



Monthly Tidings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH · TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA · VOL. 22, NO. 2, FEBRUARY 1995

Bishop, Governor will speak at 150th anniversary celebration

Florida Bishop H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr. will arrive at Trinity by horse and carriage at 4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 5, to preach at the same pulpit used by Bishop Joshua Soule when he convened the first session of the Florida Conference of the Methodist Church here 150 years ago.

The pulpit will be on loan from Bethel United Methodist Church of Tallahassee to whom it was given when Trinity built a new sanctuary.

From it at the anniversary celebration, the minutes of that historic first conference will be read, and a roll call of the 32 Florida and South Georgia preachers will be made. From them, an "endless line of splendor,"-- the theme of the conference anniversary celebration-- has increased their number to 1,084 and members of Florida United Methodist Churches to 345,048.

Florida Governor Lawton Chiles, whose great grandfather, Seaborn Chiles, was one of the 32 preacher delegates at the 1845 conference, will bring greetings and read a proclamation heralding the event.

In an re-enactment of the session that separated Florida from the Georgia Conference, minutes of the proceedings will be read by Nell Thrift, chairperson of the Florida Conference Commission on Archives and History. The sesquicentennial roll call will be given by the Reverend Burns Wilson, Thomasville District Superintendent, and the Reverend J. C. Powell, Tallahassee District Superintendent.

The Reverend Robert M. Temple, Jr. of Winter Haven will describe the life of a Methodist circuit rider whose task it was to tame the Florida wilderness of the 1840s.

Other preachers of local United

Methodist churches will also participate in the service, which will include old-fashioned hymn singing and other hymns by a mass choir.

Other churches besides Trinity, which existed in Florida at the time of the first conference, will be represented in a parade of banners at the beginning of the worship service.

A reception will follow in Moor Hall, with hosts and hostesses dressed in costume of the day. Jamie and Vernon Parramore and David Avant of Trinity will display documents and photographs depicting the history of Trinity and of the Florida Conference.

General chairperson for the celebration is Walli Beall of Trinity. She

encourages all Trinity members and friends of the church to attend, dressed in clothes of the 1840s if they have access to them.

The Florida Conference, at its meeting last May in Lakeland, also observed the forthcoming anniversary. At that time, Bishop Hughes said "It is important that we give proper attention to our history, expressing appreciation to those who pioneered and whose commitment resulted in the great church to which we are heirs today. Viewing our history helps us put some things in perspective--knowing where we came from, the struggles that preceded us, the blood, sweat, and tears, born from deep devotion to Christ--these things remind us that we follow in a goodly heritage."

Robert M. Temple, Jr. to preach Feb. 5

Robert M. Temple, Jr., who was baptized and confirmed here at Trinity, will be guest preacher at morning worship services on Feb. 5.

The Rev. Temple will be in Tallahassee to participate in the 4 p.m. celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Florida Conference of the Methodist Church. (See separate story this page)

Now serving as pastor of Beymer United Methodist Church of Winter Haven, Rev. Temple was born in Tallahassee, a descendant of the Rev. Henry Saxon who lived on a plantation near Silver Lake and served as a local preacher about the time the Florida Conference was organized at Trinity in 1845.

Rev. Temple graduated in 1957 from Florida State University where he was active in Wesley Foundation and later served as Trinity's youth director during the summers of 1958 and 1959. He later graduated from Emory University's

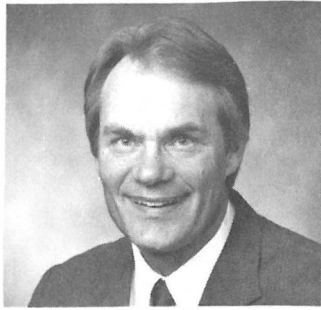


ROBERT M. TEMPLE, JR.

Candler School of Theology and was ordained deacon and later elder of the Florida United Methodist Conference.

He has served churches in Branford, Gainesville, Sanford, Bartow, Saint Petersburg, Hollywood Hills, Lakeland and Merritt Island. Besides serving in many conference, district and general church appointments, Rev. Temple has written more than 60 articles for church publications.

He is the author of five books. His most recent is *Florida Flame: A History of the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church*



Romance and Love

By David G. Hortin

In the spring, it is said that "A young man's fancy turns to love." However, it is in February that we have a special day to celebrate romantic love--Saint Valentine's Day. In many places, February is dark, dreary and given to depression. So, perhaps, it is a good time to give love a boost.

