

MONTHLY

Findings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tallahassee, Florida

Volume 33, Number 10, November, 2006

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

Urs Schweizer brings message from Europe October 29

Urs will be preaching at all three services on October 29. He brings a unique perspective on the United Methodist Church and Christianity in Central and Southern Europe. His sermon title will be **Mission impossible?** and the scripture will be **Exodus 3:1 – 4:17**

Reverend Willis first came into contact with Mr. Schweizer while preparing to visit United Methodist churches in Switzerland over three years ago. The two have remained in contact through email since then.

Urs is the assistant to the Bishop of the United Methodist Church for Central and Southern Europe. He has held this position since 1992.

Urs has served in this capacity for two different bishops. The current Bishop, Bishop Streiff, travels extensively which means Urs, who speaks four languages, often has considerable responsibilities for the church in the 14 countries in their jurisdiction.

Urs will be attending a conference the week before he comes to Trinity and his schedule will allow him to be here on the the 29th.

He grew up in a United Methodist family and has been active in the church since his youth. He is married and has 2 children. He lives in Hemmental, Switzerland, a very small village just outside of Zurich. As a youth, he was a leader in UM scouts.

Urs was kind enough to answer a few

questions to allow the congregation to know him a little better.

Q. Were you born and raised in Hemmental?

A. No, I was born and raised in Buesingen, which is a German village surrounded by Swiss territory (i.e. it is a German "island" in Switzerland). My father was a farmer, so I grew up on a farm. I have 3 brothers and 2 sisters.

Later I lived for some years in Zurich, but when I married and we had children, we did not want to live in a big town but rather in a small village.

Q. Where did you work before working with the Bishop?

A. I worked for 8 years with a forwarding agent (a company organizing international transports of all kind of goods). Most of the

time I worked in the airfreight and seafreight department. Sometimes I say: In my "earlier life, I sent containers and boxes around the world, now I do the same with my bishop..."

Q. Do you feel called to the ministry?

A. Not to the ministry of a pastor. There were times in my life when I thought about this way. And one of my pastors even encouraged me to go this way. But God obviously wanted me at another place. However, I would not be able to do my work in the way I do it if I did not feel called by God. In this sense, I feel very much called to this special ministry.

Q. How far is Hemmental from the Alps?

A. About 150 km (93 mi.) as the crow flies.

Q. Are you a mountain climber and do you yodel?

A. No, I do not really climb and I can't yodel. But I know many traditional Swiss songs and aim to pass them on to my children although this is considered to be old-fashioned nowadays.

I have participated in some crazy ultramarathons in the mountains (70 km (43 mi.) running with a few thousand meters of difference in altitude and things like that...). But I would be the wrong person on a typical Swiss postcard.

Q. What are the UM Scouts? What types of activities do they do?

A. The UM Scouts are a youth organization of the United Methodist Church for boys and girls from the age of 8 years. The program includes games in the forest, hiking, singing, playing dramas, doing handcrafts, working with ropes (building bridges for example), cooking in the forest, getting to know medical first aid, and camping with tents. And of course, Bible stories and discussion on actual questions on the background of the Gospel.

Q. In your biographical sketch, you wrote that you are a UM lay speaker. Can you list a few of the places where you have spoken?

A. I spoke in my own church and in many congregations in Switzerland (for example Zurich, Berne, Romanshorn, Spiez, Interlaken) where I was invited to tell people about the development of the United Methodist work in (South-)Eastern Europe. I always try to do this on the background of a message from the Bible. In a similar capacity, I also was in Eastern Germany once and in Maine once, last year.



Urs Schweitzer, at far right, is a member of the Christian music group, JOY.

Don't forget to set clocks back an hour Saturday night for Daylight Savings time!

Gifts to Trinity

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



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

In memory of Tom Peterson by Oberley and Led Brown (for H.E.O.).

In memory of Howard T. Moody by Nick and Ollie Dawirs (for Music Program).

In memory of Gifford Hale by Sarah Anne Black and Joanne Lazar (for H.E.O.).

In memory of Betty Burchett Almarode by Bill and Nell Long, Sue Chandler, Bob and Micki Caldwell, Dr. Gerald and Mason Harris (for H.E.O.), Nick and Ollie Dawirs, and TMH Auxiliary.

In memory of Shelley Boone by Oberley and Led Brown (for Children's Home).

In memory of Russ Abramschmitt by Gail and Ron Hock (for Youth Activities).

