



Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • TALLAHASSEE, FLA. • VOL. 7, NO. 3 • MARCH, 1980

Trinity Plans Chicken Fry at Springtime Tallahassee Festival

Trinity Church will again this year operate a chicken fry concession associated with the Springtime Tallahassee festivities on March 29. The fried chicken dinner will be served on the street area in front of the church from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The charge for the dinner will be \$2.50. All proceeds will be used to support the youth program of the church, and the third and final payment (\$500) on the pledge toward the construction of the Adult Life Enrichment Center adjacent to the Youth Camp near Leesburg.

Bob Walker is general chairperson of the chicken fry project. The Rev. Phil Roughton will represent the church staff on the committee. Considerable volunteer help will be needed to help cook, carry food, serve, set-up tables and clean-up. Calls for volunteers will be made at church school classes, U.M.Y.F. and through the church bulletin. It is hoped that a good response will answer the call. Volunteers should call the church office (222-1120).

Trinity youth will not undertake the work project in the Bahamas this year but funds realized from the chicken fry will be used to help fund their Appalachia Service Project. The Adult Life Enrichment Center was dedicated and opened for operation on November 10, 1979. The facilities include four motel type living quarters each with 50 double rooms with private bath, a meeting room building with one large assembly hall and four meeting rooms for smaller groups and an administration building that includes a well equipped cafeteria style dining hall. These facilities, which cost in excess of \$3,000,000, are available to any church group in the Florida Conference for meetings and retreats. Reservations are necessary and a fee is charged. The very popular Laymen's Retreat in the fall and the Couple's Retreat in the spring use these facilities.

Tickets for the chicken fry will be available in advance. All Trinity members are urged to eat their noon meal during Springtime Tallahassee festivities at the Trinity concession and to bring or invite their friends to do likewise.

Lifeline Evangelistic Program Will Be Here on March 16

A lay evangelistic program, Lifeline, will be conducted by a team from the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church at Trinity during a Sunday evening service on March 16.

The Work Area on Evangelism approved the Lifeline program when proposed by members of Trinity's Joy Sunday School Class.

Dr. C. W. Hancock, District Superintendent of UMC in South Georgia and a college roommate of Rev. Gene Zimmerman, approved and helped organize the program. It has also been approved by the Georgia Conference United Methodist Men Board of Directors.

The purpose of the program is to win souls for Jesus Christ, to bring revival to the church, to bring Christians together to pray for one another, to promote better attendance at Sunday evening services, to revive personal evangelism, to make new Christian friends in neighboring churches, to promote better attendance at all church retreats and to bring persons together to praise and worship God.

Charlene Causseaux said the purpose touches nearly every goal of all work areas of the church. She called upon Trinity members to take this opportunity as a personal challenge to encourage Sunday school class members, circle members and other groups to participate. "Come be a part of something exciting on Sunday evening, March 16!" Mrs. Causseaux invited.

For further information, brochures can be picked up in the church office or from the following people: Charlie Hinson, Orlis and Charlene Causseaux and Alex Knight.

* * *

Wesley Fellowship Class Lists Speakers

Wesley Fellowship Class announces its schedules of teachers for the next quarter:

March 2, 9, 16, 23—Judge Ben Willis

March 30—Dr. Gene Zimmerman
"Preview of General Conference"

April 6—Judge Ben Willis

April 13—Burke B. Scisson

April 20—Kenneth Ballinger

May 4—Dr. Gene Zimmerman
"Review of General Conference"

May 11—Aubrey Morse

Storey Class Lists Topic

In each of the creeds now used by the Methodist Church, there is reference to the belief in "life everlasting." This topic will be the subject for study and discussion by the Bob Storey Sunday school class from both the biblical and scientific perspectives during the month of April.

Study of Parables Begins March 10

Did you know there are more than 46 Parables in the Bible? How familiar are you with them? What is a Parable? Does it have hidden meaning? Is it important for us today?

Beginning Monday, March 10, you can find the answers to these and many more questions when the UMW begins its six session study of the Parables.

