

Volume 36, Number 5, May, 2009

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

Trinity is truly richly blessed!

Trinity has been blessed throughout its long history with a thriving youth program. All the way back to when the youth program was called the Epworth League in the late 1800s, Trinity's forebears recognized the need for a strong program to instill in the young people of the church a hunger for faith and a willingness to help others. This spirit of connectedness with the church body continued through the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) years into the late 1960s, and on into the UMYF years.

To this day, Trinity's UMYF continues to be a vital and very active youth program and goes by the name *The Underground*.

Recently, the youth have been busy with a couple of big events — the annual Spaghetti lunch during Springtime Tallahassee — a fundraising project for the renovation of the Youth area — and, the **30-Hour Famine**, an event that has helped give new meaning to their lives. Enjoy the pictures on this page and on pages 6 and 7

that attempt to document in photos these two special events.



As part of the 30-Hour Famine, John Cook, above, gets a feel for what it must be like to be homeless as he spends the night in a cardboard box (reading "Grapes of Wrath"). At left, a youth pyramid celebrates the end of the Easter Egg hunt at Tom Brown where the youth organized and played games with the younger kids from Trinity during the 30-Hour Famine. In the photo below, the youth present a card of thanks to hh gregg for donating the cardboard boxes which were used to build their overnight shelters - also a part of their 30-Hour Famine.



Trinity youth director, Kelly Rains, right, with youth intern, Jordan Perry, enjoy the cool new game room in the renovated youth area.



Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following memorial gifts from March 10, 2009 - April 10, 2009.



In memory of **Margaret J. Gordy** from Ora Keys.

In memory of **David D. "Dick" Cureton, III** from Geoffrey and Toshi Love, Cynthia and Bill Smith, DeVoe and Shirley McEwan Moore Family, Ernest and Elizabeth Korst, Lecky Spector, John and Mary Leslie Olson, and Harry and Mary Mullikan.

In memory of **Patty Hill Smith** from Cynthia and Bill Smith, Rex and Nelda Toothman, Buddy and Lillian Byrd (Children's Home), and Led and Oberley Brown (Children's Home).

In memory of **Miriam Jo Hedge** from David and Polly Caldwell.

In honor of **Rev. Wayne Curry** (Children's Home) from Alfred and Virginia Johnson.

Thank you from the
Tettey family

Dear Trinity church family,

Jesus promised that those who mourn would be comforted in the hours of bereavement. This promise has been fulfilled by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who has given us such wonderful friends and loved ones like you.

We, the family of Samuel D. Tettey, acknowledge with sincere thanks and deep appreciation your many acts of kindness. During the mourning of our loved one, we so appreciated your telephone calls, flowers, memorial gifts, condolences, and words of comfort. We will always cherish your outpouring of love as long as the memory lives.

The Tettey family

Tony's Thoughts

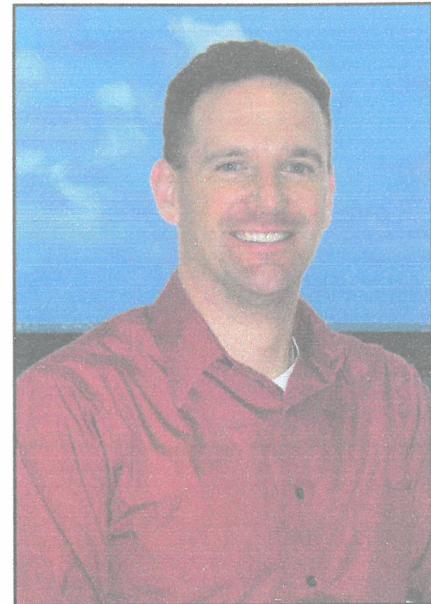
By Tony Fotsch
Associate Pastor

At the time Pastor Wayne asked me to fill in for his special place in the Tidings, Debbie and I will be looking forward to moving in to our new home. It has been quite a momentous experience for us, as I'm sure you're all now well aware! This is the first home I have ever owned; our first home together; and, finally, the chance to settle down and look forward to starting a family.

