

# *The Charlotte District E-Pistle*

November 9, 2004

Servant leadership is the role of every conscientious United Methodist pastor. I observe your participation in a myriad of sacrificial activities that model the manner of our Master who took the wash basin and towel, washing the feet of his disciples. Laity follow the lead of clergy who joyously demonstrate your pattern of compassionate service to others—especially the least, the lost, and the lonely.

At the beginning of this conference year we outlined Clergy Service Days—designated times in which the pastors and ordained clergy join together in laboring at one of the service agencies that connect with special needs in the Charlotte District.

Our next Clergy Servant Day will be a week from today, Tuesday, November 16, at the Emergency Winter Shelter. The time commitment is from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., a time in which we shall serve a mid-day meal to many who are homeless. The Shelter is located at 427 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, a red brick building behind the Federal Court House. We shall need at least a dozen volunteers from among our clergy; so, please contact the District Office if you can offer your time in this meaningful activity. We hope that your involvement in each of the Service Day experiences will not only introduce you to the major agencies that meet human need in the district; but that you will, in response to this experience, engage the laity of your church in connecting with the same agency with a host of volunteers who will make this a continuous outreach ministry in your church.

Naturally none of the places at which we shall render our services can accommodate all of the 130+ clergy of the Charlotte District. But we can all participate in some of these outreach opportunities in order to model servant leadership.

In the future you will want to consider serving on the following dates and engage in the these activities:

**January 20, 2005**> **The Urban League of Central Carolinas**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The League's center is located at 740 West Fifth Street.

**March 17, 2005**> 11 a.m.-2 p.m. We shall work with **MedAssist of Mecklenburg**, in cooperation with Community Works. The location is 5516 Central Avenue.

I look forward to joining heart and hand with you in these opportunities to serve our Lord in this city of need and abundant resources.

Grace and peace,

*George*