The group will meet from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Monday and Wednesday mornings in the Gregory Room, continuing for three weeks. Study books will be available for \$1.50, and you are asked to bring a notebook and pencil as this will be a working session.

Gwen Roberts and Liz Smith will lead the group, but emphasize that they will be studying and learning along with the group as they "dig into" the fascinating Parables that make up over one-third of the teachings of Jesus.

Mature Years Retreat Open to Participants

Trinity members are invited to participate in the 34th Annual Mature Years Retreat of the Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church April 21-24 at the UM Life Enrichment Center, Leesburg.

The conference, Faith for Changing Times, will include special music, Bible study led by ministers and lay persons, recreation, devotions and a dramatic presentation.

Cost is \$55 and includes meals and lodging. Registration forms may be obtained by writing Mature Years Retreat, P. O. Box 3767, Lakeland 33802. Registration deadline is April 14.

Spiritual Life Retreat Set

United Methodist Women of the Tallahassee District will be attending the annual Spiritual Life Retreat at Cherry Lake, Florida, planned for April 18, 19, and 20. Details will be announced in the April *Monthly Tidings*.

Trinity UMW has in past years been well represented at the retreats and it is hoped that the 1980 attendance will exceed that of former years. Mark your calendar now!

Lenten Breakfasts to Feature Four Lay Speakers March 31-April 3

Trinity's annual Lenten breakfasts will feature four well known members of the church, according to Lay Leader Walter Funderburk.

Robert Mann, chairman of the Public Service Commission, is scheduled to speak at the first breakfast on Monday, March 31. Mann is on leave of absence from his former position as professor of law at the University of Florida College of Law, while he serves on the Commission. He has served as a district court of appeal judge and in various other public and legal capacities during the course of his career.

Mann was a district lay leader for the Tampa District of The United Methodist Church 1956-66, served four terms as a member of the General Conference and as a Trustee of the Lake Junaluska Assembly.

On Tuesday, April 1, Liz Smith, writer of the *Tidings* "Mustard Seed" column, will speak. She has been called upon frequently by United Methodist Women and other groups to give meditations. Currently she is one of the teachers for the UMW study of the Parables. Married to James Smith and mother of three children, Liz Smith is a graduate of Florida State University and has been active in the Wesley Foundation there.

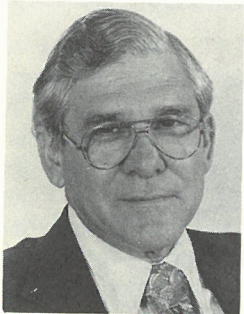
Alison Mattice, speaker for the

Wednesday, April 2, breakfast, is wife of Bill Mattice and mother of Bill, Jr., age 17 months. She is a native of Texas and lived there and in New York and New Jersey before moving to Maitland, Florida. She attended Florida Southern College and graduated from Georgia State University with a degree in psychology.

Speaker for the final breakfast on Thursday, April 3, will be Dr. Samuel L. Meyer, president emeritus of Ohio Northern University, a Methodist related institution. He has taught at Emory University, at Florida State University, served as a dean at Central College and academic vice president at University of the Pacific. He has been an active Methodist layman and currently serves as a member of the University Senate of The United Methodist Church. He and Mrs. Meyer came to Tallahassee in July 1977 to make their retirement home.

The Lenten devotionals will begin at 7:25 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall following breakfast cooked by adult Sunday school classes.

Breakfast on Monday morning will be cooked by the Advanced Studies and Koinonia classes; on Tuesday by Wesley Brotherhood; on Wednesday by the Bob Storey Class; and on Thursday by the Wesley Fellowship and Joy Classes.



COMMENT

By Gene Zimmerman

Keep on Keeping on

Some weeks ago I started reading a book that was dull, dry and uninteresting, but because it was on a subject I needed to know about, I kept plodding on with it. Finally I put it down with the self promise to finish it sometime. Weeks later I began again. What an exciting book, how exhilarating, and what new places of the spirit it took me! I quickly looked back to the beginning and there, too, was much of the same excitement!

