

# Insights

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

504 West Chapel Hill Street

Durham, NC 27701

MARK W. WETHINGTON

(919) 683-3467

ISSUE 4

ROBERT H. EDWARDS

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Over the past number of years I have stood with other Christians across the street from Central Prison in Raleigh as part of a candlelight vigil in opposition to state sanctioned execution. I was not able to be there this past Monday night when the state took the life of Kermit Smith and I felt bad that I was not able to be a part of that Christian witness this time. Perhaps of all those put to death in recent years I have had the closest association with Kermit Smith. Kermit was a native of Roanoke Rapids, a community in which I lived and served as a pastor from 1983 - 1988. Just a few years prior to that he had abducted several women students from North Carolina Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, a United Methodist school at which I taught several courses during my appointment in that area. The remembrance of his horrible deed was still fresh.

As a Christian and as a minister of the Gospel I stand in strong opposition to the death penalty. Although I know that my position on this was fostered through my childhood upbringing, my opposition to the death penalty has been confirmed through my own study of God's word and my understanding of the nature of God's justice-love. For one, our Lord died by state execution.

Opposition to the death penalty is not a popular opinion to hold these days. Holding such a view certainly won't get you elected as a public official, because in a society of ever rising crime the majority of the secular world supports capital punishment. Besides statistics which show us that the death penalty does not deter crime, and that it falls unfairly and unequally upon an outcast minority, and that it costs the state much more money to execute a criminal than to keep that person in jail for life, my reason for strongly opposing capital punishment rests on other things.

I hold that the God who is revealed to us in Jesus Christ looks upon the taking of another human life, whether by murder or by state sanctioned execution, as abhorrent to God's justice-love. As a minister of the Gospel I am compelled to give voice to Jesus' own teachings as recorded for us in the Gospels. I would especially call our attention to his teachings in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapter 5, etc.) where Jesus teaches that "It is said an eye for an eye. . . , but I say to you . . . ." Jesus overturns the accepted opinion of his own society. But more than anything I believe that what we should be seeking as Christians is not vengeance, but rather, we should pray that in the midst of one's incarceration for life that God might work out this one's redemption and even through this one bear some fruit. We Christians, who are called by Christ to "visit those who are in prison", are commanded to be instruments of God's redemption for people like Kermit Smith, not his executioners.

Our United Methodist Church has historically stood in opposition to capital punishment. Our Book of Resolutions declares that "The United Methodist Church cannot accept retribution or social vengeance as a reason for taking human life. It violates our deepest belief in God as the creator and the redeemer of humankind. . . we believe that the state cannot teach respect for human life by taking human life. . . the Holy Scriptures teach us that human life is both sacred and divine and that we bear the image of the incorruptible God. . . Jesus taught us love, forgiveness and reconciliation. . . all Christians are under divine mandate to safeguard life and work for the salvation of all humankind." I am thankful that the United Methodist Church holds to such a courageous position.

Grace and peace,  
Mark

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 1995

4th Sunday after Epiphany

8:45 - 9:25 a.m.	Early Worship - Bradshaw
9:15 a.m.	Youth Choir - Sanctuary
9:15 a.m.	Fellowship - Whitford Hall
9:30 a.m.	Logos Class - Bradshaw
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	Parenting for Life - 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 (January 29 - February 4)
	DMYF helps with IHN
3:30 p.m.	IHN begins
5:30 p.m.	12 Step Al-Anon and A.A.
8:00 p.m.	Community Life Center
	Covenant Discipleship
9:00 p.m.	

### SERMON:

Mark W. Wethington  
"Passing Through the Midst"

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 71:1-6; Jeremiah 1:4-10;  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

### ANTHEM:

Sanctuary Choir: "Go Not Far from Me" - Morgan  
Youth Choir: "Let All the People Praise Thee" - Sleeth

**USHERS:** Wil Drake, Jeff Bailey, Randy Bollinger, Bill Bowles,  
Bill Coman, Judy Coman, Richard Grogan, Leland Phelps, Bill Stone

### GREETERS:

Barbara and Bill Self

### S.S. GREETERS:

TBA

### ACOLYTES:

Daria Drake  
Emily O'Sullivan

### CROSS:

Weston Drake

### NURSERY:

Julie Allen  
Deborah Moore

### ALTAR GUILD:

Mary Lee Bailey  
Marcia Grogan

## CONCERT

Sunday, February 19, will provide a rare opportunity to see and hear a concert of Sacred Music by "Duke" Ellington. The North Carolina Jazz Repertory Orchestra, the Duke University Chorale, and the North Carolina Central University Touring Choir will be joined by vocal soloists and local professional dancers to present this concert in the cathedral acoustic of Duke Chapel. Tickets for the 3:00 p.m. concert are priced at \$12.00 per ticket. If you are interested in joining a group from Duke Memorial who will attend, give your name and number of tickets, along with a check payable to **DUKE UNIVERSITY** to Bob Irvine **this Sunday, January 29**. He will purchase the tickets and try to arrange seating as a group.

