

Tallahassee Urban Ministries to Hold Fourth Meeting May 15

Tallahassee Urban Ministries adopted bylaws at a meeting April 18 to provide a structure through which formal programs may be begun to fill some of the unmet needs of persons in the Tallahassee area.

Interim chairmen Ed Norman and Terry Denham were authorized by TUMS charter members to appoint a nominating committee to offer a slate of officers at the fourth in a series of organizational meetings set for Wednesday, May 15, in Trinity's Fellowship Hall.

At that meeting a funding strategy committee is expected to be named to find ways to finance a full-time director to implement the programs planned by the group.

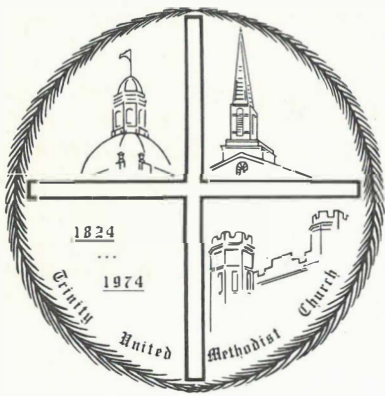
Gene Parks, Jacksonville, coordina-

tor of urban ministries of the Florida Methodist Conference, has acted as resource person during the organizational meetings to relate the experience of similar urban ministries now operating in six Florida cities. He reminded the representatives from Methodist churches in the Tallahassee area, ranging from 25 to 40 at the various meetings, that they must tell the story of unmet needs to all members of these churches to enlist support and active membership in TUMS.

The new bylaws provide that membership may include anyone from the Tallahassee area who shares a belief in the goals of the ministry. Those goals, set out as the purpose of the organization in the bylaws, are as follows:

1. To learn the truth about the needs of people in Tallahassee;
2. To help ourselves and others to know that behind every statistic is a living, flesh-and-blood human being;
3. Develop structures which will keep up with what the existing unmet needs in Tallahassee area are;
4. Develop structures of communication to help the members of our church to know what we know about the needs of Tallahassee people and the demands that are placed upon Christian people in the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ;
5. To develop task groups and structures which can determine effective ways of creating changes in the systems of our society which are

responsible for areas such as housing, health care, child care, transportation and other human needs; determine what other groups and agencies are doing in areas of need and where we can lock into their efforts; enlist continuing personal involvement of church members in programs of service so that increasingly our own people will be encouraged and enabled to be afoot with their vision of the living Christ; develop sources of funds from personal giving by church members, governments and foundations; obtain a professional director to serve as program enabler; and provide a means of regular evaluation of the achievement of these goals and new goals adopted by TUMS.



Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA • VOL. 1, NO. 5 • MAY, 1974

Sister Churches Have Own Place in History

Trinity United Methodist Church, observing its 150th anniversary this year, has 22 sister churches in the Tallahassee District which were established more than 100 years ago.

1974 is also the sesquicentennial year of Pisgah church near Bradfordsville. Others in this district took their places in the roll call of history as follows:

- 1828 Lee
- 1829 Quincy
- 1830 Madison
- 1832 Monticello
- 1837 Waukeenah
- 1839 Appalachicola
- 1839 Sardis
- 1843 Cherry Lake
- 1843 Rocky Springs
- 1844 Wakulla
- 1845 Jasper
- 1846 Shiloh
- 1850 Wacissa
- 1853 Sycamore
- 1859 Sopchoppy
- 1865 Live Oak
- 1866 Crawfordville
- 1866 Glen Julia
- 1870 Havana (Salem)
- 1870 First, Perry
- 1873 Lamont

Florida Conference Meets in Lakeland

The Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet at Florida Southern College in Lakeland May 28-31.

Presided over by Bishop Joel D. McDavid, the work of the conference will include character and conference relations of ministerial members, ordination of new ministers, elections and other business of the 700 United Methodist churches of Florida.

Bishop McDavid will give the concluding address of the conference, "The House Not Made With Hands," on Friday evening, May 31. He will then announce pastoral appointments for the coming year.



Agriculture Commissioner Doyle Conner delivers a letter by "pony express" to Trinity Minister Ed Norman and Sesquicentennial cochairmen Palmer Williams and Mrs. Louis Hill.

