



Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • TALLAHASSEE, FLA. • VOL. 7, NO. 7 • JULY, 1980

School of Missions Offers Spiritual Growth and Fellowship This Month

By Dorothy Sauls

Immediate registration is still available for those wishing to attend the School of Missions, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, for the week session July 21-25, or the weekend session July 25-27.

The June *Monthly Tidings* announced this annual event, urging wide participation among Trinity's United Methodist Women, as well as other interested church members, along with youth in rising 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, and graduating seniors. Those planning to attend but have not yet indicated their need for reservations should do so at once.

Attendance at the School of Missions is an opportunity to engage in a most worthwhile experience of personal spiritual growth and renewal, as well as to enjoy stimulating fellowship with others from all parts of Florida. A letter from District President Miriam Peirce to district UMW members, following their spring retreat at Cherry Lake, states "... Those of you who have been to the School of Christian Mission in Lakeland in July know that this same wonderful fellowship can be found there, also. I hope that most of you are planning to go. If not, there is still time! The week school is July 21-25; the weekend, July 25-27. If you get your registration in immediately, you will be housed in the dorm with the Tallahassee District. Otherwise you will be assigned other dorm space and meet new friends from different districts, which is also fun.

"At any rate, there will be a district Fellowship night and we will all be together for that. We would like to carpool as much as possible, and at the same time make sure no one stays home because of transportation problems. I will be glad to act as central contact for those having space in a car, and those needing a ride. Just

keep me informed! I hope to see all of you there; the studies will be exciting, timely and inspirational—you can count on it!"

An immediate telephone call to Miriam Peirce, 878-4086, or to Trinity's UMW President Georgianna Woolschlager, 893-4470, will assure dormitory space for you. Fees for rooms and meals for the week are \$49, and for the weekend, \$32. In planning to attend, first, second, and third choices of the main courses of study to be followed should be considered. These courses are "Biblical Understanding of Mission to Individuals and Society," "Latin America" and "The Interior Life." Other sessions of participation for each one attending include "Mission Education in the Local Church," "Racism in Church and Society," and "Global Hunger." Nine well chosen leaders will conduct the study groups and during the weekend session one entire class will be conducted in Spanish.

A lively, enthusiastic representation is urged for Trinity as members join other UMW groups of the Tallahassee District in making the 1980 session of the annual School of Missions an outstanding success.

Circle 10 Plans to Meet During Summer

Meeting plans for United Methodist Women Circle 12 have been changed for the summer. This group will not meet in July nor in August as was originally planned.

Circle 10 will meet at the Tallahassee Convalescent Home on Monday July 14, and Monday, August 11, at 3:30 p.m.

As announced earlier, the UMW Executive Board and general meetings and luncheons will not be held during July and August.

Day Camp Beckons Grade Schoolers

Day Camp will begin July 7 and last through July 10. Because our numbers were so large last summer we need for people to preregister. If there are enough registrations another week may be added at a later date to be announced.

The program has grown from 10 in 1976 to 32 children last summer. If you have a child that will be in the 3rd, 4th, or 5th grades in the fall, 1980, please register by July 3. Please phone John H. Green, 222-1120 at the office.

A fee of \$5 for the week per child or \$1 per day either Monday and/or

Thursday will be charged. You save \$1 if you pay for the week. Program will include swimming, crafts and games at the following locations:

Monday—Maclay Gardens
Tuesday—Stephen Foster Center
Wednesday—Wakulla Springs
Thursday—Carrabelle Beach

Please bring bathing suits, towels, sack lunch, and bring a friend. We furnish the drinks.

Make checks to Trinity United Methodist Church for \$5 per week or pay for each individual day. Turn in to church office immediately.

Registration Form

Name _____

Church _____

Parent(s) Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____



This new parsonage at Twin Oaks Lane and Live Oak Plantation Road is now the home of Senior Minister and Mrs. Eugene Zimmerman. The Zimmerman family occupied their new home the weekend of June 27 after living in a rented home for about a year while plans were being drawn, a contract let, and construction was underway on the new Georgian style house.

Youth Team Will Leave for Appalachia Service Project July 26; Busy Summer Program Planned

A team of six youths and three adults will leave Trinity July 26 for Leslie County, Kentucky, where they will spend a week in ministry to the poor mountain people of Appalachia.

New Associate Minister Brent Byerman, his wife Mary, and Lori Steinmeyer, summer youth worker, will accompany the six teenagers to the Appalachia Service Project of the United Methodist Church. During the week there they will repair and improve housing at one work site of the project. Methodist youth from all over the country will be working at other sites throughout the summer.