Since the book hadn't changed it must have been me. Something in me had not been receptive to the word it spoke, but now was.

This kind of thing happens to us with the church. It may seem plodding and dull, the same old thing with nothing new to say, but one day the words come alive and speak their truth and it finds us in a new and exciting way. Did the church change that much? Probably not. It was that we came one day from a new direction and that time had "ears to hear" and we heard a new song from old words.

I shared a rich and memorable experience with my neighbor in Miami. He had been raised in an orthodox Jewish family but forgot his faith when he left home. Now in his late forties, he rediscovered it. (He had told the Rabbi he had no right to ask for God's help because he had disregarded the Lord so long. The Rabbi wisely told him God had only been waiting for him to come back.) What excitement it was for him to hear the old words in a new way. Almost daily he came over to tell me something exciting about his refound faith.

The prophet Isaiah said, "In returning and rest shall you be saved. . . ." What that says to me today is keep on keeping on, and one day what seems like a grey ash will burst into flame.

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a troubled child who can begin to care about others because others care about him.



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Florida United Methodist Children's Home
Bascom W. Carlton, Executive Director
P.O. Box 8
Enterprise, Florida 32725

Dear Rev. Carlton:

I want to help provide that little extra that's needed to give special encouragement to boys and girls.

My Proxy Parent gift will be handled in the following way: \$ _____
now, and \$ _____ monthly, or _____

Signed: _____

Street _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mustard Seed

By Liz Smith

And he said to all, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."—Luke 9:23

What are you going to give up for Lent this year? I remember, as a teenager, feeling very clever answering that question by replying, "My diet!" or, "Doing my homework." Obviously the concept of self-denial was one I had not given any serious thought to then, and I must confess that even now, as an adult, I'm not very comfortable with it. I have matured enough, however, to realize that deciding to go without dessert from Ash Wednesday to Easter has little if anything to do with meaningful self-denial.

I guess our knee-jerk reaction to the words, "deny yourself," almost always dictates giving up some material thing or particular pleasure, probably because we attach so much importance to possessions and comforts. We think of going without certain favorite foods, foregoing movies, and particularly now, lowering thermostats, curtailing our driving and other ways of saving energy. And precisely because these things are so dear to us, doing without them can certainly be a meaningful discipline.

But I think there are other ways to react, other kinds of things we might consider in any serious effort to deny self. For example, I consider myself to be relatively even tempered and agreeable to live with, yet I am always surprised at how easy it is to allow myself to feel irritable and grouchy and "put-upon" as I deal with the myriad details and situations of any given day. I stress the words, "allow myself," because I know that I don't have to give in to those feelings, that I can deny myself the time and energy it takes to dwell on minor hurts, to feel sorry for myself, to be supersensitive and make mountains out of molehills. Surely to stop centering my thoughts on me and my feelings all of the time, to deny myself that exercise in selfishness, could be one way to find deeper meaning in self-denial.

Another way of looking at this is best illustrated for me by the example of my teenaged daughter getting ready to go out on a special date. She will comb and re-comb her hair, check her makeup a dozen times, adjust and arrange her clothes and twist and turn in front of the mirror until finally, in exasperation, I'll say, "Look, just forget about yourself! Don't even think about your hair or what you are wearing or what other people might think. Forget you, and concentrate on them." Forget about ourselves . . . easy to say, but oh, so hard to do! Yet I think that is precisely what Jesus was suggesting we do when he taught us to pray, . . . "not my will but thine be done." We are asking that He literally help us forget ourselves, what we desire and want and think we have to be, and guide us instead into an openness of mind and spirit that will allow us to perceive his will for us.

William Barclay, in his commentary on self-denial, says that it is "to obliterate self as the dominant principle of life," to "dethrone self and enthrone God." But how do we do that? I don't pretend to have any simple or easy answers but perhaps there is a clue for us in something Dietrich Bonhoeffer said when he talked about "acting ourselves into a way of thinking"; actually living as if we believe a certain thing to be true until we do come to know it as a reality in our lives. Maybe if we just can begin, however uncertain and inexperienced we are, to make a *daily* attempt to move our own desires and wants and complaints out of the center of our lives, and act as if self really isn't the dominant thing in our existence, we will come to find, with His help, that it is true.

