income	2025 Not Audited	2026 Approved Budget	2026 Forecast	2027 DRAFT Budget
NIC Total Apportionment (by apportionment year)	\$6,310,754	\$5,457,300	\$5,787,000	\$5,787,000
Uncollected Apportionment ^{1,2,3,4}	-\$1,253,957	-\$1,146,000	-\$613,000	-\$613,000
Annual Conference Registration Fee	\$104,432	\$80,000	\$105,000	\$125,000
GCFA Episcopal Support ⁵		\$95,000		
Distribution from Foundation to Operating Budget ^{6,7,8,9}	\$136,259	\$100,000	\$155,100	\$48,000
Interest Income ^{10, 11,12}	\$512,020	\$521,700	\$300,000	\$300,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$5,809,508	\$5,108,000	\$5,734,100	\$5,647,000

Operational Expenses

Cabinet Ministries

New Faith Communities	\$132,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$75,000
Church Redevelopment Programming ¹³	\$100,654	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$0
UM Presence and Intentional Redevelopment	\$214,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$125,000
Consulation/Intervention	\$81,658	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$70,000
Clergy Relocation Expenses	\$93,453	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$100,000
District Programs and Meetings	\$29,421	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$55,000
Assistant to Bishops	\$20,979	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$12,000
Cabinet Staff Expenses* ¹⁴	\$1,511,013	\$1,486,700	\$1,486,700	\$1,507,800
Committee on Equitable Compensation	\$68,225	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
Health Benefits Credits	\$153,550	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$120,000
TOTAL Cabinet Ministries	\$2,404,953	\$2,289,200	\$2,289,200	\$2,139,800

Program Ministries

Committees and Programs	\$511,205	\$624,700	\$550,000	\$524,700
Program Office	\$65,982	\$72,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
TOTAL Program Ministries	\$577,187	\$696,700	\$610,000	\$584,700

Connectional, Admin and Committees

Board of Ordained Ministries	\$43,754	\$47,000	\$43,000	\$43,000
Board of Trustees*	\$134,000	\$135,100	\$138,000	\$138,000
Archives	\$6,599	\$12,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
Administrative Staff and Benefits ¹⁵	\$531,620	\$665,000	\$667,700	\$667,700
Other Admin Expenses* ¹⁶	\$601,490	\$515,300	\$450,750	\$449,750
Informational Technology	\$88,316	\$84,800	\$85,000	\$75,000
Annual Conference ¹⁷	\$288,740	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$200,000
Connectional - UMC ¹⁸	\$2,110	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$58,050
Communications ¹⁹	\$316,567	\$292,500	\$324,000	\$324,000
Retired Clergy Association	\$5,168		\$5,000	\$5,000
TOTAL Connectional, Admin and Committees	\$2,018,364	\$1,944,700	\$1,913,450	\$1,967,500

NIC to NICWI Episcopal Office ²⁰	\$38,419	\$177,400	\$40,000	\$45,000
---	----------	-----------	----------	----------

General Church (depends on the % each year) ²¹	\$970,535		\$910,000	\$910,000
---	-----------	--	-----------	-----------

2027 DRAFT Operation Budget (contd.)

	2025 Not Audited	2026 Approved Budget	2026 Forecast	2027 DRAFT Budget
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,009,458	\$5,108,000	\$5,762,650	\$5,647,000
Difference between income and expense ²²	-\$199,950	\$0	-\$28,550	\$0

- ¹ 2025 - Collected \$5,056,797 - 80% of budget, also combined General Church and Annual Conference apportionment.
- ² 2026 - Approved Budget Apportionment was based on previous apportionment formula and past collection rate, \$4,311,300 - 79%
- ³ 2026 Forecast - Based on current apportionment formula, 2025 collection rate and information from churches, \$5,174,000, 89%
- ⁴ 2027 Budget - Based on current apportionment formula, 2025 collection rate and information from churches, \$5,174,000, 89%
- ⁵ 2026 Budget - GCFA income for Northern Illinois and Wisconsin Episcopal Area Office was part of the NIC budget.
It is now a separate budget from NIC
- ⁶ 2025 - Distribution from Foundation for Program and Board of Trustees
- ⁷ 2026 Budget - Distribution from Foundation for Program and Board of Trustees based on the 2024 actual amount.
- ⁸ 2026 Forecast - Distribution from Foundation for Program and Board of Trustees based on 2026 Actuals
- ⁹ 2027 Budget - Distribution from Foundation for Board of Trustees. (Program distribution will go into a designated line item.)
- ¹⁰ 2025 - Actual amount received for interest
- ¹¹ 2026 Budget - Amount budgeted in 2025
- ¹² 2026 Forecast - \$8M was transferred to Wespath for Pension and Health Benefits reserves from Foundation, therefore less interest.
- ¹³ 2027 Budget - Church Redevelopment has a separate designated fund to use for this ministry.
- ¹⁴ See below for details for Cabinet Staff Expenses
- ¹⁵ Starting in 2026, accounting consultant fees were added into Administrative Staff and Benefits, 5 FT staff persons,
1 1/2 T staff person, and accounting consultant firm
- ¹⁶ Starting in 2026, moved accounting consultant fees out of other admin expenses to Administrative Staff and Benefits
- ¹⁷ Annual conference receives registration fees which needs to be subtracted from expenses for budget.
In 2027, additional technology must be acquire for delegate elections.
- ¹⁸ 2028 will hold the jurisdictional and general conference, and possibly a regional conference as well.
Set aside funds for expenses related to those conferences.
- ¹⁹ Communication expenses include 2 staff persons and expenses related to Communications.
- ²⁰ 2025 was the first year of having a NI/WI Episcopal Area Office. NIC only pays our portion to the office.
- ²¹ 2025, we combined the General Church and Annual conference apportionment together, therefore,
we paid the General Church apportionment from the apportionment budget.
- ²² 2025 - Because we paid the General Church apportionment on ratio to what we received,
we paid the General Church more than what we expected which caused the difference between income and expenses.
- * 2025 - Did not include \$227,246 in depreciation because it is a non cash expenditure and there are no plans for large expenditures on an annual basis.
- * 2026 - Did not include \$228,000 in depreciation because it is a non cash expenditure and there are no plans for large expenditures on an annual basis.
- * 2027 - Did not include \$228,000 in depreciation because it is a non cash expenditure and there are no plans for large expenditures on an annual basis.

Cabinet Administration Expenses

	2025 Unaudited	2026 Approved Budget	2026 Forecast	2027 DRAFT Budget
Staff Expenses¹				
Salary	\$1,018,880	\$1,021,200	\$1,021,200	\$1,021,200
Payroll Taxes	\$18,207	\$15,000	\$19,000	\$19,000
Benefits & Pension	\$387,962	\$352,600	\$352,600	\$352,600
Continuing Education/Prof Exp	\$15,044	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$19,000
Travel	\$14,567	\$20,500	\$10,000	\$10,000
Telephone	\$2,125	\$10,400	\$7,900	\$8,000
Utilities	\$28,733		\$30,000	\$30,000
Mtgs/Recruitment	\$25,495	\$48,000	\$27,000	\$48,000
Staff Expenses Total	\$1,511,013	\$1,486,700	\$1,486,700	\$1,507,800

¹ Staff expenses are for 8 clergy and 3 1/2 lay staff.

Program Budget

Discipleship Ministries Area	2025 Budget	2025 Unaudited
Board Higher Education & Campus Ministries	\$247,148	\$244,564
North Central College, Hyde Park UMC & Campus Ministry, Northwestern University, and University of Illinois/NIU - Inclusive Collective		
Board of Laity	\$3,000	\$2,976
Older Adult Ministries	\$3,000	\$0
Outdoor Retreat Ministry	\$60,000	\$60,000
Discipleship & Spiritual Formation	\$3,000	\$1,659
Young Peoples Ministries	\$15,000	\$10,075
Creative Ministries Grants	\$16,000	\$6,000
ChildServ / Kid's Above All	\$1,500	\$1,500
Methodist Youth Services	\$1,500	\$1,500
Rosecrance	\$1,500	\$1,500
Total Discipleship Ministries Area	\$351,648	\$329,774

Vital Congregations Area

Accessibility Ministries	\$8,000	\$2,628
Hispanic Ministry Team	\$15,000	\$8,563
Fellowship of Asian Americans	\$20,000	\$19,902
NIC BMCR Black Methodists Church Renewal	\$50,000	\$47,678
Fresh Expressions & Vital Congregations Grants	\$15,000	\$196
One Matters Awards (Formerly Grants Cong. Development)	\$4,000	\$4,000
Keagy Town and Rural	\$10,000	\$9,710
Total Vital Congregations Area	\$122,000	\$92,677

Program Budget (contd.)

