

March 3, 2006

Dear Bethany Fellow Member(s) (Bethanite(s)),

“In Times Like These We Need An Anchor” How Rapidly Time Flies!

We have been separated from each other for a period of over six months. This has shown us how much we really miss each other and our beloved Bethany U.M.C...

Bethany has experienced unprecedented destruction attributable to Hurricane Katrina flood waters. Many of our members have also lost all of their earthly possessions and are now living throughout the United States and abroad. In spite of our devastation and dismay, we have not lost touch with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

From the moment that the news indicated that approximately 80% of New Orleans was flooded, our highly spirited, compassionate and caring pastor, Reverend Hadley R. Edwards, was communicating via telephone and email with those members for whom he had working numbers. This kind of concern has been manifested by Reverend Edwards throughout this ordeal on a daily 24 / 7 basis.

The New Orleans District has lost many churches. Bishop William W. Hutchinson, Provost, Dr. Don Cottrill and District Superintendent, Rev. Freddie Henderson, have been totally involved in developing a plan which will enable our churches to become operational.

Many of the New Orleans District Churches were placed in seven groups however, Bethany was listed for specialized focus, which means that the Louisiana Conference feels that we can really come back fast.

We are most optimistic that Bethany United Methodist Church with our Highly Spirited Leader and Pastor, Reverend Hadley R. Edwards, will be the beacon light which will bring our members and the New Orleans Community back.

This will commence with a “Coming Back Worship Service” on Sunday, March 19, 2006 for 11:00A.M. in our Sanctuary. You are invited to attend. The theme for this occasion is “We Are Coming Back-Blessed, Bigger, and Better”. Our worship service will include Soul –Stirring Music by our choir, Babies will be baptized, Communion will be served and it will culminate with a most appropriate sermon that can only be given by our multi-talented Pastor Reverend Hadley R. Edwards. The Bethany Believers Bees’ Planning Committee is excited and looks forward to your attendance.

Please DO NOT MISS This Wonderful Christian Opportunity To Worship At Such A Time As This! for “Together We Will Build”!

Christianly yours,

*Dr. Anita H. Crump*

Chairperson, Church Council

*Miss Edwina Mc Bride*

Chairperson, Bethany Believers Bees’ Planning Committee

*Reverend Hadley R. Edwards*

Your Shepherd, Pastor and Friend