

DUKE MEMORIAL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XII

AUGUST 14, 1977

NUMBER 33

The Way It Really Is --

The Western Recorder is a Baptist church paper published in Kentucky. A recent issue gave these startling statistics as to Southern Baptists: "We total about 13,000,000 in number. 10% are missing - whereabouts unknown. 20% never pray, 30% never read the Bible, 40% give nothing, 50% never attend services, 60% do not support mission outreach, 75% never serve in any way, 85% do not attend prayer meeting, 90% do not have family worship, and 95% never lead another person to Christ." There is no indication as to the source of these statistics. Some of them simply do not fit the image I have of Southern Baptists as hard working evangelicals who witness effectively for Christ, who tithe as a matter of course and who alone of the "main line" denominations continue to grow.

I find no comfort in these figures, however accurate they may be. If it would lead me (and it does not!) to say, "The Southern Baptists are in trouble", my first thought would be, "How much more the Methodists!". In Methodist churches, the figures I have indicate that as to giving, 15% give 50% of the budget, 25% give 75% of it, and 50% give the total. As to church attendance, Methodists across the United States seem to think that weekly attendance at the principal worship service of one-third of the membership of a church is a sign of good spiritual health in the congregation. Duke Memorial has on its membership roster about 1,840 names; the weekly attendance statement in this newsletter as to church school and worship speaks for itself. It may be that 85% of Baptists do not attend prayer meetings, meaning a mid-week service. I suspect you would have to search a long time to find a Methodist Church that even has such a service! We do have many small prayer and sharing groups that focus on Bible study and Christian witness with great benefit to participants.

Scolding is not the intent of this note to all of us. It is a sorrowful reflection on where we are as a denomination and, I pray, encouragement to remember that amendment comes only as one by one we renew our commitment in faith, in witness and in service of Jesus Christ. No where do I find in the Scriptures any indication that the Church of Jesus Christ is likely to be more than large enough to leaven the lump. Leaven makes bread "rise". How does your life and mine fit into the task of making the world around us rise, toward faith, toward love, toward God and Jesus Christ? Well, that's what we are drawn together in His Body to do!

-- Ed Smith

SUNDAY, 14 AUGUST 1977

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

The Epistle: I Corinthians 12:1-11

The Sermon: "Gifts and Graces"

Acolytes: Julie Lynn Boy and David Younts

Greeters: Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Turrentine

Junior Church Leaders: Robert L. Wallace
Carolyn Shipp, music

ATTENDANCE: Sunday, 7 August 1977

Church School.....253

Morning Worship.....333

FINANCIAL REPORT

Due each week	\$ 3,802.41
Received last Sunday	2,722.13
Received to date	119,995.46
Needed through last Sunday	121,677.12
Deficit	1,681.66

OUR KNOWN HOSPITAL SICK to be remembered in your prayers:

DCGH: Jane Vaughan 5334
Frances Harvey CICU

Duke: Jane Shoaf Sims 4815

SYMPATHY: The congregation and pastors express to Mrs. Maude Dunn and Mrs. Minnie Delamar loving concern and sympathy because of the death of their sister, Mrs. Mabel Wilkerson Sorrel in Richmond, Virginia, on Friday, 5 August 1977.

ALTAR FLOWERS: September is an open month for altar flowers. If you would like to put flowers in our sanctuary please call the church office, 688-1901.

CURIOUS KALEIDOSCOPE SCHEDULE:

Sunday, August 14

1:30 a. m. Youth Express Faith Through
Film - Part II

8:30 a. m. Reflections of Women in Ministry

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 14 - 20

Sun.	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
	6:00 p. m.	Jr. and Sr. UMYF
Tues.	6:30 p. m.	Roaring 20's Recreation
Wed.	10:00 a. m.	Craft Workshop
	7:30 p. m.	Sr. High Bible Study
	7:30 p. m.	Task Force on Outreach
Sat.		Van Carnival Day

