

MONTHLY

Findings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tallahassee, Florida

Volume 34, Number 2, February, 2007

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

A Valentine's dinner like Trinity has never seen!

Okay, he said it again

If you have attended Trinity for any length of time, you know that when Reverend Willis says "you don't want to miss this," well, you don't want to miss it! Okay, he said it again. This time he was talking about the upcoming church-wide Valentine's dinner on **February 14, at 6:00 p.m.** and does it ever sound good!

A special experience

According to Reverend Willis, this dinner, which will serve as the culmination of the "Serving from the Heart" spiritual gifts studies, is going to be unlike anything Trinity has ever experienced. Reverend Willis says "Trinity has never seen anything like this. The decor, the ambiance, the lighting, the music, and especially the food, will all be special. As usual, there will be surprises you won't want to miss!" And, it will only cost \$5 per person!

What you need to know

This dinner, which will have limited seating, will require reservations by calling 222-1120. Those who wait til the last minute to get their reservations may be on the outside looking in. Moor Hall will be the venue, but it will look much different than what you are used to seeing. Talented volunteers will transform Moor Hall's dining area into a romantic getaway appropriate for a Valentine's Day dinner with your significant one. Plus, there will be **special live music all through the evening.**

For the adults

This will be an adults only dinner with special arrangements made to accommodate

youth and children.

The youth will meet at their usual times and enjoy pizza night in the senior high room. The cost will be \$3 to cover the pizza (like on Sunday nights).

The children will have activities in the Gregory room. For dinner, they will have pizza and "make your own sundaes" for the usual Wednesday night dinner price of \$2.

Ministry Expo will highlight gifts

Committees are in full swing in preparation for the Ministry Expo that will be held on **Sunday, February 11 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

The expo will be held on the ground floor of the sanctuary in the parlor, the conference room, the hallway outside the choir room, the library, and in the welcome area.

A chance to "plug in"

This will be an opportunity for all who have been divining their spiritual gifts either through group study, the one-day retreat, or through individual study, to find a ministry that fits their gifts and talents.

There will be many different booths and displays set up by all of the ministry areas, and volunteers will be stationed at each booth to answer any questions you may have.

The booths will be set up to be informative and attractive and will have at least one person in attendance who is knowledgeable about each ministry.

Learn more about giving back

You may ask "How am I going to be able to pick from so many?" Well, that is the main focus of the Expo. To show you what Trinity has to offer you by way of ministry opportunities, and then, what you can offer God in return.



Trinity member, Kathy Drake is a good example of one who uses her gifts to serve God. She works part-time at Trinity as the Programs Assistant to Barbara Potter Hynes, serves on the Music committee, and also sings in the Chancel Choir.

This is your chance

If you have had an idea for a new outreach emphasis or a new church-wide program, this is the venue to share that idea. The emphasis of the expo will be on current ministries, but there will be a "dreams" area also where you can lift up other possibilities for new ministries not currently being addressed.

Make sure to visit the Expo before or after church and find a fit for your gifts, talents, and resources.

Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following memorial gifts from December 10, 2006 through January 10, 2007:

In memory of George A. Foster by Julia A. Foster (for Radio broadcast)

In memory of Mary Blackburn by Circle 4, U.M.W. (for Preschool Scholarship Fund), and Circle 9, U.M.W. (for Preschool Scholarship Fund).

In memory of Georgianna Wollschlager by Gail and Ron Hock (for H.E.O.).

In memory of Lee Hartnek by Jean Ainsworth.

In memory of Gifford Hale by Nancy Ellen Hale (for H.E.O.).

In memory of Norman E. "Ed" and Delano Fenn by Janet Fenn.

In memory of Don and Fran Veller by Lt. Col. and Mrs. Charles L. Armstrong, Ret.

In honor of the John Willises by Oberley and Led Brown (for Children's Home).

In honor of the Wayne Cooks by Oberley and Led Brown (for Children's Home).

