

# Insights

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

504 West Chapel Hill Street

Durham, NC 27701

MARK W. WETHINGTON  
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(919) 683-3467

ISSUE 36

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### "Too Much Rap"

There is in contemporary American culture, contemporary urban culture, a form of music, a life style, a modality of thought and being, which finds expression in Hip Hop. Subsumed under the broad musical category of Hip Hop is the phenomenon of Rap. This African American urban musical expression erupted into the contemporary music scene over a decade ago and has permeated and influenced both inner-city and suburban America. In fashion, style, language and music, the Hip Hop experience has had a visible, palpable impact in the expressions, postures, and expenditures of young people.

Over the years some of the character of this musical experimentation and lyrical improvisation has degenerated. In both its lyrical representation and its graphic video exposition too much of Rap has shifted its course, altered its directions. Along with the more benign video backgrounds of partying in opulent surroundings, the reveling and celebration, the elevation of conspicuous consumption and the submergence into escapism, there has been a malignant current visualized and vocalized in Rap. In the video depictions of street gang life and in the debasement of women, by the lyrical interpretations which romanticize and legitimize them, and through the rhythmic, repetitive melodies in which they are harmonized and reinforced, some of Rap has decomposed into a musical panorama of disturbing images and hopelessness.

Yet a different Rap, intellectually violent and psychologically assaultive, permeates much of the public discourse through heralded media personalities. Though generally unadorned with musical accompaniments, these media fixtures contribute to the body politic and popular culture through the exploitation of economic, racial and gender anxieties. Humorously couched, carefully refined or banally spewed, these Rap artists posit inversions of history in which the experiences of marginalized Americans are distorted or trivialized. Corrosive in content and divisive in effect, this more pedestrian dialogue conjures its own disturbing images and projections.

Given human nature and contemporary culture, it may be naive to hope that these various artists would refrain from capitalizing on the popular trends, current apprehensions and historical prejudices, in the inimical ways that they do. But given the problems that beset us, it might be helpful if they did.

Robert

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1994**

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**

8:30 a.m.	Confirmation Breakfast - Whitford Hall
8:30 a.m.	Covenant Discipleship Mrs. R.N. Wilson Room
8:45 - 9:25 a.m.	Early Worship - Bradshaw
9:15 a.m.	Fellowship - Whitford Hall
9:30 a.m.	Logos Class - Bradshaw
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	Following Christ in a Consumer Society - Katie Johnson Room
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	Pastor's Methodism Class Whitford Hall
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
10:15 a.m.	Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:30 a.m.	Ring of the Tower Bells
10:55 a.m.	Worship Service - Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	"INSIGHTS" information due ( Nov. 6 - Nov. 12)
4:30 p.m.	JOYBells - Handbell Room
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	DMYF Costume Party
6:15 - 7:15 p.m.	"Parenting For Life" - Bradshaw Room
8:00 p.m.	12 Step Al-Anon and A.A. Community Life Center
9:00 p.m.	Covenant Discipleship

**SERMON:**

Robert Edwards

**SCRIPTURE:**

Psalms 146

Ruth 1: 1-18

Hebrews 9: 11-14

Mark 12: 28-34

**USHERS:** Connie Chandler, Tom Adkinson, Tom Chandler, Julie Ellis, Debbie Fedyshyn, Jim Fedyshyn, Mary Helen Ferrell, Charles Medlin, Polly Mixon, Tim Nifong, Jay Peters, Gayle Young.

**GREETERS:**

**S.S. GREETERS:**

Mary F. Jones

TBA

Minnie Mae Franklin

**ACOLYTES:**

**CROSS:**

Erin Stucky

Brad Bailey

Jennifer Boring

**NURSERY:**

**ALTAR GUILD:**

Julie Allen

Mary Lee Bailey

Deborah Moore

Marcia Grogan

Dana Pope

Hospital

Rebekah Wethington - Home  
 Inez Gunter - DRH 7215  
 Lorraine Chappell - DRH 5124  
 Jeanne Robbins - Duke 5911  
 Georgia Baker - Duke 6121  
 (Rubye Haywood's sister)

Sympathy

To Gayle Young and family upon the death of her mother, Lib Young.

New Members

Anthony Lombardo  
 Laura Pauline Lombardo  
 1715 W. Cornwallis Rd.  
 Durham, N.C. 27705  
 493-2234

Will Avera  
 Ingrid Avera  
 1823 Pleasant Green Road  
 Durham, NC 27705  
 309-9466

Pat Evans Gravely  
 2616 Erwin Road, Apt. D  
 Durham, N.C. 27705  
 383-9323

Laura Joy Joyce  
 2017 Sprunt Street  
 Durham, N.C. 27705  
 286-1627

Allan Losaba  
 (Affiliate)  
 311 S. LaSalle Street, Apt 29L  
 Durham, N.C. 27705  
 286-1310

Bithdays October 30 - November 5

30 John Lancaster	Rich Mihalyi
Lee Ona Phillips	Ellen Sewell
31 Chuck Carper	Eleanor Stuck
2 Robert Gunter	Richard Means
3 Polly Farned	Rob Hibbard
Elizabeth Hudgins	Rita Needham
Stephanie Wilson	

One of the many ways that we respond to God's call in our worship service is in giving. The offering needs to be a time of reflecting on the depth of our commitment to God who has given so much to us. It symbolizes our willingness (or lack of it) to give ourselves to God in faith.

