

November 10, 2013

Dear Members and Friends of MCC NOVA

Greetings!

The rapidly approaching Thanksgiving holiday encourages many of us to reflect on our spiritual, emotional and financial blessings. It is also yet another opportunity to view our lives with fresh eyes, full of hope and energy for positive forward movement in our journeys. This hope and energy often extends beyond our own lives to our communities and world, as well.

For over 30 years, the community of faith at MCC of Northern Virginia (MCC NOVA) has been a vessel of hope for both the local and world community in a variety of ways. For example, in 2013:

- Volunteers from MCC NOVA and our friends both donated and delivered food as part of our Homeless Ministry on a monthly basis. We have served approximately 900 meals this year at an estimated cost of \$200.00 per month. We also prepared, delivered and served a meal for a church which provides shelter for the homeless during the winter months.
- We collected food and clothing for T.H.E. (Transgender Health Empowerment) in Washington, D.C., a valued resource for inter-city Trans folk.
- Team MCC NOVA walked to fight HIV/AIDS in the 2013 Washington Walk for AIDS.
- We marched in solidarity with other MCC's in the D.C. Pride Parade.
- We provided assistance to congregants through our Benevolence Fund.
- We provided scholarships for people who otherwise would be unable to attend our congregational retreat.
- Our teachers provided quality instruction and care for our children and youth.
- We continued to host Second Fridays, a peer-led gender support group meeting monthly for anyone in transition, considering it (even remotely) or who has already completed it (however the individual may define that); friends, family, and allies.
- We hosted the 2012—and are hosting the 2013—Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.
- The congregation of MCC NOVA provided financial support to Metropolitan Community Churches to support the worldwide ministries of our denomination.
- In alignment with our mission, we continued to offer queer and queer-friendly people seeking authentic spirituality and renewal a safe place to worship, study, and fellowship with one another, so that we stretch, connect and celebrate as a people on a spiritual journey!

These blessings would not have been possible without the Divine Presence working through people like you, donating your time, talent, and financial support to the work of mercy, justice and peace through MCC NOVA. Please know we appreciate your support very much.

In 2014, we are looking forward to even more wonderful blessings as we work together to live out our call to *Stretch, Connect and Celebrate People on a Spiritual Journey!*

Living out our exciting and challenging call requires all of us working together--giving of our time, talent, and financial resources. I am asking that you prayerfully consider how you can best support the work of God through MCC NOVA in all of these areas. We are enclosing a pledge form and a self-addressed envelope for your convenience. Please complete the form and mail it back to the church at your earliest convenience—or just bring it to church and place it in the offering basket!

Again, thank you for both your past and present support of the ministries of MCC.NOVA. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything we can do to minister for you and your family.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Danny Spears, Senior Pastor MCC Northern Virginia (MCC NOVA)

MCC NOVA

Pledge Card

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