

# Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • TALLAHASSEE, FLA. • VOL. 6, NO. 1 • JANUARY, 1979



Trinity's ministerial, office, music, custodial and nursery staff took time out for a rare time together before Christmas. Serving the church in 1979 are, Seated left to right, Ellen Smith, Mary Blackburn, Mary Leslie Drake, Mary Draper, LuAnn Snider; standing front row, left to right, Rev. John Green, Marie Touchton, Lindsay Kirchgessner, Carol Woolverton, Kay Ellison, Rev. Gene Zimmerman, Lisa Miley, Clifton Mosley; back row, from left, James Davis, David Best, Rev. Phil Roughton, James W. Parker

# **UMW General Meeting Is January 9;** Circles Announce Meeting Places

The general luncheon meeting of United Methodist Women will be held January 9, in Fellowship Hall. Mrs. R. O. Lawton and Mrs. Bruce Harter will explain how local pledges are used in the program and special appeals of UMW.

Assuming UMW office vacancies at the beginning of the new year are Mrs. Robert Lumsden, first vice president; Mrs. Woodrow Kerce, Committee on Nominations; Mrs. Marshall Hamilton, Supportive Community; Mrs. G. S. Roberts, Program Resources; and Mrs. Francis Black, Music. They were elected at the December general meeting.

UMW circles have scheduled the following individual meetings during January:

Circle 1 has made plans to meet on Monday, January 15, at 10 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Louis Hill, 513 Plantation Road, phone 385-2447. Cohostess will be Mrs. Irwin Lee.

Circle 2 will meet on Monday, January 15, at 2:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. J. A. Rehwinkel, 508 Talaflo Street, phone 224-6326. They are planning a special business meeting and a pledge ceremony led by Mrs. Aubrey Morse. Cohostess will be Mrs. Warren Anderson.

Circle 3 will be meeting on Tuesday, January 16 at 10 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Claude Andrews, 1106 Brookwood Dr., phone 877-5966. The program will be a study of Revelation.

Circle 4 will meet on Tuesday, January 16, at 10 a.m. in room 210 at the church.

Circle 5 plans to meet on Tuesday, January 16, at 10 a.m. at the home of Mrs. H. A. Curtis, 2910 Woodside Drive, phone 385-8977.

Circle 6 has made plans to meet on Tuesday, January 16, at 10 a.m. with Mrs. W. S. Anderson, 919 Brookwood Drive, phone 877-5989. Mrs. Bryan Willis and Mrs. R. M. Yent will be cohostesses. A pledge program is planned.

Circle 7 will meet on Tuesday, January 16, at 10 a.m. at the home of Mrs. C. L. Brown, 2108 Randolph Circle, phone 385-1241. Mrs. Wallis Walker will present a pledge service and explanation of how pledges are used. Mrs. David Lang, Sr., will be the cohostess.

Circle 8 will meet on Tuesday, January 16, at 9 a.m. in the church parlor. Mrs. James Nash and Mrs. Mitchell Davidson will be cohostesses. A free nursery will be provided at the church.

Circle 9 plans to meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16, at the home of Mrs. Robert Peirce, 2731-174 Blairstone Road, phone 878-4086. Their program will be a pledge

**Church World Service Annual Clothing Appeal to Begin** 

It's time to begin gathering clothing for the Church World Service Annual Clothing Appeal.

Please bring them to Trinity's old kitchen anytime between January 22 and February 1.

Needs in order of priority Good-as-new/new layette New wrapped bars of soap School kits

Home health kits - bottle brush, parts, etc.

Hospital wear, gowns and uniforms Household linens, towels, etc.

Sewing kits Yard goods

Blankets

Good-as-new and new clothing for all ages.

Sunday, January 28, will be a special day to collect blankets or gifts of \$4 which will be used to purchase blankets. Blankets can be brought to the Fellowship Hall and money can be placed in an envelope in the offering plate. Contact Emily Ann Zimmerman at 224-0354 for further informa-

# Kitty Ball Chairs Administrative Board; **New Church Leaders Begin Service**

Kitty Ball begins a term this month as chairman of Trinity's Admininstrative Board. Elected at a Charge and and Church Conference in November, she is the first woman in recent years to hold this key position in Trinity United Methodist Church.

Members of the Administrative Board for 1979, Chairmen of work areas and commiftees, and a new lay leader also were elected in November and begin their duties this month.

