Dear Friends,

As we approach the end of 2010 my heart is filled with amazement and gratitude. I am amazed at what the Lord has done this year through Renewal Ministries and filled with gratitude towards Him and you for what has been made possible.

We continued to support the Church in its work of renewal and evangelization in more than 31 countries. We carried out 35 missions overseas and 60 ministry trips in the U.S. and Canada. We taped 26 more episodes of The Choices We Face and produced another year of programming for The Food for the Journey and Fire on the Earth radio programs. We participated significantly in Crossing the Goal, the ongoing television series directed towards Catholic men.

We distributed thousands of copies of booklets, books, CDs and DVDs all over the world. We produced 12 more editions of our inspiring newsletter. We updated our website and are being visited by people from more than 80 countries each month.

We have continued to make a significant contribution at Sacred Heart Major Seminary and in the Archdiocese of Detroit, assisting in the formation of future priests and the renewal of an archdiocese.

All of this would not have been possible without the grace of God. Nor would it have been possible without your help—your prayers, your involvement in mission trips, your financial giving.

As we near the end of the year we are devoting this newsletter to a review of the many good things the Lord has done during this past year.

Our ability to continue this mission into 2011 depends again, on the grace of God, and your generosity.

Some of our major donors have suffered major setbacks in the economic downturn. If any of you are able to step up in your end of the year giving it would be greatly appreciated.

Your brother in Christ,

Ralph Martin
The 18th annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally, one of the largest Catholic conferences in Canada, drew more than 4,000 adults and 1,500 youth for a day filled with inspiring talks, testimonies, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration and the celebration of the Mass.

Resources from Renewal Ministries are touching lives throughout the world. Hungry for God by Ralph Martin was recently published in the Ukraine.

“I can honestly say that The Fulfillment of all Desire is the best book that I have read in my life. I have given copies of this book to individuals who come to me for spiritual direction, to priest friends; to deacons... in the midst of the spiritual darkness that we are facing in our country today, the message in this book offers a beacon of hope and light.”

“This is applause coming from an excited evangelical Promise Keeper of the 90’s—your show and attitudes are so needed in the Catholic Church. You guys are one of the main reasons and encouragement that is bringing me to the Church. Thank you all!!”

The class that Ralph is teaching at the seminary this semester—Theology of the New Evangelization—includes all the seminarians who will be ordained priests next Spring.
“I just listened to your welcome message on your beautiful new web site. It looks good and I’m excited to be able to watch episodes of your show at home. Hope it goes well and that more people hear and respond to the message of freedom, hope and love that Jesus offers with open arms and compassion because of your good work.”

Ralph’s ongoing collaboration with the Institute for Priestly Formation in Omaha, Nebraska included speaking at their annual conference for seminarians this year. He was joined by Fr. John Riccardo, a pastor from Michigan and good friend of Renewal Ministries and Dr. Mary Healy, professor of Scripture at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit.

“I just wanted to thank you for today’s message (Food for the Journey). It hit me right between the eyes. Recently I decided to give up alcohol for the betterment of my family and begin to be a father. Your message today about trusting God in the midst of the flame was what I needed this week.”

“Thank you very much for all you do! Being human, I sometimes get discouraged with the current climate of things and feel like I am on another planet! I listen to your programs (Fire on the Earth) and realize the ‘family’ I have in all of you!”

“Just a note to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for your ministry. You will never know, in this life, the blessings that it has brought to me. Every week as I watch The Choices We Face my faith and devotion is moved to do more for our Lord. I also share what I hear with the Sunday school class I teach at the Presbyterian Church. My prayer is that the Holy Spirit will continue to use you mightily.”

The two television programs that we are involved in are transmitted to more than 148 million homes in 144 countries and territories on more than 4,800 cable systems.
For the past 13 years Renewal Ministries has worked closely with the New Jerusalem Community in Hungary, leading retreats and leadership training. This year, Deacon Zoltán Kunszabó and members of the Community led three parish missions in nearby Serbia, and people responded with tremendous hunger for the Lord and openness to the healing touch of the Spirit.

Renewal Ministries conducted four mission trips to Mexico City this year, bringing food, clothing, medical care and God’s love to people working and living in the garbage dumps, to mentally handicapped orphans, and to the elderly. Our lives were changed as we met Jesus in the faces of the poor.

This year’s mission to Zimbabwe focused on a retreat for 73 catechists from the diocese of Mutare. They were thrilled to receive practical information about the Catholic faith and a concrete understanding of how to engage in spiritual warfare.

In 2005 Renewal Ministries began working in the remote land of Papua New Guinea with Bishop Anthony Burgess. This year’s mission included programs for more than 1600 high school students with a proclamation of the Gospel, prayer for baptism in the Holy Spirit and sessions on prayer and deliverance.

“As the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Ghana celebrates her 40th anniversary, we recall how the Lord has used you to bless us…You contributed in laying the foundation of the renewal and were very instrumental in training key leaders from Ghana in the States who pioneered the CCR movement in the diocese of Accra. We are so grateful to Renewal Ministries for their love, support, encouragement and prayers. Our partnership with Renewal Ministries is really bearing lasting fruits in Ghana and beyond.”
The civil war in Liberia has seriously disrupted the life of the Church. This year Renewal Ministries conducted a priests’ seminar focused on healing prayer and deliverance. It was only the 2nd time since the war began that all the priests were able to gather for prayer and fellowship.

