

Friends, here are some of the prayers to be spoken at the 2010 Annual Meeting. You are welcome to use them in your local church worship. Please acknowledge that they are written by Rev. Dr. Dana Mann.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy One, let your Spirit fall upon our gathering and enfold us in hope. Let our worries and anxieties fade in the abundance of your presence. May we find you in our breath, in the space between us. May we sense you in the vulnerability of this community. Help us grow more whole as our time together unfolds, we pray. Amen.

WORDS FOR PASSING THE PEACE

Standing at the threshold of this day, recognizing the blessing of our differences, believing all good things are possible with God, let us welcoming one another as a gift as we pass the peace of Christ.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

God sets before us a great hope, asks for the best in us, and calls us to reach beyond ourselves to share in the lives of others. Let us respond to the needs of our sisters and brothers with urgency and generosity and joy.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Believing that God is not yet finished with us, and that our restlessness is a sign of faith, we pray to make unnerving choices for the sake of Christ. In this spirit, we devote our whole selves, our gifts to you, O God. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thanks be to God for all that sustains us from day to day; for hope that stirs our yearning for justice, for strength to speak and contradict the callous. Blessing God, may we always thank you for our humble perspective. For the sake of love in this world, help us make a difference. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

God of grace, in a world where vision is dim, nurture courageous dreams in us. Let our faith be bold, we pray. You give us energy; and we affirm our commitment to do our work for you. You give us the invitation of each new day, with possibilities waiting to unfold; and we affirm our commitment to walk in peace, toward reconciliation that is just beyond the horizon. Holy One, in your continuous weaving of all peoples, shape us to be your partners in joy, in the name of Jesus our Christ. Amen.

BENEDICTION

One God of all, you decorate the universe with blessing upon blessing!

All In the blessing of community, we give our promise to choose life, take risks, bear responsibility, and stand with those on the margins. May the seeds of faith grow in us, and your peace abound this day. Amen and amen!