With all these thoughts and feelings rushing around us, I can't help but ponder that oft-quoted phrase, "Home is where the heart is." Interestingly enough, while it is often used to connect us to the location of our family, it was my Mother who used this phrase to assuage my feelings of home-sickness during my first year away at college. She helped me to realize that I could make my home wherever my heart was placed. For me, then, this has meant I've called many places "home." From my birthplace in St. Paul, to St. Louis, and even Berkeley, CA, I have experienced locations and people that will always hold a special place in my heart. For Debbie, she will always have South Florida and her beloved Gainesville.

What a wonder to think that in just one year (has it already been a year?) we can say, with all our heart, that Trinity has become our "home," in the truest sense of the word. While we immediately fell in love with Tallahassee, we have been overwhelmed by this family who has drawn us in so warmly and extravagantly. Yet, it has been such a blessing to connect with those who have also found a new home here as we all connect with those who have made this their home for years - even generations.

During this season of Pentecost, we are reminded that the Church, first and foremost, is the home of God. From the time of Solomon's Temple to our current day, it is the place where people have gone to find the presence and yes, the heart, of our Lord. Yet, Pentecost also reminds us that God makes a home wherever hearts are opened up to God's heart for them. What a blessing and honor it



is to minister with the Trinity family to help those not yet in our family find their true home in the Lord.

Finally, with all the excitement and wonder of our new home, Debbie and I have been reminded of those who, especially during these tough times, have lost homes or may never even have had a place to truly call home. As we count our blessings, whether small or great, we are roused by our calling to bless those around us in any way we can. It has been an inspiration to serve with our Trinity family to share our heart for this city, and to be motivated by new and even more profound ways in which to do so.

Thank you again, Trinity family, for helping us to find our new "home" here with you all. It truly has been a blessing beyond anything we could have imagined. We thank God for the hope of drawing closer to the Lord, each other, and with those around us as we open God's "home" to the world, until Christ comes in glory to make our home with us for all eternity!

As always, you are loved,

Tony

Meet the Kinneys

In the April Tidings, a mistake was made in introducing one of the new couples joining Trinity. Hopefully this can rectify the mistake in identification. Our most sincere apologies to the Kinneys.

Robbie and Allison Kinney moved to Tallahassee a little over a year ago from Atlanta. They transferred their

memberships from a United Methodist church in Atlanta. Robbie works for Fortis Environmental Group, and enjoys golf, fishing, and the outdoors. He graduated from the University of Georgia. Allison works for the Florida Bankers Association. She graduated from Auburn University.

May Music news

Mark Repasky
Music Director

Memories of Myron Blee and the Organ Committee

The Music Committee, responding to several years of concern expressed over the deteriorating condition of our

A huge undertaking

The Organ Committee was charged with exploring the present and future needs for our sanctuary organ. We were to compare refurbishing and slightly expanding the present organ to purchasing a completely new instrument. It was a daunting task for which members of the committee seemed ill prepared. The major obstacle appeared to be financial, since it was clear that whatever was done had to be funded by donations, not the church

budget. Musicians are good at many things, but perhaps not the best in organizing a major campaign to educate the congregation for the need for a new organ then generating a fund raising campaign to make it a reality.

A gifted leader

Myron Blee possessed the perfect combination of leadership and interpersonal skills to guide the Organ Committee through the entire process. He personally recruited new members of the committee, people who knew how to run fund raising campaigns. It was a marvel to see his "behind the scenes" maneuvering, always assuring that the Organ Committee was putting people in the right position to achieve our final goal....\$600,000 and a new pipe organ. During trips to Montgomery, Alabama and Atlanta to visit other organs, it was my privilege to become better acquainted with "Blee" as everybody called him: such a wise, gentle, unassuming man, committed to his church and always thinking of the future. He considered the new organ an investment in our church's future and "preached" this mindset to others. It was an infectious message!



That morning in 1998 dawned misty and overcast as the parts for the new Casavant organ arrived by the truckload.

sanctuary organ, established the Organ Committee in late 1996 or early 1997. Shortly thereafter, Myron Blee agreed to be chairman. This proved to be a serendipitous moment which more than any other factor, resulted in acquisition of the magnificent organ we presently enjoy here at Trinity.



