

**Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ**  
**Rev. Dr. Jorge L. Morales, Conference Minister**

**OUR COVENANTED FAIR SHARE GOAL SHEET FOR 2013**

**BASIC SUPPORT FOR OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION (OCWM)**

*"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. I will rebuke the locust for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and your vine in the fields shall not be barren, says the Lord of hosts. Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, say the LORD of hosts. Malachi 3:10-12 NRSV*

For the health and well-being of your congregation, we recommend that you teach and practice stewardship as a spiritual discipline, evidencing your relationship with God and your reliance upon God's grace for your very existence. To that end, we encourage you and your congregation to consider tithing, as you engage in ministry and fulfilling God's calling upon your lives. If you have not done so in the past, let us invite you to try giving a tithe in the year 2013. In addition to giving the tithe, we invite you to offer a prayer each and every time you place your gifts at God's disposal. Pray that God's desires will be accomplished "on earth, as it in heaven."

For the year 2012, our community of faith committed to giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION (OCWM), which provides basic support for our conference and our denomination. For the year 2013, we commit to the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Our community of faith accepts the call to tithe our budget and we will support the ministry and mission of the Illinois Conference and the United Church of Christ with the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Our community of faith accepts the 2013 Conference Recommended Fair Share Goal and we will contribute to the ministry and mission of the Illinois Conference and the United Church of Christ the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Although our community of faith is unable to accept the 2013 Conference Recommended Fair Share Goal, we will support the ministry and mission of the Illinois Conference and the United Church of Church in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, which represents \_\_\_\_\_% of our budget.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to: Rev. Melbalenia D. Evans, Illinois Conference United Church of Christ,  
1840 Westchester Boulevard, Westchester, Illinois, 60154

We invite you to consider tithing, as a spiritual discipline. Tithing requires that we make a sacrifice and that we trust God to provide for our needs. Tithing is the practice of returning 10% of our resources for God's use. Prayer can be the determining factor in tithing. We invite you to pray as you consider the gift that you will offer for Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM). Realizing that some of us will want to transition to tithing, we invite you to use the schedule below to increase your giving.

The formula that we used in calculating our suggested Covenanted Fair Share Goal for your church is listed below. We suggested a Covenanted Fair Share Goal based on reviewing your giving history for three years. However, if your contributions to OCWM seemed to fluctuate in substantial amounts during the past three year, we suggested an amount that seemed appropriate.

### **Transition to Tithing**

If your church contributed less than 3.5% of your total 2012 budget to OCWM,

we invite you to increase your contributions to OCWM by .5% of your 2013 budget.

If your church contributed between 3.5% and 6.5% of your total 2012 budget to OCWM,

we invite you to increase your contributions to OCWM by 1.0% of your 2013 budget.

If your church contributed between 6.6% and 8.5% of your total 2012 budget to OCWM,

we invite you to increase your contributions to OCWM by .75% of your 2013 budget.

If your church contributed between 8.5% and 9.9% of your total budget to OCWM,

we invite you to increase your contributions to OCWM by .5% of your 2013 budget.

If your church contributed the tithe, 10%, and more of your total 2012 budget to OCWM,

we pray that you will continue to offer the same level of support.

If your church is not able to accept the recommended Covenanted Fair Share Goal that we have suggested, please tell us the amount that you do wish to offer for support of OCWM.

Once your church has determined the level of support that you will offer in 2013, have the appropriate church officer sign the Covenanted Fair Share Goal Sheet and return the form to us by postal service (1840 Westchester Boulevard, Westchester, Illinois 60154), facsimile (708-344-4564), or electronic mail (ilconfevans@gmail.com ). Thank you for your every effort supporting the reign and realm of God!