

ALL OF US CAN HELP!

An exceptional opportunity is before us to give a helping hand where it is really needed. The Durham District Conference met at Concord UMC Monday, 28 November. With enthusiasm and unanimously, the Conference adopted a project to raise \$10,000 to aid two of the three black congregations in our district. The Granville-Vance Charge is made up of Zoar Chapel and Hargrove's Chapel. After some years of lassitude, these two congregations have come to life and are giving themselves in remarkable ways to fulfilling their mission.

The church properties are run-down on the exterior but lovely on the inside. There are no Sunday School rooms and no indoor toilets; the charge is without a parsonage. The goal for aid to them is rather a small one when one considers what needs to be done. It is a goal which challenges each one of us. For years we have given to (or neglected) a Christmas offering which provided help in many needy situations but never really caught the enthusiasm of the churches of our district. Now, we have a situation of real opportunity and the means to respond.

Our budget provides a tiny token (exactly \$20.00) to insure that we never completely omit this concern. Your voluntary gifts added to this budget item will represent our concern for two needy congregations of black Methodists in the Durham district. Checks or envelopes can simply be marked "special" and your gifts will go to this cause. Let this be part of your Christmas giving. All of us will rejoice because of it.

- - Ed Smith

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE will begin at 4 p. m. Sunday, December 18, preceded by carols played on the Tower Bells. The Sanctuary choir, Carol and Junior choirs and guest instrumentalists, Sally Smith (flute), Jim Williams (clarinet), and Douglas Kent ('cello) have in preparation carols from the 16th century to the present. The lighted Christmas Tree, the congregational carols, the jingle bells of the children, the voices and instruments should blend together to create a special Christmas spirit for each person present. The United Methodist Women cordially invite you and your guests to the Open House in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

CHRISTMAS AT LYON PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

December 19 from 4:00 to 6:00 p. m.

Persons are needed to help with this project and can be included by calling the church office, by leaving his name on the office list or by contacting Melba Bartholomew. Christmas crafts, singing and refreshments are scheduled so a number of volunteers are needed.

APPRECIATION is expressed to Virginia and Ralph Ballagh for the two days which they gave to the decoration of our Fellowship Hall. All of us will enjoy it through the Advent-Christmas season. The excellence of their labours is obvious to us all. Thank you, Virginia and Ralph.

LIBRARY NEWS: Streams in the Desert, volume one, by Mrs. Charles E. Cowman has been given to the Library by the H. E. Spence Bible Class in memory of J. Henry Barton. This book offers 365 inspired meditations of encouragement and practical directions for inner peace and is appropriate for family and private devotional reading.

CHURCHWIDE CAROLLING

December 20, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas carolling is a tradition that families can experience and enjoy together. Standing in the cold with caps and mittens, singing lustily even if off key, sensing the spirit of the season, receiving the thanks of those within and feeling the warmth of fellowship over hot chocolate - these are part of the happy memories.

Carolling is also a way that one part of the congregation can share with those who have not been able to celebrate in the services and activities at the church. We invite you to join us at 7 p. m., Tuesday, December 20, in Fellowship Hall. Carollers will be grouped for visits to various parts of the city. Please bring a flashlight and a lusty voice (even if off key).

THE DISTINCTION of life membership pins awards was a significant part of the December meeting of United Methodist Women. Honorary life memberships were given to Lucille Cranford, Martha Brown, Carol Lawrence and Kay Herman. All of us rejoice in the achievements and service represented by these awards and are thankful for what the Christian witness of these women means to us.

WELCOME: Amanda Stark was born to Roy and Susan Teer on Thursday, 1 December 1977, at Durham County General Hospital. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Teer. The congregation and pastors rejoice with this family in Amanda's birth and ask God's blessing on her and her family.

THANK YOU to the Community Life Center for the cake made by Willie and given to be sold at Fall Festival. If anyone has a need for a decorative cake, call on Willie. A victim of Parkinson's Disease, Willie uses the profits to defray cost of medication.