## WESLEY WOMEN UPCOMING MEETINGS

One of several United Methodist Women Circles of Duke Memorial, Wesley Women meet the first Tuesday evening of each month. During the first few months of 1995, we are taking time to become better acquainted with one another. If you are an old or new member of DMUMC not affiliated with a circle we welcome you to join with us! If you would like more information about Wesley Women, please telephone Ann Wilson (220-1591) or Cathy Shepherd (493-4501).

### February 7, 1995 -- "Me in a Suitcase"

Meet at 7:30 p.m. in Duke Memorial Parlor for a revealing time! Bring with you a suitcase/tote/paper bag filled with items that help explain who you are (snapshots, toys, clothes -- be creative!). We will take turns (note: participation is optional) sharing our lives with one another by narrating the unpacking of our bags. Refreshments will be provided.

### March 7, 1995 -- "Pizza and Movie Night"

Meet at 7:00 p.m. in Duke Memorial Parlor for pizza and a movie. Bring some cash to chip in on dinner. We'll decide on the film at the February meeting -- be thinking of your favorites!

## NOTE OF THANKS

Everyone has been so kind with prayers, visits, phone calls, and food on behalf of Herbert and myself during his difficult illness. I can never thank you enough. Our church friends and their love have been a sustaining influence to us both. Thanks and love to all.

Lorraine Chappell

## ATTENTION YOUTH

Happy New Year! We, DMYF, have a great year planned. This coming Sunday, Jan. 29, we will be helping set up for IHN so you will meet from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

On Feb. 17, we will be leaving for Wintergreen and fun-filled weekend of skiing. The cost to the youth will be \$35.00. Please call Karen, 382-0496 by Jan. 29 if you'd like to join us on the slopes.

Keep reading the Insights to find out all of the great things we're doing in DMYF.

## CHURCH CALENDAR JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 4

### MONDAY, JANUARY 30 -

9:15-1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - JOY Class  
8:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Preteen and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Tuesday Study Group - Joy Class  
7:30 p.m. Administrative Board Meeting -  
Bradshaw Room  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Teen and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Fold "Insights" - Whitford Hall  
10:00 - 1:00 p.m. Craft/Lunch Bunch - Whitford Hall  
3:00 p.m. "Coping With Loss" - Parlor  
5:30 - 6:10 p.m. Wednesday Meal - Whitford Hall  
6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Covenant Discipleship - Parlor  
6:15 - 7:00 p.m. Carol Choir - Aldersgate Room  
6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Wesley Singers - Handbell Room  
6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Youth Choir - Choir Room  
6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Covenant Discipleship - Open Door  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Disciple I - Katie Johnson Class  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m. MS Workshop - Comm. Life Center  
7:15 - 8:00 p.m. Liturgical Dance - Bradshaw Room  
7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Bethany Bells - Handbell Room

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

7:15 - 8:15 a.m. Men's Coffee - Parlor  
9:00 - noon Candles of Hope - Whitford Hall  
9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Disciple I - Parlor  
7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Durham M.S. Society - Community  
Life Center  
7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

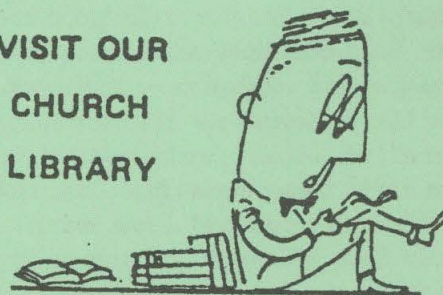
### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parent's Morning Out - Nurseries  
5:30 p.m. Sr. High Ski Trip departure  
7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Durham Interfaith AIDS Ministry -  
Whitford Hall  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Durham Interfaith AIDS Ministry -  
Whitford Hall

VISIT OUR  
CHURCH  
LIBRARY



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### ALL-SUMMER DAY CAMP

Duke Memorial will again offer a summer day camp as a ministry for working parents. This year's program has been expanded to include children who will be entering grades 1-6 in the fall of 1995. Enrollment will be limited to 12 children per day who will enter grades 1-3 in the fall and 12 children per day who will be entering grades 4-6.