Our first graders are learning that our offering consists of money we give regularly to the church, our talents we can use to serve God, becoming better caretakers of God's world, and sharing of ourselves with others. They each will choose one of their own favorite toys to give to a child who has nothing to play with.

### GOD'S CALL UPON WOMEN TO BE IN MINISTRY

Duke Memorial's Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) is sponsoring a discussion/ support group for women in our congregation interested in exploring God's call in their lives to be in ministry. Please contact Jan Irvine (493-3756) or Shelley Smith (493-3734) to indicate your interest or to request further information.



## STEPHEN SERIES

If you are compassionate and a good listener, please consider being trained to be a Stephen Minister. The training will begin in February and last until June. Then our Stephen Ministers will become caregivers for people in our membership who are going through a crisis such as the death of a loved one, loss of their job, a separation or divorce, a new baby, a critical illness, etc.

Remember, in June, you can have a Stephen Minister if you are going through a hard time in your life.

Call Ann Stallings, 683-3467, or Sue Clifton, 596-0497, if you are interested or have questions about the Stephen Ministry.

### LOOKING FOR A TEACHER IN YOUR CLASS OR CIRCLE PROGRAM?

Call Ann Stallings, 683-3467, or Sue Clifton, 596-0497, to give a talk to your class or circle about the Stephen Ministry.

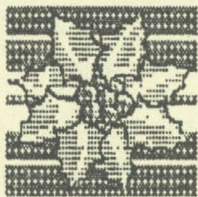
# **WE NEED TOYS!**

**New Toys**

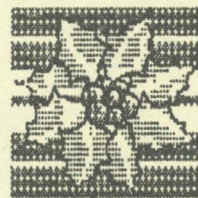
**Clean Used Toys in Good Condition**

**Gifts for Children of All Ages**

**From Tots to Teens**



**WIA  
CLEARINGHOUSE**



**1994**

**CHRISTMAS TOY GIVEAWAY**

**December 20-21, 1994**



**Please bring toys to:**

**Women-In-Action**

**Urban Ministries Center**

**112 N. Queen Street**

**Durham, NC 27701**

**Beginning Tuesday, November 1, 1994.**

**For more information, call 682-1431**





**SAY WHAT?**



**AN AFTERNOON OF WORKSHOPS TO BUILD COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS FOR TEACHERS, CHILDREN AND ADULTS**

**Saturday, November 12, 1994  
12:30 - 5:30 p.m.**

The afternoon of workshop sessions is designed to help members of our congregations and community learn about themselves and each other in an atmosphere of Christian love and support.

Our communications with each other in the parish as church leaders, teachers of adults, youth, and children and at home and work are all important to our understanding of each other and of God.

Learning how to effectively relate to each other will enhance our growth as Christians on our journeys of faith. These sessions will provide a glimpse of how one's life can become closer to God's intention. Each presenter is a professional who wants to facilitate your use of their information. None of the workshops will require you to share anything about your life or relationships. Therefore, we offer you a "safe setting" in which to begin exploring some of the issues raised.

One special note is that the Meyers-Briggs requires an additional \$3.00. You will be mailed a survey which you complete at home and bring to the session for self-evaluation.

**WORKSHOP PRESENTERS:**

- Burnie Collins, CCSW
- Elizabeth Deal, CCSW,BCD
- Michael Hale, MA, MDiv, DMin, CCSW,CSLE
- Carol Dell Hayes, MA
- Cynthia Hughey, BA
- Laurie Langham, MSW,CCSW
- Grace M. Marsh, BA
- Christopher Smith, MSW,CCSW
- Cindy Sortisio, MA

**WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS:**

- Empathy and Commitment
- Assertiveness Skills
- Meyers Briggs Personality Analysis
- Adult to Parent: Communicating with Your Aging Parent
- Communicating Our Basic Needs

**WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS:**

- The Language of Learning
- Discipline and Learning

**WORKSHOPS FOR AGES 8-11:**

- Cooperative Games
- Understanding and Resolving Conflict

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH.**

**Workshops:**

\$15.00 Per Person

\$25.00 per couple

\$30.00 per family

\$ 3.00 Meyers-Briggs Survey

Make Checks payable to Duke Memorial UMC.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

We would like to put together some information on all of our ongoing Sunday School Classes for our prospective, new and current members!

Information needed for Sunday School Directory:

- Sunday School Class Name
- Course of Study
- Activities Planned
- Contact Person (include phone #)
- Room Location

Please put this information in Wanda's box as soon as possible.

**THANK YOU**

Thank you:

Bobbi and I want to thank so many of you for your expressions of love and concern and your many prayers during Rebekah's recent hospital stay. This was her second time this year and again it was very unexpected and very trying. It is our hope and prayer that her propensity toward respiratory problems can be reduced. The prayers of so many of you is greatly appreciated, along with your calls of concern, visits, and many other expressions of caring. We hope that each of you will receive this thank you as a personal expression of gratitude. We continue to find and enjoy overwhelming warmth and friendship in this place of ministry.

Mark

The Members of Duke Memorial,

Thank-you so very much for the delicious meals which you so graciously brought to our family this past week!! It was a great help not having to even think about dinner and cooking!!

Abby came home from the Hospital Sunday and Tom's parents went back to Ohio on Wed. Right now we are just enjoying everyone being at home and being a family again!!

We are so thankful for all your thoughts and prayers and are thankful for all of God's gifts and blessings.

Thank-you again!!

Love,

Tom, Laurie , Kelly and Abby