**2025 CHURCH CONFERENCE AGENDA**

*As we plan for 2026, Bishop Dan Schwerin invites the Northern Illinois Conference into a year of “Practicing Hope.”*

**WELCOME** *(Pastor)*

**CALL TO ORDER** *(District Superintendent or Presiding Elder)*

**OPENING PRAYER** *(Lay Leader)*

**HYMN** *(chosen by the church)*

**SCRIPTURE** Psalm 130:5 *I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in God’s word, I hope.*

**VIDEO MESSAGE** Bishop Dan Schwerin [(link)](https://vimeo.com/1107506910/2cb746295f?ts=0&share=copy) *(please make sure the video is cued up and ready to play)*

**HOLY CONFERENCING**

* As you look back over 2025, how have you seen your congregation living out the year of grace?
* How is your congregation already “practicing hope?”
* As you prepare for 2026, what kind of spiritual focus is needed, in your congregation and community, in order to practice the hope we know in Christ?

**BUSINESS**

1. Pastor’s Report (Including Membership Report)
2. Approval of 2026 Clergy Compensation (presented by SPRC chair)\*
3. Recommendations (Lay Servants, Certified Lay Ministers, Candidates for Ordination)
4. Approval of Nominations/Lay Leadership Report (presented by the Pastor)\*\*
5. Approval of 2026 Budget and/or Finance Committee Report
6. Trustees Report, including Safe Sanctuary and Parsonage Report
7. Additional Business and Committee Reports

*\*compensation forms need to be submitted with all other forms, one week in advance*

*\*\*please make sure that you have duly elected lay members of annual conference, and that your budget includes financial provisions for their attendance.* [*June 14-16, 2026 in Schaumburg*](https://www.umcnic.org/calendar/187th-northern-illinois-annual-conference)

**CLOSING HYMN** *(chosen by church)*

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING** *(Pastor)*