To move "self" out of the center of our thoughts and actions, and to do it daily, is a far cry from simply giving up Cokes and candy, or walking to work for 40 days. Perhaps the most meaningful thing we can give up for Lent is our restricted, limited view of what self-denial really requires of us.

Christian Education Comments

By John H. Green

Are we relying too much on our military forces for security? If we are then, it is a false security! We would do well to remember that God is the only ultimate national security that any country can really have. There is not enough money in the world to build any army strong and big enough to protect a nation. All military hardware and all the nuclear arsenals that exist cannot replace trust in God.

Why do we think a military buildup is so important? Are we afraid of an enemy? Yes, we are afraid of an enemy. But where is America's enemy? We found out the enemy was not in the rice paddies of Vietnam. It is not in Peking, a country we smile to and pass the Coco-Cola! Is it Russia? The worst enemy is within the boundaries of the United States.

America's enemy is the ethical and moral degeneration settling in among the people. God has been excused while we worship ourselves. This includes the worship of our country as a god. Pseudo-patriotic pietistic patriotism is worthless. We've got our guns pointed in the wrong direction. Ethical and moral renewal is the hope

of our salvation. This will come when we arrest the present mood of ethical and moral degeneration and turn over our lives to the trust of Jesus Christ.

The theme of war, so prevalent in the mood of our country and a part of this moral and ethical degeneration, must be stopped now. Building new arsenals and drafting our young men and women will not bring peace, only destruction. Let us repair, instead, our relationship with God, the world's only Savior, while there is time. Remember the words of the Psalmist: "Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain."—Ps. 127:1-2

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Articles for the Tidings

Persons or groups wishing information included in the April issue of *Tidings* should turn it in at the church office by March 21. Contributions are encouraged from Sunday school classes, the choirs, work areas, and all other church related groups.

Circles Announce Meeting Schedule for March

United Methodist Women executive board met March 4, 10:30 a.m. in the church conference room. Luncheon, with Circle 1 in charge, was served at 12 noon, followed by the general membership regular monthly meeting.

The program, a Book Fair, coordinated by Mrs. G. S. Roberts, Jr., stimulated interest in the 1980 Reading Program. Members of other UMW units of the Tallahassee District also attended.

Following are the scheduled March group meetings:

Circle 1 will meet Monday March 10, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Payne Midyette, Miccosukee Road, phone 877-1036. Mrs. J. H. Dowling and Mrs. J. C. Camp will assist as co-hostesses. The group will continue their study of the Bible as Literature.

Circle 2 plans to meet on Monday afternoon, March 10, at 2:30, in the church parlor with Mrs. G. H. Beasley, Mrs. H. J. Allen, Mrs. C. A. Taylor and Mrs. T. E. Woods co-hostesses. Mrs. Jennings Rehwinkel, chairman, will be in charge of the program.

Circle 3 will meet at the home of Mrs. H. H. Blount, 942 Delores Dr., phone 224-6777, on Tuesday, March 11 at 10:00 a.m. The group will be continuing their study of the Parables.

Circle 4 is planning to meet on Tuesday, March 11, at 10:00 a.m., in the Wesley Brotherhood Classroom, Trinity Hall. Miss Martha Chapman, in charge of the program, will review the book *The New Laity* edited by Ralph C. Bucy.

Circle 5 will meet with Mrs. E. K. Oakley, 1804 W. Indianhead Drive,

phone, 877-4898, on Tuesday, March 11, at 10:00 a.m.

Circle 6 will be meeting at the home of Mrs. Foster Davis, 2005 E. Randolph Circle, phone 385-1734. Mrs. Samuel L. Meyer will present the program. Cohostess will be Mrs. Robert B. Jenkins.

Circle 7 will meet with Mrs. Jonathan Bliss, 502 Glenview Drive, phone 385-1511, at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 11. Mrs. Norman Leedham will be in charge of the program.

