

DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Durham, North Carolina

January 17, 1977

To all Members of the Council on Ministries:

Dear Friends,

To those of you who are new, a most warm and hearty welcome! To those of you who are continuing, bless you for the guidance and inspiration you will give the rest of us! How good it is that we are not all "green", that the work and witness of our church continues without interruption even though some of the leadership changes.

I very much look forward to working with all of you. I am making a real effort to do my "home work" well -- to familiarize myself rather thoroughly with all the minutes and other information handed to me by my capable predecessor, Earl Brown, and with the guidelines for all the areas of work and for the various age level coordinators. This type of preparation is necessary, and I trust that each of you will do it to whatever extent is needful for your job. There is another type of preparation which is equally necessary, and I ask you all to join me in it, and that is the preparation of prayer that we may be so open to the leading of the Holy Spirit that we may truly be instruments for the carrying out of God's purposes for Duke Memorial Church in the year 1977 and beyond. "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain," Ps. 127:1. Let us seek not to build in vain!

Thank you for your willingness to be a member of the team. If there is any way I can be of help to you in your various responsibilities, please let me know. If there is something you feel that I should be doing that I'm not, or that I should be doing differently, please let me know that, too.

The Council on Ministries regularly meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Bradshaw Room. Therefore, our first meeting will be on Wednesday, January 26 at 7:30. It is a joy and a privilege to be about our Master's work. Let us come together in that spirit.

Yours in Christ,

Mary Whanger, Chairman



DUKE UNIVERSITY METHODIST CHURCH  
Durham, North Carolina

January 27, 1957

To all members of the Council on Christian Unity

Dear Friends,

To those of you who are present at this meeting, I want to say that I am glad to see you. I am glad to see you because you are the ones who are making the church what it should be. You are the ones who are making the church a place where people can find God. You are the ones who are making the church a place where people can find love. You are the ones who are making the church a place where people can find hope. You are the ones who are making the church a place where people can find life.

I very much look forward to working with all of you. I am calling a real effort to do my "homework" -- to familiarize myself with all the minutes and other information handed to me by my capable predecessors, Earl Brown, and with the guidelines for all the areas of work and for the various and varied coordinators. This type of preparation is necessary, and I trust that each of you will do it to whatever extent is needed for your job. There is another type of preparation which is equally necessary, and I ask you all to do it in it, and that is the preparation of prayer that we may be so open to the leading of the Holy Spirit that we may truly be instruments for the carrying out of God's purposes for this Memorial Church in the year 1957 and beyond. Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Ps. 127:1. Let us seek not to build in vain.

Thank you for your willingness to be a member of the Council. If there is any way I can be of help to you in your various responsibilities, please let me know. If there is something you feel that I should be doing that I'm not, or that I should be doing differently, please let me know that, too.

The Council on Christian Unity meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Room. Therefore, our first meeting will be on Wednesday, January 30, 1957. It is a joy and a privilege to be with our sister workers for we come together in that spirit.

Yours in Christ,

Ray W. Wright, Chairman