



CHILDREN'S SABBATH 2018

October - December 2018

The NAC Team of the Pan Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty

Invites you and your congregation to Host Children's Sabbath 2018

Realizing Dr. King's Vision for Every Child: Lives of Hope, Not Despair

*CHILDREN'S SABBATH CONGREGATIONAL TOOL KIT:

1. Liturgies and Action Guides for Children's Sabbath Worship:

- https://www.childrensdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Sabbath-2018_CHRISTIAN-FINAL.pdf (Pages 17-37 worship liturgies; pages 25-34 sermon starters; page 35-36 children's message)
- https://www.childrensdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Sabbath-2018_Action-Guide-9.26.18.pdf (Pages 7-12 excellent visuals about ending childhood poverty)
- <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/why-united-methodists-observe-childrens-sabbath>

2. "NAC Children's Sabbath Video" and Study Guide:

Our gratitude to Pan-Methodist Campaign Founder and Candler School of Theology Professor Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Luther Smith, for sharing his wisdom on our NAC YouTube channel. The Study Guide is posted on the Campaign's NAC web page. <https://youtu.be/folxlr4cQ0>

3. Our NAC Children in Poverty Facts:

"Data Map of Children Living in Poverty in Our Annual Conference" – view on the NAC website the number of children who struggle in poverty within the bounds of our AC. What will WE do?

4. Ideas for engaging schools in your congregation's neighborhood:

"50 Ways to Engage Local Schools" + the NAC Campaign blog posts on the NAC website.

5. Share Your Stories:

Email your stories to the NAC Pan-Methodist Campaign team (see below address).

The FACTS from Voices for Alabama's Children in 2017...

- More than 1 in 4 (27.3 %) of Alabama's children were poor.
- More than 24% of children lived in households that lacked access to adequate food.
- More than 77% of Alabama's 4th and 8th grade public school students were unable to read at grade level.

**Note: Children's Sabbath is different from a Children's Sunday. Children's Sabbath does celebrate your congregation's children, but it also is a time (during worship, study, outreach) to invite our congregations to focus on the realities of children beyond our congregations. Children's Sabbath is a way for our congregations to help children thrive, not just survive, the systems and circumstances impacting their young lives.*

If October doesn't work for your church, then pick ANY Sunday before December 31 to host Children's Sabbath!

For more information: www.umcna.org/childreninpoverty
www.umcna.org/childrenssabbath
www.panmethodistcampaignforchildren.org
www.childrensdefense.org

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