Justice and Mercy Ministries Area	2025 Budget	2025 Unaudited
Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relations	\$18,600	\$1,115
Conference Board of Church and Society		
Global Justice: CRLN	\$500	
Social Reform (Grant Program)	\$9,500	\$1,000
Rockford Urban Ministry	\$2,000	\$2,000
CBCS TOTAL	\$12,000	\$3,000
Conference Board of Global Ministries		
Mission Secretary	\$2,500	\$0
Migrants & Refugee	\$2,000	\$1,049
Program/Training/Itinerancy	\$8,000	\$5,783
Disaster Response Prog & Training	\$4,000	\$364
NetZero	\$2,000	\$325
Volunteers in Mission	\$8,000	\$0
CBGM TOTAL	\$26,500	\$7,521
Commission on Religion and Race	\$16,000	\$13,499
Commission on Status and Role of Women	\$3,000	\$0
Committee on Native American Ministries	\$20,000	\$20,065
JFON	\$16,500	\$22,500
Total Justice and Mercy Ministries Area	\$112,600	\$67,700
PROGRAM GENERAL BUDGET		
Leadership Development	\$36,452	\$13,312
Media Resources	\$6,000	\$0
NIC Shepherding Team (Administrative)	\$6,000	\$3,600
Bishop's Initiatives for Program	\$10,000	\$4,142
TOTAL PROGRAM General	\$58,452	\$21,054
TOTAL ANNUAL PROGRAM BUDGET	\$644,700	\$511,205
Percentage of Budget		79%

NICUM Church Insurance Association

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Current Assets	12/31/25	12/31/24
Cash	\$1,363,054	\$1,640,459
Prepaid Insurance	\$358	\$347
Acct Rec - Exchange	-	-
Acct Rec - NIC Lockbox	\$647,046	\$685,034
Due from NIC	-	\$106,079
Acct Rec - Church Ins Assn	\$957,033	\$661,244
Less: Allow for Uncol Accts	-\$300,000	-\$200,000
Net Accts Rec - Church Ins Assn	\$657,033	\$461,244
Total Current Assets	\$2,667,491	\$2,893,163

Property and Equipment

Autos and Equipment	\$3,122	\$3,122
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-\$3,122	-\$3,121
Total Property and Equipment	\$0	\$1

Other Assets

Investment - PACT	\$62,247	\$62,247
Total Other Assets	\$62,247	\$62,247

Total Assets	\$2,729,738	\$2,955,410
---------------------	--------------------	--------------------

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	12/31/25	12/31/24
Accounts Payable	-	\$8,147
Accrued Expenses	\$1,963,956	\$2,394,915
Total Current Liabilities	\$1,963,956	\$2,403,062

Net Assets

Unrestricted - Undesignated	\$765,782	\$552,348
Total Net Assets	\$765,782	\$552,348

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$2,729,738	\$2,955,410
---	--------------------	--------------------

Red Door Fund

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Current Assets	12/31/25	12/31/24
Cash	\$659,682	\$1,240,525
Prepaid - Misc.	\$93,334	\$133,334
Notes Rec - Current	\$456,989	\$554,622
Due from Northern IL Conference	\$21,029	-
Total Current Assets	\$1,231,034	\$1,928,481
Long Term Assets		
Interest Receivable	\$261,573	\$107,274
Notes Rec - Long Term	\$10,571,826	\$11,377,074
Total Long Term Assets	\$10,833,399	\$11,484,348
Total Assets	\$12,064,433	\$13,412,829

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	12/31/25	12/31/24
Due to Northern IL Conference	-	\$473,450
Notes Payable - Current	\$808,983	\$769,380
Accrued Expenses	\$894	\$894
Interest Rate Swap Liability (Asset)	-\$52,299	-\$280,582
Deferred Revenue	-	\$138,381
Total Current Liabilities	\$757,578	\$1,101,523
Long Term Liabilities		
Notes Payable-Long Term	\$8,737,443	\$9,546,426
Total Long Term Liabilities	\$8,737,443	\$9,546,426
Net Assets		
Unrestricted - Undesignated	\$2,569,412	\$2,764,880
Total Net Assets	\$2,569,412	\$2,764,880
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$12,064,433	\$13,412,829

2025 Local Church Support

	Equitable Compensation	UM Presence	Intentional Redev.	New Faith Community	Health Grants	TOTAL by Church
Argo Fay UMC	\$740					\$740
Aurora: First Nueva Vida UMC		\$12,000				\$12,000
Aurora: Wesley					\$3,700	\$3,700
Barrington UMC		\$6,000				\$6,000
Central Korean			\$1,000			\$1,000
Chana UMC	\$1,660					\$1,660
Cherry Valley					\$3,700	\$3,700
Chicago: Amor De Dios UMC		\$24,000				\$24,000
Chicago: Edison Park					\$3,700	\$3,700
Chicago: Gorham					\$3,700	\$3,700
Chicago: Grace of Logan Square					\$1,850	\$1,850
Chicago: Greenstone UMC		\$10,000				\$10,000
Chicago: House of Praise					\$1,850	\$1,850
Chicago: Indo Park UMC		\$4,000				\$4,000
Chicago: Lawn UMC		\$12,000				\$12,000
Chicago: Lincoln UMC		\$5,000				\$5,000
Chicago: Morgan Park					\$3,700	\$3,700
Chicago: Olivet UMC			\$10,000			\$10,000
Chicago: Parish of the Holy Covenant					\$5,550	\$5,550
Chicago: Ravenswood Fellowship	\$2,000		\$10,000			\$12,000
Chicago: South Shore					\$1,850	\$1,850
Chicago: Union Ave UMC	\$5,000					\$5,000
Chicago: Urban Village Edgewater					\$3,700	\$3,700
Chicago: Urban Village River Forest					\$3,700	\$3,700
Church of Arlington Heights			\$12,000			\$12,000
Community Church; Wood Dale				\$6,000		\$6,000
Dixon: Grace					\$7,400	\$7,400
Evans UMC Rockford				\$8,000		\$8,000
Evanston: Hemingway			\$8,000			\$8,000
Faith Dolton UMC				\$3,000		\$3,000
Faith UMC Polo	\$1,658					\$1,658
First Franklin Park				\$9,000		\$9,000
First Oak Park			\$24,000			\$24,000
First UMC Dixon	\$3,000					\$3,000
First UMC Mendota	\$1,024					\$1,024
First UMC West Chicago				\$3,000		\$3,000
First UMC: Freeport	\$6,000					\$6,000
First UMC: Harvard				\$12,000		\$12,000
Flossmoor: South Suburban Korean					\$5,550	\$5,550
Freeport: Harmony					\$3,700	\$3,700
Galena					\$5,550	\$5,550
Genoa: Faith					\$1,850	\$1,850
Good Shepherd Oswego				\$20,000		\$20,000
Good Shepherd UMC: Bartlett				\$12,000		\$12,000
Grace Blue Island				\$14,000		\$14,000
Hampshire: First			\$3,000		\$1,850	\$4,850
Hampshire: Zion			\$3,000		\$1,850	\$4,850
Harmon UMC	\$1,042					\$1,042
Hartzell Memorial			\$24,000			\$24,000
Harvard: First					\$1,850	\$1,850
Highland Park: Galilee			\$1,000			\$1,000
Iglesia Christiana: Belvidere		\$6,000		\$12,000		\$18,000
Joliet: Ingalls Park UMC				\$6,000		\$6,000

2025 Local Church Support (contd.)

Lake Bluff: Grace					\$11,100	\$11,100
Leland					\$1,850	\$1,850
Lemont					\$1,850	\$1,850
Lena UMC	\$6,000				\$5,550	\$11,550
Marseilles UMC	\$1,500					\$1,500
McHenry: Mount Hope					\$1,850	\$1,850
Minooka UMC				\$6,000		\$6,000
Mount Carroll UMC	\$740				\$3,700	\$4,440
Mt. Prospect: Sam Mool		\$8,000				\$8,000
Naperville: Woori NFC					\$5,550	\$5,550
Northbrook: North Northfield					\$1,850	\$1,850
Nuevo Amanecer		\$6,000				\$6,000
Oak Park First					\$5,550	\$5,550
Oak Park: Euclid Ave.					\$5,550	\$5,550
Olympia Fields					\$3,700	\$3,700
Oregon	\$3,310					\$3,310
Oswego: Wellspring NFC					\$1,850	\$1,850
Ottawa: Epworth	\$12,800					\$12,800
Ottawa: First					\$3,700	\$3,700
Park Forest: Grace United Protestant	\$2,000					\$2,000
Paw Paw					\$3,700	\$3,700
Pecatonica UMC	\$6,000					\$6,000
Red Door (little white church)				\$3,000		\$3,000
Rockford: Christ the Carpenter UMC		\$12,000				\$12,000
Rockford:Brooke Rd				\$6,000		\$6,000
Rockton					\$3,700	\$3,700
Roselle					\$5,550	\$5,550
Salem Korean UMC			\$4,000			\$4,000
Schaumburg: Salem Korean					\$1,850	\$1,850
Shorewood NFC				\$6,000		\$6,000
Skokie: Jesus-Love					\$1,850	\$1,850
Sugar Grove					\$1,850	\$1,850
Tampico UMC	\$1,042					\$1,042
Thomson UMC	\$740					\$740
Transformation Community	\$5,969					\$5,969
United Church of Rogers Park				\$6,000		\$6,000
Wesley UMC: Stockton	\$6,000					\$6,000
Wheeling: First					\$3,700	\$3,700
Woodside UMC		\$9,000				\$9,000
Yorkville: Trinity					\$3,700	\$3,700
Total	\$68,225	\$114,000	\$100,000	\$132,000	\$146,150	\$560,375

1 **Document: 640.01**
2 **Name: Special Sundays with Offerings for 2027**
3 **Author(s): Conference Council on Finance and Administration**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**
6 The Northern Illinois Conference recommends the following Special Sundays with offerings for
7 2027:

8 **Special Sundays**

9	General Church Offerings 2027	
10	Human Relations Day	January 17, 2027
11	UMCOR Sunday	March 7, 2027
12	Native American Ministries Sunday	April 11, 2027
13	United Methodist Student Day	Any Sunday in May
14	Peace with Justice Sunday	May 23, 2027
15	World Communion Sunday	October 3, 2027
16	Conference Offerings 2027	
17	Scouting Ministries	February or March (any Sunday) ¹
18	Disability Awareness Sunday	March 14, 2027 ²
19	Golden Cross	May 2, 2027
20	Volunteers in Mission	July or August (any Sunday)
21	Christian Education	September 5, 2027
22	HIV/AIDS Awareness	December 7, 2027
23	United Voices for Children	Every 5 th Sunday
24	(May, July, August and October)	

25 ¹ This fund supports Scouting America, Girl Scouts of the United States of America, Campfire, and Big
26 Brothers/Big Sisters of America.

