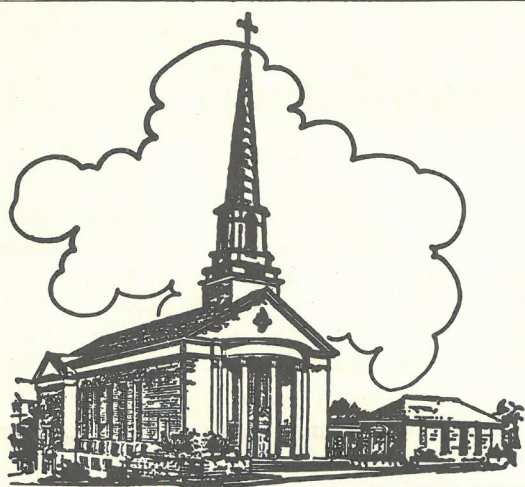




TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • TALLAHASSEE, FLA. • VOL. 7, No. 9 • OCTOBER, 1980

Monthly Tidings

Walk to Help Vashti And It's Florida Children

by Reinard Harkema

Recently I had the opportunity to visit the Vashti Educational Center in Thomasville, Vashti is a school that takes youngsters—both boys and girls—from a variety of backgrounds and experiences which may be limiting them from becoming what God expects of them, and in time gives them a chance to develop their talents and become aware of their self-worth.

Vashti has been in existence since the turn of the century but for the last three years has experienced a much greater rehabilitation rate than in the past. After visiting a similar school in New York that had a very high success rate, the leaders of Vashti came back with a new direction. Even though there had been a Christian emphasis at the center, the problems of the children had been approached with secular methods, psychiatry and psychology, using some of the very best professionals in Georgia.

The New York school had also used these methods, but when they did away with all their professionals and started teaching about Jesus Christ, they had a dramatic increase in their success rate.

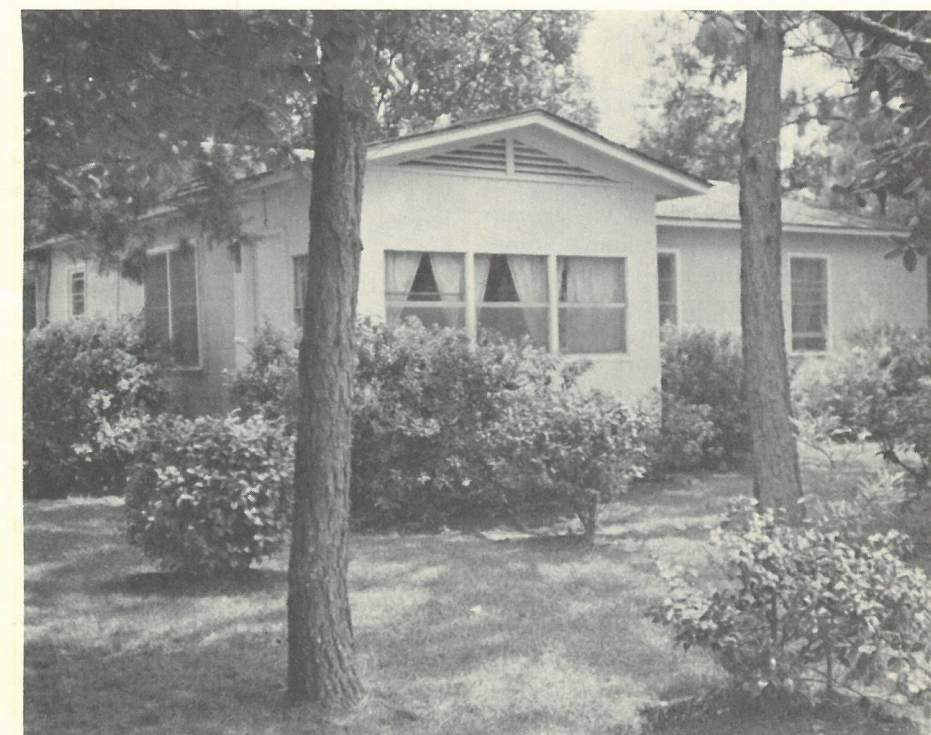
So Vashti has firmly committed itself to following Jesus and his teachings and has terminated the majority

of its secular professionals. Vashti is associated with the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church but is ecumenical in outreach and more than half of its financial support comes from the Thomasville area.

