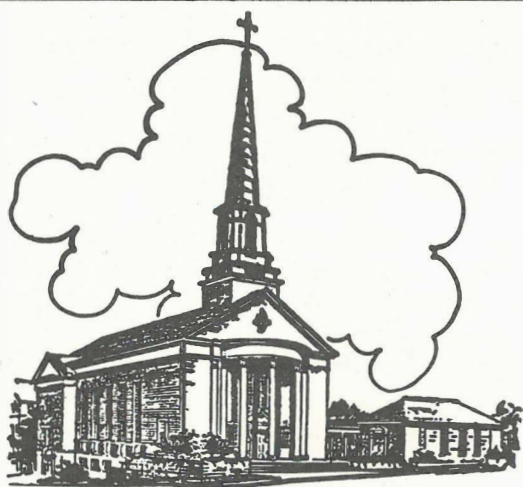




Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • TALLAHASSEE, FLA. • VOL. 4, NO. 2 • FEBRUARY, 1977



The Bethune-Cookman Chorale of Daytona Beach will sing during morning worship and in concert during the church school hour on February 20. The singers are con-

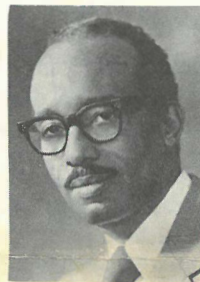
ducted by Dr. Rebecca W. Steele, former FAMU and Wesley Foundation choir director.

Bethune-Cookman President, Chorale Here February 20

Dr. Oswald Bronson, president of Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, will preach at Trinity's 9 and 11 a.m. worship services on February 20, Brotherhood Sunday.

The Bethune-Cookman choir will sing during both services and will also present a concert during the Sunday school hour for all youth and adult classes.

Dr. Bronson came to Bethune-Cookman after serving as president of Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta since 1968. Earlier he had served that school as director of field education and as vice president. He obtained his B.S. degree from Bethune-Cookman, and later a bachelor of divinity degree from Gammon Theological Seminary. He earned the Ph.D. degree from Northwestern University.



He was a pastor for 16 years in the Florida, Georgia and Rock River (Chicago) Conferences of the United Methodist Church. He has written for numerous United Methodist publications and has been honored by appreciation and distinguished service awards from eight organizations.

Bethune-Cookman is a Methodist supported college for blacks founded by Mary McCloud Bethune.

Tallahassee District Asks 2nd Mile Gifts

About 200 Tallahassee Methodists attended a dinner at Trinity Monday, January 24, to learn about three major needs of the Tallahassee District of the United Methodist Church and to be given an opportunity to pledge toward those needs with "Second Mile Givings."

District Superintendent, the Rev. Al Vaught, said in order to meet the needs and development of parish ministries and expansions of churches in the district, the Florida Annual Conference established a Church Development Committee with projections of the Tallahassee area for \$43,000 a year for the next five years.

These funds will be used for new sites, redevelopment and relocation of churches in the district. Some will be used for churches which have temporary financial difficulties.

Another \$53,000 over the next five years is needed for the Wesley Foundation at Florida State University.

Persons wishing to pledge toward these needs may write the United Methodist District office, P. O. Box 3545, Tallahassee, Florida 32303.

Similar appeals were made in Perry, Quincy and Madison.

Committee Seeks Comment From Congregation on Church's Goals

As chairman of Trinity's Administrative Board, Dr. Marshall Hamilton, before his death last month, had established an Evaluation Committee to assess how well Trinity is fulfilling what the congregation perceives its goals to be.

The Rev. Dr. Gene Zimmerman said this project of Dr. Hamilton's will be continued and the committees and subcommittees he appointed will be asked to complete their assignments.

A Goals Subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Charlotte White, has met several times during the past three months and is ready to report to the congregation the goals it has compiled. The *Methodist Discipline* and other publications of the Methodist Church were researched, and goals approved by the Administrative Board during the past two years are incorporated in the committee's report.

Input from the congregation at large is now desired by the subcommittee. Additional goals, comments and suggestions are invited. These should be addressed to Goals Subcommittee, Trinity United Methodist Church, P. O. Box 1086, Tallahassee, Florida 32302.

As soon as the goals are completed and approved, other members of the Evaluation Committee will determine where improvement is needed in programs to fulfill the goals.