Circle 8 will meet in the church parlor at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, March 11, with Mrs. Robert Dean and Mrs. James Harris, co-hostesses. The Rev. John Green, guest speaker, will present the program on Suzannah Wesley.

Circle 9 plans to meet on Tuesday, March 11, at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Mrs. Jack Anderson, 1017 San Luis Road, phone 576-1813. The group will be reviewing materials available for programs during 1980.

Circle 10 will meet at the Tallahassee Convalescent Home on Monday, March 10, at 3:30. Mrs. W. G. Parmenter will assist with the program.

Circle 12 will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, March 17, 7:15 p.m. in the Glenn C. James Chapel of the church. Mrs. George Foster, guest speaker, will review the *Study of the Parables*.

Circle 13 is planning to meet on Tuesday evening, March 18, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Jack Ragan, 522 Collins Drive, phone 385-1491. The Rev. John Green will be guest speaker.

Florida Methodists May Contribute to Home

Bishop Joel McDavid, who has served the Florida Conference since 1972, will be leaving Florida for re-assignment to another area of the Southeast sometime in August. Since living in Florida for the past eight years, he and Mrs. McDavid have decided to make their home here and return after serving their last four-year assignment.

As a gift of appreciation to the McDavids for their service to the church, the Division of Lay Activities is calling on Florida United Methodists to present the McDavids a cash gift at Annual Conference which will go toward the retirement home they are purchasing in Lakeland. Later on this month, Trinity people will have an opportunity to contribute to this gift to the Bishop and his wife.

Terrell House Thanks UMW

Terrell House at Tallahassee has expressed, by letter from Family Services Coordinator Marilyn Wilson, deep gratitude to Trinity United Methodist Women circles for participation in the weekend meal program for families of inmates in Leon County during 1979, and the hope that this program will continue to flourish throughout 1980.

Nine UMW circles are already scheduled to assist in this service during the coming months on every other fourth Saturday, which will benefit wives, mothers and children following visiting hours at the various local penal institutions. UMW members feel this to be a worthwhile and rewarding endeavor as they seek to serve in local community needs.

News About Trinity Members

Congratulations to Mrs. H. V. (Katie) Matthews for her selection as one of five nominees for Tallahassee "Woman of the Year" in the recent competition. Mrs. Matthews was selected by her associates in Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center Auxiliary for the honor.

Wives of members of the Wesley Brotherhood Class helped entertain the large turnout for the Intergenerational Night on Sunday evening, February 17. Mrs. Mitchell M. Ferguson (Myrtle) sang a solo, *Some Folks Do*, by Stephen Foster accompanied by Mrs. Tom F. Jones (Bessie). Mrs. H. O. Pemberton (Frances) sang a solo, *Listen to the Mocking Bird*. A duet, *School Days*, was sung by Mrs. Pemberton and accompanied by Mrs. Jones.

Mrs. S. C. (Deede) Draper, formerly a member of Circle 2 of the United Methodist Women and more recently affiliated with Circle 10 which meets at the Tallahassee Convalescent Home, has moved to her new residence, the Estes Health Care Center, 3333 Capital Medical Boulevard (located two blocks beyond the new Capital Medical Center Hospital.)

Mrs. Draper hopes her many fellow-circle members and friends will visit her in her new home and extends a warm invitation to all.

News about other Trinity members is invited for this column each month. Send to Monthly Tidings, P. O. Box 1086, Tallahassee 32302.

Challenge of Discipline Reflected in Budget

Each unit of the United Methodist Women is authorized by the Discipline to receive and disburse funds "for the fulfillment of its purpose." At the February general meeting Trinity's UMW unit reported the statement of receipts and disbursements for 1979.

Receipts for 1979 totaled \$7,976.75. This amount included individual pledges to the unit budget of 6,747.55, and additional giving of \$1,229.20.