Only about 25% of their support has come from Florida even though 60% of the children come from here. It is time that we in Florida start taking a greater responsibility for the support of this Christian school that reaches out to these young lost souls that really have nowhere else to turn.

On October 4, 1980, the churches in Tallahassee District will participate in a Walk-a-thon to help support Vashti's ministry to youth. Last year Trinity sponsored a Walk-a-thon at Tom Brown Park that raised approximately \$5,000. Due to a late start many people were not able to participate. The Georgia Walk-a-thon last year raised close to \$50,000. This year the entire Tallahassee District is getting involved and a goal of \$75,000 for both the Florida and Georgia walk-a-thons has been set. Let's get together and work for this very worthy ministry.

If you can walk or pledge your support for others to walk, please call the church office, 222-1120.



LAITY SUNDAY OCTOBER 12, MENENDEZ TO OFFER SERMON

October 12 will be Laity Sunday at Trinity with our lay people presenting the service. Ernest Menendez will offer the sermon, "The Good Side of Trouble."

Ann Lumsden will give the invocation; Susan Wolschlager, the affirmation of faith; Melvin Pope, Jr., the pastoral prayer; Alex Knight, the ritual of fellowship; and the offertory anthem, "Beautiful Savior" will be sung by the Chancel and Lay Choirs.

The responsive reading will be led by Myra Anderson; Walter Funderburk will introduce Mr. Menendez, and Bob Dean will give the benediction.

Ernest M. Menendez spent his childhood in Tampa, Florida and graduated from Hillsborough High School in 1927. He attended the University of Florida and earned a BS degree in electrical engineering and an MS degree in engineering.

In 1935 he was employed by the Southeastern Telephone Company in Tallahassee and eventually became its vice-president and division manager. He worked forty and one-half years with this firm, which is now the Central Telephone Company of Florida. He spent one year in Ft. Walton Beach, five years in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the remainder in Tallahassee. He retired July 1, 1975. He has been very active in many civic and community organizations.

Helen Johnson became the bride of Ernest in 1936, and they have four married children who grew up in Tallahassee and Trinity. They are: Martha Sue Jones of Chesapeake, Va.; LCDR Ernest Menendez, Jr. (Buck) of Orlando, Fla.; Richard E. Menendez of Greenville, S.C.; and Mary M. Armstrong of Tampa, Fla. There are eight grand children.

Ernest and Helen became members of Trinity Methodist Church about 1937 and have maintained their membership except for one year at the First Methodist Church, Ft. Walton Beach, and five years at St. Marks United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska.

During his years at Trinity, Ernest has served faithfully in many responsible positions, some of them for several continuous years. He has been a member of the Administrative Board, Trustees, Building Committee, Chairman of Commission on Education, Church School Superintendent, Chairman of Wills and Gifts Committee, Sunday School teacher, Delegate to Florida Conferences, Associate District Lay Leader, and Tallahassee District President of United Methodist Men.

Currently, Ernest is serving on the Board of Trustees, Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and teaches the Wesley Brotherhood Sunday School class for one quarter each year.

"To Trinity With Love"

"To Trinity With Love" has been chosen as the theme of the 1980-81 Stewardship Campaign. The campaign, although it will continue

through the next year, will be highlighted by Stewardship Sunday, November 16.

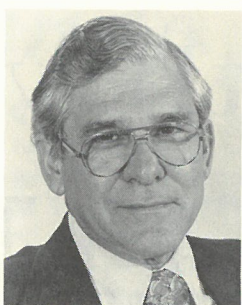
(Continued on Page 4)

October Trinity Calendar

Wednesday, 1st	10:30 A.M.—Bible Study (Conf. Room) 7:30 P.M.—Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 4th	7:30 P.M.—Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 A.M.—Vashti Walk-A-Thon (Tom Brown Park)
Sunday, 5th	Communion Sunday Jr. High Choir to Sing 6:00 P.M.—Teacher Appreciation Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday, 7th	10:30 A.M.—UMW Board Meeting (Conf. Room) 12:00 Noon—UMW Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday, 8th	6:30 P.M.—Choir Supper 7:30 P.M.—Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 12th	8:45 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.—Laymen's Sunday Wesleyan Singers to Sing 6:30 P.M.—Family Night Dinner
Monday, 13th	6:45 A.M.—Men's Bible Study
Tuesday, 14th	7:30 P.M.—Administrative Board Meeting (Gregory Room)
Wednesday, 15th	10:30 A.M.—Bible Study (Conf. Room) 7:30 P.M.—Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 16th	Tidings Deadline
Sunday, 19th	Carol Choir to Sing (11:00 service)
Monday, 20th	6:45 A.M.—Men's Bible Study
Tuesday, 21st	6:30 P.M.—UNICEF Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday, 22nd	10:30 A.M.—Bible Study (Conf. Room) 7:30 P.M.—Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 26th	Sr. Highs to sing
Monday, 27th	6:45 A.M.—Men's Bible Study
Wednesday, 29th	10:30 A.M.—Bible Study (Conf. Room)

