



Northern Waters District

Michigan Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER CHURCH UPDATE

The Northern Waters District (NWD) Peace with Justice Ministry Team (PWJMT) continues to focus energy on opportunities for congregations to work together for justice and peace.

We are taking the words of Micah 6:8 seriously as we plan and act.

He has shown all you people what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Our work of “planting” seeds of justice in the NWD is our privileged responsibility. We are joining the mysterious, ongoing work of God as the Holy Spirit calls us to action answering our prayer, “Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.”

JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS (JFON)

Our JFON focus for 2019 continues as JFON representatives and/or materials will be with us at the hubs.

We now have a new opportunity and responsibility to bring justice actions to the lives of these sojourners in our Northern Waters District. As of October 1st, an immigration-for-profit-prison opened in the Northern Waters District. Mike Windover, on our PWJMT, is collaborating with Adam Satchwell, the chair of JFON’s advocacy committee to determine possible actions for justice. The PWJMT is interested in what outreach/justice actions NWD churches are taking. Please keep us informed via email to Mike Windover, mjw888@charter.net.

JFON Newsletter

JFON now has a newsletter going out each month. You can sign up by emailing Alline, a.beutler@jfonmi.org. The link below takes you to a copy of the latest newsletter.

<https://mailchi.mp/c50b5bf1ec2b/justice-for-our-neighbors-october-2019-newsletter-409537>

JFON At the Hub Meetings

A JFON representative and/or information will be available at each hub. Further questions about JFON may be directed to Alline’s email address: a.beutler@jfonmi.org.

PWJMT’S INTERACTIONS AT THE 2019 HUB CHURCH CONFERENCES

Our new brochure is being distributed at all the hubs. We hope the information on the brochures and our conversations at these hubs will draw us to mutual goals. Our ongoing communication loop with liaisons and pastors is the foundation for PWJMT’s actions. Many exciting possibilities and choices remain ahead of us as we work together to be the answer to our prayer, “Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.”

PWJMT ACTION PLAN



ADVOCACY

As you see from the “footprint” labeled *Justice*, part of our ongoing effort is promoting changes in institutions with actions directed at the root causes of injustice.

We all are in ministry with those in congregations and communities who are experiencing injustice.

We know the Holy Spirit is revealing to those in our congregations and communities how their expertise, passion for justice can be part of our

justice solutions in NWD. We look for their added input for our planning.

Save the Date Advocacy Training

Wednesday, May 27, 2020. The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) from Washington-DC will provide advocacy training on **values-based advocacy**. Time and place to be determined. It is an ecumenical training opportunity. Details pending; will be announced as soon as possible.

Advocacy Relationships in NWD with Elected Officials

Part of our goal is to develop relationships with elected officials at the local levels. Team members visited all three local offices of our DC elected officials. The experience energized us knowing we made a difference. We were told that visits, emails, calls are all tallied, and decisions are made based on constituents’ input. Our skills in advocacy will greatly increase after we participate in the FCNL training in May.

PWJMT ASKS FOR PRAYERS

The PWJMT is excited to know of the prayers for Peace with Justice being offered. A group of people intentionally choosing to pray for the NWD Peace with Justice Ministry team will receive periodic updates listing the specific prayer needs of our ministry. If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Randie Clawson via email, randie.clawson@gmail.com.

Randie Clawson CLM

Northern Waters District

Peace with Justice Coordinator

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