

504 W. Chapel Hill St.
 Durham, NC 27701
 Mark W. Wethington,
 Senior Pastor
 Lisa Brown Cole,
 Associate Pastor
 919 • 683 • 3467



INSIGHTS

INTO DISCIPLESHIP.

DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

John Wesley, who, along with his brother Charles, led the renewal movement within the Church of England in the 18th century which eventuated in the formation of the Methodist Church, wrote these words in his journal on January 1, 1775: "It was an occasion for a variety of spiritual experiences . . . I do not know that ever we had a greater blessing. Afterwards many desired to return thanks, either for a sense of pardon, for full salvation, or for a fresh manifestation of His graces, healing all their backslidings."

Wesley wrote these words with reference to a Sunday morning service of Covenant Renewal. In London, these services were usually held on New Year's Day. The heart of the service, as noted in our UM Book of Worship, is focused in the Covenant Prayer, and, requires persons to commit themselves to God. This covenant is to be taken with the utmost seriousness and should be taken with us after this coming Sunday's service and renewed by each of us throughout the coming year. The Wesleyan Covenant Prayer will be included within the bulletin this Sunday and you are encouraged to sign and date this prayer and keep it before you for constant prayer throughout the months of the coming year. At one point the prayer says, "I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal." May this indeed be our commitment as we enter into another calendar year (although, let us not forget that the Christian year began four weeks ago!).

We don't hear the term "backsliding" much anymore, but perhaps we should bring it back into frequent use! Certainly we are all guilty of falling back from where we should be in our Christian discipleship; we live in a culture which in many ways pulls us away from faithful following after Christ. As we worship together this Sunday we ardently pray that the Holy Spirit may be our constant strength and courage in the year ahead to love and serve Christ in even more faithful and earnest ways. Grace and peace to you all.

Mark

ISSUE 1

JANUARY 4, 1998

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS FIRST FOOD SUNDAY

8:45 - 9:25 a.m.	Early Worship - Bradshaw Room
9:30 a.m.	Logos Class - Bradshaw Room
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
10:15 a.m.	Sanctuary Choir - Sanctuary
10:30 a.m.	Ringling of the Tower Bells
10:55 a.m.	Worship Service - Sanctuary
12:00 noon	INSIGHTS Information Due
	(1/11-1/17) Church Secretary's Box
	NO DMYF
5:30 p.m.	NO Youth Sacred Dance
7:15 - 8:15 p.m.	12 Step Al-Anon and A.A. -
8:00 p.m.	Community Life Center

SERMON: Mark W. Wethington

ANTHEM: (Sanctuary Choir)

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12
 Matthew 2:1-12; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

USHERS: Bill and Judy Coman, Captains; Jeff Bailey, Don Bilski, Eilene Bisgrove, Randy Bollinger, Donna Elium, Richard Grogan, Leland Phelps, Bill Stone, David Tillotson.

GREETERS:	ACOLYTES:
Ran Few	Neil Grogan
Shirley Few	Matthew Bailey
NURSERY:	Brad Bailey
Ann Stallings	CROSS:
Sid & Julie Allen	Kevin Grogan
Winnie Kaspar	ALTAR GUILD:
Curt & Elisabeth Luck	Mary Lee Bailey
	Marcia Grogan

**REMEMBER THE EUCHARIST SERVICE
 HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 8:45 A.M.
 IN THE BRADSHAW ROOM
 JANUARY 4 - MARK W. WETHINGTON,
 PREACHING**

CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED

**CHURCH CALENDAR
JANUARY 5 - JANUARY 10, 1998**

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
10:00 a.m. NO Staff Meeting - Joy Room
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Disciple III - Parlor
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Preteen and A.A. -
Community Life Center

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
9:15 - 11:15 a.m. Disciple I - Katie Johnson Room
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Teen and A.A. -
Community Life Center

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
9:15 a.m. Wkday. Sch. Parents Council - Parlor
10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Fold "INSIGHTS" - Whitford
10:00 - 1:00 p.m. Craft/Lunch Bunch - Whitford
5:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Supper -
Kitchen and Whitford Hall

LOVE FEAST

6:15 p.m. Carol Choir - Choir room
6:15 p.m. Wesley Singers - Open Door
6:15 p.m. Cov. Discipleship - R.N. Wilson
6:15 p.m. Cov. Discipleship - Parlor
6:25 p.m. Cov. Discipleship - Prayer room
6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry - M.P. Gates
7:15 - 8:00 p.m. NO Children Sacred Dance
7:30 p.m. Bethany Bells - Handbell Room

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

7:45 - 8:45 a.m. Cov. Discipleship - Parlor
9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Thursday Study Group - Joy Class
7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon and A.A. -
Community Life Center

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

9:15 a.m. Wesley Heritage Board

MARY AND MARTHA CLASS

We will continue *Having the Mind of Christ* by Miller and Cole-Dai. Please come and join us for the journey at 9:45 a.m. on Sundays in the Mrs. R. N. Wilson Room.