COMMENT

By Gene Zimmerman



Albrecht Durer's "Praying Hands" are a very common sight these days. Perhaps you have some or have seen them around. They are the figure of two hands placed together in prayer. It is a moving sculpture, but behind them is a more moving story.

Albrecht Durer was, as a young man, struggling to become an artist. He shared a flat with a friend, but very soon they realized there was not enough money for both of them to study, so his friend took a job in order to support them both and allow Durer to become more accomplished in his art.

One day this great artist came home and saw his friend in prayer and noticed his wrinkled and worn hands. He realized fully then what a sacrifice had been made for him, and in deep gratitude he sculpted the hands that had done so much for him.

It would do us all good to look around closely at the hands that have served us so faithfully and well. People in our own homes and family and friends who have sacrificially given things out of their own lives so that we may be better persons.

Perhaps in our own minds we ought all to sculpture in deep gratitude the picture of those who have served us so faithfully.

Trustees OK 1981 Budget

By Linda Yates

Trinity trustees August 26 adopted a proposed budget of \$86,325 for 1981 for expenses related to church property.

Chairman Robert Parker, Jr., said the budget figure will cover costs of insurance, mortgage payments on the sanctuary and parsonages, maintenance of all buildings, heating and cooling, furnishings and repairs. Except for increases due to inflation, the only other increase is for additional liability insurance.

Trustees also took action to authorize currently needed improvements:

- Installation of a new air conditioner in Room 100, Education Building, where the Wesley Brotherhood Sunday School Class meets, was approved. The \$1600 ceiling hung unit with outside compressor has since been installed.

- Furnishings and improvements to the Lawton Street parsonage were authorized for a total expenditure of \$1800. This parsonage, formerly occupied by the Roughtons, needed some furniture since the Roughtons used their own furniture. Two highback arm chairs for the living room have since been purchased, one wall of the master bedroom has been wallpapered and new window treatment and a bedspread for the room have been added.

The Parsonage Committee is having two old pieces of furniture refinished and plans to purchase a dining room set when funds are available in the church budget.

- Trustee Gordon Rogers volunteered to work with Parsonage Committee Chairman Peggy Hughes in coordinating landscaping the grounds of the new parsonage on Live Oak

Plantation Road. The project is being delayed until the weather gets cold in December and will be paid for by contributions from Trinity members. One donation of \$1,000 has been received for this project.

- The trustees also learned from Mrs. Hughes the need for pruning of scrubbery at the parsonage on Spence Street but took no action since funds are not available. Lisa Miley advised trustees that pruning of trees near the house rented by the church to Terrell House was needed now in order to avoid damage to the roof. Trustees Ernest Menendez and Gordon Rogers volunteered a "work day" to do this pruning, and subsequently accomplished the task with the assistance of Bob Yates.

- Trustee Linda Yates was asked to investigate costs of a suitable name plaque to be placed outside the door of the Gregory Room. About \$800 from the Gregory estate is received by the church annually for adding furniture or improvements to this room.

- Trustees learned that plumbing in the Scout House at the back of the Educational Building parking lot was defective and could not be used. Trustees voted to close off restroom facilities in the house since cost of repair is not warranted by the use.

- Trustees adopted a policy that posters and pictures are not to be taped or fastened to walls or doors anywhere in the church plant. Posters and other notices are to be placed on bulletin boards where available or on free-standing easels. This action came following a discussion of the need for repainting yet funds are not currently available.

Letters to Trinity

It is so very kind and gracious of you to have included Isabella Thoburn College (Lucknow, India) in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you very much for your gift in support of our College mission and academic programs.

