

INSIGHTS

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

ISSUE 43

504 West Chapel Hill Street, Durham, NC 27701 (919)683-3467
Mark W Wethington, Senior Pastor Lisa Brown Cole, Associate Pastor

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

In this Advent season we hear again the beautiful song of praise offered by Mary - "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior." Her heart rejoices with the gift of this child, but in her heart she also ponders the things to come. Hear another prayer of Mary offered to us by the author Max Lucado in God Came Near.

Sleep well. Enjoy the silence of the crib, for the noise of confusion rumbles in your future. Savor the sweet safety of my arms, for a day is soon coming when I cannot protect you.

Rest well, tiny hands. For though you belong to a king, you will touch no satin, own no gold. You will grasp no pen, guide no brush. No, your tiny hands are reserved for work more precious: to touch a leper's open wound, to wipe a widow's weary tear, to claw the ground of Gethsemane. Your hands, so tiny, so tender, so pure - clutched tonight in an infant's fist. They aren't destined to hold a scepter nor wave from a palace balcony. They are reserved instead for a Roman spike that will staple them to a Roman cross.

Sleep deeply, tiny eyes. Sleep while you can. For soon the blurriness will clear and you will see the mess we have made of your world. You will see our nakedness, for we cannot hide. You will see our selfishness, for we cannot give. You will see our pain, for we cannot heal. O eyes that will see hell's darkest pit and witness her ugly prince... sleep, please sleep, sleep while you can.

Lay still, tiny mouth. Lay still mouth from which eternity will speak. Tiny tongue that will soon summon the dead, that will define grace, that will silence our foolishness.

And tiny feet cupped in the palm of my hand, rest. For many difficult steps lie ahead of you. Do you taste the dust of the trails you will travel? Do you feel the cold sea water upon which you will walk? Do you wince at the invasion of the nail you will bear? Do you fear the steep descent down the spiral staircase into Satan's domain? Rest, tiny feet. Rest today so that tomorrow you might walk with power. Rest. For millions will follow in your steps.

And little heart...holy heart...pumping the blood of life through the universe: How many times will we break you? You'll be torn by the thorns of our accusations. You'll be ravaged by the cancer of our sin. You'll be pierced by the spear of our rejection. Yet in that piercing, in that ultimate ripping of muscle and membrane, in that final rush of blood and water, you will find rest. Your hands will be freed, your eyes will see justice, your lips will smile, and your feet will carry you home. An there you'll rest again - this time in the embrace of your Father.

Mary's song of praise is our song; for Jesus came for this... for us. Jesus comes to be born in us today. Let our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

God's peace and joy,
Lisa

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1995

Third Sunday of Advent

8:45 - 9:25 a.m.	Early Worship - Bradshaw
9:00 a.m.	Bethany Bells - Sanctuary
9:15 a.m.	Celebration Singers - Sanctuary
9:25 a.m.	Wesley Singers - Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	Logos Class - Bradshaw
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 a.m.	Ringing of the Tower Bells
10:55 a.m.	Worship Service - Sanctuary
12:00 noon	"INSIGHTS" Information Due (December 24 - January 6) - Program Director's Mailbox
12:00 noon	Alternative Christmas Gift Market - Bradshaw Room
12:00 noon	Congregational Christmas Luncheon & Christmas Caroling Whitford Hall, Kitchen, and homes of shut-ins
8:00 p.m.	12 Step Al-Anon and A.A. - Community Life Center

SERMON: Mark W Wethington

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:47-55; Isaiah 35:1-10
James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

ANTHEMS: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" - John Ferguson
(Sanctuary Choir)
"Sing a Song of Joy" - Wayne L. Wold
(Wesley Singers)
"A Baby Cries" Hank Beebe
(Celebration Singers)

USHERS: Tom Hargitt, Vernon Averett, Bob Cox, George Davis, Holly Eggleston, Neal Grubbs, Ed Hammond, Chris Howlett, Tony and Laura Lombardo, Bill Sewell, Tom Worsley, and Bob Weynand

GREETERS:

Joe Farned
Polly Farned
Alexander Leone
Shawn Clifton

NURSERY:

Kurt and Elisabeth Luck
Dave and Rita MacMillan
Steed and Louise Rollins

ACOLYTES:

Josh Allen
Daniel Gelinne

CROSS:

Adult

ALTAR GUILD:

Allen Browning
Carolyn Browning
Joyce Musselwhite
Dorris Rodenhizer
Linda Wilson

**REMEMBER THE EUCHARIST SERVICE
HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 8:45 A.M.
IN THE BRADSHAW ROOM
DEC. 17 - MEGHAN FROELICH, PREACHING**

CHURCH CALENDAR DECEMBER 18 - 23, 1995

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - JOY Class
10:00 a.m. Methodist Retirement Circle - MRC
Assembly Room
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Preteen and A.A. -
Community Life Center

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Teen and A.A. -
Community Life Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO 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
11:30 a.m. Advent Devotional - Bradshaw Room
12:30 p.m. Senior Adult Program - Whitford Hall

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:15 a.m. Men's Coffee - Parlor
9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon and A.A.
Community Life Center

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

No Scheduled Activities

END OF YEAR

The end of 1995 is fast approaching. Please remember that in order for your financial contributions to be accepted for 1995, they must be received soon.