Participating from Trinity will be Katie Hinson, Amy Douglas, Jim Butterworth, Bobby Walker, Susan Woolschlager and Melissa Thompson. Each will pay \$45 toward their living costs for the week, while the church will contribute \$200 for building materials.

The return to the Appalachia Service Project comes after two summer projects in the Bahamas by the youth of Trinity. Teams from Tallahassee have gone to work in Kentucky on two previous occasions in the middle 1970's.

The youth will work from 8 to 5 each day. Programs and some free time will occupy the evenings. A cafe-

teria will provide breakfast and dinner and the youth will sleep in a local high school.

To prepare the Trinity youth team for the economic and cultural differences they will find in Appalachia, and to teach them carpentry skills, workshops will be held each Wednesday night this month. Kelly Jones, Trinity member who served on the first youth team from Trinity to participate in the project and who has gone back as a counselor a number of summers, will conduct the workshops.

The Rev. Byerman said he is obtaining overnight lodging for the team in Atlanta for the trip up, and the group will take time to visit Six Flags as a preproject treat.

Lorie Steinmeyer, nutrition major at Florida State University, began work as summer youth counselor at Trinity soon after the school term ended. She also assists with the junior high Sunday school class. Her husband of one month, Mac Steinmeyer is a social work major at Florida State and plans to enter seminary following graduation. He is assisting with the College/Career Sunday school class.

Among other events planned for Trinity's youth during the summer is Youth Week, beginning August 17, and featuring the Rev. Bob Bruce, of Jacksonville, brother-in-law of Lori Steinmeyer.

On July 18, the youth will have a "Lockin" at Christian Life Center, and on August 15 they will participate in a UMC District square dance at Kill-earn UMC.

Breakfast meetings and a weekly Bible study are also on the youths' schedule. Youth wishing to become involved in any of these events should call the Rev. Brent Byerman or Lori Steinmeyer at the church, 222-1120.

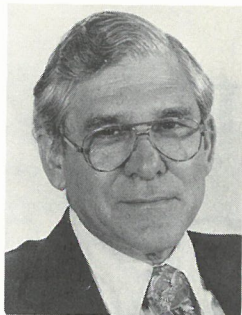
Next Tidings in September

The *Monthly Tidings* will take its customary summer break in August. The next issue will be mailed to Trinity members on September 4.

News of Sunday school classes, choirs, and other groups is always welcomed for publication. Send information about your new fall schedule to the *Tidings*, in care of the church office by the deadline of August 22.

COMMENT

By Gene Zimmerman



We were in Miami in the sixties when the first Cuban refugees came. There was much of the same kind of concern then as there is now. Where will they live? Where will they work? Whom will they displace in the job market? That first group turned out well and if this second one is half as energetic and industrious as the first, we'll benefit from them again.

All of this reminded me of a treasured letter I've kept since 1968. It began five years before when a friend, one of the Cuban pastors, came to ask for help in getting a family out of Cuba. They were members of his church in Matanzas and, as he was leaving, asked him to take their six-year-old son George, with the expectation of coming soon after. But Castro closed the doors and several years had passed. Now there was a chance to get them out through Mexico but another \$200 was needed. I found the money and gave it to him and we waited. It was a long wait. Once we thought it was all over when the man in Mexico who had the money was arrested. Why he was arrested I don't know and how he got out I don't know, but it turned out alright.

The night they arrived in Miami and were reunited with their son, the pastor brought them to our house and we all rejoiced over a cup of American coffee, which our new friend said was a nice drink but didn't taste like coffee (not the thick, black kind he was accustomed to.) That night he said he would return the money, but I explained, through the pastor, that it was a gift and did not need to be repaid.

I never felt I had much to do with that except provide some of the money, and not the majority of it by any means, but each Christmas thereafter we received a Christmas card and a note of thanks for our help in getting them to the United States.

One Christmas an envelope came with a check for \$200, drawn on a loan company, and with it this letter:

December 7, 1968

Rev. Gene Zimmerman

Dear Reverend:

Thank for your letter; we are so glad to hear from you again also.

George is out of town until tomorrow. He went together with church's youngs to an encampment. He attend Lakewood Methodist Church. Lido and I we attend Tampa Heights in spanish.

George cannot to write this letter for me, but my wife and I are very anxious for send you this letter soon. I hope that you may understand my dificient English's grammar.

