



Charlotte District Connections

A Publication of the Charlotte District of the United Methodist Church

Volume 30, Issue 3

May-June, 2005

Korean Methodists: Hospitality and Spirituality

By Rev. Jessie Keaton

People who visit Korea are likely to leave remembering a pleasant greeting. “*Komsahannidab*” is an expression of honor, reverence and gratitude; it characterizes Korean culture. Recently my Doctor of Ministry (Beeson Pastors) class from Asbury Seminary spent a week-long study tour in South Korea. From dawn until dark for seven days, Han and Daniel, our hosts from Kwanglim Methodist Church served us with gracious hospitality. Korean Christians at every site we visited aided them. They loaded and unloaded our luggage, showered us with gifts, organized each excursion, and interpreted for us. Their commitment to quality, detail, and excellence enabled us to relax

and enjoy our Korean experience. The meals prepared by the women—replete with Korean “*kimchi*” (a spicy, pungent, cabbage-like dish)—were scrumptious “feasts” of native cuisine. On Saturday, the students at Seoul Girls’ Commercial High School dressed us women in brightly colored Korean costumes called *Hanbok*. They delighted us with a lesson in traditional Korean etiquette and “deep bowing”. After giving us lessons in graphic design and Korean calligraphy, the girls treated us to lively musical performances, and KFC boxed lunches. Next we watched a festive parade orchestrated by the students in our honor! Through the Korean Methodists, we learned more about the honor that comes with being a humble Christian servant. Truly, the *greatest* of all is the *servant* to all.



~~~~~  
**The only thing more stunning than  
 Korean hospitality is Korean spirituality.**  
 ~~~~~

On Sunday, we attended the 11:00 service at Seoul’s Kwanglim Methodist Church, the largest Methodist Church in the world (85,000 members). Thousands of people rushed to pack the two-tiered sanctuary as a beautiful prelude was played on the harp. “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”, played on vibrant, majestic chimes, heralded the processional. As Asbury Seminary President Jeff Greenway preached a heartfelt message on “Answering God’s Call to Discipleship”, Pastor Chung Suk Kim translated with dynamism and fervency. The massive sanctuary choir featured accomplished singers and

(Cont’d on page 4)

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|----|
| DS Article: <i>Our Corporate Vision</i> | 2 |
| Good Shepherd’s New Facility Opening | 3 |
| Bethlehem Center’s Summer Camps | 3 |
| Youth Rally: “ <i>God Rocks 2005</i> ” | 4 |
| Church Celebration at University City UMC | 4 |
| UMCOR/Disaster Response Needs | 5 |
| Laity Banquet Invite | 6 |
| Opportunities to Serve | 7 |
| Conference Information | 8 |
| United Methodist Women’s Events | 9 |
| District Calendar of Events | 12 |

Special Points of Interest:

- ◇ *Around the Charlotte District Picture Gallery*
- ◇ *Golden Cross Article*
- ◇ *Sidewalk Sunday School*
- ◇ *Terry Teykl at University City UMC*
- ◇ *Spiritual Formation Day Apart*
- ◇ *A Day Apart for the Young at Heart*
- ◇ *Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries*

Our Corporate Vision

An ancient Irish petition has become an oft-chanted prayer in our worship services: “Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.”

Our most productive local parishes have each developed clear, concise statements of vision that are being implemented in creative ways through the administration of careful process planning. But can a conference (or even a district) also achieve such clarity of focus and exuberance in the execution of its God-inspired aspirations?

Through the years we United Methodists of the Western NC Conference have given nodding assent to forgettable slogans and vaporous quadrennial emphases. But do we have a corporate vision that captivates our imagination and stirs our spirits to engage in the dynamic and adventurous business of Christ’s Kingdom?

Within the past year the Cabinet has involved over ninety diverse leaders (clergy and laity) in crafting a corporate vision for our Annual Conference. We envision our Conference becoming *a Christ-centered, disciple-making, and culture-transforming community of faith*. Our mission as God’s people is clearly *to follow Jesus, make disciples, and transform the world*.