Heart to Heart

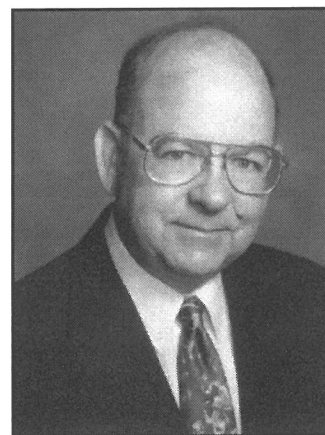
Being aware

By John G. Willis, Jr.
Senior Pastor

It was one of those days when I was overwhelmed with an avalanche of paperwork. I had information that *had* to be taken care of! Suddenly I looked up and there stood Francis Black in my office. He said that he had a question for me. I thought to myself "Golly, I've got stuff that I *have* to get done!" Then I thought, "No, if I don't have time for him, then what do I have time for?" So I asked him to sit down and I spent a few minutes with him. It was a rich conversation that I'm sure I got more out of than this 92 year-old gentleman did.

So after he left, it was back to the perpetual pile of paper that the church couldn't run without.

I keep my door open, so usually I can hear the chatter of people coming and going. I'm sitting there ensconced deep in thought and there seemed to be a multitude of voices drifting into my office, interrupting my thoughts. Then unexpectedly, I hear a voice, a high-pitched voice, that is very different from what I usually hear in the office. Instantly, I know it's a little child. So, I get up and go out to see who it is. She is the two-year-old daughter of one of our members.



I knelt down on the floor, and we just had the best visit ever.

I believe that everyday God has special gifts for us - serendipitous surprises! However, I don't always see them. Sometimes He comes with a bang on the door, sometimes He cracks open the door and slips in silently, and sometimes He comes in through the window! If I am not aware and alert to them, I could miss some of life's greatest joys.

Lay Academy begins new session November 1

It's time for the **Winter Term of Lay Academy!** This session will run from **November 1 through December 6** (no meeting Thanksgiving week).

Topics of general interest and spiritual growth will be presented. At the **4:15 p.m.** time slot, there will be a continuation of the **Study of Islam** and the **Women's Bible Study group**.

During the **6:30 p.m.** period, there will be a continuation of the **Disciple class**, and the **Women's Bible Study class**. There will

also be a new class, **Madrigal Dinners: An Insider's View**. This class delves into the history, ritual, costumes, and music of the Madrigal Dinner in preparation for Trinity's own dinner on December 8 and 9. Another new class will be the **Men's Group Spanish** (beginning conversational).

The nursery is open for childcare and don't forget about NETkids to keep the older kids busy. It's time to take a class!

Classes are open to the general public as

well as Trinity members. Call **222-1120** for more information.

There is always a dinner before classes at 5:30 p.m. Please call for reservations at **222-1120**.

Trinity's
Lay Academy



Madrigals are coming

Mark Repasky
Director of Music

Unique Trinity experience

Celebrate the Christmas season by attending one of our madrigal dinners in Moor Hall! This will be a great event to invite a spouse or the entire family. It is also a great opportunity to bring someone who is not a member of the church! Choose either Friday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. or Saturday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. Our Madrigal dinners have a distinctly religious flavor, as over half of the music contains religious texts.

Period costumes

We will have 15 singers dressed in period costumes, brass fanfares, and recorders.



The 2003 Madrigal choir sings a period piece as diners enjoy a sumptuous meal.

different countries will finish the night's festivities.

Medieval ambiance

Come for the pageantry: Grand processional by the singers dressed in their finest, colorful banners, trumpet fanfares, the flaming pudding, the boar's head procession. Come for the music, both boisterous and quiet. Come to support your friends who are in the cast, most of whom are in the Chancel Choir. Come to see who learns their lesson in the song "Man Is for Woman Made" and why little Pepito is always late!

Best ticket in town

Ticket prices are \$16 and must be purchased in advance. Reserved seating is planned for this event, which means you will be assigned a specific table and seat when you purchase your ticket. Purchasing tickets early provides you with greater choice of seats in Moor Hall. Perhaps you want to reserve an entire table for your Sunday School class or family or friends...

we can do that!

Tickets can be purchased at the church office 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning November 20 through December 6. They will be available at Wednesday dinners, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6. You can also purchase tickets at our booth in the narthex on Sunday, December 3 between services. Profits from

these dinners will go to the Youth Group music ministries at Trinity.

