

Charlotte District Epistle

November 1, 2004 (second message for day)

Are you anticipating the post-election blues or will you be filled with so much elation that you cannot wait to see your best friends? Are you suffering from Charge Conference tunnel vision or fatigue from arguing with your church treasurer who was ordained by God to protect *the money of church people*?

Well, this Thursday comes as an act of grace for all the clergy of the Charlotte District. We shall gather on November 4th in the lovely environment of the newly completed space of the Jones Building at Dilworth UMC. This is the best this place has looked since Dilworth hosted Annual Conference in the 1940's. Moreover, Duke Ison is in such a good mood since the mighty Tarheels embarrassed the Hurricanes from Miami that he will probably serve coffee and refreshments for free.

Our special guest is Fred Macon whose personal inner life is indeed instructional to all of us in active ministry. Fred will speak of "the thin places" of life where we meet God. He will guide us into a more disciplined life of prayer through journaling exercises. He will bring practical challenges for those of us who seek to practice an inner life in this secular city.

We shall flow right into Fred's presentation after a few important announcements.

You will not want to miss this one. I hope that you will find this experience personally helpful. I look forward to sharing this time with you.

Thank you for the great job you are doing as a faithful and joyous servant of Jesus Christ. I shall be just as eager to be through with Charge Conferences in 2004 as are you.

Grace and peace,

George