

## WHAT ABOUT THE TURKEY?

Margaret Anne Biddle's strongest epithet was, I think, "turkey". And it was always lovingly applied. I became interested in why such a word would be an epithet. As a speaker of French to my astonishment, I discovered that the word has the same slang sense in French as in English. It is common knowledge that the turkey is one of the least endowed of creatures when one considers brain power. By comparison, chickens are intellectual giants. Perhaps the epithet part of it comes from the feeble brain power of turkeys.

Turkeys have been a part of the scene in North American lore since the first years of Thanksgiving in what we know as New England. Those turkeys were wild turkeys, a far different sort of bird both in brains and in survival ability, from the neatly packaged birds we buy in the market today. Nearly every Thanksgiving season, a photograph of a large gobbler warily eyeing a chopping block and axe appears in our newspapers. Long ago I wondered what a turkey would say about a Thanksgiving feast that involved the bird's life being taken to make a festive, nourishing centerpiece for the table. Some turkeys gobble but so far as we know, none talk. This is not a paragraph suggesting a vegetarian meal on that day. I do want to remind us of the fact that every day of life, all of us are blessed and provision is made for us because of what some one or something gives up for us.

Our opportunity in special giving this Thanksgiving season is support for Meals on Wheels and the St. Phillip's Soup Kitchen - which at Thanksgiving, plans to serve more than soup and sandwiches. Neither project will be able to continue its service to the needy of our community unless we care enough to support them with a gift that represents something of real value to us. Giving to these causes is truly an act of love for no one gets glory or recognition from it. We get simply the sense that we have responded to Jesus' words to us about caring for those in need. The issue is not why they are in need; it is recognition of the fact that these are God's children too, here in our own community, easy to overlook and ignore - though I hope no one of us can sleep well if we do so!

A "turkey" action would be to ignore them. A Christian action is to help them. Get your Thanksgiving offering into loving service by a gift either Sunday, 22 November, Thanksgiving Day (service at 10:00 a. m.) or the following Sunday. Whenever you do it, give in grateful thanks to God for His mercies.

-- Ed Smith

ELECTION OF CHURCH OFFICERS for 1982 was one item of our Charge Conference Tuesday evening, 10 November 1981. A copy of the slate is available upon request from the Church Office. One addition to be made to the list is the post of Assistant Secretary for the Administrative Board. Lynne F. Porter has accepted that task. All who are members of the Administrative Board for 1982 are reminded that they will be installed Sunday morning, 3 January 1982 at the morning worship hour.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle C. White, 3852 Somerset Drive, announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Carlyle, November 3, 1981 at Duke University Medical Center. Mrs. White is the former Deborah Elizabeth Miller. The grandparents are Mrs. L. E. Miller of 1610 University Drive and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. White, Jr. of 804 Hermitage Court Drive.

WHO IS SAINT LUCIA? What has she to do with Christmas? Come to the Family Dinner Sunday, November 29 and find out.

POINSETTIAS for placement in the sanctuary on 13 and 20 December and then for removal to your homes need to be ordered through the Church office not later than 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, 8 December. Please make a check to Duke Memorial for \$10.92 which will cover the plant and sales tax. These plants can be given as memorials or in honour of persons of your choice. Please act now!

ATTENTION BRASS AND WOODWIND PLAYERS - (out of practice or in) - How about forming a band to play carols for shut-ins when we have church-wide caroling on December 20 (Sunday) 6:30 - 8:00? We could meet half an hour earlier to organize. Interested? Leave a message at the church office - 688-1901 - and Jane Lynch will call you back

NOVEMBER 22, 1981

Last Sunday after Pentecost  
The Epistle: 2 Peter 3:8-14  
The Sermon: Wind Up, Start Up!  
Acolytes: Mary Ruth Mixon  
Amy Tilley

Greeters: Mr. and Mrs. James Layne  
Junior Church Leader: Lynn Goodwin

THE BULLETIN  
DUKE MEMORIAL  
METHODIST CHURCH (USPS 553-880)  
504 West Chapel Hill Street  
Durham, N. C. 27701

Second Class Mail  
Paid at  
Durham, N. C.

