

DUKE MEMORIAL MESSENGER

VOLUME XVII

FEBRUARY 7, 1982

NUMBER 6

WHO IS LISTENING?

"Why do we have so few children at worship service?"

"I feel it is because parents take them home after Sunday School."

"Do we have that many children?"

"Oh yes! But they don't come to Sunday School with any degree of regularity, and very seldom to church services."

"Then why don't the parents come?"

"I don't know, but I do watch the exodus out the back door each Sunday and wonder what the difficulty is."

"It seems that worship is not top priority here."

This conversation didn't (so far as I know) take place at Duke Memorial though it may too well fit us. It was part of the cover piece on the newsletter of Edenton Street UMC in Raleigh for the period 24-30 January 1982. Insofar as it fits our situation, we may reflect with profit on it.

It might lead us to conclude that what we do others do also and so, all is well. It might persuade us that we do share problems but should find comfort in seeking solutions rather than in sharing the problem. Wallace Kirby, pastor at Edenton Street, went on to write: "If it were not for the visitors, I fear that a percentage figure of church members who worship regularly would be embarrassing. I am reminded often by some older members of 'how it used to be . . . when chairs had to be brought into the sanctuary to accommodate the number of worshippers'."

Surely God has not failed nor does He cease to call us in worship and service. With all else that we hear, perhaps our hearing is a bit weakened as to hearing Him. And if He should call and we not hear, who is the loser? I remember the bulletin board I saw on a church in a mostly black neighbourhood in Alexandria, Va. which declared: "If you and God are separated, who got lost?"

If Christian fellowship and worship seem dull and unattractive to you, where came the change? Take a look at a piece from the United Methodist Reporter posted on the bulletin nearest the church offices, "The Church is always a sanctuary whenever we feel an urgent need." This short statement by Nancy L. Blomquist of Worchester, Mass. says much in small compass. Read, reflect, listen - even pray! And then, respond as God leads.

-- Ed Smith

MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION:

Good Samaritan Fund

In memory of Mrs. Ethel Williams by:
Lillie Duke Church School Class

In memory of Mrs. Minnie Blaylock by:
Lillie Duke Church School Class

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Bozidar Vesic
and Mr. and Mrs. Anton Sedmak by:
Dr. and Mrs. Leland R. Phelps

World Hunger

In memory of Harold Bivins by:
A. M. Williams

THE STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE will meet Monday, 15 February, at 7:30 in the library. Business matters to consider include evaluations of the work of staff members and preparation of a recommendation as to the appointment of a pastor in June 1982. Members of the congregation are invited to make their expressions to members of the committee prior to the meeting. Chick Craig is chairman; other members are Delaina Buehler, Ran Few, Polly Mixon, Iris Byerly, Charlotte Corbin, James Mentzer, Eunice Mattox, and W. E. Self. The chairman and vice-chairman of the Administrative Board, Shirley Few and Mary Whanger, meet with this committee.

SYMPATHY: The Congregation and Pastor express loving sympathy and concern to the family of James T. Jones who died Monday, 25 January 1982, and to Mrs. Leamon F. Couch because of the death of her sister, Mrs. Barbara Pickard Pate, on Wednesday, January 27.

IN MEMORIAM

James T. Jones
25 January 1982

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"

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

Second Class Mail
Paid at
Durham, N. C.

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

7 FEBRUARY, 1982

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

The Gospel: St. Matthew 25:14-30

The Sermon: Run Your Own Bank!

Acolytes: Kathy Bowen and Kelly Harris

Greeters: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur DeBerry

CONFIRMATION CLASS will begin Sunday, 28 February, at 4:00 p. m. in the Home Builder's Classroom back of the sanctuary just off the breezeway. Children should be in the fifth grade ^{or} eleven years old. Older children are welcome. The pastor directs this class. It will continue through Mother's Day on Sunday afternoons except for two Sundays: 21 March and Easter, 11 April. A call to the church office (688-1901), (688-2170) will enroll your child.

DUKE MEMORIAL WEEKDAY SCHOOL is now enrolling for the 1982 - '83 school year for ages 2 - 5. Please call 688-5130 if you are interested in visiting our school. We would be delighted to have you visit us.

WORKSHOP DAY - Come ready to quilt, crochet, knit or do your "own thing". Fabric suitable for quilts needed. Also yarn. Come, please.

Fall Festival Committee

OUR NEWEST MEMBER: Katie Glick, Route 2, Box 574, 27705, became a member of Duke Memorial last Sunday by transfer from Highlands United Church of Christ, Springfield, O. Katie finished her doctoral studies in bio-medical engineering at Duke last spring and is continuing her work with a post-doctoral grant for work in pediatric cardiology. She is active in the Christian Fellowship Class and sings in our choir. Her telephone number is 383-1628. A call or note of welcome is good for all of us!

HOSPITALIZED: DCGH:

Imogene Ausbon MICU-4

THE DURHAM DISTRICT LAY RALLY is scheduled for the Durham Civic Center Monday, 8 February. Jameson Jones, dean of Duke Divinity School will be the principle speaker. The supper (\$3.75) will be served beginning at 5:30. Singing will begin at 6:45 and program proper at 7:00. You are invited for the whole evening. However, if you prefer to be present only for the program, that is entirely in order. Ed Hammond is the District Lay Leader and Duke Memorial will support him by a large attendance - and you need to be one of the group! Plan to do so, please. Thank you.

LOVELY LANE CHURCH, the mother church of Methodism in the United States, is literally falling to pieces. It was at the famous Christmas Conference in 1784 at Lovely Lane that Methodism in North America became formally independent of its English origins and organized itself for work. The original structure was replaced by the congregation so that in 1884 the centennial of Methodism (as an independent body) was observed with a most unique structure. The ceiling showed stars and planets as visible on that site in 1784! As we approach the bicentennial of Methodism, Lovely Lane shows all the stress and troubles of a century old building where the congregation no longer can maintain a costly but lovely structure. The 1984 General Conference meets in Baltimore. Your gifts to the restoration of Lovely Lane can restore for another century a building that ought not to be allowed to fall in and disappear. Interested persons are invited to contact the Church office for details.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed each week	\$ 4,653.85
Received last week	5,370.56
Needed through last week	23,269.25
Received through last week	23,628.77

ATTENDANCE: 31 January 1982

Church School.....	243
Morning Service.....	386

CHURCH CALENDAR FEBRUARY 7 - 13, 1982

Sunday	9:00 a. m.	Holy Communion
	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
	5:00 p. m.	UMYF
	5:00 p. m.	Carol and Junior Choirs
Monday	10:30 a. m.	Circle 5 with Mrs. Ruth Mixon, 1200 Leon Street, B-8
	5:30 p. m.	District Lay Rally at Civic Center
Tuesday	4:30 p. m.	Trustees in Library
	6:00 p. m.	Methodist Men, Whitford Hall
	7:45 p. m.	Administrative Board, Bradshaw Room
Wednesday	7:00 a. m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast, Whitford Hall
	12:10 p. m.	Devotions and Lunch, Leader: Annie John Williams
	7:30 p. m.	Commission on Education, Library
Thursday	7:30 p. m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday	1:00 p. m.	Departure of Junior Highs for Ski Trip