Goals of Trinity United Methodist Church Beliefs

We believe the organized church of Trinity United Methodist Church is a community of believers whose purpose and goal is to know God and make Him known. The membership of the church shall through worship become one in and through God.

The church shall develop in each member a total and personal commitment to know God and serve Him. This individual and joint commitment shall include: teaching, healing, serving, loving, giving and praying.

It is the goal of Trinity to create a fellowship of believers through whose

joint efforts the "Great Commission" can be accomplished here at home, in our community, and throughout the world for knowing Christ and making him known.

Goals

The goals of Trinity United Methodist Church are to:

- (1) proclaim the good tidings of salvation;
- (2) interpret Jesus' way of life;
- (3) contribute to the making of whole persons;
- (4) lead every person to a fuller knowledge of God;
- (5) care for the helpless, the aged and give relief to all in need of help;
- (6) participate in evangelizing the world and in building the Kingdom of God;
- (7) uphold and support Trinity United Methodist Church as an institution of spiritual, moral and ethical values.

March 1 Is Deadline For Leesburg Retreat

Methodist men all over Florida are now making plans to attend lay retreats to be held in September and October at the youth camp in Leesburg. The demand is so great that reservations must be made well in advance.

What are these weekends all about? They are a two-day experience when men gather to have fun, food, fellowship and experience the closeness of God. Men who have gone one or two times are eager to return whenever possible.

Several men from Trinity are planning to attend October 21-23. A cabin is being reserved for Trinity and the cost is \$25 each.

Main speakers for the weekend include Kenneth Kinghorn of Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Ky., B. C. Hendren, lay evangelist, Dyersburg, Tenn., and the Rev. Robert Shelley of Tampa.

Interested men should contact the church office, either of the ministers or Bruce Harter. Registration fees are due before March 1.

Young Adults Start New Fellowship

Trinity's young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 have started a young adult fellowship that meets each Sunday following evening worship.

The group was begun in September with the help of the Reverends John Green and Phil Roughton in response to the need expressed by several young people to continue the fellowship and spiritual growth they enjoyed as former members of MYF. Meetings are held at members' homes, according to group leader Hardy Sandlin.

Persons between 18 and 25 who would like to become part of the group are invited to the meeting on February 6 at the home of Cheri and Peggy Lewis, 3402 Prock. Methodist literature will be used as the program resource on the month's theme, "Death, A Christian Perspective."

Other meetings scheduled are at Patsy Crotty's, 1725 Sharon Rd., February 13, when funeral preparations will be discussed; and at a place to be decided on February 20, when insurance is the topic; February 27, wills; March 6, 13, 20 and 27, when a study book on death will be the resource material.

In April the young adult fellowship is planning a study series on prison ministry, with Sunday evening discussions covering the Terrell House, halfway houses, federal institutions, and a visit to a prison. A retreat is also planned for the first weekend in April.

Plans have been made for the group to study *Romans* from May until school adjourns.

Midyette Is Recognized

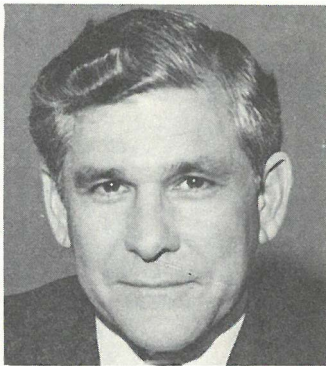
Payne Midyette, Sr., was recognized during 11 a.m. worship January 23 for his service as a member of the Council of 100 for the Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

Dr. Paul Worley, director of development for Candler, preached during morning worship services and made the presentation to Midyette for his aid in establishing scholarships for ministerial students.

COMMENT:

The Discriminating Christian

by Gene Zimmerman



When I was a college student and pastor of a small rural church, my wife and I were invited to go to a hymn sing at a neighboring church. It was customary in that country for people to gather once a month for an afternoon of singing.

When we arrived we found to our dismay that we'd come on the wrong Sunday. However, that church was having a temperance meeting and when our host heard this he proclaimed that one meeting was as good as another and we should all go in. We went, but I wished we hadn't. It was noisy and narrow and out of touch with the real problems and resolutions to the use of alcohol. I was hoping no one had seen me go in or come out.

