Dear Friends,

Not too many months ago, I wrote to you announcing the retirement of The Reverend Dr. Doug Kelly as Regional Representative of the Synods of Mid-America, Lakes and Prairies, and Lincoln Trails. I write now to assure you that our commitment to serve you well continues. To that end, we have selected the Reverend Dr. Edward Thompson as your new Regional Representative. He began training in Philadelphia on January 7. After eight weeks of training, both here in Philadelphia and with other Regional Representatives in the field, Edward will be active in the region by the beginning of March. You will be able to reach him by phone at (800) 773-7752, extension 7045 or by email at <u>ethompson@pensions.org</u>.

Edward is a graduate of Durham University, England. He graduated in theological studies from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland completed his Doctor of Ministry at McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago. Ordained by the Presbytery of Edinburgh in 1982, he served in the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh, Golspie, and Troon. Edward, his wife Elizabeth, and their three sons moved to the United States in 1995, when he became Senior Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church, Kansas City, Missouri. He most recently served as the Senior Pastor and Head of Staff for First Presbyterian Church in Naples, Florida.

Once relocated from Naples, Edward will work out of the Kansas City area. I know that you join me in welcoming him to his new role with the Board of Pensions and his new relationship with you. Please know that we at the Board of Pensions, and particularly those of us in Church Relations, are here to support you. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (800) 773-7752, extension 7224, or by email at <u>imcfayden@pensions.org</u>, if I can be of service.

Faithfully yours,

John G. McFayden

The Rev. Dr. John G. McFayden, Vice President, Church Relations The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 2000 Market Street, Room 2050 Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 587-7224 jmcfayden@pensions.org