Sesquicentennial Trail Ride Dramatizes Moment in History

Wearing a wide-brimmed hat, a heavy quilted vest and leather chaps, and with a six-gun strapped to his side, the explorer dismounted from his horse. He opened his saddlebag, brought out a letter and handed it to the minister of Tallahassee's Trinity United Methodist Church.

The year might have been 1823 and the weary rider might have been W. H. Simmons, who was commissioned by the territorial governor of Florida to set out from St. Augustine to locate a site for a capital. The location was to be midway between St. Augustine and Pensacola, from which John L. Williams had been commissioned to depart in the joint assignment.

This historic moment in Florida's history was reenacted by Commissioner of Agriculture Doyle Conner and Senate President Mallory Horne as part of the Capital City's Sesquicentennial in late February.

Commissioner Conner, portraying the role of Simmons, traveled with his

contingent on horseback along historic Bellamy Road, in Alachua County, the route taken by Simmons in 1823. They stopped at Spring Hill Methodist Church north of Alachua, which stands beside the Bellamy Road and was itself founded in 1860. Farmers and ranchers, who are members of the Church, provided a barbecue for the travelers, and the minister of the church, Rev. E. Lynn Ellis, asked Conner to deliver a letter to Rev. Ed Norman of Trinity in the same manner it would have been delivered 150 years ago.

The letter congratulated Trinity on its 150th anniversary and told of the visit of Commissioner Conner and his party as they made the Sesquicentennial Trail Ride from St. Augustine. "We are proud to honor these great men of our day who come to us along the historic Bellamy Road," Rev. Ellis wrote. "May God richly bless these great leaders of our state government and you and your ministry to the Trinity Church."

Pageant Traces Trinity Story

An historical pageant that traces the highlights of Trinity's 150 years of Christian service will be staged Sunday, May 26, in Fellowship Hall.

The May Sesquicentennial Celebration event is under the direction of Ed Berry, a member of Trinity who is now a doctoral candidate in the FSU Department of Theatre.

"As central elements, the play revolves around the four churches occupied by Trinity," Mrs. Eleanor Ketchum said. "First, the original log cabin, used until the first church on the present site was built in 1841. More than a half-century passed before the third church was built in 1893. This church stood until the beginning of construction of Trinity's present church building, completed in 1964."

Identity of the pageant role-players will not be revealed in advance, "because there are some real surprises in store for the audience," Mrs. Ketchum said.

Episodic in nature, the pageant begins with the arrival of Methodist circuit riders who followed the first settlers in Tallahassee. Trinity's history through the sometimes turbulent, sometimes serene years will be traced through notable dates such as the first annual Florida conference of the Methodist Church, in 1845. Hymns of each period will also be a part of the production.

The event concludes with a "tremendous 150th birthday party, and lots of cake and ice cream for everyone," Mrs. Ketchum said.

LET'S SHARE!

Share your program with other Trinity members. Submit information to the June issue of the Monthly Tidings by May 23.

COMMENT:

“The Church Is Not a Place for Prima Donnas”



OUR YEAR OF SESQUICENTENNIAL celebration has now included the contribution of our bishop, Joel McDavid. He spoke to the three morning congregations on April 21.

During his message he told of the first annual conference over which he presided as a newly-elected bishop. It was a special session in November, 1972. “I was frightened and anxious, to say the least,” he said. “As we began the session we sang a hymn and I thought that maybe this would settle my anxious moments; but it didn’t. And then we had a prayer and I thought that surely this would help. And I guess it did help. But the first item on the agenda was a minister in our conference who asked for a moment of personal privilege. He presented to me a gavel made from the chancel furnishings of Trinity Methodist Church, Tallahassee. And in the presentation he said, ‘In the sanctuary which housed the furnishings from which this gavel was made, the first Florida Annual Conference was held in 1845.’ And then he looked at me and said, ‘Sir, you are a part of this continuing tradition.’ And that did it. For I knew that I stood not alone, but I stood in the presence of the richness of a great heritage.”

Bishop McDavid also described a recent Holy Week experience when he missed the first part of a televised ball game being played in Atlanta. Later, when he turned on the TV, he heard the announcer say, “For those who came in late, in the fourth inning Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth’s record by hitting number 715.”

For those who came in late . . . “We are the late-comers,” the bishop said. “It’s been going on a long time. . . . We are not isolated on an island of the present. We are a part of a rich tradition and a great heritage. When we lock ourselves into the contemporary and make our religion to be only contemporary, it becomes a kind of a fad. . . . Ours is not a cut-flower religion that may be ever so lovely for the moment but because it lacks rootage will soon wilt and die.”

