

# Members dizzy over first year celebration of UMC

BY MARY BETH PHILLIPS

"Junebug" and "Dizzy" were doing more than clowning around at the first anniversary celebration of Disciple United Methodist Church on Sunday, Nov. 15.

The two church members were introducing a new ministry to the church, that they have been planning and working on for months.

During the service, which is held in the multi-purpose room at Morrisville Elementary School each Sunday, members gave testimony of what membership in the new church has meant to them, and the clowns performed two skits which delighted the children in the congregation.

The first skit was done in pantomime while the song "People Need the Lord," played in the background. Junebug was sorting blocks with words such as "hate," "despair," and "greed" while Dizzy tried unsuccessfully to interact with her.

Finally Dizzy brought a Bible and a rose, and Junebug began turning the blocks over to reveal words like "love," "hope," and "sharing." Together the two clowns built a tower with the new blocks, and placed the Bible and rose on top.

The second skit was done during the children's portion of the service, before the children were dismissed to do other activities in the "Kid's Kingdom." The clowns had inherited a mine, and began digging things up to see if there was any value in it. Money, fame and things owned turned out to each be worth two cents, but the last thing dug up was love, with a value "too great to mention."

The clowns are really June Colon

and Casey Cooley, who both have previous experience as clowns. Ms. Cooley has been involved in clowning for several years, but always hoped to focus it on a clowning ministry. Ms. Colon has taken training and been clowning since this summer.

Their new ministry is called "Creative Ministries," and besides clowning will include puppets, mimes and drama.

The Rev. Stuart Milton, who has enjoyed the more casual atmosphere of his new church, said he hopes to involve the new ministry in his services often.

When Milton opened up the floor for comments from members, Mary Ann Windon said having a church in a school requires "a few sacrifices on Sunday morning, but it's been a fulfilling experience. We are beginning the foundation of something that will be in the community a long time."

Pam Messina said she has made a lot of friends at the church, which she considers as family now. "I've learned a lot more about God, and come closer to God now," she added.

"The Lord has really planted this church and made it grow," said Suvas Chintis.

Tom Sandwick said he wanted to mention the greatest thing about the church, its name. "We are all disciples, reaching out to the community, reaching out to others, feeling the love and outreach that the church provides, and learning to project that ourselves."

Lots of music and singing went on through the service, led by Milton's wife, Teresa, who, who played the piano

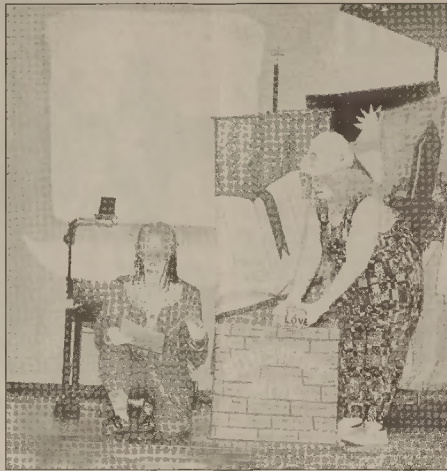


Photo by Mary Beth Phillips

**CREATIVE CLOWNING**—Dizzy (left) and Junebug introduced a new "Creative Ministry" to the year-old Disciple United Methodist Church, which holds services in the Morrisville Elementary School.

and conducted a small choir.

Milton's sermon was about the strength of a spider web, with the analogy that Jesus made a web of love in his ministry years ago which continues today. He concluded by throwing a ball of yarn out into the congregation, which members caught and threw on to other members, creating their own web of love. Cake and ice cream and party hats

were distributed after the service.

The church has been meeting for one year, and has about 50 members.

Milton came to Morrisville from a more formal, downtown, church in Norlina. He has two children, ages 8 and 5.

For more information about Disciple United Methodist Church, call Milton at 363-5700.

## Every Sunday we build a church

BY MARY ANN WINDON

Every Sunday we build a church. I say this because it describes what happens every Sunday morning, because we don't yet have a church; we have two rooms in a school.

In order to have Sunday School for children, youth and adults, conduct worship and provide a place for young children during each activity, it's necessary to "build a church...every Sunday."

This kind of undertaking requires significant commitment by members. Just about every family takes some responsibility for bringing articles and materials necessary to transform an auditorium into a sanctuary and a cafeteria into a Sunday School room and nursery. Every Sunday we unpack an area rug, a lectern, candles, a cross, a table cloth, a folding table, several signs, hymnals, sound equipment and boxes and boxes (and boxes) of additional material like choral music, Sunday School material, children's toys, the Sunday bulletin, name tags, and of course, coffee, refreshments and all the fixin's.

People start arriving at the school (oops, I mean church) about 8:30 a.m. to set up chairs in the auditorium and move the piano from its storage into place. A few minutes later an altar appears with a large cross in the center and candles on each side. Sound system speakers are set up on the stage along with

microphones for the choir and the minister, and the sound balance is conducted. Added to the stage are four flags with various Christian symbols for background, an overhead projector with overheads and miscellaneous papers used for the service. In the meantime, chairs are also set up in the back of the auditorium for the adult Sunday School class, which starts at 9 a.m.

Out in the hallway, three other tables are set up, one to provide information on current missions and activities, another has coffee and refreshments, and on still another, the Sunday bulletins, nametags and pens. Chairs have also been set up in the hallway for a Youth Sunday School class and in the cafeteria the rug is laid down with portable cribs and children's toys alongside awaiting young visitors for the morning. Tables are open to set up a Children's Sunday School class for Children's Church. At 10 a.m. we are ready to worship.