1979-80 has been a year of new ventures at Isabella Thoburn College. The students, faculty and administration have worked well together in coping with changes in the academic calendar due to the postponement of the University Examinations. Enrolment is at an all time high and demand for scholarships, increased class-room facilities, office equipment; as well as, innovative student projects and faculty improvement programs, continues. Recently, there have been several requests from U.S. Colleges for developing student exchange programs with I.T. College.

The challenges are many in higher education in India today. Thank you once again for your role in developing this historic College.

Sincerely yours,
Kamala D. Edwards, Ph.D.
President

Mustard Seeds

By Liz Smith

My favorite cup of coffee is the one I have early in the morning on the deck of our mountain cabin in North Carolina. As an early riser I'm able to have those few precious moments to myself, and I drink in the view of the hills and breathe the cool, fresh air and feel the warm, slanting rays of the early sun like a friendly arm thrown across my shoulders.

When we were there over Labor Day weekend I got up early and made my way through and over the numerous friends still asleep, and was sitting quietly on the deck when suddenly, quite unexpectedly, I found myself saying, "God, who touchest earth with beauty, make me lovely too!" The thought came so spontaneously that it startled me, but then I began thinking that in many ways I'm probably "lovelier" when we are up there than when I am at home. Somehow it's easier; the cabin is such fun that I feel it's like playing house and cooking and cleaning up, even for a mob of people, is not work at all. I'm relaxed and happy there with only fun things to do, but more than that, everywhere I turn are beautiful things that keep God close in mind and thought.

The mountains literally surround us, rising up in green, rumpled layers, looking for all the world as if a child had drawn them on canvas. Whenever I see them the familiar words of the Psalm come to mind, "I lift up my eyes unto the hills. From whence does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

Then there are the stars! In the lovely darkness that is not spoiled by neon signs and street lights they seem to be so close you can touch them, particularly on a crisp, cold winter night. Again the psalmist speaks, "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork." And another, "When I look at thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast established; what is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him?"

Perhaps my favorite of all the beautiful things on our mountain is the sight of two large, graceful hawks that come together almost every afternoon to sweep through the valley in front of us and wheel and soar in ever ascending spirals into the heavens. As I watch them I hear the words of Isaiah, "but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they

shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Often the pastures and valleys in the hills around us are obscured by the haze that gives the "Smokies" their name. But whenever it's clear enough to see them I feel the quiet comfort of the twenty-third Psalm, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; he makes me lie down in green pastures. . . . Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

But, alas, here I am back in Tallahassee. School has started, there are meetings to attend and deadlines to meet, housework and cooking that isn't "fun", no lovely mountains or hawks . . . and I am feeling unlovely too.

But this morning, while I was drinking my first cup of coffee I looked up and suddenly realized how blind and foolish I've been. No, I didn't see beautiful mountains, but I was looking at my lovely sixteen year old daughter and at the face of my husband of twenty-six years, whom I adore . . . and I thought, "From whence comes my help?"

I began to realize that even though the stars aren't as visible here and we rarely even notice them, there have been, and will be more, "dark nights" in my life when the love and caring of a friend has shone with as much or more beauty than those stars over our mountain top.

And the hawks? What could possibly be here in my everyday world to equal their majesty? My child answered that when she came in from school, excited about new classes and eager to learn new things. I saw then that I could watch her mind and spirit soar and sweep and climb and I would feel his presence near.

I am blessed to spend much of my life in the green pastures and on the mountain tops, but when I am in the valley of grief or pain or despair the love and support of family and friends makes me know that "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

We don't have to be in the mountains or at the seashore or on vacation to see him in the beauty that he has created. It surrounds us where we are, in the familiar things and people that make up the fabric of our daily living, if we have eyes to see. "God, who touchest earth with beauty, makes me lovely too!"

Happy Birthday Sunday School

By Ben Warren

Church School Superintendent

This year the Sunday School is celebrating its 200th birthday. With an average attendance of 300 in September, Trinity seems to be well on its way in matching, if not exceeding last year's attendance.

We all may have some remembrances of Sunday School when we were younger. In trying to look back, I remember with great esteem the patience and boldness with which my teachers instructed me. They were patient in trying to answer every little question, but yet were bold in their willingness to present an entire education of Christian living.

Sometimes it is most difficult not to

impose individual prejudices, but to allow a freedom of learning. We are indeed blest to have such teachers at Trinity. Also, with the addition of Edna Bennett as the Elementary Division Coordinator, we will be able to assure that our young members get this education.

A special thank you goes to Mrs. Gail McGlothlin for her tireless efforts as the past Education Coordinator for the Elementary Division.