Bishop Lawrence McCleskey has articulated seven ways of living into this vision, thereby being faithful to our mission. In all our corporate activities and ministries within the Charlotte District, I encourage us to think creatively and to act boldly as we seek to implement each of these seven goals.

- 1. Intentionally relate unchurched people to Jesus Christ.** Every church in the Charlotte District is a mission station for producing new disciples. I want us to assist one another in the joyous activity of making disciples so that no church (large or small) will go a single year without celebrating at least one new profession of faith. Through a district **School of Discipleship**, let us join together in nurturing all disciples (neophytes and veteran saints) through challenging ministries and our practicing the historic disciplines of sanctification.
- 2. Teach and learn a biblically-based understanding of discipleship.** I want every congregation in our district to provide annually at least one Disciple Bible group.

- 3. Nurture a unity in Christ that values diversity.** No district contains quite the diversity of Charlotte—urban and rural, large and small congregations, a plethora of ethnic diversity, diverse worship styles, and a significant age and cultural spectrum. Let us wisely cluster our congregations so that we study and work together, discover creative ways to enter each other’s rich cultural heritages, and celebrate our common allegiance to Jesus Christ.

- 4. Identify a bold, audacious and conference-wide mission for the Annual Conference.** Bishop McCleskey has invited the choir from Africa University to sing at Annual Conference this year. We shall thereby launch a bold initiative to strengthen our ties with that institution and its mission.

- 5. Develop some ministry with the poor in every community.** I want us to begin by uniting in ministry with South Tryon Community Mission and Spencer Memorial—congregations that are uniquely located in regions of the city that make it possible for us to join in ministry with wonderful servants of Christ among those trapped in conditions of poverty.

- 6. Explore and practice the spiritual dimension of stewardship.** An upcoming spring seminar will focus upon this theme. I want every local church in the Charlotte District to teach, develop, and implement a biblically-based plan for stewardship.

- 7. Find ways with the Conference to shepherd the shepherds.** This October the Charlotte District clergy will engage in another retreat setting. Our leader will be Dr. Bill Mitcham of Lutheran Family Services. We shall be looking through the years at ways we can address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of our Charlotte District clergy. I want to begin by renewing our disciplines related to exercise and diet. Frankly, we are not taking very good care of our physical bodies, and most of us are aware of the dangers of this neglect. I want us to covenant together in ways that will strengthen our spiritual ties with one another. Clergy support groups will be fostered, addressing a variety of shared needs.

If we do not know where we are going as God’s people, we shall likely arrive where we never intended. But our corporate vision can lead us to a sunlit plateau where our dreams become a reality in a place we call the Church of Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace, *George*

Good Shepherd Opens New & Expanded Facility on May 15, 2005

Good Shepherd Church will celebrate the Grand Opening of its new 27,000 square foot addition on Sunday, May 15, 2005. Open House & Dedication will be held on May 8th at 4:00 p.m. The expanded facilities will include an 800 seat worship center and classroom building. The worship center will feature:

- State of the art sound and video systems with three large screens;
- Fan-shaped seating arrangement that increases intimacy;
- Large platform with room for 80 voice choir and praise band;
- Portable baptismal pool;
- Translation equipment for the bilingual 11:15 a.m. service;
- Large gathering area with inviting artwork & décor.

The church's present worship center, which opened in 1996, seats slightly more than 400 persons. The church currently averages just over 1,200 total worshippers in its 8:30, 9:45 and 11:15 celebrations.

"We pray this new space will help us continue to have worship that looks like worship in heaven - with every tribe, tongue, and language represented," said Talbot Davis, pastor of Good Shepherd.

The facilities were designed by Neil Brown, a principal with Scott Garner Architects. Simon & Watson Construction served as the General Contractor.



