

OKLAHOMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Of
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BOARD of LAITY



2011

LAY LEADER HANDBOOK



Oklahoma United Methodist Church

Board of Laity

Judy Benson - Conference Lay Leader

January 12, 2011

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL LOCAL CHURCH LAY LEADERS IN THE OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE

Dear Partner in Ministry:

On behalf of the Board of Laity and in the Awesome name of Jesus Christ, we offer our prayers of thanksgiving for you as Servant Leader and for your Church Family as well!

The Board of Laity is pleased to provide the second edition of the "Lay Leader Handbook" which we pray will be useful to you in your ministry. You will find a variety of chapters including how to be a spiritual servant leader, specific duties, partnering with your pastor, casting a vision, spiritual gifts, and many more, all intended to inform and better equip you in living out the important elected position as Church Lay Leader.

We truly believe that this resource, which is a cooperative effort of members of the Board of Laity and edited by Chuck Stewart, is comprehensive and easy to understand. We pray it will assist you in working with others to cast a vision for your congregation and that others will join you in living that vision in carrying out the mission of "Making Disciples for Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World"... especially in your community.

We are excited about the possibilities, not only for this Handbook, but for you as you lead the laity of your vital congregation to be all that God is calling you to be! We praise God that you are God's Anointed Lay Leader. We claim Ephesians 4: 12-21 for you and are reminded that 'God is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by His power at work within us!' Together, through His power, we can bring God's love to our communities and world!

In Christ's Love,

Judy Benson

Judy Benson, Conference Lay Leader

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