



CHILDREN'S SABBATH 2019

The North Alabama Conference Team of the Pan Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty

Invites you and your congregation to
Host Children's Sabbath 2019
"Uniting Hearts & Voices to End Child Poverty"

CHILDREN'S SABBATH* CONGREGATIONAL TOOL KIT:

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

- <https://www.childrensdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2019-Sabbath-Christian-Worship-Resouces.pdf>
- <https://www.childrensdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Childrens-Sabbath-Action-Ideas.pdf>
- <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/why-united-methodists-observe-childrens-sabbath>

2. "North Alabama Conference Children's Sabbath Video" and Study Guide:

Gratitude to Pan-Methodist Campaign Founder and Candler School of Theology Professor Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Luther Smith, for sharing his wisdom on our North Alabama Conference YouTube channel. https://youtu.be/j9_GBVRA8Xs
The [Study Guide](#) is on the Campaign's North Alabama Conference web page.

3. Our North Alabama Conference Children in Poverty Facts:

"Data Map of Children Living in Poverty in Our Annual Conference" – View on the North Alabama Conference website the number of children who struggle in poverty within the bounds of our Annual Conference.

What will WE do? [Download the October 2018 Data Map](#)

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

- ["50 Ways to Engage Local Schools"](#)
- [North Alabama Conference Campaign blog posts](#)

5. Share Your Stories:

Email your stories to the North Alabama Conference Pan-Methodist Campaign team (see below).

The FACTS from Voices for Alabama's Children in 2018...

- **More than 26.5 % (1 in 4 children or 289,382) of Alabama's children were poor.**
- **More than 22.5 % of children lived in households that lacked access to adequate food.**
- **More than 60 % 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.

Pick ANY Sunday from mid-August until December 31 to host Children's Sabbath!

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

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