And last, but definitely not least, *Congratulations* to our *Third Graders* for receiving their Bibles. This achievement is in the highest tradition of our Sunday School Program.

If you would like to take part in the education of our church members, please call Rev. John Green or myself.

Music Notes

Music and its Place in Church Worship

By Jim Davis

This month, allow me to share with you some personal reflections about music and its place in the worship life of our Church.

I was recently privileged to attend 11:00 A.M. Worship at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City. This is truly an urban church with a large membership, budget, and physical plant. To say the least, the worship service was stunning. Everything had obviously been planned, down to the last letter; nothing was out of place.

The congregation was led in song and prayer by the ministers and the choir. The service moved with such dispatch and order that one might suspect that even such items as announcements and a baptism were thoroughly rehearsed.

I was deeply impressed with the choir and choirmaster. Music seemed to hold the entire service together. In addition to two major anthems, there was a musical introduction and response for almost every item in the service. Even the outstanding sermon was preceded and followed by appropriate music. The meaning of the term "Order of Worship" was made much clearer to me by this experience.

My thoughts turned to the music in our worship here at Trinity Church, and I immediately began to take notes of techniques and music which might help us to improve our worship. When after the service I spoke

to the ministers, choirmaster, and choir members, I was amazed to discover that the entire service had been handled by a full-time professional staff.

Even the soloists and choir were paid professionals. Although this fact did not detract from the beauty I had just experienced, it did serve to give me a greater appreciation for the wonderful spirit of cooperation we have here at Trinity.

I came back from New York

anxious to greet our Chancel Choir who, like so many other Trinity members, give freely of their time and talents in the service of God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

I joyfully came to the conclusion that, while there is much to be learned, we could teach our New York friends a few things. Giving and sharing by loving people (like a volunteer choir) hold a great place in our celebration of worship. Let's keep it, okay?

UMW for October: Harbins to Speak on Missions

When Trinity's United Methodist Women assemble for their general meeting Tuesday, October 7, they will have the pleasure of hearing guest speakers and long-time friends, Mr. and Mrs. Van Harbin, discuss their missionary efforts in Japan prior to their retirement from the mission fields. Although the Harbins are now members of Killearn United Methodist Church, they still have a host of friends and acquaintances at Trinity.

The UMW unit is indebted to Mrs. James (Frances) McAdams, Chairman, Christian Global Concerns, for having arranged a program to include

the Harbins who have much to share in the mission program of United Methodist Churches of the Tallahassee district. A good attendance at this meeting is anticipated.

Preceding the general meeting and program, UMW members will enjoy their regular monthly luncheon at 12:00 noon, with members of Circle 7 serving as hostesses.

The Executive Board will meet at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, October 7, in the church conference room. All members of the Board are urged to be present.

Following is the schedule of Circle meeting dates and places for October:

Circle 1: Monday, October 13, 10:00 a.m. Home of Mrs. Sam Teague, Jr., 1001 Gardenia Dr. 385-8598.

Circle 2: Monday, October 13, 2:30 p.m., Church Parlor. Mrs. J. M. Koch, hostess; Mrs. H. L. Floyd and Mrs. Ralph Powell, co-hostesses. Mrs. Warren Anderson will be in charge of the program.

Circle 3: Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. Home of Mrs. Albert James, 516 E. Call St., 222-8880.

Circle 4: Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. Wesley Brotherhood Classroom. Program: "Perspective for Spiritual Renewal" by Mrs. Robert Taylor.

Circle 5: Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. Home of Mrs. Karl Oakley, 1804 W. Indianhead Drive, 877-4898.

Circle 6: Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. Home of Mrs. H. C. Mills, 1121 Alachua Ave., 224-0726. Mrs. Carl Ramm, co-hostess.

Circle 7: Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. Home of Mrs. T. L. Wollschlager, 3415 Woodley Road, 893-4470.

Circle 8: Tuesday, October 14, 9:00 a.m. in Church Parlor. Mrs. Robert White and Mrs. Doris Davy, co-hostesses.

Circle 9: Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. Home of Mrs. Gene Zimmerman, 703 Live Oak Plantation Rd. (church parsonage), 386-5460. Mrs. Robert Peirce in charge of the program.

Circle 10: Monday, October 13, 3:30 p.m. Tallahassee Convalescent Home, with members of Circle 1 in charge of the program.

