

# *Charlotte District E-Pistle*

## **District Leadership Conference, January 12, 2008**

### **Colleagues:**

I have here attached a promotional flyer with information related to our Charlotte District Leadership Conference on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Assurance UMC is the host church. Please make use of this flyer by getting it into the hands of all those who will benefit from this training: all members of the 2008 Staff-Parish/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, your 2008 Lay Leader, all Trustees (serving in each of the classes, 2008-2010), members of both Finance and Stewardship Committees, Chairs of Church Council/Administrative Boards, and all members of your Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations). Of course each pastor or Senior Pastor is chair of Lay Leadership and will benefit from the instructions of Karen Lynch-Bromley.

You may want to circulate this as a bulletin insert on the Sundays before Christmas. You may even want to send a hard-copy to just the designated committees. Do not rely upon the committee chairs to get out the word. Emphasize verbally the importance of this training as you have opportunity in times of parish concerns. Communicate this flyer by e-mail, distribution at committee meetings or Sunday school, carrier pigeon, or whatever means of communication that works best in your congregation.

Through the encouragement of the School of Christian Discipleship, several features are different this year:

1. We are focusing upon only six strategic areas of specific leadership responsibility.
2. We are conducting two DLC's: this one in January that gives focus to several key leadership roles and one in the fall that will encourage all leaders and growing disciples to learn more about some salient theme essential to all followers of Jesus Christ and members of the United Methodist Church. Thus, in October we sponsored a DLC featuring Wesleyan theology with guest lecturer Richard Heitzenrater and other authorities in our Wesleyan heritage.
3. Our January Conference will be held on a Saturday (the 12<sup>th</sup>) at a central location for the district. Assurance, at 9700 Mt. Holly Huntersville Road, is only minutes away for inter-state 77.
4. Our task will be both inspiration and information. The UMAR Choir will sing at the plenary session. I shall address the significance of the role of the laity in a healthy, vibrant church.

I look forward to sharing this time of nurture and inspiration with you and your leadership. Thanks for promoting this important event at a time in which such promotions can easily be lost among the packages underneath the tree and the statistical reports upon the pastor's desk.

I wish for you a joyous twelve days of Christmastide.

Grace and peace,

*George*