

“All Christians are called through their baptism to a ministry of servanthood in the world to the glory of God and for human fulfillment.” THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



November 9, 2009

Dear Members and Friends of the Temple:

As we enter our 2010 Stewardship Pledge Campaign, we're reminded of our calling as Christians to go into the community to serve those in need and to make our world more loving and just. We believe that the Holy Spirit empowers and guides us in these ministries and that wherever there's need and suffering, we join Christ, already at work.

But still, we cannot be effective in ministry on our own. So the congregation exists, in part, to surround and support each member in his or her ministry. We do not always succeed in our efforts to be faithful disciples in the world. But with the loving support of the community of faith, we can continue to grow.

This year we're asking you to "Heed the Call" to continue our ministries of good works in the community and world through your annual financial pledge. The call we heed both personally and collectively, as channeled through our church, has far-reaching and positive life-changing impact. As you consider your "pledge" toward the ministry of the Chicago Temple in 2010, please reflect on a few of the works we have accomplished in 2009:

- ✓ **Worship** - 30,000 annual attendees heard the Word of God during 6 worship services weekly.
- ✓ **Outreach** - 7,000 hot meals served to the homeless citizens of our community.
- ✓ **Pastoral Care** - 2,580 counseling hours, plus hospital calls, home visits, and telephone contacts.
- ✓ **Education** - 2,000 hours of tutoring and adult mentorship provided to 30 Chicago public school students, in addition to our regular schedule of classes for children, youths, and adults.

* See the enclosed flyer for a more complete listing of our 2009 accomplishments:-

Please take a moment to **record your commitment** on the enclosed pledge card and **return it to the church by mail or in-person by November 22**. As an alternative, you can register your pledge electronically at www.chicagotemple.org by clicking the "**Pledge Online**" button.

The amount you pledge isn't the most important point. We have those in our congregation who pledge just 50-cents per week while other households commit up to \$26,000 per year. What IS important is that we hear from you.

Please reach out to me or the church staff if you have any questions. My email is andrewgreta@yahoo.com and the phone number for the church office is 312-236-4548.

Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely,

Andrew Greta, Chair
Stewardship Committee