27 ² March is Disability Awareness Month

1 **Document: 640.02**
 2 **Name: Mission Links Advances (Formerly Rainbow Covenant)**
 3 **Author(s): Conference Board of Global Ministries, Shirley Pulgar Hughes, Conference Mission**
 4 **Secretary; Ayla Samson, Chair.**
 5 **CCFA Action:**

6 **ACTION:**
 7 The Northern Illinois Conference Board of Global Ministries recommends the following Conference and
 8 District Advances.

9 **Conference Advances:**

10	Abounding Ministries	50000122
11	Arise Chicago	50000142
12	North Central College United	50000136
13	Kids Above All	50000011
14	Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries	50000149
15	Facing Forward to End Homelessness	50000007
16	Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems	50000030
17	Immigration Law and Justice of Northern Illinois (JFON)	50000140
18	Korean American Campus Ministry	50000076
19	Midwest Mission Distribution Center	50000150
20	MYSI Corporation Agency Support	50000107
21	Native American Ministry of Presence	50000125
22	NIC Disaster Preparedness and Response	50000148
23	<u>Spirit Lake Ministry Center</u>	<u>123616</u>
24	ORM: Camping Scholarships	50000036
25	Reconciling Ministries Network	50000111
26	Refugee One	50000133
27	Reynoldswood Conference Center	50000043
28	Rosecrance Kinley Patient Assistance Fund	50000132
29	Sam Mool House	50000146
30	The Inclusive Collective at DeKalb	50000135
31	The Martin Keagy Fund	40000000
32	The Inclusive Collective	50000128
33	United Methodist Homes and Services	50000121
34	University Christian Ministry at Northwestern	50000101
35	Wesley Willows Good Samaritan Program	50000144
36	Wesley Woods Coreference Center	50000046
37	District Advances	
38	Bridge Communities, Inc.	60000208
39	Buddy Bags of Dixon	60000236
40	Center for Changing Lives	60000106
41	DuPage United	60000230
42	Empowering North Korean Refugees	60000235
43	Faith Community Homes-Affordable Housing	60000220
44	Fox River Valley United	60000231
45	Habitat for Humanity: Lake County	60000184
46	Hemenway Soup at Six	60000216
47	Hesed House PADS	60000017
48	Housing Forward (Formerly West Suburban PADS)	60000180

49	Jennings-Lyon Day Home	60000119
50	Journeys The Road Home	60000221
51	JUST of DuPage	60000101
52	Lake County United	60000228
53	Morning Star Mission	60000143
54	Mujeres a Mujeres (Women to Women)	60000222
55	The Night Ministry	60000223
56	PADS of Elgin	60000224
57	Ridgewood United Community Ministries	60000203
58	Rockford Urban Ministries	60000129
59	Rockford Work Camps	60000234
60	Saturday Kids' Club of Centennial	60000201
61	The Seeds Center Community Development Corporation	60000225
62	United Church of Rogers Park Community Feast	60000178
63	Waukegan to College	60000233

64 **RATIONALE:**

65 Each quadrennium, the Conference Board of Global Ministries reviews the conference and district
66 missions supported through the advance. In 2021, the advance program was rebranded as “Mission Links:
67 Living the Beatitudes”. The CBGM also moved from a print version of the mission listing to an
68 interactive online version that can be more easily updated while providing accessible resources as church
69 mission committees explore the possibilities for supporting missions within the conference and around the
70 globe. The link can be found at: <https://www.umcnic.org/missionlinks>

1 **Document: 650.01**
2 **Name: Discontinuance of Alsip: Christ**
3 **Author(s): District Superintendent, Dr. Audrea F. Nanabray, Lake South District**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 WHEREAS the Christ United Methodist Church (“Christ UMC”) located in the City of Alsip, Illinois at
7 the commonly known address 3730 W. 119th Street in Rich Township of Cook County, Illinois was formed
8 and has witnessed to Jesus Christ and served its community and the world for many years and having
9 closed on July 20, 2025, and

10 WHEREAS Christ UMC faithfully served the community in the City of Alsip, IL, and boldly risked
11 themselves in this effort; and

12 WHEREAS, pursuant to the provision of Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of The United*
13 *Methodist Church 2020/2024*, the Lake South District Superintendent has recommended with the approval
14 of the District Strategy Team that the church be discontinued effective July 20, 2025. The Lake South
15 District Committee on Building and Location has voted to concur with the District Superintendent’s
16 recommendation to discontinue said church and the presiding Bishop and the majority of the District
17 Superintendents of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church have
18 consented to the District Superintendent’s recommendation to discontinue said church;

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

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all properties and assets of said Church, including, but not limited
28 to its existing and future gifts, devises, and bequests, its existing personal property and accounts and
29 its real property commonly known as 3730 W. 119th Street, Alsip, IL, 60803,

30 Shall become the properties and assets of the Northern Illinois Conference of The United Methodist
31 Church, and

32 Shall, in the discretion of the Bishop in consultation with the Cabinet, be either:

- 33 a. Retained by the reincorporated shell Illinois religious corporation referred to above pending
34 sale or other disposition; or
- 35 b. Transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United
36 Methodist Church; and

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the said Church shall be transferred to First United
38 Methodist Church in Oak Lawn, Illinois, unless any such members shall inform the pastor of the transferee
39 church otherwise; and

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

43 **RATIONALE:**

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

1 **Document: 650.02**
2 **Name: Discontinuance of Naperville: Wheatland Salem**
3 **Author(s): Prairie Central District Superintendent, Rev. Wendy Hardin Hermann**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 WHEREAS the NAPERVILLE: WHEATLAND SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (“the
7 Church”) located in the City of NAPERVILLE Illinois at the commonly known address 1852 95th Street
8 Naperville, IL 60564, in Naperville Township of Will County, IL was formed and has witnessed to Jesus
9 Christ and served its community and the world for many years and having closed on December 31, 2025,
10 and

11 WHEREAS the Church faithfully served the community in the City of Naperville, IL, and

12 WHEREAS, pursuant to Paragraph 2549.4(b) (Ad Interim procedures) of *The Book of Discipline of The*
13 *United Methodist Church 2020/2024*, the Prairie Central District Superintendent recommended that the
14 church be closed due to exigent circumstances, namely, the inability to sustain operations due to a lack of
15 funds.

16 WHEREAS, the presiding Bishop and the majority of the District Superintendents of the Northern Illinois
17 Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (“the Conference”) consented to the District
18 Superintendent’s recommendation to discontinue the Church, effective December 31, 2025.

19 WHEREAS, the Prairie Central District Committee on Building and Location voted to concur with the
20 District Superintendent’s recommendation to discontinue said church.

21 WHEREAS, church discontinued regular operations effective December 31, 2025.

22 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Annual Conference hereby affirms that the Church discontinue
23 operations.

24 BE FURTHER RESOLVED that all properties and assets of said Church, including, but not limited to
25 its existing and future gifts, devises, and bequests, its existing personal property and accounts and its
26 real property commonly known as 1852 95th Street Naperville, IL 60564, title of which has vested in the
27 Conference through the Board of Trustees of the Conference pursuant to Paragraph 2549.4(b) shall remain
28 the properties and assets of the Northern Illinois Conference of The United Methodist Church subject to
29 the 2020/2024 Book of *Discipline*, and the By-Laws of the Northern Illinois Conference.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to minimize the risk of loss of future bequests to the Conference and
31 protect the integrity and ownership of the property of the church held in trust for the denomination, the
32 Northern Illinois Annual Conference recommends that the said Church, though discontinued under the
33 Canon Law of The United Methodist Church, nevertheless be maintained in perpetuity under the Illinois
34 civil law by adopting a reincorporation thereof by the Bishop under Section 46b of the Illinois Religious
35 Corporation Act, with the incumbent Conference Board of Trustees named as trustees of the Discontinued
36 Church under the procedure established by Article VII “Discontinued or Abandoned Church
37 Reincorporation” of the By-laws of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist
38 Church and that the Conference take whatever action is necessary to protect the integrity and ownership
39 of all property including any existing or future bequests held in trust for the benefit of the denomination;
40 and

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the said Church shall be transferred to Naperville:
42 Grace UMC unless any such members shall inform the pastor of the transferee church otherwise; and

43 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the appropriate officers of Conference are authorized and directed to
44 execute on behalf of the said Conference any and all such additional documents as legal counsel shall
45 recommend to effectuate the above.