Assistance Needed for Bethlehem Center's Summer Camps

To date, we have 80 children registered for summer camp. Children who are rising 2nd graders through rising 12th graders are excited about attending Camp Tekoa, Camp Mount Shepherd, or Camp Gwynn Valley for three days to a full week depending upon their ages.

The camp fees are \$190.00 for the mini-campers, \$290.00 for elementary campers, \$300.00 for middle

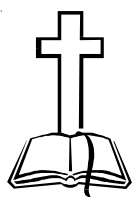
school, and \$335.00 for senior high campers. These costs do not include transportation. This year we have 25 senior high students registered. The parents of the children are asked to pay \$25.00 for registration, and then another amount

based on a sliding scale before the child goes to camp. Many of the parents (or grandparents) are able to pay those fees, but we never turn a child away if they are unable to do so.

If you would like to send an inner city child to summer camp in a quiet, peaceful, Christian setting, you may make your checks to Bethlehem Center for: Summer Camp and send it to Bethlehem Center, 2705 Baltimore Ave., Charlotte, NC 28203. We also are in need of church vans and drivers to assist us with transportation. Please call 704-371-7427 or e-mail me at iellwanger@bethlehemcenter.org if you can assist in this way.



Condolences to...



Mrs. Pam Carter and Reverend Kenneth Carter (Providence UMC, Charlotte) in the death of Pam's father, Mr. Woodrow Barrow Jr., on March 19th.

Dilworth Cancellation

Dilworth UMC has cancelled the Tony Campolo visit on May 28-29, 2005 due to Memorial Day weekend. The new date is September 15-16, 2006. That's correct "2006". Information about this Dilworth event will be forthcoming.

Korean Methodists: Hospitality and Spirituality



soloists, accompanied by a full orchestra and sonorous pipe organ. Surprisingly, the entire order of the worship service was traditional Methodist, although on a much grander scale than in most American

churches. All the hymns were familiar Methodist tunes sung in Korean. John Wesley would have been pleased that the entire congregation “sang lustily”.

A sacred hush fell over the sanctuary as Kwanglim’s long-standing former pastor, Bishop Sundo Kim, installed Dr. Jeff Greenway as an Honorary Pastor of Kwanglim Methodist Church. From start to finish, the Korean Methodists exuded a heartfelt love for Jesus Christ, an intense fervor and openness to worship, and an unsurpassable commitment to excellence. After worship, Bishop Sundo Kim, former pastor of Kwanglim, talked to the Asbury Beeson pastors about how faith, prayer, empowered laity, and a “big dream” enabled him to grow the church from 150 to 85,000 members. Later he prayed for each pastor and spouse.

Potent, powerful prayer is a vital key to the explosive growth of the Kwanglim Church. Tuesday Trinity Bible Study and subsequent prayer service draws almost as many people as Sunday worship. Throughout the recent Holy Week, 300 Kwanglim members prayed around the clock for the nation of Korea, and for the members, families and ministries of the Church. At Yoiddo Full Gospel Assembly (1.2 million members), the Wednesday mid-morning prayer meeting was an electrifying experience! After Pastor David Yonggi Cho prayed, he uttered a familiar Korean phrase, and immediately the entire congregation began praying aloud. Watching this sea of thousands of Christians, praying with outstretched

arms and tear stained faces to One Immanent, Powerful God, we Americans caught a glimpse of the Day of Pentecost. Still on an emotional high, we reached a spiritual climax that afternoon as we ascended the heights of Kwanglim Prayer Mountain. With inner fountains filled to overflowing, we paused before each new scene of the life of Christ, and poured forth words of inspiration and thanksgiving to God. That night we dispersed into the individual prayer cells at the Prayer Mountain Chapel. Some were “caught up” in prayer for several hours, but left renewed.

