



# BUILDING HOPE

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Dear Partners in Christ,

It is our privilege to bring you a new program called **Building Hope**. It is far more than a stewardship program. It is a life-changing event that turns pew sitting Christians into agents of God's love. The program is grounded in the certainty of God's power, love, and grace allowing us to build new lives through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are called upon even in these tough times to risk boldly for the gospel. We need to build an altar of hope in our lives and the lives of others through personal encounters in mission and in the mission work we do together through the local church, Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.

This participatory program includes a DVD of personal stories of change through involvement in mission. It also provides other tools such as worship resources, including children's sermons; a six week curriculum; and a ritual of personal commitment to be a builder of hope throughout the coming week. We will be setting up an on-line presence where videos of your mission experiences may be posted and where you can share thoughts, ideas and questions. Printed material will also be available on the Presbytery's website. [www.lakemichiganpresbytery.org](http://www.lakemichiganpresbytery.org)

**Building Hope** is designed to be as flexible as possible. You may choose to use the DVDs as minutes for mission or you may use the curriculum as a stand-alone Bible study. Feel free to use and even modify the resources to meet the needs of your congregation. We have included a sample design you may find useful.

We pray that you and your congregation will be reenergized as you experience mission both through individual action and through the stories of what we do together as one body in Christ. We know that mission changes lives --- our lives as well as the lives of those we touch through our gifts.

May God richly bless your ministry,

**Administration Ministry Team, Presbytery of Lake Michigan**

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