In honor of Barbara Hynes-Potter by Oberley and Led Brown (for Children's Home).

In honor of Cindy and Mark Repasky by Oberley and Led Brown (for Organ Fund).

Heart to Heart

In That Moment

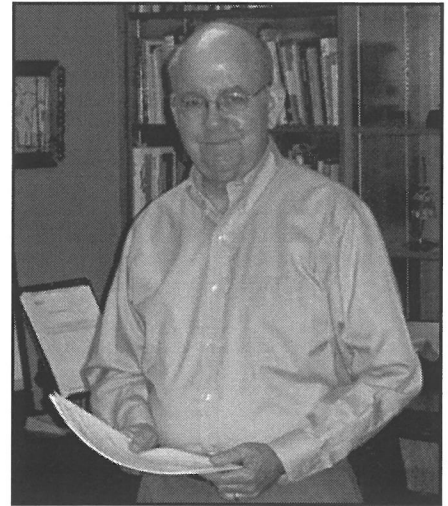
*By John G. Willis, Jr.
Senior Pastor*

As you might already know, one of my favorite things in the whole world to do is baptize babies. It is one of the highest privileges that I have as a pastor. I began to wonder what is it about this that moves me so. Why is it so special to me?

First of all, it always happens in the context of worship. If we are bringing someone into the family of God through this ritual, then the family needs to be there! They need to participate in this wonderful event. By the way, this is not a christening, (the giving of a Christian name) but a baptism. It's not a vaccination that will protect the child now for all eternity! It is a promise and vow on the part of the parents to raise the child within the church. It's a promise and vow by the *family* (congregation) to pray for and support the child on his or her spiritual journey.

But it is still more than that. As you might imagine, worship is not a relaxed and restful time for me. There are too many things that I am responsible for, too much to make sure "goes right" in order to be of the most benefit to the most people. When I look out on Sunday morning I don't see crowds, I see a sea of hopes, health issues, struggles, and celebrations. So a magnificent multitude of things run through my mind.

However, in that moment when I take that baby into my arms — it all fades



away. When I look into that baby's eyes there is no one else in the sanctuary. And in that moment, in some mystical way that words can never express or explain, God is present in a very real way.

Years from now, I won't remember every baptism. The baby probably won't remember either, but you know what? God will. He will never forget the sacred moment when they first became a part of His family.

Thank you note from The Shelter

Reverend Willis recently received the following note of thanks from Mel Eby, Director of The Shelter.

*Dear Reverend Willis,
Once again, we at The Shelter are expressing our deep appreciation to you and your dedicated congregation of people. The Board of*

Directors here are in awe of the wonderful support provided to our

agency and the 2,600 different clients served this year.

**THANK YOU!!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

We also feel your acts of kindness have motivated other religious institutions to

participate in supporting our mission to provide basic services to all human beings who may come to us in distress. (Editor's note: Trinity donated almost \$5,000 recently from the special Thanksgiving offering.)

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

*Mel Eby
Director of The Shelter*

Music news for February

Mark Repasky
Director of Music

A very special CD

Our church has had an emphasis on healing hurting hearts for the past several months. Since we believe music can help heal hurting hearts, a CD with that title will be released here at Trinity! During a two-week span in late October 2006, six of our music groups and several soloists recorded music for the CD. All but one of the 21 selections were recorded in our sanctuary!

Participating music groups are Chancel Choir, Circle of Friends Praise Band, Youth Choir, NETkids Omega Choir (3rd through 5th grades), Trinity Ringers and College/Career Handbells. All three of our recent Lenten theme songs are on the CD, two of them featuring Rev. Art McClellan as soloist. The CD includes two harp solos, two organ selections, a piano solo, plus a piano-organ duet. The music for this CD was selected with "healing hearts" in mind.

