

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

## The Next Step

*Barbara Potter  
Director of Programs*

As we enter the Advent Season this month at Trinity, we are preparing not just for Christmas but also the next step in our present long-range plan for the church. There are exciting plans being made that we hope will have a significant effect on the life of our congregation.

Part of the strategy laid out in our current long-range plan "to build pathways through which God's love is realized" is to "provide members the opportunity to assess and periodically reassess their spiritual gifts." Just such an opportunity will be provided this winter as Trinity undertakes an all church emphasis on the discovery and use of spiritual gifts.

In worship on January 7, we will renew our baptismal vows and celebrate our membership in the Body of Christ. This will be the beginning of a discovery process that will take place in worship, in small groups, and in the general life of the church. Through sermons, small group discussion and study, and personal reflection, each of us will be encouraged and assisted in discovering the call God has placed on our life as member of the Body of Christ.

Reverend Willis will focus on this in his

sermons January 14 through February 11. Small groups are forming which will use a study, "Serving from the Heart," to help people not only assess their spiritual gifts but also examine their talents and resources, individual work style, personal dreams and passions. Planning is also underway for a Ministry Expo on February 11 to allow people to see the possibilities for ministry at Trinity and in the community. Together all of these facets will focus on helping each member find his or her place as a member of the Body of Christ in Trinity's mission of "building pathways through which

God's love is realized."

Small groups will begin during the week of January 7. There will be inserts in the bulletins on December 3 and 10 and a form available on the website or through the church office to sign up to join a small group. Groups will be offered on Sunday morning, Wednesday evening and at other times as needed. Groups that met as Lenten groups in previous years may wish to gather to do this study together. There will be Lenten studies offered through Sunday School and Lay Academy, but not an all

church study. **Serving from the Heart** will be the all church focus this year.

As the new year approaches and the holiday bustle increases, please pause for a moment to give yourself a gift. Join a small group. Make plans to be an integral part of Trinity's all church discovery process, **Serving from the Heart**. There is a place in the Body of Christ that only you can fill, a space in a small group awaiting your arrival, a ministry in need of your spiritual gifts. The plans are in place, the invitation extended — the next step is yours.



## Holiday services

### Sunday, Christmas Eve\*

Time	Location	Minister
11:00 a.m.**	Sanctuary	John Willis
4:00 p.m.	Chapel	Barbara Potter
5:30 p.m.	Sanctuary	John Willis
8:00 p.m.	Sanctuary	John Willis
11:00 p.m.	Sanctuary	Wayne Cook

\* All Christmas services will have candlelight except 11 a.m. service.

\*\* Please note: no Sunday School.

### Monday, December 25

No Services

### Sunday, December 31

Time	Location	Minister
8:30 a.m.	Sanctuary	Wayne Cook
9:45 a.m.	SUN Service	Wayne Cook
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	
11:00 a.m.	Sanctuary	Wayne Cook

# Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following memorial gifts from October 10, 2006 through November 10, 2006:

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

**In memory of Bobbie M. Weatherly** by Barbara Yon.

**In memory of Shelley Boone** by Elmo Roberts, Dalton and Tenilla Allen, Bill Moncrief (for H.E.O.), Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Bell (for H.E.O.), Marc and Lynn Barrera, Dorothea S. Parker (for H.E.O.), Ray Tipton (for Habitat for Humanity), Gail and Ron Hock (for H.E.O.), Richard L. Almarode, Francis J. Black (for Wesley Foundation and H.E.O.), Betty and Burt Hayner, Linda and Charles Wells, Nelda and Rex Toothman, Bill and Marylee Peebles (for Organ Fund), and Bess Lux.

**In memory of Helen H. Hall** by Betty Jo and Bernie Shiell.

**In memory of Fran Veller** by Oberley and Led Brown (for Organ Fund), Fred and Elaine Pettijohn, William L. Moor, Gail and Ron Hock (for H.E.O.), Bess Lux, Lee A. Everhart, Patty Hill Smith, and DeVoe and Shirley McEwan Moore.

**In memory of Don Veller** by Oberley and Led Brown (for Organ Fund).



## Never in 182 Years!

Reverend Willis says that he has a **most unusual** source for his **Advent Sermon Series**. "I can be pretty certain that no minister in Trinity's 182 year history has ever had a source, an origin, of a series like the one I have for Advent."

Advent is the four Sundays before Christmas. This year, December 3 is the first Sunday in Advent. Reverend Willis' series is entitled "The Journey: Nazareth to Bethlehem."

