

Here's your October 14 District News



Rev. Brittany Isaac, District Superintendent

Welcome to the Lake North District! From the District Superintendent



As I have been slowly making my way around the churches I am experiencing over and over again congregations that are at once so pleased to be able to see each other face to face and yet fatigue. It is not the tiredness that comes from a long day of work, or even a busy week. I am talking about fatigue—the kind of tiredness that happens when you spend months and month, even years with a burden that is too heavy to hold.

The fatigue 99.9% of us are feeling is not solved by taking a night out with friends or spending the weekend binge watching Netflix's #6 trending show in the US. The fatigue that we are feeling can only be relieved by the Living God.

In Matthew 11: 28-31 Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are struggling hard

and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Put on my yoke, and learn from me. I'm gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves. My yoke is easy to bear, and my burden is light."

It's interesting that in this passage, in order to find rest, it involves putting on a yoke, a tool used to carry heavy loads. The way of Jesus mean unyoking ourselves from other things and submitting to the yoke of Jesus. But the payoff, is that we find ourselves lighter and freer. I don't know about you but that sounds really amazing right now.

In his sermon, [Christ the Only Rest for the Weary and Heavy Laden](#) (Matt 11:28), George Whitefield, an early Methodist field preacher says this, "And if Jesus Christ gives you rest, you may be sure it will be a rest indeed; it will be such a rest as your soul wants; it will be a rest which the world can neither give nor take away."

In my covenant group last week we shared the spiritual practices that are currently sustaining us. I am currently enjoying [listening to scripture](#) while doing some light stretching. I know that through the yoke of scripture Christ is shaping me and making my burden lighter. What spiritual practices are sustaining you through this weariness that we all feel?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Brittany
[Lake North District](#) Superintendent

PS: It's pastor appreciation month. Don't forget to share with them how much you appreciate all that they do.



Mission Project for First Vietnamese

Over 20 years ago the NIC launched the first Vietnamese UMC in the country. Unfortunately, this summer the building was extensively damaged. As a district, we will rally around our sister congregation to help them rebuild. Can you give your time, talent or treasure to help? We are looking for project managers, electricians, and contractors. In a couple of months we will need dry wallers and painters.

Already we have secured funds for \$33,000 of the \$100,000 it will need to be fixed. If you would like to make a financial contribution you can send it to the Northern IL Conference and indicate First Vietnamese. If you would like to volunteer, please contact DS Rev. Brittany Isaac 773-633-0498 or bisaac@umcnic.org

Find a Crop Walk near you



Together we can end hunger. If you don't have a local CROP Hunger Walk in your community, join us for the 2021 National CROP Hunger Walk on World Food Day, October 16. We will walk to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world! Walk on your treadmill, in your neighborhood, in a park with friends – you choose the location and the experience. Walk one day - 3.7 miles (the average distance a woman walks for water) or take the Weekend Challenge and walk 11.1 miles (3.7 miles for 3 days). Every step you take, every dollar you raise makes the walk shorter for neighbors in need by providing clean water, emergency food as well as livelihoods and access to education. Sign-up and start raising funds TODAY at www.crophungerwalk.org/usa. For more information, contact info@cwsglobal.org.

October is Clergy Appreciation Month

Life has been tough for all of us during the pandemic, including pastors. In this year's clergy wellbeing survey, Wespath found clergy are struggling in its findings. The survey looks at 5 dimensions: physical, emotional, social, spiritual and financial health. The only factor of these 5 dimensions that was stable is finances. Clergy health has declined, depression and isolation, even faltering faith were reflected in the survey results. "We cannot wave a magic wand and make all the factors challenging anyone's wellbeing go away. But perhaps this year is the right year to observe 'Clergy Appreciation Month,'" Rev. Arlene Christopherson, NIC Asst. to the Bishop/Dir. of Connectional Ministries writes in her monthly DYK article. "Who doesn't appreciate a word of encouragement, an acknowledgment that life has been hard, or a congregational 'hip-hip hurray.'" [Read more and find some tips and suggestions.](#)

