

Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH . TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA . VOL. 12, NO. 11 . DEC. 1985

Pledge Report Will Be Given December 8

Pledges underwriting Trinity's programs and ministry for 1986 were coming in at a brisk pace, the church financial office reported on November 18

Advance leaders had pledged \$183,-992 by that date and other Trinity members, who had only received their stewardship letters in mid-November, had committed \$37,472.

On December 8, Stewardship Committee Co-Chairpersons Walli Beall and Vereen Smith will give a final report to the congregation during morning worship services on the success of meeting the 1986 budget of \$544,000.

December 1 was the deadline for returning pledge cards. Members who missed that deadline should make their commitments as soon as possible, since the Administrative Board will have to make budget cuts during a January meeting if support for the proposed program and ministry has not been received by that time.

Senior Minister Walter Kalaf, in a sermon on Stewardship Sunday November 10, asked how much members love the church.

"Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. Well, how much do you love the church? How much do you want it to succeed in its program, to extend its ministry, to grow stronger in its witness? Ask yourself that when you fill out your pledge card, remembering that we usually get what we want, and we want what we love."

Other excerpts from his sermon are printed below at the request of Bill Smith, church treasurer, who called it the "all-time best sermon."

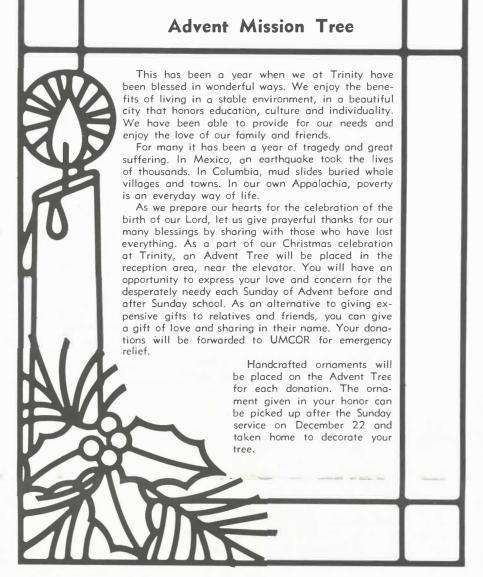
How much do you love the church? How enthusiastic are you about its purpose and its program? How much do you want it to succeed? Is your heart in it, making you desire deeply that its failings and shortcomings might be overcome, and that your strength might be added to its strength?

This is the point of this sermon, for it is a sermon about money. I could preach to you about God's ownership of all that we possess about the Biblical standard of tithing, about the moral obligation to support the church which is inherent in the vow of loyalty you took when you joined the church. However persuasive the arguments I might devise and however eloquent the language I might use to express them, it would mean little unless you love the church enough to want it to succeed, enough to want to be as much a part as you possibly can be of its strength and its service. How much, then, do you love the church?

You do love the church, or you wouldn't be here today. But you haven't thought about it seriously for a long time. Perhaps you have come to take it for granted. Or perhaps some of its shortcomings, its failures, its mistakes have become so large in your mind that your attitude toward it has become like that of a farmer who was complimented by a friend on the fine brood of chickens scratching in the barnyard. The farmer scowled as he replied, "It ain't as good as you think. The old hen hatched out 12 chicks and all but 11 up and died on me!" How easy it is, unless we take time to think about it, to minimize 11 great reasons to be enthusiastic about the church because of one reason to be discouraged or critical!

Certainly there are many things wrong with the church. Loving the church doesn't mean that we are not to be critical of the

(Continued on Page 4)



Trinity Meets Most of Planning Committee's Goals; Others Still to Be Accomplished

Trinity came to her 1985 Charge Conference with most of the goals set by a 1982 Planning Committee reached, Committee Chairperson Eleanor Smith reported November 18.

"The challenge was to develop a plan to revitalize Trinity, placing her back in the mainstream as a growing, nurturing, ministering downtown church," Mrs. Smith said.

"Trinity has developed an enriching program for all ages, aggressively sought and hired outstanding staff to support these programs, and has just completed the renovation of a beautiful and functional education building, offices, classrooms, library, and arts and crafts room.

Mrs. Smith outlined progress made in each area and cited several areas where work needs to be done. She announced that architectural plans are being drawn for a recreational pavilion to complete Trinity Hall renovation and provide play areas for children and youth. Construction should start in the spring.

