



November 2018

Dear Friends,

It has been wonderful to witness the powerful work that God has accomplished through you, our Midwest Conference churches, over the past year. I am truly grateful for your ongoing commitment to our shared mission of transforming lives and communities!

Over a 10-year span, we are striving to live into this mission through our shared vision to reach 8000 more disciples through 140 churches, with greater ethnic diversity and increased female leadership. In short, we want to more fully reflect the kingdom of God as we grow. At the Annual Ministry Celebration this past spring, many of our pastors and delegates identified tangible steps they and their congregations could take towards reaching these kingdom goals. Congregations and leadership teams have been engaging with a variety of resources in these four key areas, and we are seeing the fruit of their efforts throughout the region. Just this month, 11 of our conference churches were represented on our 2018 Sankofa Journey!



In 2018, three new churches were birthed, and two additional church planting couples are in residencies preparing to launch new church plants. God has been faithful to provide people and resources, and we have witnessed new disciples being raised up in our midst.



I am grateful for your encouragement, faithfulness in prayer, and generous partnership as you lean into the incredible task God has placed before us. I invite you to join us for the Annual Ministry Celebration to be held at First Covenant Church in Omaha, NE, on April 26-27, 2019, where we will hear stories of the amazing work God is doing through our individual and shared ministries.

As your congregation gathers for its own Annual Meeting, I pray that it will be a celebration of all that God is doing within your local context. Thank you for the privilege of serving alongside you in ministry. We pray for you and give thanks to God for the difference you are making throughout the Midwest.

To God be the glory!

Tammy Swanson-Draheim
Superintendent

8000 **30/15%**
DISCIPLES **FEMALE LEADERSHIP**
140 CHURCHES **25% ETHNIC/
MULTI-ETHNIC**