



Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ
Eastern North Carolina Association
Ministries Council Committee
252-B W. Fifth Street
Burlington, NC 27215

Gail McAfee
Chair

(919) 343-4066 (ENCA Office) (919) 222-8773 (ENCA Fax)
www.enca-ucc.org/ministries

Glad Tidings:

During this holy season of Advent, the Ministries Council of the Eastern North Carolina Association wishes you and your congregation a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled with peace and possibility. The Ministries Council has reconvened and is planning a number of activities in 2008 that will help strengthen the Association and assist local congregation

First, we will recruit and train 82 ministry champions who will serve as your congregation's liaison to the ENCA. These champions will help us to meet the needs of your congregation and to transform the ministries of the ENCA one program district at a time. We are seeking people who are passionate about making a difference, who believe our mission, and who are eager to take a walk of faith with us. If you know just the person in your congregation, then send their name and contact information to us.

Secondly, you've spoken and we've listened. That's why a key priority of the Ministries Council will be to design training events for program districts that focus on the four key areas you identified at the Annual conference: church administration; Christian education; worship; and music. Our goal is quality, not quantity.

Next, we are blessed to have so many talented children and youth in the ENCA and we want to honor their accomplishments. You'll hear more about our plans later, but here's a hint: In 2008 we'll all delight in their amazing expressions of the still speaking God.

Finally, we want to honor the work that you do. The clergy are the backbone of the ENCA and your work often goes unnoticed. This coming year that will change. The council wants to acknowledge the longevity and accomplishments of the clergy serving the Association. A representative of the council will contact you for more information.

We have a renewed vision for 2008, but we can't do this important work alone. We need your help to: identify a champion in your congregation; encourage your church to participate in Ministries Council events, workshops and activities; invite our council to bring greetings from the ENCA and to share our ministries' work with your church; and remain in close communication with the council throughout the upcoming year.

Warmest wishes,

Gail McAfee, Hunter Thompson, Phil Hardy, Tanya Best,
Susan Bowen, Eddie Weathers and Vertie Powers