

JUNE 2009

CONNECTING

To the Congregations of the Mid-Atlantic District, in God and our Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace.

We, the Leadership Team, give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord. (Paraphrased from I Thess. 1:1–2, NRSV.)

It is the Leadership Team's intent that we do keep you before God in our prayers and that you, the District congregations, do the same for us. Without this lifting up in prayer, we can easily stray into misunderstandings and separations.

We have much to be thankful for, but the blessing most on our hearts right now is the calling of Pastor Gene Hagenberger to be our new District Executive Minister. Gene will officially start in the District office on August 1. Our current interim District Executives, Linda Jacoby and Loyal Vanderveer, will help Gene transition into his new role. We look forward to welcoming Gene and his wife, Jan, to New Windsor.

Another prayer concern is the District's budget process. We are taking a hard look at all budget line items to determine where we can trim and where we can identify creative ways to continue to support the District's ministry.

Leadership Team members are continuing to visit congregations in our District to bring greetings and to highlight current and future District activities. The response from the congregations has been positive, and we are enjoying the opportunity to get to know our 62 churches better. In the planning stages is a more detailed presentation about the District that we will present in the fall.

If you have not seen the District's monthly newsletter, "Together, On the Journey," please ask your church office for a copy.

"Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" and continue to keep the Leadership Team in your prayers. (Phil. 4:8 NRSV)

Mid-Atlantic District Leadership Team
June 2009