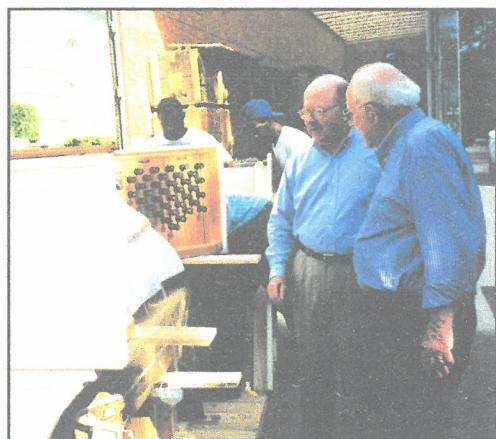
The large pipes were laid out in the aisles of the sanctuary awaiting placement in the chancel area.

Looking to the future

Mission accomplished; the funds were raised and the organ was completed near Christmas of 1999. Still, Blee's work wasn't done. His concern was how to protect the instrument in future years when major repairs would eventually be required. Part of the demise of the former organ, a fine instrument in its own right, was inadequate attention to care and maintenance over many years. He knew the time would come when major repairs would be needed on our Casavant—perhaps 30 or 40 years after it was built. So, the Organ Trust Fund was created at Trinity. It is "...dedicated to the insurance, care, maintenance, upgrading, refurbishing and replacement of the pipe organs at Trinity United Methodist Church." It states pipe organs because we also have a small pipe organ in our chapel. This instrument is covered by the Organ Trust Fund as well.

Give to the Organ Fund

The Organ Trust Fund presently stands at approximately \$115,000. This seems like a really large sum, but Blee believed it needed to grow considerably larger to fulfill its purpose. For example, replacing just the console for an organ our size today would likely consume the entire fund. Since the



Myron Blee, far right, was there waiting with Rev. John Willis, second from right, even as the organ console was being off-loaded from the truck.

console is primarily electronics, it will eventually wear out and need replacing or at least major refurbishing. The pipes are the "heart" of our organ. If properly maintained, they will outlast anyone presently attending Trinity. They do however need TLC occasionally. Please keep this in mind as you consider your charitable and church giving; keep thinking of the future!

Second Harvest Director Will Speak at UMW April 7

Linda Yates
UMW President

Award Winning Children's Author to Speak at UMW

Adrian Fogelin, award winning author of books for youth and young adults, will speak at the luncheon meeting of United Methodist Women Tuesday, May 5, in Moor Hall. All women of the church are invited to the program that starts at 11:45 a.m.

A native of New Jersey, Fogelin now lives and writes in Tallahassee, having moved here with her husband and daughter after working in the Baltimore Zoo and later living on a boat in the Florida Keys. Five of her books for young folks happen in the same place, her neighborhood in Tallahassee. "Each of them is narrated by a different kid and you can read any one of them separately and still get a complete story. But if you read all the books the picture in your head gets fuller and fuller until you feel as if you live in this neighborhood too," she writes on her web page.



Adrian Fogelin

If you want to read the titles in order, the author suggests you do it in this order:

- Crossing Jordan
- Anna Casey's Place in the World
- My Brother's Hero
- The Big Nothing
- The Sorta Sisters

The author visits schools in Florida and around the country, working with students from third grade through high school to encourage them to write creatively. Here in Tallahassee she has a Front Porch Library where children can check out books. Reading comes before writing, Fogelin believes, and is one way she hopes to increase literacy here.

To assist that literacy objective, United Methodist Women are encouraged to bring new or gently used books to the meeting to donate to the Front Porch Library.

Reservations for the meeting should be made by Friday, May 1, by calling Nancy Kerce at 877-6546. The UMW

Executive Committee will meet at 10:30 prior to the luncheon in the conference room.

UMW Circles to Meet

Circle 1 will meet at 10 a.m., Monday, May 11, at the home of Jean Johnson, 5400 Veterans Memorial Highway.

Circle 2 plans to meet in the church library immediately after the UMW luncheon meeting on Tuesday, May 5.

Circle 4 will meet in the church library on Tuesday, May 12 at 10:30.

Circle 5 meets Thursday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m. Call Patti Oakley, 877-4898 for location.

Circle 6 will meet Monday, May 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the home of Julie Pararo, 2104 Randolph Circle.

Circle 8 plans to meet at noon, Wednesday, May 6, at St. John's Cafe.

Circle 9 meets Tuesday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. Please call Liz Smith, 576-1533, for location.