## Heart to Heart

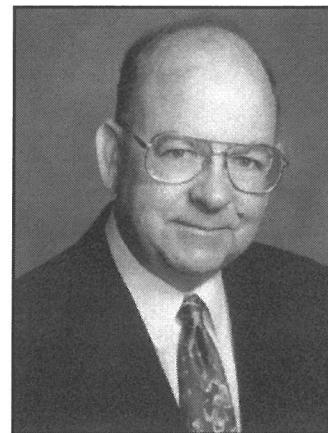
### A Praying Church

By John G. Willis, Jr.  
Senior Pastor

Sometimes I am still intimidated — by what? By standing up in front of the congregation on Sunday morning and letting words come out of my mouth. The reason is I never know the affect it is going to have on people's lives. People take me more seriously here, more than any church I've ever served.

About a month ago, I was telling the congregation about one of our prayer quilts. I strongly urged the congregation to come up after the service and pray for the recipient of the quilt. One of the children turned to her mother and asked if she could go up after the service. She *really* wanted to do it. After the service, as I was leaving the sanctuary, I noticed this child and her little brother very seriously and intently praying at the altar rail.

The last time we had communion at the 11 o'clock service it seemed to take much longer than usual. Because of this, I was afraid the service was going to run longer than normal. Sometimes I don't pick-up on what's happening as fast as I should. Then it hit me why it was taking so long. Many, many people were staying to pray after they had received communion! Wayne and I were standing at the back of the sanctuary at the end of the service. I told him, "I've never seen them take that long to pray



at this church." Wayne's response was "I've never seen that at *any* church!"

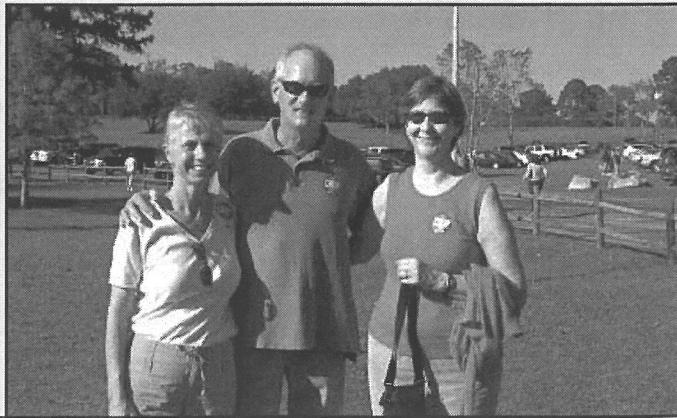
We often think of the recipient of our prayers and how it helps them, but when we pray it also changes us and our relationship with God. Without any hesitation, I say "keep it up!"

I am such a blessed pastor to have a congregation like you.

### Trinity members participate in Crop Walk

A beautiful day greeted those from Trinity who walked for those in need.

The walk was organized for Trinity this year by Phyllis and Ron McCranie, pictured at right, along with Trinity's Minister of Programs, Barbara Potter, on the far right.



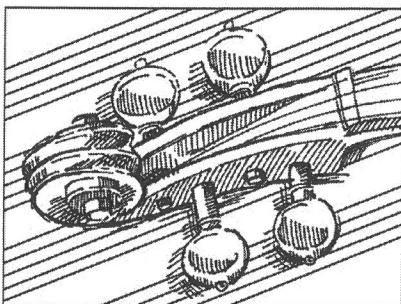
## December 24 Orchestra

Sue Parsons

As Jesus's birthday comes around and we all feel the excitement of the season, I was looking for a way to be more a part of it at Trinity this year. I know many of you feel the same, trying to "find a place" and give to other Trinity members and their guests during the Christmas season.

Before I knew it, the "Play a Song of Christmas" instrumental/chorus series surfaced from the depths of my jumbled music closet, singing a verse of "O Come, All Ye Faithful." I listened to the muffled sounds, dug it out, and boogied over to Mark Repasky's office to present the series that has parts for most

# Church Orchestra



band and orchestral instruments. He was inspired by the "playability" of the series and spoke with Pastor John who suggested we use the music to provide pre-service music for the Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> morning service. The series contains 35 beloved Christmas Carols to choose from.

Now, when I say "playable," I mean easily playable and well orchestrated. You don't need to be the musician who practices like you have an upcoming audition to feed your family; just one who warms it up now and again, can read music, and has a desire to help spread the musical message of

Christmas. Of course, if you do play for a living, the Lord is also calling you! There are parts for all stringed and band instruments. Maybe you don't play, but know a musician that might not have a church family and would enjoy coming to Trinity to celebrate the season. They are also welcome. We hope you will give it prayerful consideration.

