

MARCH 21, 2021

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of Galena United Methodist Church

THANK YOU GALENA FOUNDATION

Over a year ago, GUMC applied to the Galena Foundation for a grant supporting the restoration of our historic steeple. Although the cost was more than originally estimated, the Foundation voted to approve half of the cost. Last week the trustees received a check from the foundation for \$18,943.50!

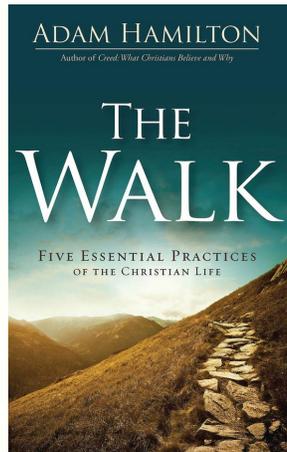
This is the third grant we have received from the foundation for restoration work at our church. Anyone wishing to acknowledge their support can send a note to:

Galena Foundation
PO Box 1
Galena, IL 61036

EASTER CELEBRATION!

Join us online for our Virtual Easter Worship Celebration. You can view our Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday worship services videos on galenaumc.org, Facebook page, and Youtube.

Watch for our Easter Celebration trailer to be posted on March 28 at 4 pm on our website, Facebook and Youtube. Links to the trailer and services will also be emailed by Pastor Catiana.



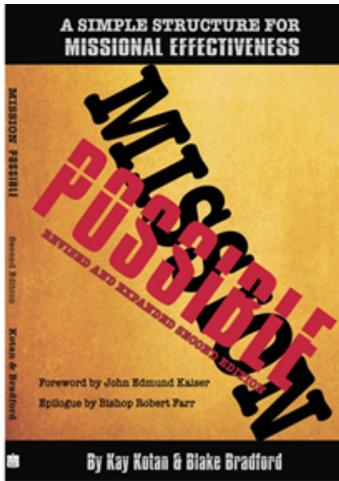
Lenten ZOOM Book Study Continues

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. Today, Christians focus on relationships with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Join us for our ZOOM LENTEN STUDY from 6-7:30 pm every Thursday evening through Lent. We will start at 6 pm with a conversation while we eat soup together over Zoom, and then we will proceed with the study at 6:30 pm. We will be reading "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton. Look out for weekly updates about the study sent to your email.

Review of the SPECIAL CHURCH CONFERENCE held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021



District Superintendent Fabiola Grandon-Mayer presided.

The Nomination Committee's "Motion to Change Congregational Organizational Plan to Simplified Accountable Governance Structure" passed unanimously. The following names offered for approval by the Nomination Committee as the members of the Simplified Structure Leadership Board were Sherry Marc, Joe Lieb, Julie Eggleston, Ginny Carroll, Dale Henze, Dan Dittmar, Lynn Sisler, Jay Dickerson, and Dennis Irwin. The slate of names was approved unanimously.

The third order of business was a revised slate of Nominations. The names offered for approval as members of the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee were Pastor (Chairperson): Rev. Catiana McKay, Lay Leader: Sherry Marc; Class of 2021: Julia Lieb (Young Adult), Suzanne Sproule; Class of 2022: Kay Kroenke, Judy Behnke Biegon; Class of 2023: Elisa Skeeter, Roberta Turner. DS Grandon-Mayer called for a vote. The slate of names was approved unanimously.

Thank you to all who have served so diligently through the years on our administrative committees! More recognition to come. Blessings continue to flow as we transition to this simple structure for missional effectiveness.

CHANGE FOR THE BETTER: GALENA ARC

"Believe in Us" Together we bring sustainability. For 45 years the ARC and community support have allowed Galena to flourish. Work with us to provide our families art, sports,

fitness, child care, and educational programming second to none. Visit Galena ARC: Arts, Community Recreation and Child Care Facility online at www.galenaarc.org to learn

more about upcoming activities and services. **Please indicate on your donation an amount and write "Change for the Better" on your check's memo line.**

Women's History Month

The 2021 International Women's History theme is #ChoosetoChallenge. The theme urges the calling out of gender bias and inequality with the goal of making a major change to make things more inclusive. For more information about this year's challenge, please visit www.gcsr.org.



- 21 Jorene Lieb
- 22 Kara Bader Stadel
- 22 Charlene Price
- 22 Patrick Holcomb
- 23 McKenzy Bader
- 23 Andy Sisler
- 24 Jerry Krohn
- 26 Christine Langas
- 26 Karen Krohn
- 29 Karen Sincock
- 29 Bill Marc

The NIC Committee on Native American Ministries and the NIC Anti-Racism Task Force Justice Generation present:

Sports Mascots - Stereotypes or Team Spirit?