46 **RATIONALE:**

47 After many faithful years of service, ministry and mission in the name of Jesus Christ, Naperville:
48 Wheatland Salem United Methodist Church has come to a place of transition and closure. Membership
49 and financial sustainability have been declining for many years. The decline reached the point where
50 foreclosure of the real property was being raised by the holder of a large mortgage on the property, namely,
51 Red Door. To protect the Conference's ability to preserve the property, closure under Paragraph 2459.4(b)
52 became necessary subject to approval at the next Annual Conference.

1 **Document: 680.01**
2 **Name: Amend the Conference Policies under 680.01 Benefits Program**
3 **Author(s): Conference Board of Pension and Benefits (Beth Swanick, Deborah Dangerfield, Glynis**
4 **Massey, Harry Nicol, Luis Reyes-Rosario, Matthew Smith, Dan Van Haften, Kristin Fischer,**
5 **Kristina Gaughan, Danita Anderson, Brian Gilbert, Elaine Moy, Cheryl Weaver, staff**
6 **liaison)**
7 **CCFA Action:**

8 **ACTION:**

9 The Conference Board of Pensions and Benefits recommends amending Conference Policy 680.01, II, D,
10 as follows:

11 **D.Pre-82 Defined Benefit Past Service Rate for 2027**

12 1. The Conference Board of Pensions recommends that the annual pension rate for service prior
13 to 1982, effective January 1, 2027, be \$605 per service year, an increase of 0% from 2026. Surviving
14 spouses shall be supported at the rate of 85% of participant pension benefit amounts. Special grants will
15 be provided as identified in Section F.

16 **RATIONALE:**

17 The Board of Pensions is not raising the PSR rate for 2027. It will remain at \$605 per service year. This is
18 due to funding obligations and available money.

1 **Document: 680.02**
 2 **Name: Minimum Salaries for Full-Time Elders**
 3 **Author(s): The Equitable Compensation Committee: Beth Swanick, John Bell, Jarice Shaw,**
 4 **Veronica Davenport, Scott Hoffman, Brian Gilbert, Cheryl Weaver, staff liaison.**
 5 **CCFA Action:**

6 **ACTION:**

7 1) Minimum cash salaries for full-time Elders and Licensed Local Pastors appointed in the NIC will be
 8 as follows, showing an increase of 2.8% for the next fiscal year:

Status	2023 actual	2024 actual	2025 actual	2026 actual	2027 recommended 2.8%
Elder	\$37,450	\$40,763	\$43,616	\$46,669	\$47,976
LLP	\$37,450	\$40,763	\$41,782	\$42,868	\$44,068

9 2) Local churches are to provide a minimum of \$2,500* for accountable reimbursements for their
 10 appointed Elder(s). This covers the costs of providing travel, continuing education, and other
 11 expenses incurred in the course of providing pastoral ministry. Information about accountable
 12 reimbursements can be found at: [Accountable Reimbursement Policy Q&A](#)

13 **Ideally the church maintains \$5,500 but, in an effort to maintain full-time, some churches may need*
 14 *to reduce the reimbursement to \$2,500. Anything lower will not allow the pastor to engage in fruitful*
 15 *ministry.*

16 **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 17 • The Equitable Compensation Task Force (ECTF) recommended a minimum salary for fulltime
 18 Elders to be approximately \$50,000 by 2026 for FY 2027, achieved by 7.0% increases during the
 19 years (2025, 2026, and 2027). However, the **Equitable Compensation Committee** (formed in
 20 2024) is recommending an increase of 2.8% for 2027 to \$47,976 based on the following:
 - 21 ▪ A third consecutive increase of 7% per year would be a hardship for many churches as
 22 other costs have also or will also increase in 2027.
 - 23 ▪ Healthflex rates will increase in 2027, however, those rates will not be finalized until after
 24 legislation has been published.
 - 25 ▪ An increase in base salary will raise the cost of retirement benefits to churches.
 - 26 ▪ Property and Liability insurance rates will most likely increase as well.
- 27 • The United Methodist Book of Discipline does not require Annual Conferences to establish a
 28 minimum salary for LLPs. However, to responsibly recognize changes in buying power, the
 29 Equitable Compensation Committee recommends that the minimum salary for Licensed Local
 30 Pastors be the same as the Elder increase of 2.8%. This brings the salaries more in line with each
 31 other.

32 **RATIONALE AND METHODOLOGY:**

- 33 • In 2023, an Equitable Compensation Task Force (ECTF) was formed, the current Equitable
34 Compensation Committee (formed in 2024) has included their rationale from 2023 below. In
35 reviewing all the factors, the bold information is what drove the decision to reduce the increase
36 for FY 2027.

- 37 ▪ The ECTF submitted surveys to all US Annual Conferences and received 18 replies. The
38 NIC is currently second to last in minimum salary (by a sliver margin of \$165) among the
39 18 annual conferences responding to the survey. Had the 2023 Annual Conference not
40 approved of the 8.7% increase, bringing the current minimum to \$40,763, NIC would be
41 at the bottom. Current minimums across annual conferences range from \$40,598 to
42 \$50,923.

- 43 • **The Equitable Compensation Committee (ECC) is also aware and recognizes**
44 **that increasing the minimum salary may be a financial burden that some**
45 **churches cannot bear. As we move forward, fewer single-charge full-time**
46 **appointments will most likely be the new normal.** The ECC is committed to
47 continuing to monitor the trends and work with the Cabinet and churches on
48 ways to equitably compensate clergy.

- 49 ▪ The ECTF determined that their recommendation would be focused on base
50 compensation only, having found it impossible to identify/consider values of parsonages,
51 housing allowances, or health insurance benefits due to the wide disparities between
52 conferences and the extreme difficulties in assigning dollar values.

- 53 ▪ This survey showed that a lower minimum salary for LLPs is consistent with the other
54 annual conferences responding to the survey.

- 55 ▪ The UMBoD ¶342 speaks only to “*Elders in full connection*” who assume “*the*
56 *obligations of the itinerant ministry*” and who bear the burden of extensive student loans
57 from the required master’s degree. Further, “*the Church shall provide, and the ordained*
58 *minister is entitled to receive, not less than the equitable compensation established by the*
59 *annual conference for clergy members.*”

- 60 ▪ The UMBoD states in ¶625.2(a) that the Equitable Compensation Commission be
61 responsible for “*recommending conference standards*” for pastoral salaries, and (b)
62 “*administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation.*”

1 **Document: 700.01**
2 **Name: Creation Care Action Resolution**
3 **Author(s): Harriette Cross and Richard Alton**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

- 6 1. We, the people and churches of the Northern Illinois Conference of The United Methodist
7 Church, confess our failure to properly steward God’s earth;
- 8 2. Prayerfully ask for God’s help in restoring Creation;
- 9 3. Join our Bishops, denominational Boards and Commissions in committing to net-zero greenhouse
10 gas emissions by 2050; and
- 11 4. Encourage every local church to host a “Creation Care Worship Service” on the Sunday before or
12 after Earth Day (April 22) to remind us through word and deed that we are bound to each other
13 cellularly and socially, holding and being held in the web of relations, honoring each species
14 extinction as a death of divinity. In conjunction with the green service, there will be a creation
15 care study.

16 **RATIONALE:**

17 In November 2025, the Council of Bishops reaffirmed the biblical call to care for creation, recalling
18 God’s covenant with Noah in Genesis 9:16. In this covenant, God promises no harm to humanity or
19 creation, and we, as followers of God, are likewise called to do no harm and to care for all that God has
20 made. This covenantal relationship compels us to act as faithful stewards, protecting the health and
21 goodness of the earth and resisting harm caused by greed, neglect, or inattention. Building on prior
22 statements, the Council emphasizes that now is a critical time to renew our commitment to creation care.

23 The urgency of this moment is clear. In 2024, global temperatures rose to an average of 1.55°C,
24 exceeding the 1.5°C threshold identified in the 2015 Paris Agreement. Scientific reporting has linked
25 rising temperatures to increased mortality, pollution, wildfires, and the spread of disease. While developed
26 nations bear the greatest responsibility, the most severe impacts fall on those who contributed least—
27 developing countries, communities of color, economically vulnerable populations, children, and future
28 generations. We can no longer ignore our covenantal responsibility to care for creation and one another.

29 The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church affirm this urgency, acknowledging that
30 unsustainable human activity has placed all creation in peril. They name climate change, ecosystem
31 destruction, fossil fuel dependence, environmental racism, food injustice, and environmental toxins, and
32 call us to adopt sustainable and just practices as an expression of faithful stewardship.

33 The 2024 General Conference further calls the Church to action. We committed to organizing at least one
34 church-wide creation care initiative annually and to engaging in ongoing study for deeper understanding
35 of creation care and justice.

36 This resolution encourages congregations to respond through faithful, practical action in four key areas:

37 **Worshipping:** incorporating weekly prayers for creation; observing Earth Day; hosting prayer vigils;
38 offering outdoor worship; developing creation-focused liturgy; and sharing testimonies connecting faith
39 and care for the earth.

40 **Educating:** offering Bible studies and programs on creation care; hosting discussions or films; engaging
41 children and adults in nature experiences; inviting speakers on local environmental issues; fostering cross-
42 cultural learning about environmental justice; and utilizing denominational resources and training
43 opportunities.

44 **Practicing:** reducing waste and eliminating single-use plastics; conserving water and energy; exploring
45 renewable energy sources; creating gardens, green spaces, and pollinator habitats; recycling and
46 composting; improving building efficiency; and engaging in community-based environmental efforts such
47 as clean-up projects or shared gardens.

