

## *Charlotte District E-Pistle*

March 13, 2008

Colleagues:

During my time as a pastor, I have participated in few things that brought me more a sense of fulfillment and joy than the Disciple Bible classes that I was privileged to lead over a period of fifteen years. Each segment of that series was challenging, and the biblical literacy of the congregations I served was enhanced by the proliferation of Disciple groups in the program ministry of the churches I served.

We shall soon have a unique opportunity to meet and greet the principle inspiration of this highly effective resource for Christian education and discipleship development. Please place this invitation in your bulletin, newsletter, e-group news, Sunday school newsheet, or other forms of communication:

**Bishop Wilke and his wife, Julia, will be the guest of Providence UMC and the Charlotte District on April 5-6. They come to us upon the initiative and facilitation of Mike Smith, a member of Providence and the Charlotte District Coordinator of Prison Ministries. Bishop Wilke has a particular interest in our Disciple Bible Prison Ministry Fellowship in the Western NC Conference. On Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, the Wilkes will meet with all Disciple Bible leaders--laity and pastors throughout the district who wish to learn from these spiritual giants. Come on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> to Providence's Charter Hall for a presentation from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Bishop's topic will be entitled, "How to Energize Disciple Bible in Pew and Prison." Bishop Wilke will also preach at the two worship services (8:30 & 11:00 a.m.) at Providence on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, so you may want to come to the service that does not interfere with your usual pattern of worship. Disciple Bible students and leaders from throughout the district are cordially invited to any and all of these experiences of learning and worship. This extraordinary opportunity is especially planned on behalf of all those who have participated in any of the five phases of Disciple Bible, Disciple Bible leaders, and those who wish to learn more about this vital ministry.**

I am grateful to you for sharing this information and promoting attendance at this unique opportunity. I hope that your schedule will allow you to accompany these spiritual leaders of your congregation.

Grace and peace,

*George*