



The United Methodist Church
North Carolina Conference-Raleigh Area
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Resident Bishop

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Dear Colleague:

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

As we live in this time of the Covid-19 pandemic, we recognize inequality in our society and the severe impact among those incarcerated in our criminal justice system. Education for our congregations is vital so that we can respond faithfully and appropriately. Now is the time for action!

For 20 years Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries (DBOM) has engaged in prison ministry, offering sound biblical teaching and Christian hope to inmates and linking local churches with prison facilities. Now, DBOM is revisioning to expand and meet current, urgent needs. In addition to volunteer ministry in our prisons, DBOM revisioned will be engaged in advocacy, education and prison reform. I look forward to engaging with the Board of DBOM in revisioning efforts and have great confidence in the significant ministry that will extend into years to come.

DBOM thrives as a result of the support of our churches. Please invite in your church the Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries (DBOM) offering on August 23 or any date of your choice this summer or fall. Promotional materials are provided on the conference website. An alternative way to support DBOM is by offering a gift from your mission budget to support this important work.

A recipient of DBOM's ministry recently said: *"While cement walls, razor wire, and locked gates remind us daily of our past mistakes, your ministry reminds us that the chains of failure need not bind us from the redemption of Jesus Christ."*

Let us remember the words of Jesus, *"As you did it to the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."* Thank you for your generous support of the DBOM for those incarcerated in the prisons of North Carolina. Together real and lasting change is possible.

With hope and confidence,

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward