

## CONGRATULATIONS ZION

Zion received a letter from the national office of the UCC recently and a portion of it and brief resume follow:

With gratitude and joy, we inform you that your church is a “Five for Five” congregation of the United Church of Christ. Your Conference has reported that in 2006 you contributed to *Our Church’s Wider Mission* Basic Support and also received the four special mission offerings of our denomination: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and The Christmas Fund. Thus, ***you are a leadership church in the United Church of Christ***, and we want to recognize your faithful generosity as well as the breadth of your vision for ministry.”

By joining with others in the wider mission of the church, we contributed to an array of ministries, offering a compassionate and effective response to human suffering caused by disaster, famine, and war; addressing the justice issue of spiritual homelessness by planting and nurturing UCC congregations, renewing existing churches, making it possible for youth to participate; dreaming of a different world that is more just and working to make it reality; and keeping the covenant made with those who have served the church faithfully for many years, meeting the needs of retired pastors and their spouses who often live on very little. We also support the structure that makes this possible.

“Once again, we thank you for your faithful generosity and your commitment to the gospel as it is lived out in the United Church of Christ.”

Signed by Jose Malayang, Executive Minister, Local Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ.

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**God is still speaking,**