

Chicago Metropolitan Association
Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ
Addendum to Annual Spring Meeting
Saturday, June 20, 2020
CMA Moderator's Report
"Living Into Hope"

Thank you CMA for your patience and willingness to make changes to the ways you are accustomed to doing things and just falling in to do your part. Certainly all the traumatic things that have taken place in the past few months as well as things that are still happening that are out of our control has taken its toll, but I commend you all for your loyalty and willingness to continue your work toward the building of God's Kingdom.

I was not able to get the ballot ready for the meeting we had on June 6th which is the reason for this meeting. So, I'd like to thank all who heard the call for volunteers and stepped up, or recruited others. I especially want to thank Rev. Terrill Murff for searching out volunteers even with his busy schedule, and Rev. Wayne MacPherson, without whom the ballot would still be lacking much more than it does now, so he has my eternal gratitude. The ballot is not yet complete, but it is so much better than it would have been had I brought it forth on June 6th and we will have an opportunity to complete it in the near future.

Rev. Wayne shared a poem with me that was written by someone he knows and I'd like to share it with all of you:

Blessing of Hope
Jan Richardson

So may we know the hope that is not just for someday
but for this day—here, now, in this moment that opens to us:

hope not made of wishes but of substance,
hope made of sinew and muscle and bone,

hope that has breath and a beating heart,
hope that will not keep quiet and be polite,
hope that knows how to holler when it is called for,

hope that knows how to sing when there seems little cause,
hope that raises us from the dead – not someday
but this day, every day, again and again and again.

Faithfully Submitted,
This 20th Day of June 2020

Juanita Bradley, Moderator