

*This order can serve as minutes.*

CHARGE CONFERENCE 2010

HOW IS IT WITH YOUR SOUL?

CHARGE \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting held at \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, DS, Presiding

\_\_\_\_\_, Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_, Associate Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_, Deacon and/or other appointed person

\_\_\_\_\_, Recording Secretary

*Mr. Wesley used to greet members of each Methodist society by asking, "How is it with your soul?" That question wasn't meant to be censorious or judging, but truly intended to be helpful as he followed it with questions and advice about how to grow in grace. For several years we in the North Carolina Annual Conference have been talking about the health of our churches. Many of them have moved to greater health and effectiveness in winning others to Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, but many more have not moved substantially toward that mission and some congregations are suffering from a lack of focus on missional objectives. So this year each charge conference is designed to be a holy conversation about the state of each church. What is being done to help it move forward with The United Methodist Church's stated mission of making disciples of Jesus? What enhances growth? What hinders it? Each charge conference will open with the following questions being asked by the district superintendent. Hopefully each pastor and lay leader will have already led a discussion of the questions in the charge so that there can be awareness that the questions are going to be asked.*

*These are the same questions being used by The Conference Connectional Table, The Bishop and The Cabinet to talk about our common life and our faithfulness and effectiveness.*

- 1. Who is this church? Does the church reflect the community and the local schools? (Racially, economically, age, etc.)*
- 2. How many professions of faith have occurred this year? How many of those were from confirmation classes and how many were by adults?*
- 3. Is the worship attendance increasing?*
- 4. Is per person giving increasing?*

*calls on spontaneity, AS working with us, true dialogue*

*helpful to sit in semi-circle w/ no tables so can dialogue*

*30 minutes DS may use random order + paraphrase.*

*Everyone will do this together. Do thru this w/ leaders ahead of time. Doesn't need to be scripted.*

*Intended to be a holy conference*



5. How many people participate in some form of Christian spiritual formation?
6. How many persons have participated in some form of mission outreach?

*The intent of the conference is for holy conferencing: an honest self-appraisal and plan to emerge about some preliminary next steps to encourage greater fruitfulness and greater satisfaction in our ministries. The district superintendent may ask these questions in a random order or in their own words but each area will be addressed. Then, following this holy discussion, the administrative business of the conference begins:*

A. Report of Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations) Pastor

B. Lay Speakers' Reports DS  
*(Available from NC Conference online data system.)*

Lay Speakers recommended first time \_\_\_\_\_

Lay Speakers continued \_\_\_\_\_

C. S/PPRC report on candidates

Candidates recommended first time \_\_\_\_\_

Candidates continued \_\_\_\_\_

D. Pastor's Report (In written form as the pastor(s) will have participated in the preceding discussion. If local custom calls for it, the pastor can here read aloud the names of the congregations' saints and offer a prayer of thanks. The written report must include all membership changes.)

*Doesn't need to be oral.*

E. Mission Giving/Appportionments DS

2010 World Service and Connectional Ministry \_\_\_\_\_

2010 Past Service Liability \_\_\_\_\_

2010 Episcopal Fund \_\_\_\_\_

2010 Africa University \_\_\_\_\_

2010 Black College Fund \_\_\_\_\_

2010 Interdenominational Cooperation \_\_\_\_\_



G. Pastor(s)' salary recommendations

S/PPRC Chair

Pastor's Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor's Utilities \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by Church  
Pastor's Travel \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by Voucher \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
Housing Allowance \_\_\_\_\_ (if no parsonage)  
Pension \_\_\_\_\_  
Health and Life Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Pastor's Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Pastor's Utilities \_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Pastor's Travel \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by Voucher \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
Housing Allowance \_\_\_\_\_ (if no parsonage)  
Pension \_\_\_\_\_  
Health and Life Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Deacon's Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
Deacon's Utilities \_\_\_\_\_  
Deacon's Travel \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by Voucher \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
Housing Allowance \_\_\_\_\_ (if no parsonage)  
Pension \_\_\_\_\_  
Health and Life Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Pastor's Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Pastor's Utilities \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Pastor's Travel \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by Voucher \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
Housing Allowance \_\_\_\_\_ (if no parsonage)  
Pension \_\_\_\_\_  
Health and Life Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

District Work Fund \_\_\_\_\_

H. Other Business

Closing Prayer & Adjournment

DS

\_\_\_\_\_, DS \_\_\_\_\_, Rec. Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_, Date \_\_\_\_\_, Date



How Is It With Your Soul?

Prelude

Greeting

Pastor of Host Church

Opening Prayer

DS

Hymn (Possibly *Ask Ye What Great Things I Know* – 163; *I Know Whom I have Believed* – 714; *To God be the Glory* -98; *Wonderful Words of Life* – 600; *He Is Lord* – 177; *O For a 1000 Tongues* – 57 or any number of contemporary songs from something as old as *Lord I lift Your Name to Tell It!*)

Scripture Lesson

Sermon (Utilizing a video if desired)

Prayer

Holy Conversation leading into conference if this is a single charge event. . . .

Hymn (Possibly *Go, Make of All* – 571; *Go Forth* -670; *Go Tell It*- 251 or one of the contemporary ones above)

Benediction - by guest pastor