NEW INSIGHTS DEADLINES

Because of the holidays, the deadlines for INSIGHTS will undergo a few changes. Those of you who are contributors, please make note of the following:

Sunday noon, December 17 - Deadline for double issue to cover the dates of **December 24 through January 6**. Please note that there will be **NO INSIGHTS** on December 27

Wednesday noon, December 27 - Deadline for issue covering the dates of **January 7 through January 13**.

Thanks for all of your help in this matter!

CRUSHING MAKES \$ \$ \$ \$

Please remember that Duke Memorial's Good Samaritan fund receives 2¢ for each plastic drink bottle marked with a recycle 1 in a triangle on the bottom. The recycle machine is located just outside the building on the Memorial Street side of the church near the elevator entrance. This fund will not grow unless each of us takes a few extra minutes each week to bring our plastic drinking bottles from home. In addition to helping raise money for the poor, we are being good stewards of this precious earth that God has given us. Won't you help by bringing your bottles this Sunday? Children love being a part of this effort.

SOJOURNERS CIRCLE

We'll be having our Christmas gathering at Carolyn Parrish's home, Monday, December 18, at 7:30 p.m. For more information call Heidi Crane at 419-1174.

WORSHIP EDUCATION CORNER

We continue the following interpretation on the music used in our order of worship that was begun last week:

Offertory - A musical gift to God as we offer our gifts to God.

Doxology - We praise God for all things on the earth.

Closing Hymn - We sing a hymn tied in to worship themes as we are sent forth to do God's work.

Benediction Response - Our choir plants the seeds of what we have heard in worship to take with us.

Closing Voluntary - Music as we complete our worship together and leave to serve God.

ONE WORLD MARKET

One World Market, a non-profit international handcraft store endorsed by Durham Congregations In Action, has provided employment with fair wages and dignity for 830 disadvantaged artisans for a full year. Its sponsorship of Candles of Hope has enabled five African-American women in Durham to leave welfare and support themselves in their new business. You are encouraged to include One World Market (at Perry and 9th Street.) and Candles of Hope in your holiday shopping.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our sympathy is extended to Gini Witherington and her family upon the death of her mother, Lotte Weber Kumm, who died on December 9.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Contact the Volunteer Center of Greater Durham at 688-8977 if you can help with any of these needs:

Project Assistant

Are you the organized type? An organization designed to prevent and treat substance abuse needs you to plan, implement, and evaluate activities. Hours are flexible, but may include some Monday and Tuesday evenings and weekend work. Please call.

Santa Claus

Share your holiday with developmentally delayed children and adults. Provide new gifts such as: cologne, gloves, scarves, toboggans, socks, hair bows, note pads, pens, bandannas, make-up, six to eight piece puzzles, costume jewelry, cassette tapes, video tapes, small transistor radios, small picture frames, sunglasses, wallets, pocketbooks, bedroom slippers, stationary, instant coffee or tea, pudding snacks, candies, or cookies.

Kitchen Helper

Can you cook or serve a meal? We need you to help feed the hungry and homeless during the holidays. We especially need volunteers who are available through January 15 from 8:30 a.m. to noon on weekdays, and Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Help is also needed December 25 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

THE ELIZABETH DALTON AVERETT FOUNDATION

The family of Libby Averett has established in her memory The Elizabeth Dalton Averett Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society

They are presently conducting a "Friends of the Foundation Drive" which they hope will get 100 people to give \$20.00 each by December 31, 1995. Each contributor will receive a T-shirt with the motto "Live Like Libby." These funds and others will be invested in low risk investments options and once a year will be distributed to these two organizations. Next spring all contributors will be invited to a fund raising dinner and golf tournament. If you would like to honor Libby's memory, make your check payable to The Elizabeth Dalton Averett Foundation and mail it to 905 Gatehouse Lane, Durham, NC 27707 Any questions you may have should be directed to her brother, Jay Dalton at (919) 781-9076.