On Music Ministry Sunday February 18, the CD's will be available following the worship services. They can also be picked up at the church office in coming weeks. There is no charge for these. We do ask that you take a CD only if you will make use of it. Picking up an additional CD for a friend or family member is also acceptable.

Many people collaborated in this effort, including the Music Committee, Rev. Willis, Rex Adams, Trinity's Director of Communications, and of course the many

dedicated musicians here at Trinity. A special note of thanks goes to Park Trammell who recorded all but one of the selections and devoted a great deal of time editing all the musical selections.

Sometimes we take for granted the wonderful acoustics of our sanctuary, which when combined with our organ and piano, enable us to enjoy beautiful music week after week. Add to that our many talented and devoted musicians and the formula for creating a meaningful and very memorable CD is complete!

Music Ministry Sunday

The musicians at Trinity (there are 12 music groups!) are a dedicated bunch.

They faithfully attend rehearsals, preparing for their primary mission, which

is to provide music leadership at our worship services. Each group tends to do its own thing, unaware of what the other groups are doing.

Music Ministry Sunday is a once-a-year opportunity for most of these music groups to come together all in one service.

The 11:00

a.m. service on Sunday, February 18 will probably include 10 of our music groups. Interested instrumentalists are also encouraged to contact me by February 11 if you would like to participate. You will lead the congregation in one of the hymns during the 11:00 a.m. service (no organ). This is easy stuff! We usually have 10-18 players in this group. You will practice at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday February 14, in the balcony of the sanctuary. So, dust off that old horn and join in on the fun. During the 11:00 a.m. service, there will also be a short dedication ceremony for everyone involved in the music ministry of the church. We hope our entire church family can come to this special Sunday celebration!

Handbell workshop

Ringers are taking over Moor Hall on Friday evening, February 23 and Saturday, February 24 for a handbell workshop. A number of handbell groups from the area will join with our Trinity Ringers for this special event as we learn more about the art of handbell ringing. Our clinician is Carlos Rivera-Aponte who lives in Puerto Rico. He has ties to this area, having received his Masters degree in Choral Music Education from FSU a few years ago. A 30-minute concert will be presented at the end of the workshop, starting at 3:30 p.m. All are invited to attend!



Music Director, Mark Repasky, directs a Trinity Ringers' practice session on a Wednesday evening. Members include, from left Sally Huggins, Ruth Davis, Cindy Repasky, Lark Mott-Smith, Kristen Dow, Karen George, Ben Gilleland, David LaJeunesse, Marge Cary, and Brian Dow.



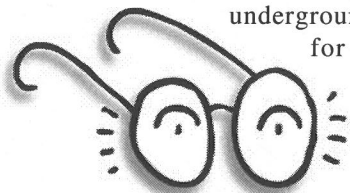
Last year on Music Ministry Sunday, Orff instrumentalists and vocalists combined to present a beautiful rendition of "Seek Ye First" while leading worship. From left the Orff instrumentalists are Maria Parsons, April Bradley, Ella Smith, Kathryn Crotty, Amelia Carroll, Michaela Wolfe, and Connie Jo Carbonell-Bierbaum. In the lectern, in back, are Tori Bradley, left, and Victoria Donelan.

Youth news for February

Ryan Frack,
Interim Youth Director

Keep an eye out

Just a brief reminder for all youth and parents to call the youth hotline and check the website (www.geocities.com/undergroundministries)



for important dates and events. Thanks for your continual support, and we look forward to a blessed February!

Wednesday Activities Reminder

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

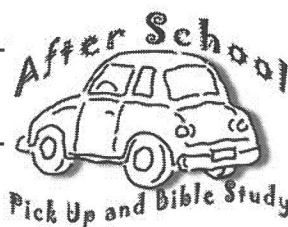
👉 **Mid-High Bible Study:** 4:30-5:30pm

👉 **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

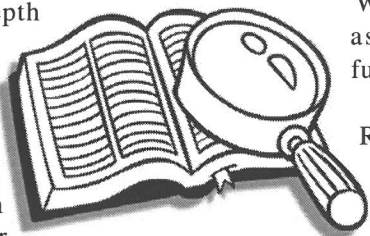
****All Senior High students must be gone by 8pm****



In-Depth Senior-High Bible Study

Are you a senior high school student? Are you looking for a more in-depth Bible Study this year?