Walter Funderburk replaces Dr. Griffith Pugh as lay leader, and Jack Mowell replaces David Kerns as chairman of the Finance Committee. Dr. Pugh and Kerns both served the offices for many years.

Work area chairmen are Ann Lumsden, Education; J. P. and Jane Love, Missions; Vernon and Jamie Parramore, Membership and Evangelism;

Peirce, Robert

Armstrong, Dr. & Mrs. Earl Betts, Ben Brown, Ledley Bunch, Dean Clark, Johnny Dean, Marilyn

Draper, Sam Funderburk, Walt

Harrell, Martie

Sissoms, Bert

Hill, Don

BALL

Richard Hulet, Church and Society. All held the positions last year and were reelected.

A chairperson for the Council on Ministries has not been named.

The complete list of leaders elected to serve the church during 1979 is as follows.

Ann Lumsden

(Continued on page 2)

The following persons have been nominated for membership at large on the Administrative Board in the following three classes.

Class of 1979 (Eligible for one year—Elected for one year) Beall, Louis Hester, Ed Coulter, Clint Coulter, C. Hux, Sr. Denmark, Tom James, Jeff Kerce, Nancy Lewis, Cheri Duggar, Margaret Lynn Ellison, Daryl Hale, Gifford Menendez, Ernest Nash, Jim

Proctor, Ralph, Sr. Sharkey, Charles Shuler, Lucille Sprouse, Carl Steinmeyer, Ted Williamson, Paul Olson, John Pedler, Robert Woolverton, Dave

Class of 1980 (Eligible for two years—Elected for one year) Marshall, Stanley Lewis, Norma

Almarode, Richard Black, Francis Ball, Kitty Hall, J. Lewis Boone, Shelley Hamilton, May Brautigam, Nancy Harris, Buz Carraway, Howard Dawirs, Nick Fletcher, Lois Hinson, Charles Hock, Ron Jackson, Bette

Maynard, Zollie McGlothlin, Joe

Pope, Mel Roberts, Betty Short, Robert Warren, Ben Class of 1981 (Eligible for three years—Elected for one year) Hughes, Joe Hulet, Richard Roberts, Gwen Sinclair, Bill R. Lawton, Robert O. Smith, Eleanor Stapleton, Jon Stevens, Robert P. Wadsworth, Howell Walker, Bob Leathers, Albert Lewis, Hal Mann, Robert Mowell, Jack Myers, Samuel Walker, Frances Parmenter, Braun Waugh, Harry M. Pugh, Griffith White, Robert Williams, Palmer Davidson, Barbara Quinly, Clifton

COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES (All become members of Administrative Board)

Chairman,

The Coordinator of Chrictian Education, Ann Lumsden The Director of Music, *Jim Davis*The Financial Secretary (Business Manager),

The Chairman of the Administrative Board, Kitty Ball The Lay Leader, Walt Funderburk
The President of the United Methodist Women, Georgianna Wollschlager

A representative of the United Methodist Youth (To be chosen by that group) All Ŵork Area Chairmen TRUSTEES: (Members ex officio for the Administrative Board)

Class of 1979 Class of 1981 Class of 1980 F. E. Steinmeyer III Robert Parker, Jr. Gordon Rogers Godfrey Smith Tom Roberts Linda Yates C. Hux Coulter Lynn Wollschlager David Kerns COMMITTEE ON PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS Class of 1980 Class of 1981 Class of 1979 Godfrey Smith Louis Beall

Mary Blackburn Betty Roberts Coyle Moore Palmer Williams Jim Ball Bruce Harter LAY MEMBERS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE ALTERNATE:

Palmer Williams\* Elise Lawton\* Penny Walker\* \*Ex officio members of the Administrative Board PARSONAGE COMMITTEE

Peggy Hughes, Walli Beall, Sandra Mowell, Ann Lumsden, Pat McKenzie

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS Class of 1980 Class of 1981 Class of 1979 Dorothy Sauls Ernest Menendez Ted Steinmeyer Fred Tyler Jack Mowell Rebecca Wihte

## **COMMENT:**

#### God Is With Us!

By Gene Zimmerman



Children often live in a dream world until they begin to find out what is real and what isn't. They will blithly accept all kinds of fantastic things because all things are possible to a child. I remember it well; how I led armies, flew airplanes, captained a pirate ship, and discovered tons of treasure.