On Tuesday, we accompanied the visitation pastors on home visits. Kwanglim Church members are well cared for. Associate pastors of visitation and their assigned lay ministers visit every Kwanglim family’s home at least once each



year. Home visits consist of prayer, informal conversation about the member’s spiritual life, recording of pertinent family information, prayer requests, a brief sermon by the pastor, and a closing prayer. Afterward, the pastor presents each member with an inscribed gift from the church. This year, the gift is a beautiful white marble cross. The vis-

its end with light refreshments and green tea.

John Wesley believed “all the world” was his parish. Through positive faith, practiced love, Christian servanthood, total commitment, and obedience, the Korean Methodist Church is keeping Wesley’s dream alive. *“Komsahamnidah.”*



You’re Invited to “GOD ROCKS 2005”

Youth, Pastors, Youth Coordinators/Representatives, you are invited to an exciting youth rally - “GOD ROCKS 2005”, on **Sunday, June 5, 2005, 7 to 9 p.m. at Denver UMC, 3910 Highway 16 North, in Denver, NC.** 7-Miles will be our special guest. Check out their website - www.7-miles.com - for a sampling of their music. If you’ve never seen them before,

know that they will bring the authenticity to the table needed for God to do the “God” thing.

Tim Lewis, a basketball player from Montreat University, will deliver an excellent personal driven message about the wonderful opportunity God gives us each day. His message will be “Living Free”. The theme

of the entire event is “God Rocks.” We will be celebrating how great God really is.

Please give us a call with the number of youth and adults who will be attending. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church at (704) 483-1601.

THANK YOU...

- if you hosted the *Lay Speaking Ministry* classes at your church in the last few years;
- if you made sure that the students had a snack supper during their class sessions;
- if you facilitated a class, whether Basic or Advanced.

A big Thank You to those who attended the *Lay Speaking Ministry* classes - learning and sharing your faith stories. I would have failed in my responsibilities as Director of *Lay Speaking Ministry* if it had not been for all of you and your willingness to serve, share and to learn.

This has been a great opportunity for me, but a greater spiritual experience because of all the wonderful people I have met and worked with in recent years. You will always hold a special place in my heart, and I hope you have received a blessing from your experiences with the *Lay Speaking Ministry*. Please continue to be "Servants" and "Messengers" for God and His people.

I also want to thank the Charlotte District Laity Council for your trust in my ability to facilitate this ministry and for your support as I set out on this mission. I love you all.

Micheline Mathews
Director of Lay Speaking Ministry

UMCOR

The UMCOR Board of Directors approved \$180,000 for the Western North Carolina Annual Conference and its Hurricanes 2004 recovery. UMCOR will make an initial distribution of \$100,000 during the week of April 18, 2005. A subsequent payment of \$80,000 will be made next year as it is requested.

In return, the WNC Annual Conference will submit quarterly reports which outlines the use of funds and gives the number of cases that are being handled and the kinds of help being supplied to clients, to the UMCOR Emergency Services Office.

It is our hope that this grant will help the Western North Carolina Conference and its workers reach many communities with the positive message of hope and healing.

Blessings,

Tom Hazelwood
UMCOR Emergency Services Office, U.S.A.

The Disaster Response Team Needs You

Your congregation can become involved in disaster response work in the mountains of Western North Carolina. The devastation from last year's flood continues to impact the lives of numerous victims of this extraordinary catastrophe.

1. Our present trucks are old and used up. They need to be replaced soon. We need two (2) 3/4 ton trucks (2001 or newer) for Disaster Response work. We are not looking for Diesel trucks or 4-wheel drives. We need to begin a Disaster Response Equipment Capital Campaign or have some good equipment donated to us.
2. We need to train persons as Early Responders. People want to respond to Disasters but they need training. I invite the districts to set a time with me to train persons in Early Disaster Response.
3. We welcome churches to adopt families in the midst of the disaster. This is especially for refurbishing homes. Churches may contact Jackie Bolden at 828-627-2510. We are not looking for donations of articles, but a partnership with churches that will allow us to provide "Store Certificates" to those who have gone through 'Case Work'. We will certify them as in need of assistance. We cannot legally provide names of the persons, but we can give some basic family information to churches.
4. Teams will be needed over the next 18-24 months. Contact Jackie Bolden at 828-627-2510 to schedule teams.
5. We need land or lots in the Haywood and Macon County areas, specifically near the cities of Clyde, Canton and Franklin. We can provide legal assistance so that donations, or partial donations, may be tax-write-offs.

