

## The Dedication of the Zion “Goshert’s” UCC Prayer Labyrinth

Sunday, June 28, 2009

*Leader:* Labyrinths are an ancient spiritual practice. For thousands of years, people have learned to pray walking labyrinths and discerning God’s words whispered to them.

*All:* **We give you thanks, O Lord, for our heritage.**

*Leader:* This labyrinth is in the shade; it is in the countryside. Its rocks and stones came from a local farm. Our children built it and we dedicate it in the faith that God speaks to us in the present in this time and in this place.

*All:* **We give you thanks, O Lord, for the land.**

*Leader:* This labyrinth will be rained upon, it will be snowed upon, and it will wear as part of the earth. May it teach us and all who walk in it that we are as connected to the earth as we are to God, that as we are born of the dust, water, and the Spirit, so also we return to ashes and dust.

*All:* **We give you thanks, O Lord, for your creation.**

*Leader:* May this labyrinth *renew* and *refresh* our spirits, and *evoke* the Holy Spirit in this place, and *provoke* the Holy Spirit in every place we may go.

*All:* **We give you thanks, O Lord, for your New Creation.**

*Leader:* May this labyrinth be a testament to the *past*, from which we may learn from all the saints; and may it be a testament to our *future*, as our children have built it for all to come and use.

*All:* **We give you thanks, O Lord, for the future of our church.**

*Leader:* May those who come to this labyrinth in search of your whispering leave boldly to serve in the world.

*All:* **We give you thanks, O Lord, for the journey that you gift to us.**

—Rev. Dr. Christopher D. Rodkey