This sometimes creates a problem when children begin to grow up. It comes when they have to make the transition from what is imaginary to what is real. When reality seems unpleasant, there is a tendency to want to go back to the imaginary world where you are king and can change everything with the wave of a wand.

Most of us know there are times when reality becomes too harsh, and we feel the tug of that idyllic, imaginary world. A little "day dreaming" actually helps sometime. But we cannot refuse to face it again or think that if we dream long enough it will go away.

One day I was sitting in a college class day dreaming. In the course of the lecture the professor said something that stabbed me awake. "Real life is far more interesting than a dream world." I don't know what he said before or after, but what he said then was worth all the imaginary treasures I'd ever dreamed about.

Life is harsh at times, but it is gloriously good at others. It's not one big happy fairy tale, but a mixture of the best and the worst and everything in between. We can't make life or any of its experiences go away. We just live in them and through them and keep something meaningful out of whatever

The pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is not there. No one is going to walk up to us on the street and give us a million dollars, nor is Hollywood going to "discover" us one day. No, we'll have to take life like we've got it. But that doesn't mean resignation or unhappiness. We must grab what comes our way and squeeze out whatever good there is in it. In this way even the worst of life will have something of value in it.

The encouraging word that comes from Christmas is that we don't have to do this alone: "God is with us!" The birth of Christ means that God lives with us and in us and enables us to find the best of life even in the face of the worst. Knowing that, I hope this will be the happiest of New Years for you.

#### New Church Leaders Begin Service

(Continued from Page 1)

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (includes Stewardship Work Area)

Chairman, Jack Mowell

Pastor, Gene Zimmerman Chairman of the Administrative Board, Kitty Ball

Chairman of Council on Ministries

Church Treasurer, Spencer Burress Chairman of Stewardship Work Area

One Trustee, to be elected by Trustees

The Lay Leader, Walt Funderburk
Additional Members: Len McKinnon, Jack Mowell, Robert Peirce, Carlton Rhodes, Palmer
Williams, John Olson, Ed Hester, Louis Beall, Harry Waugh, Sam Draper, Madeline

	The state of the s		
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Treasurer's Report — November 30, 1978			
Cash Balance		•	\$ 7,087.29
Plus November Receipts			+ . /00.12/
On Pledges	21,	503.10	
Plate Offer		632.99	
Kitchen/Fo	od	190.85	
Misc. & Sp	pecial ** 6.	833.43	
Church Sch		264.42	29,424.79
Non Budget Receipts			1,044.13
Total Funds for month			37,556.21
Less Disbursements during month			20,780.33
Total Funds November 30, 1978			\$*16,775.88
**Spear Estate 6,278.36			Ψ 10,775.00
*10,000.00 deposited			
10,000.00 deposited	in savings		
DISBURSEMENTS			
Budgetary			
Benevolenc	es 3,	678.00	
Ministerial Support 4,208.30			
Lay Salaries 5,719.95			
Promotion & Program 1,717.39			
Office 1,721.24			
Property 2,708.45			
Miscellaneous 10.00			19,763.33
Non Budgetary			1,017.00
Total Disbursements for November 1978			20,780.33
			= 0/1. 0 0 1.0
Monthly Receipts and Disbursements			
	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
Cash Carry Over			\$32,214.76
January	\$26,559.01	\$52,760.64	6,013.13
February	25,189.86	24,094.60	7,108.39
March	25,994.43	26,969.72	6,133.10
April	32,482.72	27,058.45	11,557.37
May	26,423.59	29,576.32	8,404.64
June	19,519.30	20,381.46	7,542.48
July	39,827.69	44,896.99	2,473.18
August	19,396.88	18,004.95	3,865.11
September	22,127.91	19,374.69	6,618.33
October	26,632.51	26,163.55	7,087.29
November	30,468.92	20,780.33	16,775.88

### **Christian Education Comments**

By John H. Green

"Born Again Christian?"

The "born again Christian" term has confused people and others feel they have been excluded from the Christian faith if they can't express their belief in words like "born again." Notes and phone calls to me indicate a need to answer questions about the "born again Christian" theology. I will either add to the confusion or enlighten the subject. At any rate I wish to convey some personal thoughts.

Let us look closer at the term "born again Christian." Theologically the term is erroneous. The acceptance of the Word (God) becoming flesh (Christ) makes one a "born Christian." If you are born (accepting the Word) there is no such thing as a "born again Christian"! The "born again Christian" term is a misnomer.

