

MONTHLY

Findings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tallahassee, Florida

Volume 33, Number 8, September, 2006

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

Trinity receives 22 new members



Trinity gained 22 new members on Sunday, August 27. This is a diverse group of people of many ages and religious backgrounds.

Please make sure to greet and welcome them when you see them at church.

Heather Stewart is a full-time student at FSU and also works for a local dentist.

Justin Harrell is an Eagle Scout and a student at TCC studying landscape architecture. He is a Tallahassee native.

Val Watson and husband **Larry** are joining Trinity after visiting other churches in the area. They moved to Tallahassee from Alexandria, Virginia a year ago. They have a one year old son, Nathaniel. Larry works for Progress Energy Florida.

Cindy Roy is a teacher at Hartsfield Elementary and has 3 children, Patrick, Jason, and Caitlin.

Kay Morse is the of mother Trinity member Lark Mott-Smith and Karen Smith.

Stan Kahn and fiancée **Mary Kathryn Harrell** (sister of **Justin Harrell**) both work

at Capital City Bank.

Paige Fenner works at FDEP. She enjoys spending time with family and traveling. She is the daughter of Trinity members Walter and Sue Parramore and the sister of new member **Patti Pittman**.

Patti works for Dennis Jackson Martin & Fontela, P.A. She has 3 sons, Mason, Travis, and Darren.

Robert Elmore works for TLC Engineers and is moving from Duluth, Georgia. He is joining by profession of faith and has two daughters, Kathryn and Nancy.

Wallace Henderson is joining from another denomination. He and his wife, Reverend Emma Jean Henderson, have two children, LyWilla and John. He is employed by D.I.S.C. Village.

Joe and Joni Cheatham have 5 children: Jennifer, Kimberly, Jolie, Jonathan, and Jade.

John Houston is joining by transfer. He is retired from the State after 30 years. He is the cousin of Trinity member Francis Black.

Robert Large is a third-year law student at

FSU. His brother and sister-in-law, Russell and Kristin Large, are also members at Trinity.

Christina Stover has two children, Sarah, and Joseph. She works for Select Specialty Hospital of Tallahassee.

Brian and Kelly Cross have a 5-month old baby, Lorelei. Brian works as an attorney with FDEP and Kelly is an RN working at TMH.

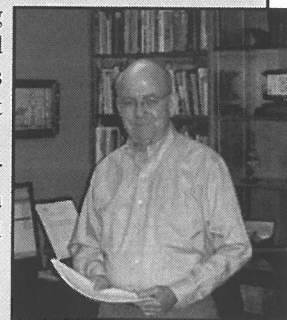
Kay Carson is joining Trinity by profession of Faith. She has a son, Hugh, who is 3.

Adam and Beth Babington have one daughter, Hannah, and are expecting another in September. Beth works as a lobbyist for Enterprise Florida, and Adam is an account executive with Brown & Brown Insurance.

Trinity welcomes back Reverend Willis

It seemed like a long time since Trinity members had seen Reverend Willis in the pulpit. Having been diagnosed with a cancerous tumor in June, it was a scary time.

Now, after recovery and a much needed vacation, Reverend Willis is ready to go again!



His appearance and message on Sunday, August 20, was greeted with smiles and tears of joy from the huge congregation. His sermon Sunday, "What God Has Been Teaching Me," illustrated what life's lessons can teach us. It's great to have him back, safe and sound.

Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following memorial gifts from July 10, 2006 through August 10, 2006:

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

In Memory of Tom B. Overstreet by Sara Overstreet.

In Memory of Walter and Rachel James by Sara Overstreet.

In Memory of Woodrow Kerce by Sara Overstreet.

In Memory of Tom Humphress by Shelley and Fancheon Boone.

In Memory of Minnie McGill by Pre-School staff.

In Memory of Tom Peterson by Alma Jane Whitehead.

In Memory of Bobbie M. Weatherly by Mary Katherine Jones, Bill and Alice Grow, Shelley and Fancheon Boone, William and Lori Mattice, Margaret M. Dyer, Gail and Ron Hock (for H.E.O.), Sandra V. Yanke, Dr. and Mrs. Mitcham, Mrs. B. Weatherly, and Mr. and Mrs. Neal Weatherly, Jr., and Jane J. Robinson (for Ministerial Scholarship Fund).