Once, some years ago, that you had given to our dear brother Ornan this dollars for help to us. We are sure that you had forgot this. But we never can not to forget these your nice, beautiful sacrifice for us. Today we are very happy to return to you this material service, with our wish that you enjoy it. But is for us impossible, we might never pay for any gold the another part of our big debt of gratitude to you, and only we will let that Our Lord do it to you by us. Thank You, dear friend, God richly bless to you and your family.

We have present to you forever in our hearts.

Sincerely,

M. A. Omeechevarria

Some people say this second group of Cubans isn't like the first and we ought not take them in. However, on the basis of the above experience I'm willing to risk it once more.

Letters To Trinity

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity:

As we expected, our last days in Tallahassee became such a whirlwind of activity we left with the feeling that many things had gone undone and unsaid. So we'll try to make one final *Monthly Tidings* deadline with this letter of thanks for all you meant and all you did for us during our years at Trinity.

The farewell party was a deeply moving experience for us—so much so that we later realized we failed to offer specific thanks for the generous gift you gave us. As I write, the now partially assembled clock kit you presented us sits in front of me. I've found a few minutes to work on it in the midst of a busy moving schedule—partially because I needed the "therapy" of doing "something else"; and partially because we wanted it completed and working as a regular reminder of our experience with you. We shall display it proudly in a prominent place in our new home. The gift of money was also much appreciated, and Mica had great fun cashing in her clothing gift certificate—all in one place and at one time!

Though it may sound hackneyed, clichéish or obligatory, we must say with all honesty that while these tangible gifts are terrific and will always be much appreciated, they hold meaning only in the fact that they reflect your love and care for us over

five very important years of our lives; and for those things we shall always remember you and be forever in your debt.

As I told Brent and Mary Byerman, they are very fortunate to be beginning their ministry at Trinity. I know of no better place.

May God richly bless you all as you have blessed us.

and with much affection,

Sincerely

Phil, Mica and Keller

Dear Dr. Zimmerman:

Our transfer to Pinellas County several years ago took us from Tallahassee which we greatly miss and still refer to as "home." Although we do not know when it will be, we do hope one day to return.

In the meantime, receiving the *Tidings* and Trinity's newspaper has helped us to keep in touch with all the important happenings and we want you to know how thankful we are for their being mailed to us.

We miss your sermons (and so especially note your corner of the paper), Trinity's beautiful music, and the associations, and look forward to the day they can once more be enjoyed.

Til then, we thank you again for the regular mailings, and trust this finds you, yours and all at Trinity receiving God's blessings.

Mustard Seeds

By Liz Smith

The first 13 verses of the 25th chapter of Matthew tell the familiar parable of the Ten Maidens, who were to be ready on a moment's notice, with lamps lighted, to lead a bridal procession through town to the home of the groom's father. Five of them had the foresight to bring along an extra supply of oil, so even though the waiting dragged on for several hours they were able to keep their lamps burning and be ready when the call came. The other five, who had no oil in reserve, tried to borrow from their companions, who refused, saying they had only enough for their own use. So they had to leave and search for a place to buy more oil and, of course, missed out on the whole celebration.

This parable is often cited to point out the dire consequences of not thinking ahead in any given situation and making adequate preparations to deal with it. But in the March issue of *Response* magazine, Phyllis Wayman, in a very thoughtful article, points out a less obvious but very meaningful variation of that same message. For her the parable is a reminder that there are certain things in life that cannot be borrowed. When we suddenly come face to face with the crises, the demands, the joys and pains of life and have not readied ourselves to deal with them, we cannot borrow the preparations someone else has made. *You and I cannot share our preparedness!*

And be prepared we must, for life has so much to throw at us, and often unexpectedly. Just as the cry, "the bridegroom comes," summoned the maidens with little or no warning, so for us the cries come suddenly and we must be ready to respond. For example, a routine physical exam can reveal a hidden problem and suddenly catapult us into the nightmare of cancer or some other serious illness. An accident can alter the course of life in an instant, children may find themselves involved in serious trouble or death comes to claim those we love. We are all aware that we will have to confront these or similar situations at some time in our lives, but do we make adequate preparations for dealing with them?

We must be ready, too, for the everyday happenings; ones that are not so earth-shaking but must still be dealt with or they can become major problems. We must cope with disappointment, dull routine, face disillusionment, fight loneliness, accept getting old and survive failure. Even

success can be a problem if we are not prepared for its subtle influences; and to truly enjoy someone else's success and recognition is often the most challenging of all.