Am I playing word games? No. At least not to those who have asked me about the usage of the "born again Christian" term. There is a reason for understanding the difference in the interpretation of the subject. The reason is biblical.

The term "born again Christian" is biblically misrepresented. Often I am asked to locate the scripture which expresses the "born again Christian" term. The reference most frequently used is John 3:5, "... unless one is born of the water and the spirit . . (RSV). The reference to "and the spirit" inspired the usage of "born again Christian." But this is not a "second" (born again) spiritual birth as some suggest. It is a second birth but the first birth, "born of the water" is simply referring to natural child birth. The first birth, physical birth, is not a reference to baptism with water as some claim nor is it the first spiritual birth as some others claim.

If you have accepted the Word became flesh you do not have to worry if you have been excluded from the "born again Christian" ranks. Frankly, Christians need to work together on their agreements rather than their disagreements. At any rate you can say "no" to a "born again Christian" and still be saved!

# Trinity's Contribution to Black College Fund Makes a Difference in Lives of Many

Trinity United Methodist Church annually gives approximately \$1,000 to the Black College Fund as one of its Conference apportionments. The opportunities afforded blacks from this program of the United Methodist Church is described in a personal account by Dr. Dorothy Brown, who was able to rise from a ghetto to surgeon because of the fund.

"I was born illegitimately and placed in a church orphanage when I was five months old. When I was 13 my mother took me out of the orphanage to live with her in a New York ghetto. That meant no more school and finding a job.

After two years of working, I was determined to return to school and showed up on my own. When they asked me my home address, I said I didn't have one right then but that I would the next day. A counselor told the principal about me, and before long a home was found with two very loving black Christian people and their other children.

While living there I finished high school. Later I went to college and medical school and did a surgery residency. Along the way I had a lot of help from a lot of people, as well as drive and determination of my own. But had it not been for the Methodist Church, it's doubtful I would have made it.

First, the women of the Troy Conference of the Methodist Church provided me a scholarship to attend Bennett College, one of our church's black colleges.

Later, with the help of the Methodist Church's Board of Education and the Office of Loans and Scholarships I was enabled to go to Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. After completing my residency, I opened my practice in general surgery.

A dream that I had nurtured since age five was realized. I can still remember lying stretched out on the grass of the orphanage lawn and dreaming someday I would be a doctor.

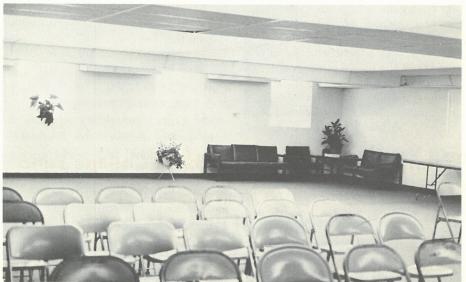
But few people who saw my circumstances as a child would ever have believed it would happen or that I would serve in my state legislature or realize any of the many opportunities that have been mine. But because of God's help through the Methodist Church, and a lot of loving and caring people, it did happen. That's why I am not at all reluctant to express my appreciation for the church—the institutional church and the difference it has made in my life.

It's also why I was more than glad to write this letter for the 12 colleges who benefit from the Black College Fund of the United Methodist Church. It's why I've made a film for them, 'Run to Live,' and why I speak at churches in their support. I know the difference the black colleges of the United Methodist Church have made and continue to make, not just in my case, but in the lives of thousands of persons across the nation."





The Rev. John Green (left) welcomes new members to Trinity during an orientation program in December. From left to right with Rev. Green are Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Harding, Paula Smith, Doris Glick and her daughter Jennifer, who was baptized during morning worship services which followed the orientation.



The Clyde Gregory Room in the basement of the Education Building is now frequently used by youth groups, the Administrative Board and others needing a smaller meeting place than the Fellowship Hall. Now well lighted with a dropped ceiling, the room was once dark and had pipes exposed at the ceiling. Money for the renovation was left to Trinity in the Gregory estate. Interest from the endowment will be used to purchase furnishings for the room and for its maintenance in the years ahead.



New Trinity members Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sassard are shown at left with their three sons, Jay, David and Michael, who were baptized at Trinity on December 10, the day their parents became members. Other new members at right are Lorraine Walton and Esther Leedham.

