

Duke University
DURHAM
NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

POSTAL CODE 27706
TELEPHONE 919-684-3301

September 8, 1976

MEMORANDUM

TO: Edward F. Smith, Pastor, Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

FROM: Barney L. Jones, Professor of Religion, Duke University

SUBJECT: 1976 Charge Conference Membership Report

1. Since my Conference appointment is to the Department of Religion at Duke, it is there that my major report pertains. My role is basically that of teacher of Religion to undergraduate students at Duke, and I come close to being the last "generalist" in the Department. By that I mean that I teach courses in four separate fields: Old and New Testament, American & European Church History. My emphasis is more on teaching per se, and student relationships, than in research and writing. This fall I have approximately 120 students in Old Testament and another 40 in Church History. Outside of class I will spend an average of three and a half to four hours a day in private conference with students, largely concerning "academic" matters, but often dealing with "personal" concerns.

As an outgrowth of these classroom associations I am periodically called upon to perform marriages (less frequently baptism and funerals) in various parts of the country, and to speak to religious groups and secular organizations on campus. While on occasion I preside at the University Service of Worship and assist in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, I decline invitations to preach in the Chapel.

In summary my work is intensely religious in character, Bible and church oriented in content, and heavily weighted on the side of work with individual undergraduates. I feel this is my calling. I love it, and I work hard at it.

2. My formal ties at Duke University, my former position of Chaplain at Duke University, the history of my relationship to the central and religious administrations at Duke, plus my wife's position as Hostess to the Chapel all have suggested the propriety of my "church" associations with the Duke University Chapel.

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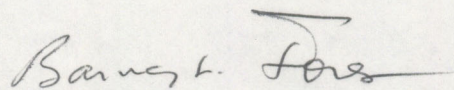
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Mr. Edward F. Smith
September 8, 1976
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My relationship with Duke Memorial United Methodist Church has been on the basis of ad hoc working relationships. Currently I am an assistant teacher in the H. E. Spence Bible Class and for the past several years I have averaged from 4 to 6 Sunday assignments per year. My relationship to the class goes back over 25 years, when I first substituted for H. E. Spence. I have taught in other classes at Duke Memorial and, beyond the memory of most, conducted a week-long revival service-around 1949!

While I do not attend the Sunday services of Duke Memorial, I deeply appreciate the privilege of my "membership" there, and I am grateful for the interest evidenced in the invitation to submit a report for Duke Memorial's November Charge Conference.


Barney L. Jones
Elder, North Carolina
Conference, United Methodist Church

BLJ/dy

My relationship with Duke Memorial United Methodist Church has been on the basis of good working relationships. Currently I am an assistant teacher in the R. E. Spurge Bible Class and for the past several years I have averaged from 4 to 6 Sunday assignments per year. My relationship to the class goes back over 25 years, when I first ministered for R. E. Spurge. I have taught in other classes at Duke Memorial and, beyond the memory of most, conducted a week-long revival service-around 1948!

While I do not attend the Sunday services of Duke Memorial, I deeply appreciate the privilege of my "membership" there, and I am grateful for the interest evidenced in the invitation to submit a report for the November Charge Conference.

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