

June 2012

Dear Friends,

With great joy, we share the good news that your church is a “Five for Five” congregation of the United Church of Christ. Your Conference reports that in 2011 you gave to *Our Church’s Wider Mission* Basic Support and all four of the special mission offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and The Christmas Fund. Because of the breadth of your vision and the depth of your commitment to ministry, ***you are a leadership church in the United Church of Christ.***

Through your generous giving, you are *changing lives* in your own neighborhood *and* in places far away, reaching out in compassion and justice to imagine and then build a better world. Our missionaries, development workers overseas and disaster relief workers here in the U.S. proclaim the gospel in myriad ways: digging wells, staffing schools and hospitals, or working with refugees, they partner *with you* in transforming the lives of those affected by the ravages of famine, weather, disease and war. We work *together* for environmental justice, racial justice, and justice in public education and health care.

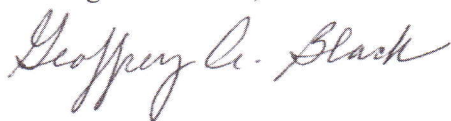
Together, we offer *extravagant welcome* to spiritual seekers who find warm hospitality, good news, spiritual nourishment, and a community of justice in UCC congregations. We plant new churches, nurture the vitality of established congregations and reach out through our web ministries to touch the lives of those who are grateful to find a church that welcomes them, no matter where they are on life’s journey.

In every generation, the United Church of Christ proclaims the *continuing testament* of the Stillspeaking God. This summer, thousands of young people will attend National Youth Event, and your giving provides staffing and programs for a gathering that brings enthusiasm, energy and hope to the church. At the same time, you honor the covenant with a generation that has served long and faithfully when you meet the needs of retired pastors and their spouses who often live on very modest resources.

You also support the wider church that makes these and many other ministries possible, nurturing leadership and providing resources in stewardship, worship, and evangelism. United Church News and *Keeping You e-Posted* keep us connected, and Worship Ways, *Sing! Prayer and Praise*, and Sermon Seeds enrich our life as a worshipping community. Because of your giving, we grow into a more intercultural and multi-ethnic church that lifts up the ministry of women and advances the ministry of those challenged by disabilities but gifted and called by God.

Please display the enclosed poster in your church to raise awareness of the great ministries made possible by your faithful generosity. You can order – free of charge – additional “My Church is 5 for 5!” stickers from UCC Resources (800-537-3394). Thank you for your commitment to the gospel as it is lived out in the United Church of Christ.

Blessings and thanks,



Rev. Geoffrey A. Black
General Minister and President

God is still speaking,



COLLEGIUM OF OFFICERS

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GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT

Edith A. Guffey
ASSOCIATE GENERAL MINISTER

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