—Michael Collins, WNC Conference Director of Volunteer Response Ministries

Does your church have a Disaster Response Plan? Mike Collins has brochures, contact him at 704-535-2260, Ext. 142.

“Meet Us In The Park”

Sidewalk Sunday School

The Bethlehem Center

2705 Baltimore Ave.

Charlotte, NC 28203

Saturday, May 7, 2005 @ 11:00 am

For children ages 3-12 years

Come out and enjoy exciting Christian Family Fun.
Games, music, puppets, and more!

Contact Stephanie Hand at 704-643-9520 for more information

District Laity Banquet Invitation

Thursday, May 26, 2005

7:00 p.m.

Trinity United Methodist Church

6230 Beatties Ford Road

Charlotte, NC 28216

\$10.00 per person

District Laity Service Award recipients will be recognized. Special entertainment will be a part of this affair. All clergy and laity are welcome to attend. **Reservations must be made no later than Friday, May 13, 2005 if you wish to have a meal. Complete and return the form below to the Charlotte District Office.**

~~~~~  
District Laity Banquet - May 26, 2005 - 7:00 p.m. - Trinity UMC, Charlotte, NC

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$10.00 per person)

Please make checks payable to “Conference Treasurer” and mark for Laity Banquet. Mail this completed form and check by **May 13, 2005** to: **Charlotte District Office, The United Methodist Church, 4108 Park Road, Suite 101, Charlotte, NC 28209-2259**

# Opportunities to Serve

## Summer Employment

Bethlehem Center is in need of someone interested in summer employment beginning in mid-May and ending the first week of August. This is a perfect job for a rising college junior or senior who has had resident camping experience. Good organization and computer skills are needed. This job involves record keeping, helping to coordinate transportation of children to and from camp, and various other duties involving our summer resident camp program. An unblemished driving record is a must. Camp Mt. Shepherd (near Asheboro), Camp Tekoa (near Hendersonville), and Camp Gywnn Valley (near Brevard) are the summer camps our children attend. For more information, call Irma Ellwanger at 704-371-7427 or e-mail [iellwanger@bethlehemcenter.org](mailto:iellwanger@bethlehemcenter.org).

## Part-time Music Assistant/ Accompanist University City UMC

Duties include preparing for and providing both instrumental church service music and accompaniment to vocalists using organ, piano, and/or keyboard. Requirements include an ability to play and enjoy various styles of music, both traditional and more contemporary, while maintaining Christian witness. Send resume' to [mguild@ucumc.org](mailto:mguild@ucumc.org), University City UMC, 3835 West WT Harris Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28269 by May 29, 2005.

## Administrative Assistant Harrison UMC (Ballentyne area of Charlotte)

- Excellent communication skills are essential
- Proficiency in Word, Excel, Outlook and Publisher required
- Accurate typing and proofreading skills a must
- Ability to multi-task under deadline pressure
- Strong organizational skills needed
- Stable work history is important
- Competitive salary and benefits offered
- Previous position in a church environment a plus
- Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 - 5:00

To apply, forward a letter of introduction, salary history and resumé to:  
Harrison United Methodist Church  
15008 Lancaster Highway  
Pineville, NC 28134  
Attention: Joyce Garris

## Pianist St. Francis UMC

Wednesday Rehearsal from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Sunday Services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Call Jane Mendlik at 704-545-8357 or send resume' to  
St. Francis UMC  
4200 McKee Road  
Charlotte, NC 28270

## *Latino? Or Hispanic?*

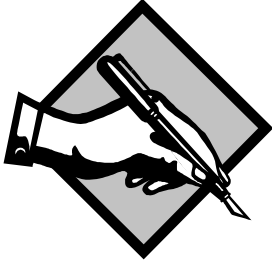
