



Trinity's Mission: We are a community of Christian disciples building pathways through which God's love is realized.

Reverend Willis receives Oxford fellowship!

Staff-Parish Relations Chair, Dot Binger, recently announced that Trinity's Senior Pastor, John Willis, has been invited to study at Oxford. This will mark the first time in the history of our church that the senior pastor will study at Oxford.

The Reverend Doctor Ralph Waller, Principal of Harris Manchester College, had invited him to study at Oxford when he was here in April. Just recently Dr. Waller notified Reverend Willis of the full fellowship.

While at Oxford, Reverend Willis will study British cathedrals, and the saints that are associated with them. Reverend Willis will also have the rare opportunity to preach while at Oxford.

Here are some additional details from Reverend Willis in a question and answer format.

Q: *How did this opportunity present itself?*

JW: Dr. Ralph Waller talked to me when he was here and said that he really wanted me to come to Oxford University to study. In fact, he said that he believed that this was so important for me to do that he would be getting me a full fellowship in order to come there.

Q: *When do you leave and return?*

JW: We will be over there from the first weekend in October. We return on October 29th and I will preach here at Trinity on October 30th.

Q: *Will this be your first trip to Oxford?*

JW: No, I have been to Oxford before (*see John's letter on page 2*).

Q: *What will you do there?*

JW: I will work with my Professor/tutor, Sister Benedicta, whose specialty is Christian Spirituality. (She has been invited to be a special guest lecturer at Harvard University). I will have assigned readings and do research at the Bodleian Library, the world's largest academic library (it has well over 7,000,000 volumes. It also has nearly 112 miles of book shelves)! I will supplement my research by attending classes related to my field of study.

Q: *Will you and Pat do*

any sightseeing or travelling while you are on your trip?

JW: Yes, we will tour England and perhaps Ireland for one week prior to going to Oxford,

as part of my study.

Q: *Will you earn a degree or title?*

JW: Nope. I don't think you can get a degree in a "fortnight."

Q: *How will your trip and study be a benefit to Trinity?*

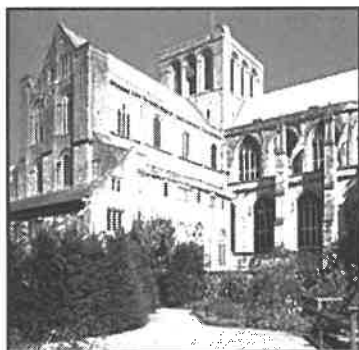
JW: All of my study and travel will be preparation for next year's Lenten Journey. Of course, I might have a few surprises too.

Q: *Will you go to classes with other students? Will you have homework and tests?*

JW: Yes, and I will probably be the oldest student there. Fortunately there are no final exams! The real test will be what I do with my experience once I get back. My homework will come from my one-on-one tutoring with Sister Benedicta and my research at the library.

Q: *If you could study anywhere in the world where would you go?*

JW: If I could study anywhere in the world I would go to Oxford University.



Winchester Cathedral will be among the cathedrals Reverend Willis will visit while in England

Trinity's new website fun and up-to-date

The Communications Website Subcommittee is pleased to announce the **NEW** Trinity website has been published on-line! It is even easier to navigate than before, and it is also very colorful. It may be viewed at the same address as before: **www.tumct.org**.

It contains over 274 Files and 2745 hyperlinks - all about Trinity!

Special features include: an easy-to-use **activity calendar** that will keep you up-to-date on upcoming church events! The calendar has four different views, printable formats and may even be downloaded to

your PC! It can even remind you of upcoming events by sending you an email.

Also on the new website, you can view and/or print your weekly Tidings (bulletin), stay in touch by email through the staff/committee directory, or find out more about Trinity's nationally accredited preschool. Visit the site often...there's even more to come.



Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following memorial gifts from July 10, 2005 through August 10, 2005:

In memory of Charlotte Leverenz Blee by her Family (Continuing Gift for Organ Trust Fund).

In memory of Howard T. Moody by Robert M. Lamison (for H.E.O.).