More about madrigal dinners

You can learn more about these

fascinating events by attending our Lay Academy class set for 6:30-7:30 p.m. from Nov. 1 - Dec. 6. These "show and tell" sessions will be led by experts in the field....members of our madrigal group! Sessions leaders will be Warren May (the processional, recession, table sequence and wandering minstrels), Holly Frances (costuming and food), Mark Repasky (what



The court jester, Don Rapp, juggles for diners.

Members of the Youth Group will be our waiters for the scrumptious meal which will include wassail cup, king's salad, pork roast, baked potato, English cut green beans, rolls, carrot cake, coffee, tea and water. You will hear such old favorites as "The Boar's Head Carol," "Bring a Torch Jeannette Isabella," "Masters in this Hall," "Gloucestershire Wassail," "Ding Dong, Merrily on High," "Carol of the Bells," "The Holly and the Ivy," and "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." We are

singing three actual madrigals too! Many will enjoy the wandering minstrels, as small groups of singers stroll through the hall. A 15-minute concert featuring music from



Carole Dalton and Lynn Hogan in medieval garb.



Music Director, Mark Repasky, and Kim Robertson play recorders during the dinner

really goes on behind the performers' tables, brass fanfares, recorders and the concert music) and David LaJeunesse (So, what is a madrigal?...some history and examples). The December 6 session will include a special video. Be sure to sign up for this class; it will be lots of fun!

Massed handbells appearing in Tallahassee!

Early each December, five to seven handbell groups join forces for a special Christmas concert at First Baptist Church. Our **Trinity Ringers** will again participate. The concert is free and begins at **4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 2**. All are invited to attend!

Healing Hurting Hearts CD

The music for this special CD has been recorded. The editing and reproducing process will take a few weeks. Check future **Tidings** for additional information.

Youth Tidings for October

Sheri Koyles,
Youth Director

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Youth Sponsored Service/ Outreach Project

Last year, many of you enjoyed filling shoeboxes with small toys, crayons, socks, candy, books, calculators, etc ...

You knew that a child in another country, such as Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Sri



Lanka, and many others, would receive this box and feel the love of God.

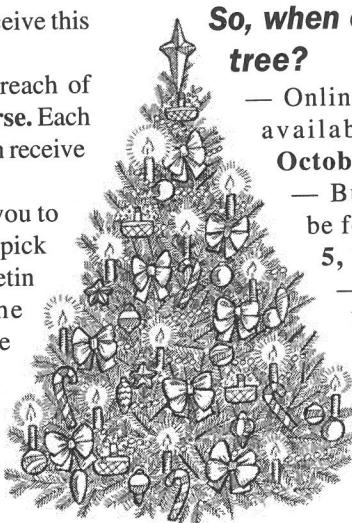
This special program is an outreach of the organization, **Samaritan's Purse**. Each year, more than 7.6 million children receive a shoebox filled with "love."

This project is very simple for you to become involved in. All you do is pick up a brochure (either from the bulletin on **November 5** or at the information desk) and follow the simple instructions inside. You then fill your shoebox or boxes and return them to the church, with the \$7 donation for shipping/distribution costs, in the narthex on or before **Sunday, November 19**.

Thank you for your participation.

Trees Trees Trees

It can't possibly be that time of year again?! Well, believe it or not—it is Christmas tree order time at Trinity. Selling pre-ordered Christmas trees is an annual fundraiser for youth mission experiences. All trees are Grade #1 Fraser Firs and come from Stone Mountain Farms in Vilas, NC. The trees are cut only a few days before you receive them at Trinity. Past customers will tell you that they have not been disappointed in the quality of their trees. **The trees will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, November 29, from 5-9 pm. Please make note of this when ordering your trees!**



So, when can I order my tree?

— Online ordering will be available by **Monday, October 15**.

— Bulletin inserts can be found on **November 5, 12, and 19**.

— Order forms can be picked up in the office or at the information desk starting **Monday, October 15**.

— Final orders are due **Sunday, November 19**.