Circle 12: Monday, October 20, 7:00 p.m. Glenn James Chapel of the church. Guest speaker, Mrs. Marshall Hamilton, will discuss the H.E.O. Ministry of the church.

Circle 13: Tuesday, October 21, 7:30 p.m. Home of Mrs. Hubert Helton, 1143 Circle Drive, 877-2878.

HEO & Koinonia Class To Help Members

By May Hamilton
HEO Coordinator

A new service is being made available to Trinity members. The Koinonia Sunday School Class members will come to your home and do minor jobs that you are unable to do, such as replacing light bulbs that are out of your reach, putting in a washer in a leaky faucet (or inspecting it and telling you that, yes, you do need a plumber), getting something out of the attic, or even some yard work.

The class members plan to work in groups of two or three so that (as they put it), "If one of us doesn't know how to do a job, maybe another will." You can tell by talking with them that they intend to have some old-fashioned Methodist fellowship while working.

Clint Coulter is chairman of the project and urges church members to take advantage of their offer. "After all, we are all members of the Trinity family, and this is what family members do for each other."

If you have need of this service, call the HEO office (222-1120) between nine and one any week day. Lori Steinmeyer will take your request and pass it along to Clint and his class members.

The HEO office hours are 9 am until 1 pm, Monday through Friday. If you have a need or know of someone with a special need call the HEO office and ask for Lori Steinmeyer. Any volunteered services for HEO are welcome also.

UMW Has New Secretary, Dorothy Butz

Mrs. Dorothy Butz, a recent retiree from many years of service at the Florida State University, has assumed the duties of Secretary of the United Methodist Women's unit of Trinity UMC, effective October 7, 1980.

The Executive Board, as well as the entire UMW membership, welcome Mrs. Butz and appreciate her ready willingness to accept this assignment, a position which had been left unfilled since the departure of Mrs. Phil Roughton (Mica) in June.

Warm thanks are extended to Mrs. William Mickler and Mrs. Woodrow Kerce for their assistance in "covering" this office on a temporary basis, through the summer months.

Mrs. Butz comes highly qualified to fill the office of secretary, having held responsible secretarial and administrative positions at FSU. Very shortly after her retirement, Mrs. Butz indicated her interest in UMW activities and is now a member of Circle 4. Welcome aboard, Dorothy!

Ephesus Trip Retold

By Kittie Taylor

At their September 15th meeting, members of Circle 2 were treated to an interesting and stimulating pilgrimage to the City of Ephesus in Asia Minor, the site of St. Paul's important work during the first century A.D.

Mrs. Kittie Mae Taylor, a member of United Methodist Women at Tallahassee's St. Paul's United Methodist Church, related her 1979 travels in the countries and cities once visited by Paul, originally known as Saul of Tarsus, who became an apostle of Christ and an energetic missionary to the followers of Christ, as described in several of the books of the New Testament.

Mrs. Taylor used as her biblical base Chapter 19, The Acts of the Apostles, and Chapter 2, The Revelation to John from which she took the title of her talk, "Where Is Thy Flame, O Ephesus?" As explained by the speaker, excavation of Ephesus began some time in the late 1800's and is continuing at present.

Mrs. Taylor accompanied her remarks with well chosen slides, depicting the more current discoveries of crumbling remains of the once thriving city of Ephesus, now totally uninhabited. In her comments, Mrs. Taylor revealed to her listeners that her visit to Ephesus was not only an exciting travel back into biblical history, but a truly spiritual experience as well.

New Members For September

The following persons were received into the membership of Trinity on September 21. If you are interested in becoming a member of the church, contact one of the ministers.

Mrs. Mary Byerman, 1960 Lawson Road 32308, phone 878-2866 comes to us by transfer of her membership from North Decatur United Methodist church, Decatur, Georgia.

Mrs. Diana Cox, 5624 Rustic Drive

32303, phone 385-7414 comes to us by transfer of her membership from Coronado United Methodist Church, New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

Katy Sue and James Brooks, 2032 Ermine Drive 32308, phone 878-5968 comes to us by transfer of their membership from Casselberry United Methodist Church, Casselberry, Florida.

Mr. Bill Forbes, 5723 Mossy Top Way 32303, phone 386-4419 comes to us by transfer of his membership from Honokaa United Methodist Church, Honokaa, Hawaii.

Greeters Help at Curb

Beginning the first Sunday in October there will be two persons in front of the church to assist people getting out of cars, according to Walter Funderburk, Chairman of the ushers. It has been noted that many drivers let their passengers out in front, then go to park the car and that quite often these passengers need assistance.

It is thought that not only will the greeters at the curb be a friendly gesture but their assistance will relieve the traffic jam that occurs from cars waiting to unload passengers.

Financial Highlights

As is typical for the summer months, disbursements exceeded receipts at Trinity during the months of June, July, and August.

For the three month period, disbursements were \$98,825 and receipts were \$81,983. The summer slack in giving resulting from vacations and other events highlight the need for bringing your pledge to your church up to date so that the church can fulfill its mission of service.

Love For Trinity

(Continued from Page 1)

On that Sunday each member will be given the opportunity during the worship service to make their stewardship estimate and commitment. There will be two commitment cards, one for financial contributions and one to indicate giving of each member's time and talents.

Palmer Williams, the stewardship general chair will be calling on members soon to commit to accepting the leadership responsibilities in the following areas, which will comprise the executive committee for the campaign: assistants to the chair, neighborhood contacts, advance leadership, publicity, spiritual support, hospitality, support services, telephone, messengers, followup, and church groups.

David Scoates, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Gainesville has been hired by Trinity as its campaign director. Scoates appeared before the administrative board September 18 and outlined the campaign program.

Sunday School Class Notes

Sunday School notes will highlight a class or two each month, as space permits. Each class is encouraged to submit to the Tidings a description of its goals and programs and to keep the Tidings up to date about its current activities. This month, the Koinonia and Felkel-Steinmeyer classes are featured.

The Koninonia Class is composed mostly of couples and singles in the 25-40 age range. However, our name is the Greek word for "Christian Fellowship," which we offer to anyone who chooses to join us. Our morning coffee time is at 9:40 in the Gregory Room in the basement of the Education wing. The program begins at 9:50 A.M.

With the help of an enthusiastic group of officers and committee chairmen, a stimulating series of lessons is already scheduled for the year ending next June, and we try to

plan one social event per quarter. Lesson topics and speaker vary, but we try to maintain a spiritual viewpoint at all times. For more information, contact Bill or Alison Mattice 385-0270.

Our fall quarter was kicked off with a breakfast September 7. Approximately 40 class members attending and everyone seemed to enjoy the delicious food and the fellowship.

Schedules of the programs planned for September through December were distributed. Our guest speaker for September was Mallory Horne, Jr. Beginning in October, Rev. John Green will give a series of lessons on the history of the Sunday School.

Projects Chairman Clint Coulter moved and the class passed, a resolution that the class participate in a home repair and maintenance program in conjunction with Trinity's

HEO ministry.

The Felkel-Steinmeyer Class is a class of "senior" ladies who enjoy a loving fellowship. We use the "Adult Bible Series" for our lessons under a dedicated teacher. Although our attendance dwindles down to a precious few, as the song says, we still count as members several who are in nursing homes and others who are shut-ins.

We keep in close touch by phone visits. One of our members is our sunshine person sending birthday and get well cards. Many who cannot attend class send contributions for class projects to help support a child in the Philippines, through the Christian Childrens Fund.

Our efficient and faithful treasurer uses our "love offering" to pay for this project and also for our regular gifts to the Methodist Children's Home, Enterprise, Florida.

A Look At: Matthew 25, A Prison Ministry

By Reinard Harkema

A few months ago I helped organize a new interdenominational christian ministry, "Matthew 25." In the love of God we have joined in the Spirit of Christ revealed in Matthew's 25th chapter and are reaching out to serve others, "the least of our brethren".

Those of us who have not been in prison may not fully understand the problems that imprisonment creates for a person or the problems that may have led to a life of crime. Certainly we are aware of the headline makers of violence, homosexuality, and drugs, but these are symptoms of the more difficult problems: low self worth, rejection and lack of love.

Being in prison compounds these problems and adds others. One ex-

periences the rejection by and the isolation from society, friends and loved ones. In addition prison life is very boring. Very little is available for the inmates to do and the routine is the same day after day. This is particularly true for the inmate that has no one on the outside interested in them.

Visits from people on the outside that come to love and share Jesus with the inmates can do much to heal these hurts and help lead these inmates into a better relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. A prisoner may be put into total isolation for punishment purposes or crowded into small two-man cells because of lack of space. An inmate is not required or even allowed to make many decisions while in prison. This fact makes a re-

leased inmates adjustment to our society outside particularly difficult.

