

November 30, 2009

Dear Women's Ministries and MPact Coordinators:

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord! Thank you for allowing me the privilege of being in many of your churches throughout the past year. I take delight in every minute I spend worshipping with my sisters from the mountains to the coast. Your love for God, one another, and reaching your communities are an inspiration.

By now, many of you are in the midst of the busy holiday season. If you are like me, one look at my calendar for the next 4 weeks is a sure boost to my prayer life. Just this morning, I asked the Lord to help me embrace the next few weeks with joy and purpose rather than just having the attitude of trying to check one more thing off my list. I do, however, need you to add one more item to your list. It's the time of the year for the annual report.

Please understand that your report is truly more valuable to you than it is to the District Department. As much as paperwork can seem like a drudgery, when completed with thought, it can hold great value. To create this value, please ask yourself these questions as you complete the report:

- Are we balanced in our use of resources? (i.e. Do we place too much or too little emphasis on world, US, District, or local ministries?)
- Are our ministries too inward? (i.e. Are we doing enough to reach out to the unchurched in our communities?)
- Do we need to adjust our plan for 2010 to swing the pendulum of time or resources towards a different focus?
- Do we offer enough varied ministry opportunities for the women of our congregation?
- Is what we are doing creating the desired results?

As you consider the questions, you can then share the report with your leadership team and use it as a jumping off point for discussion towards future ministry planning.

We are continually adding names to our email database for e-newsletters. E-mail addresses, however, often change. When completing your report, please make sure that we have your correct email and the correct emails for any women in your church who wish to be on our mailing list. Please return your report by **January 19, 2010**. MPact Coordinators desiring to charter for 2010 should also complete the enclosed application and return it with your annual report. (Don't forget to include your application fee.)

I want to thank you for your monthly tithes and contributions to the North Carolina Women's and Girls Ministries Departments. Please know that your faithful financial support is ever appreciated and never taken for granted. Your faithfulness enables us to pursue excellence in ministry to the women and girls of North Carolina.

Beloved leaders of women and girls, my prayer over you is the words of Hebrews 10:23-25:

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Many blessings,

Mary Ritter
NC District Women's Ministries Director
NC District MPact Coordinator