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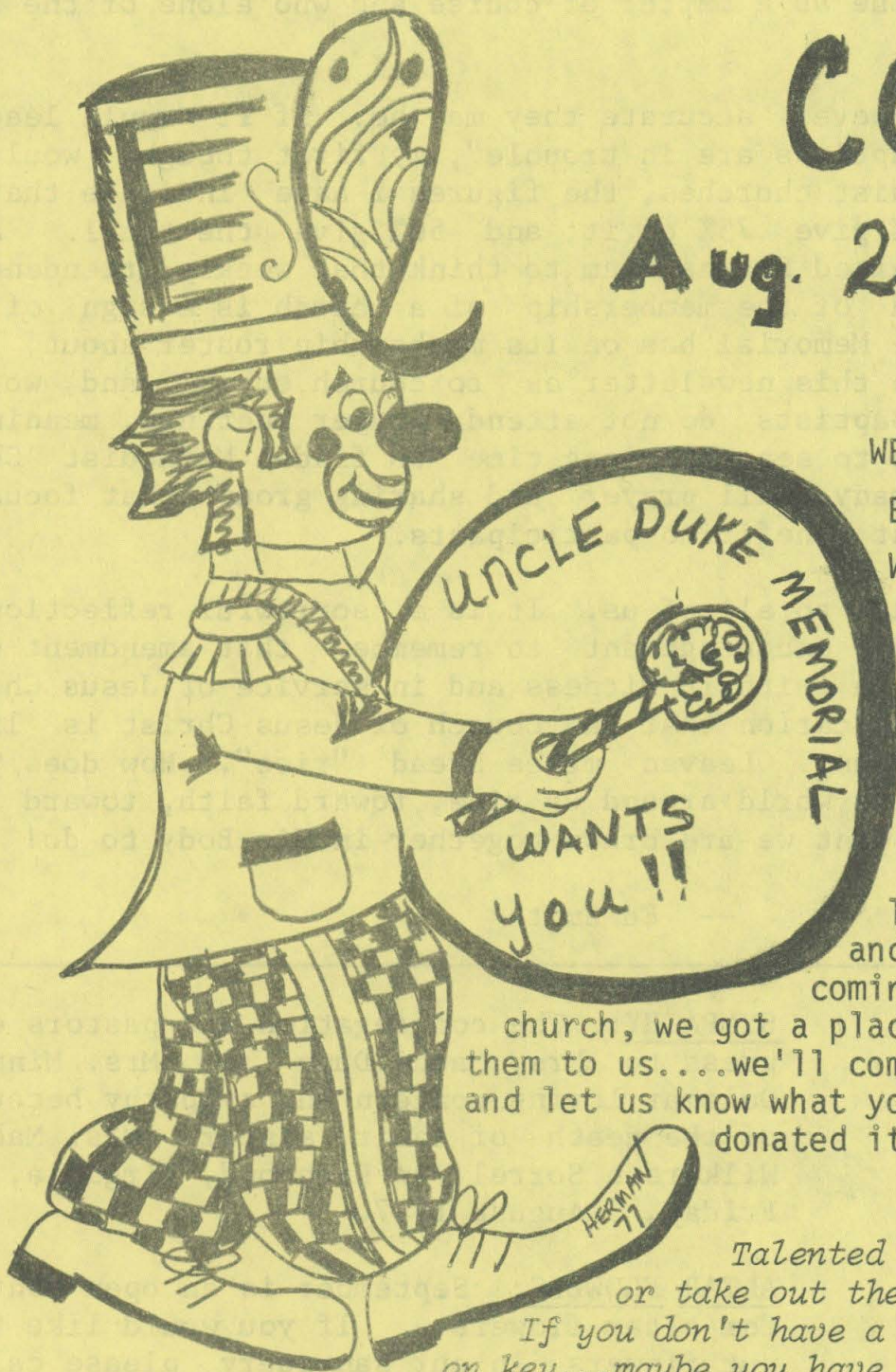
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Published Weekly

THE VAN CARNIVAL'S

COMING!!

Aug. 20th - 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.



THAT'S RIGHT FOLKS...IT'S ALMOST HERE!!!
WE'LL HAVE FUN, WE'LL HAVE FOOD, WE MIGHT
EVEN HAVE A TWO HEADED CHICKEN. WE'LL HAVE
WHATEVER IT TAKES TO RAISE \$6000.00 in 9
HOURS.

WE APPRECIATE...all the things that
have been donated to the yard sale. But it
isn't enough. Get in those closets, go
through those attics...get on with the
yearly garage "clean out". We have radios
lamps, toys, clothes, kitchen utility tools
and a multitude of other things but keep em
coming. Bring your donated articles to the
church, we got a place to put em. If you have em and can't get
them to us....we'll come after them. Call RAN FEW at 489-3939
and let us know what you have. We'll get someone to pick up the
donated items. Old "I Like IKE" buttons go real fast.

WE ALSO NEED....

*Talented folks who can sing, dance, play the spoons
or take out their false teeth to the William Tell Overture.
If you don't have a talent...if you can't even play the radio
on key...maybe you have a friend, relative or even an enemy that
would kindly donate some time and talent to help us raise some COINS. Have them contact or you
contact R.L. Forrester at 383-5836. NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL TROUPERS TO COME TO THE AID OF THE
CAUSE!!!*

DO YOU LIKE TO EAT???

Thought that might get your attention!
The Methodist Men are going to be selling
hot dogs, hamburgers and BARBEQUE CHICKEN
at the Carnival. If you wish to get on the
chicken you need to buy a ticket in advance
if at all possible. Get your order in early
Price \$3.00 for adults, \$1.75 for young'uns.
Call Harry Rodenhizer.., or buy tickets in
church office.

REMEMBER!!!

All items donated for the garage sale
are deductible on your income tax. Forms
are available in the church office to
use for tax purposes.

OUR BEST PUBLICITY is word of mouth and each
one of you can help by telling your friends,
neighbors and cohorts about this fantiamagorical
happening. Tell one, tell all. This is the
first, the only, the biggest and the best. This
is the doin's to end all doin's (and if its
successful, we'll be "doin" it again, I
imagine!)

*If everyone lit
just one little CANDLE,
we'd have a shortage of
candles! 😊 --- so don't
light candles, pitch in and
help!!!*