Having spent much of my life in retirement areas of Florida, I have been invited to many golden anniversary celebrations. It is interesting to ask these couples, "How did you meet?" "Where did you get married?" "Who had the wedding?"

It is delightful to watch the sparkle come into the eyes of folks in their seventies and eighties as they tell you the circumstances that brought them together. My own parents who were married for 52 years met by the happenstance or providence of life.

As a college student at McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois, my father saw a notice on the bulletin board seeking counselors for a Rotary Boys Camp. He thought that would surely be better than working on the farm all summer; so, he applied and got the job. When he arrived at the camp, he met a "big Swede" who was tacking down the canvas on one of the tent buildings. The young fellow said, "You should see that Nelson girl over at the Fresh Air Camp." That evening, as the counselors from the two camps got together, Paul Hortin did meet Dorothy Nelson. Romance began to blossom in the weeks that followed. Several years later they were joined in marriage by Dr. Ernest Fremont Tittle of First Methodist Church of Evanston, Illinois.

However, it seems that good marriages are not made by what seems to be the providential meeting of the right people. Good marriages are made by two people who are deeply committed to the marriage and are willing to make sacrifices for the good and ongoing of the marriage.

As couples come to see me about their wedding, I usually tell them that in marriage sometimes you have to "back off" when you think you are "right." Now that is sacrifice. It is hard enough to back off when you know you are wrong much less when you are right. In marriage, being right is not nearly as important as doing something for the good of the marriage. If a houseplant needs care and attention, a marriage certainly does.

As the apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "Love is patient; love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful, nor conceited, nor rude; never selfish, not quick to take offense. Love keeps no score of wrongs, does not gloat over other men's sins, but delights in the truth. There is nothing love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, its hope, and its endurance." (New English Bible)

Adult Fellowship to hear about Holy Land Feb. 17

Mrs. Pim Dodge of Frankfort, Michigan, will be the guest speaker of Adult Fellowship when it meets on Friday, Feb. 17, at 11 a.m. in Moor Hall.

While visiting friends in Tallahassee, she has agreed to share her slides and observations of change in the Holy Land. She has regularly traveled to the Middle East for the past 12 years

escorting tours there as well as in other parts of the world.

She also serves as a lay speaker and leader in her local United Methodist Church and in her annual conference.

Reservations for lunch following the program (\$4 per plate) should be made in the church office by Wednesday, Feb. 15.

Notes from the McKenzie Library

Max Lucado, young minister of the Oak Hills Church of Christ in San Antonio, Texas, is a prolific writer who delights in preaching and writing about Jesus and what really matters: the cross. The library has seven of his books, each with a fascinating title most of which are self-explanatory.

The ones available here are:

And the Angels Were Silent: The Final Week of Jesus. 1992.

The Applause of Heaven. 1990.

In the Eye of the Storm: A Day in the Life of Jesus. 1991.

He Still Moves Stones. 1993.

No Wonder They Call Him the Savior. 1986.

Six Hours One Friday: Anchoring to the Cross. 1989

When God Whispers Your Name. 1994.

Henri J. M. Nouwen was born and educated in Holland where he was ordained to the priesthood. He has taught at the University of Notre Dame, Yale and Harvard Divinity Schools, and the North American College in Rome. He now lives in Toronto, Canada.

Four of his books are to be found in the library:

A Cry for Mercy. 1981.

A Letter of Consolation. 1982.

Lifesigns--Intimacy, Fecundity; and Ecstasy in Christian Perspective. 1986.

Making All Things New: An Invitation to the Spiritual Life. 1981.

William H. Willimon, minister to the University at Duke University and Professor of the practice of Christian worship at Duke Divinity School, has written more than 20 books. The library has four of them--all except the last one listed are on the subject of the church.

Rekindling the Flame: Strategies for a Vital United Methodism. 1987.

What's Right With the Church. 1985.

With Glad and Generous Hearts: A Personal Look at Sunday Worship. 1986.

And the Laugh Shall Be First: A Treasury of Religious Humor. 1986.

Frances M. McAdams, Librarian

Tidings deadline is Feb. 15

Articles for the March issue of the Monthly Tidings should be in the church office on or before February 15.

Contributions are welcomed.