One meeting is *not* as good as another! Some are priceless and others worthless with all shades in between. But the question is how do you know? What's the difference between a quack and a saint, a real prayer and a platitude? How do you tell the difference?

My answer is that I judge by what I know of Jesus Christ. I didn't like the temperance meeting because there was more vengeance than love. I tell the quack from the saint because the quack is trying to get something — the saint is trying to give something (which is a mark of the Master). I sense that I'm in God's presence when He is being honored and less so when it's somebody else.

Christians need to be discriminating and the best way to do it is to compare these things to Christ — His life, His spirit, and His teachings. If they don't come somewhere close, then I don't think they're worthy of His name.

Christian Education Comments

By John H. Green
"Helping The Sunday School"

The Florida Conference Work Area on Education and the Committee on Leader Development have prepared an information packet called "Here's Help For Your Sunday School." The packet includes the objectives of Christian education, ideas for teachers and leadership training, a guide for studying the Bible, resources, models of teaching and learning and nearly something for everyone in church school work. Many of the suggestions are being used in helping our own Sunday school program at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Trinity's Work Area on Education is responsible for looking at Sunday school and other church school programs and developing a good educational program which includes study, worship, fellowship and service. "Here's Help For Your Sunday School" suggests an evaluation of how well we are accomplishing this responsibility. A special evaluation committee was appointed: Mrs. Louis Beall, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Parramore, Mrs. Robert Lumsden, Dr. Richard Hulet, Tommy Wright, Mrs. John Mowell, Len McKinnon, and Mrs. Palmer Williams.

This committee not only evaluated the Sunday school program but all phases of programs at Trinity United Methodist Church. The people involved in evaluation spent a number of hours and we are grateful for their service. Their efforts will contribute to helping our Sunday school. There is not enough time or space to detail all of the comments and suggestions but a number of thoughts should be shared so that we might *help* the Work Area on Education and our Sunday school. A considerable number of the comments were very positive but these will not be mentioned. The areas shared will reflect only the negatives.

There are six major areas of concern expressed by the evaluation committee. The first area is *not* new. It concerns teachers or shall we put it

— the lack of them. The truth is we need all the teachers we can recruit. Fortunately, most of our departments are well-staffed but we can always use more. The children's division can never have too many teachers. Trinity's problem usually begins in summer and fall when we are recruiting new teachers for the next year. We really need help now! One way the Work Area on Education is working on this problem is through a PTA — Parents and Teachers Assisting each other. Other ways we approach this task is to rotate teachers on a shorter schedule and to pool teachers from other classes. A card file on potential teachers was once started and this will be brought up-to-date and continued. Of course we need to ask a question: Will you help the Sunday school by teaching?

A second area of concern includes two phases: greeters and an information center for newcomers. We have lost people in our Sunday school program simply because they are lost when they visit! The Committee on Evangelism has agreed to work with us on this problem. This is a step well taken!

The next area suggests that church members need to know more about the literature in our Sunday school program. We intend to approach this problem with the PTA and also by holding special sessions with parents beginning in the fall '77. The more people are informed, hopefully, the more people will lend a helping hand to the Sunday school.

Another area of concern was confirmation classes. Unfortunately, this is a very weak area and is more related to our church school program as a whole. All three ministers share the same concern. Part of our immediate future plans involves using the Sunday school hour for adult and youth confirmation. More will be said about this in other articles.

The fifth area of needs for the Sunday school was described as Family Christian Education. In other words,

IN MEMORIAM

DR. MARSHALL HAMILTON
September 4, 1914 - January 18, 1977

Our church is saddened by the death of Dr. Marshall Hamilton, a devoted member of Trinity and chairman of the Administrative Board. The prayer below, which he wrote and prayed, is deeply expressive of the life he lived and the faith he demonstrated.

Whatever a man may know, he still has a lot to learn; but if he loves God, he is opening his whole life to the Spirit of God.

When a man learns the truth as expressed by Jesus, he becomes a new person altogether — the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new. All this is God's doing.

Let us reassure ourselves of the truth of this as we pray the prayer given us by Thy son: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name,

Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Our Father, our God who hast made us and who hast given us the potential to reflect thy virtue, we thank Thee for the gift of life. All that is within us rejoices that we may share with Thee the hope of a better world. Hold ever before us, we pray, the vision of a world without war, a society without ugliness, a human race without prejudice, an environment without danger, and a people who love their fellow man.

