

## *Reflections on the Shared Journey-*

I am grateful for those who serve in leadership roles in our life together. Out of their love for God and SJA, they give generously of their time, their gifts, their knowledge, their energies. The growth and progress we enjoy are possible because of how generously they give of themselves.

This past weekend, 22 of these elected leaders gave their Friday evening and much of Saturday to participate in the 2008 Leadership Council retreat. They reviewed the 5 keys identified in the Vision 2010 report, noting areas of progress along with areas that need additional attention. They identified the strengths of each ministry area - nurture, outreach, worship, administration – along with those aspects which need improvement. Their work lays the groundwork for a new visioning process to be completed this year. Just as the Vision 2010 report focused our energies these past 3 years, so this new effort will focus our efforts over the next 3-4 years as we pursue the future God has for us. A summary of their work will be made to the COS and the congregation (through the newsletter).

Through our focused efforts, we have accomplished much. We have enjoyed progress and growth. I look forward to continued progress and growth as we work together in pursuit of the future that God has for us.

I'll see you Sunday in worship.

Grace and peace, Steve