

DUKE MEMORIAL MESSENGER

VOLUME XVI

JUNE 13, 1982

NUMBER 24

METHODIST MOTIONS AND NOTIONS!

This Messenger should get to you on the day the Annual Conference adjourns. In writing about the sessions in advance, no one will predict what may occur during the reports and debates. It is safe to say that the weather in Fayetteville will be hot and humid, the college dining room noisy with chatter and the accompanying sounds of people enjoying both their meals and the fellowship, the halls crowded with Conference members doing their thing off the floor of the Conference rather than where they might make a serious contribution to the rather formidable task which is faced each year.

The wind-up comes with reading of appointments and a service of Holy Communion. Bishop Cannon takes his full responsibility for these parts of the session. Many of us - maybe all of us - are thankful that the appointment making process is opening up and that though inevitably some are disappointed - some churches, some pastors - we are spared the tension and the trauma that accompanied the "closed cabinet" system. Mistakes are made but usually they are errors of judgement, not of intention. Bishops are not considered infallible in their judgements as to appointments and I suspect that bishops consider that Staff-Parish Relations Committee members and District Superintendents are not infallible either!

No bishop or superintendent will knowingly consent to a bad appointment. Not only is there a matter of personal conscience and Christian commitment involved. There is also the fact that when bad choices are made, it is the bishop and the superintendents who justly receive much criticism and have to seek to correct the whole process. They therefore have a personal interest in the matter. In the same way, no superintendent will gladly welcome into his district a pastor who is known to be incompetent. Pastors come in so many shapes, sizes, and differing profiles of talents that the wonder is not that occasionally something less than superb appointments are made but rather that so often there is a matching of the needs of the congregation and the talents of the pastor.

The appointive system is the basic reason I am a Methodist pastor. The system that brings us to a church is the system that moves us elsewhere. Along the way, our lives are wonderfully blessed and enhanced by the gracious fellowship and loving sharing of life with many persons. We hope you find it the same way. Over the years this system has brought to every Methodist Church in eastern North Carolina at least a fair share of the leadership and service of many able men. Despite all that may be alleged against this system, it is still working with reasonable efficiency and good effect. God bless the memory of John Wesley and all who follow in his train for this way of pulpit supply! We rejoice in it and pray that you do also.

-- Ed Smith

TO THE DUKE MEMORIAL CHURCH FAMILY: We thank you as we thank God for all the kindnesses and gracious acts that you have showered on us during our years at Duke Memorial. For your prayers, your concerns expressed in many ways, for things done for our blessing in ways spiritual as well as ways material, we are grateful. The luncheon on 30 May came near to being an overwhelming experience in the kind words spoken, in many expressions of appreciation and love, and in the most generous gift to us. We express our appreciation to all who were part of the day and especially to all who took the time and made the arrangements for the occasion. Thank you. God bless and keep you always.

-- Janet and Ed Smith

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you would like to put flowers in our sanctuary for a Sunday morning worship service please call the church office, 688 - 1901 or 688-2170. Thank you.

MOVING DAY in the North Carolina Conference is set for Thursday, 17 June. This is an "out and in" system whereby one family leaves in the morning and the incoming family arrives just as soon thereafter as can be arranged. About 175 families will be involved in this Methodist relocation this year.

SUNDAY, 13 JUNE 1982

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher: Dr. Cecil W. Robbins

A BOOK entitled THE LITTLE PRINCESS by Antoine de Saint-Exupey (a childrens' classic) has been given to the Margaret Far Cannon Library by Ginger Massey in loving memory of Miss Edna May Blumenthal who died May 11, 1982.

DR. JOHN WALKER will be teaching the Open Door Class Sunday, June 13. An invitation is extended to all; join us in the Bradshaw Room at 9:45 a. m.

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

To Mr. Smith, the minister; to the members of the Open Door Class; and to all the members of Duke Memorial Church:

First, we would like to thank you very much for your kindness and helpfulness to us during the last eight months. You have made our lives better in many ways:

- by preparing a comfortable place for us to live,
- by providing clothing for all of the family,
- by finding work for me and my son,
- by entering the children in school,
- by taking the grown-ups to English classes and baby-sitting with the children,
- by looking after our health with shots, medicine, and visits to the doctor and the dentist,
- by making sure that we had enough food and enough money to pay our bills,
- by explaining to us the American customs we did not understand,
- and by helping us to be happy in our first American home.

We wish to say goodbye to Mr. Smith, the Open Door Class, and all of the Duke Memorial people who have become our friends. We shall miss you greatly, and will have happy remembrances of you.

We wish you well, and may God bless you!

-- Saman Seng Family

June 1, 1982

MAKE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL part of your summer plans. If you like lots of fun and fellowship, put July 26 - 30 on your calendar. Duke Memorial's VBS will meet on the third story of the education building Monday through Friday from 9:00 a. m. until 11:30 a. m. for ages 2 - 18. Those not in that age group are invited to come and share a talent (even reading a story is a talent) or just come and visit. The doors will be open for anyone interested in seeing what Duke Memorial VBS 1982 is all about.

-- Tamela Davis

P. S. More later about special VBS plans for junior and senior highs.

LET'S COMMUNICATE: Ice Cream Social

"I scream, you scream
Let's all scream, for
Ice Cream!

Date: Sunday, June 20, 1982

Time: 5:00 p. m.

Place: Duke Memorial Church Grounds

Let's give our new minister a warm welcome with a cool treat!

(Surprise entertainment provided by Sr. UMYF)

CHURCH CALENDAR JUNE 13 - 19, 1982

Sun.	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:55 a. m.	Morning Worship
	5:00 p. m.	UMYF
Tues.	7:45 p. m.	Administrative Board, Bradshaw Room
Wed.	10:00 a. m.	Fall Festival Workshop Whitford Hall

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Many household items that were donated by members of the church will not be taken to Texas by the Seng family because of the lack of space. If anyone wishes to have any of these items returned please contact Tom Adkinson at 383-1167. Tentative plans call for a yard sale in the near future to dispose of articles not reclaimed by the donor. Money received through this yard sale will go to the Good Samaritan Fund.