

March 10, 2021

Reverend Ianther Mills
Asbury United Methodist Church
926 11th Street NW Washington, DC 20001

Dear Reverend Ianther Mills & Asbury United Methodist Women:

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I bring you greetings on behalf of the Adrienne Terry Fund and the Greater Washington District Affordable Housing Task Force as you celebrate your Annual Women's Day! When I received word from Reverend Mills that it was your intention to donate the funds raised on your annual women's day to the Adrienne Terry Affordable Housing Fund my heart was filled with joy.

My appointment as District Superintendent came with unexpected and sad news of the untimely death of Reverend Adrienne Terry. At that time, she was serving as the pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Southwest Washington, D.C. I did not personally know Reverend Terry but as we prepared for her memorial service, which Asbury graciously hosted, I became aware of how selfless she was in caring for the well-being of her congregation and her community.

Prior to Reverend Terry's memorial service, I visited Christ UMC. As I stood on the church grounds and walked the community, I was struck by the stark contrast in housing. On one side of the street were elegant condominiums and on the other side were more affordable homes that appeared to be threatened by new construction. There in the midst was Christ United Methodist Church. It seemed appropriate to me that Christ should be in the middle of the community advocating for the least, the last and the lost. I later learned that Reverend Terry was a strong advocate for affordable housing, especially in Southwest D.C.

What became clear to me, as I reflected on how to honor Reverend Terry's legacy was that as Disciples of Christ, the district could undertake an affordable housing challenge that was doable. And so, at my installation service we established the Reverend Adrienne Terry Affordable Housing Fund. These funds would be used to support congregations with property resources (such as parsonages) and convert the properties into affordable housing throughout the district. One hundred percent (100%) of the proceeds donated would be dedicated to this effort.

This past year, through monetary contributions to the Affordable Housing Program, we were able to renovate the parsonage at Ager Road UMC which was uninhabitable. The Ager Road parsonage now provides a safe and quality home for a family of four. In addition, we were able to support renovations to the Oak Chapel UMC parsonage which is now ready to welcome new occupants. Our newest projects are to renovate two more parsonages in our district to provide safe, secure, and affordable housing for two more families. We are also looking forward to supporting our first large scale development project – affordable housing for seniors. Understand that it is only through the support of generous donors such as yourself that these affordable housing developments are made possible.

Your donation and generosity reflect the UMW's vision statement of "putting faith, hope, and love into action for women, children, and youth" which will provide them with affordable housing. Thank you in advance for your generous donations and your faithful witness within the community.

Yours in faith,

Rev. Gerard A. Green, Jr.

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