Saturday, March 20, 1-3 pm via Zoom



Discussion Leader:
Rev. Chebon Kernell



umcnic.org/calendar/sports-mascots-stereotypes-or-team-spirit

Northern Illinois Conference
of the United Methodist Church

Anti-Racism Task Force

Racism is a sin, and The United Methodist Church is committed to challenging the unjust power structures that support it and working for equality in all areas of life. What can you do?

Pray: We listen for the voice of Jesus in our private acts of devotion and our public acts of worship. The Upper Room has collected resources for the spiritual work of overcoming racism.

Connect: We begin our work by joining hands and hearts to journey side by side. Seek diverse blogs, podcasts, news outlets, and new relationships.

Show up: We seek to be present at the rally, to the pain of others, and for opportunities to use our voices for change.

Act: Jesus calls us not only to speak but to join in the work of liberating the oppressed.

Join Church and Society in their work for civil and human rights. Connect with UMW in their work for racial justice. Suggested Resources for Becoming Anti-Racist: Discipleship Ministries. Hire people of color. Spend responsibly. Work for justice. To learn more, contact the Anti-Racism Task Force through their email: AntiracismTF@umcnic.org. Or, visit www.umcnic.org/ to learn more about ARTF and upcoming events tied to this effort.

Sharing Our Gifts

We encourage you to donate by mail, on our website galenaumc.org or on our Facebook page. A DONATION BUTTON HAS BEEN ADDED TO FACEBOOK and OUR WEBSITE. "Shop and Share" any time for Galena UMC! GUMC receives a percentage of the online sales when these services when you shop online with iGive and Amazon Smile.

Amazon Smile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. The donation will be made at no extra cost to you and you can choose from nearly one million public charitable organizations.

iGive is a free service. Since 1997, iGive has grown to 350,000+ members supporting 50,000+ causes and raised over \$9 Million! Select "Galena UMC" as your "cause" before you shop. iGive members generate donations by shopping online at any of our 2,400+ Stores. There are no added costs nor obligations. You don't need to enter any codes. It's all automatic.



Galena Food Pantry needs your help!

Would you like to donate to help those affected by food insecurity?

Due to the pandemic, the need to support food banks has heightened. To donate, send your donations directly to the Galena Food Pantry or send donations to us, indicating Galena Food Pantry as the destination for the amount.

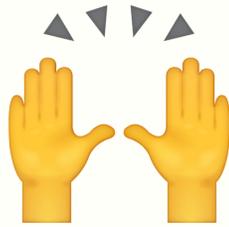
To volunteer or to find more information about the Galena Food Pantry, please visit galenafoodpantry.org.

HOW TO DONATE TO HOPE SUNSHINE BOX

H.O.P.E. youth group continues their Gear Street Ministry, replenishing the Sunshine Box weekly. PLEASE COLLECT the following for the Sunshine Box: mouthwash, dental floss, razors, shaving cream, body wash, toothpaste,

feminine products, baby wipes, body lotion face wash, granola bars, crackers, juice boxes, canned fruit, Clorox wipes, kitchen sponges, dish detergent, garbage bags, zip lock bags, and glass cleaner.

Prayer Joys and Concerns



Prayers for our country's peace and reconciliation; please hold our friends and families who have, had, or are being tested for COVID-19, in prayer.

Prayers of thanks for the vaccine and for those who continue to donate their time and effort to help others register for their COVID-19 vaccinations.

Continue to hold our dear members and friends who passed away these last few months and their families in prayer.

Please pray for Lonna's health and Lonna's daughter Joni Decker; Melissa, Janette's granddaughter, who recently had a portion of her lung removed; Charlene had knee surgery. Hold her in prayer as she recovers; Prayers for Wayne Turner's health issues.

Continue prayers for healing for Daniel Sabin; continue prayers for Eileen Henrich, Pam McKinsey's mom, and prayers for Pam's sister, Melanie; Prayers for Ester Lieberman who is now in hospice at home.

Please hold Sarah and Carter in prayer as Sarah continues chemotherapy; Betty Kabara is doing well. Michele Allen, Rob Brotheridge's daughter has lung cancer that has metastasized to the brain; prayers for family members of Elisa.