We thank Thee for Jesus and for his influence on our lives. For it is through Him that we truly see Thee and understand the fullness of Thy love.

Help us, we pray, to open our lives to thy Holy Spirit so we can better understand our roles in thy kingdom — so we can live as responsible Christians in a world in great need of Christian leadership.

It is only as men live close to the heart of God that they are able to sense the greatness of the distance between what they are and what they ought to be.

During this hour of crisis on earth we ask thy forgiveness for our wavering faith. Help us to discover the way we should go in order to fulfill our responsibilities as Christian men and women. Give us the courage to do thy will in every situation and the faith to know that in every such instance the outcome will be best.

This we pray with grateful hearts.

what are we doing to provide Christian education opportunities for the family? We talk about the family coming to the church but when they arrive we split them up! Opportunities are being planned for the spring. At this point, most of the plans are outside the Sunday school hour. We need to give this area more thought.

The final area calls for more laymen responsibility. Ministers are being asked to allow the laity to have more control and responsibility. This is a problem? It is a nice problem! We have a tendency to think the efforts of others don't work as well. This is a fault we intend to correct!

These thoughts will help our Sunday school. Anytime we share such ideas we become healthier. We need evaluation to wake us up and give us direction. Let us keep working to help our Sunday school.

World Day of Prayer Is March 4 at Bethel

Church Women United will observe a World Day of Prayer on March 4 at Bethel Baptist Church on North Boulevard St. The theme will be "Love in Action" and the Rev. Andrea Ahlers will be the speaker.

Women throughout the Christian world will hold similar programs comingling their prayers in united faith and action.

Elise Lawton of Trinity is president of the local branch of Church Women United.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Treasurer's Report December 31, 1976

Cash Balance		\$ 4,458.28
Plus December Receipts		
On Pledges	\$25,194.95	
Plate Offering	837.94	
Kitchen — Food	143.00	
Miscellaneous — Special	* 16,282.49	
		\$42,458.38
* Includes:		
Christmas Spec. Col.	\$ 1,077.00	
Spear Estate Income	5,942.96	
Special Gifts	7,770.00	
Other	1,492.53	
Non Budgetary Receipts		\$ 751.50
Total Funds for Month		\$47,668.16
Less Disbursements During Month		\$32,413.95
Total Funds December 31, 1976		\$15,254.21
BUDGETARY		
Benevolences	\$ 8,425.00	
Ministerial Support	3,479.24	
Lay Salaries	4,898.14	
Promotion/Program	1,576.23	
Office	1,535.96	
Property	5,740.33	
Miscellaneous	459.50	
		\$26,114.40
Non Budgetary Disbursements		\$ 6,299.55
Total Disbursements for December 1976		\$32,413.95



Trinity Welcomes 18 New Members

Trinity welcomes 18 new members to its fellowship and says Godspeed to four members who moved to new church homes in other cities.

New members include:

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Clark (Linda), 2600 Miccosukee Road #601, from First United Methodist Church, Atlanta, Georgia. Jimmy is a physician's assistant in Dr. Orson Smith's office. Linda is working on a master's degree in home economics at FSU, and works part-time at Dr. Smith's office.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Warren (Mary), 1835 Mayfair Drive, from Murray Hill United Methodist Church in Jacksonville, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Buz Harris (Gail), 1321 Leewood Drive. Gail is transferring from John Wesley United Methodist Church, Tallahassee, and Buz comes to us from East Hill Baptist Church in Tallahassee.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Lee, Jr. (Terrie Link), 2636-298 W. Mission Road, from Union United Methodist Church, Irmo, South Carolina.

Doris DeMauro, 261 West Park Avenue, from Christ United Methodist Church, Memphis, Tennessee.

Constance Okoli and Irene Jumbo, both students at FAMU (Box 589), from an Anglican Church in Nigeria. **Jerry Chapman**, 412 Talaflo, from Calvary United Methodist Church, Jackson, Michigan.

Nanci Glisson, 1013 San Luis Road. Nanci is a student at Florida High.

Ray Marchant, 431 Fairbanks Drive, phone 575-2989, has transferred his membership from Calvary United Methodist Church. He is a student at Godby High School. His sister Carole is also a member of Trinity.

