

*Charlotte District E-pistle*  
**July 28, 2006**

The last week-end of August, 2005, is engraved upon the conscience of every compassionate Christian in this nation. We are approaching the anniversary of Katrina's devastation in the Gulf region and the radical change this natural disaster has brought to the lives of many.

In the Charlotte District, however, this tragic event has been met with an unprecedented response of compassion and generosity. Clusters of churches in Denver and central Charlotte immediately provided mission teams with medical and hygiene kits, appropriate clothing and much financial relief. Our district has been paired by Bishop Hope Morgan Ward with a district in Mississippi and new waves of building teams have gone into the region on a very steady basis.

Bishop William B. Oden, chair of the Katrina Task Force for the United Methodist Church, encourages all churches of our denomination to receive an offering for Katrina relief sometime near this anniversary period—perhaps in the month of September.

Our district office has a seven minute DVD that can be used in the churches in order to promote this offering. You may receive the DVD directly through United Methodist Communications at no cost by calling the toll-free customer service number 1-888-346-3862. Mike Collins in our Conference Office will assist any church that wishes to send a building team.

As we move onward toward other important agenda of the fall, let us continue to remember the needs of our brothers and sisters that were ravaged by this terrible storm.

Grace and peace,

*George*