# Ten Persons Transfer Membership to Trinity Methodist Church in December

Trinity welcomed the following new members during the month of December:

Mrs. Norman Leedham (Esther), 2344 Vinkara Dr., phone 386-2762. Mrs. Leedham has returned to Tallahassee where she and her husband, Norman Leedham, lived for many years. Mr. Leedham passed away December 3, 1977, in Sarasota. Mrs. Leedham has come back home to Tallahassee and to Trinity Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Harding (Jo Anne), 3237 Dungarvan, phone 386-2204, come by transfer of membership from Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, Ft. Myers, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sassard, 2106 Queenswood, phone 385-1377. He was a former member of Trinity, and she comes from the Immanuel Baptist Church.

Ronald Franklin Selvaggio, 511 Westwood Dr., phone 576-7581, was formerly a member of the Catholic faith.

Mrs. William G. Smith, Jr. (Paula), 275 John Knox Rd. B-103, phone 386-6941, comes to us from a Methodist Church in Virginia.

Doris Glick, lives at 3007 Shamrock North #5, phone 893-1085.

Lorraine Walton, 1927 Dawsey St., phone 386-4888, transferred her membership from Swaim Memorial Methodist Church in Jacksonville.

Gail Clark Reeves, 511 Westwood Dr., phone 576-7581, was formerly a member of Lakeview Baptist Church. She and Ronald Selvaggio were married at Trinity during December.

# 1978 church events

1978 giving increases but hunger funds suffer

EVANSTON, Ill — United Methodists are predicted to give more to all general church causes by the end of 1978 despite a steady decline in giving for hunger related funds.

While contributions overall are up by about five percent, contributions for world hunger projects are down \$1.5 million from 1977, according to the Rev. Ewing Wayland, general church treasurer. He estimated that giving for the church's basic World Service Fund is up one percent as compared to 1977.

"The church is still responding to world hunger, but not at as high a level," the treasurer said. "During 1977 one out of every 16 dollars given to the general level of the church was for hunger. It will be high this year, but less."

The treasurer reported that receipts for the \$4.1 million Missional Priority Fund were also up five percent and should pay out over 80 percent. This apportioned fund splits receipts with about 48 percent going to world hunger, 36 percent to the Ethnic Minority Local Church, 12 percent for scholarships and four percent for evangelism.

#### Wesley's Chapel reopened; Queen Elizabeth II attends

LONDON — Wesley's Chapel — built by John Wesley himself in 1778 — was reopened 200 years later to the day, Nov. 1 foilewing completion of a \$2 million dallar renovation.

Several thousand United Methodists from the United States joined other Methodists from around the World and Queen Elizabeth II in the re-opening ceremonies of the chapel Wesley described as "perfectly neat but not fine"

More than a historic monument, British Methodist leaders said, the chapel is to become a center to remind those who share in its life that Methodism roots itself in "scriptural holiness" and continuous mission to its community.

# Six missionaries rescued from Zaire war zone

NEW YORK — The dramatic rescue of six members of three United Methodist missionary families trapped in Kolwezi, Zaire, when rebels seized the area in May was probably the most exciting story of 1978.

The Rev. Kenneth Enright, a missionary pilot allegedly "marked for death" by the rebels, rescued his family from possible execution when he flew his small plane into the embattled Shaba Province behind attacking French paratroopers. Mr. Enright happened to be away in Lubumbasha on church business at the time of the invasion by Katangan rebels

Also escaping the war zone after hiding in their home for a week in Kolwezi, were Harold and Elsie Amstutz. He is a missionary pilot mechanic. They were evacuated by Belgian forces.

# Gallup poll finds people 'religious' but not in church

NEW YORK — While the unchurched are remarkably religious in many respects and believe in the value of religion, the Gallup polling organization found in a survey released this year that fewer and fewer belong to an organized church.

"Basic religious beliefs of Americans have changed little, based on studies done in 1952 and 1965," George Gallup Jr. told reporters at a press conference here in June. In an analysis of the findings, he said the church is not dealing with unbelievers and that most churchpersons have never invited another person to attend their church.

## A leadership version of I Corinthians: 13

If I am to speak to my group with the eloquence of men and angels, but have not love for the individual, I am become as sounding brass and clanging cymbal.

And if I have the gift of understanding life and know all the mysteries of psychology,

And if I have all faith in my ability as a leader, but have not love for the individuals of my group, I am not worthy of being their leader.