In Memory of Gifford Hale by Bill Moncrief (for H.E.O.), Dr. M. J. Zachert, Rebecca Hood (for Childrens' Home), Eleanor Hale (for H.E.O.), Nancy Kerce (for H.E.O.), Phyllis Hale, Dorothy Hale Moser (for H.E.O.), Barbara and Elston Roady, Eleanor and Orson Smith, Diane B. Hale (for H.E.O.), Patsy and Don Rapp, Donna Legare, Rex and Nelda Toothman, Susan J. Schroeder, Martha and Robert Spivey, Ruth and Frank Riley, Annabelle C. Kuncicky, and Robert G. Hale.

In Memory of Roslyn Helfin Clark by Rebecca Hood (for H.E.O.).

In Memory of Joshua Daniel Sperry by Bill Moncrief (for H.E.O.).

In Memory of Helen H. Hall by John and Mary-Leslie Olson.

In Honor of Dick and Pat Winchester by L. R. McGowan.



Peace in the mountains

By John G. Willis, Jr.
Senior Pastor

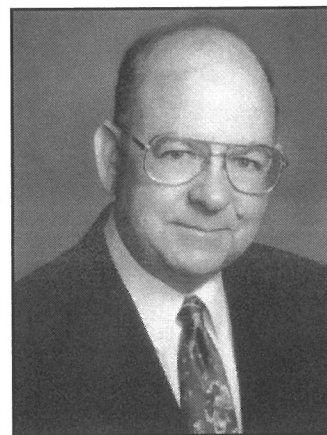
It's a cool, cool, mountain evening. I'm sitting on the cottage deck as the sun sets behind the cotton candy clouds. I hear the sweet song of the birds and the comforting chirping of the crickets in the nearby woods. In the distance, I hear the bell ringing to signal the beginning of the evening performance at the Flat Rock Playhouse.

In the past two weeks while on vacation, I experienced the majesty of the mountains and have again been amazed by all their "greenness" that towers above, and the serenity of the mountain lake as a lone duck serenely glides across the tranquil surface.

These two weeks have been just what I needed to complete my healing. I know I must be healed because my appetite is stronger than ever!

Being in the mountains, staying in "the old home place," and seeing family and friends, have all worked together to help me in ways I never imagined.

During this, I experienced God's healing grace in a very personal manner. I am so thankful for this. It is so overwhelming to be blessed in the



ways that I have been blessed, so I am returning with a heart full of gratitude.

Tomorrow morning (August 18) we leave here to return to Tallahassee. By the time you receive this, everything will be back in full swing- school, church activities, football, etc.

God's got a lot for us to do- and I want you to know...your *reconditioned* pastor is ready! Are you?

May God's grace be upon you,

Meet Trinity's newest staff member

Meet Michele Houston, Trinity's Office Secretary. Michele has experience perfectly suited to her position, having worked at Killearn Lakes United Methodist Church as a Church Secretary for five years, and more recently working for 88.1 WAY-FM as an office assistant.

She has lived in Tallahassee all of her life and is fortunate enough to have all of her

family here too, with the exception of one of her three brothers.

Michele has been married to Tom Houston for the last 8 years and they have 3 children, Ashley, Brittney, and Thomas.

Michele likes hanging out at the beach, collecting seashells, and reading.

Welcome Michele to Trinity the next time you call the office.



Michele Houston

Making music at Trinity

Mark Repasky
Director of Music

Have you joined a music group here at Trinity? It's not too late! Select a group the music here at Trinity, you will enjoy it even more as part of one of our music groups,

and we really need you to be at our best!

Our adult praise band **Circle of**

Handbells (6th through 12th grades). Starting in the next few weeks are children's groups including **NETkids** vocal groups and handbells (k-5th grade, starting September 6) and **Cherub Choir** (2 years through kindergarten, meeting as part of Sunday School). **Trinity Ringers** (adult handbell group, must be able to read music)



When the Chancel Choir takes several weeks off in the middle of the summer, there is no drop-off in the quality and variety of music at our Sunday services. We are treated to some very special music including an Orff Sunday, Men's Ensemble Sunday and Youth Sunday, among others. Pictured here are the Orff Adult Ensemble, from left; Trinity Organist, Elizabeth LaJeunesse; Sally Huggins; Kristin Dow; Music Director, Mark Repasky; and Cindy Repasky.



