



Dear Friends in Christ,

Welcome to an initial step on an exciting journey! The journey involves a way that is not always clear, for indeed, the path will vary from one community and one Christian to another. It is a journey of faith, of commitment, and of obedience. Most significantly, I am convinced, this is a way to follow Jesus Christ.

These two notebooks – *Shared Ministry* and *Licensed Ministries* – provide general directions for the journey. However, like any guidebook, they do not tell all the story or describe every scene along the way. You must travel the road yourself in order to fill in those details for your journey.

I welcome you to the journey. My prayer for you is four-fold:

- ♦ that you will come to affirm with joy the gifts with which God has blessed you;
- ♦ that you will seek and find practical ways to live a Christian life;
- ♦ that you will discover fulfillment of your Baptismal Covenant with God; and
- ♦ that life's meaning will become clearer through serving others, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to God for the intentional development of shared ministry in East Tennessee, for those who have helped point us along the way thus far, and for each person and congregation who chooses to walk this journey of faith!

Charles G. vonRosenberg

*Charles G. vonRosenberg
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