Because we anticipate that the camp will fill quickly, preference will be given to 1994 campers through February 1, and to Duke Memorial members February 2 through 14. Applications will be given priority in the order they are received. Camp information and applications may be obtained by calling Jan Irvine (493-3756) or at the church office.

### WEEKDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Members of our church who wish their child(ren) to attend the Weekday School get a head start on the general public by **registering Thursday, January 26**, with Anita Saunders, Director. Anita says if you bring the \$60.00 registration fee and fill out the registration form that day and hand it right back, you will probably get in. Please don't miss this important date because the Weekday School is so popular that the classes fill up immediately. Children ages 2 - kindergarten are eligible for school.

### VALENTINE'S PARTY

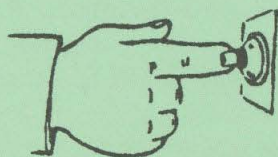
We will have a Valentine's Party in Whitford Hall on Saturday, Feb. 11, from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. This is for all children 3 years old through the 5th grade. We will decorate cookies, watch a movie, and the older children will take the decorated cookies to some of our homebound members. Registration forms are available in the office.

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

**COPING WITH LOSS** - On Wednesday, February 1, 1995, there will be a discussion of "Coping with Loss" in the Parlor at 3:00 P.M. We have many persons in our congregation who have lost loved ones over the past year. We can surely learn from one another and share our mutual experiences. We will have a short program and time to share things that have helped you in your grieving, etc. Simple refreshments will be provided.

### VISITATION DAYS

FRIDAY, JAN. 27 and THURSDAY, FEB. 9, at 9:45 a.m. Meet in the kitchen, visit, and then go out to eat afterwards. Jan. 27, Papagayo's and Feb. 9, Nikos. Please call Ann at 683-3467 if you can go so she can make reservations. Visitation days will change in February because of Stephen Ministry training on Friday mornings.



## WORSHIP EDUCATION CORNER

The Bible - God's Word - is the central emphasis in Christian worship. The written Word (scripture) and the spoken Word (sermon) are primary ways through which Jesus Christ - the Living Word - speaks to us. The Bible is used in almost every facet of the Order of Worship. It is not just the scripture being read. The sermon, "Children's Response," hymns, anthems, Psalms, and other responses used all have their basis in the Bible. Guidelines for prayer and the Lord's Prayer itself can be found in the Bible as well. As you worship this Sunday, prayerfully ask God's help in making you aware of the many ways God speaks to us in worship and our daily lives.

Please stop and visit the Worship Education Class television show about worship at Duke Memorial in the sanctuary building just after you cross over the breezeway.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

"Stephen Ministry has really changed my life and my interaction with people... with family, friends, but most of all, new acquaintances. Stephen Ministry has helped me in my personal relationships. Stephen Ministry has helped me grow spiritually and has put me in touch with some beautiful Christians. I feel like a part of the group and I see their care for others." (Quote from a Stephen Minister)

If you would like further information about Stephen Ministry, call Ann Stallings (683-3467).

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

The community Shelter for H.O.P.E. depends on local churches to feed its guests on Thursday - Sunday evenings. Your group can reserve an evening to prepare and serve a meal by calling Ann Williams at 682-2409.

## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY MENU

Join us at 5:30 p.m. Wed. in Whitford Hall. This week we will enjoy chili with crackers, carrot and celery sticks with ranch dressing and sugar cookies. February 8 is Mardi Gras Night. Come and try our New Orleans Style Red Beans and Rice served with corn bread and Gambino's King Cake.

Please remember to call (683-3467) before noon on Monday if you would like to join us and are not a regular. If you have questions or suggestions, please call Laura or Tony Lombardo (493-2234). We hope to see you there!

## AIDS CARE TEAM TRAINING

Duke Memorial will host an AIDS Care Team Training event on February 3 & 4 beginning at 7:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. respectively. This training event will help people of faith support and care for persons with AIDS. Sponsored by the Durham Interfaith AIDS Ministry, local congregational Care Teams provide transportation, respite, presence, and love. If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please plan to attend.

