Dear Members of the Administrative Board,

Last spring, with your approval, the Council on Ministries adopted the theme "Become Involved" for the year 1979. It is now time to plan ways to carry out that theme. In the Council meeting on August 23, after much discussion, we came to the conclusion that the following two objectives sum up all the areas of growth and activity which, in God's name and under His guidance, we should be and do at Duke Memorial:

1. Strengthen spiritual growth of persons,
2. Reach out in care and concern.

The Council will be meeting on September 8 and 9 to list goals under these objectives. By "objective" we mean a direction; by "goal" we mean a step toward that direction. By the end of our planning retreat, we hope to have for each objective a list of goals which are very specific, concise, and attainable. For each goal we will state what it is, who will be responsible for implementation, and when it will be done.

At our next Administrative Board meeting on September 12, on behalf of the Council on Ministries, I will present to you for your consideration these two objectives and all of the goals under each of them which will come from the Council planning retreat. It will be greatly appreciated if before the September 12 meeting you will give careful thought to the theme and the objectives, and come prepared with your own suggestions for ways of carrying them out. In this way the Board will be able to accept, with whatever modifications it may wish, the objectives and goals for 1979, and thus carry out its responsibility to set the objectives and goals of the church program.

We have been entrusted with the awesome and precious responsibility of directing the witness and work of our Lord in and through that part of His body which is Duke Memorial. Let us accept it with joy and humility, and daily seek to be more open to His leading.

Yours in Christ,

Mary Whanger
Chairman, Council on Ministries