

DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING - SEPTEMBER 11, 1979

The Administrative Board of Duke Memorial United Methodist Church met on September 11, 1979, at 7:45 p.m. in the Bradshaw Room, with Ran Few, Chairman, presiding. There were 43 members present. In addition, Selma Gore, Gretchen Ruffy, Barbara and John Penick, and Randle Smith were in attendance. Nick Fagan gave the invocation. Minutes of the August meeting were approved as mailed.

Treasurer Bill Self presented a report of finances for the month of August, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. He stated that a proposed budget for 1980 would be presented at the October meeting.

Finance Committee Chairman, Bill Coman, stated that October 21 will be Loyalty Fund day and that Shirley Few will serve as Every Member Commitment Chairman.

Council on Ministries - Mary Whanger presented the Council's recommendation concerning Duke Memorial's theme for 1980 - Be A Disciple. The objectives and goals of this recommendation are detailed in a report filed with these minutes. Mary Whanger made the motion, seconded by Ed Hammond, that the Board accept the recommendation of the Council. The motion carried.

Missions - Elizabeth Bookhout expressed her pleasure, as well as that of the Duke Memorial congregation, in having Dr. Raymond Valenzuela, our missionary to Chile, present at the September 9 morning worship service. Dr. Valenzuela was in the United States to attend a conference on "religion and peace" at Princeton University. Mrs. Bookhout showed the Board several slides of Dr. and Mrs. Valenzuela, the Methodist congregation of which they are members, and a group of divinity students.

United Methodist Women - Louise Ervin reported that the Church World Service clothing drive was most successful, with 700 pounds of good used clothing being contributed by Duke Memorial. She also stated that the 15-cent-per-pound handling cost had been covered by contributions. Members of the Methodist Retirement Home, as well as some staff members there, presented the September UMW program. Mrs. Ervin reminded the Board of the October 24 Fall Festival at Duke Memorial.

Methodist Men - Tom Coble reported that 35 persons attended Methodist Men. Dan Edwards presented slides and commentary on his recent African safari; additional comments were made by Ed Smith.

Tom Coble stated that Laity Day will be October 14, with Dr. James W. Holsinger, Jr., as speaker.

Building and Grounds - Ken Howard reported that ceiling repair is being done on the second floor of the Middle Building. Also, during the recent heavy rains several leaks were discovered in the Sanctuary Building. These are being repaired.

Staff-Parish - Chairman Ed Hammond presented a recommendation from the Music Committee and the Staff-Parish Committee: It was felt that, due to a leveling-out or even slight decline in the music program and the need to revitalize and expand the program, the Church could best be served by a change in leadership of the choir. Therefore, Melba Bartholomew was asked to resign as of September 30, 1979, with salary and insurance coverage to continue until the end of 1979. Dr. Hammond spoke with appreciation of the length of service and the quality of contributions to the

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life of Duke Memorial which Mrs. Bartholomew has made. Bill Coman made the motion to accept the recommendation. Mary Whanger seconded it. The motion carried. Chairman Few invited comments from persons present. A number of persons spoke in opposition to or regret at the action taken. Barbara Penick stated that she felt the move was cruel and un-Christian. At the request of Jim Long, a letter from Melba Bartholomew and one from Thomas B. Clark, III, former organist, were read by the Secretary. Edna Christmas added that she felt the recommendation un-Christian. Houston Blair, a Board member, spoke in praise of Mrs. Bartholomew's ability but stated that he understood that the direction in which we were moving in our music program was in question. Gretchen Ruffy stated that she felt a change in directors would not make a difference, that more choir members would be needed to make a larger contribution. Ed Hammond stated that nothing that could be said would change the situation. He said that he felt the committees had worked with sincerity and concern in coming to their decision. He felt that we should look to the future, building on this experience and institute an ongoing evaluation of the music program. Carolyn Shipp expressed concern for the choir, inasmuch as the position of organist is also now vacant. Buck Mortland brought up the question of whether the matter should have been brought to the Administrative Board's attention prior to action. Shirley Few, a former Staff-Parish Committee chairman, stated that the Committee was an elected one and that part of its duty was to protect staff members. Ruth Phelps requested that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Bartholomew, which Chairman Few assured her would be done.

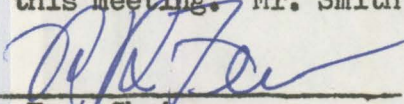
Staff - Margaret Anne Biddle, reporting on the Youth Division, stated that the Youth Council has functioned effectively for one year. It has successfully stated a purpose for youth ministry at Duke Memorial - "A commitment to a balanced program, with four major emphases: study, worship, fellowship, and service." In addition, it has developed a plan for creating a pleasant, comfortable atmosphere for youth activities in our Church. The youth have worked with Ken Howard in planning to refurbish a Youth Suite on the second floor of the Middle Building. It will include a Jr. High lounge, a Sr. High lounge, and a two-room recreation center. The Youth Room on the ground level of the Sanctuary Building will be used as the program expands. Miss Biddle expressed to Ken Howard the thanks from the Youth Division for his "cheerful" and knowledgeable help.

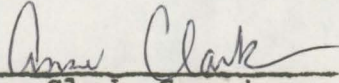
A special youth study task force has been appointed by the Commission on Education to upgrade youth Sunday School classes. As a part of this plan, a luncheon was held on Sunday, September 9, for all youth and their parents. There are 40 Sr. Highs and 28 Jr. Highs on our roll.

Miss Biddle expressed her thanks to the Duke Memorial family for their support and loving concern at the time of her father's death recently.

Don Settle reported that he is working with Junior Church leaders on a format with more continuity, one which will equip the children to understand the regular church service. A communion service is planned for Junior Church on the Sunday preceding World Communion Sunday.

Ed Smith expressed his thanks to all persons present for their caring and for their expressions of concern about matters which affect the Duke Memorial congregation. He asked that we strive to go forward together, building on the goals set before us at this meeting. Mr. Smith dismissed the meeting with prayer.


Ran Few, Chairman


Anne Clark, Secretary

Next Meeting: October 9

of Duke Memorial which Mrs. Bartholomew has made. Bill Goman made the motion to accept the recommendation. Harry Whanger seconded it. The motion carried. A number of persons spoke in support of the motion. Barbara Penick stated that she felt the motion was correct and un-Christian. At the request of Mr. Long, a letter from the Secretary, John Christmas, and one from Thomas B. Clark, III, former organizer, were read by the Board. Mrs. Bartholomew spoke in praise of Mrs. Bartholomew's ability but stated that he understood that the direction in which we were moving in our main program was in question. Gretchen Ruffy stated that she felt a change in directors would not make a difference, the more their members would be needed to make a contribution. Ed Hammond stated that nothing that could be said would change the situation. He said that he felt the committee had worked with sincerity and was in coming to their decision. He felt that we should look to the future, building on this experience and institute an ongoing evaluation of the main program. The Board expressed concern for the choir, inasmuch as the position of organist was vacant. Buck Norland brought up the question of whether the matter had been brought to the Administrative Board's attention prior to action. A former Staff-Fellow Chairman, stated that the Committee was elected one and that part of its duty was to protect staff members. Ruth Phelps stated that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Bartholomew, which Chairman assured her would be done.

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BOODRUM & PEASE "NIGHT" 1979