

Northeastern Jurisdiction Native American Ministries Committee

10/11/21

Dear NEJ CoNAM leaders and Annual Conference attendees,

I write this report for the 2021 Communications Committee with a grateful heart. Thank you for your support the past three years. In discernment with prayer partners from my Indigenous community I have decided to step down as chairperson of the NEJ Communications Committee due to health issues and my call to tend to my research on boarding schools and decolonization. Todd Warfield has agreed to take the position for the remainder of my term and serve as the chair if indeed this is amendable to this body.

Some of the highlights of 2020-2021 for the Communications Team includes providing the website with numerous articles on Boarding Schools, MMI/NW/G, LGBTQS2 persons, the GNJ Conference initiatives, and the UN Indigenous Forum, among others. In addition, worship liturgies, services, and numerous educational resources have been provided. Press releases concerning our work on our LGBTQS2 position paper and ongoing efforts for MMI/NW/G have been shared. We collaborated with and supported the Native American International Caucus as they pressed for accountability concerning the Methodist Boarding Schools and we have coordinated with the UMW on programs that educate and bring attention to the systemic removal of Indigenous children from their homes.

We provided press releases of letters, articles, and statements with the various CONAMs and Annual Conference Communications Directors across the jurisdiction. We also maintained an online presence through our website

<http://nejnamc.org/>

Our YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyHPBLhRHknrIPqVrWAtniQ/featured> Our

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/umcnejnamc> and our twitter feed

NEJNAMC. @nejnamc10

We met as a committee once this year to coordinate the transition in leadership. We also continue to remain members of UMCOM (United Methodist Communications).

Personally, I provided technical access through zoom for meetings with recorded minutes and coordinated incoming communications through our email nejnamc@gmail.com. I would like to remain a member of the Communications Committee and provide support for the website, social media networks, and in the form of articles.

I humbly submit this report,



Rev. Dr. Suzanne Wenonah Duchesne, PhD

Communications Chairperson of Northeast Jurisdiction Native American Ministries Committee
Visiting Assistant Professor Worship and Preaching & Director Mast Chapel at NBTS



Executive Committee:

Pat Parent,
Abenaki/Penobscot
Chairperson
New England

Bethany Printup-Davis,
Tuscarora
Vice Chairperson,
Upper New York

Ellesa High,
Lower Eastern Ohio Mekoce
Shawnee
Secretary
West Virginia

Kae Wilbert, Cherokee
Treasurer
Upper New York

Suzanne Wenonah Duchesne,
Non-Native
Communications Chairperson
Eastern Pennsylvania

RagghiRain,
Eastern Cherokee
Advocacy Chairperson
Peninsula/Delaware

Sherry Wack,
Non-Native
Advocacy Secretary
Eastern Pennsylvania

Cynthia Kent,
Southern Ute
Nominating
Chairperson, Greater New
Jersey