If you are, then please join us on Tuesdays from 7-8 p.m. for our new study. Please contact Ryan Frack at 222-1120 if you are interested in this Bible Study.



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

Fundraiser help

We are going to need as much help as we can get in the coming fundraisers.

If you are able to help, please let Ryan or Linzee know.

Thank you so much for the help and being truly supportive through this time of transition. We really appreciate you. There are many things that couldn't get done without you.

Sr. High mission trip

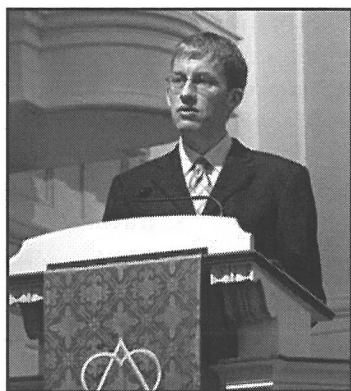
(Rising 9th Grade and up)

Plans are in the early stages for a Senior High mission trip for this summer. The location that is being talked about is located in North Carolina. It's not too early to start getting excited about this trip.

Christmas offering brings long-distance thank you

The special Christmas offerings taken during Christmas eve services were given to our friends across the sea, the people of the United Methodist Church in Central and Southern Europe.

Owing in large part to the recent visit from Urs Schweizer, the plight of the people in the Balkans became known to the people of Trinity. It was decided by the Church Council that the best way to help the people there was through a monetary gift of our special Christmas offering. The congregation of Trinity responded generously with a collected total



Urs Schweizer from Switzerland, spoke at Trinity in October of 2006.

of almost \$6,000 for this good cause.

The money will be used by the United Methodist Churches in the Balkans to pay their pastors salaries, currently just \$200 per month. The money will also be used to help local Meals on Wheels in Macedonia to provide hot meals to those who would otherwise have nothing.

The thank you note from Urs reads:

"Dear John, Thank you for the great news about your Christmas special offering. This money will indeed make a difference for many

people. For pastors and their families. For people who are coached and trained by the pastors. For congregations which are served by the pastors. For the various activities which are under the leadership of the pastors. And, of course, it will make a difference for elderly, poor lonely people in Macedonia who are helped by the Meals on Wheels program in the future. Thank you for the gracious offering!