The word *Hispanic* is a term which was created by the Nixon Administration to identify people with Spanish speaking heritages for the purpose of classifying recipients for census, welfare distribution and other government record keeping. Not only was this an artificial construct (the people themselves had never classified themselves based on "Spanish language heritage"), but it also ran counter to several other strong traditions. Last year the United Methodist Church changed the designation of these targeted groups for evangelism and missions to "Latino" to emphasize the inclusion

of non-Spanish language based people. Portuguese, Creole and French-speaking cultures are also included.

**Want to know more about Latino Missions and Outreach in the Charlotte District? Visit [www.chardist.org](http://www.chardist.org) and click on the Latino Missions Newsletter.**

---

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE EXCUSES



Those persons who will ask to be excused from the 2005 session of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference, please make note that paragraph 602.8 of The Book of Discipline says: "It is the duty of every member and all probationers and local pastors of the annual conference to attend its sessions ... **Any such person unable to attend shall report by letter to the conference secretary, setting forth the reason for the absence.**"

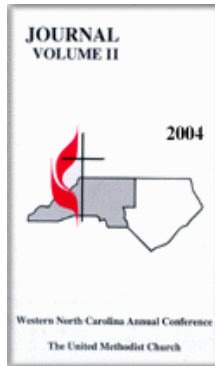
Denny White, WNC Conference Secretary

---

## VOLUME I & 2 JOURNALS

Volume I & 2 of the 2004 Conference Journals are now available on-line at the WNC Conference website ([www.wnccumc.org/journals.cfm](http://www.wnccumc.org/journals.cfm)). By action of the 2004 conference, the journal will be made available in three (3) ways:

1. Posted on the [www.wnccadmin.org](http://www.wnccadmin.org) web site. This is the only way in which the journal will be provided free.
2. On compact disc (CD), at a cost of \$12 for the 2-volume set.
3. In printed form at the cost of \$12 for the 2-volume set.



If you are interested in ordering the CD and/or printed versions, please contact Denny White's office at 704-535-2260.

Denny White, Conference Secretary

---

## YEAR-END REPORT WORKSHOP

This workshop is open to all pastors, secretaries (membership and financial), treasurers, and/or anyone who helps to complete the Year-End Reports.

Important changes are being made to the Year-End Statistical Reports (Tables 1 and 2), and a new report (Table 3 - Funding Sources) has been added. Denny White, WNC Conference Secretary/Statistician, has graciously agreed to facilitate this very important workshop.

The workshop will be held on **THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2005 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at MYERS PARK UMC in Charlotte.** The church is located at 1501 Queens Road. Lunch will be served after the workshop at a cost of \$5.00 per person. To make lunch reservations, call **704-376-5520, ext. 5650, BY NOON on May 3.** Please provide the **CHURCH NAME AND THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO WILL ATTEND.** Parking is located directly across the street from the church at the corner of Queens Rd. and Pembroke Rd.

---

## “NO 2005 DISTRICT PRE-CONFERENCE BRIEFING SESSIONS”

Each year when we have legislation that needs interpretation, a District Pre-Conference Briefing is held by each district in our conference. District Pre-Conference Briefings will not be held for the 2005 Western NC Annual Conference. The 2005 Annual Conference Program and Reports are now available and can reviewed at the conference website [www.wnccadmin.org/P&R.cfm](http://www.wnccadmin.org/P&R.cfm)

---

## AROUND THE CHARLOTTE DISTRICT



The United Methodist Women's District Prayer Breakfast was held at Myers Park UMC on May 12, 2005.

---



Annual Men's Breakfast was held at Bethlehem Center on April 3, 2005.

---



Cole Memorial extended an invitation to Latino families in their neighborhood to participate in a children's and youth soccer clinic. The church is offering an open field on their campus for this recreational sport. On April 3, the church hosted a worship service, covered dish luncheon and fellowship time with Latino families.

