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Dear Members of the Charge Conference, Duke Memorial United Methodist Church:

In January of this year, I affiliated with the charge conference at Duke Memorial UMC, and my wife Leta joined the church by transfer. Then in June 1993, I transferred into the North Carolina Conference as a member in full connection and an elder, appointed as Director of the Divinity Library at the Divinity School, Duke University. This is my brief report of my ministry of the past year.

Word and Sacrament: Since moving to North Carolina, I have preached on two occasions and have assisted in celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion on three occasions. I have performed no weddings or funerals. I interpret much of my work to be (somewhat indirectly) a ministry of the Word, as I gather library resources for students and faculty to study in preparation for the church's ministry.

Order: Both in terms of my ministry and my profession as a librarian, order is perhaps my chief contribution. First, I believe, my transfer in to the conference here expresses my sense of the proper ordering of ministry, with accountability and relationship being importantly local, rather than retaining my previous membership (treasured as it was) in the Northwest Texas Conference. Second, I remain committed to the accountability system of reporting my own ministries and sharing in the ministries of the conference. Third, through giving professional leadership in theological librarianship (including service this year as President of the American Theological Library Association), I have sought to maintain order but more importantly to generate renewed vision of the kinds of order required for the theological libraries of the next century.

Congregation: Leta and I have been warmly welcomed at Duke Memorial. I have taken up membership in the chancel choir, and served during the past year as a member of the search committee to find a new minister of music. Together with Leta, I have become mentor to a confirmand, Kevin Boggs, and have sponsored new members Jan and Bob Irvine. I look forward to opportunities to teach in the Christian education program of the church, and to serve in other areas as needed.

Blessings on each of you. It is good to complete one year's ministry with you, and to look forward to many years together.

Sincerely,

Roger J. Loyd

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The Rev. Albert Shuler, District Superintendent, Durham District

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