It's a unique experience to transform an empty hall into a house of God. It's fulfilling to know you are establishing a church that will serve the community and its families for years to come. It's a lot of work each Sunday morning but it is also meaningful. I am not a writer, but I wanted to make it interesting because it is a great experience to build a church and I know we make a difference in people's lives.

## Local student featured on brochure cover

Six-year-old liver transplant recipient Kara Thio of Cary and her mother, Victoria, are on the front cover of a new brochure being distributed this month to medical professionals and hospitals throughout eastern North Carolina.

The brochure is designed to alert medical professionals about the "Gift of Life Act," which encompasses amendments to the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act. The amendments are designed to provide more families with the opportunity to donate organs and help eliminate the critical shortage of organs for the more than 1,700 people waiting for life-saving transplants in North Carolina.

As an infant, Kara had a disease that closes the bile ducts and affects

the liver. She received a liver transplant when she was eight months old. She is now a first grader at Morrisville Elementary School and enjoys gymnastics and playing the piano.

"We are extremely grateful to Kara's donor family for their courage and compassion in making it possible for our daughter to be alive today," Mrs. Thio said.

The "Gift of Life Act" amendments clarify the organ and tissue donation referral process for hospitals, health care professionals and the three organ procurement organizations in the state.

The amendments were unanimously passed by the N.C. Legislature and became effective Oct. 1, 1997.

Thank you for reading *The Progress*.

## CHRISTMAS TREES

BUY FROM THE MAN WHO GROWS THEM



All Fraser Firs Under \$50  
All White Pines Under \$25

BOB GLOVER  
1021 DAVIS DRIVE • APEX, NC  
362-6546

## Gifts, Crafts, Antiques & Collectibles

Something for

### "ALL AMERICAN GIRLS"

**BRASS ELECTRIC CANDLES**  
On Sale \$2.50 (Reg. \$3.50)  
With Coupon

**SAMANTHA'S DESK**  
Still Available!  
Only \$25.00

### "Not Just Country"

136 W. Chatham St. • Downtown Cary • (919)467-7886

M-F 10-5:30 • Sat. 10-4

Coupon expires 12-6-97

Must present coupon at time of purchase. Not valid with other offers.

## Got News?

You can fax us your news briefs at 362-1369 or mail them to us at: *The Progress*, P.O. Box 1539, Apex, NC, 27502.

**The Perfect Gift!**  
For Anyone On Your List!

Give the gift of health and relaxation with a Gift Certificate for a one hour massage at "Knead For Life" with Karen Straight, CMT, NMT.

Gift certificates for a one hour massage \$50

315 S. Salem St. Apex, 362-6551

**Dare To Be Different**

~ Gourmet Gift Baskets  
~ Speciality Foods  
~ Home Decor

Now serving Gourmet Coffee

Visit our new location in Historic Downtown Apex

Shipping & Delivery available  
122 N. Salem St. • Apex • 362-6207

Discover original clay Sculptures and handmade ceramic furniture set amongst an Artisan Gallery with the Grand Opening of

## THE GRAY AREA

118 N. Salem St. Apex Historic District  
Door prizes All Thanksgiving Week,  
With a Sculpture giveaway on Saturday

**Santa's Workshop is located at Pine Cone Stables**

• Handcrafted Gifts by Hunter Young •  
10014 Chapel Hill Road • Morrisville, NC  
(919) 380-8242

Rocking Horses  
Baskets • Swings  
Children's Rockers  
Porch Rockers

**\$50.00 OFF**  
Any Complete Pair of Glasses  
(Frames & Lenses)  
NO OTHER DISCOUNTS APPLY  
With coupon only.  
Offer Expires 12/30/97

**Surprise Someone's Eyes with a Gift Certificate from C&C OPTICAL!**

**C&C Optical**

2450 SW Cary Parkway  
PARKWAY POINTE SHOPPING CENTER  
460-6080

**Jordan Lake Christmas Tree Farm**

★ Choose & Cut Christmas Trees - Virginia Pines, Eastern Red Cedar  
★ Fresh Cut Fraser Firs & White Pines

Visit Our Christmas Shop Where You'll Find Wreaths, Garland, Ornaments & Much More!

Open The Day After Thanksgiving From 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through 12/19/97.

2170 Martha's Chapel Rd. (Near Lake Jordan in Chatham Co.)  
362-6300  
<http://jordanlakechristmas.com>

**START TO FEEL BETTER - TODAY!**

Health Care For The Whole Family

DR. ROBERT SHERMAN  
14 years experience

- WHOLISTIC APPROACH
- NUTRITIONAL GUIDANCE
- PAIN MANAGEMENT
- REHAB EXERCISE
- MASSAGE THERAPY

Have questions? CALL FOR YOUR FREE CONSULTATION

**ACADEMY STREET CHIROPRACTIC**  
461-3933  
8511 Chapel Hill Road • Cary  
across from Town Hall

Most Blue's, Healthsource, Auto, HMO, & PPO's - No Insurance? Individual affordable plans

## Christmas Open House

Friday and Saturday, December 5th and 6th  
8am-5pm • Refreshments and Door Prizes

**Poinsettias**

Bountiful and blooming in all colors and sizes. Visit our CHRISTMAS SHOP for wonderful Holiday Decorating items and gifts. Also, choose from our selection of Freshly Cut or Live CHRISTMAS TREES. FRESH WREATHS...Custom made daily with your choice of Fraser Fir or mixed greenery.

**FAIRVIEW greenhouses garden center**

8824 Holly Springs Rd. Between Perry Rd. & 1010 I-40 to Gorman St. Exit  
851-6821 or 851-8818  
M-F 8:30 • Sat. 8-5