Circle 10 meets Thursday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m. For location, please call Dawn Long, 539-4889

Change the City for May - Salvation Army of Tallahassee

Ron McCranie
Church and Society Committee Co-Chair

We are all familiar with Salvation Army bell ringers and kettles that are seemingly everywhere during the Christmas season, but where do those folks go during the rest of the year. Come to think of it, what is the Salvation Army anyway?

The Salvation Army was founded back in 1880 as a Christian outreach whose mission is to provide aid wherever and whenever it is needed, without distinction as to race or creed. The "Army" offers a multitude of services from shelter and meals for the homeless to spouse abuse shelters and drop-in centers for runaways. In addition, the organization provides camps for disadvantaged children and treatment centers for substance abusers.

From its beginning, the Salvation Army has developed local, regional, and national disaster service programs. One of the first waves of hurricane relief in Florida is typically comprised of a fleet of self-contained Salvation Army kitchens which coordinate with the Florida Department of Emergency Services to mobilize and provide food and showers to those people affected by the disaster. On the national front, during the recent floods in North Dakota, more than 300 Salvation Army members and volunteers manned ten mobile feeding units and three stationary feeding sites to provide nourishment for volunteers and residents.



In addition to dropping your change in the "Change for the City" container each Sunday during May, there are many opportunities to help the Salvation Army in its mission. Volunteers are always welcome as are donated items including appliances, furniture, household goods, clothing and canned goods. If you wish to donate items and need for them to be picked up, or would like more information about this special organization, you can call them locally at 222-0304, or drop by and visit them at: 206 W. Virginia Street in Tallahassee.

Preschool Kids Help Others in a BIG Way!

Stacey Duggar
Preschool Director

The children of Mrs. Duncan's, Mrs. Forrestall's, and Mrs. Duclos' classes recently participated in the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Hop-A-Thon to raise money and awareness. The children were prepared for this activity by listening to books about children with disabilities, watching a brief DVD about kids who have MDA, and by interacting with their teachers. The kids learned that not all children can walk or hop on their own; some need the help of leg braces, crutches and/or wheelchairs.

The MDA put together a program for schools where kids will hop for two minutes and gather donations; either flat rate donations or per hop pledges. Donations will be used for research, to

purchase wheelchairs, crutches, etc. and to send kids to MDA summer camp. While most of the school hopped and participated, only 38 children were eligible for participation in the fundraiser. I was so excited to send a check to the MDA office for \$1,649.15! I wish you could have seen their faces as they were jumping...it was sheer joy!



At left, Monjari Manohoran enjoyed the chance to be jumping with her friends on school time. Above, Jack Long gained even more time in the air by hitching up his drawers at just the right time on each jump. The kids were very excited to be a part of this wonderful event.

Hopping to it in the photo at left were from left, Claire Huggins, Kellett Snyder, Abigail Scott, Brady Fisher, and Aiden Knippel.

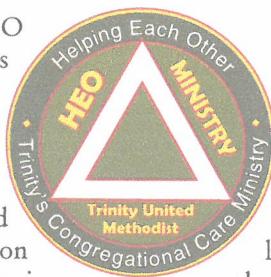
Communion for the Homebound

Leah Wright
HEO Coordinator

Hello from the HEO ministry! I am writing this month about one of our ministries called Communion for the Homebound. What the volunteers will do on May 3rd is take the blessed communion from our 3 services to those in our Church family who are unable to get to Trinity on Sunday mornings. This is such a beautiful and intimate aspect of our Christian faith and I am so glad that we have this ministry here.

Over the past several months, I have had the privilege of meeting so many of those members who aren't able to come to Trinity. They have blessed me just as much as I'm sure that my visits have let them know that they are loved.

Jesus came so that we may know the love and intimacy of God. At the last



supper that we all just celebrated, He broke the bread and drank the wine with his disciples because He loved them. He "reclined at the table" with them as friends; John — the one that Jesus loved, was leaning on Jesus as they spoke about who was to betray Him. Then when Jesus died, He tore the curtain in the temple and destroyed the temple to bring us to God. The presence of God came from behind the curtain and we are now His temple. It is so apparent that God wanted to be closer to us. Jesus loved us and lived a life to show us how to love and be with one another. This is why I am so excited about giving communion to the elders of our family. We are offering them intimacy that Jesus offered to His disciples by simply bringing the communion elements to them.

