

Rev. Linda Lachesnez

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The First Reformed Church of South River  
40 Thomas Street  
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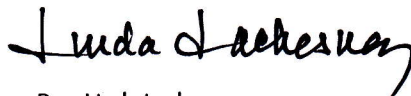
Greetings in the Name of The Lord!

I am writing to you on behalf of the Congregational Care Commission of the Classis of New Brunswick. I want to thank you for taking the time and effort to complete your 2010 Annual Report. Once all the reports from the churches within the Classis are received, the members of our commission review them and I've been given the opportunity to offer you a brief response.

Like many congregations, South River struggles with financial problems, a desire to increase membership and find ways to reach out to the community surrounding it. I know that these are not easy challenges; but I want to commend you for what I see is a remarkably generous spirit in giving not only to the RCA but other ministries as well! You proportionately gave away more than most and I commend you for this generosity. Clearly you are a congregation that has a giving heart open to seeing the need in your midst and doing something about it. Your youth trip to Heifer in Mass. opened eyes and hearts from the sounds of it and that too can have a powerful affect over time in a community. The "hungry" body of Christ might just become a source of creative visioning for this congregation and that is very exciting to think about. It was a delight for me to read about and feel the passion you experienced out of that visit. May it continue to nourish the congregation in all areas of your ministry. Too often we let finances and numbers become our focus and our identity; but I encourage you to let the Spirit of God continue to work in you this good thing that has already begun!

So I want to thank you for all of your hard work, for the leadership of your Pastor, Elders, Deacons and all the lay folk and youth that make up your congregation. I hope you will not hesitate to call upon this commission or the Classis should you find the need in the future. May God Bless you good and faith-filled servants of our Lord and Savior!

In Christ's Peace,



Rev. Linda Lachesnez