There are many things we can do to ready ourselves for whatever comes. We can learn as much as possible about our world and ourselves. We can acquire skills, make friends, keep our bodies healthy and strong, establish strong family ties, be open to change and new ideas and accept responsibility and face up to problems.

But even more basic, I believe, are the preparations we make within ourselves; acquiring, as it were an adequate supply of "oil" for the lamps of our spirits. For when the cry comes at midnight it's too late to borrow the preparations someone else has made. Their relationship with God, their inner strength and character, their compassion, sense of humor, humbleness, the close relationship they have with their child, their sense of personal worth . . . these are not transferable. The gifts of the spirit that enable us to meet life with confidence and courage are ones that we must possess for ourselves; they cannot be borrowed!

This is not in any way to deny or make light of the comfort and strength and help we receive from family and friends in time of need. If you have experienced that kind of support and love, or have given it, you know how vital and indispensable it is. But you must also know that others can only carry us so far; their lives must, of necessity, soon return to a normal routine and we must pick up the pieces of our lives and go on. In the final analysis, how we deal with what life brings comes back to us alone, to the strength of our inner reserve and the light of our own spirit.

You and I cannot share our preparedness. But in the supportive fellowship of our faith and belief we can help each other to know the strength of God's presence and love, which is the ultimate source of "oil" for the lamps of our spirits.

My Pilgrimage . . .

By Brent Byerman

My Master of Divinity degree came in the mail my first Monday morning at Trinity and the black pulpit robe I ordered arrived by parcel post that same afternoon. For me, these two items dramatically symbolize a gigantic step into a new dimension of my life. I am now a "professional Christian minister" (The Reverend, Pastor, Preacher). I have unsuccessfully attempted for three years of seminary to find a concrete job description for these titles. Most professionals are experts in some specific field (lawyers-law, accountants-numbers, plumbers-pipes, psychologists-therapy, teacher-education, etc.) however, I have never felt an expert in any field and certainly not in the field of God. I once had a concept of the pastor as one who had the answers

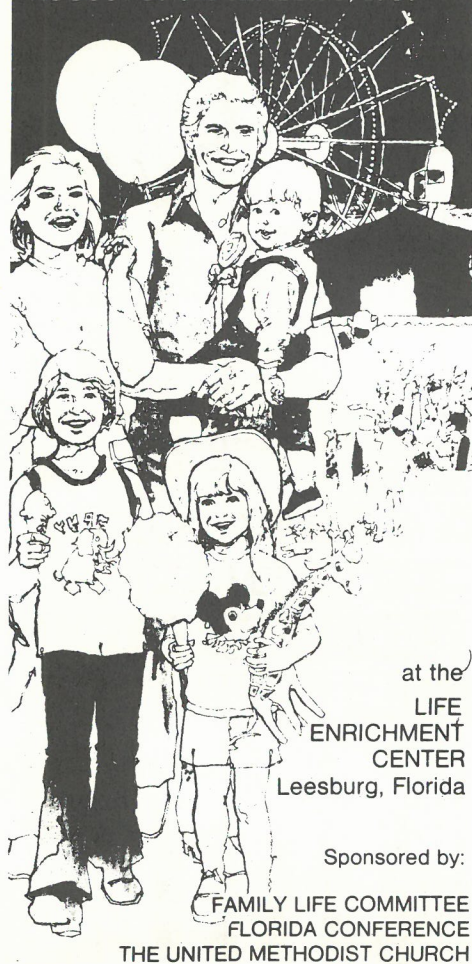
and delivered them to others in preaching and teaching until I discovered that pastors are also sheep just as much in need of feeding.

I have entitled my column "My Pilgrimage" because I see us as pilgrims of God journeying together. I am a pastor not because I have discovered all the answers or am more holy than others but because it is my calling and the profession I have chosen. I am excited about the opportunities of ministry it offers me in line with my gifts and interest. Yet at times, I still find myself searching for what exactly a pastor is. "My Pilgrimage" will provide you a window into this pilgrim's experiences, thoughts, answers, and questions as I seek to follow our Shepherd daily and eternally.

In His Love,
Brent

THE FAMILY FESTIVAL

AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 1, 1980



Family Festival Planned at Leesburg Aug. 30-Sept. 1

Families come in all ages, shapes and sizes. No two are exactly alike. The following courses have been planned with this in mind.

Choose one that suits your lifestyle and interest.

