

Ruth Harper Stevens,  
Senior Pastor

Lisa Brown Cole,  
Associate Pastor

Robert J. Irvine,  
Minister of Music / Worship

Ann C. Stallings,  
Assistant in Ministry



# INSIGHTS

## INTO DISCIPLESHIP

DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

919 • 683 • 3467

### MINISTER'S MESSAGE

#### Signs of Our Times

If I were to ask you, "What are the signs of the times which tell us that Jesus is coming?", you might answer, "peace, love, kindness, and faithfulness." That's a logical response but not a biblical one.

Jesus says the signs of his nearness are seen in distress (Luke 21:25). Albert Schweitzer acknowledged this by stating, "He will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings..."

It is only as we are in touch with the utter confusion and hopelessness of our existence that we understand the hope of Christ. It takes hitting rock bottom for many people to come to the moment of personal salvation.

Distress for Christians should signal, not defeat, but victory. Yes, we "mourn in lonely exile here [but only] until the Son of God appears."

The signs of torment and sickness are all around. But so is the one great sign that has ultimate power over all other signs. "This shall be a sign unto you." God gave us a sign and in so doing, God signed so hard that sign took flesh and blood. The sign of God's presence lives and moves among us full of grace and truth and the powers of death and hell shall not prevail against it.



"For unto you is born...  
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:11

ISSUE 43

### DECEMBER 20, 1998 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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
12:15 p.m.	Luncheon & Caroling - WH
5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Ministry Worship Service - BR
8:00 p.m.	12 Step Al-Anon and A.A. - Community Life Center

**SERMON:** Lisa Brown Cole

**ANTHEM:** Sanctuary Choir

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:18-25; Isaiah 7:10-16

**USHERS:** Tom Hargitt, Captain; Vernon Averett, Herschel Caldwell, Jr., Bob Cox, George Davis, Holly Eggleston, Neal and Susan Grubbs, Ed Hammond, Chris Howlett, Malcolm Isley, Dave McMillan, Bill Sewell, Bob Weynand, Tom Worsley.

**GREETERS:**

Bill Coman  
Judy Coman

**NURSERY:**

Susan & Jason Belue  
Gretchen Parker  
Louise & Steed Rollins

**VAN DRIVER:**

Tim Nifong

**ACOLYTES:**

Elisabeth Nifong  
Hannah Moore

**CROSS:**

Tim Nifong

**ALTAR GUILD:**

Heather Wilson  
Linda Wilson  
Ann Yarley

**REMEMBER THE EUCHARIST SERVICE  
HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 8:45 A.M.  
IN THE BRADSHAW ROOM  
DECEMBER 20, 1998  
LISA BROWN COLE, PREACHING**

**CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED**

**CHURCH CALENDAR  
DECEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 25, 1998**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 21**

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Joy Class  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. NO Stephen Ministry Training - KJR  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Teen and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22**

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23**

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
5:30 p.m. NO Wonderful Wednesday Activities

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED - CHRISTMAS EVE**

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
9:30 - 11:00 a.m. NO Step Forward - KJR  
11:00 - 12:15 p.m. NO Thursday Study Group - Parlor  
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. Hispanic Ministry Service - BR  
7:30 p.m. NO Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out - Nurseries  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

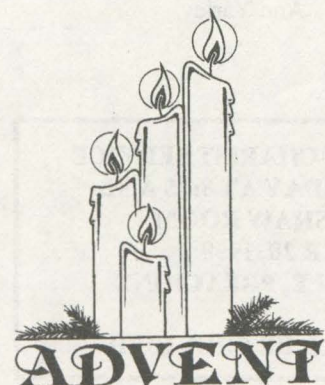
**MARY AND MARTHA CLASS**

The Mary and Martha class continue their discussion of *When the Heart Waits* by Sue Monk Kidd. Listed below are the readings for the following Sundays:

December 20	pp. 145-154
December 27	pp. 154-166
January 3	pp. 166-176

**SHROUD TELEVISION PROGRAM**

There will be an excellent hour television program on the Shroud of Turin on Monday evening, 21 December, on The Learning Channel entitled "In Pursuit of the Shroud." Part of it was shot in Durham and incorporates some of the work of Alan and Mary Whanger.



**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

**Calling All Children!**

Bring your parents and come Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 20th. We will have a covered-dish lunch in Whitford Hall and go out singing to our church members who can't get out. Older folks love children, so please come!

**WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS**

Please note there will **not** be Wonderful Wednesday activities on December 16, December 23 or December 30. The Wonderful Wednesday schedule will resume on January 6, 1999.

**HONDURAS RELIEF**

If you would like to make a donation to aid the victims of the hurricane, please make a check out to Duke Memorial and indicate on the check that it is for "Honduras Hurricane."

**VOLUNTEER CENTER POSITIONS**

The Volunteer Center is seeking Holiday Volunteers for the following jobs: Tree of Remembrance Helpers, Friendly Visitors, Substitute Meal Carriers, Foster Parent Holiday Helpers, Caregiver Assistant. For more information see the flyer posted on the bulletin board or call the Volunteer Center at 688-8977.

**NOTIFY THE CHURCH OF ILLNESS, ETC.**

If you or your Sunday School class know of anyone's being ill or in the hospital or having lost a loved one, please call the church office. We want to minister to our people in times of hardship.

**NEW YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM**

The Breakfast Club is a new study and fellowship group for Young Adults, ages 18-30, which starts Sunday, January 10, 1999 at 9:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast. Marge Clark will be leading the group. The first nine weeks the group will study the book of Genesis. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining this group, please call the church office (683-3467) so we may send you more information.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Birthdays:

Dec 20 - Jan 2  
Dec. 20 Joyce Myers  
Harry Rodenhizer  
Dec. 21 Donald Browning  
RUBY Haywood  
Phyllis Ponder  
Carlton Rollins  
Mathew Strangman  
Dec. 22 Holly Eggleston  
Nancy Stark  
Dec. 23 Bill Hoover  
Dec. 24 Eric McFall  
Gretchen Parker  
Dec. 25 Chris Howlett  
Dec. 26 Doris Bridges  
Dec. 27 Matthew Celko  
Amy Johnson  
Dec. 28 Cindy Horn  
Dec. 30 Dan Guth  
Jeanna Kaspar  
Dec. 31 Lee Ann Gelinne  
Jan. 1 Sarah Fisher  
Kathryn Howlett  
Juanita Stott  
Jan. 2 Pat Coman  
Jenny Glasson  
Jean Joklik

At the time INSIGHTS was put to press Helen Bowles (Rm. 7302) and Rhoda Fitzpatrick (Rm 5107) were hospitalized at Durham Regional Hospital. Leland Phelps (Rm. 2116) and Sally Stenland (Rm. 7325) were hospitalized at Duke.

Please remember in your prayers the following people who are at home:

Paula Allen  
Melanie Gray & Family  
Neal Grubbs  
Tim Harrell

Martha Hawley  
Winfred Hawley  
Melinda Murphy  
Ruth Phelps  
Norman Smith

## CHANGE FOR STEPHEN MINISTRY

The new class of Stephen Ministers will meet on Tuesday, January 5th, at 6:30 p.m. instead of Monday, January 4th, at 7:00 p.m. The reason for the change is securing a wonderful speaker, Dr. Linda Jordan, from Hospice. Stephen Ministers from the congregation at Duke Chapel will join us.

## THANK YOU FROM THE YOUTH

Thank you to Kevin and Julie Witte and Blaine Butterworth and Phyllis Ponder for hosting our Youth for our Progressive Supper and Christmas Party.

## LEAP OF FAITH

Dust off your dancing shoes. The Duke Memorial Sacred Dancers will begin practicing in January for the 1999 calendar year. If you are interested in joining the children (grade 3-7), youth (grades 8-12), or adult dance groups, please contact Shelley Turkington (382-2894). Keep a watch in Insights for practice dates and times. Join us!

## CHURCH CALENDAR

DECEMBER 28, 1998 - JANUARY 1, 1999

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out  
10:00 a.m. NO Staff Meeting - Joy Class  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. NO Stephen Ministry Training  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Ala-Teen and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon and A.A. -Comm. Life Ctr.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out  
10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Fold "INSIGHTS" - Whitford  
10:00 - 1:00 p.m. Craft/Lunch Bunch - Whitford  
5:30 p.m. **No Wonderful Wednesday**  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. NO Stephen Ministry - M.P. Gates

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out  
9:30 - 11:00 a.m. NO Step Forward - KJR  
11:00 - 12:15 p.m. NO Thursday Study Group - Parlor  
7:30 p.m. NO Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 - OFFICE CLOSED

9:15 - 1:00 p.m. NO Parents' Morning Out  
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Al-Anon and A.A. -  
Community Life Center

## SENIOR ADULTS MINISTRY

January 13, 1999, 11:30 a.m.

