



Dear Colleagues in Christ,

*Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and **family** of David.*

Luke 2:4

We United Methodists are a family. We can be found everywhere throughout the Commonwealth. We're young and older; single, married, divorced and widowed. Depending on our health and passion, we love to hike the Blue Ridge, canoe the James, swim in the Bay, surf beyond the Boardwalk, and/or leisurely walk in the woods. Regardless of our ages, we look for ways to make a difference. We feed the hungry, walk for a cure, build for a single parent, and willingly raise millions of dollars for the needy, whether they live next door or around the world. We are United Methodists—and we are a family!

There are elderly members of our family who, having found a residence in one of our marvelous Virginia United Methodist retirement communities. Unfortunately, now they worry their financial resources will no longer be sufficient to sustain them as they grow older. For that matter, they want to enjoy a quality of living they once anticipated. What can we do to help these members of our family?

Praise God for the Samaritan Fund and the annual Samaritan Program Fund offering! Our Samaritan Fund ministry helps provide financial assistance to residents who find themselves in need of help in order to remain with the friends they call family and in a place they call home.

I love to sing the popular hymn that includes these words: *"I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God."* You know what? I am so glad to be part of The United Methodist "family." Aren't you?

Please join me in making a sacrificial gift to the 2010 Samaritan Fund offering. Your generosity will be used to help members of our United Methodist family. When you hear the "call" to respond, please give thanks for this opportunity. After all, family members are to take care of one another! May it be so?

Thank you.

In Christ's Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce D. Little". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Danville District Superintendent
Honorary Chairperson, 2010 Samaritan Offering Campaign