Please continue prayers for Larry Cook and his family; Curtis Cook, Larry's grandson; please hold Bev DeBord in prayer; Ben's niece, Charity; Dave and Annie Silaggi and Lisa and Terry Prindle.

Prayers for Janette Bader and family; prayers for Pat Bull - transitions; prayers for Margo Simmons and Mike; continue prayers for Corey Hyslop, Suzanne's nephew, a quadriplegic, hospitalized for severe pain and complications; Prayers for Zambia's hunger-missionary, Betty Tsala and sons, Lanie and Shaun.

Prayers for all detained/separated children, Immigrants; victims of gun violence & all experiencing PTSD; all responders to tragedies in our country & around the world; prayers for the people of the United Methodist Church as we find a new expression of more fully living into the grace-filled ministry of our faith; and prayers for our United Methodist Church and its ministries.

Prayers for peaceful solutions to world issues that are too often addressed with violence. May the peace of Christ prevail.

Prayers for the world and its leaders facing difficult decisions every day. May decisions be made with wisdom and care for the benefit of all.

Prayers for all health care workers and for all frontline workers trying to provide critical services at a dangerous time for themselves;

Prayers for loved ones who have died but whose lives cannot be celebrated in churches at this time; for maintaining connections during a time of sheltering in our homes; and prayers for healing from the sins of racism.

Northern Illinois Conference Goals



Our strategic goals for the Conference (approved at AC 2019) to be implemented through a two-year plan are the following:

- 1) to grow and reach new disciples of Jesus Christ;
- 2) to live out the conviction that racism is incompatible with Christian teaching;
- 3) and to increase the number of highly vital congregations.

Visit our NIC Shepherding Team website at umcnic.org/shepherdingteam to download the 2019 ACST Strategic Goals Brochure and to learn more about the team. Check out webinars for each of these goals on umcnic.org.

The Anti-Racism Task Force is our conference's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping our local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all for the glory of God. Our vision is "making and supporting vital Christians in vital congregations that engage with their communities and the world for peace justice and mercy."



General Conference postponed until 2022

On February 25, the Commission on the General Conference announced their decision to further postpone the 2020 General Conference to August 29 - September 6, 2022, due to continued safety and travel challenges caused by the pandemic.

CONTACT FOR GUMC

Galena United Methodist Church
125 South Bench Street
Galena, Illinois 61036

Pastor Catiana McKay
catiana.mckay@gmail.com
Catiana's Cell: 630-935-3312

Church Office: 815-777-0192
gumc0192@gmail.com
galenaumc.org

A great way to stay connected and receive updates about happenings in our district!



www.facebook.com/NICRockfordDistrict/

NIC Prayer Network

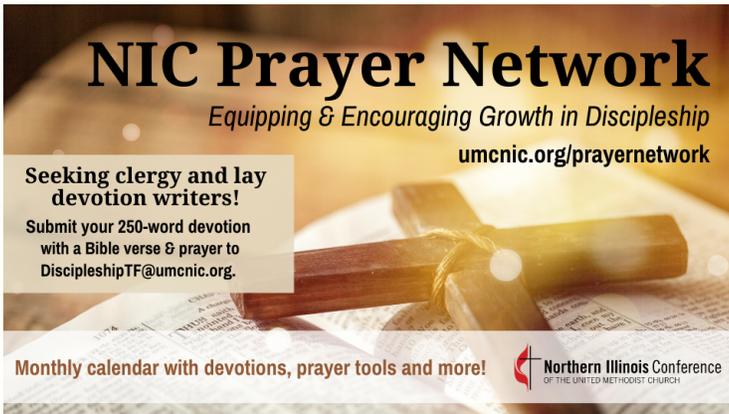
Equipping & Encouraging Growth in Discipleship

umcnic.org/prayernetwork

Seeking clergy and lay devotion writers!

Submit your 250-word devotion with a Bible verse & prayer to DiscipleshipTF@umcnic.org.

Monthly calendar with devotions, prayer tools and more!



Northern Illinois Conference OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LAITY CONVOCATION 2021

The Other Side

Making our churches vital in a post-pandemic world



CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO

Recording available at umcnic.org/laity



Northern Illinois Conference OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Virtual Youth Leader Symposium

NIC Youth Leader Symposium 2021

Saturday, May 1, 2021
9:00 to 11:30 am
via Zoom
Cost: \$10



Featured Speaker:
Rev. Dr. Heather Lear
Teaching and Research Fellow
The Foundation for Evangelism

Register at umcnic.org/calendar/youth-leader-symposium



Northern Illinois Conference OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Read the March Reporter online today!