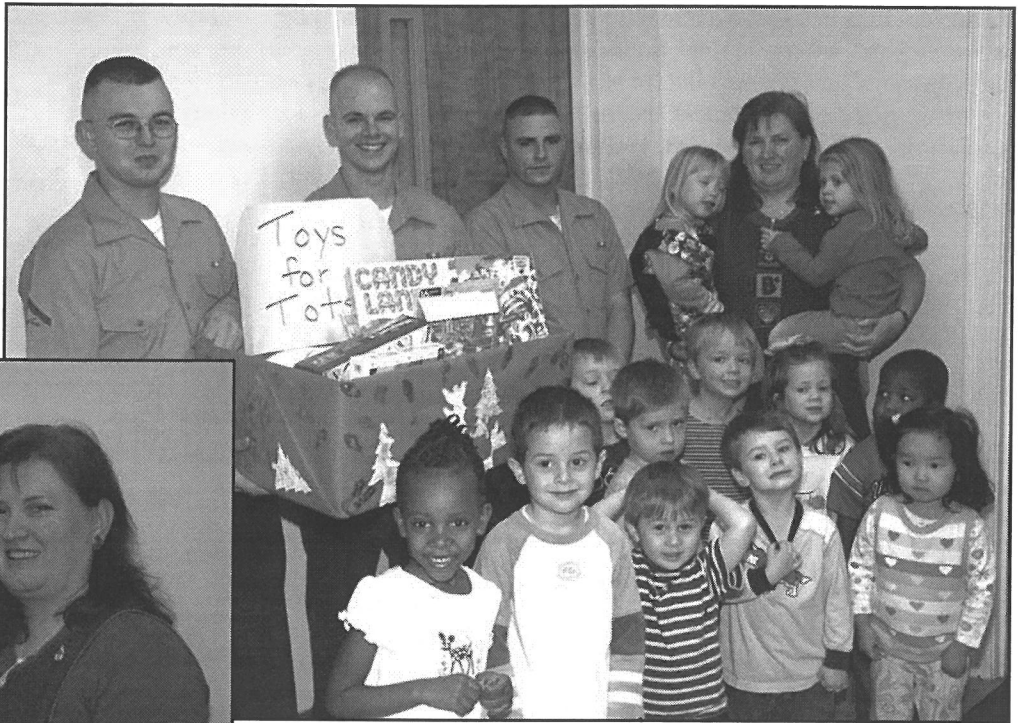
*Please give my best wishes and greetings to your congregation. Blessings, Urs Schweizer
Assistant to the United Methodist Bishop for Central and Southern Europe*

Marines pick up Toys for Tots

Back on December 20th, a contingent of United States Marine Corps soldiers picked up a nice sized cache of toys for children who would otherwise not have gifts for Christmas.

The preschool children were very excited by the box of toys that would be given to others and also by having the soldiers come to their school.

The toys were distributed throughout the Big Bend area to families in need.



Tim Forrestall is shown here holding the box of toys for Toys for Tots along with two of his fellow Marines. Preschool children who presented the toys are from left, Zoe Simpson-Lenette, Louis West, Sean Ira, Chase Duclos, April Le, Gene Sutton, Sydney Wylie, Brantley Snowden, Trevor Lee, Carter Nash, Ashlyn Pinner, and Brenna Burns.

Proud mother, Mary Forrestall, and her son, Tim Forrestall, got together for this impromptu photo. Mary works in the preschool as a teacher and Tim is stationed at Lemoore Naval Air Station in Lemoore, California.

Use Your Gifts and Get Involved

Kelly Rains,
HEO coordinator

Currently our church is participating in the "Serving from the Heart" program. Many of you are working on finding your God given gifts and talents so that you can use them for service here at Trinity as well as in our community. This is a great way for all of us to find our place serving God and others, something God is calling each and every one of us to do.

On Sunday February 11, I encourage all of you to come to our Ministry Expo from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Here you can find just the place to use your gifts in one of our many ministries at Trinity. There will be so many different ways to get plugged in and involved, I am certain everyone can find their niche.

HEO will be there with a display that

will show lots of opportunities for you to help with all that we do. HEO is all about serving and helping others, and the ways to do that are endless. There will be everything from large to small tasks, hands-on tasks to prayerful tasks, one-time commitments to yearly commitments. Serving others is such a great feeling and a way for God to use us. I hope to see you there at the Expo!



HEO does many, many things for members of Trinity. HEO also does outreach to the Tallahassee community. Many volunteers are needed to implement the many activities. In the photo above, HEO Coordinator, Kelly Rains, far left, makes sure all of the volunteers in the Prayers and Squares workforce are on the same page. Also in the photo are, from left, Holly Francis, Colleen McConnell, and Lynda Hanson

The pipes are calling

Elizabeth LaJeunesse
Organist

Did you know that a pre-worship recital, as we call the fifteen minute preludes offered several times throughout the year, can be just one piece of music? On **Music Ministry Sunday, February 18**, you are invited to come fifteen minutes early to **8:30 or 11:00** worship, and hear a master organ work that truly is a recital piece.