Alex Knight, 2112 Jackson Bluff Rd., 5-D, transferred his membership from the Church of Christ, Call Street.

Lois McDaniel Thompson, 516 N. Duval Street, transferred her membership from Church of Christ, Gadsden Street.

Torera Glover, transferring from a Methodist Church in Nigeria, is a student at FSU. Her address is Box 6295, FSU.

Isaac Ogunsan is also coming from a Methodist Church in Nigeria and lives at 215 Hayden Road.

Trinity Members who moved away during January:

Mr. and Mrs. William Conlin (Diane), 438 Hollis Street, Framingham, Mass. Transferred membership to Wesley United Methodist Church, Framingham, Mass.

Mrs. P. Z. Geer, Sr. (Juanita), Colquitt, Georgia. Transferred membership to Colquitt United Methodist Church, Colquitt, Ga.

Mrs. A. B. Reynolds (Joyce Finlayson), 3302 West 15th St., Panama City. Transferred membership to Forest Park United Methodist Church, Panama City.

These new members joined Trinity January 30 following an orientation hour in the church parlor led by the Rev. Gene Zimmerman. From left are (standing) Lois McDaniel Thompson, Buz and Gail Harris; (seated) the Charles T. Lee, Jr., family.



Because Methodism is a connectional church Torera Glover and Isaac Ogunsan (back row) were able to transfer their membership from a Methodist Church in Nigeria to Trinity. Seated are Nanci Glisson and Linda and Jimmy Clark.

UMW Circles Schedule Meetings

Circle 1 will meet with Mrs. Bruce Holmberg, 2218 Killarney Way, on Monday, February 14, at 10 a.m. Co-hostess will be Mrs. Thomas Taylor.

Circle 2 will meet with Mrs. Harold Yates, 1219 Camellia Drive, on Monday, February 14, at 2:30 p.m. Mrs. J. A. Rehwinkel will present a program on Africa.

Circle 3 will meet with Mrs. Claud M. Andrews, 1106 Brookwood Drive, on Tuesday, February 8, at 10 a.m. Mrs. Lewis Hall will lead a new study based on the Gospel of Mark, using the book, "Disciples of the Way."

Circle 4 will meet in Room 210 at the church on Tuesday, February 8, at 10 a.m.

Circle 5 will meet at the home of Mrs. E. H. Stockton, 814 Governor's Drive, on Tuesday, February 8, at 10 a.m. Mrs. H. A. Curtis has been chosen as the new chairperson, and Mrs. E. H. Stockton as vice chairperson.

Circle 6 will meet at the home of Mrs. Harry Waugh, 414 Vinnedge Ride, on Tuesday, February 8, at 10 a.m. with Mrs. I. A. Metz as cohostess. Mrs. Waugh will present the program.

Circle 7 will meet with Mrs. Wesley Harter, 515 North Ride, on Tuesday, February 8, at 10 a.m.

Circle 8 will meet in the church parlor on Tuesday, February 8, at 9 a.m. and a nursery will be provided. Mr. Don Rapp will present a program on Child Development.

Circle 9 will meet at the home of Mrs. Maurice Harling, 925 East Magnolia, Apt. O-8, on Tuesday, February 8, at 10 a.m.

Circle 13 will meet at the home of Mrs. M. F. Allen, 620 East College Avenue, on Tuesday, February 8, at 7:30 p.m. with Mrs. Charles Hinson as cohostess. Mrs. M. C. Scales is in charge of the program.

Circle 14 will meet on Monday, February 14, at 12:30 p.m. at the Spartan Restaurant.



A book on United Methodist Beliefs and a packet of other materials about Trinity were received by new members (standing) Ben and Mary Warren; (seated) Alex Knight, Doris DeMauro, and Ray Marchant.

Two Take Part In Conference Youth Department Meetings

Doug Smith and Phil Roughton recently attended the winter meeting of the Conference Youth Department in Orlando. Also attending from the Tallahassee District was Drew Parsons, youth co-ordinator. During the tightly scheduled three-day meeting, 1976 conference youth programs were evaluated, 1977 programs implemented and 1978 programs and budget proposals were made.