(1) "Marriage: The Growing Place"

Rev. Brice & Edie Harris, Orlando ACME Leaders (Association of Couples for Marriage Enrichment) Through enrichment, problem solving, communication, and conflict resolution skills, renew your marriage and nourish it into an enriched growing place. (Limited 5-7 couples)

(2) Marriage Enrichment or "Is That All There Is?"

Charles & Mary Babcock, Miami

A directed discussion group based on scriptural principles of family life, involving subjects such as "understanding each other," "communication," "sex," "money," "children," "relatives," and "planning."

(3) "Advanced Marriage Communication Workshop"

Rev. Bob and Kathryn Tindale, Jacksonville

For couples who have been through Marriage Enrichment or Marriage Encounter experiences and want further help. (Limited to 8 couples who do not have children, or can come without their children.)

(4) "A Family of One—The Young Adult Single Person"

Rev. Bob Gibbs, Campus Ministry—Orlando

Bess Bussey, Associate Council Director—Lakeland

For those adults under 30 who are single; unmarried, divorced or widowed.

(5) "Singles — 30-50"

Barbara Wilcox, Associate Council Director, Lakeland

For those adults over 30 who are single; unmarried, divorced; or widowed.

(6) "Parenting Alone—or when it seems that way!"

Rev. Larry Webb, Orlando—Marriage and Family Therapist

The strengths and struggles of single parenting.

(7) "How to Tell Your Children About Sex"

Rev. Blair Hearth, Ormond Beach

For parents who would like help with their responsibility of sharing with their children about "Sex and Growing Up."

(8) "Bend in The River"

Martha Jane Rutland, St. Petersburg—Mental Health and Family Counselor

Will encourage creative transitions for those in the middle years.

(9) "Creative Family Worship"

Rev. Don & Lois Richardson, Riviera Beach

The group will explore, experience and create a variety of creative family worship experiences. Modes will be presented. Then groups will work in selected learning centers to create a worship experience with the help of audio-visuals, drama, music and art.

(10) "I'm Talking! Are You Listening?"

Mary Ann Iler, St. Petersburg

For elementary children and their parents. (Limited 4-6 families)

(11) "I'm Talking, Anyone Listening?"

Rev. Don Bain, Gainesville

Skillshop for parents and teenagers.

(12) "Children of Divorce"

Edith Buffett, Orlando—DCE and Guidance Counselor

To help children 6-11 years of age cope with problems they face when parents divorce.

(13) "Divorce: A Puzzling Dilemma for Teenagers"

Marabeth Plowman, Lakeland—Marriage & Family Therapist

To help teenagers adjust to changes that occur when parents divorce.

(14) Youth: Celebrate Life"

Rev. Phil Roughton, Tallahassee—District Youth Coordinator

Bible study, spiritual growth, singing, Lots of FUN!

(15) "All God's Children Belong"

Ann Hutchens, St. Petersburg — Diaconal Minister

Bible study, games, films, nature crafts, music.

(16) "Pre-School Child Care"

Jackie Davenport, Orlando—Christian Educator

For children whose parents are enrolled in a worship during workshop time.

Family Festival Registration

Interested in participating in the Family Festival at the Leesburg Life Enrichment Center? For housing at the center, or space at the family campground, reservations should be made by August 15. Contact The Rev. Tom McCloskey, P. O. Box 3767, United Methodist Building, Lakeland, Florida 33802, for full details.

A Man Whose Life Has Touched Many

JIM MOORHEAD
Entertainment Writer,
St. Petersburg Times

He came to my town when I was 10, left when I was 17, and I guess I'd have to say he was the chief "spiritual" figure in my life during those formative years.

There were others of influence, to be sure — friends who were seminary-bound; church youth leaders; a gruff but warmhearted pastor named Warren W. Wills who ran the Methodist Youth Camp over in the next county and got only summertime shots at me.

But George Foster has to be counted as the central figure in this limited group. He was, after all, the pastor of my family's church, the church in which I was baptized, the church that claimed a good deal of my time every Sunday for half a dozen years before I went away to the university and succumbed to its hedonistic social scene.

College did what it was supposed to do — took mine and my parents' money, and in return saw to it that I had a grownup sex life, a moderate drinking capacity and a bachelor's degree before I got out. It was a fair exchange, and I was understandably more corrupted for the experience. But if I strayed, I think I never was lost. Something about George Foster had "took" previously, as I have come more and more to realize over the years.

He wasn't the most popular or beloved man of the cloth I've known. Even my own mother, determined though she was to see me church-active, didn't much care for him.

She found him "cold."

Isn't it curious, therefore, that I look back on lengthy and sociable visits with him in his study?

She found his sermons too unconventional.

Strange, then, that I should remember his sermonizing as piquing my interest for the first time in that sort of thing—with messages that were unpreachy, thought-provoking, relevant.

She found him to be not one of the people.

How odd that one of my clearest and fondest memories of George Foster has him in the midst of a crowd of admiring youngsters at church camp. Perched incongruously on his head is a railroad engineer's cap. Three of us fellows—best pals—had bought them for ourselves, especially for the occasion, and we had bought Preacher Foster one, too—never doubting that he would wear it and, in doing so, be one of us all the more. And he did.

She found him a brick-and-mortar minister.

And in that regard, she had a case. He was, in his makeup, the kind of leader who could touch the pocketbook as well as the soul. One of his assignments in Ocala was a new church, and he by-God got one built. If George Foster needs a monument—which I doubt—it stands there today overlooking Silver Springs Boulevard.

Foster's Motel, we called it, tenderly poking fun at its U-shaped layout which so resembled the dozens of motels lining that busy corridor.

He didn't like the joke, but he put up with it. He put up with a lot, from us kids especially. If he wasn't one of

those expansive, uncle-type pastors who ingratiate themselves to young people, he at least knew the value of patience and communication.

He was sly, too. When Jerry Anderson and I stood in back of the church one Sunday evening and swayed annoyingly during the hymn-singing, he didn't bless us out. Instead, he put Jerry in charge of the light board at night, making him feel important and getting us both out of sight (we were inseparable at the time).

He was anything but physically imposing—5½ feet tall, balding, paunchy, pink-complexioned and round-faced—but he made lasting impressions nevertheless. To this day, when I attend services in my wife's church, I find myself reliving a memory during the recitation of *The Apostles' Creed*. The congregation recites one version, while I stand there all alone hearing George Foster recite a shorter version in my mind, and I recite it with him just as I did dozens of times.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered unto Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. The third day he arose from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Twelve days ago, I saw George

Foster, Tallahassee retiree, for the first time in 27 years. I went to the local church where he was guest speaker, sat in the front row, and watched and listened with fascination. There he stood, doing what he has done for more years than I've been alive—preaching the Gospel—and the picture was startling. He is so unchanged—hair a little grayer, face a little paler, wearing a lighter suit than I remember—it was as though someone merely had backed off a few feet and flung a fistful of powder in his direction.

But the soft North Florida speech . . . the punchy gestures . . . the sudden repeating of himself for emphasis . . . the way he has of turning one foot in on its toe, as though about to strain for greater height . . . the earnestness of feeling . . . the quick laugh, the quick mind, the quick cadence as George Foster continues to move to his Lord's bidding—all that is as it was.

Later, we walked over to the rectory, joined the local pastor and his wife, and talked till after midnight. I missed the TV premiere of a film I wanted to see, just as I used to miss my favorite Sunday night radio shows, thanks to him.

Several times during the evening, I glanced at him and wondered if he ever thinks about the innumerable lives he has touched during his 73 years.

More likely he thinks about the lives he has yet to touch in the years ahead.

(George Foster is a former minister of Trinity.)

HEO Office Will Be Opened in Church Library to Coordinate Service

By May Hamilton

Members of Trinity are concerned about those of the church family who are no longer able to participate in the fellowship of the church. For the past year, a group calling itself the HEO (Help Each Other) Ministry has been coordinating visitation of the housebound and ill and also helping to transport people to church services.

Many persons have expressed their pleasure in these services. Also, many physically active church members have demonstrated their desire to become a part of this work. In order to improve and extend these services, the group is establishing an office in the church library and is hiring a secretary. This necessitates financial underwriting.

The United Methodist Women have donated \$300 for a trial three-month period. The Council on Ministries has given permission for a request for \$300 to go before the finance committee of the Administrative Board.

In addition, the HEO is preparing church note paper and trivets for sale. A beautiful photograph of the Glenn James Chapel window by Broun Parmenter is to be used on these items. Other money raising events include tennis tournaments planned for the summer. The dates will be announced in the church bulletin.

On Sunday evening, September 21, a workshop for those who wish to join in these efforts to help Trinity BE a family will be held in Fellowship Hall. The workshop will start with supper and will include instruc-

tion in "Problems of Living Alone," and "How to Visit the Sick." A brainstorming session will draw on the experience and knowledge of the participants to help Trinity meet the needs of this valuable segment of its family.

Worth Noting

Have you noticed the church grounds lately? Have you seen the flowers in the courtyard? All of this is the work of our new custodian and maintenance man, Ernie MacDonald. We are delighted to have him as a new member of the staff as well as of the church. You will also see and hear him on Sunday. His fine tenor voice is a good addition to our choir.

Circle Helps Others

We at Trinity are very appreciative of the scholarship award of \$50 by Circle 4 of our United Methodist Women. This circle is dedicated to helping others in their spiritual growth. As a result the circle donated \$50 for a young person to attend Leesburg Camp this summer. We are grateful for those in Circle 4 who do so much.

—John H. Green

Christian Education Comments

By John H. Green

The three names, Peter, James and John are biblical. However, these names belong to three people who live today. John, of course, is me. Peter and James you don't know. Elaine and I have not shared this experience with very many people but we were foster parents for awhile to Peter and James.

Peter and James came to live with us when they were about 11 years old. At the time Elaine and I were much younger, if you can imagine; she was "24 and I was 26. We were more like "Big Brother and Sister" to Peter and James than parents.

It is not necessary to go into the background of Peter and James or to inform you in any detail about their personalities. We can say they were opposites! Yet, at the same time, they had similar needs.

James would openly and readily "jump" into a conversation. In fact, James jumped into a lot of things! For example, after a shower one evening he ran down the hallway, jumped and landed on a table filled with, at that time, our best dishes. The breaking of glass could be heard for many minutes later. Peter, on the other hand, would shy away from conversation or any emotional involvement. Peter was much slower to communicate than James but broke fewer dishes!

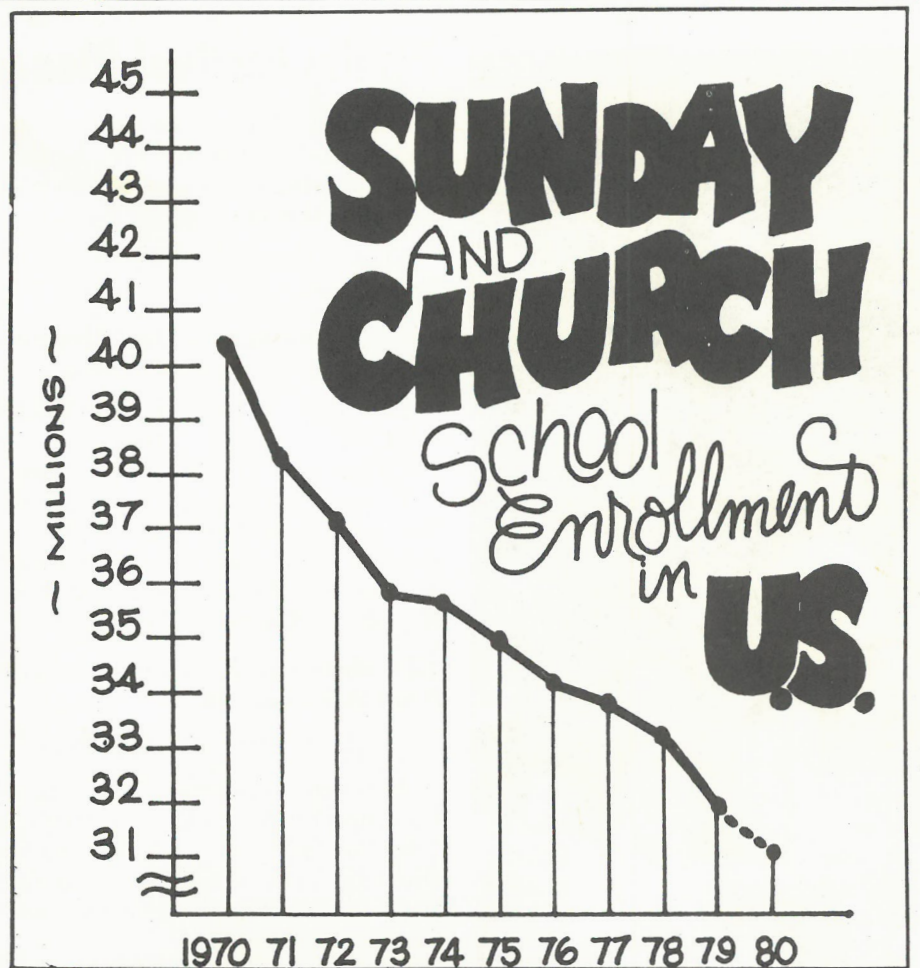
Unfortunately, Elaine and I were not over successful as foster parents. Perhaps it was our own youth that had trouble accepting the trials and tribulations of the "children." A lot came into our lives through these children in a short period of time. James did not stay with us quite a year and Peter was able to return to his mother in less than two years. We

do not regret this experience, though we were not too successful. There were many times of laughter and times of tears. It was a traumatic experience for all of us when Peter broke his leg playing baseball. And, when James left us after a few months, guilt and failure in that we were not sure if we helped him at all.

