



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

May 18, 2009

Rev. Fr. George and Presbytera Marinda Tsahakis
Mrs. Tammy Soulakos, President & esteemed Parish Council members
And the Faithful of St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

My dearly beloved in the Lord,

I greet you today in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, with love and great joy, with the beautiful words, “Χριστός ἠνέστη! *Christ Is Risen!*”

I wanted to write you today to express my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for your generous support for our beloved Diakonia Retreat Center. For two years in a row, you have taken time from your busy schedules to devote your time, energy, skills and resources to this important and vital ministry of our Metropolis family. Because of this unselfish gift of your time and hard work, our brothers and sisters in Christ will be able to enjoy our unique sanctuary to deepen their faith through worship, prayer, education and fellowship.

I have heard from Father George that you were very busy this weekend as you planted the garden, repaired the electrical systems at the Sundance cabin and the well near the garden, as well as connecting all the “dawn to dusk” lighting at the Center to solar panels. For this, I understand that you even had to dig trenches! While some of you were using your skills and abilities to make the Center more energy efficient, I heard that others were cleaning up debris around the eco cabins, and that ten truckloads of debris were hauled away.

Truly I give thanks and praise to Almighty God that you keep your Metropolis family and our beloved Diakonia Retreat Center close to your hearts, and for the gift of your friendship and support for the mission and ministries of our Holy and God-protected Metropolis of Atlanta, and my humble self. I thank God for giving me the opportunity to meet friends like you on my path in life!

As we rejoice in the Lord with thanksgiving for all His blessings, I pray that He will keep you and your Parish family in His loving care always! I remain, paternally yours,

With love in our Risen Lord,

+ALEXIOS
Metropolitan of Atlanta