Bishop McDavid did a good job of stepping into the stream of our sesquicentennial program and moving us along in the right direction.

WHEN WE ADOPTED OUR PURPOSE for celebrating our 150th anniversary here at Trinity we stated that a part of our purpose would involve helping to prepare ourselves for the integral role of the church in the world of tomorrow. Somewhere I read that a question mark is an inverted plow used for breaking up the old ground and preparing for new growth.

I suppose to an outsider the plow that is breaking up the ground is seen as a destroyer. After all, yellow field flowers, green grass and blackberry bushes are all being ripped up and plowed under. There is a kind of security that is assured when things are left undisturbed. And there is a lot of uncertainty associated with new beginning.

It would have been a lot easier on the disciples of Jesus if they could have just remained in the fishing business dragging their nets in the Sea of Galilee. Yet, it was only as they “left everything” and stepped into the uncertainties of the new life Jesus offered that they were able to find a life of real meaning and fulfillment.

And, just as surely, it is only as we at Trinity are willing to examine beliefs, break old patterns; it is only as we are willing to take a good deep look at who we are as Christ’s Church and develop a life style that encourages us to move out as the Body of Christ serving in the world, that we too will experience the meaning and fulfillment of discipleship.

As I see it, we all together, committed to God as He confronts us in Christ — we all are the Church. One of the tasks of leadership of Trinity has is to enable you to express your commitment to the living God in concert with others who have made this same commitment. (In other words the church is no place for prima donnas.)

FOR SEVERAL MONTHS NOW groups within Trinity have been involved in “participatory planning.” Whether in the development of the program of the church in the Council on Ministries and Administrative Board or in the initiation of our urban ministries program we have tried to be open to the input of all who have been taking part. And now, too, we are in the midst of developing a series of questionnaires which soon will appear in the *Monthly Tidings*. (The results of one month’s questionnaire will appear in the following month’s issue through the entire series.) One reason for the series of questionnaires is to provide one more means for more and more members of Trinity to “have their say” in determining the direction we take as a church.

We hope you will feel free to indicate your feelings about the direction the church should move. But to do this responsibly will require of each of us a willingness (1) to understand what the church is in the light of the New Testament; (2) to see that the purpose of the church must always be in accord with the New Testament concept of the church and not simply be in accord with what most people think the church’s purpose is; (3) to undergo the discipline of seeing the purpose of the church and the goals the church sets for itself in terms of the sort of world we live in in 1974; (4) to commit ourselves to the continuing tasks of discipleship in terms of the opportunities as well as the limitations which impinge upon our lives.

ED W. NORMAN

A May Devotional

Ronald L. Willingham has a new book out that each person ought to read. The title is *Life Is What You Make It*, a guide for self-discovery and goal setting.

In the little book, the author has a chapter entitled, “Greatness Comes From Serving.” Willingham tells the story of Fuller, who quit designing brushes for sale and started designing them for service and found the world beat a path to his door even more for the excellent product. He selected Disney as an example of a person whose motives of bringing a service of worthwhile family entertainment to the American public succeeded. Finally, he mentioned Thomas A. Edison, who confessed that he felt fulfilled in his rather hermit-like existence because he knew he was serving the needs of his fellowman.

Jesus Christ had the understatement on service and greatness: “The more lowly your service to others, the greater you are. To be greatest, be a servant. But those who think themselves great shall be disappointed and humbled; and those who humble themselves shall be exalted.” (Matt. 23:11-12, *Living Bible*.)

HAROLD B. BROWN

PRAYER: *Our Father, I feel my selfishness is a big roadblock to my spiritual fulfillment. Help me to learn to be a giver, not a taker . . . a server, not a person to be served . . . one who can give as Jesus gave, without expecting so much in return. Amen.*

BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY:

