

Appointment Announcements

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung makes formal announcement of appointments set within the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church. United Methodist Clergy are appointed on a year-to-year basis; usually from July 1st until June 30th. Appointments are effective July 1, 2012 unless otherwise noted.

May Announcements

Ron Green (Elder, North Prairie/Winthrop Harbor) River Forest.
Kwang-Sung Lim (Elder, Itasca: Bethany) North Prairie
Jin-Hee Kang (Provisional Elder) Winthrop Harbor.
David Jungnickel (LP Coleta) East Jordan/Coleta.
Jaclyn Wills (LP Herbert) Kingston/Herbert.
Cheri Stewart (LP Earlville) Prophetstown.
Michael Stoner (Elder, Batavia) Sabbatical Leave.
David Newhouse (Elder, Elgin: Epworth) Batavia.
Linnny Hartzell (Provisional Elder) Blue Island/Hazel Crest:Community.
Becky Nicol (Provisional Elder) Burlington.
Young Eun Choi (Elder, 346.1) Glenbrook Korean.
Mariam Castro-Rodriguez (Deacon, Transitional Leave) Rochelle.
Soon Sun Lee (Elder, Sabbatical) Hebron.
Bromleigh McCleneghan (Elder, St. Charles:Baker) Leave of Absence.
Karli Pidgeon (Elder, 346.1) Transfer to Louisiana.
Kim Chapman (LP Chana/Lighthouse) NIUE Campus Ministry.
Tom Rawlison (LP) Glenview, Assoc.

June Announcements

Julie Fleurinor (LP) Resurrection.
Dwayne Grant (LP, Resurrection) to Hillside-Bellwood, (NFC)
Casey Fiut (346.2) Chicago: Redeemer of Calvary

and Polish Ministry (NFC)
Don Dexheimer (358.6) Harlem.
Kim Fisher (LP) Chicago: Granville, 8/1/12.
Becky Nicol (Provisional Elder) Burlington.
Linda Thomas (LP, Green Garden/Peotone) Earlville.
Mark Jacobs (Elder, Naperville: Community) Elgin: Epworth.
Grace Imathiu (346.1) Naperville: Community.
Javier Martinez (LP) Chana/Lighthouse.
Tom Rawlison (LP) Glenview, Assoc.
James Best (Provisional Deacon) St. Charles: Baker
Lucas Pepper (Provisional Deacon) Buffalo Grove: Kingswood.
Bonnie Roth (Provisional Deacon) Evanston: First ½ time.
Tammy Biltgen (Deacon) Bolingbrook: Friendship ¼ time.

July Announcements

Kyungsu Park (LP) Elizabeth, ½ time.
Derek Rogers (Provisional Elder; Polo: First) Polo: Faith (Merger of Polo: First/Emmanuel)
Richard Young (358.6) Green Garden ½ time.
Paul Gerardy (358.6) Cedarville/Red Oak ¾ time.
Victor Melad, Jr. (346.1) Edison Park, 10/1.
Fabiola Grandon (LP) Elgin: First, Associate.
Cynthia Moore (LP) Greenstone ½ time.
Jason Hill (Provisional Deacon) First Presbyterian, Lake City, FL
Young Min Paik (Elder) Field Education Director, Yonsei University, School of Theology.



Dozens of toy cars and trucks parked on the altar at Aldersgate UMC to be distributed to local children in need.

Toymaking Ministry Touches Hearts

By Pastor Doug Williams

As I looked down at the altar that past Father's Day Sunday morning, it appeared to me that a traffic jam had somehow materialized on the top of it. Cars small and large, ambulances, and school buses appeared to be stalled in some kind of silent and blessed gridlock. Their attempts to move forward were thwarted by vehicles going the opposite way. "Dear Lord," I began the blessing.

The idea came from East Lake United Methodist Church in Florida. This church had made thousands of little wooden cars and trucks for children in hospitals and shelters over the years. I had read about it and even watched a video tape of it thanks to United Methodist Communications.

I checked around to see if any folks at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Rockford would be interested in starting a toy making ministry here. At the same time I started to contact social service agencies in Rockford who helped to care for children in distress. Pretty soon, I had requests for 95 toys from three agencies who responded to my contacting them.

We had a donation of paint from a home improvement store. Some folks in church made financial contributions to the newly formed Toymakers of Aldersgate. We were able to get 1 by 4 poplar boards. Someone else found wooden wheels and other car parts and donated

them to the Toymakers.

Armed with plans that our brothers and sisters in Florida shared with us, we began. We have people who trace and cut the cars out. One of our members drills the axle holes. Another one uses a router to smooth off the corners. Another one adds windows to the cars. Still another one sands. When it came time to paint the toys, another group of people stepped up to paint. Still another group put the wheels on. (I was reminded of Scripture where it says that Paul planted, and Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.)

The "growth" is continuing as we have received a request for 50 more toys from a daycare for children of homeless families here in Rockford. In addition we have heard that Head Start serves 800 children, and yes we have already begun making toys for each of them.

I look forward to the next 'traffic jam' on the altar at church. It will mean that we are still reaching out to children in distress, as well as reaching out to our congregation and offering an opportunity to be in mission, one car at a time.

It is not our intent to take away all the pain and strife that these children are experiencing, but perhaps to bring a smile to a face that has not smiled for awhile. I have been told that some local children have nothing at all, not even a toy to call their own. We hope to help with that.

JFON Fundraiser Dinner

You are invited to join us for the
First Annual Dinner Celebration of
JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS Northern Illinois

"Seeing God in the Faces of Others"

Featuring Rev. Bill Mefford of the UMC General Board
on Church and Society and including
Testimonies from our Immigrant Clients

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2012

European Chalet
5445 S. Harlem Ave, Chicago, IL
Music, Good Food, Testimonies, Fellowship
TICKETS: \$50/ TABLE OF 10 FOR \$500

Gathering Music: 4:30 p.m. Dinner and Program: 5:00-7:30 p.m.

For tickets contact Michael Mann at 847-931-0710 ext. 20, mmann@umcnic.org or
Judy Siaba at 312-346-9766 ext. 124, jsiaba@umcnic.org.

Sponsored by the JFON Northern Illinois Board of Directors. www.jfonnic.org.

Lift Up Workers in your Congregation and Community this Labor Day

It's been a rough few years for American workers. This Labor Day consider planning a worship service or educational event that honors workers and lifts up the cause of worker justice.

Visit Interfaith Worker Justice's planning center website at www.iwj.org for ideas and free Labor in the Pulpit resources, including downloadable, ready-to-print prayer litanies and bulletin inserts, and a planning toolkit.

Congregations across the U.S. have been celebrating "Labor in the Pulpit" on Labor Day weekend for the past 15 years. This year, consider joining them—and let workers in your congregation and community know that you're standing with them.