In this file photo above, the Adult Choir performs a special kazoo arrangement at one of the Trinity Madrigal Dinners. In the photo below, members of the Madrigal cast perform in the "Medieval Hall" on stage at Moor Hall.

you want to join and come to one of our rehearsals. A bit shy? Call someone already in the group you know and ask to come along with them. Questions about the group you need answered? Contact me or the other leaders — we will be glad to help! Call the church,

222-1120, or email us at mrepasky@tumct.org. If you really enjoy

been meeting during the summer, as have the youth praise bands. Already rehearsing

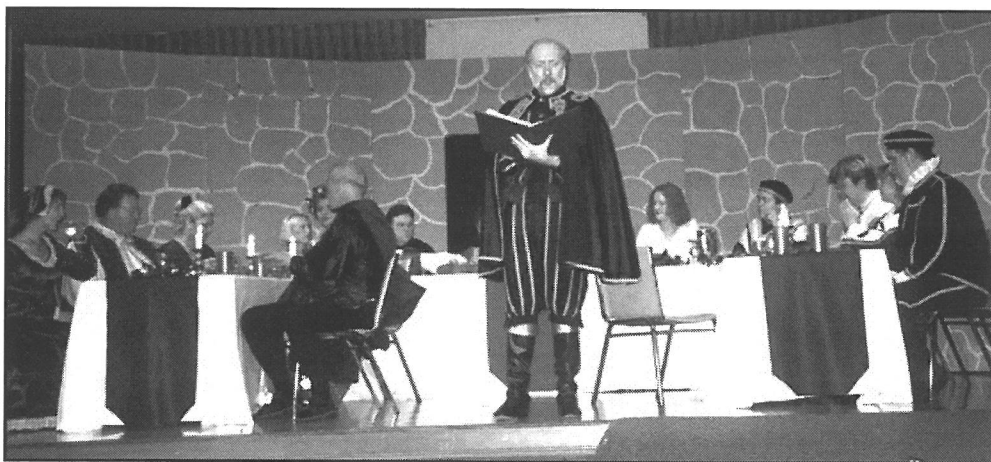
Friends, which leads the music for the SUN Service, has

and **College/Career Handbells** (college age and young adults who are able to read music) resume rehearsals on September 6 and 10 respectively. You can read more about these different groups in our Sunday bulletin **CALENDAR OF EVENTS** section and on our website at <http://www.tumct.org/musicministries.htm>. Come, join us and bring a friend!

Madrigal Dinners

Every third year, we present **Madrigal Dinners** at Trinity. Plan now to attend our Friday December 8 and Saturday December 9

feasts in Moor Hall featuring great food, costumes and unique music. This is a great way to start your Christmas season!



Don't miss this session of Lay Academy!

It's time for the Fall Term of Lay Academy! Make sure to sign up for a class or two. This session will run from **September 13 through October 18**.

Topics of general interest and spiritual growth will be presented.

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 in addition to the Trinity congregation. Call 222-1120 for more information.

Trinity's
Lay Academy



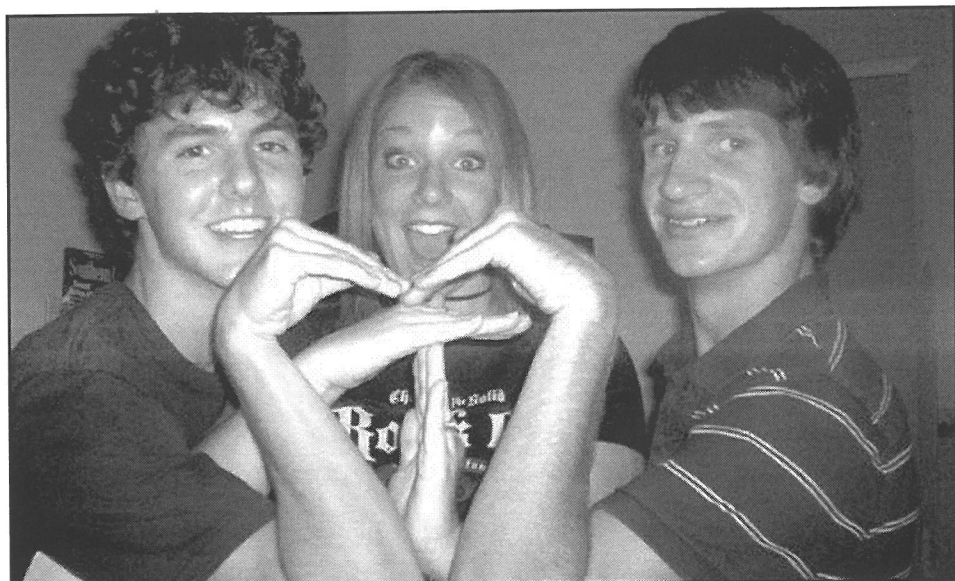
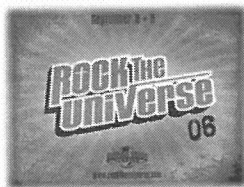
Fellowship • Knowledge • Music

