

As we get closer to June and to the 176th session of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference, I want to take a few minutes of your time to share with you some updates, dates, deadlines and explanations that might be important for all of us as we prepare for Annual Conference:



- Based on the revised Standing Rules that we adopted at the 2014 Annual Conference, the newly established Consent Calendar Committee has been looking at the legislative documents and preparing this year's consent calendar. The preliminary consent calendar will be made available to the members of the Annual Conference soon. If a person/group desires to lift any item from the consent calendar, they need to fill out a petition, get 25 signatures of support from members of the Annual Conference and turn the petition in to Daniel Diss, Chair of Daily Proceedings, **by 2pm, Sunday, June 14 in the Mega Center** (the petition form will be available on our Annual Conference website soon).
- In order to make these changes clearer and to answer any of your questions, we have planned a **Webinar** on Monday, **June 1, 2015 at noon and 7pm**. Please be sure to join us for one of the two sessions which should last no more than an hour. The legislative documents and historical reports are now available online. Details on how to join the call will be made available closer to the date.
- We listened to your suggestions and we are bringing the **Orientation Session** back, especially for those who will be coming to Annual Conference for the very first time. This **30-minute session** will be on **Sunday, June 14, 2015 from 1:00- 1:30pm in the Atrium**, right by the St. Charles ballroom where registration will be.
- This year we have an **Accessibility Coordinator who is Kathy Wellman**. She will be connecting with those who have identified their needs during registration and will be available in the office area of the Mega Center throughout Annual Conference. If you have any special needs, please be sure to let Kathy know.
- An online **evaluation** form will be emailed to you within one day of the end of Annual Conference. Please be sure to give us your comments, suggestions and feedback as so we can continue to work towards making this a meaningful time for everyone.
- We will also have the **Culvers** fundraiser to support our Bishop's Appeal for JFON (Justice for our Neighbors) **on Monday**. Look for the coupon in your packets at the time of registration.
- All **displays** will be available for us **only on Monday**, so be sure to visit the **St. Charles Ballroom** and learn about the various ministries.
- Please be sure to check the NIC website for these and other updates as they become available. If you have not registered yet, remember that the **early registration ends May 15 and the cost goes up to \$90**.

~Rev. Alka Lyall, Chair, Annual Conference Committee