1	Acts	3:13-19	17	Psalms	145:8-13
2	1 John	2:1-5	18	Revelation	21:1-5
3	Luke	24:35-48			
4	Revelation	5:11-14	19	Acts	8:5-17
5	Acts	2:36-41	20	1 Peter	3:15-18
6	1 Peter	2:20-25	21	John	14:23-29
7	Acts	4:8-12	22	Acts	10:25-48
8	John	10:1-10	23	1 John	4:7-10
9	Psalms	100:1-5	24	John	15:9-17
10	John	10:11-18	25	Revelation	21:10-23
11	Revelation	7:9-17	26	1 Peter	4:13-16
12	1 Peter	2:4-9	27	Psalms	27:1-8
13	John	14:1-12	28	John	17:1-11
14	Acts	9:26-31	29	1 John	4:11-16
15	Psalms	22:26-31	30	Psalms	103:1-22
16	1 John	3:18-24	31	Acts	7:55-60

Ministers’ Wives Plan Luncheon

Sesquicentennial — Florida’s and Trinity’s — will be the theme of a luncheon for some 400 wives of Florida ministers on May 28 during the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in Lakeland.

Wives of ministers of the Tallahassee District will be hostesses and have planned the luncheon to commemorate 150 years of Florida and church history. The luncheon will be a “dinner on the ground” and the menu will feature dishes that might have been served in the early homes of the South. Field flowers arranged in antique jars will decorate the tables.

The hostesses will present a fashion show of dresses worn by ladies from the territorial period to modern times. The costumes were loaned by Springtime Tallahassee.

This issue of Trinity’s *Monthly Tidings*, featuring a continuing story of this church’s 150 years, will be presented as a memento during the luncheon.

Trinity Float Wins Second Place Award

“Trinity Celebrates Its 150th With Tallahassee” proclaimed the float entered by Trinity United Methodist Church in Tallahassee’s Sesquicentennial Parade on April 6.

Built by youth of the church, the float won second place among floats in the nonprofit division. It displayed replicas of the three former church buildings which spanned Trinity’s 150 years, as constructed in 1825, 1841 and 1893.

The float took about two weeks to build. Mrs. Barbara Carter, youth coordinator, and Palmer Williams, co-chairman of the Sesquicentennial Celebration, supervised the project. “Builders” included Patsy Crotty, John Crotty, Steve James, Billy James, Cary Moon, Leila DeJarnette, and Lynn Goerke.

Foster to Lead Study of Charismatic Movement

A discussion of the James Baldwin novel, “Go Tell It on the Mountain,” scheduled Sunday, May 12, will conclude the current Advanced Studies class series on “Religion and the South.”

The discussion will be led by Dr. Fred Standley, chairman of the Department of English at FSU. Dr. Standley, who is also an ordained Methodist minister, is considered an authority on the literary works of Baldwin.

Following will be a two-week discussion of the “Charismatic Movement,” May 19-26, led by Dr. George Foster, former Trinity minister.

“Dr. Foster has an intense interest in the charismatic movement, and the manner in which it crosses many church denominational lines,” said Mrs. Betty Phifer, Advanced Studies class leader. “The doctrine of the Holy Spirit, and the ways it has been expressed in religion will be explored. We anticipate that Dr. Foster will provide some illuminating theological insights.”

New Members Welcomed

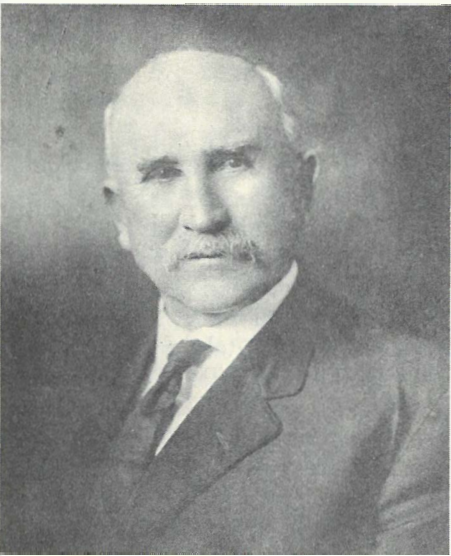
Trinity welcomes three new members received during the past month by transfer and profession of faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin Cook II live at 407 Berkshire Drive, telephone 576-1491, and have two children, Chip, six, and Deborah, five. Mrs. Cook (Prudy) formerly was a member of Forest Manor United Methodist Church, Indianapolis.

Mrs. Beverly Douglas transferred from Riverside Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville. She lives at 3359 Almanac Road, phone 877-6696. Her daughter, Natalie, was received in the recent confirmation class.