**United Methodist Women  
School of Christian Mission  
Cornerstones of Hope  
July 21-24, 2005  
Greensboro College**



Courses of Study include: Children of the Bible, Public Education, and India/Pakistan. There are also one-day overviews of India/Pakistan and Public Education – as well as a Workshop for Leaders of Children. Registration deadline is June 30 (none can be received before May 1).

**NEW!** Ten (10) hours of training toward Advanced Lay Speaker Certification will be offered. The Basic Course is a prerequisite. To qualify for Advanced Lay Speaking certification at the Western North Carolina Conference School of Christian Mission, one must:

- Attend all class sessions for selected study, including plenary.
- Attend all sessions of Bible-based study - Children of the Bible (everyone takes this study).
- Participate in classroom assignments as specified by the study leader.
- Have already completed the Basic Course for Lay Speaking.
- Complete and return the special form provided by the class secretary, to the School of Christian Mission office by the close of the School.

**Annual Meeting  
A Celebration of United Methodist Women  
A Portrait for the Future  
September 9, 10 & 11, 2005  
Lake Junaluska**

Housing Reservations for Lake Junaluska facilities begin July 1, 2005.

*Visit [www.gbgm-umc.org/wncumw](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/wncumw) to obtain additional details and registration materials for these 2 events.*

## Golden Cross

Throughout the Conference, the first Sunday in May is traditionally designated as Golden Cross Sunday. By designating such a time, we are able to inform our members about this significant health-assistance ministry and receive offerings. Last year only six churches gave extra support to the Golden Cross Fund: Cokesbury, Cole Memorial, Mt. Zion, Ebenezer, Plaza and Salem. I think we can do a better job of promoting this ministry in the Charlotte District.

The offering actually accomplishes two things: Golden Cross funds help families - lay and clergy - who struggle to pay medical bills and often forego needed medical treatment or medicine. It also provides good public relations with our congregations. Grateful recipients tell their stories about how this Conference program directly pulled them through a tough economic situation in a time of crisis.

Funding for Conference ministries in 2005 is only 45% of the amount requested by most of our outreach programs, including Golden Cross. In the past, Golden Cross grants have totaled in the range of \$45,000 to \$50,000. Only \$18,900 is anticipated this year through the apportionments! Thus, if this ministry is to maintain its hope-giving impact, it will require your encouragement.

I urge you to designate a Golden Cross Sunday with the minimum expectation of providing information about the program. Choose a time that is appropriate in your congregation's schedule.

Thanks for affirming this ministry that, through the years, has touched the lives of so many grateful United Methodists in our pews.

## MINISTERS' CONFERENCE 2005

**Worship: The Work of God's People**

**Lake Junaluska, NC**

**July 4-8, 2005**

Platform leaders are Rev. Leonard Sweet and Marcia McFee. For additional details and a registration form, visit the "Events" section at [www.lakejunaluska.com](http://www.lakejunaluska.com) <<http://www.lakejunaluska.com/>>.

---

**DISCIPLE  
BIBLE  
OUTREACH  
MINISTRIES**

The 2005 Disciple Bible Training Event will be held July 28-29, 2005 at Apex UMC, Apex, N.C. On Thursday, July 28 - *Disciple I* and *Disciple IV* training will occur. On Friday *Jesus and the Gospels* and Day 2 of *Disciple I* are offered. Each one-day seminar is \$100 and includes lunch and student training materials. For more information and to make reservations call 1-800-672-1789. A limited number of training scholarships are available for small membership churches (200 members or less) that are starting Disciple I for the first time. **Bishop McCleskey is asking every church in the Conference to provide opportunities for Disciple Bible groups to be experienced by the members.**

