

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Report of Pastor

The report of the pastor in charge shall include the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items as outlined in the 1984 *Book of Discipline* (§§ 233, 441.3). This report should cover as fully as possible the work of the pastor. Care should be taken not to duplicate the reports of the Council on Ministries, committees, organizations, and officers of the charge. Use the reverse side of this sheet to complete your report. If additional space is needed to present a full report, use extra sheets of white paper the same size as this form.

Duke Memorial Church Duke Memorial Charge
Durham District North Carolina Conference

For the period beginning Nov. 25, 1986, and ending October 5, 1987

I. BAPTISMS

1. Number of infants baptized since last report? 2
1
2. All others: children, youth and adults? _____

II. MEMBERSHIP

3. (a) Who have been received into preparatory membership since the last report? (Record as a supplement.)
 (b) Who have been removed to full membership, to the constituency roll, and otherwise? (Record as a supplement.)
4. Who have been received into *full membership* since the last report? (Record as a supplement.) (a) On confession of faith or restored? (b) From other United Methodist churches? (c) From other denominations?
5. Who have been removed since the last report? (Record as a supplement.) (a) By action of the Charge Conference, withdrawal, or expulsion? (b) By transfer to other United Methodist churches? (c) By transfer to other denominations? (d) By death?

III. MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

6. (a) Total <i>preparatory members</i> on roll last report.....	262	
(b) Preparatory members added since last report.....	2	
(c) Total preparatory members [add lines (a) and (b)].....		264
(d) Deductions: (1) Received into full membership.....	4	
(2) Removed from roll otherwise. <u>2 Tr., 170 Roll Correction</u>	172	
(e) Total deductions [add lines (1) and (2)].....		176
(f) Total <i>preparatory members</i> now on roll [subtract line (e) from line (c)].....		88
		1612
7. (a) Total <i>full members</i> last report.....		
(b) Additions: (1) On confession of faith or restored.....	11	
(2) From other United Methodist churches.....	17	
(3) From other denominations.....	5	
(c) Total additions [add lines (1), (2), (3)].....		33
(d) Gross total <i>full members</i> [add lines (a) and (c)].....		1645
(e) Deductions: (1) By action of the Charge Conference, withdrawal, or expulsion.....	19	
(2) By transfer to other United Methodist churches.....	30	
(3) By transfer to other denominations.....	22	
(4) By death.....	25	
(f) Total deductions [add lines (1) through (4) inclusive].....		96
(g) Total <i>full members</i> [subtract line (f) from line (d)].....		1549

IV. MEMBERSHIP AUDIT

8. Have the membership rolls been audited? (§ 233) _____
9. (a) Who have moved from your community since the last Charge Conference? (Record as a supplement.)
 (b) What has been done to relate them to another church? (Record as a supplement.)

Space below is provided for the minister to report the state of the church and to give an account of pastoral ministry as required by *The Book of Discipline* (§ 441.3). Include as a part of the report a statement outlining the pastor's program of continuing education for the year (§ 446.2).

This state of the church report is not intended to be taken as an in-depth analysis of the church, but, rather, a glance back over recent months and a sharing of some dreams for the future.

The radical corrective measures put into effect at Conference included the replacement of three ministers by one, the reduction of the senior ministers salary by \$10,000, and the termination of two other employees. To some this action represented a pushing of the panic button, but others felt that the declining membership and inability to meet the budget were evidence enough that the church had moved into a purely maintenance mode of operation. Some action had to be taken, and it was. Other indications that all is not well with the church include the failure of the leadership to look realistically at the membership rolls. For many years the Journal membership has been recorded in the region of 1760 persons. It is generally known that that figure is grossly inflated since the average attendance at worship is 250-275 with 200-225 in Sunday School. No one wanted to "grasp the nettle" until Oliver Upchurch began his painstaking work a couple of years ago. The church is indebted to him for this service. The weekly budget continues to show a debit balance of around \$20,000. This is particularly disturbing in view of the corrective measures mentioned earlier. There are Sunday School classes with no teachers and youth work is non-existent. Many young adults with children do not attend worship.

It has been a long, hot summer. Bishop Wilkie's question, "And are we yet alive?" is very pertinent. I believe we are, we are alive and kicking! There are signs here and there of new enthusiasm. We are beginning to dream great dreams again. Attempts are being made to fill staff positions. The Reverend Milford Thumm, retired minister from First Church High Point will work 20-25 hours a week in visitation. Applicants for the program position are presently being interviewed and the concern for a hostess is also being addressed. A newly started "Joy" class is one of the most encouraging things I see and the leaders deserve all the support we can give them. Another hopeful development is the reconstitution of the Evangelism Committee under the guidance of Al Buehler. A well organized response to visitors and prospective members is now in place and will bear fruit in the days ahead. We are blessed to have Omar and Helen Fink who give us such good leadership and are always "going about doing good". The sanctuary choir, under the direction of Jane Lynch, merits a special mention. Never a Sunday passes but I thank God for their gifts freely given. They never fail to enhance our worship service with their hymns of praise. Virginia, Carolyn, Bobby and Donnell are choice employees, and they often go the second mile in the service of the church. As senior minister I believe and preach our doctrines, administer the sacraments and spend much time in the administrative affairs of the church. In addition to the signs of action and renewed hope mentioned above I have to add the Sunday morning prayer group and the beginning of our plans for a Mission to Durham in the spring of 1989.

I believe we are yet alive. Everywhere I go I find people who sincerely love the Lord Jesus and are praying for a new day in the life of their church. Our church plant is second to none - we can worship the Lord in the holiness of beauty. These things, and others, make us a sure bet for growth and renewed mission in today's world. If I were talking stock market I would unhesitatingly encourage you to put your money on Duke Memorial.

Signed _____

Date _____ 19____

(b) for continuation as candidates for ordained ministry (§ 405)?

Name	Address	Telephone
N/A		

15. Who are recommended:

(a) as candidates for the office of Diaconal Minister (§§ 304.2, 304.5)?

Vocation	Name	Address	Telephone
N/A			

(b) for continuation as candidates for the office of diaconal minister (§ 305)?

Vocation	Name	Address	Telephone
N/A			

16. Who are recommended as lay speakers (§ 249.8)?

Name	Address	Telephone
N/A		

VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- 17. Attach a copy of the minutes of any special session of the Charge Conference since its last regular meeting (§ 246.7).
- 18. What date is set, on recommendation of the Administrative Council or Board, for elected personnel of the local church to take office (§ 256.2)?

January 1, 1988

- 19. What other actions are taken by this Charge Conference?

Rolls are in process of being updated.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Wallace H. Kihl , President
Deborah J. Ford , Secretary