



All Are Welcome

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On the cover:

Matthew 25:35b

Jesus said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

The "Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors." brand promise of the United Methodist Church is depicted in the art theme used for the Nebraska United Methodist 2009 Annual Conference Session and is depicted here to reinforce our commitment to our vision in our churches of radical hospitality.

As Nebraska United Methodists we are rolling out the welcoming carpet that leads to the spiritual vitality of our congregations. As we work together in this welcoming ministry, we are also rethinking how we become relevant partners in our communities. The Rethink Church campaign asks us to take our radical hospitality outside our church walls and into the streets and sidewalks of our local communities. Together let us offer this prayer shared on page 6 of the Annual Conference Session Resource Book.

"O God, you have welcomed us and show us how much you value us and love us through the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. May we offer others the same welcome we have received through your grace, remembering that it is your amazing grace that enables us to reach out in love to others. Help us to let go of our fears and insecurities, and prejudices so that we may boldly follow Jesus' example, inviting people to the banquet of your gracious love. Teach us to be a welcoming church that practices radical hospitality so that more and more people become a part of the body of Christ as powerful witnesses of your great grace and for your glory along. Amen."