Total *Disbursements* of \$7,938.05 made in 1979 fell into three categories: 81% of Global Ministries, or \$6,431.80, which included the unit's Pledge to Missions for undergirding support of church's mission program; 8% to Local Missions, or \$648.15, an amount retained in the unit treasury to be used in mission locally. (Although these figures do not accurately reflect the scope of the local mission program since many projects do not require expenditure of money but represent investment of time, energy and self); 11% *Local Membership Development and Administration*, or \$858.10, an amount to provide opportunities for spiritual enrichment of membership and to meet operating expenses of the unit.

This annual report reflects the financial effort made by Trinity's UMW unit in support of its mission program and in carrying out the challenge of the Discipline.

Singing and Ringing News

By Shirley Kirwin

"O Come, let us Sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms."

Some of the youth of our church are fulfilling these scriptures with love and dedication to the Lord as well as with hard work. They share God's praises in song most Sunday mornings and are encouraged by your support. A special thanks to all the youth participating and a hearty welcome to those who would also like to share God's love and blessings.

"It's Cool In The Furnace"

This *fun* musical about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's adventures is going to be presented in May by combined efforts of the Chapel Choir (grades 6-8) and the Wesleyan Singers (grades 2-5). Our two stars will be Katy Hinson as Daniel and Steven Davis as Nebuchadnezzar. Every choir member will also be an instrumentalist and kazoo player. It's going to be hard work but we know you as a congregation will have as much fun watching as we have presenting it to you.

All youth in grades 2-8 are invited to participate and we welcome you to practices Sunday evenings.

Wesleyan Singers	5:00-6:00
Chapel Choir	3:45-4:45

We also need the following instrumentalists. If you can play please contact me at 575-6227 or at the church office:

- 1 bass player
- 1 drummer
- 1 guitarist
- 1 oboe player
- 1 trumpet player

The Wesleyan Choir is also in need of an accompanist. If you have free Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:00 and would be willing to help please let me know. It would be greatly appreciated.

Practice Time for Youth—
Carol Choirs (ages 4—1st grade)
Sunday 11:30
Wesleyan Singers (grades 2-5)
Sunday 5:00-6:00
Melody Bells (grades 2-5)
Sunday 5:45-6:15
Chapel Choir (grades 6-8)
Sunday 3:45-4:45
Chapel Bells (grades 6-12)
Tuesday 4:00-5:00
New Life Singers—We have had poor response from the high school youth in participating in the choir program. Any person interested in singing with the Chapel Choir for church services come to practice Sundays at 3:45. You may leave when we start practicing for the play.

Dates to Keep in Mind:
Mar. 2—Wesleyan Singers—Skating Party after choir practice
March 7—Chapel Choir & Bells—Bowling Party and Dinner at Kirwin's—6:00 p.m.
March 22—Wesleyan Singers—Carpet Golf—2:00
April 19—Chapel Choir—Skating Party
April 25-26—Wesleyan Choir—overnight Retreat at Methodist Music Conference in Lakeland.

Performance Schedule for Youth Choirs
February
10—8:45 a.m.—Chapel Choir "Alleluia"
17—11:00 a.m.—Carol Choir "Come on Down Zacchaeus"
24—8:45 a.m.—Wesleyan Singers "I Lift My Eyes to the Lord"
24—11:00 a.m.—Chapel Bells Introit and Amen

March
2—11:00 a.m.—Chapel Bells Introit and Amen
9—11:00 a.m.—Carol Choir "The Lord is My Strength"
16—8:45 a.m.—Chapel Choir "A Song of Praise"
16—11:00 a.m.—Melody Bells Introit
23—8:45 a.m.—Wesleyan Singers "What Can I Do To Serve The Lord"
30—8:45 a.m.—Chapel Choir & Bells—"Sing Unto God" Introit & Amen
11:00 a.m.—Chapel Bells Introit
11:00 a.m.—Carol Choir "Palm Sunday"

Circle 10 Has Become Part of Life at Convalescent Home

The September 1979 *Monthly Tidings* carried an article announcing the "birth" of a new United Methodist Women's venture—a monthly circle (Circle 10) at the Tallahassee Convalescent Home. At that time, the "Experiment" had been in operation for several months and had truly become an "Experience!"

Now, we have become one year old!—truly an occasion to celebrate, and once again members of Trinity are invited, through the *Tidings*, to share in the knowledge and joy of our progress.

