



Iroquois River District  
Rev. In-Sook Hwang, Superintendent

July 1, 2009

Dear Partners in God's mission,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! As I begin my second year as a superintendent, I offer my gratitude to God and you who have been faithful partners with me.

Nowadays, I can see several different fields in our area - ripening wheat that survived winter coldness and wind and growing corn and beans that overcame the spring rains. Praise the Lord for their strong will to live. On the other hand, there are some barren, abandoned fields. I wonder what happened to the farmers of those fields. Did they give up because of discouraging weather? Were they just running out of time and missed the planting season? As I ponder about the fields, I also see similar situations in our mission fields. In the midst of all kinds of difficulties, some churches are still thriving and growing, while others are struggling to survive. We are living amongst great mission fields with many opportunities and possibilities. It is the time to reaffirm that we are called to be faithful workers in God's mission.

It is the church season to review of our progress, the season of self-assessment. Clergy and S/PPRC will spend some time to reflect on the progress toward the goals you set for yourself and your church last year. It will be also a time to set new goals for the coming year.

All clergy need to set up their consultation time with me by calling Pat at 217-359-0640. Before the meeting, you need to fill out the self-assessment form which is attached and send it to me one (1) week prior to your scheduled consultation. I hope you take the form as a tool to reflect on your spiritual progress.

All clergy and laity are also invited to the District Worship Service to welcome Bishop Gregory Palmer and the new pastors in our district. The worship will be held on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at Champaign New Horizon United Methodist Church. I would like to encourage you to publicize the special event at your church (flyer enclosed).

I pray that the richness of God's love and grace be the source of your faithful work in God's mission fields.

In Christ,

In-Sook Hwang  
District Superintendent