48 **Speaking Up:** encouraging congregational awareness of environmental issues; communicating with
49 decision-makers; organizing advocacy efforts; collaborating with other churches and community partners;
50 and integrating sustainability into church planning and decision-making.

51 Through these actions, congregations embody their covenant with God and participate in the healing and
52 restoration of creation. This work is essential to our identity as people of faith, called not only to do no
53 harm, but to actively seek the flourishing of all creation.

1 **Document: 702.01**
2 **Name: Revise Standing Rules related to Annual Conference Nominations Committee**
3 **Author(s): Annual Conference Committee on Nominations, Alka Lyall- Chair**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**
6 Amend the Northern Illinois Conference Standing Rules regarding the work of the Annual Conference
7 Committee on Nominations. Section III B as follows:

8 **B. NOMINATIONS PROCEDURE**

- 9 1. The nominations process is an open process. Persons can be nominated from any source within the
10 Conference. All nominees for membership on conference agencies shall be presented to the Annual
11 Conference by the Committee on Nominations except members-at-large of conference agencies and
12 those otherwise directed by The Discipline or the Standing Rules. Suggestions of persons particularly
13 qualified for such membership may come to the Committee on Nominations from any agency.
- 14 2. Elections at Annual Conference will take place in the following manner: A full slate will be
15 presented with ~~containing only~~ the names of those to be elected at the current session of Annual
16 Conference in bold. ~~will be presented. Those who have been serving during the past year will be~~
17 ~~designated from those most recently nominated. Persons whose Additional names do not appear on~~
18 ~~the slate~~ may be offered from the floor in accordance with conference nominations procedures
19 subject to the deadline established by the Committee on Nominations for each year's regular session
20 of annual conference. Any additional names offered in nomination for any position to fill a blank
21 space or in substitution for an existing name will need the following information:
22 a. Position for which person is being nominated
23 b. Full name, correctly spelled
24 c. Complete address, home and work phones, if available
25 d. Personal data
26 e. Local church affiliation
27 f. Tenure in previous service to this group
28 g. Name of person making nominations
29 h. Consent of nominee to serve
- 30 The Committee on Nominations will reconcile Disciplinary and Standing Rules requirements.
- 31 3. Except as otherwise directed by The Discipline, when a vacancy occurs in any Conference group:
32 a. Notification of a vacancy will be made to the Conference Committee on Nominations.
33 b. The Conference Committee on Nominations shall fill the vacancies within 60 days of
34 notification.
35 c. The Committee shall consider the office vacant after an attempt to notify by email said
36 member of pending action has been made by the Committee and the member has been given
37 15 days to to respond by email to explain his/her/their inactivity, and if no email reply has been
38 submitted, a telephone attempt to confirm that the email was received.
39 d. Within 60 days after the Annual Conference session, current lists of names, email
40 addresses, and phone numbers of all members of the conference bodies shall be provided
41 to all their chairpersons or conveners by the Conference Secretary.
- 42 4. The Annual Conference shall elect a Conference Secretary, an Assistant to the Secretary for Standing
43 Rules, and statistician at the first Annual Conference session following the General Conference or
44 Jurisdictional Conference (§ 603.7). The secretarial staff will be named by the Secretary.
- 45 5. All specifications by either The Discipline and the state law as to the manner of election of trustees
46 shall be rigidly followed. In all cases where the Conference is responsible for the election of any
47 trustees of institutions or foundations related to the Conference in any way, and where no other
48 method of nomination is required by The Discipline or by the charter or by-laws of the institution

49 concerned, the Committee shall nominate said trustees after considering any recommendations
50 offered by said institution.

- 51 6. Changes in the basic by-laws which affect the election of trustees, managers, directors or governing
52 body of any board, foundation or institution incorporated by the action and authority of Northern
53 Illinois Conference of The United Methodist Church or whose trustees are elected by the
54 Conference shall become effective only after they have been presented to the next regular session of
55 the Conference and approved by Conference action.
- 56 7. Guidelines for Organizing Program and Administrative Groups: Program and Administrative
57 groups exist for the purpose of promoting and providing structure for the work of The United
58 Methodist Church within the boundaries of the Northern Illinois Conference.
- 59 a. The Program and Administrative groups shall work cooperatively.
 - 60 b. The establishment of emphasis areas and special ministry will be recommended by the
61 Shepherding Team to the Annual Conference.
 - 62 c. Special care shall be taken to balance the participation of the program and administrative
63 groups to include adequate clergy, lay, male, female, age, ethnicity, and geographic
64 representation.
 - 65 d. No person may serve on more than one Program Emphasis and one Administrative area at
66 any given time.
- 67 8. The Conference Program Staff office shall publish by October 1 the list of elected officers of
68 all groups. There will be published a description of all Program and Administrative Areas.
69 The Shepherding Team will be responsible for the publication.

70 C. DISCIPLINARY BODIES

71 1. Council on Finance and Administration (§ 611-619)

72 Purpose: § 612.1

73 Membership: § 612.2 and Twenty-one (21) persons with a recommended balance of 7 clergy, 7
74 laymen and 7 laywomen, elected quadrennially.

75 Officers: § 612.3

76 2. Equitable Compensation Committee (§ 624.1,2)

77 Purpose: § 624, and: Review the schedule of Equitable Compensation annually, reporting
78 findings to the Conference Council on Finance and Administration; distribute the Equitable
79 Compensation Fund; in consultation with the Cabinet, pass on all applications for payments from
80 the fund and make request in writing to the office of the Conference Treasurer for any payments
81 approved.

82 Membership: § 624.1. An equal number of lay and clergy, including one person from each district
83 and 6 members-at-large with representatives from at least 4 churches with memberships of fewer
84 than 200 members.

85 Officers: Elected as needed.

86 3. Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (§638.1)

87 Purpose: § 638.1.

88 Membership: § 638.2. Twenty members, at least two members from each district, serving 8 year
89 terms, one-half elected each quadrennium.

90 Officers: § 639.3.

91 4. Board of Trustees (§ 640 and 2512)

92 Purpose: § 2512 3-8. In addition, The Trustees shall be the custodian of any burial lots belonging to
93 the Conference.

94 Membership: § 2512.1 and each district shall have at least one representative. Within four weeks
95 of the close of each Annual Conference, the Cabinet Representative assigned to the Board shall
96 convene a meeting to elect officers.

97 Officers: § 2512.2.

98 **5. Commission on Archives and History (§ 641)**

99 Purpose: § 641.1-4

100 Membership: § 641.1. May include one representative from each of the following: Black Methodists
101 for Church Renewal, Hispanic/Latinx Ministry Team ~~La Junta Hispano Americana~~ and Fellowship
102 of Asian Americans. One representative from Northern Illinois Annual Conference Historical
103 Society; Ten members chosen in consultation with the Commission on Archives and History for
104 expertise and/or membership balance, drawn at large representing, where possible, the historical
105 traditions of the conferences antecedent to Northern Illinois Annual Conference; One representative
106 from the Program Staff; Any member of the Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History
107 residing within the Conference boundaries; The Conference Archivist; One representative from
108 Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, site of the Annual Conference Archives.
109 Officers: Elected as needed.

110 **6. Vital Congregations Ministries**

111 Purpose: To encourage communication and coordination among Committee on Accessibility,
112 PATH (Planting And THriving) Congregational Development & Redevelopment (§632/645),
113 Keagy Town & Rural Ministry, Fellowship of Asian Americans (FAA), Black Methodists for
114 Church Renewal (BMCR), and Latinx/Hispanic Ministry Team (§655)

115 Membership: For those bodies with Disciplinarily required membership, the provisions of the Book
116 of Discipline shall be followed. If there are no provisions for membership in a body defined by the
117 Book of Discipline, the membership will give attention to a balance of clergy, laity, gender, age,
118 ethnicity, and districts.

119 **7. Discipleship Ministries (§629)**

120 Purpose: To encourage communication and coordination among Young Peoples Ministries (§649 &
121 650), Conference Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministries (§633), Older Adult Ministries
122 (§651), Conference Board of Laity (§630), Committee on Discipleship and Spiritual Formation,
123 Outdoor & Retreat Ministries

124 Membership: For those bodies with Disciplinarily required membership, the provisions of the Book
125 of Discipline shall be followed. If there are no provisions for membership in a body defined by the
126 Book of Discipline, the membership will give attention to a balance of clergy, laity, gender, age,
127 ethnicity, and districts.

128 **8. Justice and Mercy Ministries (§629)**

129 Purpose: To encourage communication and coordination among Board of Church and Society (§628
130 & 657), Board of Global Ministries (§632 & 656), Commission on Christian Unity & Interreligious
131 Relations (§642), Commission on Religion and Race §643, Commission on the Status and Role of
132 Women (§644), the Committee on Native American Ministries (§654), the Committee on Creation
133 Care and the Committee on Inclusion.

134 Membership: For those bodies with Disciplinarily required membership, the provisions of the Book
135 of Discipline shall be followed. If there are no provisions for membership in a body defined by the
136 Book of Discipline, the membership will give attention to a balance of clergy, laity, gender, age,
137 ethnicity, and districts.

138 **RATIONALE:**

139 The changes

- 140 • Simplify the format in which the Nominations report is presented during the Annual
- 141 Conference session.
- 142 • Align this section of the Standing rules with the names of the caucuses, ministry teams and
- 143 committees that we already use in our Annual Conference.