God has called us to love one another as He has loved us. When we give communion to our elders in the family of God, we are entering into the very actions that Jesus did with His human hands. Before Jesus died He told us that we would do even greater things than He; I consider giving communion to our elders just that.

If you'd like to join us in doing this beautiful act, please email me at lwright@tumct.org or call the church office at 222-1120. Have a great summer!



Youth news for May

Kelly Rains
Youth Director

A Note from Kelly ...

Today is a big day, I am moving back into my recently renovated office! I can't tell you how excited I am and I want to share some of my thoughts with you about moving back in.

First of all, I am so thankful to all the parents, youth and other Trinity members who have helped us with our project down here. I couldn't have done it without you and I couldn't be more proud to call this church my home. I honestly consider you my family and I invite you to come down and say "hi" anytime.

Secondly, I get the privilege of moving back in with my sidekick, Jordan Perry. I can't tell you how lucky we are to have her as our Youth Intern and how much she cares about this church, our youth and the ministry we do here. Her long

hours and dedication can not be found anywhere else that is for sure. I'm the fortunate one who gets to share an office with that awesome daughter of God!

And finally, as I think about new ways to rearrange my furniture and improve my space, I can't help but think about all the new things we will be doing in the months ahead. With new carpet, new sound equipment and some fresh paint, this renovation has been just what we needed. Who doesn't need a little "renovation" from time to time? By cleaning out and updating our areas, we have allowed ourselves to make room for new and exciting things. I can't wait to see what God has in store for us down here in *The Underground*. So stop by and see what we've done!

30-Hour Famine participants (all 45 of them!!)

April Bradley
Marie Bradley
Tori Bradley
Darci Brown
Amelia Carroll
Heaven Caten
Alyson Chrisco
Caitlyn Chrisco
John Cook
Amy Culp
Jonathan Danforth
Sarah Daniel

Anna Drake
Sarah Gilleland
Zjarea Grant
Jaqui Griffith
Jennifer Griffith
Jim Henderson
Alex Ingram
David Jensen
Cody Johansen
Lucy Li
Megan Lieblong

Devin Lovett
Jimmy McKinnell
Justice Merlau
Mary Alice Mills
Maria Parsons
Amber Pendleton
Karissa Pendleton
Jordan Perry
John Rains
Kelly Rains
Malinda Rains
Aaron Rhodes
Avery Smith
Ella Smith
Savannah Sterling
Hillary Tully
Elizabeth Vandervort
Casey Waddill
Cindy Wang
Albert Weaver
Amanda Wolfe
Michaella Wolfe