****Thank you for your continued support****

SKI TRIP TO CATALOOCHEE



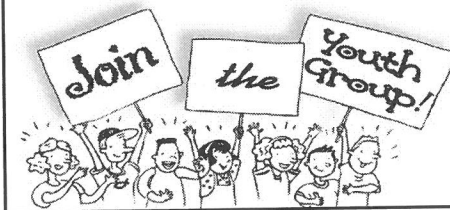
December 27-30

Cost \$225 per person

*Partial scholarships available

Sr. High mission trip (Rising 9th Grade and up)

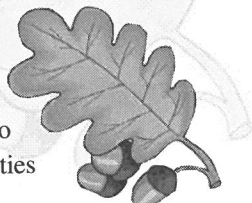
We're going to Mexico. Further details to come in the mail after youth council meets. We will be doing an extra fundraiser at Festival of Lights (selling chili). Each person interested in participating in this trip will be responsible for staffing the booth, and bringing chili. Watch your mailbox for more info.



Mid-High Madness and Saturday Night Life service morning

Saturday, November 18

We will be raking leaves and providing general yard maintenance for church members who are not able to perform these duties by themselves.



Wednesday Activities Reminder

☞ **Mid-High School Pick-up** at your school ending time

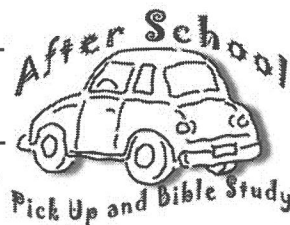
☞ **Mid-High Bible Study:** 4:30-5:30pm

☞ **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****



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

UMW—A Time to Be Thankful

Linda Yates

United Methodist Women will bring their annual Thanks Offering to their luncheon meeting Tuesday, November 7, and hear how their offerings help women and children around the world.

Wynell Sachs, who has served as a short term missionary to Pakistan, will speak on "Thanks Through United Methodist Women." According to Program Coordinator Miriam Peirce, Mrs. Sachs will share instances where the global missions of UMW have made a difference in the lives of women and children.

The luncheon starts at 11:45 a.m. in Moor Hall and should be over before 1 p.m., in time for career women to return to their jobs.

Reservations should be made by calling the church office, 222-1120, by Monday, November 6.

UMW Executive Committee will meet in Moor Hall at 10:45.

UMW Circles Announce Meeting Places

Circle 1 will meet at 10 a.m., Monday, November 13, at the home of Kathie Pope, 3010 Sawgrass Circle.

Circle 2 will meet at 12:45 p.m. after the UMW luncheon meeting Tuesday, November 7, in the church parlor.

Circle 3, the Martha Circle, plans to meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, November 21, at the home of Alice Grow, 3012 Brookmont Drive.

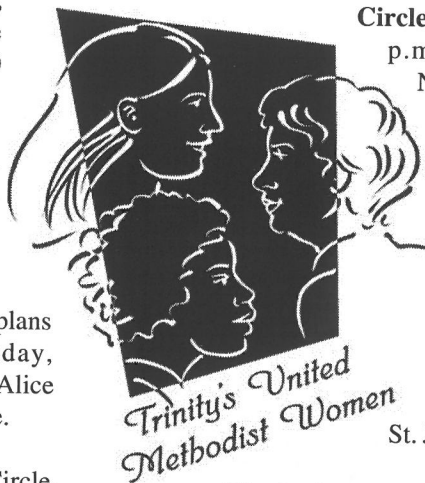
Circle 4, the Aultie Foster Circle, will meet at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 14, in the church library.

Circle 5 will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, November 9, at the home of Esther Harrison, 2107 Rankin Avenue.

Circle 6 will meet at 6 p.m., Monday, November 13, at the home of Julie Pararo, 2104 Randolph Circle.

Circle 8 will meet for lunch at noon, Wednesday, November 6, at St. John's Cafe.

Circle 9 plans to meet Tuesday, November 21, at 10 a.m., at the home of Linda Yates, 1111 Wisteria Dr.



New books featured in the Library

Listed below are a few of the new books to be found in the Trinity Library. The Library is open Sunday mornings. Stop in to see what's new.