Another unmet need is for a youth worker and visitation minister.

She said additional Bible study groups would also fulfill another unmet goal of the planning report, and the church might look into programs to serve downtown workers.

"General programming probably has the greatest potential for development and exciting plans are in process for 1986, Mrs. Smith told the Charge Conference.

A spiritual enrichment week February 23-25 is planned to help undergird programs and ministry with greater spirituality, which the 1982 report emphasized.

Other areas for future work include development of neighborhood groups, stewardship for all ages, recruitment and development of leadership, a recreation program, greater missional outreach, pastoral care and membership cultivation.

"1985 has been exciting and gratifying for all of us. Trinity has received many new families, we are excited about our faith, and we want to share it with others. We have a beautiful physical facility and we now need to enlarge our programming and give it the proper staff and volunteer support," Mrs. Smith said.

She urged that the church make a decision to appoint another five-year planning committee in the fall of 1986, to continue a study of the program, staff, use of the facilities, and financing. "We must continually renew our resources so that our buildings and programs do not deteriorate. By this means, we will continue to provide for Trinity members an atmosphere in which to grow spiritually and serve each other and the community."

Advent Programs Celebrate Birth of Christ, Glorify God

Advent at Trinity will begin with programs and events that provide the warmth of fellowship and family togetherness, and will end with worship services glorifying God and celebrating the birth of Christ.

A church-wide dinner and special group supper and luncheon, choir performances and vesper services fill the church calendar between now and Christmas Eve.

Director of Music Cynthia Wendel says the musicians of Trinity are hard at work as the Advent season begins. On December 8, the Trinity Ringers will play in a holiday celebration at the Old Capitol at 4 p.m. Several other groups and ensembles will also perform throughout the afternoon.

At 6:30 p.m,. Sunday, December 8, the children, youth and young adults will leave the church for an evening of caroling to Trinity's homebound. Ms. Wendel invites interested persons to join the group.

On Monday, December 9, the Wesley Fellowship Sunday School Class will hold its annual Christmas covered-dish supper and tree trimming party, beginning at 6 p.m. in Moor Hall.

The annual church family Christmas dinner and program begins at 6 p.m., Sunday, December 15, in Moor Hall. Families and individuals are asked to bring either a meat dish or two vegetable or dessert dishes.

Following the meal, the Wesleyan Singers will present the cantata, "A Night for Dancing," by Hal Hopson. The Jubilation Singers will conclude the evening by singing some anthems of Christmas.

On Sunday, December 22, all choirs will lead the congregation in the morning worship service. Dr. Walter Kalaf's sermon topic will be "The Glory of God."

That evening at 5 p.m., the choirs will all participate in a Vesper Service of Lessons and Carols, traditionally one of the loveliest services of the church year.

On Christmas Eve, at 7:30 p.m., the Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelighting Service is scheduled. The Chancel Choir will provide special music and Dr. Kalaf's sermon topic will be "On Celebrating the Birth of Christ."

—HEO Reports———

HEO is still asking for volunteers to park cars for members of the congregation who have difficulty walking up the hill from the parking lot for Sunday services. Please call the HEO office at 222-1120 if you would like to serve the church in this capacity.

Since the next HEO luncheon and the Church Family Dinner both come on December 8, the HEO luncheon will not be held, in order to avoid a conflict

A Personal Word .

from Walter Kalaf

God So Loved...That He Gave...



The motivation for and meaning of Christian missions were given crystal clarity by Albert Schweitzer in this vivid word picture from one of his books:

The operation is finished, and in the hardly lighted dormitory I watch for the sick man's awakening. Scarcely has he recovered consciousness when he stares about him and exclaims again and again, "I have no more pain! I have no more pain!"... His hand feels for mine and will not let it go. Then I begin to tell him and the others who are in the room that it is the Lord Jesus who has told the doctor and his wife to come to the Ogowe, and that white people in Europe give them the money to live here and cure the sick negroes. Then I have to answer questions as to who these white people are, and where they live, and how they know the natives suffer so much from sickness. The African sun is shining through the coffee bushes into the dark shed, but we, black and white, sit side by side and feel that we know by experience the meaning of the words, "And all ye are brethren." (Matt. 23:8) Would that my generous friends in Europe could come out here and live through one such hour!