MEALS ON WHEELS

There are persons in Durham who are either incapacitated, ill, elderly or homebound and cannot prepare their own hot main meal each day. They need your help. Meals on Wheels of Durham, Inc., a non-profit service agency which celebrated its 20th anniversary this fall, is asking for your help. If you can spare a couple of hours each week to deliver meals to the elderly, it will be able to expand its service to include those persons who now are presently on the waiting list. If you can serve, please call 682-7255 weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

Tens of thousands of people will need blood during the holidays. Still wondering what to give this Christmas? Give the Gift of Life. Give Blood. The Central North Carolina Chapter of the American Red Cross Hitchings Center Blood Collection Site located at 4737 University Drive, Bldg. 3, is open during the following times:

Mondays: 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays: 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Fridays: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please call 489-6541 to schedule an appointment.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY MEAL AND ACTIVITIES

Please notice that there will be **NO** Wonderful Wednesday Supper and Activities on December 20 and December 27 Wonderful Wednesday Supper will return on Wednesday, January 3. Watch *INSIGHTS* for news of the supper and Love Feast to be held that evening.

1996 DISCIPLINES

Please remember to order your 1996 Upper Room Discipline Daily Devotional Guides from the church office (683-3467) before Friday, December 22. The cost of each book is \$7.95 and checks may be made payable to the church.

YOUTH

Bulletin Board

DMYF NEWS

This Sunday, December 17, DMYF is scheduled to go Christmas Caroling with the congregation following the Christmas Luncheon in Whitford Hall. Please help us take fruit baskets and poinsettias to our shut-ins. Sharing the Christmas Spirit with these folks will make their day!

Please remember that DMYF will take a holiday break on December 24 and December 31 Watch for news about January.

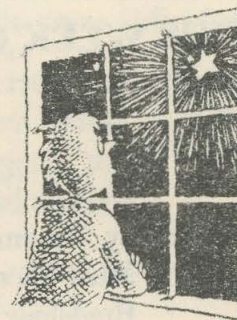
HANDBELL NEWS

Ring for Joy You did it! You did a fantastic job playing for the first time last Sunday I am very proud of you and all that you have accomplished! We will take a break from rehearsing on Sundays, December 17, 24, and 31 Our next rehearsal will be on Sunday afternoon, January 7, at 3:30 p.m. (Please note the time change as DMYF will meet at 4:30 p.m. that Sunday.) Thanks again for being so special and that wonderful ringing! Merry Christmas! Love, Jan

JR. JOY CLASS NEWS

Remember that this continues!

Christmas:
A FRESH LOOK



LAST CHANCE!

This Sunday, December 17, is the last chance to Christmas shop at the Alternative Gift Market. This store is open following the 10:55 a.m. Worship Service in the Bradshaw Room. Share the spirit of Christ with those less fortunate and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. The purchase of gifts at the Alternative Gift Market helps feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked and care for the sick.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

A Candlelight Vigil in observance of National Homeless Persons Memorial Day will be held on Thursday, December 21, at the Civic Center Plaza in downtown Durham from 6:30-7:15 p.m. A special memorial program will be held to remember those homeless people who have died in the past year Guest speakers will include currently and formerly homeless individuals and various service providers. Please help us remember those who have passed and rededicate ourselves to help those still in need. Rainsite is the Community Shelter for H.O. P.E. at 412 Liberty Street.

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church
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THIS WEEK OF ADVENT:

Sunday, December 17 - Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Traditional Worship at 10:55 a.m. Congregational Christmas Luncheon and caroling to the homebound at 12:15 p.m.
Wednesday, December 20 - Advent Devotional led by Janet Thornton Irvine at 11:30 a.m. in the Bradshaw Room.
Sunday, December 24 - Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Lessons and Carols at 10:55 a.m. 5:00 p.m. - Special Christmas Gathering Music followed by 5:30 p.m. Candlelight Service and Holy Communion.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC

The pre-service music at our 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service will begin at 5:00 p.m. Anita Burroughs-Price, the harpist who played for our service on December 10, will treat us to a half hour of beautiful music. Come early, put the rush of Christmas behind you, and meditate on the true meaning of Christmas.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR RIBBON?

Mothers Against Drunk Driving is once again sponsoring Project Red Ribbon during the holiday season. MADD encourages everyone to tie a red ribbon on the left door handle, rear mirror, antenna, or luggage rack of their vehicle during the holiday season to remind people not to drink and drive and to symbolize their support of MADD's hope for a less violent future.

These ribbons are available here at Duke Memorial in the church library and in the sanctuary narthex. Won't you please support this special project?

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND CHRISTMAS CAROLING

**FOLLOWING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
12:15 P.M.
WHITFORD HALL**

**Bring your favorite covered dishes.
Drinks will be provided.**

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING LUNCH**

Groups will go out to share the Christmas spirit and take fruit baskets and poinsettias to our shut-ins.