Thy Kingdom Come: How the Religious Right Distorts the Faith and Threatens America: An Evangelical's Lament by Randall Balmer

The Victory of Reason: How Christianity

Led to Freedom, Capitalism, and Western Success by Rodney Stark
Dinner with a Perfect Stranger: An Invitation Worth Considering

by David Gregory

An Introduction to Christianity by Linda Woodhead

An Introduction to World Methodism by Kenneth Cracknell



Gospel Medicine by Barbara Brown Taylor

Mixed Blessings by Barbara Brown Taylor

Home by Another Way by Barbara Brown Taylor

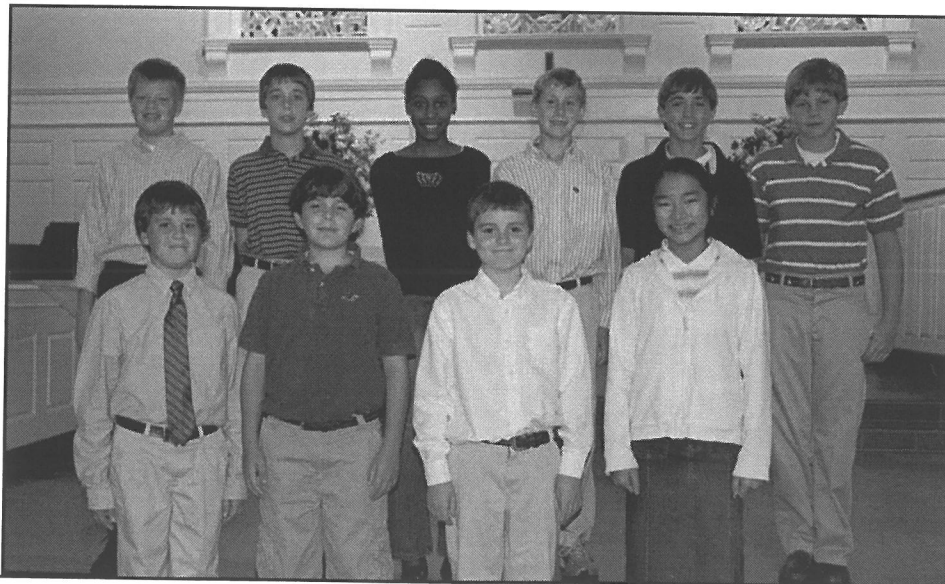
Being Dead is No Excuse: The Official Southern Ladies Guide to Hosting the Perfect Funeral by Charlotte Hays

6th Grade confirmation class receives Bibles

A fine group of Trinity sixth-graders received their Bibles on Sunday, October 8. They will use these Bibles for their classes as they work toward confirmation. The Bibles were donated by you, the congregation at Trinity.

The sixth-graders will be taught by Marshall and Lark Mott-Smith. The Mott-Smiths have been volunteering and leading the confirmation classes for several years.

Pictured in the photo at right are: front row from left, Dillon Wollschlager, Hank Coleman, Avery Smith, and Connie Jo Carbonell-Bierbaum. Back row, from left, Eric Epting, Will McDuffie, Zandria Acosta, Daniel Watson, Will Henderson, and Edgar Moore III.



Stewardship: Thank you Trinity, for Healing Hurting Hearts

Eric King
Stewardship Committee
Communications

This is a wonderful time to be members of such an extraordinary church. We have so much for which to be thankful. Each year, it is you who recommits us to Trinity's "heart for the city." It is because of your love and generosity that we are able to continue our service to Trinity, Tallahassee, and The Lord.

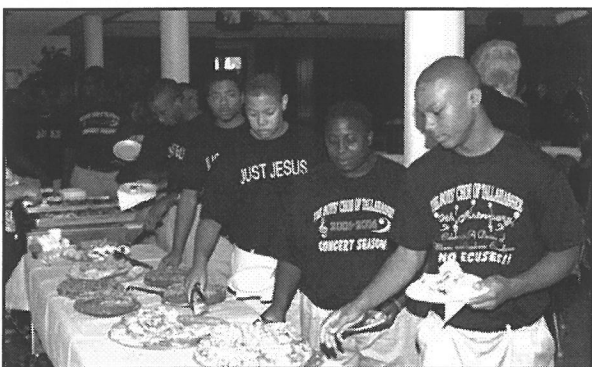
This year, you have indeed helped to provide the "Rx for Healing Hurting Hearts." Because of you, we will be able to continue to share God's love with one

another through the programs for our very young to our most experienced members. We will be able to celebrate God's gifts of music, fellowship, and worship, all within one of the greatest gifts of all, our physical church.

Perhaps most importantly, your gift of love may reach out, touch, and heal a hurting



There were well over 100 people who came to enjoy the brunch and fellowship in Moor Hall on Celebration Sunday.



The Boys' Choir of Tallahassee energized the congregation at both services on Celebration Sunday.

heart in our church, in Tallahassee, in our state or nation. It might happen on a mission trip taken by our youth; or it could happen when someone counts the knots on the prayer quilt that they just received. It is your gift of God's love.