The Conference Youth Department (CYD) is composed of two youth representatives and at least one adult co-ordinator from each of the twelve districts in the Florida Annual Conference. Doug Smith from Trinity and Kim Fox from John Wesley United Methodist Church serve as the youth representatives; Drew Parsons from the Leon/Wakulla Larger Parish and Phil Roughton are the adult co-ordinators. The CYD is responsible for all conference-wide youth programming, including the annual fall and spring youth weekends at the United Methodist Youth Camp at Leesburg, and some of the summer camping at Leesburg. Overall staff leadership for the CYD is given by the Rev. Richard J. Wills, a United Methodist minister.

Details of the following upcoming events which will be of interest to youth at Trinity were finalized at the winter meeting:

March 4, 5, 6 — Christian Faith and Human Sexuality Weekend for Jr. Highs — United Methodist Youth Camp, Leesburg, Fla.

March 11, 12, 13 — Christian Faith and Human Sexuality Weekend for Sr. Highs — United Methodist Youth Camp, Leesburg, Fla.

April 23 — Bishop's Convocation for Youth — Ortega United Methodist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.

April 29, 30, May 1 — "Summer '77 or "How to Keep from Having a Boring Summer in the Local Church" — Spring Youth Weekend — United Methodist Youth Camp, Leesburg, Fla.

Further information regarding these special youth events will be published later in the *Monthly Tidings*. Questions about details may be addressed to Doug Smith or Phil Roughton.

News from the Church School

Mrs. Frances Nell Melton has been leading the two-year-old class in singing and doing finger plays, like "Eency Weency Spider, Choo Choo Comin' and Jesus Loves Me." She has talked with them about sunshine and rain which God sends to earth to make the flowers grow.

On the first Sunday of each month Marilyn and Bob Dean work with the two-year-olds. One Sunday Marilyn and Bob helped each one make a stained glass window to take home.

On the third Sunday of every month Evelyn and Gene Harper work with the two-year-olds. Evelyn and Gene have been working on sharing and loving one another. Also, these two help with songs like "Deep and Wide, Zacheus, and Love One Another."

Mary Ann and Dan Walsh, first grade teachers, are helping their class learn the liturgy that is used in the church services.

Students in Nancy Kerce's fifth grade class, now studying Bible history, enjoy playing the game, "Hangman," using books of the Bible and Bible characters.

Education Work Area Plans Ahead

To help Trinity's education program become even more effective, co-ordinators in the Education Work Area are doing some advance planning, reports Leslie Williams, work area chairman.

Planning is now underway in the following programs:

Vacation Church School: June 20-24 have been selected as the dates for this program. Literature selection and teacher recruitment are underway. Persons who would like to teach during Vacation Church School are asked to contact Mrs. Robert Lumsden, Mrs. Steven Woolard, or Mrs. Palmer Williams.

5th Sunday Assemblies: This pro-

gram is held in the sanctuary each month that there is a 5th Sunday. Presentations are given by various children's classes showing what they are learning in church school.

Quarterly Church School Teachers' Meetings: At these meetings teachers receive literature for the upcoming quarter and discuss ideas to help them in their classrooms.

Mrs. Williams said she hopes the advance planning will help Trinity's educational programs be so worthwhile that the "10-year decline" in church school attendance (see January 1977 *Monthly Tidings*) will become an "incline" during the next 10 years.

Senior High Retreat Is February 18-20

"Comedy and the Gospel" is the theme for the Sr. High Retreat planned for February 18, 19, 20 at St. Teresa Beach. The event will be held at Camp Weed on the beach and is open to all senior high age Trinity members and friends.

"Comedy and the Gospel," a retreat design created by the Rev. Edward McNulty (author of *Television: A Guide for Christians*) probes the gospel as comedy. McNulty, who realizes many see the story of Jesus more as tragedy than comedy, distinguishes the two by observing that a comedy is not always funny, but it always has an "upbeat ending." He continues, "Life is either viewed as a painful trek through a veil of tears, or a waltz among banana peels, but always with the hope that you will discover the strength to pick yourself up when you fall and carry on. The comic view of life affirms with Shakespeare, 'All's well that ends well.'"

"Most Christians are conditioned so thoroughly to always be serious about things read in the Bible they fail to see the humor in a situation like that of a man trying to get a speck out of another's eye while he has a log in his own, or a camel trying to squeeze through the eye of a needle!" "The senior highs will be taking a look at things like these in an effort to have a fuller understanding of the joy of living exemplified in the gospel—and have a hilarious time in the process!" said Rev. Phil Roughton.