And if I give of my time in unlimited measure, and if I continually sacrifice that they may find enjoyment in numerous activities, but in so doing I an not led by the spirit of love, it profits me nothing.

Love is patient and is sympathetic.

Love keeps me from envying the success of other groups.

Love gives power for me to be true to my highest ideals for the sake of my group.

It gives me patience in time of discouragement.

It gives no satisfaction in those times when, because of my failure to prepare, I have bluffed my way through a meeting.

Love gives pleasure only when I give my best.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

Love never fails as a force to make my work productive.

If I depend on numerous philosophies, they shall change.

If I depend on eloquence of words, they shall cease to be eloquent.

If I depend on scientific knowledge, my efforts will lack breadth and depth.

For now we think only in part, we speak in part, and we know in part.

When that which is perfect is come, then shall we understand our present limitations.

Life is growth: the thoughts, the feelings, that we have today shall be changed by the experience of tomorrow.

But in all this changing there abides:

Faith in the work I am doing with my group,

Hope in its productiveness in Christian character, and

Love of the members of my group as they are and what it is possible for them to be.

These three abide, and the greatest of these is LOVE.

By Miriam Peirce

#### Church Women **United Plan Forums** On International Year of the Child

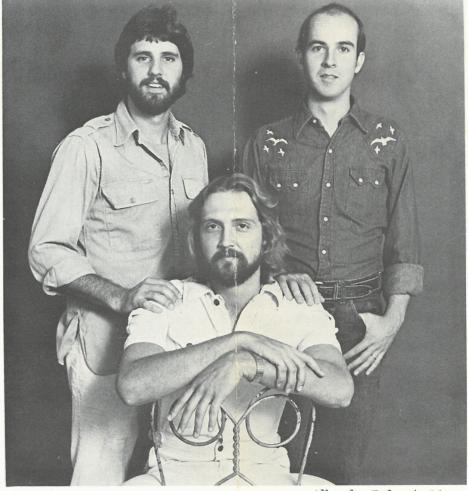
Church Women United announces its 1979 Forum Series will be based on the theme, The International Year of the Child in Our Community.

Three forums on January 5, February 2 and April 6 are planned to provide information toward the goal of a better world for all children, without regard to race, color, sex, religion or national origin.

All forums will be held at 10 a.m. in Westminister Room of First Presbyterian Church, Adams Street at Park Avenue. They are open to all persons. Mothers of young children may use the "Mother's Morning-Out" nursery at Trinity United Methodist Church for a small fee during the forums.

The first forum on January 5 will deal with child abuse. Moderator will be Pat Schwallie and panelists will be Ms. Pompey, a black foster parent; Judge Victor Cawthon, juvenile court; Bonnie Syfret, Apalachee Mental Health; and Elizabeth Jackson, Protective Services.

Other forums will discuss parent training and family health. Moderator of the February 2 session on parent training will be Alice Peacock, and panelists will be Dr. Anne Montgomery of the FSU Counseling Department; Jo Glick, parent education in schools; Jo Newton, parent training, Department of Education; and Seaton Bradford, teenage parent pro-



Albrecht, Roley & Moore

# Musical Group, Seminars on Youth Ministry Featured at District Rally

Albrecht, Roley and Moore and seminars on youth ministry will be featured at the Tallahassee district youth rally, Sunday, January 28. Superally '79 will be held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church and will begin at 4:30 p.m.

The afternoon session will include

elective seminars for both youth and adult workers with youth. Seminar titles include such topics as teenage pregnancy, runaways, U.M.Y.F. program planning, organizing a youth week, Gulf Coast Service Project, group building summer camps, and helps for adult workers with youth.

Following a chicken box supper, there will be a general session in the church sanctuary with introductions, announcements, and a concert by the singing group Albrecht, Roley and Moore. Billed as the "premier vocal band in Christian contemporary music," Albrecht, Roley and Moore have been touring and recording together for three and a half years.

All Trinity youth are invited to come and bring friends. The cost is \$3, which includes dinner and admission to the concert. Reservations may be made with Phil Roughton.

#### Roland Memorial Chapel Will Be Dedicated

Dedication services for the new Roland Memorial Chapel at the Florida Methodist Children's Home are scheduled for 2:30 p.m., Sunday, January 14, in Enterprise.

Trinity members Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Roland contributed \$100,000 toward construction of the chapel in memory of their children. They have also pledged to purchase the organ for the chapel.