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. . . .," and those whose lives have been touched and transformed by the redeeming love of God, made known to them by the Son, are compelled by that love to share it, to reach out to others in its compassionate spirit, to give freely and generously of themselves and their resources in the interest of meeting the needs of

all those Christ claims as his.

Christmas Offerings, therefore, should be mission offerings-opportunities to respond once again in this glad season of giving to the wonder of God's gift to us of his Son, the blessings which have come to us because of that gift, and the privilege of offering him the only expression of gratitude he wants: doing the deeds of love to his brothers and sisters who are hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick or in prison.

Our focus, this year, is our own community. Your gift to the 1985 Christmas Offering will support the local missions to which Trinity Church is committed: ECHO, Habitat for Humanity, Campus Ministry at FSU and FAMU, Terrell House, Goodwill Industries, Senior Society Planning Council, Trinity's Radio Ministry, District Volunteers in Mission, the ecumenically supported Faith Counseling Center.

The needs are great . . . and so are our resources. In the spirit of the season, then, let's respond to these needs with our largest Christmas Offering ever. We can do it if we will.

Special envelopes for the Christmas Offering will be in the bulletins and pew racks each Sunday in Advent. If you write a check, please write "Christmas Offering" on it. Thank you.



A day trip to Thomasville on December 5 was the last outing planned for members and friends of Trinity's Adult Fellowship. A full day of visiting the Thomasville Historical Society, Lapham-Patterson House, First United Methodist Church, and Pebble Hill Plantation was enjoyed by all.

Coming on January 28 is planned transportation to the production of Eugene O'Neill's "A Moon for the Misbegotten" by the Asolo Theatre at Tallahassee Community College. Cost will be \$12. Deadline for reservations to go with the group will be January 8. Please call the church office for further information and reservations.

April will find a bus load going to Callaway Gardens for a three-day trip visiting Columbus, Warm Springs and Eufala, Alabama, as well as touring the gardens at the height of the spring bloom. Lodging will be at the Callaway Inn with breakfast and dinner included in the cost. Deposits of \$50 each should be sent to Rubie Butterworth in the church office as soon as possible. Final payment is due by February 15, 1986. Total cost of the trip is \$230. Dates of the trip are April 2-4, 1986.

Reserve June 28 to July 10 for a trip of a lifetime to the Pacific Northwest and Canadian Rockies. The group will fly to Seattle, Washington, then travel by Johansen bus tour to Glacier National Park, Spokane, Royal Calgary, Banff, Lake Louise, Jasper, and Vancouver, where time will be spent at the World Exposition there, before returning by way of Victoria to Seattle and a flight home.

Total cost of the tour will be \$2,075 (twin) plus \$26 tax, which will in-

Trinity Travelers Notes

clude air and bus fare, hotel accommodations, 22 meals, admissions, gratuities and the services of a professional tour director.

cepted for this trip. In order to give Trinity members the first opportunity for these places, reservations should be made by January 15. A deposit of \$300 will secure space.

As an add-on feature, a seven-day details.

A limit of 38 persons will be ac-

cruise to Anchorage, Alaska, will be made available .The cost of this will be about \$1,600. Those interested should contact Rubie Butterworth for

Church Appeals for Clothing, Blankets, Kits December is not too early to begin 1 sweater

making layettes, sewing kits, health kits and school kits for the coming Church World Service Clothing Drive sponsored by Church Women United.

Later in January the appeal will begin for Florida-weight clothing and blankets. The anticipated need is great this year because of the disaster in Columbia and flooding in the U.S.

Directions for making the kits fol-

Sewing Kits

3½ yards cotton or cotton blend, sold or print material 1 package hand sewing needles 1 spool matching thread

1 package rick rack or bias tape 1 card of 6 buttons, or 6 matching

used buttons secured together Wrap inside the fabric and tie with string or fabric strip

Layettes . . .

2 shirts 2 gowns 2 receiving blankets 4 cloth diapers

2 washcloths

Wrap in one of the blankets; secure with 2 safety pins

Health Kit

1 hand towel

1 tube tooth paste

1 bar new bath size soap

1 toothbrush

1 wash cloth 1 comb

1 nail file

6 band aids

Wrap items in the towel and fasten with ribbon

2 pads 8½ x 11" ruled paper

1 blunt scissors

12 sheets construction paper

6 unsharpened pencils with erasers 1 30 cm metric ruler

1 12 x 14" cloth bag with cloth handles

1 2½" eraser

1 pencil sharpener

1 box 8 crayons

Place in bag; fold top over; secure with 2 rubber bands

Scott Peck and James Armstrong **Exchange Ideas in Colloquy**

By Gwen Roberts

Scott Peck comes to committed Christianity through the principles of psychiatry. He found that as a psychiatrist he could not change his deeply-troubled patients except through love for them. This love needed to be so compassionate and long-lasting (even to seven years) that by means of it a patient could be made whole. From the discovery of love, it was only a short step to the love that Jesus taught in the gospels.