In our free society we continually make decisions, both small and large. The inmate has not been given the freedom to practice making decisions. Therefore, the life that a newly released prisoner encounters just out of prison is very important. Some are released with only the clothes on their backs and as little as \$10 in their pocket. Not much to start a new life with.

Our focus in Matthew 25 has been to try to meet these special needs of the newly released inmate. In order to do this we have rented a house for those Christian parolees or ex-prisoners who do not have a place to stay just out of prison. Thus we can provide a spiritual atmosphere as we help with shelter, food, job location and in general help soften their landing into our free but complicated society. There have been many cases where the ex-prisoners could not handle the outside world and committed crimes to get back into a relatively decision free prison life. This has helped contribute to an astonishing 79% national return rate (recidivism).

Obviously our jails are not doing the job of preventing crimes. The very nature of the system seems to encourage repeat offenders. The rehabilitation programs that do exist are based on a humanistic approach to changing the people that we have in prisons. We feel that the only way that a person can truly change is to be born again in Jesus Christ. The recidivism for Christian released from

prison has been quoted as low as 25%.

However, not all people that make an initial commitment to Christ stay with it. Our calling as Christians is to visit the prisons and to witness to the Gospel, but just as important we must continue with the new converts to help them continue to grow and mature in their walk with the Lord.

When one becomes born again by the grace of God, old things must be thrown away. Therefore it is especially important to provide a new, alternative environment to the newly converted; newly released prisoner. A return to the old environment can be devastating to a newly formed christian, particularly if they led a life of crime before their conversion.

In order to fulfill these goals, we at Matthew 25 need the support of the body of Christ. Regular prayer, love offerings, monthly pledges, furniture, clothing, and food are all needed to build a solid base for this ministry. If you have any questions about this ministry or anything to contribute please write: Matthew 25, Prison Ministries, Inc., 5106 Oleander Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32304 or contact me at 877-1781.

My Pilgrimage . . .

By Brent Byerman

I was an active youth being a hard working student and playing on basketball and baseball teams in Jr. High School. During my Sr. High years, I was class president and student congress president and supported my car and social life expenses by working summers and weekends during the school year.

I always stayed busy in the midst of many activities but spent little time reflecting on the meaning of life and the complicated growing issues life brings to each young person. I was somewhat popular in my high school with many surface relationships, but I had few if any close friendships with peers and adults.

Both my parents worked, and in the midst of hectic schedules there were very few deep conversations between my parents and me. In my high school classes, I was taught the academics (science, math, English, history, etc.)

In the extra-curricular clubs I learned to give of my time in service to the school and local community. Sports teams were fun even though I spent most of my time sitting on the bench. Through working, I gained a sense of financial responsibility.

When I graduated from high school I was prepared for the academics of college but was not prepared for life.

For this reason I have come to truly believe in MYF as a place that can meet a "vital" need in young lives. It should be a place where any youth can come and be accepted for just being himself/herself (not based on grade point average, or athletic skills, leadership abilities, or popularity).

Through playing together, singing together, talking together, and worshiping together, a trusting community of youth and adults can be formed. And in the midst of that rushing community, youth can have a setting to explore the intimate and the ultimate, and the issues and the opinions, life's frustrations and celebrations of their own identities and needs and the needs of others.

MYF is a place where youth can build relationships with caring adults who they can turn to anytime when they need to talk to an adult besides their parents. Most important of all MYF should reflect the heart of the church in being a place where the love of and faith in God permeates all that happens within it and offers the opportunity for that faith to become vitally real in the heart of each youth.

In His Love,
Brent

Needed:

Kitchen Donations

Have any old kitchen utensils, pots, pans, kitchen supplies etc. you're not using anymore? We can use them to stock the old kitchen for the youth's snack suppers and other functions.

Monthly Tidings

Vol. 7, No. 9 October, 1980

Published Monthly except
August by

Trinity United Methodist Church
USPS - 013 - 030
P. O. Box 1086
Park and Duval
Tallahassee, Florida 32302

☆ ☆
Eugene Zimmerman
Brent Byerman, John Green
Ministers

☆ ☆
Dean Bunch, Editor
Nov. Deadline: Oct. 16

Second Class Postage Paid
at Tallahassee, Florida

Mr. & Mrs. Frank D. Moor
1552 Isabel Court
Tallahassee, FL 32303