



Practicing Hope

Memorial Service

June 15, 2026

Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center



Northern Illinois Conference

OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Memorial Service

Remembering the Saints Triumphant

Monday, June 15, 2026, 1:45 p.m.

Gathering Music

Promises

NIC Praise Team

Opening Words

1 Corinthians 15:51, 53, 54 b-55, 57

Kicheon Ahn

Listen, I will tell you a mystery!
We will not all die, but we will all be changed.
For this perishable body must put on imperishability,
and this mortal body must put on immortality.
Then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:
"Death has been swallowed up in victory."
"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"
But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Opening Prayer

Lino Aragon

Let us pray.
O God, you have ordered this wonderful world
and know all things in earth and in heaven.
Give us such faith that by day and by night,
at all times and in all places,
we may without fear commit ourselves
and those dear to us to your never-failing love,
in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

* Song of Worship

In Christ Alone

NIC Praise Team

Scripture Interpretation of Joshua 3 & 4

Marcia Peddicord

Song

Wade in the Water

NIC Praise Team

Sermon

Finding Hope Through the River

Brian Gilbert

* Song of Response

Hope's Gonna Find You

NIC Praise Team



Act of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Naming of Those to be Remembered

Bishop Dan Schwerin, Randy Hayes

Song of Reflection

Wade in the Water

NIC Praise Team

Active Clergy

Betsy Evans, Dec. 14, 2024

Memorial Service (continued)

Retired Clergy

Donna Atkinson, Jan. 27, 2026
Bill Bryan, May 13, 2025
Rodney Dillinger, Mar. 30, 2026
Philip M. Dripps, Apr. 15, 2026
Hayes Fletcher, Feb. 4, 2026
Janice Gilbert, Jul. 6, 2025
Charlette Hoffman, Apr. 6, 2026

Donald Keck, Oct. 26, 2025
Patrick McNally, Feb. 28, 2026
Fernando Siaba, Oct. 6, 2025
Mary Elise Thomas, Sep. 26, 2025
James Wilson, Oct. 6, 2025
Donald Wright, Feb. 7, 2025
Lora Zink, Aug. 12, 2025

Song of Reflection

Wade in the Water

NIC Praise Team



Spouses of Active Clergy

Vi Tran, Nov. 11, 2025

Spouses of Retired Clergy

Helen Gibbons, May 11, 2025
Faith McWilliams, Oct. 1, 2025
Virginia Nicholson, Jan. 6, 2026

Surviving Spouses of Deceased Clergy

Helen Beck, Jun. 12, 2025
Erma Brian, Jun. 11, 2025
Lorraine Cheek, May 12, 2025
Evelyn "Ruth" Johnson, Jun. 6, 2025
Dorothy Lindman Ogle, Oct. 30, 2025
June Porter, Dec. 4, 2025
Freda Whittle, Apr. 16, 2025



Song of Reflection

Wade in the Water

NIC Praise Team

Lay Members to Annual Conference

Joyce Bowles, Dec. 25, 2025
Gail Bradshaw, Oct. 25, 2025
Juanita Dean, Feb. 5, 2026
Nancy Duel, Sep. 20, 2025
John George, Dec. 20, 2025
Claudia Johnson, Apr. 27, 2026
Robin Koptik, Jan. 10, 2026
Al McClellan, Sep. 17, 2025
Vern White, Jun. 27, 2025

Song of Reflection

Wade in the Water

NIC Praise Team

Remembrance at Tables

Leslie Stanford

At each table, there are stones. Take a stone and feel it. Some are smooth and some are rough. Some are shiny and some are dull. As you hold your stone or stones... Remember one of the saints who now rests from their labor. One of the saints who has helped to make you who you are. One of the saints who lived their faith the best they knew how. One of the saints who has now joined the great cloud of witnesses. As you reflect on this person and carry them with you, bring your stone to one of the light bearers around the room as we raise our Ebenezer. At the conclusion of the service, you can return to the stones and take one with you as you leave to carry with you and remember the great cloud of witnesses around us.

Memorial Service (continued)

Worship Song

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NIC Praise Team

Prayer

United Methodist Book of Worship

G. Morris Jarkaloh

Eternal God, you have shared with us the lives of your people.
Before they were ours, they are yours.
For all that they have given us to make us what we are,
for that of them which lives and grows in each of us,
and for their life that in your love will never end, we give you thanks.
As now we offer them back into your arms,
comfort us in our loneliness, strengthen us in our weakness,
and give us courage to face the future unafraid.
Draw those of us who remain in this life closer to one another,
make us faithful to serve one another,
and give us to know that peace and joy which is eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



* Song

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

NIC Praise Team

Benediction

Brian Gilbert

Postlude

Cornerstone

NIC Praise Team

We are thankful to all who participated and coordinated the Memorial Service.

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#NICAC26

#PracticingHope

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