

# Our Connectional Stories



BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

## Spiritual Formation: Renewal Leave

Thank you for offering and encouraging renewal leave. The funds for pulpit supply were used to compensate Ellaine Hartman, who preached and led Prayer Meeting each week in my absence. I could not have paid for pulpit supply myself, nor could I have asked the church to do this during these tough economic times.

I took leave in April, 2010, immediately following Easter. I spent my time traveling to visit with family and friends, and enjoyed being able to truly relax and rest. I worked on my own spiritual nourishment, my eating and exercise habits, and to date have lost 25 pounds and am feeling better than I have in years.

I am now back in the saddle and have had more energy and am coping better with stress since my leave. I am continuing to take time for my own health—spiritual, mental, emotional and physical. One of the blessings of this has been that it forced me to delegate everything I do for a month. Upon my return, I took back the things that should be the pastor's duties, but left many of the other things in the hands of volunteers. Again, thank you!

Blessings,  
Lisa H. May

✠  
IN MINISTRY  
TOGETHER  
*Your giving through  
Our Mission Covenant  
makes connectional stories  
like this one possible.*

✠  
**As often as possible,  
Jesus retreated to  
out-of-the-way  
places for prayer.**

Luke 5:16 MSG



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