1 **Document: 702.02**
2 **Name: Revise Standing Rules related to Annual Conference Shepherding Team**
3 **Author(s): Annual Conference Shepherding Team, Mark Manzi & Caleb Hong, Co-Chairs**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 Amend the Northern Illinois Conference Standing Rules regarding Annual Conference Shepherding Team
7 Section III, D, 11 as follows:

8 **Shepherding Teams (“NIC”) (§ 608)**

9 **Role of the ACST**

10 The Annual Conference Shepherding Team was created to advance the overall mission of the Northern
11 Illinois Conference by ensuring the proper use and alignment of resources to achieve it. The ACST serves
12 as a place for consultation, advice, and decision-making, and provides connections between conference
13 administrative and ministry areas, the cabinet, District Shepherding Teams, and local churches. It serves
14 to build trust, collaboration, and accountability in the conference’s responsibility to live out its mission.
15 Specifically, the ACST is:

- 16 - A council of advisers to the bishop and conference leadership
- 17 - A decision-making body between annual conference sessions and for those items not requiring
18 conference action
- 19 - A contributor to the overall budgeting process with final review prior to annual conference
20 session
- 21 - The oversight body for the District Shepherding Teams in collaboration with the district
22 superintendents
- 23 - An adaptive learning organization that provides insights and teaching about effective leadership
24 in the 21st century church

25 **I. Overview**

26 The organizational structure shall be centered on an Annual Conference Shepherding Team (“ACST”).
27 There shall be a separate District Shepherding Team (DST) in each of the districts. Both Co-Chairs of
28 each DST (6 members in total) shall also serve as members of the ACST as outlined below. The ACST
29 shall be an adaptive learning organization whose primary purposes shall be to coordinate and
30 communicate the ministry of the NIC for the sake of making disciples for Jesus Christ. The primary
31 purposes of each DST shall be to coordinate the equipping of local churches so that they might be
32 faithful, Christ-centered communities of worship, prayer, witness and change, and to enhance the
33 connection between local churches, the districts and the NIC.

34 **II. Annual Conference Shepherding Team (“ACST”)**

- 35 **a. Responsibilities.** The responsibilities of the ACST shall include,
 - 36 i. Leading as a learning organization in addressing the technical and adaptive, challenges and
37 opportunities presented to the NIC.
 - 38 ii. Providing coordination of the ministry, mission, and vision of the NIC.
 - 39 iii. Discerning a 5-year vision plan; presenting it for approval by NIC; communicating it
40 throughout the NIC, monitoring and adapting it on an annual basis.
 - 41 iv. Focusing NIC resources to equip local churches and ministry settings to make disciples of Jesus
42 Christ for the transformation of the world.
 - 43 v. Facilitating communication and healthy relationships between districts, NIC leadership, staff,
44 committees, and ministries.
 - 45 vi. Advocating, monitoring, and celebrating diversity at every level of leadership throughout the
46 NIC.
 - 47 vii. ~~Stewarding financial and leadership resources for maximum missional impact. The role of the~~
48 ~~ACST in the budgeting process shall be to augment the existing process in which the budget is~~

49 prepared by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (“CCFA”) and approved by
50 the NIC. The ACST shall consult with CCFA in the allocation of resources according to the
51 ~~missional program~~ priorities of the NIC. Communicate and collaborate with CCFA toward
52 alignment of financial resources with priorities and vision. At each meeting of ACST, the CCFA
53 designate shall make a presentation regarding the financial position of NIC, including but not
54 limited to the budget. ACST may make recommendations to CCFA regarding the annual budget of
55 the NIC.

56 viii. Resolving leadership and function questions that do not require approval by the NIC between
57 annual conference sessions.

58 ix. Guiding the NIC in the event of a significant shift in the denomination or jurisdictional
59 realignment of conferences.

60 x. Adapting the organizational structure further to align with the missional priorities of the NIC.

61 xi. Developing clear and concise qualitative and quantitative metrics to evaluate the effectiveness
62 of ACST structure and work.

63 xii. Reporting annually to NIC on fulfillment of the above responsibilities.

64 **b. Core Areas of focus.** The ACST shall prayerfully focus on the following Core Areas of priority
65 identified in the Landscape process:

66 I. Congregational Life

67 1. Creating and revitalizing congregational cultures that are deep in faith and engaged for
68 evangelism.

69 2. Developing new churches and faith communities.

70 3. Assessing and reconfiguring local churches.

71 II. Clergy Life

72 1. Fostering clergy health and morale.

73 2. Fostering an environment that identifies and supports persons with a clear sense of call and
74 commitment to set apart ministry.

75 3. Fostering on-going faith formation.

76 4. Ensuring development and accountability of clergy.

77 III. Missional Life

78 1. Equipping, supporting, and connecting local churches for missions of mercy (direct service)
79 in their local communities, across the NIC and beyond.

80 2. Equipping, supporting, and connecting local churches for justice (systemic change) work in
81 their local communities, across the state and beyond.

82 3. Advocating diversity, inclusiveness, and cultural competency.

83 IV. Connectional Resources

84 1. Managing and allocating conference resources toward NIC vision and strategy.

85 2. Evaluating, assessing, and communicating the apportionment formula on an on-going basis.

86 3. Developing systems of administration for use by local churches.

87 **c. Membership.**

88 **i. Members.** The ACST shall have the following members:

89 *Voice and Vote* (~~20 Members~~)

90 • Co-Chair – Lay

91 • Co-Chair – Clergy

92 • Conference Lay Leader

93 • Board of Trustees, Chair or Designate

94 • Council on Finance and Administration, Chair or Designate

95 • Committee on Nominations, Chair or Designate

96 • Board of Ordained Ministry, Chair or Designate

97 • Annual Conference Committee, Chair or Designate

98 • Vital Congregations Ministries, Designate

99 • Discipleship Ministries, Designate

- 100 • Justice and Mercy Ministries, Designate
- 101 • 3 Ethnic Caucus Designates
- 102 • District Co-Chairs (Lay and Clergy)
- 103 • ~~Lake North DST, Co-Chairs (Lay through 2020)~~
- 104 • ~~Lake South DST, Co-Chairs (Clergy through 2020)~~
- 105 • ~~Prairie Central DST, Co-Chairs (Clergy through 2020)~~
- 106 • ~~Prairie North DST, Co-Chairs (Clergy through 2020)~~
- 107 • ~~Prairie South DST, Co-Chairs (Lay through 2020)~~

108 *Voice Only; No Vote (3 Members)*

- 109 • Bishop
- 110 • Assistant to the Bishop
- 111 • Director of Connectional Ministries
- 112 • Communications Staff Member

113 **ii. Selection of Members.** Members of the ACST shall be selected, as follows:

- 114 1. Co-Chairs shall be appointed by the bishop.
- 115 2. Conference Lay Leader shall be chosen per Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course of
- 116 the nominations process.
- 117 3. Chairs of the Board of Trustees, Council on Finance and Administration, Committee on
- 118 Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual Conference Committee shall be chosen per
- 119 Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course of the nominations process. In the event that a
- 120 member of a committee, council or board is to be designated as the member of the ACST in place
- 121 of the chair, such committee, council, or board shall adopt its own process for designation.
- 122 4. Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy
- 123 Ministries shall each be chosen separately, according to the following process:

- 124 **a.** The chairs of the Constituent Groups of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship
- 125 Ministries, and Justice and Mercy Ministries shall gather in separate meetings, each convened
- 126 by the Director of Connectional Ministries for the purpose of nominating 3 candidates for each
- 127 Designate position.

128 The initial Constituent Groups for purposes of nominating candidates to be the first Designates

129 to the ACST shall be:

- 130 1. Vital Congregations Ministries (~~6~~ 4 Constituent Groups)
 - 131 • Committee of Accessibility Ministries
 - 132 • PATH (Planting and THriving) Team ~~Congregational Development and~~
 - 133 ~~Redevelopment (Code Red)~~
 - 134 • Keagy Town & Rural Ministry
 - 135 • Hispanic/Latinx Ministry Team
 - 136 • Fellowship of Asian American
 - 137 • Chicago Black Methodist for Church Renewal
- 138 2. Discipleship Ministries (6 Constituent Groups)
 - 139 • Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry (CBHECM)
 - 140 • Older Adult Ministries
 - 141 • Outdoor and Retreat Ministries (ORM)
 - 142 • Council of Young People's Ministries
 - 143 • Committee on Discipleship and Spiritual Formation.
 - 144 • Conference Board of Laity
- 145 3. Justice and Mercy Ministries (~~8~~ 7 Constituent Groups)
 - 146 • Board of Church and Society
 - 147 • Commission on Christian Unity & Interreligious Relations (CCUIR)
 - 148 • Commission on Religion and Race (CORR)
 - 149 • Commission on Status and Role of Women (CSROW)

150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199

- Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM)
- Committee on Creation Care
- Committee on Inclusion
- Conference Board of Global Ministries (CBGM), including:
 - Conference Mission Secretary
 - District Mission Secretaries
 - District United Women in Faith (UW Faith) Representatives
 - Disaster Coordinator
 - ~~Hunger Coordinator~~
 - Refugee Coordinator
 - Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Coordinator
 - ~~Urban Ministries~~
 - ~~Rural (Keagy) Ministries~~
 - United Methodist Women Representative
 - United Methodist Men Representative

b. The Committee on Nominations shall select each Designate from among the 3 nominees with the primary objective of ensuring diversity on the ACST.

4. Designates of the Ethnic Caucuses shall be chosen by the Ethnic Caucuses pursuant to their own process for designation.

5. Chairs of the DSTs shall be chosen as outlined below.

iii. Qualifications and Commitment of Members.

1. Co-Chairs and Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy Ministries shall serve on the ACST exclusively; they shall not serve in other positions in the NIC or an Ethnic Causus.

2. Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy Ministries shall have demonstrated a genuine interest and concern in most, if not all, of the Constituent Groups being represented and commitment to keeping up with their work and concerns.

3. Members of the ACST shall have demonstrated a genuine interest and commitment to stewardship of the mission, priorities, and vision of the NIC.

4. Members of the ACST shall be expected to attend meetings themselves to ensure the cohesion and continuity of the team. As shared experience contributes to shared visioning and leadership, there is no substitute for attendance.

iv. Terms

1. To ensure both continuity as well as constant renewal of the ACST, Voting Members shall be limited to a single term of four (4) years unless membership derives from a position in the NIC having different term requirements.

2. Co-Chairs of the ACST shall serve 2 years as Vice Chair followed by 2 years as Chair. ~~The first Chair shall commence on his/her term or about November 2017, serve as Chair for 2 years and rotate off the ACST on June 30, 2020. The first Vice Chair shall commence his/her term on or about November 2017, become Chair on July 1, 2020, and rotate off on June 30, 2022. A new Vice Chair will commence his/her term every 2 years as the previous Vice Chair rotates to the Chair position.~~

3. To ensure continuity, Members shall serve four-year terms commencing either
a. ~~July 1, 2020, and On July 1 of each year of a General Conference, or The initial term of those in such positions shall not be a full four years; it shall commence on or about November 2017 and terminate on June 30, 2020, or~~
b. ~~July 1, 2022, and On July 1 of each year which is two years after the year of a General Conference. The first term of those in such positions shall commence on or about November 2017 and terminate on June 30, 2022.~~

- 200 4. The Conference Lay Leader and the Chairs or Designates of the Board of Trustees, Council on
 201 Finance and Administration, Committee on Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual
 202 Conference Committee shall serve terms as outlined above.
 203 5. Designates of Ethnic Caucuses shall serve terms as outlined above.
 204 6. Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy
 205 Ministries shall serve terms as outlined above.
 206 7. Co-Chairs of the DSTs who serve on the ACST as outlined below, shall serve terms as outlined
 207 above.

208 **d. Meetings.** The ACST shall meet at least four (4) times per year. Each meeting shall have a focus
 209 such as analysis and review of the budget, preparation for Annual Conference, leadership development
 210 and learning, and acquiring input for more effective ministry. The schedule and topics of meetings
 211 shall be determined by the co-chairs of ACST in consultation with the Director of Connectional
 212 Ministries.

213 III. District Shepherding Teams (“DST”)

- 214 **a. Responsibilities.** The responsibilities of each DST shall include,
 215 i. Leading as a learning organization in addressing the technical and adaptive, challenges and
 216 opportunities presented to the district.
 217 ii. Coordinating the equipping of local churches and enhancing the connection between local
 218 churches.
 219 1. Ascertaining information, such as,
 220 a. Celebrations and best practices,
 221 b. Challenges and shared needs,
 222 c. Opportunities for shared ministries.
 223 2. Providing or directing local churches to training opportunities suited to the district.
 224 iii. Communicating local needs, challenges, and celebrations to ACST for coordinated resourcing
 225 and sharing.
 226 iv. Communicating vision and ministry priorities of NIC to the district and local churches and
 227 coordinating implementation as best lived out in the district.

228 **b. Membership.**

- 229 **i. Members.** Each DST shall have the following members:

230 *Voice and Vote* (11+ Members)

- 231 • Co-Chair – District Lay Leader
- 232 • Co-Chair – Clergy
- 233 • District Lay Leader(s) (in districts with multiple lay leaders, all shall be members of
 234 the DST; one at a time shall serve as Co-Chair)
- 235 • Board on Church Location and Building, Chair or Designate
- 236 • District Committee on Ordained Ministry, Chair or Designate
- 237 • New Church Development and Revitalization Team (formerly District Strategy
 238 Team), Chair or Designate
- 239 • 3 Lay Members At Large
- 240 • 3 Clergy Members At Large

241 *Voice Only; No Vote* (1 Member)

- 242 • District Superintendent

- 243 **ii. Selection of Members.** Members of each DST shall be selected, as follows:

- 244 1. District Lay Leader(s) shall be chosen per Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course
 245 of the nominations process.
- 246 2. Chairs of Board on Church Location and Building, Committee on Ordained Ministry and
 247 ~~New~~ Church Development and Revitalization Team (formerly District Strategy Team) shall be
 248 chosen per Disciplinary requirements. In the event that a member of a committee, board or team
 249 is to be designated as the member of the ACST in place of the chair, such committee, board or
 250 team shall adopt its own process for designation.

- 251 3. Clergy Co-Chair shall be selected by the District Lay Leader(s) and District Superintendent.
 252 4. At Large Lay and Clergy Members shall be selected by the District Lay Leader(s) and
 253 District Superintendent.
 254 a. They may represent the particular ministry priorities of each district, e.g., they may
 255 include cluster leaders, Lay Servant Academy directors, representatives from mission
 256 agencies in the district, etc.
 257 b. They may be selected from among recommendations solicited at annual church
 258 conferences or other district entities.

259 **iii. Qualifications and Commitment of Members.** Members of the DST shall be expected to
 260 attend meetings themselves to ensure the cohesion and continuity of the team. As shared
 261 experience contributes to shared visioning and leadership, there is no substitute for attendance.

262 **iv. Terms.**

- 263 1. To ensure reinvigoration of the DST, Members shall be limited to a single term of four (4)
 264 years unless membership derives from a position having different term requirements.
 265 2. To ensure equal representation of the DST co-chairs should be a laity and clergy on the
 266 ACST. ~~at any one time, half the districts shall be represented by the Lay Co-Chair and the other~~
 267 ~~half shall be represented by the Clergy Co-Chair.~~
 268 ~~a. On the initial ACST, through June 30, 2022, the DST representatives shall be:~~
 269 ~~i. Lake North DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 270 ~~ii. Lake South DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 271 ~~iii. Prairie Central DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 272 ~~iv. Prairie North DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 273 ~~v. Prairie South DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 274 ~~b. From July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2026, the DST representatives shall be:~~
 275 ~~i. Lake North DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 276 ~~ii. Lake South DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 277 ~~iii. Prairie Central DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 278 ~~iv. Prairie North DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 279 ~~v. Prairie South DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 280 3. To ensure continuity, Members shall have four-year terms commencing either,
 281 a. ~~July 1, 2020, and On July 1 of each year of a General Conference, or The initial term of~~
 282 ~~those in such positions shall not be a full four years; it shall commence on or about~~
 283 ~~November 2017 and terminate on June 30, 2020, or~~
 284 b. ~~July 1, 2022, and On July 1 of each year, which is two years after the year of a General~~
 285 ~~Conference. The first term of those in such positions shall commence on or about November~~
 286 ~~2017 and terminate on June 30, 2022.~~
 287 4. The District Lay Leader(s) and the Chairs of Board on Church Location and Building,
 288 Committee on Ordained Ministry and New Church Development and Revitalization Team
 289 (formerly District Strategy Team) shall serve terms as outlined above.
 290 5. The At Large Lay and Clergy Members shall serve terms as outlined above.

291 **c. Meetings.** Each DST shall meet at least four (4) times per year. The schedule and topics of
 292 meetings shall be determined by each DST.

293 **IV. Diversity of Membership on ACST and DSTs.**

- 294 a. The Committee on Nominations and Bishop shall make diversity of the ACST a primary
 295 consideration in,
 296 i. Appointment of Co-Chairs,
 297 ii. Selection of NIC Lay Leader(s),
 298 iii. Composition of the Board of Trustees, Conference Council on Finance and Administration,
 299 Committee on Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual Conference Committee,
 300 which choose or elect Chairs or Designates to serve on the ACST,

- 301 iv. Selection of Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice
- 302 and Mercy Ministries.
- 303 b. Each District Superintendent and District Lay Leader(s) shall make diversity in each DST a
- 304 primary consideration in,
- 305 i. Selection of District Lay Leader(s) and Lay Co-Chair,
- 306 ii. Selection of Clergy Co-Chair,
- 307 iii. ~~Rotation of DST Co-Chairs onto the ACST,~~
- 308 iv. Selection of Chairs of Board on Church Location and Building, District Committee on
- 309 Ordained Ministry and New Church Development and Revitalization Team (formerly District
- 310 Strategy Team),
- 311 v. Selection of At Large Lay and Clergy Members.

312 **V. Evaluation of Structure.** The organizational structure of ACST and DSTs shall be subject to formal
 313 evaluation at Annual Conferences ~~in 2019, 2020 and quadrennially thereafter.~~ This evaluation of structure
 314 shall be separate from annual reports on the substantive work of the ACST provided for above.