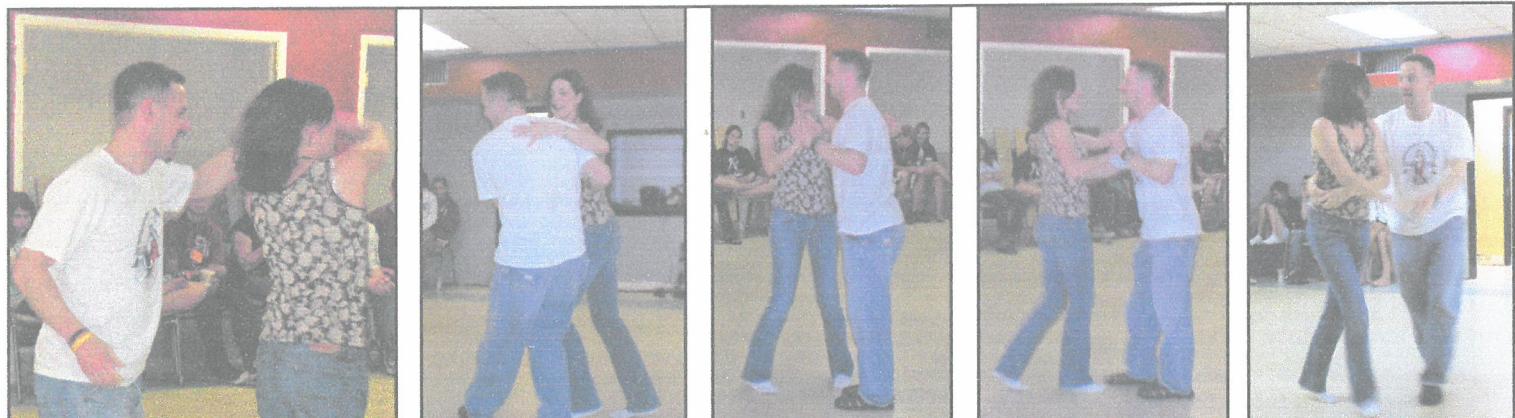
Upcoming Youth events for May

May 1 Confirmation Banquet 6:30
May 1 Mission Trip and Camp Payments Due
May 3 Confirmation Sunday 11:00 a.m. service
May 3 Band, Choir, UMYF
May 6 Last Wednesday Bible Study
May 10 Youth Choir Sings 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. services
May 10 No Band or Youth Choir Practice, UMYF (Movie Night) 6:00 p.m.
May 17 Graduate Sunday, Breakfast 9:45 a.m., Service 11:00 a.m.
May 17 No Youth Choir, Band 5:00pm, UMYF 6:00pm
May 24 School's Almost Out Party, Wakulla Springs 1:00pm
May 24 No Youth Choir, No Praise Band, No UMYF
May 31 Rising 6th Grade Picnic 12:00-2:00pm
May 31 No Youth Choir, No Praise Band, No UMYF

Other upcoming events

Jun. 7-13 Youth Week
Jun. 14 Youth Sunday
Jun. 14-19 VBS
Jun. 22-27 Summer Camp in Leesburg
Jul. 12-18 Middle School Mission Trip
Jul. 26-
Aug. 1 High School Mission Trip





Reverend Tony and Debbie Fotsch showed the youth how to salsa dance as part of the 30-Hour Famine activities. Evidently, these two can really cut a rug!



The Spaghetti lunch was again a success as the youth raised almost \$1,000 for youth area renovations. Above, Elizabeth Vandervort and Sarah Cherry advertise for business.



In the photo above, the annual Easter Egg Hunt had another great turnout. The youth helped organize games and generally kept the kids occupied. At left, Jordan Perry helps assess the relative merits of the accumulated eggs. Quiet time in the prayer garden, at right, before crawling into their cardboard boxes for sleep. Led by Jim Henderson, this was a time for quiet meditation and reflection on the day.



At left, Pastor Tony prepares the youth for communion as they, at last, break their 30-hour fast. At right, Jimmy McKinnell personalized his cardboard sleeping cave in Spanish (in English literally - "House of Jimmy").



Habitat for Humanity dedication

Ron McCranie
Church and Society Committee Co-Chair

The weather was perfect for the dedication on Sunday, March 29, of the area Methodist Habitat for Humanity home for Cyntheria Jackson. Reverend Hynes offered the blessing of the home and presented Ms. Jackson with a prayer quilt from Trinity. This home is a product of love and a tribute to all the volunteers who had a part in working through the past few months. Members from Trinity joined with fellow Methodists from St Paul's, Killearn Lakes (now Deer Lake), Woodville, New Life, John Wesley and others to bring the project to fruition.



Above, local Habitat Executive Director, Tyler Turkle, far left, speaks during the dedication of the house.



Among the many attending the dedication were, top left, new home owner, Cyntheria Jackson (holding a Trinity prayer quilt), middle right photo, Trinity member and frequent Habitat volunteer, Marti Chumbley, and in the photo above, Associate Pastor of Discipleship, Rev. Barbara Hynes.

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MONTHLY
Tidings
Trinity United Methodist Church
120 West Park Avenue
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 222-1120 www.tumct.org
E. Wayne Curry, **Senior Pastor**
Tony Fotsch, **Associate Pastor**
Rex W. Adams, **Communications Director**

PERIODICALS
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Attention all graduates

It's time to show off our graduates from high school and college. 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 to Kelly Rains or Rex Adams.

As always, the Trinity graduates feature will be in the June/July *Tidings*.

Fifth Sunday offering benefits Florida UMC Children's Home

May is one of those magical months possessing five Sundays. Magical because on those fifth Sundays, Trinity and other United Methodist churches throughout Florida have a special offering that is donated directly to the Florida UMC Children's Home.

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

The Children's Home has many attractive giving plans.

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