NIC UMW Annual Virtual Celebration



(Oct. 23) 9:30 - 11 am. Cost: \$10. The theme will be "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms; Listening, Transforming, Reaching Out." The keynote speaker will be Rev. Megan Dean Tobola, Lead Pastor at Naperville: Wesley. Megan was a 2010 UMW Scholarship recipient, and she will bring a message to remind us to "Lean on God" for inner peace and strength during these hectic, stressful, and trying times of our lives. [Click here to register.](#)

October Reporter Available Online



Rev. Katie Hodge, Chair of Daily Ministries (left) opens the business of the fall session of the 182nd Annual Conference.



Rev. Tammy Scott (left) and Deborah Uhl (right) from the Conference Council of Finance and Administration introduce and take questions on the 2022 budget.

Annual Conference Co-Chair Deborah Draperfield (right) and Rev. Scott (left) introduce the virtual fall session. Available and needs to remember that the 182nd session will be held June 9-10, 2022.

The October issue of the Reporter is now available online and on its way to subscribers' mailboxes soon.

Bishop John L. Hopkins continues with question #6 about the future of the United Methodist Church in his monthly column. Also, read a wrap-up of the fall session of the 182nd Annual Conference with information on the 2022 budget and a new initiative to help fund clergy retirement. Also, find out where churches can help Afghan refugees and a fall fill-the-mission truck collection for disaster relief.

[Click](#) to access the online edition.

5th Sunday Appeal - (Oct. 31)



United Voices for Children (UVC) would like to thank Northern Illinois congregations for their faithful support through [5th Sunday Appeal](#) offerings in 2021. Your generosity helps UVC and its partners' [Kids Above All](#), [MYSI](#), and [Rosecrance](#) as they serve at-risk children, youth and families in our communities. Sunday, Oct. 31 is the final 5th Sunday Appeal of the year. You may either write a check payable to the church with "5th Sunday Appeal" in the memo line or simply donate online at bit.ly/giveuvc.

Growing Together Symposium Sat., Nov. 13 from 9-11am via Zoom



Presenter: Rev. Kyungsu Park
Breakout sessions—"Discipling Youth" and
"Let's Talk About Intentional Discipleship Systems."

umcnic.org/calendar/growing-together-symposium

Sponsored by the NIC Discipleship Task Force



All Conference Worship Service

Tending to the Harvest

Sunday, November 14 at 3:30 pm
In person and livestream

Location: Our Saviour's UMC, 701 E. Schaumburg Rd., Schaumburg, IL
More info: umcnic.org/calendar/conference-worship



Rev. Olu Brown
Impact Church, Atlanta, Ga.

Sponsored by the NIC Discipleship Task Force



Fall fill-the-truck collection drive for Haiti and disaster relief

The NIC Board of Global Missions is organizing a fall collection drive to support recovery efforts from the 2021 Hurricanes and the recent devastating Earthquake in Haiti. [Please check the NIC website for future information about the collection site locations, pick up schedule and other updates.](#)

Fall Ministry Grant Applications Open

Applications are now being accepted for the NIC's three ministry grants, Social Reform, Congregational Development, and Creative Ministries. The deadline to apply is Nov. 1. To learn more about each grant and for an online application, [click here.](#)



GET VAXXED AT HOME!

PROTECT YOURSELF * YOUR LOVED ONES * YOUR COMMUNITY

COVID-19 Vaccines are safe, effective & offered at no cost

To schedule your home vaccination appointment
call **312.746.4835** or visit **chicago.gov/athome**

Receive a gift when
you get vaccinated at home.

For details: **chi.gov/covidvax**

Equipping & Encouraging Growth in Discipleship

NIC Prayer Network

Monthly calendar with devotions, prayer tools and more!



umcnic.org/prayernetwork



Northern Illinois Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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