REPORTER umcnic.org

March 2021 | Volume 167 | Issue 2

AC2021 Dates Set - Returns to Virtual Session

By Anne Marie Gerhardt, Dir. of Communications

Continuing to keep the health and safety of clergy and lay members a top priority, the 182nd session of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference will convene again as an all-virtual session from July 16-17, 2021, with Interim Bishop John L. Hopkins presiding. The Annual Conference Committee, which met Feb. 22 led by its new Chair Deborah Dargerfeld, is working on a theme and schedule.

Despite the trend of declining COVID-19 cases across Illinois, the future is still uncertain for large events. "We all miss the face-to-face interaction and look forward to the day when we can gather in one place again," said Rev. Arlene Christopherson, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Connectional Ministries. "But at this point, the state guidelines still don't allow large groups to gather and meet, so hosting the Annual Conference virtually is the best option to safely and efficiently do our work."

Good News TV, which provided production, a secure voting platform and live-streaming services for the 2020 virtual annual conference, will once again help coordinate and host the virtual gathering through a Zoom webinar. Barrington United Methodist Church has again graciously offered its sanctuary for the production space. In-person attendance will be limited to the Bishop, staff and the behind-the-scenes crew.

Since a rise in COVID-19 cases forced the cancellation of the limited in-person 2020 Ordination Service planned for Nov. 13, a new date is set for April 24 at 3 p.m. at Barrington United Methodist Church.

"It is our hope that the improvements we are seeing in COVID-19 infection rates will hold and that we can conduct this service



The 182nd Annual Conference scheduled for July 16-17, 2021, will look similar to last year's first-ever virtual annual conference held November 2020 and will be held through a Zoom webinar.

safely, with limited participation, and virtual attendees," said Bishop John Hopkins in a letter to the 2020 class of ordinands. "We will follow the same plans set forth last fall – masks and social distancing, limited guests, and a shortened service. Bishop Sally Dyck will return to co-officiate the service. The service will be live-streamed on the Conference's YouTube channel and Facebook page."

An ordination service for the 2021 class is scheduled for Oct. 1, likely with limited in-person participation and live-streamed. A full session to consider the budget and other agenda items will be held Oct. 2 and will be held virtually as well.

The AC Committee is still ironing out the dates for legislation submission, Bible study, Clergy Session and worship services. Stay up to date on news and announcements by visiting umcnic.org/AC2021.

General Conference postponed another year

By Heather Hahn, UMNS

You have options! Read the March Reporter in two different ways: print and online.

Learn about Annual Conference 2021, explore NIC's progress on the three strategic goals, be encouraged by what local churches are doing in the community, and much more!

Visit www.umcnic.org/Reporter to read the March Reporter and catch up on the previous month's publications. To request a print subscription or to submit a change of address, please email communications@umcnic.org.

About GUMC

By God’s grace, the Galena United Methodist Church is the Body of Christ striving to fulfill Christ’s Great Command to love God and to love neighbor, and Christ’s Great Commission to make disciples. Galena United Methodist Church is affiliated with the Reconciling Ministries Network. God, as known to us in Jesus Christ, welcomes all.

OUR MISSION

**Love God.
Love Neighbor.
Make Disciples.**

We welcome ALL people of any race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, social or economic status, employment status, or life situation; including people with physical or mental illness or disability. We practice loving acceptance of each person and respectful discussion of our differences.

Our missional giving includes United Churches of Galena Food Pantry, Riverview Compassionate Care, National Child Safety Council, Rosecrance Behavioral Health, Prisoner Release, Riverbend Food Depository, Homelessness in Chicago, and UMCOR National and UMCOR International disasters from Hurricanes to Missionary Support around the world.

Ministry Team and Staff

Pastor:	Rev. Catiana McKay
Ministers:	The Congregation
Accompanist:	Cody Clayton
Choir Director:	Pam McKinsey
Hand Bell Choir:	Meg Gibbs
Digital Ministry:	Julia Lieb
Technical:	Dennis Irwin
Sound:	Karen Hughes
Acolytes:	Emma Blaum, Lilly Dickerson, Maya Dickerson, Ruby Dickerson, Brooke Dittmar, Chase Dittmar, Vanessa Fair, Aamirha Hallman, and Owen Holcomb

United Methodist Memberships



Illinois CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES
worldmethodistconference.com



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
nccusa.org



WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
oikoumene.org



WORLD METHODIST CONFERENCE
worldmethodistconference.com

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