Covered Dish Luncheon in Whitford Hall

The program will feature Durham's Chief of Police, Theresa Chambers. January birthdays will be celebrated. Bring a neighbor. For help in transportation, call the church office or 382-2544. Please reserve your second Wednesdays through May for good fellowship and interesting programs!

## WHITE CHRISTMAS THANKS

Granddaddy Angel and all his grandchildren did a wonderful job of telling the story of the birth of Jesus. The play was written for our church by our very own Ellen Metcalf.

Granddaddy Angel was played by Omar Fink, and the little angels were Alissa Hutto, Laurie Pope, David Hutto, Jonathan Moore, Luke Allen, Andrea Moore, and Hannah Moore, Shelley and Emily Turkington were Mary and baby Jesus, and Cody Schuler was Joseph.

Musicians were first-grader Chloe Pope-Levison, soloist, Becky Nifong and Catherine Coman, instrumentalists and Bob Irvine, pianist.

Dan and Bill Nifong drew delightful manger scenes for the program cover. Special help came from Milly Isley, Anna Blair, Mae, John, Robin, and Tim Langford.

Susan Grubbs, Holly Speight, and Julie Allen organized the reception, which was a big job. Santa Claus gave out candy canes to all the children there.

Our prayers go out to Neal Grubbs, and his family and Sally Stenland, who were unable to be there because of illness. We love you!

Thanks to all of you who brought food for the reception and the families who brought over 100 gifts for the under-privileged children.

**Duke Memorial United Methodist Church**  
**504 W. Chapel Hill Street**  
**Durham, North Carolina 27701-3102**  
**Phone: (919) 683-3467**  
**Fax: (919) 682-3349**

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**SINGLES EVENTS**

**Sunday, December 20** - congregational potluck lunch and Christmas caroling to shut-ins.  
 Contacts: Ann Bowen 383-8016 (h) or 684-2894 (w)  
 Blanche Fischer 471-3423

**Thursday, December 31** - 9:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.  
 Singles New Year's Eve Party at Providence Baptist Church, 6339 Glenwood Ave, NW Raleigh  
 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. Coffee House and Comedy  
 11:00 - 12:15 a.m. Praise Band and More  
 12:20 - 2:00 a.m. Dancing with the DJ  
 Tickets \$10 available at Sign of the Fish Bookstores  
 For more information call  
 The Singles Network at 460-9989

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1998**

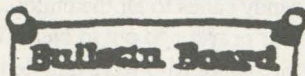
Attendance:

Sunday School	232
Worship 11:00 a.m.	310
Worship 8:45 a.m.	16

Record of Stewardship:

Received 12/13/98	\$ 11,934
Received Y-T-D	\$ 409,869
Needed Y-T-D	\$ 482,700

**YOUTH NEWS**



**December 20** - Caroling with the Congregation

**December 27** - NO DMYF

**DECEMBER 27, 1998**  
**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

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.	Ringin' of the Tower Bells
10:55 a.m.	Worship Service - Sanctuary
12:00 noon	INSIGHTS Information Due (1/3-1/9) Church Secretary's Box
5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Ministry Worship Service - BR
5:30 p.m.	NO DMYF - Youth Rooms
8:00 p.m.	12 Step Al-Anon/A.A.-Comm. Life Ctr.

**SERMON:** Ruth Harper Stevens

**EARLY SERVICE:** Ruth Harper Stevens

**ANTHEM:** Sanctuary Choir

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 148; Isaiah 63:7-9  
 Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

**USHERS:** same as last week, see front page

**GREETERS:** **ACOLYTES:**  
 Youth Andrea Moore  
 Rebecca Nifong

**NURSERY:** **CROSS:**  
 Barbara & Tad DeBerry Barry Moore  
 Dana & Todd Pope

Emily & Randy Few **ALTAR GUILD:**  
 Heather Wilson

**VAN DRIVER:** Linda Wilson  
 Steve Guerrant Ann Yarley

**UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES**

The UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES have been a long standing resource for daily devotions and DMUMC will have the *Upper Room Disciplines 1999* available at \$9.00 a copy very soon. If you would like to reserve a copy, please contact the church office.