

The Charlotte District E-Pistle

May 4, 2007

Colleagues:

Except for those clergy who are serving their very first appointment, we all know what it means to depart from the familiar in the life of a parish—the plethora of friendships among the laity, warm embraces of those who know us well, the grief of anticipated separation, and the anxiety of the unknown future. Part of the grief of departure or retirement, moreover, is the realization that we shall be leaving behind close friends and colleagues among the pastoral families within the district.

On Thursday, May 17th, 6:30 p.m., at Cole Memorial's fellowship hall, we shall have the opportunity to bid farewell and offer encouragement to those who will be retiring or going to an appointment in another district. A delicious meal will be prepared by the members of Cole Memorial for all those who send in reservations to the district office. Child care will be provided. Use the attached reservation form for your response. I encourage all our clergy families to make an effort to demonstrate our appreciation to those who have labored with such faithfulness among us. Please return this form to us next week, certainly by Friday, May 11th.

I hope you will want to share these special moments with those whom we have grown to love and appreciate in the Charlotte District.

Grace and peace,

George