Youth Tidings for September

Sheri Koyles,
Youth Director

Rock The Universe

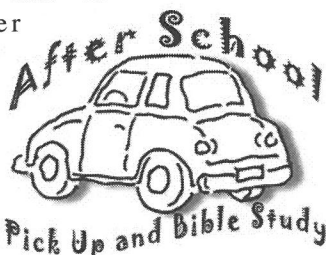
A few spots are still available for this retreat. We will leave the church at 10am on Friday, September 8 and return by noon on Sunday, September 10. The cost for the trip is \$125 plus food. Hotel accommodations are included. We will go to Christian concerts at Universal Studios both Friday and Saturday night. We will go to Islands of Adventure, Saturday, during the day. Please contact Sheri ASAP if you would like to join us.



Jim McKinnell, Jenny High, and Bob High create the perfect Trinity "Heart for the City" logo with a little teamwork (and some imagination).

Wednesday School Pick-up:

Pick-up is available for the following middle schools: Cobb, Fairview, Griffin, Swiftcreek, and Raa. The first pick-up date for the fall is September 13. Please contact Sheri with your student's name, school, and time to be picked up. Middle school students have Bible Study from 4:30-5:30pm. Students with no parent at dinner or Lay Academy must go home at 5:30pm



Bible study opportunities for the Fall

Middle School: Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.
(starting September 13)
UMYF every Sunday from 6-8 p.m. See you there!



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

High School: Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
(starting September 13)
Sundays at UMYF from 6-8 p.m.
Tuesdays (in-depth) from 7-8 p.m.
Don't miss out!

Attention all 6th graders

Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, September 10 at 9:45 a.m. All classes will meet in the Gregory Room (youth area).

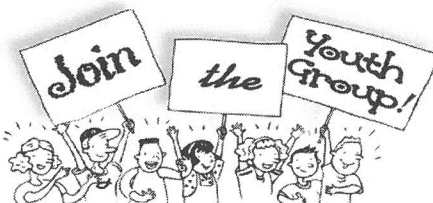


If you were not able to attend the informational meeting on Sunday, August 27, please contact Sheri at 222-1120 for additional information.

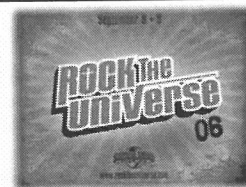
Ski trip

A ski trip to the Cataloochee mountains in North Carolina has been planned for December 27-30.

Please watch the youth website for further information on this event.



ROCK THE UNIVERSE RETURNS



Friday, Sept. 8 - Sunday, Sept. 10

- Contact Sheri immediately!
- There are still a few spots available!

Wednesday Program Resumes September 13

After school study hall will be available, followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. There are Bible studies available for Mid-High students from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and High School students from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

UMW's kickoff luncheon meeting is Sept. 5

Linda Yates

Can you imagine how many good things would not have happened if United Methodist Women did not exist? The Trinity connection of the worldwide women's organization was founded in 1927 and continues its mission focus on the needs of women and children locally, statewide, nationally and internationally. Some of the high points will be covered at the kickoff luncheon of UMW on Tuesday, Sept. 5 in Moor Hall.

The luncheon begins at 11:45 and ends before 1 p.m. in time for working women to return to their jobs. If you are new to Trinity this will be a good time to meet other women of the church and find out first hand the contributions UMW makes. It's easy: Just call the church office at 222-1120 and make a lunch reservation. Over the Labor Day weekend and after office hours you may leave the reservation request on voice mail at that number. There is a \$5 charge for lunch.