Sunday school classes and others throughout the state have contributed over \$18,000 for the chapel and its furnishings, but approximately \$80,000 is still needed, reports the Rev. Bascom W. Carlton, executive director.

#### **Trinity Sends Five** To New York and Washington, D.C.

Three youth and two adult Trinity members will attend this year's United Nations/Washington Seminar on National and International Affairs.

The three young people, Penny Walker, Tanya Hollady and Traya Hollady, will join 37 others from around the state on the nine-day trip to New York and the nation's capital, February 2-10, 1979. Penny Walker is president of the Council on Youth Ministry, Traya Hollady is secretary of the council; and Tanya Hollady is the Tallahassee District representative on the Florida Conference Youth Department.

Sponsored by the Florida Annual Conference of United Methodism, the program is designed "to help United Methodist youth and adults become better acquainted with the organization of the United Nations and its work in promoting peace and world order through its agencies to help youth discover the Christian's place in national and world government." Each of the participants researches the structure of both the UN and national government and writes a research paper before leaving on the trip. The focus of this year's seminar is the problem of world hunger and how governments can and should be involved in its solution.

Miriam Peirce, Tallahassee District United Methodist Women president and Trinity member, will represent the Florida Conference United Methodist Women on the trip. Phil Roughton, associate seminar leader on the trip last year, will go again this year as seminar leader.

Several adult Sunday school classes have contributed money toward the cost of this seminar. All five people will be happy to report on their experience to interested groups in the church upon their return.

#### **Applications Now Available** For Youth Leadership Teams

Application forms for those young people, who would like to be a part of the Youth Leadership Teams for the 1979 Summer Camping Program, are now available from the office of either: Tom McClosky or Bess Bussey at the United Methodist Building, P. O. Box 3767, Lakeland, Fl 33802.

There is just one form for both the Leesburg Youth Camp and Camp Florida at Brandon (for rising 5th and 6th graders).

#### ROUGHTON'S RAPPINGS

"I was here first; the line forms back there," the elderly woman said to each person who came in the door as she directed them around her stack of crudely wrapped boxes. The scene was the loading dock of a local parcel shipping company, early one morning in the middle of the Christmas frenzy. Since I could see I was going to be there for a while, I decided to make the building my classroom. Like most of you, I've discovered that some of life's great lessons can best be learned observing other people. The process was so slow and the people so numerous that particular morning I probably could have learned enough lessons to qualify for a liberal arts degree. "On being first in line," is the one I want to write a word about here.

The old woman at the head of the line was espousing a well established value in our culture. All of us remember well the premium placed on being number one in the school cafeteria line—and the strong social injunctions against "taking cuts." Sometimes the first persons in line were there because they "deserved" it by arriving first. Other times they held that cherished place because they were bigger than any of their challengers. Whether by right or by might, we soon learn being first is important.

So when an employee finally told us where to form the waiting line I really wasn't surprised to see what happened. The old lady struggled toward the front mumbling all the way "I was here first, I was here first." She was overtaken though by two or three faster, younger, larger people who pushed their way to the counter, oblivious to everyone around them. Had the old woman not been preoccupied with completing the required forms, a battle would surely have ensued.

I confess that in this age of assertiveness training and "taking charge of your life," I've had just enough conditioning to cause a little tension to be stirred up inside me that morning as people just arriving scrambled past others of us who had been waiting for some time. The tension is between the "me first" value (now given some credence by pop psychology) and those disturbing, sometimes confusing statements of Christ about the meaning of servanthood. I'm sure God doesn't intend for us to spend our lives in long lines allowing other people to parade by. But I'm also sure he doesn't intend for us to use other people as stairs to the front—or top, for that matter. I think the difference is in how we see each other—as objects, or as people of real worth.

Wouldn't it have been great if that old woman could have felt confident the rest of us would have seen that because of her age, the weight of her packages, etc., she needed to be first—so she wouldn't have had to irritate and even anger us by continually telling us she was first? Wouldn't it have been great if those people who pushed their way to the front had realized they almost knocked over a young mother struggling with an infant child and too many boxes—and had helped her to a place behind the old woman? To ask for that from everybody else is probably foolishly naive and unrealistic. For us as individuals and as people called Christians, it's well

See you at the back—or maybe the front of the next covered dish supper line—depending on who you are and what your needs are.

Peace, Phil

Monthly Tidings

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