



November 29, 2008

Report for Charge Conference, Duke Memorial UMC, Durham district

In 2008, I have continued to exercise my ministry as an elder, appointed to serve as the director of the Divinity School Library at Duke University. I also am a member of the faculty there, though I do not teach courses ordinarily. In fact, for part of 2008, I served as faculty secretary during the absence of our regular secretary, who was on leave. I supervise a staff of four other persons, as well as students, and participate in the larger constellation of libraries at Duke, seeking to give useful service not only to Divinity School people, but to all who work on research projects involving religion.

I had a fairly active year in my church responsibilities. I taught Sunday school five times, helping to lead the new Soul Café class on occasion. I served the Eucharist to our homebound members on two Sundays, and assisted in serving the Eucharist at our own sanctuary twice more. I preached one sermon, at Goodson Chapel at Duke University. I did not have the opportunity to be the pastor at a wedding, a funeral, or a baptism.

Other tasks I accepted at Duke Memorial UMC were to be the coordinator of the stewardship campaign (which is still in its finishing stages), and by that responsibility also became a member of the finance committee and the administrative board. I also agreed to write a bi-weekly newsletter column on the hymns of Charles Wesley during the first half of the year, to continue my role as coordinator for Interfaith Hospitality Network ministries at our church (and to serve on the Durham IHN Board), and to serve in the adult choir, including being the choir's librarian (meaning, I file the music).

As I approach the final few years of my active ministry, I increasingly value these opportunities to invest my energies in the work of God's kingdom. I look forward to the coming year and to all that we will experience as a university and divinity school, as a congregation, and as a denomination, all seeking to be found faithful in our service to God.