James Armstrong, former Bishop of the United Methodist Church serving the Dakotas Area, professor of Homiletics at Iliff School of Theology at Denver, and author of religious books, was raised in the church and its schools.

Both men spoke alternately at a Colloquy on Spirituality and Liberation at Lake Junaluska on November 4-7. They explored ideas about the spiritual journey and social responsibility. Some gems from the meeting of these minds:

· Learn to love the other person sacrificially, if need be, but redemp-

tively. Learn to relate. Turning inwardly leads to alienation. The primitive community worked together, cried together, laughed together. 'Tis love that makes us tough. It is the first of the fruits of the Spirit. (Armstrong)

• The appropriate battleground for the disarmament struggle is within the church. The church has rejected this-as if we could attempt to be the corporate body without any pain.

• The "Holy Thursday" revolution was of two parts. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples-and symbolically overthrew the whole social order. Then he gave them communion.

 In dealing with the third world our leaders have treated each other as caricatures and talked past each other. We must stop the mythologizing and tear the wall down. (Armstrong)

 Since I have experienced community I have never felt without hope. The vulnerability of Jesus taught us many things, but most that he walked vulnerably among the poor, the disabled and diseased, and lastly allowed himself to be killed by the establishment out of his vulnerability. God's unilateral disarmament is shown in Jesus. (Peck)

• The underlying cynicism is that we don't have a soul-that we are not important. Contrast this view with "What can separate us from the love of God? (Armstrong)

UMW News Notes

By Miriam Peirce, UMW President (Written before UMW meeting December 3 and before Tidings publication date.)

The United Methodist Women will have a very special meeting in December, and it is hoped that all Trinity women will want to attend. The Christmas theme of the program will be presented to us through music, art, and inspiration by Circle 13. This will be a wonderful way to get into the true Christmas spirit early in De-

After the program, the task force to study circle organization will have another gift to give you! This will be the new circle lists to begin in January. At the November meeting of the Trinity unit of United Methodist Women, the membership voted to accept a modified reorganization

Everyone recognizes the need for some changes to be made, and all are willing to try new things. One of the new things will be a new circle meeting at 5:30 p.m. The women who participate in this group will decide which day of the week, and where they will eat (probably a downtown restaurant or sometimes at the church). This new time will accommodate women who work downtown and would like to go directly to a circle meeting, as well as those who usually eat alone and would like some company.

Some might like this time who have children who would prefer Dad for a baby-sitter; others, may have a very full schedule of other meetings and will find this convenient. Whatever your reasons you are invited to at-

Many of you who might be interested are not able to come to the regular monthly luncheon meeting, so we are asking that if you are interested in this time slot to please call Miriam Peirce at 878-4086 or the church office or send word with a friend to the December meeting. This group will start in January.

Another new thing: regular interest groups. We plan one group to teach and learn crafts, another to visit newcomers to church and town, and another, of booklovers, to help keep the new church library exciting and useful! If you have some other ideas, we will be glad to hear about them. These groups will not be circles, and will be at times other than circle meeting times so that you can be part of several groups, if you choose.

Adult Fellowship Will Hear Christmas Music

Christmas music led by Miki Harrison and Elgin White will be featured at the December Adult Fellowship meeting on December 20. This will be a time of group singing of the familiar songs and carols that everyone loves.

The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. in Moor Hall with a time of fellowship. Lunch will be at the conclusion of the program. Reservations should be made in the church office by Wednesday, December 18. Cost is \$2.50. All members and friends of retirement or near retirement age are invited to participate.

The Year in Review...

Annual Reports Celebrate Achievements, Call for Spiritual Growth

Ministers and leaders of Trinity United Methodist Church reported to the Church and Charge Conference November 18 the achievements, financial health, and increased programming that made 1985 "a glorious year in the history of this great church."