Since our first rally in Lithuania more than 18 years ago, Renewal Ministries continues to play an active role in the renewal and evangelization of the country through support for the Catholic Evangelization Center and the Living Stones Community which conduct retreats and programs for priests, youth, and the laity.

Since 2003, our ongoing and deepening relationship with Archbishop Alapati in Samoa has opened doors for evangelization and training there. This year we ministered to 500 teens at the Samoan Youth Day, leading them to a commitment to Jesus and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
Collaboration with our friends at Haiti Mission combines the proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel. Each day is devoted to the distribution of clothing, food, shoes, and basic medical care to over 750 Haitian youth, and in the evenings we conduct parish missions and catechize.

Our mission to Latvia was very productive this year. In the city of Kuldiga we led a weekend conference for ninety people, and spoke and prayed with people at parishes in various cities and with teens at a Catholic school.

This year the 3rd International Priests’ Retreat in Kampala, Uganda, sponsored by Renewal Ministries, was attended by more than 350 bishops and priests from five different East African countries. Our team including Fr. Francis Martin, gave powerful presentations each day and many priests were baptized in the Spirit, healed, and experienced a whole new level of freedom and forgiveness in their personal lives.

Our fourth trip to Vietnam centered on events in the dioceses of Thanh Hoa and Phat Diem working with Bishop Joseph Nguyen Chi Linh. We spoke to youth and held an eight day seminar for 22 nuns on life in the Holy Spirit.
The mission work of Renewal Ministries is made possible by the heroic and tireless work of our country coordinators. (front row l to r: Don Turbitt, Jim Murphy, Pat Turbitt, Brent Heiser, Lucia & Deacon Steve Thomasheski, Nancy Greenhaw, Deacon Zoltán Kunszabó—back row l to r: Peter Herbeck, Peter Thompson, Lloyd Greenhaw, Dr. Peter Williamson, Tom Edwards, and John Kazanjian)

Our annual Gathering brings together the “Renewal Ministries’ family” from all over the world for a weekend of prayer, teaching, fellowship, and mission updates from around the world.

Now in our 30th year, Renewal Ministries located in Ann Arbor, Michigan is dedicated to Catholic renewal and evangelization through radio, television, mission work, conferences, retreats, training seminars for clergy, religious and laity, our website, and various resources for spiritual growth.

Since 1993 Bishop Sam Jacobs has helped guide and pastor Renewal Ministries as the Chairman of the U.S. Board of Directors. Although no longer on the board, he continues to be an esteemed friend and co-worker in the work of evangelization.

At this year’s Gathering, country coordinator Bohus Zivcak and Fr. Michael Zamkovsky shared their inspiring story of conversion and ministry together in Communist Slovakia.

More than twenty years ago Ralph met a young man at a conference in Poland who was just beginning his studies for the priesthood. Their friendship continued and this year, we were honored to host the newly appointed Archbishop Zbignevs Stankevics of Riga, Latvia.
December 2010

Ypsilanti, MI, St. John the Baptist Advent Mission
Wednesday, December 1
Ralph Martin, Contact number: 734-483-3360

*Toronto, Ontario
Renewal Ministries’ of Canada Board Meeting
December 5–6
Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, Sr. Ann Shields, Gary Seromik

Ypsilanti, MI, St. John the Baptist Advent Mission
Wednesday, December 8
Sr Ann Shields, SGL
Contact number: 734-483-3360

Ypsilanti, MI, St. John the Baptist Advent Mission
Wednesday, December 15
Peter Herbeck
Contact number: 734-483-3360

Ypsilanti, MI, St. John the Baptist Advent Mission
Wednesday, December 22
Sr. Ann Shields, SGL
Contact number: 734-483-3360

January 2011

Fremont, OH
Our Lady of the Lake Magnificat Retreat
January 14–15
Sr. Ann Shields, SGL
Contact Diane Dudenhoefer at: 419-602-0627
or dudenho@aol.com

*Ypsilanti, MI, Huron Valley Catholic School
Monday, January 17
Sr. Ann Shields, SGL
Contact: glancaster@huronvalleyschool.org

* Not a Public Event

February 2010

Brighton, MI, St. Patrick’s Women’s Walk
Wednesday, February 9
Debbie Herbeck
Contact: Julie.Kemp@fisglobal.com

Garden City, MI, Upper Peninsula Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference
February 11–13
Peter Herbeck
Contact John Hogan at 906-450-5215

Naples, FL, Faith and Ale Men’s Group
Wednesday, February 16
Peter Herbeck
Contact: www.faithandale.com

Tampa, FL
Crossing the Goal Catholic Men’s Conference
Saturday, February 19
Peter Herbeck
Contact: www.crossingthegoal.com

Birmingham, AL, Crossing the Goal Taping
February 21–25
Peter Herbeck

* Troy, MI, Legatus of Northeast Michigan
Tuesday, February 22, 2010
Debbie Herbeck
Contact: dnelagatus@gmail.com

Menlo Park, CA, Women’s Retreat
February 25–27
Sr. Ann Shields, SGL
Contact Mariella Hermosillo at: mariellabsn@yahoo.com

Please Pray...
+ in thanksgiving for the wonderful works of the Lord in 2010 and all those who have labored faithfully with Renewal Ministries in the work of renewal and evangelization throughout the world.

+ that the Lord would continue to open doors for the proclamation of the Gospel and provide the resources to continue and expand the work of Renewal Ministries.

+ for the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

Thank you for your continued support through prayer as we labor together for the Gospel and the renewal of the Church.