

Charlotte District E-Pistle

August 23, 2005

Colleagues:

Earlier this month you and I received a gracious invitation from James Howell, senior pastor at Myers Park UMC. All of us who will be planning worship and/or preaching on September 11 will benefit from our time of conversation with one another over lunch at this location on August 30, 11:45 a.m. I look forward to this opportunity to hear your insights and gain from the corporate wisdom of the clergy of our district as we reflect upon life in our parishes during this post-9/11 environment. One of the challenging books I have read recently that has been helpful on this subject is *God's Politic*, by Jim Wallis, editor of *Sojourners*. Perhaps you have received insights and inspiration from other sources you will want to share with your fellow clergy. If so, please join me and James for lunch and conversation. We shall need to RSVP in order to allow the kitchen staff adequate time for preparation: james@mpumc or phone (704-295-4850). Since we shall end by 1:15 p.m., pastors will be well positioned for nearby hospitals visits and other parish responsibilities in the city.

I hope that you have had a restorative summer and have experienced many opportunities to be with your family and friends. I am eager to see you at upcoming fellowship events, especially the gathering at Dilworth on September 1st and the clergy retreat on October 18-19 at the Catholic Retreat Center in Hickory.

Grace and peace,

George