

DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES
CHARGE CONFERENCE REPORT
NOVEMBER 17, 1991

The Council on Ministries was reactivated in June of this year. It has four work areas: Nurture, Evangelism, Outreach, and Age Level and Family Ministries. These four areas are responsible for the individual committees of the church's ministry. The Council meets monthly.

Some highlights of our programming year have been the booming of our children's and youth divisions, Faith Sharing support group, church family picnic, several new study groups and Sunday school classes, Laity Sunday, and Holyween. The Administrative Board has been sponsoring monthly congregational luncheons. An upcoming square dance and a full Advent-Christmas celebration schedule has been planned.

Our greatest accomplishment, however, has been our leap of faith. Duke Memorial's programming is not limited to those plans we make in our Council on Ministries meetings. Top priority was given to the our church staff and Duke Memorial's share of the Conference Asking. For our local needs, Council on Ministries carefully had planned \$43,000 worth of programming, about \$7,000 more than in 1990. After the stewardship campaign was completed, the Council on Ministries asked to be limited to the amount of \$15,000, unless more was raised, so we could meet the requirements of our priorities. The blessings of having our ministers, director of music, and assistants in ministry are a gift we could not replace. The connection with our conference and world-wide mission of our church is central to our faith.

Our leap of faith means that all of our programs will be scrutinized carefully and prayerfully considered. We will make some hard decisions about the stewardship of our gifts using the call to Christian discipleship as our standard; we will be challenged to think of financing our church's programs in a new way. God has blessed us with \$15,000 to use, and we will be asking his guidance for it.

As chair of the Council on Ministries, I look forward to a year in which nothing will be taken for granted. I believe God has a plan for us at Duke Memorial and it will be up to us, in concert with our congregation to discover His plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Para R Drake

Para R. Drake, chairperson