Scouts Reach Eagle Rank

Joe Draper, Andy Smith and Byard Mowell have recently completed requirements for the highest rank in Scouting, the Eagle. Trinity is proud of these young men.



Rev. J. W. Bigham
Trinity's Pastor: 1902-1905

**New Members Invited
to Join Chancel Choir**

The Chancel Choir will be preparing anthems for the Sunday morning worship services during the next few weeks. Because no difficult work is being rehearsed, Director Walter James suggests that it's a good time for new members to join the group.

The choir meets each Wednesday evening at 7:30. To join, just show up at rehearsal, Mr. James said.

**Methodist Newspaper
Offers Religious News**

Want to be informed about Methodists in Florida? Subscribe to the *Florida United Methodist*, a weekly newspaper with Florida Conference coverage and topical national religious information.

The cost is \$3 per year. Checks should be made out to the *Florida United Methodist* and sent to the Rev. Harold Brown, P. O. Box 1086, Tallahassee 32302 for quick subscription service. Some 20,000 Methodist families in Florida subscribe to the weekly paper.

Crusade Set for May 12-19

The Big Bend Crusade for Christ with Bill Glass as evangelist received the endorsement and moral support of Trinity's Administrative Board at the March meeting. The crusade will be held in Campbell Stadium May 12-19.

**Coach Mudra to Speak
at Covered Dish Supper**

Florida State University's new football coach, Darrell Mudra, will talk at a churchwide covered dish supper at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 16, in the Fellowship Hall.

United Methodist Men's President Hollis O. Pemberton, Jr., said the group is sponsoring the event for all members of Trinity. He invites all to bring a covered dish or two and come get a first-hand report of the rebuilding progress of FSU's football team.

**Methodist Men Sponsor
Mission Funds Event**

The United Methodist Men will sponsor a pancake supper from 5:30 until 7:30, Saturday, May 18, in the Fellowship Hall, to raise funds for the nonbudgetary mission work of Trinity.

The menu will be pancakes and syrup, eggs and sausage, tea or coffee.

Tickets are \$1.25 for adults and youth; children under 12, \$.75. You may buy tickets in advance from members of the UMM or make reservations using the coupon below. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Please reserve the following tickets
for the pancake supper, Saturday,
May 25:

No. Adults _____ No. Children _____

**ROLL CALL:
TRINITY'S PASTORS**

Josiah Evans	1825
John Slade	1826
Morgan C. Turrentine	1827
Josiah Freeman	1828
John D. Bowen	1829
Isaac Boring	1830
John W. Talley	1831
Thomas P. C. Shellman	1832
James T. Johnson	1833
A. H. Mitchell	1834
Thomas C. Benning	1835
Joshua Knowles	1836
John C. Simmons	1837
(No Pastor Named)	1938
James W. McPherson	1839
James H. McArver	1840
Wesley Adams	1841
Wm. Choice	1842

and half of 1843
Edward H. Myers
Second Half 1843

Gadwell J. Pearce	1844
Gideon A. Mallette	1845
Edwin L. T. Blake	1846-47
John Penny	1848
Samuel Woodbery	1849
George W. Pratt	1850
Simon Peter Richardson	1851
Edward G. Asay	1852
Thomas Gardner	1853
Richard Tydings	1854
Josephus Anderson	1855-56
James M. Wright	1857
Franklin A. Branch	1858-59
Jasper K. Glover	1860
John R. Harwell	1861
James Orson Branch	1862-63
Franklin A. Branch	1864
Andrew J. Woddrige, M.D. ...	1865
James O. Branch	1866-69
Thophilus W. Moore	1870-71
Josephus Anderson	1872-75
James B. Fitzpatrick	1876-77

and fourth of 1878
E. L. T. Blake April 1878-81
Henry H. Kennedy 1882-85
John F. Marshall 1886
Henry E. Partridge 1887-90
W. M. Poage 1891-95
John B. Ley 1895-98
W. J. Carpenter 1899-1900
W. E. H. Mabry 1901
J. W. Bigham 1902-05
W. M. Poage 1906
Ira S. Patterson 1907-10
J. E. Woodward
W. G. Fletcher, assistants

J. B. Mitchell	1911
S. W. Lawler	1912
T. J. Nixon	1913-16
S. W. Lawler	1917-20
Seymour Grady	1921-22
J. O. Grogan	1923-24
H. A. Spencer	1925-June 1927
E. Watt Smith	June 1927- July 1930

