

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 29, 2007

Dear Reverend Ford and Members of the Taylor Tabernacle,

Please receive my sincere respect, appreciation and thanks for the consistent presence of "salt and light" that you bring to your neighborhood and the City of Philadelphia.

Alongside all that occurs on Sunday mornings, you have been present to your neighbors in need Monday through Saturday as well. I particularly salute the "Turning the Tide" program which offers real hope and help towards making a fresh start to former prisoners. It embodies the faithful service to neighbor that is the heart of the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. The "Champion of Compassion" award with which Turning the Tide was honored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives earlier this year is well-deserved.

I wish the very best to each member of the church as you continue to embody "faith expressing itself in love."

Sincerely,



Jay Hein

Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of
the White House Office of Faith-Based and
Community Initiatives

Reverend Lucille Ford
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