Cesar Franck's Chorale in E Major is a study in what the organ is really capable of, using many organ stops that are not

regularly heard on Sunday mornings. For example, did you know that our organ has a stop that mimics the human voice? Trinity's organ is made for lush Romantic French music such as this, and within this one piece you will hear beautiful song-like melodies, and a full range of volume and tone color. Join me on February 18 and hear our organ do what it was built to do!



Elizabeth LaJeunesse is Trinity's organist.

Prayer & Squares touch people in need of prayer

Wrapped in prayer

"I tried several times to write this letter, looking for the perfect words to let you know how much the quilt, and prayers that came with it, meant to our family ..."

Recently, Trinity received this thank you note from the mother of a recipient of a prayer quilt who isn't a member of the church.

Trinity cares

Trinity has a long tradition of caring for others. One of the many ways Trinity does this is through the Prayer Quilt Ministry.

Trinity is associated with *Prayers & Squares* which is an interfaith outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a hand-tied quilt. The idea is to say a prayer for the person who has requested the quilt, and then to tie a knot from the quilt's suspended strings. The

motto is: "*It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers.*"

Through *Prayers & Squares* many quilts have been distributed, each a special gift of love, each for someone in special need of prayer.

The Ministry began in 1992 at Hope United Methodist Church in Rancho Bernardo, California.

The note continues

"... there are no words to express the hope and comfort that quilt represents." "(He) took it



HEO coordinator, Kelly Rains, is pictured here with Prayer Quilt recipient, Charlie Gray.

with him to the doctor's office and he still uses it for afternoon naps. A quilt is the perfect gift for someone who needs prayer. Every time I look at him with it, I remember that God is with us and even though (he) doesn't talk much these days about cancer, I know that quilt offers him tangible evidence of God's love and the good in so many people at Trinity who would pray for a young man they don't even know."

Fiction can be found in the McKenzie Library

Margie Mixon, Library Committee member

In addition to many books on religion, philosophy, and biography, our library has a small selection of fiction. Books in this section usually carry an inspiring or uplifting message while being a pleasure to read.

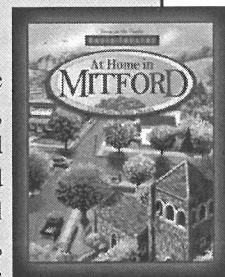
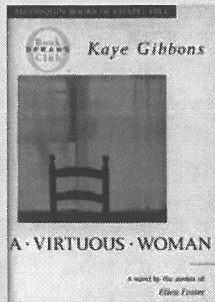
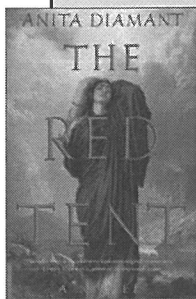
One of the most absorbing, **The Red Tent**, by Anita Diamant, recounts events of the Old Testament through the eyes of the four wives of Jacob: Leah, Rachel, Zilpha, and Bilhah. It pictures

life in biblical times as experienced by the women.

Another book, **A Virtuous Woman**, by Kaye Gibbons, two seemingly ill-matched people somehow miraculously make a marriage work.

Jab Karon has written a series of heartwarming books set in a small fictional town of Mitford, North Carolina. The reader comes to identify with the

townspeople, who, like ordinary people, are kind, funny, thoughtful, and sometimes worried and cranky. The central character, Episcopal priest, Father Tim, meets problems with a profound inner strength. Our library contains these books from the Mitford series: **At Home in Mitford**, **A Light in the Window**, **In These Mountains**, and **A New Song**. Once you read one of these delightful books, you'll be eager to read the rest of the series.



Blanket Sunday Feb. 11

Blanket Sunday at Trinity is Feb. 11 this year. Ollie Dawirs is the Trinity liaison for Church World Service, the organization that coordinates the distribution of emergency supplies to areas devastated by disasters.

Church World Service is a private, non-profit disaster response agency.



Ollie Dawirs is Trinity's contact person for Church World Service.

