



North Central District

IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

620 1/2 2nd St.
Webster City, IA 50595

Tel 515.832.2784
Fax 515.832.1244

Gregory Vaughn Palmer
Resident Bishop, Iowa Area

Dr. Dennis Tevis
Conference Superintendent
dennis.tevis@iaumc.org

Jon Gaul
Field Outreach Minister
jon.gaul@iaumc.org

Alanna Warren
District Administrative Secretary
alanna.warren@iaumc.org

May 14, 2008

Dear Friends in Christ,

In 2005, the Iowa Annual Conference made a commitment to children and youth ministries by pledging to become a Safe Sanctuaries conference. One of the ways our conference identified living out this commitment was to require each local church in Iowa to have a Child and Youth Protection Policy in place by July, 2007.

Many local churches have already provided copies of their policies to the district office. As we prepare to gather at Annual Conference this year, we are asking that churches who have not yet provided copies of their policy share with us your status in the process. Have you completed your policy? Are you still in the midst of implementing a policy? Would you like to consult with someone who can provide assistance and resources to your process?

Please complete the enclosed form and return it to the district office by May 30, 2008. If you have a completed policy at your church but have not yet provided a copy to the district office, please send that as well. If you are not sure if you've sent a copy of your policy in, check with the district office.

At Annual Conference this June, we are planning to celebrate this commitment to our children and youth by recognizing churches that have developed Safe Sanctuaries policies. We know that creating, maintaining and implementing Safe Sanctuaries policies can be a difficult process. We want to work together to make the process a little easier, a little lighter, and a little more collaborative as a conference. Each of us can be a resource for another.

We appreciate all your hard work and your willingness to help one another move forward in providing safe and welcoming environments for all God's children. If you have any questions, please contact the district office or Chris Humrichouse, Safe Sanctuaries Task Force Chair at 319.624.2288 humrichousec@soloniaumc.org.

Thank you for your ministry!

Grace and peace,

Dennis Tevis
Conference Superintendent
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