We are sincerely grateful for your love and your commitment to Trinity United Methodist Church.

In this modern world of so many demands and distractions, we realize that some have not yet had the opportunity to make that financial commitment. We ask you to do so as soon as possible so that we, too, may help Trinity meet its modern demands.

Yours in Christ,
Stewardship Communications Committee
Eric King, Susan King, Tom Ashley, and
Brewser Brown

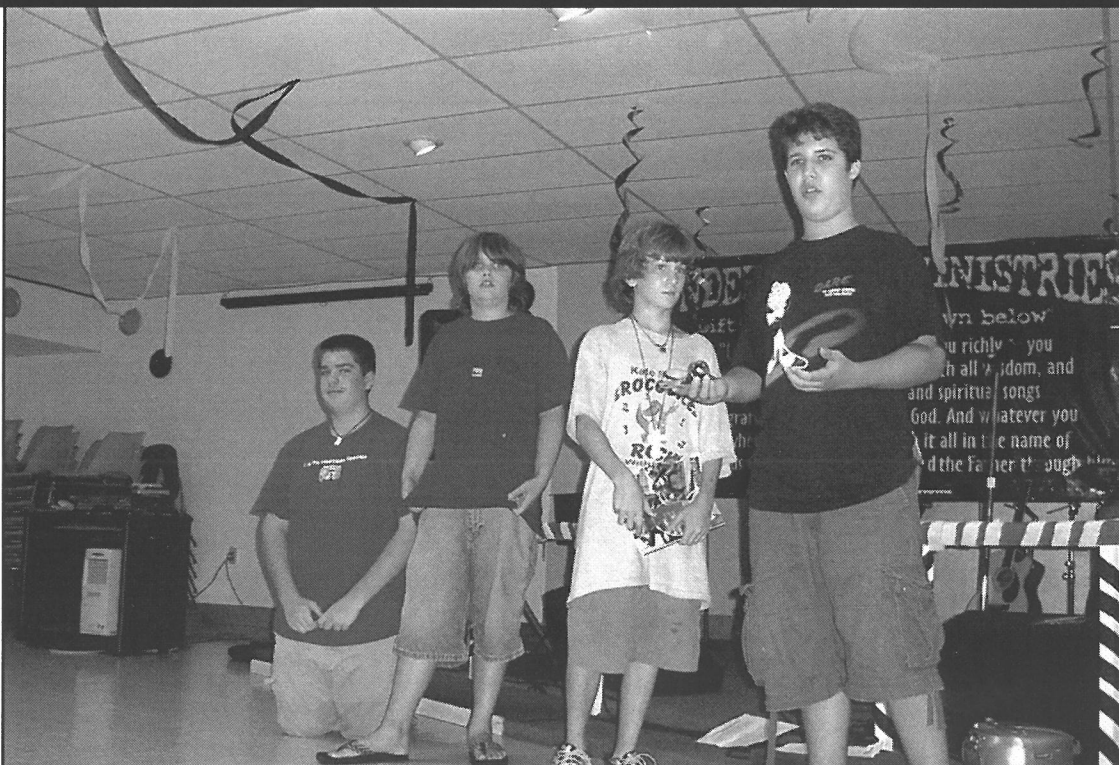


Guys love UMYF too ...

These four young men were captured on film recently performing a skit during United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF). They look like they are having fun too.

They are from left: John Cook, son of Reverend Wayne and Janet Cook; John Rains, son of Reverend Vance and Kelly Rains (Trinity's H.E.O. Coordinator); Robert Jensen; son of Laura Jensen, and Kerry Ingram; son of Brett and Lisa Ingram.

UMYF meets every Sunday night at 6 p.m. Come on out!



Come out and meet Trinity's New Beginnings class!

Cathy Cuevas

Meet our class

On Sunday, November 5, Trinity's New Beginnings Sunday school class will host a luncheon immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Come join us for food and fun in Moor Hall as we talk about our direction for the year and the many ways you can become involved.

Who we are

New Beginnings is a couples-based Sunday school class that discusses topics related to marriage, family life,



Members of the New Beginnings class include, from left, Bob Sutherland, Tracie Sutherland, Colleen Laughlin, Todd Laughlin, Kelly Cross, Brian Cross, Jill Ihasz, Cathy Cuevas, Rob Ihasz, Mitch Stripling, Frank Cuevas, Trip Coston, and Jade Coston.

social issues/trends and current events. In addition to scripture-based discussion, participants also enjoy activities outside of class including: adult nights out; family gatherings; women's dinners; men's luncheons; and annual service projects.