The agency responds to disasters in the United States and all around the world.

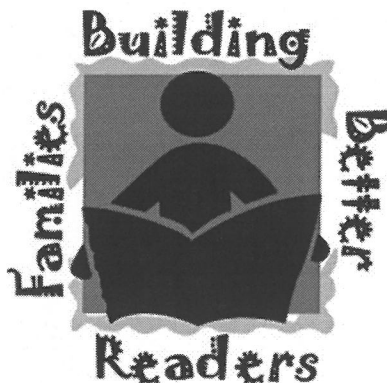
Your donation on Blanket Sunday can help provide warm blankets for a family left

homeless from a hurricane, or buy fishing nets and equipment for a village cooperative in Bolivia.

For more information on Church World Service, visit its website at: www.churchworldservice.org or www.buildavillage.org.

Families Building Better Readers

On Saturday, March 3, a reading workshop will be led by Jana Sterling, a Trinity member, under the Volunteer Florida Foundation. This workshop will



teach participants how to set their children up for successful reading practice at home with ten research-based activities they can do with their children to improve reading performance.

Families Building Better Readers (FBBR) is a dynamic reading workshop designed for parents, grandparents, mentors and anyone who helps a child in elementary school learn to read and enjoy reading.

Please call Jana Sterling for more information at 922-6310.

Don't miss this wonderful event!

Bear Sunday Feb. 18

Make sure to bring a brand-new teddy bear to church with you on "Bear Sunday" – February 18, 2007.

This is a great way to bring some love to a child who needs the special comfort gained from one of our Trinity bears. Once collected, the bears will be donated to the following local agencies:

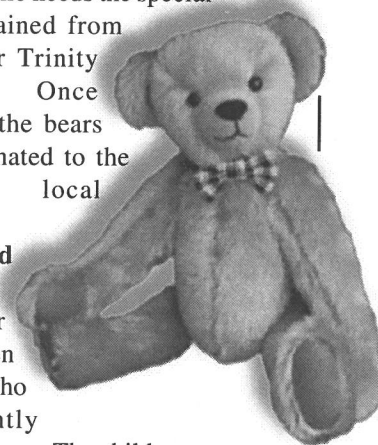
Big Bend Hospice:

Your bear will be given to a child who has recently

lost a loved one. The children are very enthusiastic and appreciative.

Leon County Elementary School Clinics (24 total schools): provide children with a special friend if they are hurt and need to go to the clinic.

Letters from children speak of the comfort and joy these bears bring. Even though there are only two official agency recipients this year, there are many other agencies that may receive bears as they become available. Open your heart and bring a teddy bear to church on Bear Sunday.



Hospital Chaplain to speak at UMW luncheon

Linda Yates

Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center Chaplain John Galloway, a former United Methodist minister, will speak at the luncheon meeting of United Methodist Women on Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 11:45 a.m. in Moor Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend this meeting. Lunch reservations should be made by Feb. 2, by calling the office at 222-1120. Leave a message on voice mail after office hours.

UMW Executive Committee, including officers and circle chairmen, will meet at 10:45 in the church conference room before the luncheon.

UMW Circles announce meeting schedules

Circle 1 plans to meet Monday, Feb. 12, at 10 a.m. at the home of Cynthia Smith, 1530 Marion Avenue.

Circle 2 will meet immediately following the UMW luncheon Tuesday, Feb. 6, in the church parlor.

Circle 3, the Martha Circle, plans to meet at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 20. Please call Anne Doonan at 877-4931 for the location.

