



Rev. Don Kaufman,
IKC Annuitant Visitor

Prayer

By Don Kaufman

Gracious God,

In this Advent season
we offer gratitude
for pastors -
active and retired -
who have dedicated
their lives to
Christian ministry.
May your Spirit continue
to strengthen them.

And we remember,
with much appreciation,
those who have supported
these pastors:
spouses, partners,
lay workers and
faithful church members.
May your Spirit continue
to strengthen them.

May offerings we share
for The Christmas Fund
be tokens of thanksgiving for
all ministry,
but especially for those
beloved retired clergy

A Conference E-Pistle

Brought to you by Our Church's Wider Mission

Reflections From
The Indiana-Kentucky Conference



Dec. 5, 2016

In retirement, after having served all of my ministerial life within the Indiana-Kentucky Conference, I and three other retired pastors (Don Bernhardt, Paul Koepke and Gary Tatum) have the privilege of being Annuitant Visitors for the Conference and the UCC Pension Boards. Each year, the four of us make annual visits to the many retired UCC pastors and spouses who reside within Indiana and Kentucky; women and men who've faithfully served the Church. In our visits, we strive to answer questions these retirees may have about their UCC pensions and health insurance, but more importantly we let them know they are not forgotten and that our United Church of Christ has appreciated their years of dedicated service. It is a joy for us to visit these church saints.

Many of the retirees we visit live quite comfortably, but there are some who struggle financially largely because of low salaries received during their active years of ministry. This should not occur. Fortunately, there is help available - The Christmas Fund!

The Christmas Fund is an annual offering coordinated by the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, a national board upon which I served and chaired for several years. This fund provides generous Christmas gift checks to over 500 lower-income retired clergy and spouses, and offers supplementary assistance for pensions and health insurance costs to some of these same people and others (even low-income active pastors) who face emergency needs.

I hope your congregation will receive The Christmas Fund offering during December (or at some other time of year in 2017) and that you and I will give generously. If your church is not participating, you may send a personal check to the Conference office earmarking it for The Christmas Fund. I can assure you this offering will be well-used and much appreciated by those who will benefit; indeed, I've had the privilege of reading handwritten notes of gratitude from some of these folks, and it's humbling to know how much they need and appreciate the assistance.

and spouses
who reside within our
Indiana-Kentucky
Conference.

Amen.

In anticipation of your generosity, I offer my thanks!

Don Kaufman

Closing

New IKC Staff Positions

The Search Committee is still working diligently to find our Designated Conference Minister. The IKC is also in the process of reshaping the staff structure and will be hiring three part-time Associate Conference Ministers (ACMs) and a full-time Conference Administrator.

Applicants for these positions are currently being accepted. Please send current profiles and/or resumes to ikc@ikcucc.org by Dec. 22. Applicants for the ACM positions who do not have current profiles can send previous profiles with an addendum detailing their recent ministry and/or a resume to the above email.

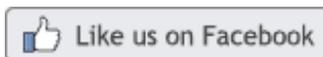
Sincerely,

Indiana-Kentucky Conference
United Church of Christ
ikc@ikcucc.org



The Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ
was selected as a Constant Contact All Star in 2011, 2012 & 2013

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