Dr. Walter N. Kalaf in his annual pastor's report gave thanks to members of the Trinity Hall Building Committee who spent uncalculated hours overseeing the renovation of the education building, to the many people who were involved in the development of program, to his colleagues on the professional staff, the office and custodial staff and the volunteers who provided services.

... This has been a truly remarkable year financially for Trinity Church," he said. "By the first week in October all our Conference apportionments were paid in full, as opposed to last year, when the final 45 percent of them was not paid until December 31. Moreover, a quarter of a million dollars in new capital funds to complete the facilities goals of the Long Range Planning Committee were committed for a new three-year period beginning at the conclusion of the present three-year capital fund drive on the basis of a single letter sent to the membership."

The current fund drive for Trinity Hall ends April 30, 1986. By the end of the three-year extension, Dr. Kalaf said one member of the Board of Trustees believes all debt on church property will be paid.

In thanking Trinity members for their financial support, Dr. Kalaf reminded those attending the conference that the church's achievements are not the result of our determination and strenuous effort alone. "They are the result of God's faithfulness when his people are faithful. We committed ourselves to that vision in trust that he would empower us and direct us, and he did!"

"Now we are beginning to realize that the Lord is expecting a lot from us. He expects all that he has given us to be used to his glory and the proclamation, in word and in deed, of the Gospel of Christ. This realization brings with it a sense of profound need. We need to be stronger, more committed and more radiant Christians if our church is to reach out with power to touch the lives of the unchurched, and to make its impact on the life of this community. We have the tools. Have we the spiritual stature required?" he asked.

He announced plans for a spiritual renewal mission at Trinity February 23-25 and expressed the hope that "God will use this time in such a way that this great church, now so attractive in its facilities and its staff and its program, will have a new baptism of the Holy Spirit so that it may be used, as never before, as a mighty instrument for the accomplishment of God's will in this community and across the face of the world."

Dr. Kalaf said we can do so much more in evangelism, in missions, in Christian education than we now are doing if we are spiritually mature enough.

Associate Minister Speaks of Need for More Visitation, Youth Programming

Associate Minister John Quigley reported he believes Trinity has added more than 80 new members during the past year not because Trinity has a newly renovated church school building but because "God has blessed our church and its response to that blessing with programming and a commitment to the future has attracted new members.

He expressed appreciation to the Evangelism Commission for assistance in making contact with prospective members. "There is more than meets the eye to the membership classes. Indeed, it has taken many folks a great deal of time and spiritual energy to commit themselves to church membership," he said.

The Rev. Quigley said his visitation responsibilities have continued to be overwhelming. "Obviously, Trinity is a growing church and though I do not take credit for this it does demand my pastoral involvement in many cases . . . There continues to be people in the nursing homes and shut-ins who need pastoral attention. Again, it is good lay people who make up for what I cannot always do in the demands of my position," he said.

He also reported on his involvement with missions, including Habitat for Humanity, Vashti Walkathon, and as a participant in the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission trip to Duplan, Haiti, in August.

"Finally, the Senior High UMYF group is a very important part of my job," he reported. He has been involved with two youth retreats, Meals on Wheels, and a variety of recreational and missions programs.

"The tremendous expansion, growth and participation in our youth work here at Trinity has been due to a team effort. Certainly, Gayle Jordan deserves a great deal of credit and on the Senior High side, I personally extend my deepest appreciation and commendation to Reinard and Cheri Harkema, our faithful youth counselors who love the kids as much as I do."

The Rev. Quigley said he believes Trinity should have a full-time worker with youth and young adults. "We have many singles in our church and perhaps there is no other area in our church that has been left untouched as this one has. I experience a great deal of frustration because I know that I could be more effective in youth work if I had more time to spend there.

"In a town where there are many high schools and activities that compete for our young people's attention, it takes a great deal of energy to build a healthy program . . . Youth ministry deserves a professional for after all our young people are the church's future and the Lord's fu-

Education Director Says Highlight of Year Was Marketplace 29 A.D.

Director of Christian Education Gayle Jordan, in the annual report of the diaconal minister, asked who would have ever dreamed that she would have spent nine months planning, recruiting and implementing a very complex program and that 100 other adults of all ages would have assisted. She referred to the summer's replacement for vacation church school-Marketplace 29 A.D. when children "lived" the biblical experience. Two hundred children, parents and grandparents participated in the creative learning experience.

"Having a wonderful facility has enhanced our ministry, allowing us to offer so much more to enable children, youth and adults grow in the faith. The youth center, children's library, church library, and attractive classrooms have made our work easier, yet we have sought to keep our people and their needs first in providing programs that are vital and meaningful for living in today's world," Ms.

Jordan said.

"The Church Fellowship Retreat, Trinity Troopers in Mission, Knowledge for College, Church School, UMYF, Pre-School and Mothers' Morning Out are examples of programs that are not just programs carried over year after year, but growing and changing quality learning experiences. In a recent phone interview, an educator from the Board of Discipleship who was seeking to find out about new program ideas said, 'I've not heard of a more creative and encompasing program'.'

Ms. Jordan gave credit to the dedicated leadership of a volunteer staff of about 200 who have brought into fruition many established goals.

"The trust level, support and backing of the Commission on Education, Commission on Campus Ministry and Higher Education, church staff, church school teachers, leaders and friends have made this, my third year, most rewarding. As my co-chairpersons of Education, Bill and Germain Fritchman, complete their three-year term I would be remiss if I did not express my thanks for a job well done," she said.

She expressed hope that she will be able to fulfill the remainder of her vision for Trinity, including staff assistance in the area of youth ministry to free her to work in designing a much needed single adult and young adult program, to work more directly on church school growth, to work more on a one-on-one with church school teachers and to add just one more creative touch to the children's program.

Busy Bee Bazaar Raises \$8,000 for HEO, Choir Robes, Crafts, Books, Outreach

Trinity's 1985 Busy Bee Bazaar raised over \$8,000 after expenses, officials reported last month.

The Bazaar is a "good fundraiser and excellent fellowship," General Chairperson Nancy Petrandis said. 'I'm really pleased.'

"It was a fantastic success," Senior Minister Walter Kalaf said.

The Bazaar Planning Committee, at its final meeting November 20, approved allocation of funds as follows: \$4,000 to HEO, \$1,200 for new choir robes, \$1,750 for craft furnishings and equipment, \$400 for a community outreach project, \$200 for books for the church library, remaining \$450 for supplies for the 1986 bazaar.

Additional income from sales of remaining pecans will go into the 1986 fund. Contact Bette Jackson, 385-1325, to purchase additional pecans. Onepound bags of halves are \$4.25.

The committee recommended that up to \$4,000 be allocated from next year's revenue for a fund to purchase a new church van. HEO would continue to receive \$4,000.

The committee further recommended that five percent of next year's revenue be designated for community outreach projects and five percent for the 1987 bazaar start-up

"We should return a portion of the proceeds to the community since the community supports the bazaar so well," Chuck Jackson, 1984 bazaar cochairperson, said in making the mo-

The \$1,750 for the craft room will

be used to purchase saws, sewing machines, cutting tables and furni-

"Crafts (with pecans) are the backbone of the bazaar," Associate Chairperson Bob Bass said. "We should make life easier for them (the workers). There is so much talent there, but they need equipment."

Dr. Kalaf pointed out that there is no money budgeted for the church library and the \$200 allocated by the Bazaar Committee will be a good

Dr. Kalaf was asked to select the community outreach project to receive the \$400. The committee said the project or agency selected should be one which is meeting the physical needs of the elderly.

−By Jim Nash

Fund Started to Help Church Employee's Family

When a fire completely destroyed their home in mid-October, the Don Briggs family slowly began collecting the basic items needed for everyday living.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee, wanting to assist Trinity's head custodian and his family replace as many of the basic necessities as quickly as possible, has started a fund for that purpose.

The family is presently living in a trailer home but expects to build as soon as posisble.

Trinity members wishing to help may send a check marked "Briggs fund" to Trinity United Methodist Church, P. O. Box 1086, Tallahassee, FL 32302.

United Methodist Women Will

cember 9, at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Kittie Mae Taylor, 1117 Bonnie

Circle #2 will meet Monday, December 9, at 2:30 p.m., at the home of Mary Lee Hurt, 2102 Old Fort Drive. Mrs. Cora Morse will be cohostess. Mrs. Mildred Yates will present the program.

Circle #3 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Blannie Gallagher, 1342 Terrace

Circle #4 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 301 at the church.

Circle #5 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Willie Mae Couch, 709 Piedmont

Circle #6 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Jean Tipton, 1101 Waverly Road. Martie Mohler and Lois Garland will be co-hostesses. The program will be given by Jeanette Humphress and the devotional will be given by Marguerite Steinmeyer. Members should

Circle #1 will meet Monday, De- bring canned goods for the McKee family and Project Cheer items.

Circle #7 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 12 noon, at the home of Oberly Brown, 1407 Randolph

Circle #8 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 12:30, for a Christmas luncheon at Nancy Bryant's. Nursery provided. Bring toys for Refuge House.

Circle #9 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 10:30 a.m., at the home of Wallie Beall, 3715 Bobbin Mill Road. Members should bring a salad for a luncheon.

Circle #10 will meet Monday, December 9, at 3:30 p.m., at the Tallahassee Convalescent Home.

Circle #11 will meet Thursday, December 19, for the annual Christmas party. Call Lark Mott-Smith at 878-8897 for further information.

Circle #12 will meet Thursday, December 12, at 2:30 p.m., in the parlor.

Circle #13 will meet Tuesday, December 10, at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Mary Ann Helton, 1143 Circle

Missionary Gordon Greathouse:

'The Role of the Christian Is To Work Side by Side With the Poor'

Telling the story of a dream coming true, Gordon Greathouse, the missionary Trinity helps to support in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, held his audience spellbound when he visited Trinity on Monday, November 18.

After giving a brief history of the construction of the center, Greathouse showed slides of the community, the people and of celebrations at the community center. He also set up a display of hand-woven bags and wall hangings, wooden bowls and toys now made at the center and which are being sold in Brazil, in Europe and in the U.S.

Started only two and one-half years ago, the Sao Gabriel Community Center is now occupying two new buildings—built piecemeal as contributions came in and with a great deal of volunteer help—and employs 14 local people on its staff. The program of the center includes:

Health and Nutrition: A pediatrician attends on a regular basis; prescriptions are filled through donated medicines; courses on a preventative health are offered as well as instruction on herbal medicines, hygeine, first aid and how to prepare nutritional low-cost foods.

Pre-School and Tutoring Programs: These help about 60 children from 4 to 11 years of age with a kindergarten and tutoring for students in



Sao Gabriel Community Center serves this neighborhood in Belo Horizonte.

grades 1 to 4. The children receive pedagogical orientation, lunch and some medical care.

Supervised Play: With 150 children between 5 and 10 enrolled, this program operates every Sunday and includes music, Christian education, play and arts and crafts.

Scholarship Fund for Cary Moon

Adult Sunday school classes on November 24 made contributions to a scholarship fund for Trinity member Cary Moon, who is now in the first year of the two-year master of church music degree program at Scarritt Graduate School.

Seeks to Raise Tuition at Scarritt

A life-long member of Trinity except for a brief time when he was on the staff of John Wesley UMC, Cary Moon felt a call from God to devote himself to Christian ministry in the local church through music. He applied to Scarritt in Nashville and was accepted.

He will need about \$1,400 per semester for tuition. Trinity's Commission on Higher Education and Campus Ministry hopes to collect that amount in time for the semester that begins in January.

Both Cary and his wife Peggy work —she full-time and he part-time as choir director and youth director of a small church.

Friends wishing to contribute to the Moon scholarship fund may write a check to the church, mark it "Cary Moon Fund" and mail it to Trinity United Methodist Church, P. O. Box 1086, Tallahassee, FL 32302.

Pledge Report Will Be Given December 8

(Continued from page 1)

church. When we love the church, however, we criticize it for valid reasons rather than as an excuse for our unwillingness to serve it, and always in the light of its strength and purpose, and our relationship to its weakness.

Many of the reasons one hears for lack of enthusiasm for the church are not consistent with this attitude. Some people are down on the church, for instance, because the people in the church seem no better to them than those outside the church . . .

Some people are down on the church because a certain church or a certain minister seemed preoccupied with less important things when they needed help desperately. Igor Sikorsky writes of a savage who, when he was asked, "What is evil?" replied, "Evil is if some one should steal my wife and cattle." But when he was asked, "What is Good?" he replied, "Good is if I will steal someone's wife and cattle." How easy it is to consider anything that prevents us from getting help we need when we want it as trivial and far less deserving of attention than our particular problem. Like Sikorsky's savage, we evaluate good and bad entirely on the basis of subjective considerations.