Mr. Mark would like to make a roster of interested musicians. I am helping him with this. To reserve your seat and receive your music, please call/e-mail me at 224-7720 or Sueparsons@aol.com, or contact the church at 224-1120 or mrepasky@tumct.org. The *Trinity Christmas Orchestra* will rehearse in the sanctuary 9:30-10:30 a.m. on December 24. We will present 10-15 minutes of Christmas music before the start of the 11:00 a.m. service. We ask that you enjoy your practice, look forward to the sharing, and feel the spirit of Christmas as you do!

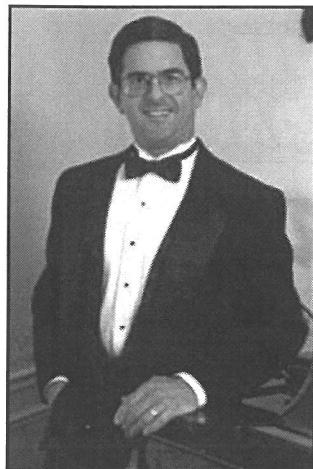


## Music news for December

Mark Repasky  
Director of Music

### Welcome, Marvin Goldstein!

Highly acclaimed pianist Marvin Goldstein will also help lead us in worship on December 24. Our church has enjoyed a special relationship with Marvin over the years and we look forward to his return as he helps us celebrate the coming of the Christ Child.



Marvin Goldstein

### Madrigal Dinners

December 8 at 7:00 pm  
and December 9 at 6:30 pm

Final preparations are underway for two magical nights of celebrating Christmas here at Trinity. Do you have tickets (\$16.00 donation) for our Madrigal Dinners? Final

# Trinity's Madrigal Dinner

day to purchase tickets is Wednesday December 6, from the church office, or at our Wednesday Night dinner. Fourteen singers, brass, recorders, a guitar ensemble from Leon High School, and our delightful juggler will transport us back to the merry olde England of 1600. Moor Hall is transformed into the manor hall of Lord and Lady Hogan as we feast on pork roast with all the fixings! Oh, by the way, our boar's head is real, just stuffed....we have nicknamed him "Herman."

*So...close your eyes....and with all zeal  
Dream that your dreams are coming real.  
Tonight let not reality intrude upon our  
company.  
Trumpets blow thy clarion call!  
And Singers, hie thee to the hall!*

### Christmas Eve singers needed

We are in need of additional singers for the Chancel Choir for the 8 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

This is a short term commitment: Come to practice in the choir room on Wednesday, December 13 and/or December 20 from 7:30 - 9 p.m. and you will learn the music for the three selections. Former members of the



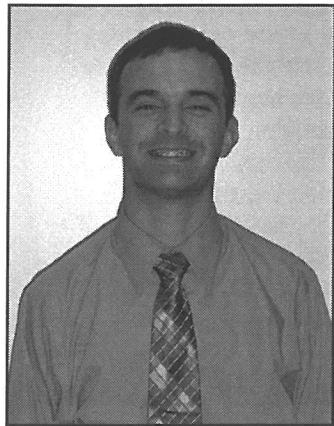
Youth Choir ... here's an opportunity to do a little singing and help your church at the same time!

# Trinity Youth have new leader

Ryan Frack,  
Interim Youth Director

## The Interim Youth Director

Although I was introduced at all three services a couple weeks ago, a lot of you still might have no clue as to who is leading the youth, now that Sheri Koyles, former youth director, has left.



Allow me to introduce myself – my name is Ryan Frack, and I will be serving as the Interim Youth Director until a qualified replacement is found.

I am currently a student at Florida State, and I plan to graduate in the Spring of 2007 with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. I have a passion for working with youth, and have volunteered with Trinity's youth group for 3 years.

I had the opportunity to serve as the youth intern for the 2005-2006 school year, and have also spent five wonderful summers on the summer leadership team of the Warren W. Willis United Methodist Camp in Leesburg! I welcome the chance to work with the youth again at Trinity, and am excited about what great things God is doing with them!

## Continued Parent Support:

It seems especially appropriate, during this time of transition, to thank all of the parents and other involved church members, who have offered continued support.

I would like to invite all parents who

## Wednesday Activities Reminder

- Mid-High School Pick-up at your school ending time
- Mid-High Bible Study: 4:30-5:30pm
- Dinner: 5:30pm
  - \*\*Mid-Highs without a parent or older sibling in 6:30 activities must go home after dinner\*\*
- Senior High Bible Study: 6:30-7:30pm
  - \*\*All Senior High students must be gone by 8pm\*\*

Dec. 6 – last  
Wednesday for  
after-school  
pick-up/  
activities

\*\*Don't forget to check the website for current updates on YOUTH EVENTS\*\*  
FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION: [www.geocities.com/undergroundministries](http://www.geocities.com/undergroundministries)

## Bible study opportunities

Middle School: Wednesdays  
at 4:30 p.m.

UMYF  
every  
Sunday  
from  
6-8 p.m.  
See  
you  
there!



High School: Wednesdays  
at 6:30 p.m.

Sundays at UMYF  
from 6-8 p.m.  
Tuesdays  
(in-depth)  
from  
7-8 p.m.  
Don't  
miss  
out!

## YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

wish to become involved, to come to some of our youth events.

During normal activities, we meet Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. in the Gregory Room (across from the Library parking lot). I can't stress enough the importance of parent and church involvement in the youth group – it is vital to the spiritual development of all of our kids.

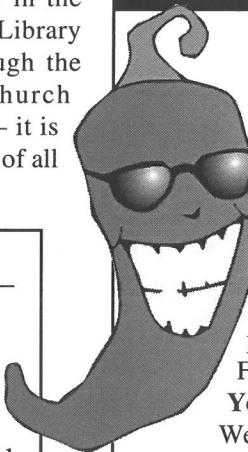
## 2006 Youth Christmas Party



Sunday, December 10 –  
Christmas Party at the  
Griffith residence from 5-9  
p.m. This is the final Sunday  
night youth event for 2006.  
Sunday youth group will  
meet again beginning  
Sunday, January 7, 2007.

## CHILI FUNDRAISER

Saturday, December 2  
from 5:30 - 9 p.m. during  
the Festival of Lights in  
Moor Hall.



Warm your chilly  
bones by coming to Moor  
Hall for some delicious  
homemade chili (veggie  
chili is also available)! All  
proceeds from the Chili  
Fundraiser will benefit the  
Youth Mission Trip for 2007.

We are asking for a \$5 donation  
for adults and a \$3 donation for  
children.

Of course, you can always give more  
if the mood strikes.

# UMW To Hear Trinity Preschoolers

Linda Yates

Trinity's preschoolers will sing songs of the season to United Methodist Women during their luncheon meeting Tuesday, December 5, in Moor Hall. Miriam Peirce will then lead a program on "Finding the Christmas Child in All of Us."

The luncheon begins at 11:45 and is expected to end before 1 p.m. so that career women may return to their jobs. Reservations may be made by calling the church office, 222-1120, by Dec. 4. UMW Executive Board will meet at 10:45 a.m. in the Conference Room.

## UMW Has Pecans for Sale

United Methodist Women are selling shelled pecans for holiday baking and gifts to raise money to support local, national and world missions affecting the lives of women and children. A pound of halves costs \$8.50 and a pound of pieces costs \$8. Chocolate covered pecans are also available.

The pecans are available in the welcome center outside Moor Hall between services on Sunday mornings and during Wednesday evening events.

### Circles to Meet

**Circle 1** will be hosted by Ruby Marshall, Elizabeth Hill, Kathleen Hays and Mable Kilner at Westminster Oaks at 10 a.m., Monday, Dec. 11.

**Circle 2** will meet in the church parlor at 12:45 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 5.

**Circle 3**, the Martha Circle, will be hosted by Anne Doonan, 1840 Winery Way, at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 19.

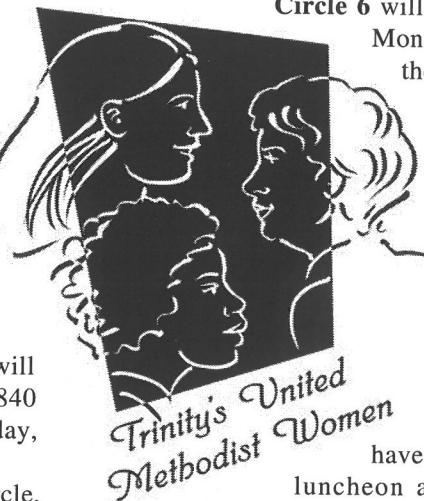
**Circle 4**, the Aultie Foster Circle, will meet at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 12, in the church library.

**Circle 5** will celebrate the Christmas season by going out to dinner on Thursday, Dec. 14. Call Patti Oakley for time and place at 877-4898.

**Circle 6** will meet at 6 p.m., Monday, Dec. 11, at the home of Julie Pararo, 2104 Randolph Circle.

**Circle 8** meets for lunch at noon Wednesday, Dec. 6, at St. John's Cafe.

**Circle 9** will have a covered dish luncheon at the home of Miriam Peirce, 2004 Duneagle Lane, beginning at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 19.



## Christmas in our Library

Margie Mixon  
Library Committee

If you are preparing a Christmas program or event, or if you just need to catch the

Christmas spirit, our library contains more than two dozen helpful books. Among them are these:

**The Christmas Book**, by Caroline Royal, is a beautiful collection of stories, poems and carol especially selected for children.

**The Night the Stars Sang, The Wonder That Is Christmas** by Fleming Revel, is rich with prayers poems, carols, stories, traditions, and even recipes.

**All About Christmas**, by Mamie Krythe, tells the origin and history of our best known Christmas carols and customs.

On a slightly different note, **The Christmas Idea Book**, by Dorothy Biddle and Dorothea Blom, is filled with creative arts and crafts for making Christmas decorations.

For those less artistically inclined, **52 Simple Ways to Make Christmas Special**, by Jan Dargatz, contains many practical suggestions with emphasis on making it a time of renewal and rejoicing.

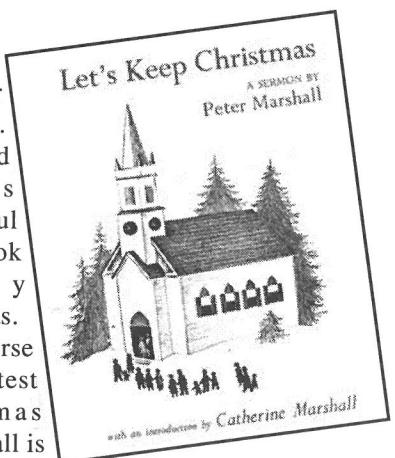
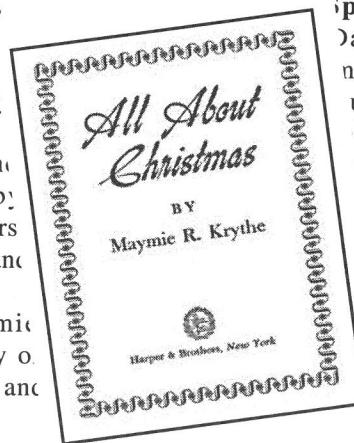
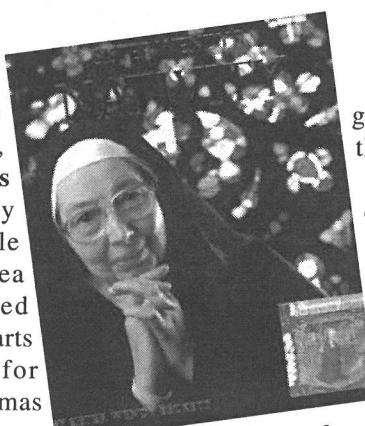
The most intriguing title is **Unplug the Christmas Machine** by Jo Robinson, a

guide to putting love and joy back into the season.

The newest addition to our collection is **Nativity**, by Sister Wendy, well-known for her art television series. This beautifully illustrated book pictures the life of Christ using paintings from manuscripts housed in the Vatican.

I was glad to find one of my favorites, **Let's Keep Christmas**, a sermon by the late, great Peter Marshall. I re-read this wonderful little book every Christmas.

Of course the greatest Christmas story of all is **Luke 2: 4-20**.



# Meet Trinity's "Just Us Gals" Sunday School class!

Jill May

## Who We Are

Just Us Gals is a Sunday School class for women of all ages who want to grow in their faith and have a group of friends to support one another through the joys and trials of life as a Christian woman. Our class meets in the Congregate Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor each Sunday at 9:45. The first 20 minutes we usually enjoy socializing, and the remaining time is spent in a DVD/video based Bible study and discussion. While the subjects we tackle may be serious, be forewarned: Laughter is a regular part of this group!

Our class was originally started as a short-term bible study group for women a few years ago by Diana Flagg and Jill May. It grew out of a desire on the part of each of them for a Sunday School just for women. Both Diana and Jill had taken part in different Sunday School classes at Trinity over the past 10 years trying to find one that fit. After serving in different aspects of the Sun Service also, both women decided it was time to form a class that served their own needs, and invite

other women as well. At first the classes consisted of a small group of regulars, but currently the Gals are about to outgrow the large round table around which they sit!

The Gals also get together for other events and activities during the year. Once a quarter, the group enjoys brunch out at a local restaurant during the Sunday School hour. Some of the Gals have helped out during Vacation Bible School, provided meals for someone in the church going



Members of the Just Us Gals class include, from left, Jill May, Susie Brierton, Morgana Thomas, Diana Flagg, Kelly Rains, Barbara Cherry, Phyllis McCranie, Leslie Elliott, Mason Harris, Kathleen Stinson, Sandy Kappas, Carol Moore, Margie Wright

through a crisis, celebrated a house warming, provided clothes for the back-to-school drive, supported the recent Crop Walk, and currently we are joyfully anticipating someone else's future retirement. We also celebrate each other's birthdays by sharing in a yummy cake prepared by Diana Flagg. Our tradition has become if you don't show up to Sunday School to celebrate your birthday, we go ahead and enjoy the cake anyway! This Advent, the Gals will be responsible for decorating the Chrismon trees in the sanctuary, and putting

together shoeboxes for Trinity's Operation Christmas Child participation.

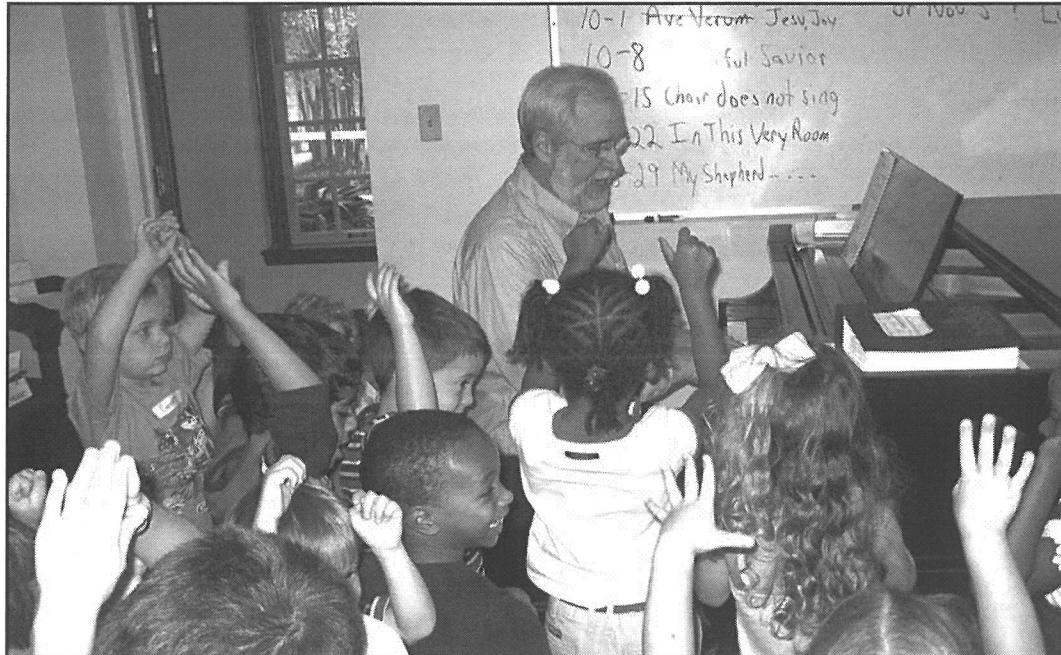
To further celebrate friendship and the birth of our Lord, the Gals are planning an evening outing on December 7<sup>th</sup> at a local restaurant for food, fun and an ornament gift exchange. If you would like to learn more or join us as we begin our Advent study in December, please visit this lively group of women in the Congregate Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor any Sunday.

## Preschool children love their time with Mr. Mark

At right, Trinity's Preschoolers enjoy another music class with Director of Music, Mark Repasky. The children meet once per week with "Mr. Mark" and perform publicly several times throughout the year!

Their next performance will be December 5 at the UMW Christmas meeting at 11:45 a.m.

They will also be singing for their parents in Moor Hall on December 15th at 11:45 a.m. Hope to see you there.



# Urs Schweizer shares vision of Europe

If you missed the Sunday when Urs Schweizer spoke, you missed an eye-opening, heartfelt, and moving message.

Urs, who came to Trinity all the way from Zurich, Switzerland, is the assistant to the Bishop for Central and Southern Europe. The Balkans is a part of their region and Macedonia is a part of the Balkans.

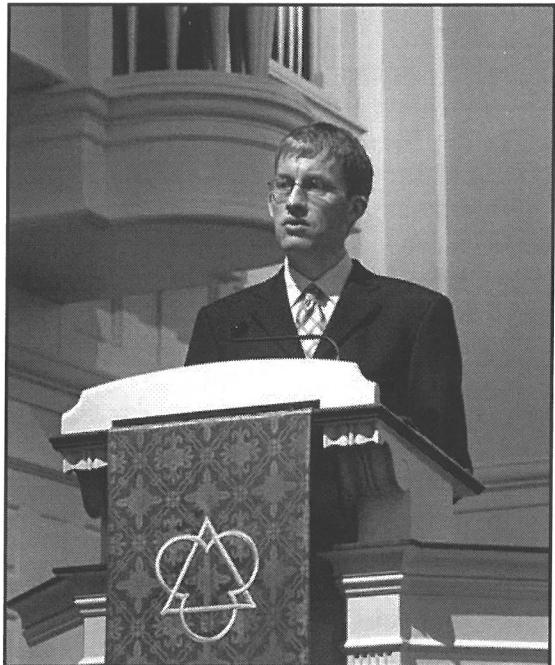
This area, he said, is so depressed spiritually

and financially that a missionary was told he would never be considered a true Macedonian, even though he spoke the language. A true Macedonian who had the means, he was told, would be living in the United States, not in Macedonia. People there, Urs said, must soon choose between heating and eating.

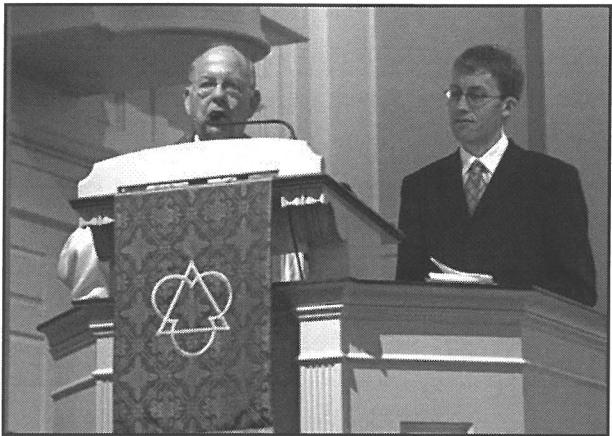
On a positive note however, he said that "God is doing great things. People are responding to God's call."

He commended the congregation at Trinity for the many outreach activities and asked for prayer and help for those in need in the Balkans.

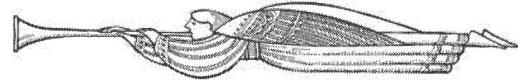
Those who attended the service at which Urs delivered his inspiring message are undoubtedly richer spiritually.



Urs brought a message of compassion and giving.



Reverend Willis presents Trinity's "Heart for the City" pin to Urs as a remembrance of his visit to Trinity.



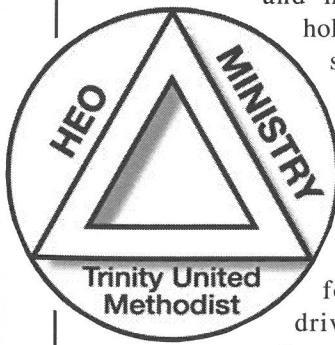
## How you can help others at Christmas time

*Kelly Rains,  
HEO coordinator*

Christmas is a time of year where most of us think of others and want to help. Many of us have been so blessed, it is only natural for us to want to give back and help make the holidays better for someone else.

Some folks have yearly traditions where they reach out to others through food and toy drives, Christmas caroling at hospitals and nursing homes, or sending in financial donations to various organizations who try to make Christmas a bit brighter for those in need.

However, there are other folks who don't know who or how they can help. So, here are a few suggestions for those of you who are looking for a way to help others this Christmas:



**1. Helping the Homeless:** Sign up to help with our annual Community Christmas Day Dinner here at the church at 12:00pm. This is Trinity's 19<sup>th</sup> year of providing a free meal and we expect to serve 400 people. Call **Blue Whitaker** at **878-6064** to find out how to help.

**2. Helping the Homebound:** Each year HEO delivers a Christmas plant to all our members who are homebound or in nursing homes. If you would like to help purchase or deliver these plants please call **Kelly Rains** at **222-1120** by Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**3. Helping Children:** Our children's Sunday school classes are collecting new unwrapped toys for families of **Refuge House** (a safe house for battered women and their children). Please bring all donations to **Room 205** by **9:45am on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>**.

**4. Helping Others:** Sometimes our own neighbors, family, and friends are

in need of a little attention, especially during the holidays. Perhaps you know of someone who would appreciate a visit, a plate of Christmas cookies, a small thoughtful gift, or an invitation to one of our many church services during the Christmas season.

As you can see, the options are endless but don't let that overwhelm you. By taking a moment and deciding ahead of time how you want to help others, it will only

bless you as well as them. May you and yours have a very blessed holiday season.



## More new members join in November

Trinity welcomed seven new members on Nov. 19. They are of many ages and come from many different places. Please take the time to meet and greet them.

**Ernestine Blevins** - Ernestine is the mother of Brent Chumbler and joins Trinity from another denomination.

**John Cook** - John is the son of Reverend Wayne and Janet Cook. He is a ninth grader at Leon High School, and is joining Trinity by certificate of transfer from Grace United Methodist Church in Cape Coral, Florida. He is active in Trinity United Methodist Youth group and plays the bass guitar for the Christian rock group *Faithful Sheep*.

**Pat Englehardt** - Pat is a mental health counselor. She is new to the area and transferred her membership from East Lake UMC in Tarpon Springs, Florida. She is a veteran of the USAF and

participated in Operation Desert Storm. **Jerrie Lindsey** - Jerrie is the Director of the Office of Recreation Services at the Florida Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Jerrie joined by reaffirmation of Faith.



Joining on November 19 were from left, Pamela Marsh, Ernestine Blevins, Pat Englehardt, and Jerrie Lindsey. Not pictured is John Cook.

**Pamela Marsh** - Pam is employed by the law firm Akerman Senterfitt. She is the mother of 1-year-old Spencer and is transferring her membership from Hyde Park UMC in Tampa, Florida. Her parents, George and Ann Cothran, are members of Trinity.



## “Change” goes to “Meals on Wheels” for December

*Ron Hock  
Church and Society Ministry Co-Chair*

The “change” collected in the month of December will be designated for “Meals on Wheels.” The volunteers of this organization deliver hot or cold meals to frail, homebound seniors. These meals provide two-thirds of the daily nutritional requirements for about 300 people

addition to those who volunteer on Martin Luther King Day.

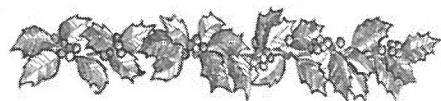
Depositing that loose jingling pocket change in the designated receptacles is

## Fifth Sunday goes to The Children’s Home

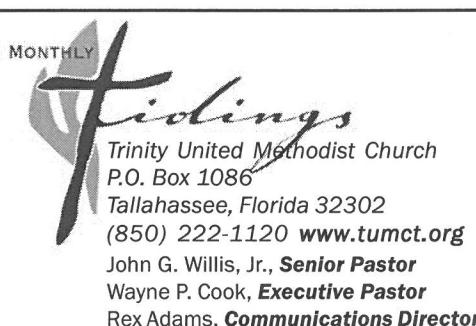
When you provide financially for the Children’s Home, the interests and well-being of deserving children, youth and families are addressed in vital Christian ministry. Through this Home, the influences of God’s tender mercies and noble human compassion powerfully combine and intervene to lasting benefit, preserving and transforming life.

The Children’s Home has many attractive giving plans. Don’t forget about the Alternate Giving option this Christmas.

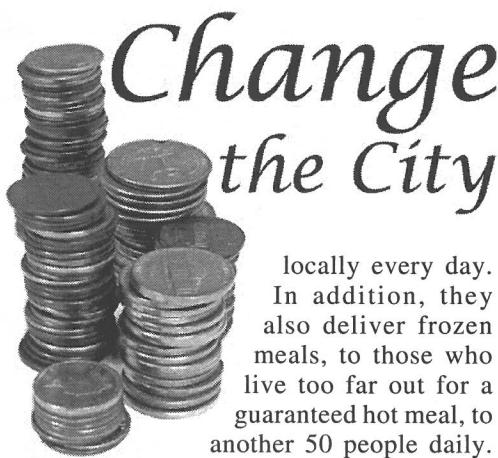
For more information, please call (386) 668-4774 or visit their website at [www.fumch.org](http://www.fumch.org).



most certainly an easy way to become part of our **Heart for the City** mission and perhaps may also **Help Heal** many **Hurting Hearts**.



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locally every day. In addition, they also deliver frozen meals, to those who live too far out for a guaranteed hot meal, to another 50 people daily.

Several Trinity members volunteer on a regular basis in

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