Postmaster send address changes to Duke Memorial Methodist  
Church, 504 W. Chapel Hill Street, Durham, N. C. 27701

DO YOU ENJOY TAKING CARE OF PRE-SCHOOL TOTS?

Your Health and Welfare Committee proposes a service for parents of young children to enable them to get out of the house for a few hours. To enrich your Advent Season, consider volunteering an hour or two of baby-sitting during the daytime so that parents can go Christmas shopping, run an errand, or just get away from the routine. Call Veora Hoyle, co-ordinator (489-8622).

THE SOUP KITCHEN at St. Phillips seeks contributions of green beans, sweet potatoes and turkey breasts for Thanksgiving dinner. 682-5708 or 489-4678.

HOST HOMES, supported by the Durham Congregations in Action, of which our church is a member, has recently opened a service for relatives of out-of-town patients at Durham County Hospital. Call 684-5531 if you can offer a room or volunteer at the reception desks.

DCIA supports Chaplains for the Oldham and Henderson Centers. They play a large role in sustaining the spiritual and mental health of the residents.

FRESHMEN arriving at Duke in January need Host Families to befriend them. If interested call Ron Robinson, 286-3148.

THE ENERGY INFORMATION OFFICE seeks teams of volunteers to weatherproof some Durham houses on Saturdays from now until December 5. Call Peggy Sanford, 688-9529 or 489-3749.

PLEASE REFER to the Messenger for the week of 15 November for a summary of calendar activities in the period through Christmas.

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS: Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. William Cozart (Bill and June) and their daughter Carol (Tra) who last Sunday became members of Duke Memorial by transfer from Bethany UMC in Durham. They live at 114 Cardiff Place and their telephone is 383-6593. A call, note or a visit of welcome is good for all of us. Please do it!

HOSPITALIZED: DCGH

Ellie Lewis 7319  
Fitzhugh Gamble 6107  
Ethel Kissell 4115

ATTENDANCE: 15 November 1981 (Sunday)

Church School.....251  
Morning Worship.....277

MEMORIALS RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION:

In loving memory of Mrs. Alma Forrester by:  
Miss Sadie M. Taylor

World Hunger

In loving memory of Mrs. Morris Williams by:  
John and Marjorie Grier, Due West, S. C.

THE FALL FESTIVAL was a great success in every way. Dozens of folks worked to make it that way. Thanks are expressed to them as well as to all whose patronage added to the day. Later reports will give further details.

DURHAM DISTRICT CONFERENCE meets Monday evening, 7:30, at Long Memorial UMC, Roxboro. One of the more important functions of District Conferences is action in opening the way for persons who are called of God to enter into the ordained ministry of the United Methodist Church. It is also a time of report making, stock taking and finding where we are as a district. All are invited to attend.

STAYING IN TOWN FOR THANKSGIVING? Then, come to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas Season at a Fellowship Dinner Sunday, November 29 at 6:00 p. m. Only \$2.25 adults, \$1.50 children. The program will appeal to all ages: craft tables, stories about Christmas customs in Europe, illustrated by children and adults in costume, caroling, wassail. And the real St. Nick will be there visiting each table with his pack of goodies!

MOST STUDENTS WILL BE OUT OF TOWN FOR THANKSGIVING. Some have to stay here. Consider inviting one to your family dinner. 684-3737.

BASKETBALL: There will be a meeting of all persons interested in playing basketball on our church teams on Sunday, November 22 at 12:15 p. m. in the Bradshaw Room. All children and youth from ages 7 to 17 are encouraged to attend.

THANKSGIVING DAY (10:00 a. m.)

Worship Service in Sanctuary  
The Scripture: Acts 14:11-18  
The Sermon: Thanks Be To God!  
Preacher: Rev. William A. Haddock, Jr.

CHURCH CALENDAR NOVEMBER 22 - 28, 1981

Sun.	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
	5:00 p. m.	Carol and Junior Choirs
	5:00 p. m.	UMYF
Mon.	7:30 p. m.	Durham District Conference in Roxboro, Long Memorial Church
Wed.	7:00 a. m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast, Whitford Hall
Thurs.	10:00 a. m.	Thanksgiving Day Worship Service in Sanctuary