The Executive Committee of UMW will meet at 10:45 a.m. Sept. 5 in the church Conference Room.

Circles September meetings

Circle 1 will meet at 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 11, at the home of Carol Moore, 3871 W. Miller's Bridge Rd.

Circle 2 will meet Tuesday, Sept. 5 in the church parlor immediately following the UMW luncheon.

Circle 3, the Martha Circle, will meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the home of Sandra Genetin, 2027 Shady Oaks Drive.

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

Circle 5 will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 14, at a place to be designated by Patti Oakley. Telephone 877-4898.

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

Circle 8 will meet for lunch at St. Johns' Cafe at noon on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Circle 9 will meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the home of Betty Ashlock, 3448 Mahoney Drive.

Adopt-A-Nole Program

Jimmie and Nancy Duncan
Adopt-A-Nole Coordinators

Our church is a mile away from thousands of college students. We can have a positive impact on the lives of some of them through this program that matches students who are looking for a "home away from home" with families who can provide them with a loving, stress free environment.

Trinity families (all sizes and ages) who are interested in providing a college student an occasional home-cooked meal, a quiet exam study zone, or just a place to relax, please contact **Nancy and Jimmie Duncan** at 385-1084 or email at duncanjn2@comcast.net.

If you know of college students who might like to be a part of this, please provide us with their contact information.

Vance Rains, the chaplain at the FSU Wesley Foundation is working with Trinity and other churches in the area to facilitate the connection of students with church families.

There will be an **ice cream social** at the Wesley Foundation on **September 17** to bring students and families together.

More letters of thanks to Trinity's youth from mission trip

The following two letters were received after the Trinity youth returned home from their mission trip to Mississippi this past summer. The letters are from two of the many people the Trinity youth helped while representing Trinity. Make sure to add your thanks when you see one of the youth.

From Mr. and Mrs. Smith

Dear Pastor and fine workers,

Thank you Pastor and group of fine workers who helped us so very much. The storm KATRINA left us pretty badly torn up, but you dear ones came to help us clean up the debris. OUR lives were spared and we are very thankful. It was a very kind Christian act for Pastor, church, and workers to come and help us.

Give our thanks and love to all the workers. They were kind, friendly, and faithful at the work. OUR fellowship was good and peasant while they worked.

May God continue HIS wonderful work through you dear ones.

Gratefully,

Sollie I. Smith and Wife, Agnes

From Dot Burge

Dear Members of Trinity UMC,

Please accept my sincere thanks for the wonderful work, spirit-filled young people and the chaperones and friends from your

church that made such a difference at my home. I wish all of you could have seen the enthusiasm and joy they put into their visit here.

My barn is repaired (an ordeal in this heat) and 3 very special people cut a path to my creek. This is a special place to me and I hadn't been able to go down there since the storm. You'll never know what this meant to me!

Last but not least my horse, Whitey, had the week of his life. He was shampooed, fed watermelon, and had his mane plaited! He misses them! And so do I. They're welcome

back whenever they can.

With Christian Love and Thanks,
Dot Burge



Working hard and representing Trinity are, from left; Melissa Gilleland; Youth Director, Sheri Koyles; John Cook; Alea Erskine; MaryLu Mullikin; and Vanessa Carey.

Kate Sullivan supply drive a success

Jane Olson,
Kate Sullivan Coordinator

The 2006/2007 school year began August 14 and your generous donations of school supplies have been delivered and enthusiastically received by our partner school, Kate Sullivan Elementary School. We are also continuing our mentoring program which was initiated in 2002.

A one-hour mentor training orientation meeting will be held **Monday, September 18 at 10 a.m.** in the media room at Kate Sullivan.

Volunteers will work one-on-one with their student for about 30 minutes each week.

