



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Wisconsin Conference,

GREETINGS! In the name of Jesus Christ, God bless you! I look forward with joy and anticipation to our continued mission and ministry together in the coming quadrennium.

We laid a solid foundation during 2004-08 from which to launch into new levels of service to God. We have answered Christ's call to:

LIVE, GIVE AND LOVE....BEYOND ALL EXPECTATION.

I see us making this vision a reality in 2009-12 as we accomplish six things:

- 1) nurture and develop unity of vision;
- 2) practice ongoing deepening of our faith in God;
- 3) develop ourselves and others as passionate Christian leaders;
- 4) embrace accountability;
- 5) excel at resourcefulness and generosity; and
- 6) unleash our creativity.

To live, give and love beyond all expectation requires a change in life-style for most of us -- a radical, counter-cultural internal and external way of being. This will require us to move into a way of being that frees us to live in healthy relationships so that those imprisoned by violence and addiction can be set free, those who are in need of healing can be made whole and all may be open to God's possibilities.

We must know where we have come from and where we are in order to move forward. This Ministry Assessment Guide has been created with love, passion and hope for you and for all of our congregations and circuits. We believe we can and must continue to be among those who are transformers of the world -- change agents for God!

Your Cabinet, the rest of the Conference Leadership Team and I believe in you. We all have the ability to live and to give and to love in ways beyond what we have hoped for or imagined. Our commitment is to pray for, support and resource you and one another. Christ Jesus is our guide and help.

Grounded in our faith in God, let's move into the future with boldness!

'You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid....let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.'
(Matthew 5: 14a-16)

In Christ's Spirit and Love,

Bishop Linda Lee

LL/cjc