

**...“Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Luke 1:38 (NRSV)**



**Dear Family of Faith:**

**As 2011 comes to an end, I can't help but look back and reflect on all that has happened and appreciate the many *friendships, prayers, suggestions, love and support* from so many of you. Your loyalty to the vision of God under my leadership reminds me of the words of an anonymous writer who said, *“Christmas began in the heart of God. It is complete only when it reaches the heart of man.”***

**I have had many unexpected challenges in the past couple of years, but the Christmas story during the Candlelight Communion service renewed my hope. I was reminded that she didn't expect to be pregnant. He didn't expect an angel to tell him to marry her anyway. The shepherds didn't expect the night shift to be anything unusual and that God enters our lives in the most unexpected ways, but always with a perfect plan. *Thank God for Christmas! I am reassured that God keeps His promises.***

**During this season, my wife Wini and I, along with Marvin and Micah, would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Kwanzaa, and a wonderful New Year. We hope that the blessings of God will allow you to share time with your family and all you hold dear. *Remember, God has come near to love you, to guide you, to redeem you, and to share eternity with you.***

**God's best as you give God praise by saying “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.” Luke 1:14 (NRSV)**

**With Grateful Hearts We Remain,  
Marvin and Wini Zanders**