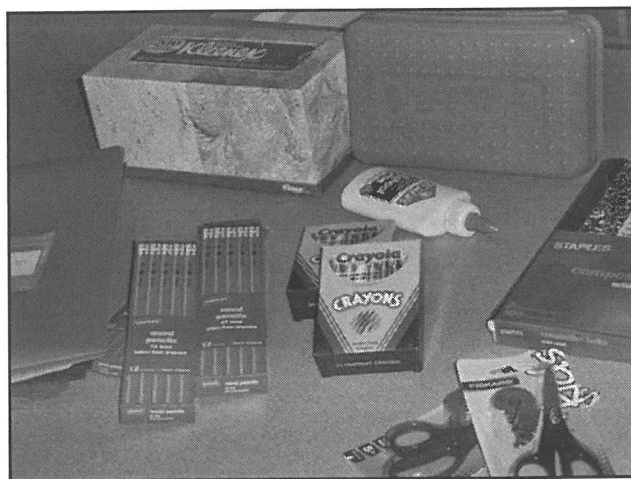
Anyone interested in this rewarding **Reading All-Star Program** should contact me at **385-4540**.

Our wonderful volunteers last year included: **Sam Rogers, Mary Margaret Rogers, Cindy Phillips, Carline Moore, Marg Orrick, Janet Cook, Pat Willis, Linda Rogers, Bill Moncrief, Gloria Colvin, Jane Olson, Bobby Williams, and Sue Walthall.**

When you see them, thank them for their valuable service and generous representation of the Trinity family.

On a personal note, I was fortunate to be chosen to participate in the 23rd class of Leadership Tallahassee, sponsored by our neighbor, the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce. This is a year long program seeking to build a strong sense of community by creating

and empowering a network of well-informed leaders whose strengthened commitment to community involvement will affect positive change in the Tallahassee area. We all came away from this wonderful experience realizing that the essence of greatness comes through



The congregation at Trinity has once again responded with great generosity to a request for donations. The list of requested supplies for the needy Kate Sullivan elementary children was followed perfectly.

our youth. And we, as a church, can ensure this chance is given to every child through mentoring young minds. Ask any of our mentor volunteers!

Trinity's active participation with Kate Sullivan shows we really do have a "Heart for the City."

Preparation

Kelly Rains,
HEO coordinator

It just dawned on me how much time I spend preparing and planning for one thing or another. It seems like that's all I do sometimes is look at upcoming events. Now don't get me wrong, I love to plan and people who know me say I'm quite the planner. But when is it too much? When do we need to draw the line and just enjoy the moment or take life one day at a time?

The amount of effort that was required to prepare my kids for school this year surprised me. It's not just getting a few

new clothes or some pencils, it has moved way beyond that now. My kids had to get a tetanus booster shot, a USB memory stick, and non-scientific calculators to start 7th grade, not to mention all the other school supplies and "cool" clothes they also thought they needed. And then there are all the extra-

curricular activities like dance, karate, and baseball that have their own list of new items needed to start the year off right. So let's just say it's taken a lot of my time and money to "prepare" properly for this school year. As a mom I've also got other preparations in mind, like what nutritional lunches can we pack this year, how will they get enough sleep with these new crazy schedules, and finally, let's not forget the planning it will take to get them to all these activities on time.

Making plans for all of this makes my head spin and yet in a way it's worth all the effort. Recently our family took a vacation to Atlanta and lots of preparation and planning went into that trip. All of that effort paid off because the trip went off without a hitch. There are other events like weddings, reunions, and graduations that require preparation, not to mention having a new baby, buying a house, or moving to a new town. So, my question is, "If we spend all this time "preparing" for events in the

future, are we missing what is happening now?" Are we really stopping to smell the roses or are we just planting new ones for next spring's garden?

I think God wants us to somehow do both. I think we always need to be looking forward, keeping our final home with Him in our minds. That can help us keep perspective on what's important in this life and perhaps, what's not. On the flip side, we also need to enjoy each day and spend it with Him; looking for all the little blessings life has to offer. Somehow God is in both the now and the future. Jesus, kept things simple and dealt with each day as it came, however, he never lost sight of his future plan all along. So maybe preparation is not a bad thing, we just need to make sure we are preparing for the right thing and don't miss the little gifts along the way.





Youth Sunday

On Sunday, August 13, the Trinity Youth led worship for the congregation. Over 30 youth participated in presenting an energetic and praiseful service devoted to home and family.

Pictured clockwise from above are:

1. Members of the drama team presented the parable of the prodigal son. From left are Darryl Rudell, Jr., Kerry Ingram, Vanessa Carey, Jimmy McKinnell, Bob High, and narrator John Raines.

2. Cousins Mary Beth Waddill and MaryLu Mullikin provided guitar accompaniment for

the Youth Choir.