In these days, Circle 10 has become a part of the life of Tallahassee Convalescent Home. Membership and attendance have remained stable, with a newcomer added from time to time. Those who come for their first visit usually return and become regular members. As with any group, some are occasionally absent, and their absence is always followed by a visit with them later. One member who has moved to a new local health care facility was loathe to leave "her circle" and insists we organize a group in her new home! Any UMW volunteers for this project?

Circle 10 has been very happy with the interest and encouragement offered by our United Methodist Women. One of our groups wanted to have its monthly meeting with Circle 10, and we were sorry to have to say, "There just aren't enough cubic feet of space to hold us all at one time!"

So, various circles have added much to the enrichment of our programs by sending representatives to our meetings. Each of our pastors has also been with us, and we have enjoyed and profited from their contributions of time and resources. We feel they were as blessed as we were.

Shirley Kirwin, our director of children's and youth choirs, as well as Dorothy Campbell of Tallahassee Heights UMC and a former member of Trinity's chancel choir, have led our singing a number of times, and members of the youth group have

presented a program and provided refreshments for the circle. To all of these visitors Circle 10 is grateful.

More and more, individual members of the group take leading parts in the meetings, reading from the Bible, reciting or reading selected scripture passages dealing with a single theme, in singing the hymns from memory, and in prayers.

All who would like to join us on any second Monday, 3:30 p.m. are cordially welcome—a few at a time!

—The Scribbler

UMW Participate in Vial of Life Program; Donations Needed

United Methodist Women, through Circle 2 Chairman Mrs. J. A. Rehwinkel, were given opportunity at both February and March general meetings to participate in the recently popular "Vial of Life" program.

This program, sponsored by Leon County Retired Teachers' Assn., and cosponsored by AARP, Leon County Sheriff's Dept., Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center, has been enthusiastically received throughout the community. More than 1500 vials have been distributed since mid-January and the number continues to grow as the importance of the project to individuals becomes more widely known.

Members of UMW were instructed on use of the vials in cases of emergency: Written medical records of a person with physical problems or handicaps, recorded on a printed form, is inserted on a vial which should be taped to the top shelf of the home refrigerator and/or placed in the glove compartment of a car. Decals on the appliance, entrance door of the home and/or upper left corner of the car windshield is a warning in case of accident or emergency illness that an occupant is present who needs special care or handling, and instructions concerning the medical condition of the occupant can be readily located in the vial.

The program is available and desirable for persons of all ages and circumstances and may result in the saving of a life. Although individuals do not pay for materials used in the program, which have been contributed mainly by the Sheriff's Dept., hospital, and others, some additional funds are needed. Mrs. Rehwinkel stated, for processing decals and carrying on the project. Any one desiring information, vials, etc., may call Mrs. Rehwinkel, phone 224-6326; donations may be made payable to "Vial of Life" and mailed to M. L. Edmundson, Treasurer, 117 Chapel Drive, Tallahassee 32304.

Methodist Women Fight Hunger by Mission Outreach

Members of Trinity and its radio audience recently were privileged to hear the Rev. John H. T. Maclin, a Methodist missionary, who has spent a number of years in Africa. He told of his experiences among starving natives and how deeply affected were American college students, traveling with him at one time, at the sight of starving children.

Rev. Maclin's remarks were of special interest to United Methodist Women of the local unit whose emphasis is on missions both at home and abroad. A wide variety of mission programs, about 10,000 in over 100 nations with 2000 involved people, is supported by the UMW in local units throughout the United Methodist Churches of the nation. This is done by their pledges to mission gifts, and fighting hunger being one of the main projects, carried on mainly in the African regions.

The first aim of missions, according to Dr. Maclin, is to bring the knowledge of Christ to the deprived nations and then to help instill the desire to stand on their own feet. This is done in many countries by related churches sharing personnel and resources in the effort to establish a just society, free from hunger, poverty and dehumanization.

