

DUKE MEMORIAL MESSENGER

VOLUME XVI

MARCH 21, 1982

NUMBER 12

SYZUGY!

Wednesday morning, 10 March 1982, about five in the morning occurred a one time in a lifetime event - a syzygy wherein nine heavenly bodies were all grouped on the same side of the sun. So far as I know at this moment, the San Andreas fault didn't collapse and dump the Pacific coast into the ocean. The Hattaras Lighthouse is still standing, still leaning, - and so is the tower of Pisa! I suppose the doomsayers are disappointed that most of us survived to see the sun rise and enjoy the beautiful day that followed.

We peered through misted windows, trees and competing light of a beautiful full moon to see this remarkable astronomical phenomenon. Remembering that once I slept through an earthquake, I was grateful for Janet's arousing me to see what was to be seen. I am also grateful for astronomers who both foretell the event (to the second) and also give us some visualization of what is happening.

Now, how many of us slept through it? I must suppose that most of the fellow-citizens of our town didn't interrupt their slumber to see this rare event. There is no particular virtue in having gotten up to witness it. Yet, something down in me says that we ought to be more aware of what goes on in our world than most of us are. "Primitive" people don't have TV and most of them don't have radios - but they never miss out on changes in patterns of the heavenly bodies, eclipses and the like.

I knew a man who grew up in a small town in Louisiana, a town about which no one seemed to know anything. One day I pressed him to tell me about it and why no one had heard of it. With a chuckle he replied, "It's so far in the backwoods that on the day of the Second Coming, they'll have to send a messenger in to tell the people about it." It is one thing to live in such a place and there is nothing to be said against that. It is quite another thing to cut one's self off deliberately from all the beautiful, wonderful, uplifting, enriching, blessed events of life.

A syzygy is an astronomical wonder. A human life filled with the love of God that flowers into love for man is a spiritual wonder. A church filled with people who gather for renewal and refreshment and then go forth to live what they have heard about is a blessing both to the group and to the environing community. A person in need when you can respond to that need is a person whom God sent your way for your blessing. Is it only syzygys that we miss?

-- Ed Smith

GIFTS RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION

In loving memory of Elsie S. Graham by:
Mr. and Mrs. Hugo L. Germino
Mr. R. R. Germino, Greensboro
Mrs. Mary R. Pickell

Good Samaritan Fund

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rodenhizer
by the "Van Riders" from the Methodist
Retirement Home.

In loving memory of Mrs. Sophie Potts
(Stepmother of Virginia Clark) by Mr.
and Mrs. Zack Lyon and family.

In loving memory of Elsie S. Graham by:
Mr. and Mrs. Zack Lyon

JUST FOR FUN: Do you know a word in
English where there are five successive
loops below the line when written in
longhand?

JOIN US SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 21, at 6:30 pm
There will be a Covered Dish Supper and a
delightful program presented by the Emmanuel
Methodist Church of Burlington. Their youth
are bringing a very special message to us
through a puppet ministry. Come, fellowship
with us! It will be a fun evening for all.

-- Laura Early

HOMEcoming on 2 May is near! Invite now
those with whom you wish to share the day.
Former members, family, friends, persons who
wish Duke Memorial well are all invited. . .
if you invite them! Only you know who they
are; only you can be the link. Let's all
get with it and they'll be here.

THE FLORAL CROSS on Easter morning is an al-
most unique way for all of us to worship our
Lord on the day of Resurrection.

SUNDAY, 28 MARCH, a major part of the morn-
ing service will be the singing of Faure's
"Requiem" by the adult choir. Hear it!

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

21 MARCH 1982
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Youth Sunday
Greeters: Bill Roth, Vouch Seng Seng,
Siv Leng Seng, Bun Heng Seng
Acolytes: Seton Amick and Dodd Browning
Altar Guild Workers for March:
Judy Browning 383-3989
Gloria Johnson 477-7635
Cindy Windham 489-2580

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS will not meet on
Sunday, 21 March because the pastor will
be in Wilmington assisting in special
services in Wrightsboro United Methodist
Church. Regular meetings resume Sunday,
28 March at 4:00 p. m.

HOSPITALIZED:
DCGH: Gladys King 5312
K. B. Prince CICU-6
Ella Kimrey 5336
Sidney Allen 7325
DUKE: Bud Ervin N-8124

ATTENDANCE: Sunday, 14 March 1982
Church School. 261
Morning Service 366

CABLEVISION, channel 8, offers at Sunday noon
and Wednesday at 8:00 p. m. a series of pro-
grams entitled "The Word - Miracles" hosted
by Bishop Roy Clark of the Columbia area.
This program is produced by the Southeastern
Jurisdiction, UMC and Cablevision offers it
as a public service.

NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS AND FRIENDS of Duke Memo-
rial, your help is needed. It is the desire
of the church to send the Messenger to all who
wish to receive it. Periodically, we update
our mailing list. An unforeseen raise in
postage has increased the cost of mailing this
church newsletter by more than 50%; this in-
spires the thought that we keep our mailing
list so that all who wish it receive the Mes-
senger and that others no longer receive it.
To this end, we ask of all non-resident mem-
bers and friends that they send us a postal
card or make a telephone call (919-688-1901,
688-2170) to insure continuing to receive
this newsletter. These notices to us should
be in the Church office no later than 1 April.
Shortly after that date, the mailing list
will be carefully worked out. Please let us
hear from you NOW! Thank you.

CHURCH CALENDAR MARCH 21 - 27, 1982

Sunday	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
	5:00 p. m.	UMYF
	6:30 p. m.	Covered Dish Supper and Special Program in Whitford Hall
Tuesday	8:00 p. m.	Circle 6 with Linda Adkinson, 4707 Berini Drive
Wednesday	10:00 a. m.	Fall Festival Workshop, Whitford Hall
	12:10 p. m.	Devotions and Lunch, Leader: Hilda Coble
	6:00 p. m.	Cliff Visitation Supper, Whitford Hall
	7:30 p. m.	Council on Ministries, Bradshaw Room
Thursday	7:30 p. m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday	7:00 p. m.	Singles Again, Whitford Hall