3. Members of the Youth Dance Team presented a liturgical interpretation of "Untitled Hymn" (Come to Jesus). From left, the dancers are Natalie Jump, Tori Bradley, Malinda Raines, Mary Beth Waddill, and Emily Hirst.

4. Clayton Hinson gave a Gospel reading from Ephesians.

5. AnnaLee Drake gave the morning prayer.

6. Jordan Perry spoke of the importance of

family and being thankful for family.

7. Lyndsey Cook read from the Gospel of Matthew and spoke on the meaning of "home."

8. Natalie Jump read a passage from the book of Romans.

9. Youth Leader, Sheri Koyles, spoke on the meaning of home and how each person has a church home as well as a place to live.

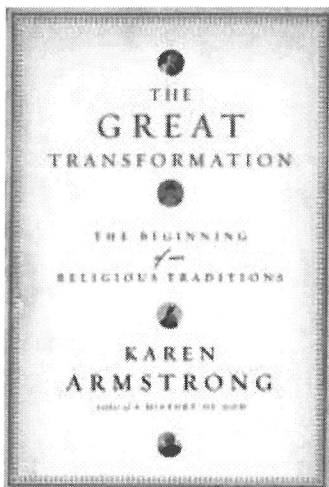
10. The Youth Choir presented two songs that represented the theme of home.

Not pictured above are Vanessa Carey who read from Psalms 84, and Bob High who greeted the congregation and presented the theme for worship.

New books aid understanding of faith and world

Gloria Colvin
Library Committee Chair

Two new books in the Trinity Library provide insights into the world's religious traditions that offer pathways to understanding and dealing with international conflicts in today's world.

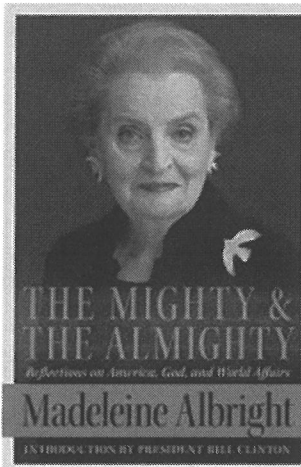


Karen Armstrong is one of the most respected and widely published scholars of religious history today. She's written extensively about the origins and belief

systems of the world's major faiths in a way that's understandable to lay readers. In her most recent book, **The Great Transformation**, Armstrong examines the religious and philosophical traditions that

developed in four separate areas of the world in the 9th century B.C.—Confucianism and Daoism in China, Hinduism and Buddhism in India, monotheism in Israel, and philosophical rationalism in Greece. All of these faiths began as responses to the violence of their time and emphasized compassion and a lack of selfishness. This "Axial Age" she considers a pivotal point from which all modern faiths have developed and that offers advice for our own violence-torn world.

Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has written a book that also points to the fundamental commonalities that the world's major religions share and advises that focusing on common ground rather than differences will improve America's effectiveness in dealing with other countries. In **The Mighty and the Almighty: Reflections on America, God,**



and World Affairs Albright looks at the role of religion world politics and urges an understanding of different religious faiths and the important roles that they play in different cultures. Rather than ignoring the important role that religion can play in motivating people, she believes that we must effectively join politics and religion to achieve justice, peace, and understanding in the world.

Stewardship materials

Watch your mailbox for information on the stewardship campaign for 2007. This year's theme is sure to make Trinity's finances feel better.

Also look for information on this year's **Celebration Sunday** in coming publications!

"Change" for September goes to "The Shelter"

Ron Hock
Church and Society Ministry Co-Chair

The "Change the City" program was created to provide a vehicle whereby the membership could contribute that loose "Change" to a worthwhile organization. Collection receptacles are located at the front door of the church and also in Moor Hall.

Participating in the "Change the City" program is an easy way for Trinity members to further demonstrate that

Trinity is a church that has a "Heart for the City" and that we will continue "Healing Hurting Hearts."



The recipient of September's "Change" will be **The Shelter**. Open 7 days a week, **The Shelter** provides a place to sleep and also provides balanced meals to the homeless men and women and any accompanying children.

MONTHLY
Tidings
Trinity United Methodist Church
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John G. Willis, Jr., **Senior Pastor**
Wayne P. Cook, **Executive Pastor**
Rex Adams, **Communications Director**

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