THE BULLETIN
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VACATIONS; For the remainder of this calendar year, staff vacation time is being used. If the church telephones do not answer, please call the following numbers: Mr. Smith, 489-2210; Mr. Wallace, 383-4542; Miss Biddle, 489-9019. Your cooperation and understanding are greatly appreciated.

OUR KNOWN HOSPITAL SICK to be remembered in your prayers:

DCGH: Jesse Cole	4131
Kitty Copelan	6108
Adelaide Truesdale	5105
Pearl Stewart	4133
Nancy Marshall	7220
Mattie Wilkerson	6129
Leah Boddie	7230

DURHAM REHAB CENTER:
Bill Fleming 309

SPECIAL HOURS: "Christmas Eve at Duke Memorial" is at 6:30 p. m. on 24 December. On Christmas Day, the "Service of Lessons and Carols" will be at 10:30 a. m. Both of these are "family services", meaning that everyone in our church family is invited to share in both occasions. The 10:30 service on Christmas Day is the only scheduled activity for that Sunday.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed Monday, 26 December and Monday, 2 January 1978.

THE GOOD NEWS BIBLE order has arrived. Copies may be had from the church office at \$2.50 each. Twenty-eight of the thirty copies have been reserved. If you signed up for a copy, or copies, please pick them up as soon as convenient. Thank you.

FAMILY CUSTOM: As the children of Ruth and Leland Phelps were growing up, each Sunday during Advent the family would gather around the Advent wreath and have an "Advent Sing". Each Sunday, they would draw names of family members and each day during the ensuing week would do something nice for their "secret person" hopefully without "getting found out."

Is not that a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas? What do you do in your home?

THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR is also the end of our church fiscal year. It is requested of all members that attention be given to completion of your plans for giving for 1977. Cooperation from all of us will enable us to get into 1978 in a fairly strong position. Information as to pledges can be had by a telephone call to Mrs. Lois Fowler, our Financial Secretary, at the Church office, 688-1901, or 688-2170. Thank you.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN will meet on Monday, January 9, 1978 instead of January 2nd.

SUNDAY, 18 DECEMBER 1977

Fourth Sunday in Advent

The Gospel: St. Luke 1:67-80

The Sermon: Herald of the Most High!

Acolytes: Mike Hammond and Roy Forrester, Jr.

Greeters: Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Kale

Junior Church Leaders: Mrs. Helen Harrell

Mamie Jo Harrell, Assistant

Mrs. John Penick, Music

MEMORIALS RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION:

In loving memory of James McDaniel Heldman by:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Underwood

Mrs. Mattie Alexander and Children,
Fairforest, S. C.

Drs. Howard and Eleanor Easley

Mrs. Matthew Heldman, Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Howell P. Mercer, East Point, Ga.

Miss Louise Crumpacker

Mr. and Mrs. Chester A. West,
Longwood, Florida

Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Gery

In loving memory of Mrs. W. M. (Mary) Ervin by:

Mrs. J. W. Cobb

C. E. Wilson, Conway, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. C. Shutt,
Mocksville, N. C.

Lillie Duke Church School Class

Mrs. J. S. Harvey

In loving memory of J. Henry Barton by:

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Dunham

Mr. and Mrs. Philip M. Umstead

Mrs. J. S. Harvey

Frances D. Parker, Murfreesboro, N. C.

Mrs. J. H. Verell, Richmond, Va.

Lt. C. Robert Moore, Norfolk, Va.

Mrs. Margaret Nash, Norfolk, Va.

Gladys E. Sanford

W. I. Pickett

Mrs. C. S. Rogers, Norfolk, Va.

Mrs. Frances R. Coates, Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Webb, Jr.

Mary and Mary Jo Ferrell, Morrisville

Good Samaritan Fund

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Hall by
Eva Daniel.

In loving memory of all of our fellowship who have died during 1977, General and Mrs. J. W. Holsinger have made a gift to the Good Samaritan Fund.

ATTENDANCE: 11 December 1977

Church School.....304

Morning Worship.....374

FINANCIAL REPORT

Due each week	\$ 3,802.41
Received last Sunday	5,667.24
Received to date	182,884.24
Needed through last Sunday	190,120.50
Deficit	7,236.26
Meals on Wheels	359.25