W. F. Dunkle	June 1930- June 16, 1935
J. H. Daniel	June 16, 1935- Jan. 1, 1939
Jack Anderson	Jan. 1, 1939-1944
Claud M. Haynes	1944-Dec. 1947
Clare M. Cotton	Dec. 1947 May 1953

Glenn C. James	June 1953-1962
John Davenport Wm. C. Swygert Danny E. Morris, assistants	
H. Melton Ware	June 1962- May 1965
George A. Foster	June 1965- May 1972
Edward W. Norman	June 1972

**Storey Class Studies
Songs of Solomon**

The Bob Storey Church School Class, meeting in Room 210 each Sunday at 9:45, will hear the Rev. Harold Brown discuss the Book of the Songs of Solomon on May 5 and 12. On May 19 and 26, Rev. Brown will lead a discussion of the Book of Proverbs.

Those looking for a "church school home" are invited to join the class.

*Through the Years: a History of
Trinity United Methodist Church*

FRANK D. MOOR

PART II

(Editor's note: As a continuing series, Monthly Tidings will print the 150-year history of Trinity United Methodist Church. Frank Moor, the author of this material, has been a member of Trinity for more than 70 years.)

In 1832 the church must have been hard pressed financially for this resolution was adopted June 12, 1832:

"Resolved that Bro. Shelmon (Station Preacher) be requested to address letters to the preachers of the several circuits of Leon, Quincy and Lownds, praying their aid in getting up subscriptions for the payment of the debt of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Tallahassee."

The second parsonage that the church owned was built in 1859 at a cost of \$1800. It faced Park Ave. and was located between the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches.

In 1867 while the church was being repaired, services were held in the Capitol.

The minutes of Nov. 15, 1869, record that the trustees gave title to the Board of Trustees for the colored Methodist Episcopal Church to Lots 281 and 282 N.A., which deed is recorded in Book O, page 155. This church is now known at St. James Christian Methodist Church. This property had been purchased in 1853, and this deed recites that it was for the use of the colored brethren.

September 16, 1880, minutes show that trustees were instructed to take necessary steps to have the church property insured. This seems to be the first time that the church insured its property, and this action was probably taken because of the fire that destroyed St. Johns Episcopal Church the previous year.

The minutes of Feb. 2, 1885, note that "Brothers Edmondson, Saxon and Dickinson were appointed a committee to give counsel and assist by advising the ladies when they commence to repair and beautify the church."

The Quarterly Conference of April 25, 1892, appointed George I. Davis, B. A. Meginniss, Dr. W. L. Moor and the Pastor, the Rev. William Poage, as a Building Committee and authorized them to remodel or rebuild the church building. B. A. Meginniss resigned as a member and was replaced by W. M. McIntosh, Jr. The building erected in 1940 was demolished. A larger building of a different style of architecture was erected on the same site and completed in 1893.

1840 It was observed when this church building was torn down in 1962 that most of the old brick foundation from the 1840 building, as well as some of the posts which had supported the old gallery, were used for the foundation for the new church of 1893. There were also some hand hewn timbers used for the floor joists, which had probably come from the 1840 building.

In 1892 the trustees were:

G. H. Meginniss	George I. Davis
J. T. Bernard	D. W. Gwynn (Died Dec. 12, 1892)
John F. DeMilly	J. W. Britton
F. C. Gilmore	W. N. Taylor, Jr.

and the following persons composed the Board of Stewards:

T. J. Perkins	J. T. Bernard
J. A. Edmondson	G. H. Meginniss
G. W. Saxon	B. A. Meginniss
Dr. W. L. Moor	W. M. McIntosh, Jr.
George I. Davis	T. A. Byrd

B. A. Meginniss was Sunday School Superintendent.

None of these men is now living, but there are a number of their sons, daughters and grandchildren who are prominent citizens of Tallahassee at this time.

The cost of this building was about \$12,000 and the records show that the pastor loaned the church \$1,500 and they borrowed \$1,000 from the Board of Church Extension. The church raised the balance in cash and subscriptions. There were 307 members, the pastor's salary was \$1,200 and the total amount raised in 1893 from all sources was \$5,173.

When the church was being rebuilt in 1892 the congregation worshipped with the Presbyterians.

We do not know just when the name "Trinity" was given to this church. It appears in the Quarterly Conference records for the first time in 1907, but we do know that this name was put over the southeast entrance when the third church building was erected in 1893. It is also found in the 1895 Annual Conference minutes in showing a picture of the church.

The pipe organ which had been purchased in 1882 was moved from the old church and used until 1914. According to the church records, it was valued in 1890 at \$925. It originally had to be pumped by hand. The first organist was Miss Kate Kemper, followed by Miss Jessie Edmondson and then Miss Lizzie Tatum.

The Quarterly Conference minutes of February 26, 1896, state that, "The carpet and kneeling cushion for the chancel were a gift of Bishop W. W. Duncan, and the new carpet for the body of the church was a result of the ladies' efforts." The same minutes record that the Epworth League was first organized and had 53 members.

On May 15, 1899, the Sunday school superintendent, Mr. W. N. Sheats, reported "three Chinamen in a class and also that a class had been organized for some country children who could not read."

(To be continued)



Ezenwukwa: "God Must Have Had Some Purpose for My Life"

On July 13, 1974, Richard Ezenwukwa will board a ship in New York bound for the East Central State of Nigeria.

This state was the "Biafra" made known to Americans through television appeals for food for its starving thousands from 1967 to 1970 when it declared itself a republic and civil war erupted.

To Ezenwukwa it is home. He is a member of the Ibo tribe which seceded and finally surrendered in 1970 to be reunited by the government of the country. "The government tried to starve us to death," he said. "But the church groups and United Nations kept sending food."

After the war, Ezenwukwa found that among the death and destruction of his village, his house and family had been spared. "God must have had some purpose for my life," he said.

He hopes to carry out that purpose by starting a pilot program in rehabilitation for handicapped East Central Nigerians upon his return to the country. To prepare himself, he came to Florida State University two years ago to complete work for a master's degree in habilitative science. He was first financed by a German mission in his village and when that money ran out, Trinity United Methodist Church became his sponsor. Trinity has paid full tuition for him and is contributing the \$600 passage for his return to Nigeria.

"By the grace of God, the church came to my aid," Ezenwukwa said. "Now, the problem is how to get the equipment for the schools for our handicapped children," he said.

While in Tallahassee, Ezenwukwa has worshipped regularly at Trinity and has spoken on a number of occasions to UMW circles and other small groups. He will talk at the luncheon meeting of the United Methodist Women on Tuesday, May 7, in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited to the luncheon from 12 noon to 1 p.m. to hear

his story firsthand.

Now 46, he attended school in England and Germany and taught the blind and handicapped back in his native land. His countrymen apply a stigma to the many crippled, blind, deaf and mentally retarded who populate the state. "They think of them as a little less than human — as receiving punishment from God," he says. He decided to get into the education ministry so that he would be in a position to do more for those unfortunate.

Until the war started, he worked with all kinds of exceptional children but specialized with the blind. His work took him through the African bush where he encouraged parents of such children to send them to school.

He hopes that the new rehabilitation center he starts will have as many as 15 branches to be located in the public schools throughout the state. He wants to open instructional material centers where the teachers of the handicapped may borrow what they need.

Members of Trinity wishing to contribute money toward the purchase of these materials and equipment may write a check to Trinity and mark it "Nigerian work." Donations of equipment may also be made, to include such items as a braille thermoform, Baltone audiometer, braille writer, opaque projector, slide sound units, cassette audio recorder, motion picture film, tape recorder, slide projector, and testing and measurement series for IQ and other academic testing.

Trinity's sponsoring of Ezenwukwa is part of the Global Ministries Special Education Project of FSU College of Education, Division for Special Needs. The Rev. Ed Norman said that program leader K. C. Sykes has scholarships available for other candidates from oppressed countries for master's degrees in special education. He hopes that Trinity members will wish to continue to contribute to this special mission project.

United Methodist Women Schedule Eleven Circle Meetings for May

United Methodist Women will be holding circle meetings this month according to the following schedule:

Circle 1 will meet May 13 at 10 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Julian V. Smith, 333 S. Magnolia Dr., with Mrs. J. Edwin White as cohostess. The group will continue a study of women in the Bible.

Circle 2 meets May 13 at 2:30 p.m. with Mrs. E. E. Somerset, 2926 Shearer Road. Mrs. Terrell Yon will be cohostess. Mrs. Jennings Rehwinkel will lead a program entitled "The Way Showers." This will be a development of church women who have gone before.

Circle 3 meets May 14 at 10 a.m. Mrs. R. T. Hemphill, 1220 Betton Road, will be hostess and the group will continue a study of the book, "Healing Fountain."

Circle 4 also meets May 14 at 10 a.m., in Room 210 of the church. Mrs. Elizabeth Poag will lead a continuing study and discussion of Romans.

Circle 5 meets May 14 at 10 a.m., with Mrs. E. K. Oakley, 1804 West Indian Head Drive.

Circle 6 meets May 14 at 10 a.m. with Mrs. W. C. Vason, Jr., 3006 Thomasville Road.

Circle 7 will meet May 14 at 10 a.m., with Mrs. A. P. Revell, 1203 Firethorn Lane. Mrs. H. V. Matthews will be cohostess. Mrs. George Foster will be the speaker.

Circle 8 will have a covered dish luncheon beginning at 11:30 a.m., May 14, at the home of Mrs. Harold Brown, 2120 Spence Avenue. A nursery will be provided.

Circle 9 will meet May 14 at 10 a.m. with Mrs. Robert Lawton, 1403 N. Randolph Circle. The circle will continue its study of the Middle East with emphasis on Biblical background. A covered dish salad luncheon will follow.

Circle 12 will meet on May 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. David Avant will bring slides and share his trip through Athens, Greece. All other circles are invited to share in this program.

Circle 13 will meet at 8 p.m., May 14, with Mrs. Ward Fletcher, 412 Hillcrest. Mrs. Sandra Genetin will be cohostess. The circle will have as guest speaker Lt. Peggy Touchton of the Tallahassee Salvation Army.

Church Beautification Is Committee Project

Trinity's courtyard outside the Fellowship Hall is beginning to take on a new look.

A beautification committee started by Mrs. Allan Jackson and members of UMW Circle 6 has removed scraggly plants from the central plant-box and replaced them with a variety of greenery and flowering scrubs.

As soon as spring rains soften the ground for easy digging, (unless some strong men volunteer in the interim) Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Fred Drake, Sr., and other ladies from the circle will transplant the existing boxwood in a more attractive arrangement. Plans for adding more color from azaleas and a slow-growing Weaver dogwood have also been made.

Mrs. Jackson also wants to start a task force of women who wish to contribute time to the church by performing such work as polishing brass and silver and refurbishing the library. She is seeking the contribution of a rug in good condition for the library. Persons wishing to join the task force, or donate the rug should call Mrs. Jackson at 385-1325 or the church office.

Judith James Makes Debut

Judith Rae James, former Trinity choir member and soloist and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter James, made her musical debut in New York on Saturday, April 20. She performed with the Academia Monteverdiana in Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center. Her parents attended the recital. The young soprano is a graduate of FSU School of Music and the University of Illinois.

Trustees May Sell Lot

The Administrative Board, meeting on April 9 as a church and charge conference, authorized the Trustees of Trinity to offer for sale for \$5,000 or more a lot owned by the church on Ridgeland Road off Lakeshore Drive.

The authority will extend one year. Proceeds from the 100 by 150-foot lot will revert to the church building program when sold.

Bell Choir to Visit

"Dem Bells" are going to be ringing in June at Trinity. The Handbell Choir from First United Methodist Church of El Dorado, Arkansas, will arrive in Tallahassee on Saturday evening, June 8, the first stop on a Florida-Bahamas tour.

They will play at the morning worship services June 9 and conduct a handbell workshop that afternoon.

Members of Trinity are asked to provide rooms for 24 people, most of them junior and senior high age, on both Saturday and Sunday evenings. Persons willing to assist should call Mr. and Mrs. Walter James.

Monthly Tidings

Vol. 1, No. 5, May, 1974
Published Monthly by
Trinity United Methodist Church
Park and Duval
P. O. Box 1086
Tallahassee, Florida 32302

Second Class postage permit
pending at
Tallahassee, Florida



Mr. & Mrs. Frank D. Moor
P. O. Box 749
Tallahassee, Fla. 32302

Ed W. Norman, Minister
Harold B. Brown, Jr.,
Associate Minister
Editorial Staff
Linda H. Yates
Gene Marse
Jim Nash
June Deadline: May 23