**Duke Memorial United Methodist Church**  
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Durham, North Carolina 27701-3102  
Phone 919-683-3467

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## **DURHAM DISTRICT LAY RALLY**

Sunday, February 12, 1995  
3:00 p.m.

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church  
504 W. Chapel Hill Street  
Durham, North Carolina

Featured Speaker: Dr. Randolph Nugent, Executive General Secretary, General Board of Global Ministries

Introducing Lay Person of the Year

Babysitting will be provided.

## **METHODIST EPISCOPAL DIALOGUE**

The Anglican-Methodist International Commission has asked local congregations to answer three questions so it may continue its work. The questions center around the possibility that the Anglicans and Methodists may obtain full communion with each other; are there enough agreements about basic belief and understanding of the mission and ministry; what are the obstacles to full communion; and what do we think full communion should look like?

(DIALOGUE continued)

Duke Memorial has been paired with St. Titus Episcopal Church, here in Durham, to begin to talk about our understandings of beliefs such as salvation; polity, or how the churches are organized; sacraments; Christian Education; and others. Six members of St. Titus have been meeting and have held many discussions about these issues. Our talks at Duke Memorial will take place during the month of February. They will allow us to identify our beliefs as United Methodists. When we are ready, we will meet with the St. Titus group.

This is an exciting time for Anglicans and Methodists. We are recruiting members who feel called to engage in the dialogue about our Methodist beliefs and who feel called to participate in sharing our beliefs and learning about another branch of our "family."

We have study books for seven persons. We hope to complete the work during February so we can meet with St. Titus in March. Our churches have set the weekend of April 29-30 for our reunions. We need to be ready!

If you are willing to work on this Task Force for the Episcopal-Methodist Dialogue, please call the church office (683-3467). If you have any questions about this study, or the dialogue taking place, call Para Drake (490-1363).

# Lenten & Easter Opportunities

## ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1, 1995 - 6:30 p.m.

Worship in Sanctuary

## SPIRITUAL RENEWAL STUDY

Wednesdays, 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

March 8 - Introductory Session

March 15 - The Contemplative Tradition

March 22 - The Holiness Tradition

March 29 - The Charismatic Tradition

April 5 - The Social Justice Tradition

April 12 - The Evangelical Tradition

Leader: Mark W. Wethington

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Passion Sunday, April 9, 10:55 a.m.

"On the Passion of Christ" - David Williams

Sanctuary Choir, Solists, Strings

Holy Thursday, April 13, 7:00 p.m.

Service of Word and Table

Good Friday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service

Scripture Readings and Organ Meditations

Holy Saturday, April 15, 5:30 p.m.

Easter Vigil Service

EASTER SUNDAY, April 16, 10:55 a.m.

Celebration of the Resurrection

*prepare for Ash Wednesday at our*

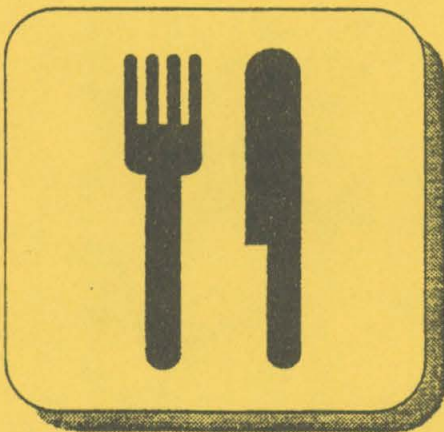
# **Pancake Breakfast**

***Date: Next Sunday, Feb. 26***

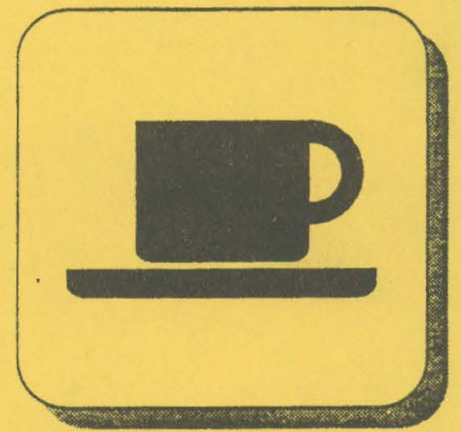
***Time: 8:20 - 9:30 a.m.***

***Where: Sr. Pastor's Office***

***(no, just kidding)***



*Support the UMYF  
and*



*Enjoy pancakes, juice,  
coffee, milk, and fellowship®*

**Suggested Donation: \$2.00**