Some people are down on the church because it is too involved in community problems, and others are down on the church because it is not involved enough in community problems.

How many other reasons people give for being down on the church, as though the church, made up of human beings like us as it is, ever claimed to be perfect. In spite of its imperfections, however, what compelling reasons there are, if we have eyes to see and a heart that loves, to be enthusiastic about the church and to give it our deep and abiding loyalty.

There is its prophetic voice: often uncomfortable to hear because it challenges our complacency, our self-righteousness, our prejudices, our self-indulgences. Yet, where would we be today had the social implications of Christ's gospel and the revolutionary demands of Christ's spirit not been interpreted with power and directness by the church through the ages?

There is its redeeming touch on the lives of children and youth.

There is its gentle reminder that "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me," out of which comes a telephone call such as one I received in a former pastorate. "I'd like an old lady to kind of look after, someone who is all alone and needs somebody to belong to," said my caller. Out of which comes a magnificent ministry like your own H.E.O. (Help Each Other), conceived, maintained and staffed by the lay women of Trinity Church. Out of which comes the fellowship of the concerned, whereby starving refugees are fed, freezing migrant workers are sheltered and clothed, the sorrowing are comforted through kindness, the lonely are befriended, the discouraged and defeated are extended the hand of goodwill and encouragement. This is the church!

There is the glorious and ennobling Christian way of life, the nearness and reality of God's presence, the power of prayer, the transforming and liberating nature of faith which the church attempts to make known and through which people find radiance and victory in the living of their days. This is the church!

Junior High Club: Every Saturday 30 adolescents under trained supervision, meet for fellowship, sports, and orientation about problems peculiar to their age. This group is also responsible for taking care of the school vegetable garden.

Professional Courses: Technical courses in sewing and in pattern making, homemade cleaning products, carpentry (for adolescents from 12-15) and other special courses are offered on a regular basis.

Emergency Help: The center also has emergency help programs for times of calamity and personal crisis. They provide food, clothing, blankets and counseling services.

Greathouse said, "Through the com-

munity center, a new model of Christian social action is being created that goes beyond charity or education. We believe that the role of Christians is to be the companions of the poor, working side by side with them in the struggle to create a world in which God's image in each person shines forth clearly. We are only at the beginning of a long journey, but we have learned the meaning of the passage in Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage: be not frieghtened, neither be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Those who have been partners in the São Gabriel Center have felt His presence."

Trinity members contributed in May to an Advance Special for a health and nutrition project at the Sao Gabriel Community Center. On November 18 a love offering of \$250 was given. Anyone wishing to make a contribution to this work may do so through the church office.

-By Elise Lawton

In Memoriam

Gifts have been given to the church in memory of:

Mrs. Bryan Willis (Willie) by Earnestine Long, Gleen and Allan Rankin, Martha Willis, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Homeyer, Mildred R. Lees, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hinson, Mrs. Elizabeth Alexander, Elsie Kappler and Circle 6.

Gene Young by Gayle Jordan, Margaret-Ray and Kirby Kemper, Carey Technical Institute, Inc. and the Commission on Education.

Charge Conference Deletes 233 Members; Trinity Membership Now Totals 2,208

The Charge Conference, meeting as the official body authorized to withdraw names from the church rolls, among other things, on November 18 voted to delete 233 members.

Advertised for four times, as required by United Methodist Discipline, the names of persons who had moved and left no forwarding address, joined other churches without notification to Trinity, or for other reasons could not be communicated with, were deleted.

Total membership of the church at time of the pastor's report to the Charge Conference November 18 was 2,208. It had been 2,445 in November 1984

Sixty-three new members joined the church since 1984—24 on confession of faith, 32 from other United Methodist Churches, and 7 from other denominations. Twenty preparatory members became full members.

Twenty-six members transferred to other United Methodist Churches, 16 to other denominations, and 25 died. Total deductions for the year were 300.

Larger Charitable Deduction Given For Auto Use

If you use your car while providing services to a charitable organization, you will now be able to take a larger tax deduction, the Internal Revenue Service said.

A deduction has been allowed for either the actual out-of-pocket expenses or 9 cents per mile. Beginning in 1985, the standard mileage rate will be increased to 12 cents per mile; parking and tolls are also deductible.

For more information get the free IRS Publication 526, Charitable Contributions," by calling IRS toll-free 1-800-241-3860.

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