---

**ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
SPIRITUAL  
FORMATION  
DAY APART**

The Western North Carolina Annual Conference Spiritual Formation Task Force invites you to our **Day Apart** presentation, on Wednesday, June 8, 2005.

The topic for this event is "*A More Excellent Way: Investigating Wesley's Understanding of God's Economy*". The topic of discussion will be led by Dr. Rex Matthews, a Wesley Scholar from Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

Ask yourself "How do I understand budgeting, and the use of money from a theological perspective of holiness and move toward the perfect love of God and neighbor?"

You're invited to come and participate in an evocative and engaging presentation, discussion, and searching to gain greater clarity.

This year the event will be held at Long's Chapel UMC.

The event begins at 10 a.m. and concludes at 3 p.m.

The registration fee for the entire event - including lunch - is \$20 per person.

A registration form can be obtained from the "downloads" on our district web-site [www.chardist.org](http://www.chardist.org).

Please register by June 1, 2005.

---

**Terry Teykl at  
University City UMC**

On Sunday, May 15, 2005, Terry Teykl, a United Methodist Pastor will present a seminar on the subject of "The Presence Based Church". This will be the first time Terry has presented a seminar in the Charlotte District. He teaches in a warm humorous style that has made him one of the most sought after seminar leaders in the country. He has pastored for 28 years and has authored a number of books on the subject of prayer.

The seminar will begin at 2:00 PM with 2 sessions, a break in the afternoon, and a 3rd session in the early evening following a light supper.

**Registration is \$30.**

---

**A DAY APART FOR THE  
YOUNG AT HEART**

**An event, sponsored by WNCC Older Adult Ministries is scheduled for May 24, 2005 at Myers Park UMC, Charlotte. "*Living a Life of Love and Laughter*" will feature the Reverend Andy Lambert as the keynote speaker. Please contact Mary Robinson at 1.800.562.7929 for additional information and registration.**

For further information on the seminar, registration, and directions to the church please contact Gail Werstlein, Minister of Congregational and Community Care at 704-369-0015 ext. 107 or e-mail Rev. Werstlein at [gwerstlein@ucumc.org](mailto:gwerstlein@ucumc.org).

# District Calendar of Events

## MAY

- 1** 2005-06 Clergy Appointment Announcements in Local Churches
- 9** ***Cabinet Meeting***
- 16-18** ***Cabinet Meeting***
- 19** District Clergy Farewell Gathering, Mt. Zion UMC, 6:30 p.m.
- 26** District Laity Banquet, Trinity UMC, 7 p.m.
- 30** District Office Closed for Memorial Day Observance

## JUNE

- 8** **Cabinet Meeting**
- 9-12** WNC Annual Conference, Lake Junaluska
- 10** Coffee, Honoring Spouses of Retiring Clergy, Terrace Hotel Lobby, 10:00 a.m.
- 11** Reception Honoring Retiring Clergy and Spouses, Harrell Center Auditorium, 10:30 a.m.
- 11** Annual Luncheon, Clergy Partners Fellowship, First Church, Waynesville, 12:30 p.m.
- 28** Western North Carolina Conference Moving Day

## JULY

- 3** New Pastor's first Sunday in pulpit.



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

GEORGE THOMPSON, District Superintendent  
 DELTA RIVENS, Administrative Assistant  
 Marcella Cook, Editor/Publisher

Website: <http://www.chardist.org>  
 E-mail: [chardist@bellsouth.net](mailto:chardist@bellsouth.net)  
 Telephone: 704-525-3395/Fax: 704-525-4238

**CHARLOTTE DISTRICT  
 THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 4108 PARK RD., SUITE 101  
 CHARLOTTE, NC 28209-2259**

**NON-PROFIT ORG  
 POSTAGE PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 1854  
 CHARLOTTE NC**