In memory of Lucille Shelley Moncrief by Bill Moncrief.

In memory of Henry Horry Hair III by Dr. Mart P. Hill.

In memory of Mildred Howard Laird by Bill Moncrief (for H.E.O.).

In memory of Myrtle Harlow Mercer by David and Joyce Batt, Margaret Harper, Lisa K. Davis, Martha Tilden (for Mary Blackburn Preschool Scholarship Fund), Sadie Hubbard, and Mary Elizabeth and Francis Black (for H.E.O.).

In memory of Frank J. Stephenson by Gail and Ron Hock (for H.E.O.), Jean Harris and family, and Woodmont by Encore.

In memory of Stephen J. "Smitty" Schmidt by Gail and Ron Hock (for H.E.O.).

Trinity's has another centenarian

Join with other Trinity members in wishing a very happy one hundredth birthday to Emma Willis!



Emma Willis

Ms. Willis has been a member at Trinity for over 78 years, having joined in February of 1927 at the age of 21.

She remains extremely active in her lifestyle. For her birthday on August 9,

friends held a birthday party by the pool. She was heard to remark at the party that "the next one hundred years might be a little harder."

Please send your birthday wishes to Emma at:

**1609 Centerville Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32308**

Heart to Heart

Dream

By John G. Willis, Jr.
Senior Pastor

Four years ago, Pat and I visited Oxford for the very first time. We spent less than a day there. However, I immediately fell in love with this "city of the dreaming spires."

I remember telling Pat that I would love to come back someday and study at Oxford University. What a thrill that would be:

- to study in the Bodleian Library.
- to have access to some of the great minds of the world.
- to be immersed in an atmosphere of learning.

Never really believing that this would happen. Even now, there is a sense in which it does not seem real. It makes me want to ask that old question, "Why me, Lord?" I mean I know pastors that are much more intellectual than I am. I know pastors that are more spiritually astute than I am. So, why me?

In this case I have to fall back on my Methodist heritage and say it is grace-wonderful, amazing grace (God's unmerited gift).

So here is my point – dream big. When we are a part of God's family, we need to dream big dreams.



What is it that you couldn't accomplish without His help – His grace? If it works for me, it will certainly work for you.

Dream big,

John

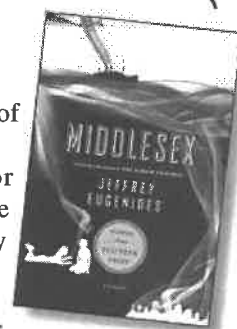
P.S. The only thing better than going is coming back and sharing it with you next Lent. I am so excited I am about to burst!

Evening Book Group

The Trinity Book Group will talk about their current reading on September 29, at 7 p.m. This month's selection will be the novel *Middlesex*, by Jeffrey Eugenides, a Pulitzer Prize Winner in Fiction. The discussion this month will

be held in the home of Ellie Hynes.

The book for November will be *Spiral Staircase* by Karen Armstrong.



Tis the season for music-making

Mark Repasky
Director of Music

Several of Trinity's music groups have already resumed rehearsals following the summer break, and the remaining groups are starting soon. We hope to see YOU in one or more of these. Don't be shy, give us a try!

—ALREADY RUNNING—

Chancel Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the choir room.

Trinity Ringers rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the handbell room.

Circle of Friends Praise Band (adults) rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Moor Hall.

Youth Choir rehearsals are Sundays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the choir room. No rehearsal Sept. 4.

Youth Handbell rehearsals are Sundays, 4:30-5:15 p.m. in the handbell room. No rehearsal Sept. 4.

Broken Sandals Praise Band (youth) rehearsals are Sundays, 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Gregory Room.

Cherub Choir rehearsals (2nd grade through kindergarten) are during Sunday School.

—STARTING SOON—

College/Career Handbells rehearsals are Sundays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., starting Sept. 11.

NETkids Choirs and Handbells (K - 5th grade) begin Wednesday, September 7 between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m.

Liturgical Dance Team is not yet scheduled. We are waiting to see if we have enough older youth interested in participating.



program on Wednesday afternoons? We are always on the lookout for experienced instrumentalists, and hope to expand the amount of instrumental music in our worship services. Let us know if you wish to participate in this manner! If you are an experienced accompanist or have experience in leading choral groups, contact us. The music ministry at Trinity is enriched with every new participant in one of our vocal groups, handbell groups, or praise bands. Come, share in this vital ministry! Questions? Contact me at the church, 222-1120 or mrepasky@tumct.org



—DETAILS—

You must be able to read music to join **Trinity Ringers** and the **College/Career Handbells**. There are some restrictions to joining the two praise bands as well. All the other choral groups are open to everyone of suitable age.

Did you know we provide transportation from a number of the elementary schools for **NETkids**



September meetings for UMW Circles

United Methodist Women will have their first luncheon meeting of the fall and winter seasons on Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 11:45 a.m. in Moor Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend and encouraged to become a member of the group. Reservations for lunch should be made by calling the church office, 222-1120, by Friday, Sept. 2. On weekends and after office hours, reservations may be left on the church's voice mail at the same number.



UMW Circles to meet

Circles of United Methodist Women will have their first meetings following the summer break this month. Women of the church wishing to visit or become members of a circle are invited to telephone the hostess for details, or call UMW Membership Chair Anne Doonan at 877-4931.

Circle 1 will meet at the home of Ruth McDonald, 2133 Miller's Landing Road, on Monday, September 12, at 10:30 a.m.

Circle 2 will meet in the church parlor at 12:45 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 6, immediately following the UMW luncheon meeting.

Circle 3, the Martha Circle, will meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the home of

Beverly Douglas, 3359 Almanac Road.

Circle 4, the Aultie Foster Circle, will meet in the church library at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 13.

Circle 5 will meet on Thursday, Sept. 8. Call Chairman Patti Oakley, 877-4898, for time and place.

Circle 6 will meet from 6 to 7 p.m., Monday, Sept. 12, at the home of Julie Pararo, 2104 W. Randolph Circle.

Circle 8 will meet during lunch at St. Johns Cafe at 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 7.

Circle 9 will meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the home of Liz Smith, 1210 Domingo Drive.

It's that time again! – Lay Academy

– AFTERNOON CLASSES 4:15 P.M. –

Children of the Bible

Leaders: Liz Smith and Linda Yates
Room 305

This is the *UMW Spiritual Growth Study* for the 2005-2006 program year. Bring your own Bible for reference. A study book will be provided.

Gardening at Trinity

Leader: Donna Legare

This is a great opportunity to help beautify Trinity's grounds and at the same time learn some gardening skills from Donna Legare. Bring your gloves and join Donna in service to Trinity.

– EVENING CLASSES 6:30 P.M. –

Beginnings: An Introduction to Christian Faith

Leader: Rev. Wayne Cook
Library

Beginnings is an 11-week small group study that introduces the basics of the Christian faith. The class will run through December 7.

Drama Ministry

Leader: Lisa Prasse
Moor Hall Stage

Whether your talents are in acting, script writing, or design and production, we can use you if you feel called to this ministry.

Men's Group

Leader: Chip Huggins
Room 306

This group focuses on men's issues. They meet weekly to support each other through Bible study, fellowship, and prayer.

The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

Leaders: Debbie Bass and Fain Folsom
Room 303

This *Beth Moore* study is taken primarily from Genesis, chapters 12-50.

For the Beauty of the Earth

Leaders: Donna Legare and Lora Chapman
Room 305

A series of 6 one-hour workshops alternating between current political issues and personal choices in daily living.

September 14: *Coal Plant Issue* with Dr. Ellie Whitney, Big Bend Climate Action Team.

September 21: *Solar Energy, Current and Future Technology for Our Homes* with Al Simpler of Simpler Solar Systems.

September 28: *The Future of Wakulla Springs* with Crystal Wakoa. Crystal wrote the essay 'Free for the Taking' in the book *Between Two Rivers*.

October 5: *Ideas for the Home and Garden* with Donna Legare and Jody Walthall, Native Nurseries.

Trinity's Lay Academy



Fellowship • Knowledge • Music

– WEDNESDAYS –

September 14 - October 19

Dinner 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

\$5 for adults - reservations requested
\$2 for children (fifth grade and younger)

Lay Academy is a series of adult education classes offered in five separate terms from September 2005 to May 2006.

Classes are open to the general public in addition to the Trinity congregation.

Coffee House (Moor Hall)

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

The coffee house is for those who like to continue a dinnertime conversation or get to know new people after class.

October 12: *Important State and National Issues on the Horizon* with Anna Peacock-Preston

October 19: *Cooking for Health and Sustainability* with Jean Crozier, Outreach Coordinator for New Leaf Market.

** You are urged to pre-register for classes since classes are formed, or not, based on interest. Call 222-1120 for more information.*

Fair Trade Store Open in Tallahassee

Kelly Rains, H.E.O. Coordinator

Ten Thousand Villages, a not-for-profit Fair Trade store, is now open in Tallahassee! The store is located in the Market Square



Shopping Center on Timberlane Rd.

Regular store hours will be 10:00 am – 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Phone: 906-9010.

All items for sale are handcrafted from more than 110 artisans in 33 developing nations. Artisans and Village buyers determine fair prices for their work which helps them provide for their families.

Typical items for sale might include quality jewelry, textiles, pottery, baskets, toys, musical instruments and home décor items.



TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES®

The store hires only a manager and part-time assistant manager, using volunteers to help with the remainder of the work at the

store. The store has raised about \$65,000 and still needs about \$50,000 for set up costs. After these initial costs, the store will be able to operate debt free. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Chris (volunteer coordinator) at 386-5074. And if you are interested in giving a tax-deductible contribution, you can mail it to:

Ten Thousand Villages
1507 Payne St.
Tallahassee, FL 32303

For further information, call Emory Hingst at 906-9010.

Here's the lowdown on youth events...

Sheri Koyles,
Youth Director

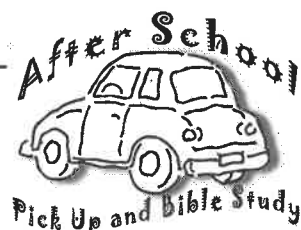
What an incredible summer journey! Thanks to all the parents and volunteers who gave their all throughout the summer.



to Our
Summer
Volunteers!

School Pick-Up and Wednesday Youth Activities Resume

Wednesday, September 7 at
4:30 for Mid-High and 6:30 for Senior
High. For questions about your student's pick-up,
please contact Sheri at 222-1120



Clockwise from top left: These youth are just chillin' before another day of volunteer work; A group of youth volunteers are pictured here with flooded homeowners Jim and Valerie Pound; 44 youth and 6 adults participated in the hurricane relief effort in the Ochlocknee Bay area this summer; Dedicated youth volunteers Deb and Jim McKinnell pack equipment after the Pensacola presentation.

The following is a list of events and participating youth numbers! Our group is continuing to grow, and the excitement is contagious!

Youth Sunday: 35

Youth Week: Average Attendance
Nightly:

Mid-High: 20

Senior High: 25

Vacation Bible School Youth
Volunteers: 40

Camp Leesburg:

Mid-High: 30

Senior High: 22

Mission Trip to Ochlocknee Bay:
44 youth and 6 adults

Choral Worship Presentation in
Pensacola: 39 youth and 8 adults

Mission/Choir trip Slide Show and Potluck

Sunday, August 28

Moor Hall

6-8 p.m.

**Everyone is
welcome! Please
bring a dinner dish to
share**

This is a wonderful opportunity to discover how God used our youth and adult volunteers to minister in his name this summer. Slides of both the Panacea area and Pensacola will be shown during the presentation.



Girl's Fall Retreat

REVOLVE (Girls of Faith
National Tour)

Orlando

September 23-24

Cost: \$65 plus 3
meals

Scholarships are available,
please see Sheri!

Sign-up in the youth
area ASAP!



Important Parent Meeting

Sunday, September 18

5 p.m. in the Youth Area

FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION: www.geocities.com/undergroundministries
Guy's retreat and September/October fellowship events information available now

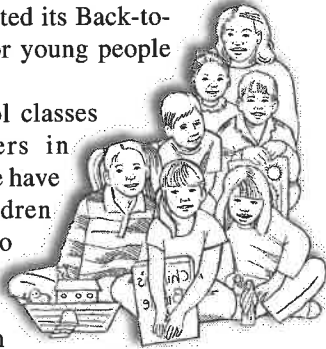
Good old golden rule days

Lora Chapman, Church and Society Ministry

Trinity recently completed its Back-to-School Clothing Drive for young people in need.

Through Sunday school classes and individual members in Trinity's congregation, we have supplied nine local children with brand-new clothes to start the 2005-2006 school year.

Also, a check for an



additional \$210 that was collected through an offering, was issued to ECHO to help with the unmet needs for the other 140 children that they had identified.

Once again Trinity has reached out most enthusiastically to help those in need in our city.

Parsonage has been sold!

At the recent Church Council meeting, it was reported that the parsonage on Live Oak Plantation Road has been sold.

The proceeds of the sale have been used to remove Trinity's debt and also to establish a new trust fund. The fund, pending approval from the Church

Conference, will be known as "The Reverend Harry Mays Middlebrooks, Sr. Memorial Trust."

The fund's principle will remain intact and only the interest will be used for extraordinary maintenance, repairs, and renovations at Trinity.

Quilters stay busy as bees

The volunteer group that will furnish Trinity with prayer quilts had its initial meeting in August. Chair Colleen McConnell is excited to have 11 charter members of the quilting group.

The prayer quilts will be placed in areas where Trinity members can pray for the designated recipient. After praying, the member will tie a knot in the quilt to represent their prayer.

In addition to Colleen, group members

include: Holly Francis, Lois Hale, Rita May, Susan McAlister, Christine Moody, Lark Mott-Smith, HEO Coordinator Kelly Rains, Karen Skilling, Tracie Sutherland, and Tricia Willis.

The first prayer quilt has been designated for McKenzie Conn who has been receiving treatment at Shands Hospital in Gainesville.

Trinity members can help by: 1.) volunteering to help quilt; 2.) donating fabric; or 3.) donating money for supplies. Call Colleen at 445-4673 if you would like to contribute to this great mission.



October Men's Retreats

Don & Sue Heishman, Registrars

The deadline for registration for the men's retreats at Leesburg are rapidly approaching but there are still openings available for all three weekends.

The retreats provide "an opportunity for Christian men to get away from their routines, be in the company of other Christian men and be filled with the Holy Spirit through uplifting music and messages by people who have a

pretty good idea of what we all face on a daily basis," according to retreat literature.

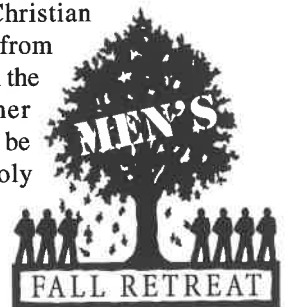
The retreat weekend dates are October 7-9, October 14-16, and October 21-23.

Registration information can be found on-line at www.ummflconf.org and reservations can be made by email, phone or regular mail.

Email: ummflconf@verizon.net or **phone toll-free** 877-815-3692, or **mail registration to:** United Methodist Men

P.O. Box 93370

Lakeland FL 33804-3370



Friday Flicks

Friday Flicks will be presented Friday, September 16 at 7:30 p.m.

As always, a donation of \$.50 is suggested for soft drinks and popcorn. Call the church office at 222-1120 for the film title.

It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart.

Mohandas Gandhi



Trinity United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 1086
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 222-1120
www.tumct.org

John G. Willis, Jr., **Senior Pastor**
Wayne P. Cook, **Executive Pastor**
Rex Adams, **Communications Director**

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