

## HOW CAN THESE THINGS BE?

Some of us will recognize the title of this little essay as the words of Nicodemus to Jesus. Jesus had answered Nicodemus' questions with the assertion that to see the Kingdom of God, a person must be born again. Nicodemus was a good and able man - and he was stunned by such an answer. Quite naturally and realistically he responded, "Teacher, how can these things be?"

As we approach Easter and think of the Resurrection of Jesus, the same kind of response comes to our minds. It is a response that comes out of our "natural" mind. It is the witness of the world around us that men are born, live and then die. It comes from the certainty of our own demise and non-return to the life of this world.

The primacy of Easter among all Christian festivals is precisely because it cuts across all our pre-conceptions and dramatically challenges the kind of life expectations we have. Many people like to shock others and to attack what are sometimes called the "sacred cows" to which no challenge should ever be given. Some like to do this sort of thing to stimulate thinking; others like to do it simply to bowl people over. The difference in these kinds of attitudes and the fact of Easter is that the shock of Easter comes, in a real sense, after the fact. It is because Jesus was raised from the dead that our pre-conceptions are shaken and our life expectations are upset.

Splendid as was the birth of Jesus and remarkable as were the circumstances surrounding His birth, all of us come into the world through physical birth. We rejoice that we can identify with the Holy Infant in sharing an experience. But in His resurrection, as St. Paul put it, "He is the first fruits of them that slept". This experience lies in the future for us. It is the light in an otherwise clouded and somber future. It is the fact that enlightens the difficulties of this life. It is God's fact entering into a world that really doesn't want to be disturbed by challenges. In a sense, not only do we say, "How can these things be?"; God also says it to us!

The finding out of "how these things can be" is the work of faith. Easter calls us to faith affirmation and to renewed confidence that the issues of time, history, of this and of all worlds, are still in God's hands. That's how these things can be - and that is what Easter is all about. Let's celebrate it together in God's house.

-- Ed Smith

SCHEDULING FACILITIES: All of us realize that the only way to avoid difficulty in planning meetings in the church is through the master calendar which Mrs. Massey controls. Not always do we realize that we need also to schedule the "advance" time for preparation for meetings. The most obvious example is the use of the kitchen prior to a meal, sometimes the same day, sometimes several days in advance. Please help us help ourselves by scheduling not only the day and occasion but also work days or hours to prepare for such meetings.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: The Financial Secretary has mailed quarterly financial statements. For the church as a whole, at the end of the first quarter, we had received for the operating budget \$49,644.00 and expended \$58,911.93. These figures include as income one-fourth of prepaid pledges for 1981. Many of us need to give attention to our giving record and to become current as soon as possible. Thank you.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME begins Sunday, 26 April at 2:00 in the morning. This means that on Saturday evening, you advance your timepieces one hour; i. e., move from 10:00 to 11:00 and you will be in step and on time Sunday to celebrate the beginning of the Centennial of Durham County!

EASTER CROSS

"HE IS RISEN!" This will be the message of the Cross in our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The bare cross, a symbol of the darkness of man's sin, will be transformed into a Resurrection symbol of Christ's victory over sin and death. As beautiful, living flowers are brought to decorate the Cross, it will proclaim the new life in Christ.

Everyone is encouraged to share in making our Resurrection symbol come alive. Bring flowers, and as you enter church on Sunday morning, go up and add your flowers to those decorating the Cross. Children should bring flowers to Sunday School, for each class will make a visit to the Sanctuary to "decorate" the Cross.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION:Altar Guild

In loving memory of Iva Elder by:  
Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Mortland

SUNDAY, 19 APRIL 1981 Easter Sunday

The Epistle: I Corinthians 15:20-26

The Gospel: St. Mark 16:1-8

The Sermon: And Yet Unfinished!

Greeters: Dr. and Mrs. Leland Phelps



THE BULLETIN  
DUKE MEMORIAL  
METHODIST CHURCH (USPS 553-880)  
504 West Chapel Hill Street  
Durham, N. C. 27701

Postmaster send address changes to Duke Memorial Methodist  
Church, 504 W. Chapel Hill Street, Durham, N. C. 27701

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Durham, N. C.

DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
FALL FESTIVAL  
NOVEMBER 12, 1981

Chairmen: Hilda Coble: 286-2697  
Ella Glasson: 489-5110

Aprons: Louise Ervin: 383-5321

Baby Boutique: Elizabeth Bookhout: 286-9738  
Martha Brown: 682-1060  
Janet Smith: 489-2210

Bake Sale: Martha Brown: 682-1060  
Lucille Mortland: 286-3782

Book Nook: Berta Lane: 286-2803

Children's Table: Jeanne Bagby: 489-5550  
Ann Tyor: 489-2661

Christmas Room: Gloria Johnson: 477-7635  
Pat Coman: 489-4117  
Ann Stallings: 383-6482

Confections: Grace Cooke: 286-4859

Country Store: Monica Bollinger: 471-2013

Flower Arrangements: Edith Johnson: 489-3673

Jams and Jellies: Byrd Brinkley: 489-3223  
Lila Fagan: 489-3760

Jewelry: Virginia Ballagh: 471-5190

Lunch: Gladys Duncan: 688-1638

Miniatures: Indy Cunningham: 286-4731

Needlework and Wednesday Workshops:

Mary Hix	286-7695
Betty Craig	489-0666
Sarah McCracken	489-2421
Mary Page Tidwell	688-2937
Sue Bryant	489-7526

Pillows: Evelyn Lyon 489-2951  
Reid Burton 489-9789

Plants: Gibby Williams 489-3167  
Madge Wannamaker: 383-4571

Publicity: Ellen Sewell: 471-3809

White Elephant: Rubye Haywood: 286-4800  
Mary Byerly: 286-2463

SAVE THIS FOR REFERENCE

THE CONGREGATION AND PASTORS express love  
and sympathy to Luke and Lelia Veasey and  
their family because of the death of Luke's  
father, K. O. Veasey, Monday, 13 April 1981.

A HOLDER WITH TWO KEYS was found in the  
parking lot last Sunday. Call the office  
for identification, please, 688-1901.

ATTENDANCE: Sunday, 12 April 1981  
Church School.....266  
Morning Worship.....421

HOSPITALIZED - DCGH: Delaina Buehler 4328

PENSION CRUSADE: The second full year of the  
Pensions Crusade ends on 30 April. Please be  
certain that your pledge is paid at least 67%  
by that date. It will be helpful in many ways  
if during 1981 all of us can complete our  
pledges to this cause. Thank you.

A GIFT has been given to the Good Samaritan  
Fund of Duke Memorial Church by the Katie  
Johnson Bible Class in memory of Mrs.  
Holland Holton, Mrs. Katie Johnson Rigsbee,  
and Miss Carrie Burch.

WELCOME to our newest members! Last Sunday with  
Thanksgiving to God and great joy the following  
young people were confirmed as members of the  
United Methodist Church and the Duke Memorial  
Congregation: Kathy Bowen, John Boy, Chris Brown,  
Len Campbell, Ashley Chewing, Keely Clark, Walter  
Curtis, Amy Layne and Kim Porter. In addition, Mr.  
and Mrs. Wayne (Bonnie) Campbell transferred their  
memberships here from Riverland Hills Baptist  
Church, Columbia, S. C. Their son, Lem, was a  
member of the confirmation class. The Campbells  
live at 1920 Redding Lane and their telephone  
number is 477-1873. All other members of the  
class are from families already represented in  
Duke Memorial's membership. Your doing what you  
can do to make all these members truly part of  
our family will bless us all.

LIBRARY NOTES

Vaughan, Jenny - The Easter Book, call #J-394-V

Barth, Edna - Lilies Rabbits and Painted Eggs  
Call No. J-394-B

Dunnam, Maxie - Barefoot Day of the Soul  
Call No. 242-D

Griggs, Donald and Patricia

1. Generations Learning Together
2. Using Storytelling in Christian Education  
Call No. 268-G

LeFever, Marlene - Creative Hospitality  
Marvelous hints, ideas and recipes  
Call No. 793-LeF

CHURCH CALENDAR APRIL 19 - 25, 1981

Sun.	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
Mon.		Easter Monday, Holiday
	10:00 a. m.	Circle 10 with Mrs. J. D. Young, 1017 Lakewood Ave.
Tues.	10:00 a. m.	Circle 8 with Ella Glasson, 615 Swift Avenue Laura Cleaves, co-hostess
	8:00 p. m.	Circle 6 with Monika Bollinger, Infinity Rd.
Wed.	10:00 a. m.	Bazaar Workshop
	6:00 p. m.	Visitation Supper
	7:30 p. m.	Council on Ministries
Thurs.	12:30 p. m.	Study and Sharing Group
	7:30 p. m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal