

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

## Reverend Alfredo Caballero brings message of love from Cuba

### San Pablo loves us

It was a message of love that Reverend Alfredo Caballero brought from San Pablo



One of the photos Reverend Caballero brought to Tallahassee was this one showing San Pablo celebrating their 102<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary. Note how the sanctuary has been converted into a dining hall. The other photos show a young, active, and growing church.

Methodist Church in Fomento, Cuba. Preaching from the pulpit at Trinity on Sunday, April 23, Reverend Caballero spoke of his church in Fomento, and how much the people there love and appreciate the people of Trinity.

### Doubt and faith

In his message, he talked about the disciples in the Gospel of Luke, and the doubts that they had when first they met the risen Christ. Initially, they were unsure it was Jesus, but then they felt the fire in their hearts. Reverend Caballero spoke of the relationship of doubt to faith. He said that doubt is simply the

feeling one gets before gaining faith.

His final points were centered around his belief that Jesus is a patient teacher and wants his people to learn the lessons he teaches.

### Meets with staff

Reverend Caballero's first day was spent at Trinity with Reverend Willis and Trinity staff. In his meeting with the church staff, Reverend Caballero said the people of San Pablo are poor and they don't have many things, but they will always have love for the people of Trinity. His church prays for Trinity, they fast for Trinity, and they love the people of Trinity.

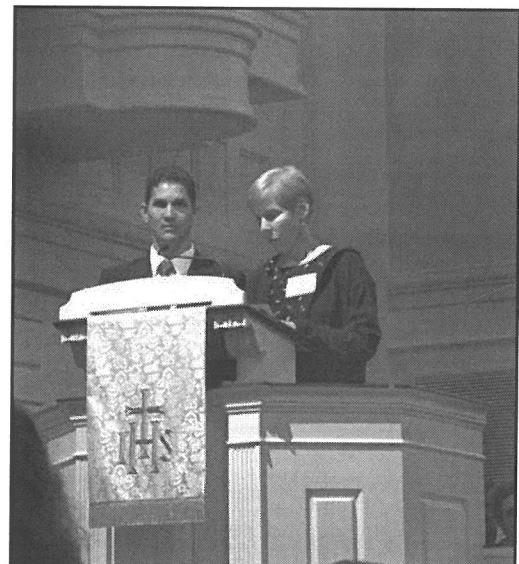
### A blessing

It was great at last to have someone from Fomento visit Trinity. But, what made it a true blessing was that the person who came was so gracious and full of God's love. Thank you, Reverend Caballero, for sharing your faith with us.



As part of his Tallahassee itinerary, Reverend Caballero visited the weekly Trinity staff meeting. He is shown here, fourth from the left, with Reverend Willis and the staff.

Volume 33, Number 5, May, 2006



Reverend Caballero was assisted by an interpreter.

### Directory reminder

Don't forget to register for the 2006 version of the Trinity Directory.

There are three ways to register. Come to church on Wednesday night or Sunday morning, or by going online to Trinity's website at [www.tumct.org](http://www.tumct.org). More information can be found on page seven in this issue.

### Carillon Correction

The April issue of **Tidings** referred to the Trustees purchasing the new Carillon. It is true that the Trustees purchased the Carillon, but they were using money that was anonymously, and generously, given for that purpose. So, thank you anonymous donor, you know who you are.

# Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following memorial gifts from March 10, 2006 through April 10, 2006:

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

**In Memory of Jean Slaphey** by Carol and Ed Moore.

**In Memory of Mary Bay Duncan Moore** by Carol and Ed Moore.

**In Memory of Jack Green** by Carol and Ed Moore.

**In Memory of Ford Thompson** by Dot Parker (for H.E.O.), The DeVoe Moore Family, Doug and Mae Shivers, Mr. and Mrs. Bill H. Bell (for H.E.O.), and Mrs. Alice S. Ragsdale.

**In Memory of Fran Trafton** by Cynthia and Bill Smith, Ron and Gail Hock (for H.E.O.).

**In Memory of Winifred R. Culbreath** by Cynthia and Bill Smith.



## New Comptroller

After a thorough search for just the right person to take over the financial operations at Trinity, the right person has been found. Right here at Trinity, in fact. She was the assistant to the Comptroller and her name is Christi McClure. She has previous experience in church book keeping, public relations, copy writing, and editing. Make sure to welcome Christi when you see her.



Christi McClure

## Heart to Heart

### What to believe

By John G. Willis, Jr.  
Senior Pastor

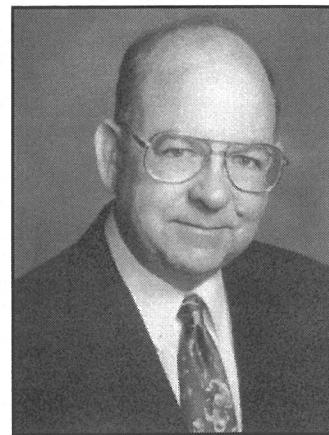
During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the lake. "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" **Matthew 14:25, 28-31**

There seems to have been a lot of attention given to Jesus in the secular media lately. For example, a Florida State Professor of Paleolimnology, the study of physical properties of freshwater lakes in prehistoric times, theorized that Jesus did not actually walk on water. Nope, rather it was an illusion created by the fact that he was standing on a chunk of ice floating in the water (or on a surfboard?) Who knows?

To concentrate on how he did it is to miss the point. Jesus never performed a miracle that didn't point to something else. He didn't do it just for show, but rather to make a point.

So what was the point? First, as we have often said, "If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat." You can't take a risk while remaining comfortable and safe. Notice, nobody else got out of the boat! Only Peter had enough faith! Second, when Peter took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink. He looked at his surrounding conditions and was filled with fear. He quit focusing on Jesus and trusting him, so he began to go down. The third point is Peter then looked back to Jesus for help and Jesus saved him. Jesus will help you, even if you have left him, if you turn back to him for help. The story is not meant to be a lesson of physics, geography, or thermo-dynamics!

"The Gospel of Judas" discovered in Egypt is being hailed by some as a major breakthrough in the story of Jesus and Judas. This book is one of the many, many Gnostic stories that circulated in



the early church. Gnostics believed Jesus wasn't really human, only spirit. He didn't really suffer on the cross. They also believed that Jesus had some "secret knowledge" that he gave only to them.

These claims have been rejected by the church for centuries as not all true. Ask yourself, "Does this Gnostic image fit with what you know of Jesus?" I doubt it.

Then, finally there is *The DaVinci Code*. This best-selling book, soon to be released as a movie, claimed Jesus was married, had children, and moved to France - or was it Hawaii? The author plainly states at the beginning of the book that this is *fiction*. However, some will think, "Well, if it is in a book or a movie, then it must be true." What the author does is take a couple of facts and extrapolate them in a well-crafted intriguing tale.

Believers and non-believers alike will admit that Jesus Christ is the central figure of all history. People always have and will continue to contradict and correct, distort and diminish. We see him as our Lord and Redeemer, Savior and example. What it all boils down to is this: when crunch time arrives - who is Jesus to you? Everything else is just fluff and speculation.

John

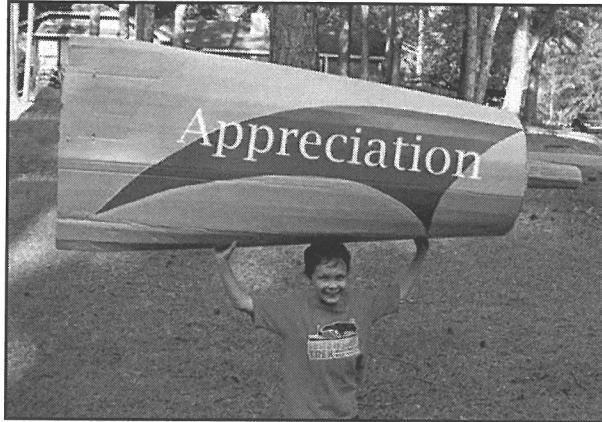
# NETkids Musical: A Memorable Event

Mark Repasky  
Director of Music

## Children's Musical a hit

April 30 was a big day for many of the children of our church. It was a big day actually, for the whole church! Having so many children leading worship on a Sunday morning at Trinity United Methodist Church sends several very important and positive messages.

Yes, we have a lot of young families with young children here....very impressive for a downtown church. Yes, children at Trinity are an important part of our ministry. They are important enough to take over half of our three worship services on April 30! To all the members of our NETkids choirs and the numerous adults who helped prepare and present "*A Family Recipe*" we give thanks! Perhaps the most important members of our "team" are the parents of these children. They recognized the value of having children "grow up" in the church and made special arrangements so their child/children could be a part of our Wednesday afternoon NETkids ministry.



Aydan Koyles shows off one of the dazzling props created for the Children's Musical by Brett Ingram. Brett always seems to be able to come up with great ideas and great props.

## Chancel Choir - Come Join Us!

It has been a busy season (September through April) for the choir. Our major concerts are now over and we are back to the normal pattern of preparing anthems and responses and leading

hymn singing for our Sunday worship services. The summer months are fast approaching, at which time choir attendance drops. Now is a great time to join the choir! Our schedule is lighter, and gaining a few participants will help us through the lean summer. Even if you cannot stay in the choir long-term, a month or a few months with the group would be a great way to get involved in the music ministry of the church. Joining is easy; simply come to one of our rehearsals and we'll do the rest! If you feel a special calling to serve the church, come join us.

## Great Recording

The concert presented by our Chancel Choir on April 2 "Royal Music of England" was a memorable experience for performer and audience alike. We are pleased to announce that a high-quality recording was made and is available by contacting the church office. The fee is \$4.00 for a CD or cassette tape.



# It's a Fiesta! Vacation Bible School (VBS) for 2006

This year Trinity is bursting with excitement as we prepare for **Fiesta: Where Kids Are Fired Up About God!** At Fiesta, kids will jump into Bible learning as they visit various Fiesta Stations each day. These will include:

- Sing and Play Ole
- Grande Games
- Chadder's Desert Drive-in Theater
- Cactus Crafts and Missions
- Hot Bible Adventures
- Maraca Munchies
- Fiesta Finale



In addition they will have an opportunity to help out children around the world through **Operation Kid-to-Kid**.

You won't want to miss a minute of the fun, so sign up today, invite some friends and get ready for an awesome Bible-

learning adventure!

## Essential FIESTA Information:

### Dates: June 12-16, 2006

Time: 8:45-12:00 noon

Early Bird (by May 1): \$15/child, \$30/family

After May 1: \$25/child, \$50/family

### Elementary Afternoon Program:

An afternoon program (until 5:30 pm) will be offered for elementary grade children who need full day care. There are only a limited number of spaces and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. The cost will be an additional \$50/child. Children will need to bring their own lunch.



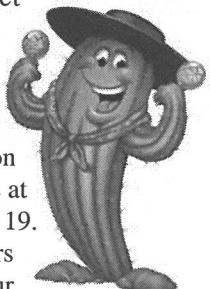
### Preschool Afternoon Program:

Preschool children needing full day

care must be enrolled through our weekday preschool summer program. Space is very limited. To sign up, contact Stacey Duggar, our Preschool Director, at 224-8992.

### For Parents:

There is lots to be done to prepare for Fiesta. Be sure to check the areas where you can help on the back of the registration form. To get ready for our celebration, parents and other interested adults are invited to Room 308 (Craft Rm) at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays at 9:45 a.m. starting on April 19.



**Youth:** Youth volunteers are an important part of our Fiesta. Rising 6th-12th grader youth may register to help. There is no charge for them to participate. All volunteers must attend a training session prior to VBS.

# UMW to Hold Last Luncheon Program Before Summer Recess

Linda Yates

Tuesday, May 2, United Methodist Women will hold its final luncheon program before the summer recess, beginning at 11:45 a.m. in Moor Hall.

The meeting will begin with lunch, followed by a program and inspirational message. The program usually ends before 1 p.m., giving working women time to return to their offices.

Reservations for the meal should be made by calling the church office at 222-1120 by Friday, April 28. Cost is \$5.00.

Circle chairs and UMW officers will meet at 10:45 a.m. in the conference

room also on May 2.

## UMW Circles to Meet

**Circle 1** will meet Monday, May 8, at 10 a.m., at the home of Byrd Tribble, 2509 Cline Street. Co-hostesses will be Janie Whitehead and Claudia Burton.

**Circle 2** will meet immediately after the UMW unit luncheon in the church parlor on Tuesday, May 2.

**Circle 3**, the Martha Circle, will meet Tuesday, May 16, at 10 a.m. at the

home of Anne Doonan, 1840 Winery Way.

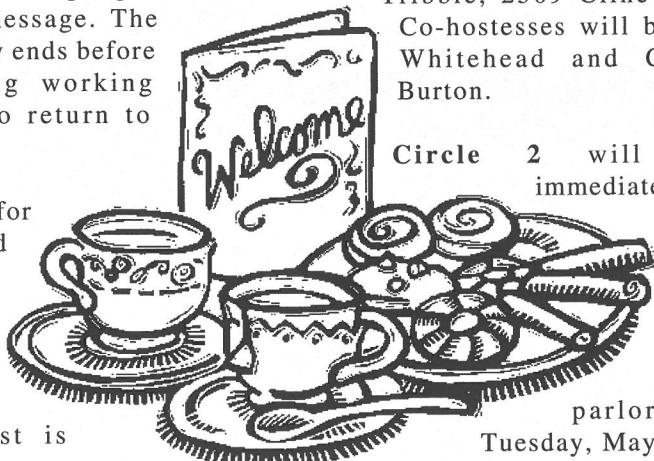
**Circle 4**, the Aultie Foster Circle, plans to meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 9, in the church library.

**Circle 5** plans to meet Thursday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m. The circle will eat dinner out at a place to be revealed by Chairman Patti Oakley, 877-4898.

**Circle 6** will meet between 6 and 7 p.m., Monday, May 8, at the home of Julie Pararo, 2104 Randolph Circle.

**Circle 8** will meet for lunch at 12 noon, Wednesday, May 3, at St. John's Cafe.

**Circle 9** will meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 16, at the home of Kitty Ball, 702 North Ride.

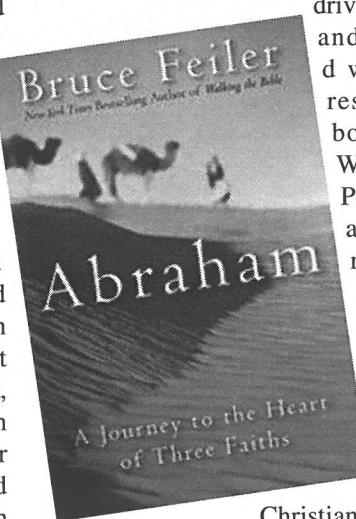


## Trinity Library offers three fine new books

Margie Mixon

Have you ever wondered what the lands mentioned in the Bible actually look like? Bruce Feiler did. Feiler believed that if he could visit those places, the Bible would become more meaningful to him. This belief led him on a quest that resulted in a trilogy of books that should appeal to any reader curious about Biblical lands and people.

Carrying his Bible and accompanied by an eminent archaeologist, this Jewish writer journeyed through lands mentioned in the first



five books of the Old Testament, from Ur, home of Abraham, to Moab, burial site of Moses. The result was

the book **Walking the Bible**. His vivid descriptions of places and interviews with such diverse inhabitants as royalty, camel

drivers, scholars, and cave dwellers resulted in a book the Washington Post called "... a pure joy to read."

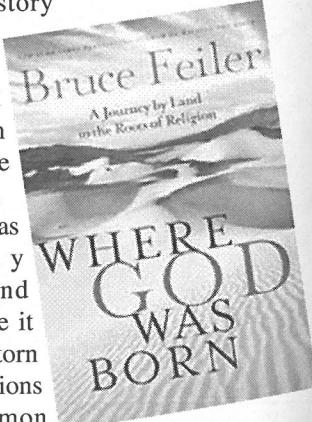
After the 9-11 attacks, Feiler wondered if the three religions -

Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, could agree on anything. This led to another journey to the mid-East and to the book **Abraham**. He concentrates on the life of Abraham, patriarch to all three religions, collecting ancient tales and modern interpretations by all three faiths.

The Boston Globe calls this book "... 100 percent engaging."

The third book, **Where God was Born**, explores the history and geography of the last five books of the Old Testament, from Joshua to the Exile and the Diaspora.

This journey was especially dangerous and poignant because it led through war-torn areas where religions that share common roots are fighting each other. Feiler's plea is for different faiths to strive for a mutual understanding of God and his message.



Always clear, readable, and informative, Feiler's books are a fascinating combination of history, travel, and spiritual awakening.

# May Youth news!

Sheri Koyles,  
Youth Director

## Confirmation

Congratulations to all students in the confirmation class. Your journey of faith has been incredible! We will celebrate with you at the confirmation

ceremony  
on  
Sunday,  
May 7, at  
the 11  
a.m.

worship service. The rehearsal/banquet for all students, mentors, and family is on **Saturday, May 6, at 6:30 p.m.** If you have forgotten to make reservations, please contact the church office today at 222-1120!



## Graduate Recognition

**Sunday, May 14**

Final information needed by:  
**Monday, May 8**



Last year's graduates included, from left, Linzee Long, Jenna Dugger, Elizabeth Stinson, Leila Denmark, and Jennifer High.

Call 222-1120 with the following:

- Student's full name
- parent/s' full names
- high school
- phone number

**Brunch:** 10 a.m.

**Ceremony:** 11 a.m. worship service

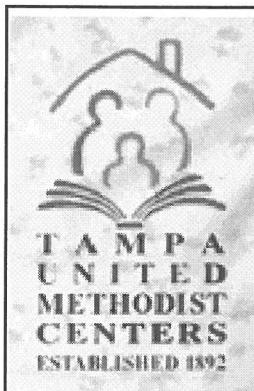
\*\*Wear your Cap and Gown\*\*

## Mid-High Missions

May 31-June 3  
Tampa United  
Methodist  
Centers

— Please sign-up  
in the youth area

**Mandatory  
Meeting:**  
**Sunday, May 21** after the 11 a.m.  
worship service in the Gregory Room

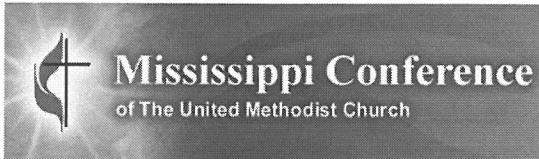


## Senior High Missions

**July 9-July 17**

**Mississippi United Methodist Conference - Hurricane Relief** where needed.

\*\*Please  
sign-up  
in the  
youth  
area\*\*



**Mandatory Meeting: Sunday, June 25**  
after the 11 a.m. worship service  
(This meeting will answer last minute  
questions and offer important  
documents)

## Attention rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders:

**Sunday, June 4**  
**12 noon** in the  
youth area.  
**BBQ just for you ...**  
and your families.  
Current Middle  
Schoolers will be here to greet you!  
Come and learn all about UMYF at  
Trinity!!

## May/June Youth Events

**Saturday, May 6** - Confirmation Banquet  
**Sunday, May 7** - 11 a.m. worship:

Confirmation Ceremony

**Sunday, May 21** - Graduate Recognition

Sunday

**May 28-June 3** - Mid-High Missions Trip  
(Love-at-Work) Rising 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

**June 12-16** - Vacation Bible School

**June 26-July 1** - Camp Leesburg

Want to be current on youth  
events? Go to [tumct.org](http://tumct.org) or  
[geocities.com/undergroundministries](http://geocities.com/undergroundministries).

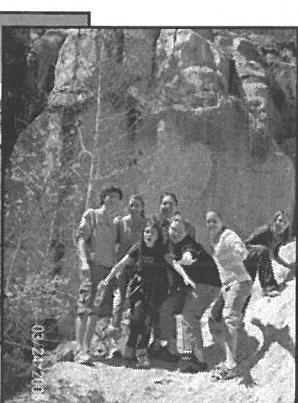
Trinity Youth  
trip to:  
**the little  
GRAND  
Canyon**



Looking a little lost and confused are, from left, Jimmy McKinnell, Corey May, April Bradley, Melissa Gilleland, Sarah Gilleland, Lyndsey Cook, Tori Bradley, and Youth Director Sheri Koyles.



While in the area, the group visited a local church.



The Little Grand Canyon turned out to be a pretty cool place.

In the picture at left are, from left, Marie Bradley, Corey May, Jimmy McKinnell, Tori Bradley, April Bradley, Melissa Gilleland, Sarah Gilleland, and Lyndsey Cook.

## Trustees report for May

Leslie Elliott,  
Trustees Secretary

Besides a broken water pipe outside the church over spring break, things have been fairly quiet with the trustees. The pipe was repaired while the Preschool was off for spring break and there was little disruption.

When the new trustees recently agreed to serve, several long time members and hard workers "retired" from the board. Their contributions were numerous and their input is missed. They are **Mike Harrell, Bob Lamison,**

**Larry Pendleton and Theo Proctor.** Thank you for your service to the church in this capacity.

The trustees also discussed options for the Middlebrooks Trust. Reverend Willis



*With new paint on the bannisters, new treads, refinished railings, new floor covering, and newly placed art, this stairwell leading to the office is much more attractive and much safer.*

made the point that the Trust has the purpose of being a reserve for major maintenance and other capital projects, and that use of the principal is restricted.

The board approved the use of 50% of the assets from interest to be invested in equities.

A few projects have been completed, concerning signs and railings. There is a definite need for upgrading the current computer hardware /

software that is currently being used and the needs are being assessed.

Please remember to direct any concerns you have regarding the physical buildings of the church to a member of the trustees.

## Trinity Treks for May

On May 22 the group goes to Gulf Specimen Marine Lab in Panacea. The group will depart from the gravel lot at Trinity at 11 for lunch at the Seineyard and then proceed to Panacea.

The Gulf Specimen website describes it like this: "We house a collection of sea water tanks and aquariums. We focus on seahorses and hermit crabs, emerald eyed spiny box fish, electric rays and red and white spotted calico crabs - all the endless living treasure of north Florida's still shining coast." Make sure to reserve your spot for this fun trip!

Call Barbara Potter at 222-1120 for more information.



## Family is strengthened by tangible memories - like photos

Kelly Rains,  
HEO coordinator

As May appears on the calendar and Mother's Day approaches, I can't help but think of family. We all have our favorite memories of family get-togethers, celebrations, reunions, and vacations. There is nothing that means

more to me than having time to spend with my own family. Some of my favorite memories have been captured in photos that I treasure to this day. Whether it is a special occasion or just every day events with my children, pictures help me remember those times that were so precious.

Being part of a family is so important, and that includes our church family as well. Each person is welcomed, each person belongs, and each person is loved. As a member of Trinity you are

part of another family, just 10 times bigger! Wednesday night dinners can feel like a big family reunion dinner, full of people ages one to 99! It is our church family that can be there for you when your family is going through hard times, sad times, or even happy times.

So what is the point? Maybe we should make an extra effort to spend more time with our own families. Maybe we should take a few moments and look through some old photographs and relive those memories. Maybe we should get more involved in church activities so that we can get to know these long-lost relatives.

Or maybe, we should make the extra effort for our family to be included in the new pictorial directory that is going on right now. What a great idea! By coming out and taking a photo of your family, you will also be included in your church family. Family functions are always better when everyone can make it. We want you to be a part of our family here at church. Please take a moment

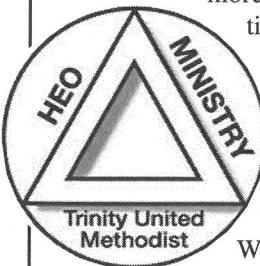
and make your appointment today.

If you are homebound or currently going through medical problems and in need of assistance, please call Kelly Rains at 222-1120 so that you too can be included in our church directory.

## Trinity Directory Info

### Why should I participate?

- Get a free directory
- Convenient - taken at Trinity
- Free 8" x 10" photo
- Professional photographer
- Look at your photos immediately
- Purchase additional photos for many uses



## Attention all graduates

This is your chance to let Trinity members know that you have made it after all! The *Tidings* will publish your picture and a brief description of the High School or University from which you have graduated, as well as any honors or degrees.

Just make sure to submit your information and photo by May 10. The Trinity graduates feature will be in the June/July *Tidings*.

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## Do you take photos at Trinity events?

The *Tidings* is always looking for different views of our church activities. There are times when no staff person is available to attend church events with a camera. Can you help?

Please call Rex Adams at the church office at 222-1120 if you have photos to share from a recent event.

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## Friday Flicks for May

After Southern belle Elizabeth Lloyd runs off to marry Yankee Jack Sherman,

her father, a former Confederate colonel during the Civil War, vows to never speak to her again.

Several years pass and Elizabeth returns to her home town with her husband and young daughter (Lloyd Sherman). The

little girl charms her crusty grandfather and tries to patch things up between him and her mother.

The 1934 movie stars: Shirley Temple, Hattie McDaniel, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson and Lionel Barrymore. The movie runs for 80 minutes.

Don't miss this fine motion picture being shown Friday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Moor Hall.

As always, admission is free. Please bring \$.50 to donate for soft drinks and popcorn.



## Smile - It's time to sign up for the directory



### New company to be used

The last directory of Trinity members came out in 2003. The company that produced our directory at that time was *PCA Church Family Albums*.

This year, the church has decided to use *LifeTouch* for our directory. From what has been seen of *LifeTouch* so far, they are very organized, courteous, and professional.

### Three ways to sign up

There are three ways to sign up for your time in front of the cameras.

- Wednesday nights in the Welcome Center
- Sunday mornings in the Narthex
- Online at [www.tumct.org](http://www.tumct.org)
  - click on the LifeTouch rectangle

### Incentive to be a part

You may be asking yourself: "Why would I want to do that?" Besides the fact that it will tell the story of our church, improve the bond among members, and help the church in several ways, there is

also something in it for you.

You will receive, with no strings attached, a free 8"x10" photo from the pictures that are taken during your session. And, you will also receive, again free, a completed photo directory with your picture and those of your friends.

### What should I wear?

*LifeTouch* suggests traditional attire since it doesn't go out of style. They also recommend wearing dress clothing or formal wear in coordinating solid colors. If you peruse the directories from years ago, this will appear to be great advice.

As an alternative, *LifeTouch* advises that casual, coordinated clothing works well for a family portrait.

In *LifeTouch*'s brochure, they say DO NOT wear "busy patterns and very bright colors [as they] are distracting in a group portrait."

The main thing to remember is have fun doing it. This is a good thing you are doing.

## Trinity children participate on Palm Sunday

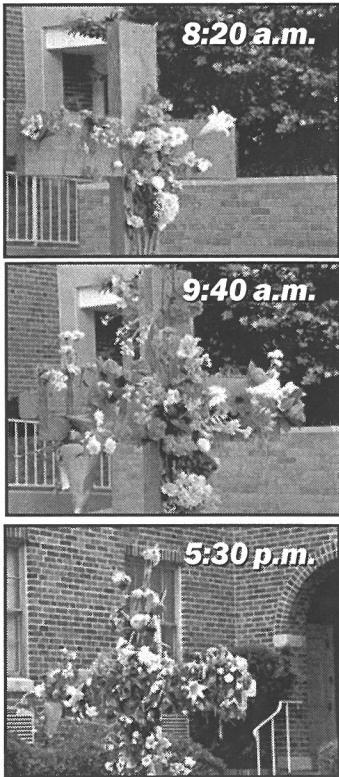


Children carrying palms process toward the Chancel area on Palm Sunday during the 11 o'clock service. A large number of children participated in the procession and also sang the Introit music.

**“ ... a little to the left, uh no, maybe up a bit ... ”**



Drew Steinmeyer watches as his sister, Mary Lynne, perfectly places posies in the flower cross on Easter morn before the 8:30 a.m. service. Placing flowers in this beautiful cross has become a tradition at Trinity.



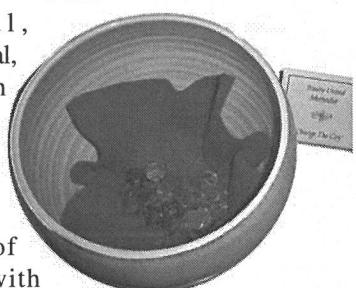
At 8:20 a.m. the cross in the courtyard already had several beautiful, and some very different flowers placed within its enclosures. As the morning progressed more and more flowers were added. By the 11 o'clock service there was hardly a spot available for new flowers.

This has been the tradition here at Trinity for several years now. It is really something to see it grow. And, even more fun to watch as families have their pictures taken in front of it.

## Dick Howser Center gets of May's "Change"

Ron Hock  
Church and Society Ministry Co-Chair

The Dick Howser Center has been selected as the recipient of your "change" for the month of May. The Center is a nonprofit service agency that is dedicated to providing support for children, individuals with disabilities, and families. Located throughout the Big Bend area, the centers offer physical, occupational, and speech and language therapy services to children of all ages with developmental disabilities. Their goal for each child is to realize his or her greatest potential and to gain confidence, skills, and independence that will last a lifetime.



Your support by contributing that small "change" in those designated containers

each week for all these most worthy agencies does add up. In 2005 we collected in excess of \$1,500. Be assured that your generosity is always most welcomed by each of the organizations.

*Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important.*

C. S. Lewis

MONTHLY



**Tidings**  
Trinity United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 1086  
Tallahassee, Florida 32302  
(850) 222-1120 [www.tumct.org](http://www.tumct.org)  
John G. Willis, Jr., **Senior Pastor**  
Wayne P. Cook, **Executive Pastor**  
Rex Adams, **Communications Director**

PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID  
USPS 01 3-030  
TALLAHASSEE FL

\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT LOT\*\*C-053

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Yates  
1111 Wisteria Dr  
Tallahassee, FL 32312-3022



POSTMASTER: PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE MONTHLY TIDINGS