January 4 - Days 113 - 119
January 11 - Days 120 - 126
January 18 - Days 127 - 133
January 25 - Days 134 - 140

ANGELS OF THE DANCE

Duke Memorial's sacred dance group, Angels of the Dance, welcomes all third, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders interested in expressing their love of God through dance to join our group. We meet Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 8:30 (immediately following children's choir). Our next meeting will be January 14. Transportation to/from practice each week is available. For more information, please call Shelley Turkington, 382-2894. Come join us and experience the fun and faith of dancing for God!

SINGLES EVENTS

On **Sunday, January 11** after 11:00 am Worship Service we will eat lunch together.
Contact Person: Tom McCauley (688-3698)

On **Friday, January 23** Covered Dish Dinner & Movie Night at Donna and Sandy Elium's Home.
Contact Persons: Donna Elium, Sandy Elium (471-3567 and Alisa Cobb (220--5475)

MEALS ON WHEELS OF DURHAM

Meals on Wheels of Durham is in urgent need of volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound for the winter months. One hour of your time can make a huge difference!! Please call the retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at 686-3314.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF 1998, JANUARY 4 IS
PROJECT AGAPE SUNDAY**

We are again asking every church in the North Carolina Conference to make the first Sunday in the new year Project AGAPE Sunday. Many churches celebrate the Wesley Covenant Service that day. Project AGAPE provides us with a wonderful way to give immediate expression to that service. Your offering that day, and your contributions throughout the year, enable us to meet our commitments to the Armenian Apostolic Church and enables our servant ministries with children and refugees. The ministries there are those with which the Wesley brothers and all Methodists since have been most closely identified - feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, providing health care for the sick, shelter for the cold and education for all who will take advantage of it. In the coming months, we will see the opening of the Church of the Ascension (built in part with a Ten Dollar Club overseas grant), the opening of two more satellite clinics and the opening of the AGAPE Christian Education Center in Berdzof.

As the country moves toward greater stability, the ministry is moving in new directions. We no longer need candles for lighting and clothing is not as great a priority as it once was. The people there are transitioning from total dependence to a developing (albeit very slowly according to our standards) economy. The challenges are different but still significant. In many ways, your help is more crucial than ever. We have sent three workteams this past year and are looking forward to more in 1998. A bulletin insert will be sent to every pastor in the near future. Please remember Project AGAPE in 1998.

STEPHEN MINISTERS

On Wednesday, January 7, both Stephen Ministry Groups will attend the Love Feast in Whitford Hall and then have supervision in our regular place.

If you know of anyone who is going through a transition in their life or who needs someone to talk to, let Mark, Lisa, Ann, or Blaine Butterworth know. Stephen Ministers care.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Birthdays:

- Jan. 4 Chip Browning
Cathy Sorgi
Jan. 5 Emily Allen
Jonathan Moore
Jan. 6 Becky Carver
Jordan Searles
Jan. 7 Jansen Averett
Anne Garrard
Jan. 8 Dotty Ritchie
Amy Sears
Jan. 9 Ed Hammond
Jan. 10 Bob Rumpf

At the time INSIGHTS was put to press no one from Duke Memorial was hospitalized. Please remember in your prayers the following people who are at home:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Charlotte Allen | Helen Harrell |
| Donald Browning | Ruth Holsinger |
| Tommy Cash | Olive Jenkins |
| Sallie Dennis | Virginia Massey |
| Melanie Gray & Family | Oliver Upchurch |

Congratulations to Mark and wife, Caroline Medlin, who graduated with honors from N.C. State University on December 17, 1997. They will be remaining in the Raleigh area. Mark is the son of Charles and Catherine Medlin.

THE NEW UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES

The *UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES* have been a long standing resource for daily devotions and DMUMC has The *Upper Room Disciplines 1998* available at \$8.00 a copy. There will be opportunities to purchase copies before and after the 10:55 a.m. Sunday morning worship service in the weeks ahead. Be on the lookout for other opportunities as well (i.e. Wonderful Wednesdays, upcoming meetings, etc.). If you've been meaning to get into the routine of daily devotion, but just haven't had the time to get an appropriate resource - here's your chance!

