

## DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Report of the Chairman of the Council on Ministries to the Charge Conference Nov. 4, 1975

Beginning 1 January 1975, the program year for Duke Memorial Church coincided with the calendar year, therefore the newly elected members of the Council on Ministries began their service on 1 January 1975. A letter dated January 14, 1975 and attached as part of this report was mailed to all members of the Council encouraging them to actively participate in the activities of the Council and the Administrative Board. Thirty members including elected vice-chairman and secretary were invited to become actively engaged in planning of church programs.

The first meeting of the newly elected council was held on 22 January 1975, and regularly scheduled meetings have been held throughout the year, normally on the fourth Wednesday of each month. At its first meeting the Council discussed the need for a planning retreat and selected the week-end of Palm Sunday, March 22-23 for that retreat. A planning committee for the retreat was appointed and final plans for the retreat were adopted during the February meeting.

The plans included arrangements whereby all committees, commissions, boards and individual members of the church would have the opportunity and would be encouraged to have input in the form of suggestions and ideas for programs to be considered during the retreat.

On March 4, 1975 a letter was written to all members of the Council on Ministries including the following:

1. A statement of a vision of the role and setting of Duke Memorial prepared by the Organizing Committee for the Planning Retreat.
2. Summary of adopted goals, plans and work of the Council during the past two retreats.
3. Proposed schedule for the planning retreat.

The retreat was well attended and adopted plans related to five categories.

1. The church cares and offers fellowship and Christian education as a Christian Center.
2. Improved communications concerning church related functions are a necessity.
3. Expanding Educational Programs of Intergenerational value.
4. Consideration of problems related to transportation to church activities.
5. Consideration for functional need to close breezeway between Church School Building and Sanctuary.

In these five categories, a total of eleven mission type goals and plans were developed. A copy of these goals is attached to these minutes.

Programs related to all of these goals are now underway. A full report has been made by a Transportation Task Force. A new Pictorial Directory, as an aid to communications, is almost completed. A Communications Task Force continues to function under the leadership of the Church Lay Leader. Architectural plans for closing the breezeway have been presented by the Building Committee to the Administrative Board. New members of the church have been honored at a Family Night type Covered Dish Dinner, and a Sunday Luncheon following the Sunday morning service on November 16 is scheduled as a part of an on-going program for fellowship oriented church-wide meals. The Youth Council has been reactivated. The Adult classes of the Church School met jointly once during the Fall and will do so again in the Spring. A program of inviting adult members who have joined the church







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within the past year to serve as greeters at the church door on Sunday morning is now underway with the hope that this will help older and newer members to become better acquainted.

A program of selected visitation was organized in which over three hundred members were visited and encouraged to become more active in the church.

A committee is now at work making plans for educating the membership concerning the activities of the Center City Church Council in order that an objective decision may be made at a later date concerning membership in that organization.

The Council is giving active leadership in the programs of the church, and it is the earnest prayer of each of the council members that what we do and what we hope to do will have God's blessings and that it "will foster a continuing, meaningful and total church program pleasing in the sight of our Lord."

Earl I. Brown, II  
Chairman



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