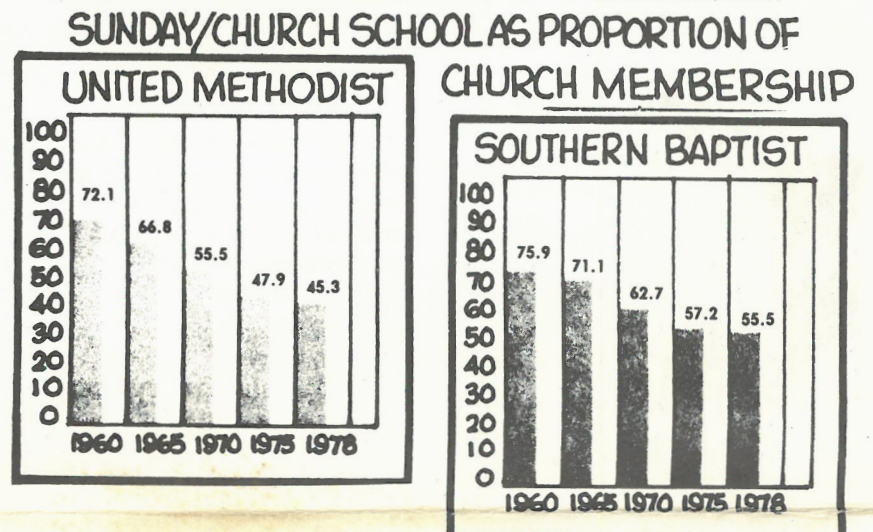
Nevertheless, and here is the Christian education focus, they helped us in our growth and maturity simply through our relationship with them. Children develop very early ways of responding to peers and adults. Peter and James were already 11. Many impressions had been formed. More and more we realized how important our impressions were influencing them. Self-evaluation came more often!

One of the things that helped me and Elaine to grow was the fact of realizing the importance of friendship. Friendship was a strong basis of development influence on those children. Friendship to Peter and James was more important than "parentship" in our case. In Christian education, friendship is one important basis of transforming the Christian faith into Christian discipleship. Children can reach out for friendship. And, though Peter and James were opposites, their need was for friendship. We don't feel we had the time or maturity to develop that friendship with Peter and James.

So we pass on to you a brief encounter with "our" children. We hope it will help you see the important need of being friends with your children or grandchildren. Our children of the church and community are important. So important were they to Jesus that he said, "of such is the Kingdom of God."



GRAPHS: THE INSTITUTE FOR AMERICAN CHURCH GROWTH, PASADENA, CALIF.



Congratulations to Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. Francis) Black, Martha (Mrs. A. H.) Bryson, Marie Malakowsky, and Liz (Mrs. William) Moncrief for having completed five years of service with the Leon County Meals on Wheels program. These ladies were recently recognized by the Senior Society Planning Council for volunteer service in the program. For several years Trinity has been, and continues to be, well represented by many of her members who have given dedicated service in this community project. Ladies, we salute you!

POSITION AVAILABLE

The HEO Ministry is looking for a person to set up the HEO office records and files. Secretarial skills are required. It would entail approximately 20 hours a week at minimum wage. The person could set the hours the office would be open but once set, the hours would need to remain the same. If interested, telephone May Hamilton, Chairperson HEO, at 877-0032.

Congratulations to Trinity member David Kerns. He was recently re-elected to a second two-year term on the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar. He will be representing lawyers in Leon, Franklin, Liberty, Wakulla, Gadsden and Jefferson Counties.

Maturity

HAVING the ability to deal constructively with reality

HAVING the capacity to adapt to change

HAVING a relative freedom from symptoms that are produced by tensions and anxieties

HAVING the capacity to find more satisfaction in giving than receiving

HAVING the capacity to relate to other people in a consistent manner with mutual satisfaction and helpfulness

HAVING the capacity to sublimate, to direct one's instinctive hostile energy into creative and constructive outlets

HAVING the capacity to love

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