

## THIS THING ABOUT MONEY!

Every historic religious faith of which I know posits a two-way relationship, of man to God and God to man. Of each side something is expected and to each something is promised. In our faith in Jesus Christ, we put God's initiative in Christ before our response. "We love Him because He first loved us" is one of the summary words of the epistle we call I John. Blessings are sought and offerings are given, not to bribe or placate the deity but as an expression of what is in one's heart about the god.

The faith of the ancient Hebrews in which is rooted our faith in God in Jesus Christ was part of the life of a people, first nomadic, then agrarian with flocks to be tended. The first offerings required of them were part of their daily existence - bread, wine, the produce of the fields, the animals of their flocks and herds. The famous incident when Abraham prepared to offer to God the life of his son, Isaac, is known to every one who has attended Sunday School or who has read the Old Testament. The religious law of these people, given by God through His servants and interpreted by their leaders, laid great stress on proper and correct offerings.

Were one to read strictly and in a most fundamental word some parts of the Old Testament, it could be said that there is no binding law on giving because nowadays most of us in the United States are not farmers (one worker out of 22 works on the land), nor have we herds of animals or flocks from which to choose. The New Testament reflects the monetary economy of that day and at least as much emphasis is laid on giving of one's money (or its equivalent) as in the Old Testament stress is made on giving agricultural or pastoral gifts. Something like one fourth of Jesus' words had to do with our attitudes to property, money and possessions. All that has to do with what we have and how we use it.

All this has turned around religious law and Scriptural admonition; they have a great and rightfully honoured place in our faith and traditions. It happens that there are some reasons, more personal and close to us, that ought to enter into our thinking about giving. Next Sunday morning I want to talk with you a bit about them. Will you consider this your personal invitation to share the morning worship service that we may "reason together"? I pray you will and that God will guide us all in His will.

- - Ed Smith

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OUR NEWEST MEMBER: Mrs. W. V. (Pearl A.) McRae of the Methodist Retirement Home became an affiliate member of Duke Memorial on Tuesday, 3 October. She is the widow of a member of our Annual Conference who was, at the time of his death earlier this year, the oldest member of our Conference. She and Mr. McRae were instrumental in the establishment of the Retirement Home. We welcome her as part of Duke Memorial's family. Your note of welcome to her will bless you both!

SUNDAY, 15 OCTOBER 1978

Eighth Sunday in Kingdomtide

Every Member Commitment Sunday

The Gospel: St. John 4:31-42

The Sermon: Commitment Is....

Acolytes: Ryan Evans & David Younts

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. W. C. McDuffie

Junior Church Leaders:

Mrs. Roy Teer, Teacher

Carol Christmas, Assistant

Carolyn Shipp, Music

ALL WORKERS IN OUR EVERY MEMBER COMMITMENT ARE REMINDED OF TWO  
IMPORTANT MEETINGS:

THURSDAY, 12 OCTOBER 1978, BRADSHAW ROOM

SUNDAY, 15 OCTOBER, 11 O'CLOCK, MORNING WORSHIP AND

LUNCHEON FOR ALL WORKERS



THE BULLETIN  
DUKE MEMORIAL  
METHODIST CHURCH  
504 W. Chapel Hill Street  
Durham, N. C. 27701

Second Class Postage  
Paid at  
Durham, N. C.

MEMORIAL GIFTS received with appreciation:

In loving memory of Mrs. Lela Y. Holton  
by:  
Katie Johnson Bible Class  
Mrs. Robert S. Rankin

Good Samaritan Fund

In loving memory of Joe Latta, Uncle of  
Beulah Latta, by Joe and Polly Farned.  
In loving memory of Grace Plyler McLean  
by:  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dozier  
Mary Ellen Dozier  
Mary Whitfield Canada

THE LOVELY VASE AND FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in  
the narthex have been given in loving  
memory of Mrs. Irene Cave Alley. This was  
made possible by Memorial Gifts to the  
United Methodist Women and the Altar Guild.

A GIFT has been received from Mrs. Julie  
Wyche Cherry, Greensboro, N. C., in honor  
of Kay and Ed Hammond.

JUNIOR HIGHS!!

Sunday night, we will go roller skating  
near Wellons Village for UMY. Meet at the  
church at 6:00 p. m. for supper (50¢). We  
will return to the church by 8:00 p. m.  
Bring money for skating and come join the  
fun! For more info, call Cathy Wells at  
688-4923.

Also, plan to go with us to the State  
Fair in Raleigh on Friday, October 20th,  
leaving the church at 5:00 p. m. and re-  
turning by 11:00 p. m.

SYMPATHY: The pastors and congregation ex-  
press love and concern to Hal Gurganous and  
family in the death of his sister, Mrs.  
Lillian Carden, on October 6 in Salisbury;  
and to Zack Lyon and family in the death  
of his mother, Mrs. Frank Lyon, on October  
8th.

ATTENDANCE, Sunday, 8 October 1978  
Church School.....275  
Morning Worship.....329

FINANCIAL REPORT:  
Needed each week \$ 3,997.40  
Received last two Sundays 9,174.94  
Received to date 151,875.37  
Needed through last Sunday 163,893.40  
Deficit 12,018.03

REMINDER FOR FALL FESTIVAL BAZAAR: Please  
get your plants ready for Fall Festival  
Sale now. Watch Messenger for further  
information.

OUR KNOWN HOSPITAL SICK to be remembered in  
your prayers:

Durham County General Hospital  
Patricia C. Lampley 7322  
Houston Bagley 5234

Duke  
Olivia Henderson Hanes 2221

Rehabilitation Center  
Margaret Daniel 7111

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 15 - 21, 1978

Sunday	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
	12:15 p. m.	Luncheon for Every Member Canvass Workers
	5:00 p. m.	Carol and Junior Choirs
	6:00 p. m.	UMYF
Monday	10:30 a. m.	Circle 5 with Mrs. LeRoy Cox, 1718 Vista St.
	3:00 p. m.	Circle 9 with Mrs. Arthur Kale, 500 E. Markham Ave.
	7:30 p. m.	Singles Again in Church Parlor
Tuesday	9:45 a. m.	Circle 6 in Bradshaw Room
Wednesday	10:00 a. m.	Altar Guild Meeting
Thursday	10:00 a. m.	Fall Festival Workshop
	12:00 Noon	Lillie Duke Class Past President's Luncheon
	7:30 p. m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal