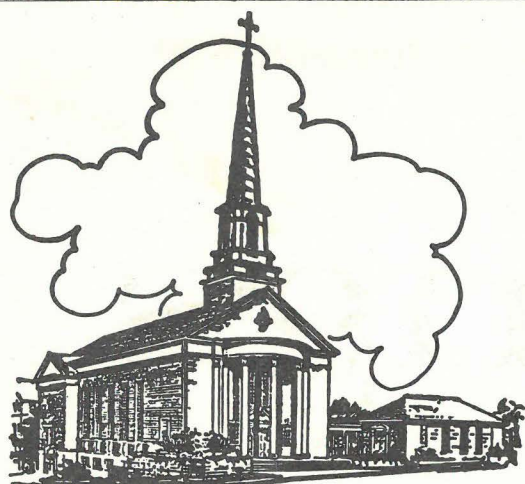




Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • TALLAHASSEE, FLA. • VOL. 3, NO. 1 • JANUARY, 1976

New Officers, Administrative Board, Work Areas Elected for 1976 Church Year

Dr. Marshall Hamilton was elected chairman of the Administrative Board at a charge conference on December 2. Formerly vice chairman, he succeeds John Mowell.

He will preside at the first meeting of 1976 at 8 p.m., January 13, in the Fellowship Hall.

The charge conference, presided over by District Superintendent Alfred Vaught, elected Dr. Robert Peirce, former Council of Ministries chairman, to serve as vice chairman of the board for 1976.

Elected to serve Trinity in key positions during 1976 were: Mrs. John Mowell, chairman, Council on

Ministries; Mrs. Palmer Williams, chairman, Education Work Area; Mrs. Louis Beall, Missions Work Area; Sam Teague, Membership and Evangelism; Mrs. Leslie Hadi, Worship; David Kearns, Sr., Finance Committee chairman; Bruce Harter, Ecumenical Affairs.

The charge conference named as Trustees the following: Class of 1976, Garland Heisler, F. E. Steinmeyer, III, Godfrey Smith, and C. Hux Coulter; Class of 1977, Vernon Parramore, Robert Parker, Jr.; Class of 1978, Orlis Causseaux, Rebecca B. Hawkins and J. D. Williamson.

Named to serve on the Administrative Board were the following:



James C. Davis

James C. Davis Begins Work as Choir Director

James C. Davis began work as Trinity's new Chancel Choir director this week, assuming the position left vacant when Walter James retired several months ago.

The Music Committee, headed by Dr. Griffith Pugh, recommended the appointment of Davis after interviewing a number of musicians for the position. The appointment was confirmed by the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee.

Davis grew up in Tallahassee and Trinity, attended Leon High School and went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Emory University. He directed choirs while attending Emory, and later while working toward a master of music degree at Florida State University, he served as youth choir director at St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

He left Tallahassee to work with the Brevard County school system, again serving as choir director of two churches in that county. When he returned to Tallahassee to accept a teaching position as humanities instructor and choral director at Tallahassee Community College, he became choir director at the First Presbyterian Church, ending that assignment after four years in 1973.

He and his wife, Rochelle, are members of First Presbyterian Church. His mother, Mrs. E. M. Davis, Sr., and his sister, Mrs. Emily Jenkins, are long-time members of Trinity. The Davises live at 1503 Hilltop Drive with their two children, Steven and Suzanne.

Having directed choirs for most of his adult years, 40-year-old Davis said he hoped to maintain the good tradition of Trinity's Chancel Choir. He plans to spend the first few months getting adjusted to that tradition.

"The choir will be wide open to new members who want to come sing with us," he said. "This is a good time for both men and women to join. Especially do we need more men singers." Persons wishing to become members of the Chancel Choir should attend a regular practice session at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays, in the choir room on the ground floor of the church.

New Members Are Welcomed to Trinity

Trinity welcomes the following new members:

Mr. and Mrs. Ben F. Betts, Jr. (Betty Jane), 2532 Marston Road (03), 385-5582, have transferred from other churches. Mr. Betts comes from the Country Estates Baptist Church in Midwest City, Oklahoma, and Mrs. Betts from Centenary UMC, Quincy. Mr. Betts is a certified public accountant with the firm of Betts, Gardner and Harrell. Mr. and Mrs. Betts have two children, Ben, III (6), and Sarah Jane (4).

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn (Debbie) Miller, 1821 Mayfair Road (03), 386-3049, have transferred from Judson Baptist, Gardena, California, and Lakeview Baptist in Tallahassee, respectively. They have a 5-year-old daughter, Melissa.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Ann) Lumsden of 2419 Rosemary Terrace (03) come to Trinity from First UMC, Orlando. Mr. Lumsden is a science consultant with the State Dept. of Education. Their home phone is 386-3224, and they have two sons, Robert (3) and Clay (1).

Mr. and Mrs. Michael McGinley (Donna), 275 John Knox Road #N-104 (03), 386-2905, were received also in December. Mr. McGinley came by profession of faith and baptism; Mrs. McGinley is transferring her membership from the Red Bank UMC in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Menendez (Helen), former Trinity members who have been living in Lincoln, Nebraska, are now back in Tallahassee. They are making their home at 2304 Braeburn Circle (03), 385-6461, and are transferring their membership back to Trinity from St. Mark's UMC in Lincoln.

Bible Studies Resume Schedule

Bible studies led by the Rev. Ed Norman will resume their regular schedule on January 5.

A new book of the Bible will be started for the Men's Study at 6:45 a.m., Monday. This will be a good time for new persons to become part of the group, Rev. Norman said.

A study of Ephesians is scheduled at 10 a.m., Mondays; for women at 6:45 a.m., Tuesday, and a mixed group at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays. A study of Mark continues at 10 a.m., Thursdays.

Class of 1976 (Eligible for one year — Elected for one year)

Aho, U. A.	Flanagan, Mrs. H. C.
Armstrong, Dr. Earl	Gallagher, Mrs. Harvey
Ashmore, Mrs. R. W., Jr.	Godby, Amos P.
Ballinger, Kenneth	Halley, C. E.
Beck, Dr. Otis	Harter, Wesley C.
Berry, Mrs. Roy	Hood, Mrs. D. L.
Bevis, W. Bradley	Howe, Mrs. Bobby
Blalock, T. J.	Hulet, Dr. Richard
Blee, Mrs. Myron	Jackson, Mrs. Allan C.
Blount, H. H.	James, Mrs. Bertha
Cogswell, C. Wilson	King, Mr. James P.
Crotty, John	Lawton, Mrs. Robert
Daniel, J. Hight	Leduc, Dr. Albert

Class of 1977 (Eligible for two years — Elected for one year)

Bell, John E.	Harter, Bruce
Braswell, Ron	Helton, Hubert
Brown, Dr. Ledley	Hill, Dr. Don
Bryson, Robert	Hinson, Robert
Butterworth, C. A.	Hughes, Dr. Joe
Campbell, Dr. James T.	Lawton, Dr. Robert O.
Cawthon, Tommy	Leathers, Albert
Coley, Paul	Lewis, Halley B., Jr.
Cook, Murray	Parmenter, Mrs. W. G.
Crew, Jeff	Parramore, Mrs. Vernon
Davidson, Mitchell	Phifer, Mrs. Gregg
Draper, Sam	Poag, Mary Elizabeth
Duncan, Richard, Sr.	Ricks, Ralph
Ferguson, Mitchell	Rogers, Sam

Class of 1978 (Eligible for three years — Elected for one year)

Ball, Mrs. James, III	Hoehn, Duncan
Blackburn, J. O.	James, Walter
Branan, L. F., Jr.	Kent, D. Mitchell
Brewer, Robert G.	Lewis, Dr. Tom
Bryson, Robert H.	Lux, Mr. Tom
Burkhalter, Al	Lux, Mrs. Tom
Burress, Mrs. Spencer	Moon, David
Cawthon, Glen	Moon, Mrs. Robert C.
Clark, Fred	Moor, Mr. Frank
Creedman, Don	Moore, Dr. Coyle
Fritchman, William	Nelson, J. William
Goode, William W., Jr.	Parker, Robert, Sr.
Green, Martin T.	Peirce, Robert V.
Hill, Mrs. Louis	

Youth members (ex officio):

Jeb Blackburn
Susan Glenn
Natalie Douglas

Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations

Godfrey Smith, Chairman; Dr. Griffith Pugh, Mrs. Jim Blackburn, Fred Tyler, J. D. Williamson, Frank Moor, Dr. Coyle Moore, Walter Funderburk, Palmer Williams, Todd Schroeder, Lay members of Annual Conference.

Lay Members of Annual Conference

Sam Teague*
Len McKinnon*
Lewis Hall*

*Ex officio members of Administrative Board.

Parsonage Committee

Mrs. J. D. Williamson, Mrs. Fred Drake, Sr., Mrs. F. E. Steinmeyer, Jr., Mrs. Joe Hughes, Mrs. Louis Beall, and two Trustees appointed by the Board of Trustees.

Lay Leader: Dr. Griffith Pugh

Committee on Finance (includes Stewardship Work Area)

Chairman, David Kearns, Sr.
Pastor, Ed. W. Norman
Chairman of Administrative Board, Dr. Marshall Hamilton
Chairman of Council on Ministries, Mrs. John Mowell
Church Treasurer, Spencer Burress
Chairman of Stewardship Work Area
One Trustee, to be elected by Trustees
The Lay Leader, Dr. Griffith Pugh

Additional Members: Len McKinnon, Jack Mowell, Robert Peirce, Carlton Rhodes, Madeline Rolland, Mrs. Ward Fletcher, Palmer Williams, Frank D. Moor, Sam Rogers, Doug Smith, Billy James, John Olson, Louis Beall.

Alternates

Dr. Tom Lewis
Wayne Hodges
Dr. James Campbell

Mickler, William
Miley, Harry E.
Morse, T. Aubrey
Moser, Gertrude
Mowell, John
Munson, Frances
Oakley, Mrs. Karl
Pope, Mrs. Melvin
Rehwinkel, Mrs. Jennings
Rhodes, Carlton E.
Roesch, Karl
White, Robert A.
Yates, Harold

Scherdin, Robert
Sinclair, Bill R.
Spencer, J. Ray
Stacker, Edwin
Stevens, Robert P.
Tully, G. E.
Walker, Dr. Edward
Walker, Wallis
Walters, Nelson
Warren, George
Waugh, Harry M.
White, Mrs. Allison
Williams, Palmer

Proctor, Ralph, Jr.
Ricks, Mrs. Ralph
Roberts, G. S.
Rogers, Gordon
Sauls, Mrs. James D.
Swearingen, Miss Mildred
Thompson, Romulus
Tipton, Ray
Tyler, Fred B.
Walsh, Daniel
Weatherly, James F., Jr.
Wollschlager, Mrs. Lynn
Wright, Thomas
Yates, Mrs. C. R.

Finance Committee Confident of Goal

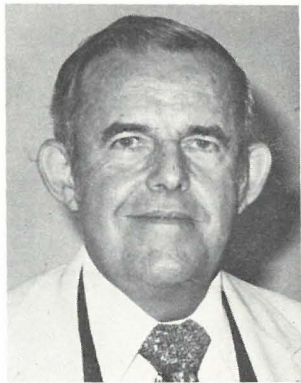
The Finance Committee in a special meeting in December voted to leave the budget for 1976 at \$280,000.00 as approved by the Administrative Board.

At the time of the meeting pledges had not been received in support of the amount proposed; however, the giving record of Trinity members, plus special gifts and other income indicates that the goal will be reached.

(Continued on Page 3)

COMMENT:

New Sermon Series Coming



Beginning on Sunday morning, January 11, I am planning to begin a new series of sermons. This series will deal with the parables of Jesus. I suppose every preacher preaches on the parables of Jesus somewhere along the course of his ministry. I have more books dealing with these parables than with any other area of Jesus' message. Several of the books I have in my personal library are books of sermons dealing with the parables. But in most cases the sermons in these books do not raise the question: "What was the essential message that JESUS was getting across in this particular parable?"

I suppose there is a tendency in all of us to use the parables as an opportunity to "do our own thing" by turning them into allegories. By treating a parable as an allegory we can look at each facet of the parable and interpret that facet in such a way as to make it support some idea that we want to get across. This sort of process enables us to get our own ideas across, but in the process we may miss completely what Jesus had in mind when he told the parable in the first place. There is nothing immoral in this unless we hoodwink others into believing that we are preaching the message of the parables while in reality we are merely reading our own ideas into them. I am sure I will not avoid this abuse of the parables completely, but I promise to do my best in trying to discern the intention of Jesus in each parable and then in sharing that intention with you each Sunday.

Some Possible Titles for Future Sermons:

Many times when I am preaching I present an abstract theological idea and then use illustrations to illuminate, interpret, and enliven those abstractions. But a parable is not an illustration of an abstract idea. The parables of Jesus usually are themselves the theology that Jesus is conveying. Ordinarily a parable makes one basic point. Sometimes there will be the one basic point and then several subsidiary points which accent the central point. (The prodigal son parable illustrates this. The story gives a graphic portrayal of the forgiving father. The subsidiary points of the prodigal son and his older brother serve to accent that central portrayal of the forgiving father.) I have gone through several parables and tried to lift up that one basic point in each one by giving the parable a title. You might like to look at the parables for yourself and see if your title agrees with mine. (If it doesn't, please let me know yours. I may prefer to use yours instead of mine.) As you receive your weekly bulletin and note the scripture and sermon title you will bring a lot more to the Sunday worship service if you will undergo the discipline of reading the scripture for yourself and raising for yourself the question: What one basic point is the parable for this week lifting up?

Here are a few of the possible titles I may use beginning with the new series in January: 1. Finding New Forms for New Facts (Mark 2:21-3:6); 2. The Big Change (Luke 13:20); 3. When It's Wrong to Pull Up Weeds (Matt. 13:24-30); 4. The Fallacy of Pride and the Fact of Grace (Mark 4:26-29); 5. One Sheep Is Missing! So What! (Luke 15:4-7); 6. God Helps Those Who . . . (Lk. 14:7-11); 7. When Believing Is Doing (Matt. 7:21-27); 8. Let God Be God (Lk. 12:16-20); 9. Brother All the Souls on Earth (Lk. 10:25-37); 10. Listen My Children and You Shall Hear! (Mark 4:1-9); 11. The Power of Postive Commitment (Lk. 11:24-26); 12. Christian Be Sharp, Stay Sharp (Lk. 16:1-8); 13. What Does It Cost To Be a Christian (Lk. 14:25-35); 14. A Father and Two Sons (Lk. 15:11-32); 15. It Pays To Be Ready (Matt. 25:1-13).

I do not want to imply that I intend to preach the sermons in the order they are above. In fact there are at least another 15 parables with which I plan to deal in this new series of messages.

An Experiment in Feed-back:

Beginning with the first sermon in the parable series I am going to invite a number (eight to a dozen) of people to bring a bag lunch and meet with me in the fellowship hall at noon. We will discuss the sermon. I plan to begin each discussion by raising one question: "What was I trying to say this morning?" And then another question: "So what?" Does what I said really make any difference?" I will give a personal invitation by phone to you at least two days in advance of the discussion you will take part in. This will help me to control the number of persons participating each week and it will give you time to fix your lunch to bring to the session and it also will give us time to make whatever arrangements we will need to make for your children (if you have children) during the time of the feed-back discussion. If you would like to take part in such a feed-back session please tell me or call the church office. You will be asked to take part in just one such session, and I plan to do it for a period of four to six weeks. I call this an "experiment" because future discussion sessions will be developed in the light of what we learn from this first series of sessions.

ED W. NORMAN

Mission: Impossible?

(The first in a series of commentaries on the role and responsibility of the church in contemporary society.)

Before we can adequately discuss just what our responsibility and role as a church and as individual Christians is in our society it is imperative that we stop and ascertain from which sources we are going to obtain our guidance and direction. Now many people will quickly agree that the Bible is our guiding light and we should always search the Word of God to obtain divine guidance. That is true: the Bible is a source of guidance and direction for our Christian walk, but there are also other means to obtain such; those being tradition and personal experience. These three, put together, can give us a whole or complete picture of God's will in our lives.

However, these three authorities are many times misjudged and misused. "Whatever we call these authorities — tradition, Bible, or experience, Roman Catholicism, Protestantism, sectarianism, ecclesiasticism, Biblicism, or mysticism — their story is the same. Not content to be earthen vessels holding a treasure, they claim to the treasure itself. They all displace the object of their witness."¹

We can see this truth in an examination of all three of the guides. The church or tradition can witness to the mighty deeds of God in Jesus Christ and be an authentication of the Gospel, but instead the Gospel has begun to authenticate the church. The Bible can be a witness to the Gospel, but instead the claims about the Bible have begun to authenticate the Gospel. And finally, instead of the Gospel authenticating its claim by transforming personal experience (or revelation), personal experience has begun to transform the Gospel.

In our times, it seems as if the very

means by which the truth and guidance of God's will is given us have been perverted to meet the needs of those means. The church, the Bible, and revelation have come to be our means of authority instead of the Gospel being our force, power, and authority. The Gospel, and therefore the mission and work of the church in our world, has lost the infallibility that comes from God. Indeed, the Gospel has become whatever the "experienter" says it is, which means that men are claiming for their own experience the infallibility of God. "The object of faith becomes the experience itself rather than the Lord who humbles Himself to speak to man through personal experience."²

So, upon examination, we find that there are three powerful sources of guidance and direction for our lives as Christians: tradition, the Scriptures, and revelation. No one source can, however, claim the sole authority of divine "line." Tradition and the church, the Scriptures, and personal revelation can only be effective when considered corporately. But more important than all three of these is that the one true and infallible source of guidance that we have is the Gospel as given us through Jesus Christ. All of man's experience cannot measure up to the short three-year ministry and example that our Lord gave us. In later articles, as we begin to examine what our three sources of authority have shown us to be our role and responsibility in society, as a witness of the love of God in Christ, perhaps then we can more fully understand what God expects of us and how it is that He makes His expectations reality. Shalom.

— By TIM MUMMAW

¹From Robert Brown's "Authority: The Achilles Heel."
²Ibid.

Bicentennial Markings



First in a series of articles telling the story that is our heritage as Methodists in Florida, as reported in *From Saddlebags to Satellites*, William E. Brooks, editor.

In 1776 when the Colonies declared their independence from the tyranny of England, those early Floridians who wanted to serve God as Methodists were grateful for the British occupation. Since the establishment of St. Augustine in the 1500's the land that later became Florida was closed to the work of the Protestant faith.

But from 1763 to 1783, Florida was controlled by the British, and the Anglican Church ministered to the spiri-

tual needs of the settlers. Some were undoubtedly Methodists who moved down from Baltimore and New York where Methodism got its foothold in America. As soon as the border opened, the Methodist circuit rider came in to start Methodist Societies in the settlements.

According to an account in *From Saddlebags to Satellites*, the Methodist movement grew, surviving life in the wilderness, disease and Indian wars. "The preachers came, living out of their saddlebags and traveling from house to house — that was the beginning."

Let's keep it growing for 200 more years.



Welcome God to America's
bicentennial...
practice what you pray.



A Public Service of This Magazine
& The Advertising Council



A Joyful New Year!

"Behold, I make all things new."

Rev. 21:5

New Officers, Administrative Board

(Continued from Page 1)

Committee on Nominations:

1976	1977	1978
Mrs. Robert Taylor Fred Tyler	Mrs. James D. Sauls Owen Sellers	David Moon Clelia Pugh

Age Level Coordinators

Family Ministry — Mrs. Walter Funderburk
Younger Children — Vacant
Children — Mrs. C. A. Butterworth
Youth — Mrs. Alfred B. Vaught
Adults — Dr. Harvel N. Dawirs

Education Work Area: Mrs. Palmer Williams (Chairperson); Age Level Coordinators and Family Coordinator; Suzanne Gifford, Music; Pete Tully, Boy Scouts; Nancy Kerce, Literature Secretary; Harold Yates, Treasurer; Jeb Blackburn, Youth; Jo Ezell, Library; Helen Sellers, Nursery Home Visitor; Susan Glenn, Youth.

Membership and Evangelism: Sam Teague (Chairperson); Walter C. Funderburk, Jr., Robert White, Nelson Walters, Dr. Joe Hughes, Palmer Williams, Hollis O. Pemberton, Jr., Mrs. Dorothy Sauls, Mrs. Barbara Wilkison, Mrs. Orlis Causseaux, Mrs. Ruth McInvale, Mrs. Alberta Ashmore, Mrs. Mary Keen, Miss Esther Wilfong, David Moon, Richard Almarode, Richard Bandlow, Len McKinnon, Mrs. Julian Smith, James Weatherly, Jr., Wayne Hodges.

Worship Work Area: Mrs. Leslie Hadi (Chairperson); Mitchell Ferguson, S. Gordon Rogers, George Ridge, Walter Funderburk (Usher Committee), Mrs. W. N. Weisert (Altar Flowers Committee), Jim Blackburn, the Director and Associate Director of Music, Mrs. Harry Miley, Mrs. Lois Fletcher (Communion Steward), Robert Parker, Jr., Lynn Goerke, Diane Bevis, Peggy Lewis, Carol Marchant.

Church and Society Work Area: (Chairperson to be announced); Mrs. Carol Anderson, Miss Inez Downer, Dr. Gregg Phifer, Miss Margaret Kassouny, Mrs. Leslie Hadi, Orlis Causseaux, Mrs. Lavinia Short, Mrs. Rebecca Hawkins, Tom Ingle, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mickler, Mrs. Melvin Pope, Mrs. Frances Pemberton, Miss Fran Curtin, Mrs. Linda Schmidt, Mrs. Carlton Rhodes, Mrs. Kathleen Stanley.

Commission on Missions: Mrs. Louis Beall (Chairperson); Miss Barbara Ainsworth, Miss Martha Chapman, Owen Sellers, Miss Kelly Jones, Miss Laurie Denmark, Mrs. Ledley Brown, Mrs. Lavinia Short, Dr. Robert Lawton, Mrs. Robert Drake, Mrs. James Ball, III, Mrs. D. L. Hood, Bill Moncrief, Mrs. Julian V. Smith, Mrs. Barbara Goerke, Mrs. W. G. Parmenter, Mrs. C. R. Yates.

Ecumenical Affairs: Bruce Harter (Chairperson); Mrs. Linda Schmidt, Mrs. Sandra Fletcher Genetin, Thomas Wright.

UMW Circles Start New Year January 12

Circles of United Methodist Women will meet for the first time during 1976 during the week of January 12.

Circle 1 will meet at 10 a.m., January 12 at the home of its chairman, Mrs. Tom Lux, 2005 Seminole Drive. The circle will continue its study of the Book of Acts.

Circle 2 will meet at 2:30 p.m., January 12, at the home of Mrs. R. I. Denmar, 513 Martin Street. Assisting will be Mrs. Nella Johnson and Mrs. Jesse W. Smith. Mrs. Jennings Rehwinkel is chairman.

Circle 3 will meet at 10 a.m., January 13, with Mrs. Claud Andrews, 1106 Brookwood Drive.

Circle 4 meets January 13, 10 a.m., in Room 210. Miss Martha Chapman is chairman.

Circle 5 will meet on January 13, at 10 a.m., with Mrs. Jonathan Bliss, 502 Glenview Drive. Mrs. Mae Curtis is in charge of the program.

Circle 6 meets January 13, 10 a.m., with Mrs. Norman Harper, 832 Pine Street. Mrs. Betty Jackson is chairman.

Circle 7 meets at 10 a.m., January 13, with Mrs. Wesley Harter, 515 North Ride. Mrs. Eaton Burr will read the story, "The Other Wiseman," by Henry Van Dyke. Georgiana Wollschlager is chairman.

Circle 8 will meet at 9:30 a.m., January 13, in the church parlor. A nursery will be provided. Mrs. Pat Weil and Mrs. Rachel Hallam are hostesses. Mrs. William Stewart will review the book, "The Christian Secret of a Happy Life," by Hannah Whitall Smith. Cookie Whiting is chairman.

Circle 9 will meet at 10 a.m., January 13, at the home of its chairman, Mrs. Robert Lawton, 1403 N. Randolph Circle. The group will discuss its reading program and make plans for the year.

Circle 11 will meet January 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the church parlor. Peggy Busacco is chairman.

Circle 13, will meet on January 13 at 8 p.m., with Mrs. Jan Ragan, 522 Collins Drive. Mrs. Lois Fletcher and Mrs. Louise Leathers will conduct a pledge service. Mrs. Ollie Dawirs is chairman.

Contributions Wanted

Let your fellow church members know what your church school class, work area or special group is doing. Mail information about projects, meetings, plans, to *Monthly Tidings*, P. O. Box 1086, by January 23 for February issue.

How Do You Rate the Monthly Tidings?

The *Monthly Tidings* is two years old! Because printing and postage have increased, the editorial staff requests feedback from the members of Trinity regarding the value you place on this newspaper in the overall ministry of the church. Please express your opinions in the blanks below and mail to Monthly Tidings, P. O. Box 1086, Tallahassee 32302, or leave at the church office.

I think the *Monthly Tidings* should be continued: ☐ Yes ☐ No

If continued, I believe it could be improved by adding the following:

I have writing and/or photographic talent and I would like to serve on the editorial staff. _____

(Name)

(Phone)

Reflective Listening Can Be Learned

(Adapted from an article in the Nov. 23, 1975, *Tampa Tribune* by Trinity member Jeanne Alderson, *Tribune* correspondent.)

"Now you listen and listen good," John Wayne says in the movies. A group of Trinity parents and teens attending one of four recent Sunday morning programs on "The Family," tried to learn to "listen good."

Speaker for the morning, George Rossetot, M.S., educational marriage and family counselor, explained the problem most people encounter in listening. "If a friend is talking to you, you'll spend most of that time thinking about what you are going to answer back," he said.

To really learn to train your ear, Rossetot suggests you try the 5-5 technique for one week. The psychiatrist, Dr. Rudolph Dreikhurs calls it the "disarmament technique." In this method, two people pick a topic and then take turns being the talker and the listener for five minutes each. The listener concentrates on what is being said but does not respond.

After you have learned to listen, you can learn reflective listening, Rossetot said. Reflective listening is a communicative tool which helps the talker be more open and also helps the listener understand what is being said. "When you act as a reflector you are trying to mirror or echo not only the words, but also the feelings of the other person," Rossetot said. Tone of voice and body language are very important.

"Eighty percent of what we communicate is nonverbal," Rossetot explained. The 20 percent that is verbal is necessary to clarify the nonverbal.

As a reflector, you might say: "This is hard for you to talk about," or "What I hear you saying is . . ."

The group of parents and teens took turns being a reflector and then a talker. Most of the reflectors flunked their first attempt. Instead of reflecting, they tended to ask questions of the talker.

Rossetot explained that the need to learn communication skills has become necessary since World War II when we became more urbanized and mobile.

The knowledge explosion resulting from a much larger percentage of people going to college than ever before has caused our vocabulary to expand. We have many words that mean the same thing.

"In the old Hebrew language, the word *persona* meant person and nothing else. Originally there were 10,000 words in our vocabulary. Now there are 500,000 words," he said.

With the addition of computer language and the advancement of science, we are expected to have over one million words by the year 2,000. Some of the words we use now will be obsolete.

As any actor knows, there are many different ways of expressing the same words. Tones of voice, feelings, and attitudes can give the same words different meanings. The way the words are expressed is as important as content.

"I really believe we need to listen to women now," Rossetot commented. "Men have done a good job of putting together the technical-industrial society. Now we need to work on human relations. I feel women are the key to putting together the person-to-person society."

Rossetot believes we can also learn from our children. Because children have less predetermined ways of behaving, they have the potential of being creative problem-solvers.

"Children can teach adults to play," he said. "They can help keep their parents from being so uptight and developing into a rut. Children in turn can benefit from the many experiences their parents have had."

Communication tools help parents and children to understand each other, Rossetot said.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Treasurer's Report
November 30, 1975

Cash Balance	\$15,050.70
Plus November Receipts:	
On Pledges	\$20,316.22
Plate Offering	508.69
Kitchen — Food	360.60
Miscellaneous — Special	7,683.00
Non Budgetary	4,940.99
	33,809.50

Total Funds for Month	\$48,860.20
Less Disbursements During Month	21,556.70

Total Funds November 30, 1975 *\$27,303.50
* \$15,000 of this amount deposited in 90-day certificates.

DISBURSEMENTS

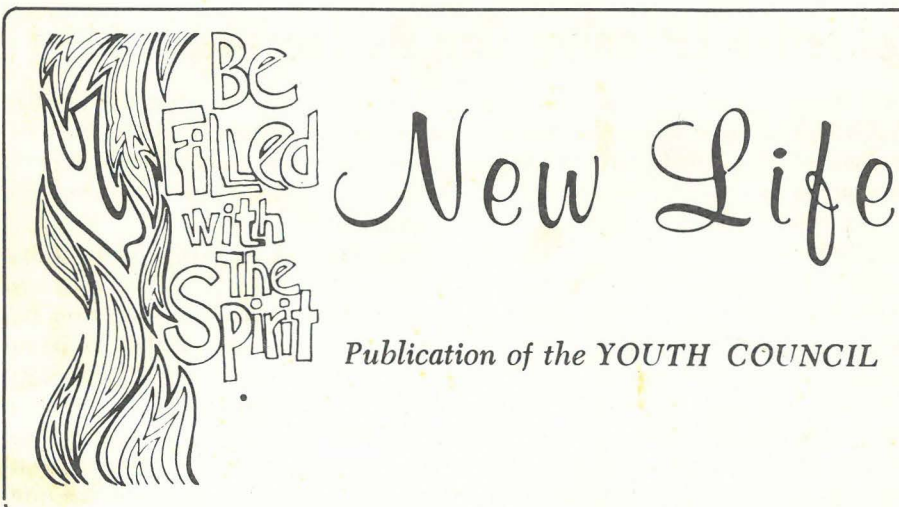
Budgetary:	
Benevolences	\$6,331.00
Ministerial Support	3,254.00
Lay Salaries	4,878.66
Promotion/Program	842.57
Office	1,225.44
Property	3,597.94
Miscellaneous	76.36
	\$20,205.97

Non Budgetary

Total Disbursements for November 1975

MONTHLY RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
Cash Carry Over			\$25,645.60
January	\$24,162.40	\$20,554.92	29,253.08
February	20,192.53	21,849.90	27,596.61
March	23,805.99	23,942.15	27,460.45
April	23,226.55	23,208.82	27,478.18
May	23,705.92	24,580.70	26,603.40
June	22,453.95	24,451.31	24,606.04
July	20,355.20	25,293.55	19,667.69
August	18,108.25	18,460.44	19,315.50
September	19,235.72	21,221.13	17,330.09
October	22,114.54	24,393.93	15,050.70
November	33,809.50	21,556.70	12,303.50
	Budgeted	Received	Balance
Cash Carry Over	\$ 25,645.60	\$ 25,645.60	
Pledges	220,000.00	201,391.38	18,608.62
Plate Offering	6,500.00	5,516.72	983.28
Kitchen and Food Services	2,500.00	2,603.78	(103.78)
Miscellaneous and Special	13,354.40	19,029.15	(5,674.75)
	\$268,000.00	\$254,186.63	\$13,813.37



New Life Publicity Room Is Established

An unused Sunday school room is in the process of being resurrected! Room 413 on the fourth floor of the Education Building will soon become the headquarters for the production of the bi-monthly "New Life" newsletter as well as the publicity center for youth activities. This new facility is the result of a desire to have a central location which can be used both for storage of materials used for publicity and for the actual production of the youth newsletter.

A group of youth and staff members recently examined the room to determine the needs and required changes. The present plan is to use half of the large room for New Life materials and layout area, and the other half for publicity supplies and work area.

Early in the new year a "morgue party" will be held during which the youth will clip pictures, words, unique lettering styles, etc., from old magazines to be put on file for use in the future.

It is hoped that this new room will facilitate communication among Trinity's youth and the church as a whole. If you would like to participate in improving this communication by helping set up the room, or working on New Life and/or publicity, there's a

place for you — Contact Jeb Blackburn, Lynn Goerke, Peggy Busacco or Phil Roughton.

District Youth Rally Coming

United Methodist Churches in the Tallahassee District will be participating in "Operation Understanding" February 20-24.

Included in the program, which is geared to help members of local churches better understand the ministry of the United Methodist Church at the national and international levels, will be a district-wide Youth Rally, Saturday night, February 21. There will be a special guest speaker from the Board of Global Ministries, and an outstanding Christian folk/rock group who will present a concert.

Mark the date on your calendar — *Saturday, Feb. 21* — and watch for further details. You don't want to miss this one!

Youth Council to Meet

The Council on Youth Ministries will meet on January 6 at 7 p.m., in Room 210. Jeb Blackburn, chairman, will preside.

Resolutions for a Growing Christian

I resolve that the inward reality of His Spirit express itself in social concern for my neighbors.

I resolve to commit what I am and what I have to God.

I resolve to learn and assume what is my responsibility for the mission of the church.

I resolve to uphold the church by my attendance, my prayers, my gifts and my service.

I resolve to have a regular time for prayer and meditation each day.

I resolve to strive to practice understanding, cooperation and good will and make the spirit of love supreme in all my relationships with others.

Trinity Basketball Teams Begin Season

Trinity is sponsoring two basketball teams, intermediate for 13-15-year-olds, and a senior team for 16-18-year-olds.

The intermediate team has played two games so far, winning one and losing the other. Games will resume January 6 after the holiday break.

Coaches for the intermediate team are Stan Marshall and Fred Dickinson. Games are played on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Elizabeth Cobb Gym.

The senior team will play on Saturday afternoons at Lafayette Gym starting on January 10. The team has had several practice sessions.

Watch for the play schedule in the weekly bulletin and come out and support these teams.

Six Plan to Attend Serendipity Workshop

On January 24 Bruce and Peggy Harter, Phil and Mica Roughton, Peggy Busacco, and Jeb Blackburn will be attending the Lyman Coleman Serendipity Workshop in Orlando.

These workshops, which are held each year in major metropolitan areas across the United States, are attended by thousands of church workers who wish to improve their leadership skills and techniques. The workshops emphasize both personal growth and the building of a sense of community in groups.

The experience promises to be a valuable one for those attending from Trinity which will result in more effective ministry among the members of the church, Phil Roughton said.

1976 Offers New Challenges for Youth

The Christmas and New Year holidays are now behind us for the year 1975. With their passing we tend to move into a new year with new ideas and expectations for 1976. Yet there are some who continue their hustle and bustle ways and do not take the time to think ahead as to what they wish to accomplish.

Let us take time right now to stop and think what we have before us not only as individuals but as Christians working together here at Trinity. The total involvement of the youth groups has come a long way under the direction of many who are concerned and interested in our total youth program. Are you one of those persons? Do you appreciate what has happened in 1975 and are you concerned as to what will happen in 1976? Have you taken the time to even care?

As individuals we have goals for our lives. In order to obtain these goals we take care of ourselves and make certain that we accomplish the necessary things so we can attain our personal goals. Some wash dishes and take out the garbage to make sure that they can go out on Friday and Saturday nights, and there are some who do their homework from school at 4:00 so they can watch their favorite television show that night or in order to go to Bible study. It seems that when we as individuals want to do something we go to any extreme so it can be accomplished.

Do you take such planning and personal-time to share your ideas for your youth group or help a friend who is in need? So often we say we want to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves during a good Sunday school or U.M.Y.F. lesson, but when the lesson is over how many times have you picked up on the idea and carried it through? We as true crusaders for Christ must stop running to church and snack supper after the lesson. The ideas must be molded by someone, and maybe YOU are the only one who can do it.

Remember the song, "Slow down you move too fast . . ." Stop right now and look at your own life. Have you been cheating yourself and others by not taking time to do what you are capable of doing?

1976 is our country's big birthday year, and maybe, just maybe, it can be a big year for you and your life. Just take time and care about yourself and others.

Bruce Harter

Dr. Foster Is Teaching

Dr. George Foster is teaching the Senior High Church School class a series of lessons on the social creed of the Methodist Church. The class meets at 9:45 each Sunday morning on the fourth floor of the Education Building. New members from ninth through twelfth grades are welcome.

ROUGHTON'S RAPPINGS

1976! Wait a minute — I'm not through with 1975 yet! What about . . . and I was going to . . . and I meant to . . . and I never got around to. . . Sound familiar? Well, folks, if you had it planned for '75 and it's not done, you have two choices: Forget it — or put it on the '76 agenda. If you're like me, you'll have to apply those choices to at least one or two things!

One goal that has appeared on my list every year now for the past three or four is that of becoming a letter listener. I suppose it keeps appearing for a couple of reasons. For one thing, as I observe myself and other people interacting, I notice what a poor job we do listening to each other. Of course, we all listen carefully enough to minimally maintain the conversation, but too often my interaction with people never goes beyond that level. I don't like that and I'm working to change it.

A second reason the goal of becoming a better listener keeps appearing for me is the increasing awareness of the need for good listeners. As I work at listening more carefully, I find people have important things to tell me; more important than I may realize when I listen only superficially. Let me explain.

I find that words and phrases which on the surface may seem quite simple and ordinary to me may have a specific special meaning for the person with whom I am talking. The only way for me to know that special meaning is to check it out. So listening becomes active for me. I may need to ask questions, or rephrase statements to make certain I understand all a person is saying to me. Also (and this is the hard part for a preacher!) I often have to squelch my impulse to jump in and tell some little story or incident which seems to be remotely related. That's not to say I can never tell a story or relate my own experience if I want to be a good listener. I just want to be sure that doesn't keep me from hearing all that's being said to me.

There's no verse in the Bible that says "Jesus listeneth well" — but I'm sure he did. All you have to do is look at the number and types of questions people asked Jesus. You don't (at least I don't) ask those kinds of questions to a person you think might not hear you. But people asked Jesus. They knew they would be heard.

Try listening to people in '76 — otherwise you may never know what all people are saying to you!

Peace,
PHIL



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