



# The Federated Church

200 South Columbia Ave. - P.O. Box 109 - Morris, MN. 56267-0109

Church office: (612) 589-1153 - Parsonage: 589-1308

Jerry P. Hankins, Minister

November 20, 1989

Roadside Theater  
306 Madison Street  
Whitesburg, Kentucky 41858

Dear Folks:

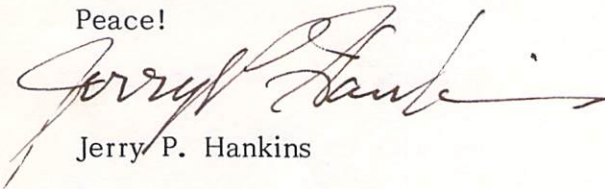
I attended the performance of "Leaving Egypt" at the University of Minnesota Morris on November 11. Having grown up in southeastern Ohio and having begun my ministry in the '60's after a stint in the US Army in the late '50's, I really related to the themes of the play. My father was the only one in his family to leave Lawrence County, Ohio and I served a student summer parish in Jackson County, Ohio. Now living in Minnesota, where there are many second- and third-generation families from Germany, Norway, Sweden and elsewhere in Europe, I feel as if my "ethnic" background is Appalachian.

My dad was the story teller in our family and, in some ways, I continue the tradition. The play underscored for me the importance of that role.

As I write, a flood of images, stories, and songs crowd my memory, but it is not the sharing of them that prompts my letter. I was struck by the closing lines of the Grandfather and the "voice" of which he spoke. I was wondering if you could send me that closing speech. If there is a copyright release fee, I would willingly pay it. I have no immediate use for the quote, since I have already used the lines -- insofar as I could remember them -- in my sermon the next day. But I would like to have something more accurate than my memory should I want to refer to them again; they are very powerful words.

Thank you. I am indeed glad your production was presented in this prairie town in western Minnesota, so unlike the hills of Appalachia, but where some stories have a truth that transcends regional boundaries.

Peace!



Jerry P. Hankins

P.S.: Would you be so kind as to send me a catalogue of your films, videos, and recordings from the Appalshop? Thanks. JPH