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

Circle 5 will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8, at

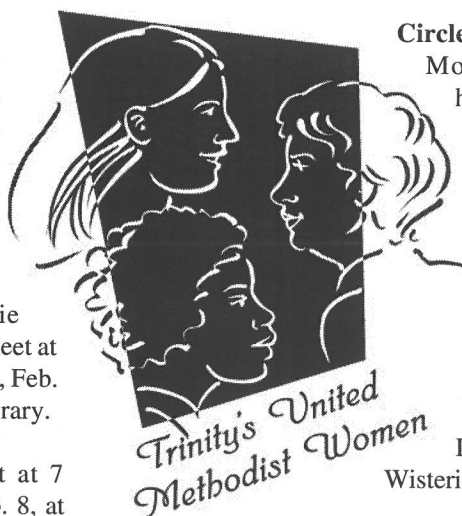
the home of Phyliss Henderson, 1005 Lothian Dr.

Circle 6 will meet at 6 p.m., Monday, Feb. 12, at the home of Julie Pararo, 2104 Randolph Circle.

Circle 8 will meet for lunch at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at St. Johns Cafe.

Circle 9 will meet Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 10 a.m., at the home of Linda Yates, 1111

Wisteria Dr.



New members join in January

Trinity began the new year by gaining five new members. The newest members joined on January 28 at the 11 o'clock service. Please make sure to welcome them when you see them at church.

Todd and Gina Resavage have two daughters, Katherine, who is 6 and Camille who is 2. Todd and Gina both joined by certificate of transfer from Ashland Place UMC in Mobile, Alabama. Gina and Todd, who both attended and graduated from FSU, moved back to Tallahassee in August from Mobile. They have been married for 10 years. Todd is an attorney with Brooks, LeBoeuf, Bennett, Foster & Gwartney.

Dr. Shirley Ballard-Steele joined Trinity by profession of faith. She is married to Richard and has 2 grown daughters. One of her daughters, Pat Englehardt, is an active member here at Trinity. Dr. Ballard-Steele is a retired educator and enjoys painting, crocheting, football, and reading.

Don and Jennifer Hartshorne joined after visiting Trinity. Don is joining from another denomination and Jennifer is joining by certificate of transfer from Park Avenue UMC in Valdosta. They have been married

since March of 2006. Don is an investment representative for Edward Jones Investments, and Jennifer works for the Executive Office of the Governor as an events planner and scheduler.



Members joining in January are, from left, Todd Resavage, Gina Resavage, Dr. Shirley Ballard-Steele, Jennifer Hartshorne, and Don Hartshorne.

February's "Change" goes to America's Second Harvest

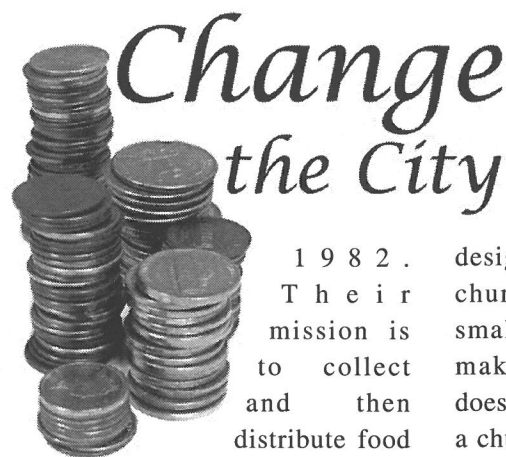
Ron Hock
Church and Society Ministry Co-Chair

America's Second Harvest has been selected as the recipient of the February "Change." This organization is private and non-profit and has been dedicated to fighting hunger since

problem and solutions to hunger. Each year over 4 million pounds of food is distributed in the Big Bend. Each month over 1,200 grocery bags are delivered for the elderly in need.

Be assured that your placement of that pocket "change" in those

designated containers at church, no matter how small the deposit, does make a difference and does show that Trinity is a church with a Heart for the City. Feeding the hungry is just another way to Help Heal many Hurting Hearts.



1982. Their mission is to collect and then distribute food to non-profit entities in the Big Bend area that feed people in need. They also seek to increase public awareness of the hunger

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
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TALLAHASSEE FL

Feelings
MONTHLY
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

POSTMASTER: PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE MONTHLY TIDINGS