Come join us

We are looking forward to expanding our membership and hope to see you for lunch November 5.

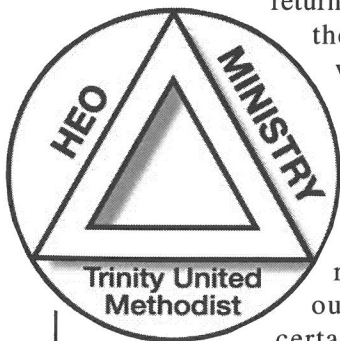
Questions about this event? Please call the church office at 222-1120.



Trinity Chefs are cookin' in the kitchen

Kelly Rains,
HEO coordinator

HEO has a group of volunteers who cook up lots of delicious casseroles and soups. Perhaps you might have received one of those casseroles when you returned home from the hospital or when a new baby arrived at your home. These meals can be a great help when recovering and our volunteers certainly enjoy preparing them. Here is one of our recipes we like to use:



- ½ lb. American Cheese cut into chunks
- butter/olive oil
- Cook beef and drain fat.
- Saute onion and pepper in small amount of butter/olive oil.
- Mix all ingredients together in casserole dish.
- Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

Beef Casserole

- 2 lbs. ground round
- 8 oz. wide noodles, cooked
- 2 cans tomato soup
- ½ onion chopped
- 1 can water
- ½ green pepper chopped



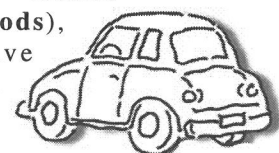
Libby Blackburn loads a scrumptious meal into a waiting car for delivery.

How you can help ...

If you know of someone in the hospital or in need of a meal, please call Kelly Rains at 222-1120.

Also, if you are able to help deliver meals (especially in the Buck Lake, Southwood, or

Killearn Lakes neighborhoods), please give Kelly a call at 222-1120. Thank you.



New members join in October

Trinity increased the membership by four persons on October 8. Make sure to say hello, and welcome them when you see them.

United Methodist Church (the district in which Trinity is member).

Taff is employed by St. Joe Land

Company. They are both joining by certificate of transfer from a local congregation.



New Trinity members are, from left, Jean Bellyk, Taff Collette, Chip Collette, and Mary Ann Stephenson.

Jean Bellyk

Jean is retired and is the mother of Marie Bradley. She is joining Trinity from another denomination.

Mary Ann Stephenson

Mary Ann is employed by FSU University Computing Services and is the mother of two-year-old Hannah. She is joining by profession of faith.

Chip & Taff Collette

Chip is an attorney and is a certified lay speaker for the North West District of the

Book Group selects book for November

The book chosen by the evening Book Group is **Blood Done Sign My Name: A True Story** by Timothy B. Tyson. Please call the church office for meeting place and time at 222-1120.

This review is re-printed from **Publishers Weekly**.

"In this outstanding personal history, Tyson, a professor of African-American studies who's white, unflinchingly examines the civil rights struggle in the South. The book focuses on the murder of a young black man, Henry Marrow, in 1970, a tragedy that dramatically widened the racial gap in the author's hometown of Oxford, N.C.

A gifted writer, he celebrates a number of inspirational unsung heroes, ranging from his father to a respected elderly schoolteacher who spoke out at a crucial point to quash a white congregation's rebellion over an invitation to a black minister.

This book deserves the largest possible audience."



Capital City Youth Services benefits from November "Change"

Ron Hock
Church and Society Ministry Co-Chair

Your Church and Society Ministry Team has designated Capital City Youth Services (CCYS) as the recipient for the November "Change." Each year nearly 1,000 children seek temporary shelter and counseling through CCYS. Their **Project Safe Place** program works by creating a

Your contributions deposited in those designated containers throughout November will go to an organization that undoubtedly

is **Healing Hurting Hearts** and once again demonstrates that Trinity is a Church with "a Heart for the City."

**Change
the City**



network of safe places throughout the community where young people can go if they need help. Specially trained

personnel at these sites call

CCYS and, if needed, shelter is made available.

MONTHLY
Tidings
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**

PERIODICALS
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POSTMASTER: PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE MONTHLY TIDINGS