



Northern Illinois Conference
The United Methodist Church

GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATION REPORT



Navigating Uncharted Waters

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Your Delegation

- CHAIR: Elisa Gatz VICE CHAIR: Alka Lyall
- LAY DELEGATES: Lonnie Chafin, Irma Clark, Elisa Gatz
- CLERGY DELEGATES: Alka Lyall, Gregory Gross, Chris Pierson
- ALTERNATES:
 - LAY: Jack Ryder, Rita L. Smith, Nancy Pendergrass
 - CLERGY: Carol Hill, Luis Reyes, Chris Winkler, David Lagos-Fonseca



A Little Background

- The UMC's struggle over interpretation of scripture and understanding of human sexuality has a long history
- General Conference 2016 Impasse
- Commission on a Way Forward
- Called Special Session of General Conference 2019



Our Shared Work

- Serve Global and Jurisdictional Boards and Agencies
- Participate in Upcoming Jurisdictional Gathering – September 2018
- Attend Conferences/ Meetings of Caucus Groups
- Read, Process, Discuss...repeat

What's Next

- Bishops' Proposal/ Legislation – release July 8
- Delegation Meeting with Bishop Dyck – July 15
- Jurisdictional Gathering in Chicago – Sept. 21-22
- Listening-Learning Sessions around NIC
- Special Session in St. Louis – Feb. 23-26, 2019



Listening- Learning Sessions

- October 6
 - 9:00 am Rockford District (location TBD)
 - 1:00 pm Dekalb District (Sterling – Wesley UMC)
- October 20
 - 9:00 am Chicago NW District (Glenview UMC)
 - 1:00 pm Chicago Southern District (St. Mark UMC)
- November 10
 - 9:00 am Elgin District (Barrington UMC)
 - 1:00 pm Aurora District (Plainfield UMC)



Hope for the Church

“Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do **greater works than these**, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it...This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. **You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.**” John 14:12-17



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Additional Resources

- The United Methodist News Service – Subscribe to weekly email
- <http://www.umcom.org/news/umc-news>
- NIC Delegation Facebook Page “like” us