- 315 a. The evaluation of structure shall consider features of the ACST and DSTs or their objectives, such
- 316 as,
- 317 i. Diversity of the ACST and DSTs
- 318 ii. Quality of Communication by ACST and DSTs
- 319 iii. Flexibility and Adaptability of ACST and DSTs to particular issues or events
- 320 iv. Improving Clergy Morale
- 321 v. Equipping Local Churches
- 322 vi. Strengthening the Connection
- 323 vii. Streamlining committees and enhancing effectiveness of leadership structure
- 324 viii. Recruitment of new leaders from across the NIC
- 325 b. The evaluation of structure shall poll groups such as,
- 326 i. Local congregations and faith communities
- 327 ii. NIC committees, councils and boards
- 328 c. The evaluation of structure shall be conducted via a mechanism such as,
- 329 i. Electronic Survey
- 330 ii. Listening Sessions

331 **VI. Report to Annual Conference** ~~**Initial Reports to Annual Conference and Rotation of**~~
 332 ~~**Membership**~~

333 The ACST shall present an annual report that offers a clear overview of its accomplishments, current
 334 work, and positive developments within our conference. The report should highlight collaboration with
 335 the District Shepherding Teams (DST) and provide an opportunity for members to the Annual Conference
 336 to offer feedback. The ACST may submit legislation to the Annual Conference, as needed.

337 ~~**a. Annual Conference 2019 and 2020 and quadrennially thereafter**~~

- 338 ~~• Report by ACST to Annual Conference regarding assessment of structure;~~
- 339 ~~• Opportunity for feedback from Annual Conference;~~
- 340 ~~• Possible submission of legislation proposing adaptation of structure. Such adaptive legislation~~
- 341 ~~may be proposed at any annual conference.~~

342 ~~**b. July 2020. Rotation of Membership.**~~

- 343 ~~• The first Chair of the ACST shall rotate off the ACST after four years terms. The first Vice Chair~~
- 344 ~~shall become Chair and a new Vice Chair shall be appointed by the bishop.~~
- 345 ~~• The Conference Lay Leader and Chairs or Designates of Board of Trustees, Council on Finance~~
- 346 ~~and Administration, Committee on Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual~~
- 347 ~~Conference Committee shall change per Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course of the~~
- 348 ~~nominations process.~~
- 349 ~~• Designates of the Ethnic Caucuses/Ministries shall rotate off the ACST and be replaced by~~
- 350 ~~newly selected Designates after four year terms.~~

351 ~~— Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy~~
352 ~~Ministries shall rotate off the ACST and be replaced by Designates newly selected by their~~
353 ~~respective Constituent Groups after four year term.~~
354 ~~— Co Chairs representing DSTs on the ACST shall rotate~~
355 ~~— The District Lay Leader(s) and the Chairs or Designates of Board on Church Location and~~
356 ~~Building, District Committee on Ordained Ministry and New Church Development and~~
357 ~~Revitalization Team (formerly District Strategy Team) shall change per Disciplinary requirements~~
358 ~~in the ordinary course of the nominations process.~~
359 ~~— At Large Lay and Clergy Members of the DSTs shall rotate off the DST and be replaced by~~
360 ~~newly selected Members.~~
361 **e. July 2022. Rotation of Membership.**
362 ~~• The second Chair of the ACST shall rotate off the ACST. The Vice Chair shall become Chair and~~
363 ~~a new Vice Chair shall be appointed by the bishop.~~
364 ~~• Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy~~
365 ~~Ministries shall rotate off the ACST and be replaced by Designates newly selected by their~~
366 ~~respective Constituent Groups~~
367 ~~• Co Chairs representing DSTs on the ACST shall rotate. Those DSTs previously represented by~~
368 ~~the Lay Co Chair shall begin to be represented by the Clergy C Chair and vice versa.~~
369 ~~• At Large Lay and Clergy Members of the DSTs shall rotate off the DST and be replaced by~~
370 ~~newly selected Members.~~

371 **RATIONALE:**

372 The 2008 United Methodist Book of Discipline created flexibility for annual conference organization.
373 Conferences were encouraged to streamline structures to create relevant, vital program ministries. In
374 2018, the Annual Conference approved the incorporation of the ACST and DST, and in 2020, the ACST
375 formed a task force to reorganize the conference's program areas. This task force reviewed the program
376 ministries and recommended the retention of some areas, the consolidation of others, and the
377 incorporation of areas that had become inactive or had a focus addressed by other existing boards,
378 committees, and task forces. They then organized these committees, boards, task forces, and groups in
379 alignment with the purpose, mission and core values of the annual conference.

380
381 In 2024, ACST developed and began implementing a new role that has helped to understand the purpose
382 of this group which is included in this document, and now it is an appropriate time to update certain areas,
383 delete inactive group or committees and reduce redundancy. Making these adjustments ensures that the
384 structure reflects the realities of the ACST's current work while strengthening its sustainability and clarity
385 for the years to come.

1 **Document: 702.03**
2 **Name: Proceeds of Closed Church Sales**
3 **Author(s): Conference Board of Trustees; Annual Conference Shepherding Team; CCFA; Cabinet**
4 **CCFA Action: BOT, CCFA supports this legislation**

5 **ACTION:**

6 In the Standing Rules, Section V Finances and Reports, A. Accounting Policy, 11, amend as follows:

7 When local church buildings become the property of the Annual Conference and the properties are to be
8 sold in accordance with Disciplinary procedures, the disposition of all net assets of the local church shall
9 be deposited in the Closed Church Fund (also known as the Congregational Development Fund). The
10 closed local church's unpaid obligations to the annual conference, including property insurance and
11 clergy benefit delinquencies, shall be drawn from the proceeds of sale. 1% of gross proceeds from the sale
12 of a closed church asset is reserved to fund archive needs. 25% of the net proceeds from the sale of closed
13 churches shall be directed to the Conference Board of Trustees to manage and maintain the properties in
14 their care. The assets of the Closed Church Fund shall be directed by the Cabinet in consultation with the
15 Director of Congregational Development and Redevelopment for actual expenditures on starting,
16 developing, and redeveloping local churches in the Annual Conference. Upon recommendation of the
17 Board of Trustees, the Annual Conference, by majority vote, may direct the proceeds to another use.

18 **RATIONALE:**

19 Currently, expenses related to selling closed churches are taken from the Closed Church Fund. Expenses
20 related to the maintenance and property are taken from the Apportionment Funds. This legislation allows
21 for an additional source of funding that may offset the apportionment budget, which will allow the
22 apportionment budget for other items. For example, in the last 5 years, NIC has sold between \$325,000 to
23 \$1.1M in closed churches, 25% would \$81,250 - \$275,000 that the Board of Trustees would have been
24 able to use.

25 This legislation offers an alternative way to fund the maintenance of the property in our care, so that
26 we can lower our pull on the apportionment funds given from our local churches.

1 **Document: 702.04**
2 **Name: Elimination of The United Methodist Ministers Credit Union**
3 **Author(s): Conference Board of Trustees; Annual Conference Shepherding Team**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 In the Standing Rules, Section IV Conference Relations, G. The United Methodist Ministers Credit
7 Union, delete the whole paragraph:

8 ~~G. THE UNITED METHODIST MINISTERS CREDIT UNION~~
9 ~~(or a successor organization with a different name)~~

10 ~~The Credit Union is recognized as a service to the members of Northern Illinois Conference and its~~
11 ~~policies and operation are approved as they apply to the members of the Conference.~~

12 **RATIONALE:**

13 The United Methodist Ministers Credit Union doesn't exist, and the successor organization has not
14 maintained a relationship with The United Methodist Church.

1 **Document: 702.05**
2 **Name: Timely Publishing of NIC Conference Journal**
3 **Author(s): Mark Harkness**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 Amend the Standing Rules Section I-C-7 by inserting “no later than 90 days after the conclusion of the
7 annual conference” immediately following the “The Journal may be stored and made available” so that
8 the section will now read:

- 9 7. The Journal may be stored and made available no later than 90 days after the conclusion of the annual
10 conference in an electronic, or printed, format consistent with the recommendations of the GCFA and
11 The Book of Discipline. The Annual Conference Secretary, in consultation with the Annual
12 Conference Committee, may make the most recent Journal available in the printed format for a fee.
13 Journals of the five most recent years shall be made available at no cost on the website maintained by
14 the Northern Illinois Conference.

15 **RATIONALE:**

16 As of March 9, 2026 the Journal for the 2025 Annual Conference (which concluded on June 11, 2025)
17 had yet to be published on the conference website nor made available in printed form. Therefore,
18 legislation submitted by the April 1, 2026 deadline for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference must
19 either be delayed or submitted without being able to reference the most current journal.

1 **Document: 702.06**
2 **Name: Change to Conference Housing Policy**
3 **Author(s): Conference Board of Trustees; Annual Conference Shepherding Team**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 In the Standing Rules, Section IV Conference Relations, E. Housing, 2. Conference Housing, delete the
7 following:

8 Conference Housing: All clergy appointed to the Cabinet, the Conference Program Staff or the
9 Finance Office shall be provided with adequate housing as required by Standing Rules, or with an
10 adequate housing (rental and utility) allowance. ~~Where Conference owned housing is available, the~~
11 ~~appointee shall live in the housing provided.~~ Conference Housing Standards are listed in the Annual
12 Conference Journal under policies.

13 **RATIONALE:**

14 The Conference Board of Trustees thinks that it is more desirable to have a person live in an area where
15 they do ministry than to be forced to live in a house we already own. The Trustees are willing to buy/sell
16 property to allow for better ministry practices.