The retreat will include an opportunity to see some classic old comedy films, skits, small group discussions, singing, and worship. The cost for the weekend, which includes six meals provided by the Camp Weed staff and two nights lodging in the heated cabins, is \$15 per person. The deadline for reservations is Sunday, February 13.

Donna McGinley Is Youth Page Editor

Donna McGinley is the new editor of the Youth Page of the *Monthly Tidings*. In January she began assisting Phil Roughton in communicating programs and activities of the youth to the congregation through the *Tidings*.

She and her husband Michael became members of Trinity last spring. He is a student at Florida State University and she works as a retirement benefits specialist trainee with the Florida Division of Retirement. They moved to Tallahassee in August 1974 from Tennessee.

Donna is a graduate of the University of Tennessee with a major in journalism. For a year and a half she served as an editorial assistant with the Board of Methodist Discipleship, Division of the Upper Room, Nashville.

Familiar Faces Return

During the Christmas and New Year's holidays many familiar faces returned to Trinity from college during the long-awaited break from books and exams. Among those returning were Diane Bevis, Kelly Jones, Kathy Vaught, Jeb Blackburn, David Moon and Cary Moon. What a joy it was to see these young people return to Trinity Church while they were home!

During the past year or so there has been an emphasis placed on building relationships within the youth program. It would seem that those relationships built within the church tend to have a warm Christian bond. If you are a young person not involved in youth activities, you are invited to come and participate in our youth program.

Many faces come and go within a church youth group but nothing is more rewarding than to return and be welcomed back. To those who cannot be here, we say, "We miss you," and to those who can be here and share, we say, "We want you."

BRUCE HARTER

ROUGHTON'S RAPPINGS

Valentine Day will soon be here and it's time to muster up all that courage, pull together all your most wonderful qualities and procede to ask that special someone to be your one and only — or maybe just to be your Valentine for starters. If you're like me, that can be a traumatic time. I remember the first time I held hands with a girl. It took one entire church service of gradually moving closer and closer together on the pew so that eventually our hands touched each other's and there was nothing left to do but hold on. (I'm glad my dad never quizzed me on the content of his sermons!) After the service, we held hands all the way through snack supper, song fest, and MYF. It took three days just to get the circulation going in my hand again! Some of the other kids gave me a rough time that night about my new "girl friend," and I felt a little foolish, but I don't regret it. That experience probably helped make me the great hand-holding expert I am today (at least according to Mica!)

I've felt foolish or inadequate plenty of times since then—sometimes about my faith. I've been in situations where belief in God sounded pretty unrealistic for intelligent people living in a sophisticated scientific age. And in those situations I've asked questions to myself about my faith. Does it make sense? Is it reality, or am I just kidding myself?

Then, and now, something Paul wrote in a letter helped me. He said, "The message about Christ's death on the cross is nonsense to those who are being lost; but for us who are being saved, it is God's power. For the scripture says, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, I will set aside the understanding of the scholars.' So then, where does that leave the wise men? Or the scholars? Or the skillful debates of this world? God has shown that this world's wisdom is foolishness! For God in his wisdom made it impossible for men to know him by means of their own wisdom. Instead, God decided to save those who believe by means of the 'foolish' message we preach."

Belief is what counts — and no one can debate that — it's yours, and yours alone. If we stick only with what seems "wise" by the world's standards, we'll miss a good part of God's truth.

Peace, PHIL

More Mission Projects for Youth Is Goal of Chairperson Lauri Denmark

By Donna McGinley

Meet Lauri Denmark, chairperson of the Youth in Missions Committee of the Council on Youth Ministries. Although she was also last year's chairperson, Lauri has just recently been reappointed to coordinate all mission and service activities for the youth of the church.

Building, strengthening, and organizing will be Lauri's prime concern for this year's program. "I want to get a lot of people involved, do more mission projects, and become more reliable as a group," said the young coordinator. "When a shut-in calls to have a lawn mowed, windows washed or other work done, I want us to be able to hustle on over."

Even though Lauri has always attended Trinity, she says it's only been three years since she became a regular in the youth program. Now she plans her life around the church. People, fellowship, choir. "There's always something to do at Trinity," says Lauri. "There's a lot of leadership among the youth. And the church is so large. There are so many people. It really has a lot of potential."