Dr. Maclin stressed that concern for world problems and help in lightening them begins with personal commitment—"It begins with YOU!" he declared, "and what each of you can do in your own small way." He concluded with the question, "How do you hug a million kids?"—the answer, "one at a time!"

As United Methodist Women and members of the United Methodist Church, we are committed to understand and to participate in the contemporary mission outreach of the church, even if we can only "hug one kid at a time!"

"Sometimes the unkindness of your friends is a greater trial of your meekness than the malice of your enemies."

Roughton's Rappings

As far as I can tell, we're all just one step away from crazy—an observation I hope will relieve and comfort rather than alarm you. I say that because I believe most of us occasionally wonder silently if we're in danger of losing touch. Not for long—just a fleeting feeling of loss of control; a moment of mental anxiety—sometimes materializing in a queasy stomach, a pounding head, or a speedy heart rhythm.

A silly example can be found in a night walk at Trinity. From time to time I end up alone here at the church at night. If I go about my business with my mind on a task, everything's great—I think neither of the darkness nor the silence—or lack of it! But if, as I walk through the long black corridors, I begin to focus on the heavy darkness, the flashes of light and shadow, the creaking and clanging noises all around me, my potential for stepping over the line between reality and unreality increases considerably—like a thousand percent! And if, at that moment, a hand were to flop on my shoulder, or a body step into my path, I feel confident I would not step, but *jump* over that line to a position of full-time resident at the local "home." Actually I probably wouldn't since I've noticed both our bodies and our psyches can handle amazing amounts of stress and shock. Besides, I can always flip on a light switch—which is exactly what I do—before my imagination gets out of hand.

That's fine as long as there are light switches. But what about those times when there is none around? Those times when the examples, far from silly, are life shattering. Like when your doctor tells you to check into the hospital for no specific reason. Or when you see genuine financial disaster ahead and you are a respectable member of the community with a reputation for success—and no way out. Or perhaps when the person to whom you've been married 22 years says he doesn't love you anymore and is moving out tomorrow. Or certainly worst of all, when in the middle of an average week your teenage child, full of life and potential, is killed in a tragic accident or is found hanging by the neck in his room. Perhaps our greatest fear is that in those moments, when we need them desperately, we'll reach for the switches and discover they're not there.

Right there is where I'm grateful for two things: (1) A faith which consistently provides those switches. Not magical switches that flip me out of reality. Not holier-than-you switches with "only people with the correct amount of quality of faith may use these" written above them. Not formula switches that function only when you correctly go through the prescribed procedure. Not even protective switches which remove all difficulty and culminate the need for switches in the first place. Instead switches that are always "on" even when we think we remember turning them "off." Switches which flood our experience with both powerful and quiet awareness of the faithful love and involvement of our God. Switches which may or may not ease the pain or lessen the anxiety—but nevertheless give the strength to continue on; to choose reality and life. (2) Family, friends and occasionally strangers who convey that faith to me in skin and bones tangibility. People sent (even unknowingly) by God with surprisingly (for me of sometimes little faith) precise timing. People who reach out in (to them) unimportant ways and pull me back toward the center where things are familiar and massive crises diminish into solvable, or at least livable, dilemmas.

Lent would be a good opportunity for us to spend some time remembering occasions when we experienced these things and give thanks to God for his care. And while we're at it, a word of thanks or appreciation to any humans involved couldn't do any harm.

Now if you'll excuse me, uh, it's almost 9 p.m. I'm alone here in the building and the walls are starting to squeak. Did you hear that?! Repeat to yourself, "It's just the water pipes, it's just the water pipes, it's just the water pipes. . . ."

Peace, Phil

1979 Annual Conference Report

These figures express what has happened in the life of your church during 1979.

Total members reported at close of 1978	2,637
Members received during 1979	59
Members removed by death or transfer	67
Total full members	2,629

Average attendance Sunday worship services	500
Church School membership	433
Average attendance in Church School	280
Budget for 1979	\$325,000.
Pledges received on budget 1979	\$263,000.
Total raised on budget for 1979	\$377,434.
Budget set by Finance Committee for 1980	\$334,000.

Monthly Tidings

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