PUTTING THE CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Thanks so much for going caroling with us! We had a record number of carolers - 15 in one group and 13 in another group - who brought Christ to others at Christmas. The leaders of the six groups were Amy Kellum, Mark and Bobbi Wethington, Blaine Butterworth, Nancy Stark, Laney Funderburk, and Ann Stallings.

The Open Door Class and the Middle School Joy Class helped set up for the luncheon. We wish to thank them for their hard work, and the people who brought extra ham and turkey for their contributions. Especially we thank Joyce Musselwhite, Donna and Sandy Elium, who stayed late to help Sam McPhadden clean up after the lunch. We appreciate George Davis at Stone Bros. who gives us a special price on the poinsettias for shut-ins each year - they were beautiful!

DURHAM DISTRICT JANUARY WORKSHOPS

The Durham District January Workshops will be held on Monday, January 12, 1998 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Duke Memorial. Babysitting will be provided. The following classes will be offered:

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| Organizing The Work of Church
(Ad. Board, Ad. Council, COM) | Rev. Johnny Branch |
| Guiding Age-Level Ministries:
Adult, Youth, Children, Family | Rev. Bob Huckaby |
| Lay Leaders | Ms. Gloria McAuley |
| Leading as Pastor | Rev. Albert Schuler |
| Managing your Church's Finances | Ms. LaNella Smith |
| Mobilizing the Small Church for Ministry
(N.O.W.) | Rev. Kevin Baker |
| Managing your Church's Assets
(Trustees) | Rev. Ray Gooch |
| Communicating your Message | Ms. Becky Balentine |
| Ten Dollar Club | Rev. Dr. Steve Compton |
| Church Web Pages | Rev. Vickie Pruett |
| Social Ministry:
How to Identify Goals, Pursue Them
Achieve Them | Ms. Janice Nicholson |

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY NEWS

The next Wonderful Wednesday will be held on **January 7, 1998.** Please call the church office, 683-3467, before noon on Monday, January 5, if you plan to be here for our Wonderful Wednesday Meal on January 7. Menu: Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Snap beans, Rolls, & Hushpuppies. If you wish to be put on the Regular's List, please sign up in the church office. If you have signed up for the Regular's List and are not able to be here, please call to cancel. The cost of this year's meals is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 12 years old.

THE LOVE FEAST WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

Several years ago we began here at Duke Memorial a tradition of starting off another year of ministry activities with a Love Feast in the Methodist tradition. Our 1998 Love Feast will be held on Wednesday evening, Jan. 7, beginning at 6:15 p.m., following the 5:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Family Dinner.

This event is for everyone - from the youngest to the oldest! This "feast of love" is an informal gathering in the fellowship hall for a time of singing, sharing, expressing privately or publicly any thanksgiving for the year that is past, or the opportunity to witness to your life or faith in any way. Nothing is formally planned except to share and sing. During this time we will share together some juice and Moravian cookies. We will conclude by around 7:15 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer opportunities include: Advocate for Battered Women, Resource Coordinators - Tutors, Food Pantry Coordinator, Food Pick Up Helper, Adolescent Parent Mentor, Exercise Buddy - more information about each of these positions is posted on the bulletin board. Call the Volunteer Center of Greater Durham at 688-8977 to volunteer.

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church
504 W. Chapel Hill Street
Durham, North Carolina 27701-3102
Phone: (919) 683-3467
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FINANCIAL UPDATE!

The "year-end" financial closing date for 1997 has been set. Please note the following:

- We will close the books on 1997 contributions on Sunday, January 11.
- Any funds received after this date must be posted as a 1998 contribution.
- If you write a check for a 1997 contribution in January, please make sure you date the check December 31, 1997 and note on it that it is for a 1997 contribution.

The church needs to receive approximately \$80,000 during December to pay all of our mission responsibilities and other bills. Please try to bring your pledge up to date and consider a year end "second mile" gift. With each of you doing your part, together we can finish the year in joyous celebration of faithful financial stewardship.

IN MEMORY OF...

In memory of all the food we've eaten over the holidays, remember to bring your contribution for the Durham Mission Society on Sunday, January 4th. We will be providing cereal, grits, and oatmeal for the mission society this month. Please leave your donation of food on the altar rail before the 11 o'clock service.

Thanks - John Legge

STAFF PARISH

Bishop Edwards has invited Bob Irvine and all the newly ordained Deacons to participate in an educational trip to the Holy Land in February 1998. The Bishop has invited each participant's church to contribute \$500 toward the cost of the trip. If anyone in the congregation would like to contribute to Bob's trip, please note it special with your offering, or send it to the church office.

The Staff Parish met on December 15th to complete the 1997 clergy evaluation. The official evaluation form will be signed by the Staff Parish committee and the Staff and sent to the District Superintendent by December 31st.