As an active youth programmer, Lauri vividly remembers the year she participated in the Appalachia Service Project in Mobile, Alabama. "We really had a good time meeting people and repairing the houses," she said. "If you've seen any of the houses in the worst part of Frenchtown here in Tallahassee, then you'll have an idea of the kind of shacks that we worked on. In one week, our group repaired two houses by doing such things as fixing the roof to stop leaks

and putting screening on the windows."

Lauri likes to sew, read and "do stuff around the house" in her spare time. She's also a member of the chorus at Florida High School where she is currently a junior.

When speaking of the adults at Trinity, Lauri readily acknowledges, "They really support us. They don't by any means neglect us. They know that we're tomorrow's church."

Valentine Banquet: 'My Gift of Love'

Catherine Causseaux, chairperson of the Youth in Trinity Committee, has announced plans for a Valentine banquet to be held Friday, February 11, 8 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel.

"Since Valentine's Day marks a time of love," says Catherine, "the theme of the banquet will be 'My Gift of Love.'"

Upon making reservations for the formal banquet, each person will receive an invitation on the back of which will be the phrase, "My gift of love is _____." Before the night of the banquet, everyone will fill in the blank with the number of hours they volunteer to spend in the month of February working at Terrell House, a convalescent home, or visiting shut-ins. Each gift of love will be donated at the banquet.

Entertainment for the occasion will be provided by Trinity member Tommy Roberts. A singer and guitarist, Roberts has just completed an engagement in the Hilton lounge.

The cost will be \$4.50 per person and friends are invited. The deadline for reservations is Sunday evening, February 6.

Youth Council Plans For Next Three Months

The Council on Youth Ministries assembled January 11 for their first meeting of the new year. With President Doug Smith presiding, the group discussed activities for the next three months.

Parking Lot Day has been slated for Saturday, February 26, from 10 in the morning until. . . . Why a Parking Lot Day? To clean up the church parking lot, of course. Lauri Denmark, Youth in Missions Committee chairperson, said initial reaction to the idea was good. And it may not be all clean-up. A Trinity member is checking into the possibility that the city will donate dogwood trees to spruce up the landscape. So bring your own tools, some lunch or lunch money and plan now to meet in the church parking lot to join in the work for fun.

An old-fashioned box picnic lunch is being planned for one of the first Saturdays in March at a local recreation area. The girls will prepare box lunches to be auctioned at the picnic. Guys will bid pennies for the box lunch of their choice and lunch plus its maker will go to the highest bidder. The aura of suspense surrounding the picnic (or who made which lunch?) will be dispelled only as each lunch is successfully sold.

Mark your calendar now for the weekend camping trip to Fort Wilderness in Disney World. The date of the "Wonderful Wilderness Weekend" for both junior and senior high youth has been changed to April 22, 23 and 24. Costs and other details are currently being negotiated.

Additional activities for April include tentative plans for horseback riding in Thomasville and a Biking Day.

Youth to Save Money for UMCOR

In the January 11 Council on Youth Ministries meeting, Phil Roughton announced plans for youth participation in "One Great Hour of Sharing."

"It is a program of the United Methodist Church," said Rev. Roughton, "which happens each year." It is a primary source of funds for the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Authorized by General Conference, this special offering has an annual goal of \$2,000,000.

Emphasis will be placed on "Share a Snack." For one 25¢ soft drink you can buy one day's food for ten hungry children. For a 50¢ hot dog, you can purchase eight vaccinations. Or for a 50¢ piece of cake, you can provide twelve eight-ounce glasses of milk. Each person will be encouraged to share with someone in need what they would spend on themselves.

"The youth will be using the coin boxes to save their contributions," said Roughton. "And all the money will be collected on March 20 and sent to be used by UMCOR."

A film has been ordered and an MYF program is being planned to detail the "One Great Hour of Sharing" program.

Monthly Tidings

Vol. 4, No. 2, Feb. 1977

Published Monthly by
Trinity United Methodist Church
Park and Duval
P. O. Box 1086
Tallahassee, Florida 32302

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March Deadline: February 18

Second Class Postage Paid
at Tallahassee, Florida

Mr. & Mrs. Frank D. Moor
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Tallahassee, FL 32303