75 Trinity members deliver meals to shut-ins on holiday

Seventy-five Trinity volunteers took part in the preparation and delivery of meals to 313 persons who otherwise would not have had a meal on the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday on January 16.

On Friday afternoon, Jan. 13, 15 persons met at the Elder Care Services kitchen. Led by Dick Almarode, they prepared spaghetti with meat sauce, vegetables, fruit, milk and bread for delivery on Monday. Couples, families and single persons covered 28 routes all over Leon County to bring food to elderly homebound persons.

Many have expressed their pleasure in being able to serve each year. One volunteer has written, "Thanks for giving me the opportunity to fulfill one of His commandments yesterday, that of feeding the hungry--also to carry out one of the four promises we made when we joined the Methodist Church, that of service."

The Older Adult Council, sponsors of this project, and Elder Care Services, the Meals on Wheels agency, expressed gratitude to all the volunteers.



Dick Almarode, center, assists Betty Hosford (back to camera) and Jane Love pack the cold supper they prepared for the elderly people on the Meals on Wheels route Trinity members delivered on the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Jan. 16.



Dick Almarode coordinated a kitchen crew from Trinity who cooked the hot meal another 75 volunteers delivered. Among kitchen workers were (from left to right) J. P. Love, Howard Moody, Betty Hosford and Mary Lou Richie.

UMW invites all to family night program

United Methodist Women invite spouses, children and other interested persons in the church to attend the family night program on Tuesday, Feb. 7, beginning with dinner at 6 p.m. in Moor Hall.

Following dinner, guest speaker Professor Cal Zonker of FSU's College of Human Sciences will talk about the importance of good communications.

UMW Vice Presidents Dolores Jackson and Betty Ashlock, who are coordinating the program, encourage attendees to wear red in celebration of Valentine Day on Feb. 14. They are arranging for a strolling balladeer to provide entertainment during the evening.

Reservations for the dinner should be made in the church office by Feb. 3. Cost is \$4 per person.

UMW circles list meeting schedule

United Methodist Women circles announce the times and places of their meetings for February.

Circle 1 will meet Feb. 13 at 10 a.m. at the home of Mart Hill, 613 Plantation Road. Kitty Jones will be co-hostess and Grace Fisher Lipscomb will present the program.

Circle 2 will meet with Circle 12 in the church parlor on Feb. 14 at 2:30 p.m.

Circle 3 will meet with Circle 11 at the home of Mary Ann Helton, 1143 Circle Drive, Feb. 14 at 10 a.m.

Circle 4 will meet at Trinity at 10 a.m. on Feb. 14.

Circle 5 will meet at the home of Jane Love, 926 Maplewood, on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Circle 6 will meet at Westminster Oaks on Feb. 14 at 10 a.m. with Ruth Crawford and Nelle Bowers co-hostesses.

Circle 7 will meet Feb. 21 at noon in the Conference Room. Bring a brown bag lunch.

Circle 8 will meet in the church parlor at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 14.

Circle 9 will meet at 10 a.m. Feb. 21 at home of Miriam Peirce, 2948 Blirstone Court.

Circle 10 will meet Feb. 13 at 3:30 p.m. at the Tallahassee Convalescent Home. Visitors welcome.

Circle 11 will meet at 10 a.m. Feb. 14 at the home of Mary Ann Helton, 1143 Circle Dr. Guests will be Circle 3. Rev. Austin Hollady will speak on *The Road to Emmaus*.

Trustees purchase Call Street property

Trinity Trustees on Dec. 5 completed purchase of the property at 111 West Call Street adjacent to the church's gravel parking lot at the corner of Call and Duval.

Spencer Burress, Trustee who negotiated the purchase, said the church had been trying to obtain the property for the past 15 years so that Trinity would own the entire west half of the block.

Now that the purchase has been made, the entire block bounded by Call, Adams, Park and Duval is owned by churches. The Christian Science Church and First Presbyterian own the eastern half.

The Trustees obtained a loan for \$75,000 to purchase the property from the William D. Wood estate. Trustees tried to interest a charitable group in moving the frame house for the group's use but the idea was abandoned because of the cost and difficulty of moving it. Now Trustees hope to find someone willing to tear down the house in return for the building materials that can be salvaged.

Trinity will use the vacated lot for additional parking until another need is determined, Burress said.

"We hope that members of the church who have been interested in purchasing this property will make a contribution to help pay off the loan," he said.

Gifts to Trinity

Memorial gifts were made to Trinity through January 15 by the following:

In memory of Paul Hansen by Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Moncrief.

Jack Barfield, by Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Moncrief.

Sarah Scott Simmons, Jack Whitford Simmons, Frances Snow Simmons by Mrs. William P. Simmons.

Anna Scherdin by Stephen Ministers of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lucy M. Larson, Doug and Mae Shivers, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Kerce (HEO), Dr. and Mrs. Ledley Brown, Mr. and Mrs. M.K. Reynolds.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

YTD COMPARISON DECEMBER 31, 1994-DECEMBER 31, 1993

1994		1993	
Income budget	907,000	Income budget	875,000
Expense budget	907,000	Expense budget	875,000

	1994	1994	1993	1993
	BUDGET YTD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD	ACTUAL YTD
INCOME:				
PLATE	13,000	11,374	12,000	12,443
PLEDGES	734,000	645,078	702,000	600,237
UNPLEDGED CONT.	40,000	80,192	35,000	77,608
OTHER BUDG. INC.	<u>120,000</u>	<u>127,947</u>	<u>126,000</u>	<u>122,908</u>
TOTAL	907,000	864,591	875,000	820,196
EXPENSES:				
APPORTIONMENTS	176,631	165,183	173,482	177,658
SALARIES & BENS.	450,150	435,993	422,693	408,707
PROGRAMS	58,720	51,527	67,825	59,059
ADMIN. EXP.	52,450	44,882	53,200	44,067
PROPERTY	147,364	157,393	134,864	130,155
RESERVE/PLEDGES	<u>21,685</u>	<u>000,000</u>	<u>22,936</u>	<u>000,000</u>
TOTAL	907,000	854,978	875,000	819,646

Year to date 1994		Year to date 1993	
Income UNDER Budget	= 42,409	Income UNDER budget	= 54,804
Expenses UNDER budget	= 52,022	Expenses UNDER budget	= 55,354
Income OVER expenses	= 9,613	Income OVER expenses	= 550

Trinity members gave generously to designated funds during 1994

Over and above what they pledged toward the church's annual budget, Trinity members gave approximately \$140,000 for other designated funds of the church in 1994.

The December 31 financial statement covering 52 designated funds, for which the money can only be spent for the named cause, show the church's concern for missions and people in need.

Among major beneficiaries were Camp Centenary near Quincy, \$6,785; United Methodist Children's Home, \$6,739; Claim the Flame for improvement of UM property in Florida, \$7,920; HEO contributions, \$2,827; One Great Hour of Sharing, \$2,250; Heifer Project, \$1,367; Hunger Ministries, \$2,251; Memorials, \$10,713, which becomes part of the Trinity Trust principal; Needlepoint Kneelers, \$2,130; a gift for organ repair, \$14,400; Ministerial Scholarship fund, \$1,368; Trinity Debt Free Campaign, \$19,254; UMCOR, \$2,905; Youth Assistance, \$1,191; and Youth Mission Trip/ASP, \$11,858.

Some special fund raising was involved in the youth related funds, and

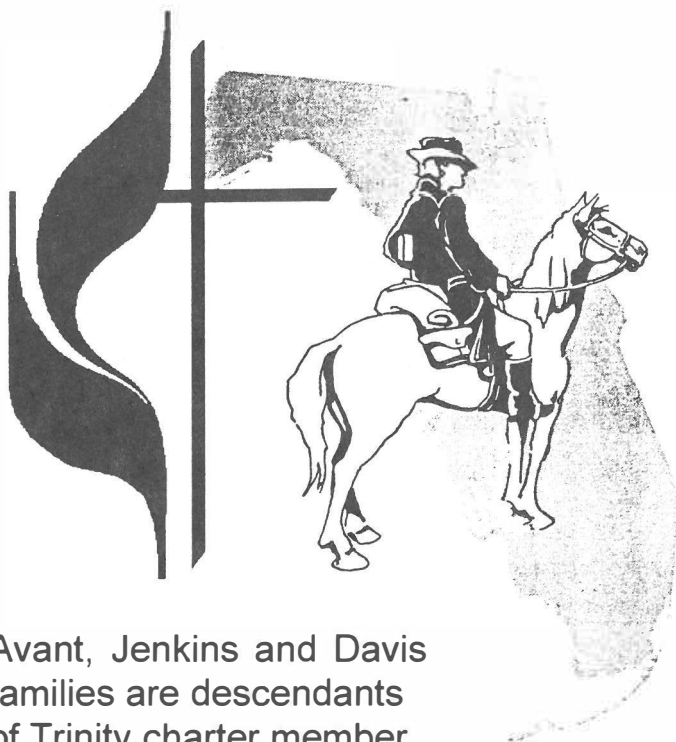
others of the designated funds were part of larger Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving offerings which were divided among several causes.

Some of the other designated funds were Africa, \$796; Bible memorials, \$1,285; Blanket drive, \$831; Golden Cross Sunday, \$364; Habitat for Humanity, \$300; Human Relations Sunday, \$280; UM Student Day, \$232; Vashti, \$200; World Communion, \$168.

United Methodists in the 104th Congress decline

The United Methodist Review reported that the 104th Congress convened last month with 63 United Methodists taking seats in the Capitol Building.

This number reflects a decline from 69 United Methodists holding office in 1992, 74 in 1982, 85 in 1972 and 101 in 1963.



Avant, Jenkins and Davis families are descendants of Trinity charter member

On Communion Sundays at Trinity, the sterling silver communion cups on the altar remind several Trinity members of their ancestor who joined the Methodist Church in Tallahassee in 1825.

Elizabeth Ann Cleveland Fitts Bruce, great great grandmother of Trinity members David A. Avant, Jr., Emily Davis Jenkins, and Foster G. Davis, joined the church the year after it was organized.

In 1853, she presented the church with two silver communion cups still in use today.

Her will of 1866 left \$500 to the Methodist Church for widows of Methodist preachers and orphans.

She came to Tallahassee in 1825 with her mother, Elizabeth Cleveland. Her obituary published in the 1867 Semi-Weekly Floridian said, "She was a woman of great energy and of many strong points of character. She was long a member of the Methodist Church and was perhaps the oldest member of that denomination in this section of the country."

Are you descended from a Trinity member of long ago?

Other descendants of long-ago Trinity members are urged to give information about their ancestors to the Monthly Tidings for later publication. Send details of the family connection, dates, etc. to Editor, Monthly Tidings, P.O. Box 1086, Tallahassee, FL 32302.

Celebrating our heritage

Methodist circuit riders brought Christianity to Florida wilderness under great hardship

The hardships to be endured by the early itinerant ministers were not for old men and consequently the church used extremely young ministers. The rigors of the job meant that not only did the circuit riders retire early but that many of them died quite young.

Thus, most of the men sent out with the formidable task of evangelizing most of Florida and part of Georgia were in their early twenties and at least one was in his teens.

One such man, John C. Ley, was received on trial as a member of the new Florida Conference in Tallahassee in February 1845. He was 22 years old. He wrote vividly of the challenge, "With the blessing of our bishop (we) bade farewell to each other, turned our faces toward our fields of labor, with our parting hymn ringing in our ears:

"The vineyard of the Lord
Before his lab'ers lies;
And lo! we see the vast reward
That waits us in the skies."

In his book "Fifty-two Years in Florida," Ley shared the following recollections of his ministry:

"The missionary generally preached every day in the week, carrying his pocket compass. Striking a given course, he would travel so many miles, perhaps fall into an Indian trail and follow it to the settlements, where the neighbors gathered and heard him preach in one of the houses of the settlement.

"The appointments on this work were first filled in two weeks, but as their number increased, they covered three. So the preacher was in the saddle or preaching seven days a week.

"We adopted as our motto: 'Wherever men can go for money, we can go for the love of Christ and for souls.'"

McLartys have special sense of family at Trinity

When Miriam McLarty sits in Trinity's sanctuary on Sunday morning she may be sitting in a pew near one her great great grandmother sat in in the 1860s. The church building is different--replaced twice since then--but this spot at the corner of Duval Street and Park Avenue is uniquely church home to Miriam and her family.

It all began when George Kindon of Wales came to Tallahassee in 1835. His son William opened a bakery and candy factory. In May 1835 he had 50 tons of ice shipped in from New York, sawn out of the frozen lakes of upstate New York and New England the winter before. He packed it in sawdust and wood shavings and sold it out of his candy store, and so it was that Tallahassee had ice from then on.

Charlotte Maria Kindon, great great grandmother of Miriam McLarty, was born to William and his wife in

1848. Trinity church records show she was received as a member on May 22, 1864. She married Wm. DuBignon, a Confederate soldier, in 1866, with the ceremony performed by Edwin Blake of Albany, one of the 32 preachers present at the organization of the Florida Methodist Conference at Trinity in 1845. They gave birth to Florida DuBignon in 1868, who married Robert Cranberry, Miriam's grandfather.

Although the family moved to South Georgia where they owned Jekell Island, the ties to Trinity live on with Miriam and Lynn McLarty and their three daughters.

For his work in researching the family tree, Lynn McLarty last year received a Florida Pioneer Research Certificate and Miriam was given a certificate declaring her a Florida Pioneer Descendant, both awarded by the Florida State Genealogical Society.

Youth director resigns to attend graduate school

Melinda Ensley, youth director at Trinity for the past two and a half years, will complete her work here on Feb. 19 in order to work full-time on course work for a master's degree in counseling at FSU.

The Staff/Parish Relations Committee is now receiving applications for her successor in the full-time position.

As a volunteer youth worker with former Director Linda Haggard, Ms. Ensley took over the position in Oct. 1992 when Mrs. Haggard moved with her husband Bill to Western North Carolina.

She will assist with the youth program on a part-time basis until her replacement is found.

In a letter to the approximately 40 youth who participated in the program, and their parents, Ms. Ensley said "I sincerely pray that the lessons I've taught, the mission trips, service projects, retreats, youth weeks, and the fun times together will have had an eternal impact on the lives of the youth who have participated. I pray that they will continue to grow in their knowledge of the Lord, so they will have the tools they need to make it as a Christian in today's world."

Ms. Ensley said one of the more important parts of the youth program under her guidance was developing their leadership potential and making faith an integral part of their lives.

Churchwide lunch will honor new members Feb. 26

All members and friends of Trinity are cordially invited to attend the churchwide chili luncheon on Sunday, Feb. 26, at 12:15 in Moor Hall, to honor all of Trinity's new members since August 1994.

The cost will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for children under 11. Please call your reservations to the church office no later than Wednesday, Feb. 22, so that enough food will be prepared.

The luncheon is being sponsored by the Work Area on Spiritual Growth and Outreach.

Review of HEO ministry in 1994

This is a New Year--a new beginning. It may mark the end of a relationship; it may mean the first encounter with tragedy or illness; it may mean the beginning of a new adventure with God. We in HEO ministry reflect on the past and look to the future with joy and thankful hearts.

We do thank those in our outreach ministry for making 1994 HEO program so special. At the close of 1994, HEO has completed more than 14 years of service to Trinity Methodist Church and the community. Your positive support has meant a great deal. You deserve much of the credit for our expanding ministries and for making strides as a growing, caring congregation.

We have grown in the past year by providing some of the following services:

- 973 home visits were made by 22 active volunteer visitors and a coordinator to persons living alone, homebound, or those with special needs. This was an increase of 155 visits from the previous year and an increase of volunteer visitors. There is always a need for additional caring persons to volunteer in HEO. Come join us and make a difference for others!
- 772 items of correspondence were sent to families and individuals in special need. This was an increase of 154 cards and letters.
- Monthly HEO committee meetings were held with an average of five members attending. Nancy Kerce serves as chairman with Ollie Dawirs, Allie Ferguson, Mary Draper, Eunice Rhodes and Duane Clark.
- Quarterly volunteer visitors meetings were held with an average of 12 persons in attendance for training sessions.
- 101 homebound persons received flowers during the year which was an increase of one.
- 104 persons received the large print *Upper Room*. An increase of 77 persons.
- 18 families received food from Trinity's Food Bank, an increase of two families.
- 10 church families were helped through the crisis fund.

In reviewing our 1994 HEO ministry we have done good things this past year, but it is hoped that we don't become focused solely on "results." Even greater challenges lie ahead. We trust that God will take the things of our hands and weave them into a future more gracious than the past or present. A future woven of both love and justice.

To work with the chronologically gifted is to recapture the truth that our character is more important than what we achieve. Life will not always be as it is today. The future belongs to God, and when we have done both our worst and our best, it is God who will create something new.

Christine Moody, HEO Coordinator

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE
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David G. Hortin, Senior Minister
David L. Hodges, Associate Minister
Linda H. Yates, Editor

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