



MONTHLY Findings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
Volume 41, Number 11, December, 2014

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

Stewardship 2014 - Celebration!

It was another great day at Trinity as members from all three Sunday worship services joined together for one great service. It was time to celebrate another year of God's generosity with new members joining (pg. 6), inspiring

speakers, great music, and new commitments to the church. Following the service, all who went to Moor Hall were treated to an old fashioned Sunday dinner with fried chicken and pot luck side-dishes and desserts. What a celebration!

Christmas Services

Wednesday, Christmas Eve*

Time	Service	Minister
4 p.m.....	Chapel Service	Rev. Hynes
5:30 p.m.....	Families.....	Rev. Fotsch
8 p.m.....	Lessons & Carols	Rev. Curry
11 p.m.	Communion.....	Rev. Curry

* All Christmas services will have candlelight.



Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following gifts from
October 14 – November 24, 2014:

In memory of **Ruth Eloise Day** from William and Montserrat Webb, Chet and Foy Winsor, Nancy Waugh, TMH Auxillary,

In memory of **Richard Almarode** from John and May Leslie Olson, Jane Womack, FSU Credit Union, Sheldon and Carol Reiter, the Ansley Family, Mason and Gerald Harris.

In memory of **Tamela Sue Williamson** from Duncan and Mary Ann Moore,

In memory of **Elizabeth “Libby” Blackburn** from the Women in Ministry Martha Action Team.

In memory of **Larry Benson** from DeVoe and Shirley McEwan Moore.

In honor of Mark Repasky from Bill and Judy Levy.

In honor of Rob Hlebinsky from Bill and Judy Levy.

Come celebrate Christmas with the Betty Phifer class

Miriam Peirce
Class leader

The Betty Phifer Class will have its Christmas brunch on Saturday, December 6 at 11:00 a.m. at the Pool House at Westminster Oaks. Bring a dish, a toy for **Toys for Tots** and some Christmas cheer! Everyone is welcome as we love meeting new people or greeting old friends. Any questions, ask a class member or call Miriam Peirce at 878-4086.

“The People’s Choice”



Trinity’s tree decorating team with the winning entry – “A Guatemalan Christmas” at the *Habitat Festival of Trees*. It was voted “The People’s Choice” by Festival attendees!

The Trinity team, l-r: Liz Smith, Rev. Barbara Hynes, Shari Hubbard, Barbara Leonard, and Marti Chumbler (not pictured).

WAYNE’S WORDS

By E. Wayne Curry
Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

Advent is a time of waiting, longing, expectation and love. A time to be patient. This prayer by Henri Nouwen is one I need to hear during this busy, chaotic season. Perhaps you do, too:

Lord Jesus,

*Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations
for Christmas.*

*We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces
to hear your voice each day.*



*We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.*

*We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your
kingdom.*

*We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy
of your presence.*

*We are your people, walking in darkness,
yet seeking the light.*

*To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!”
Amen.*



Invite a friend or neighbor to join you for one of our four Christmas Eve services:

- 4:00 p.m. - Chapel Service with Rev. Barbara Hynes preaching.
- 5:30 p.m. - Family Service with Rev. Tony Fotsch and the children preaching.
- 8:00 p.m. - Lessons and Carols Service with Rev. Wayne Curry preaching.
- 11:00 p.m. - Communion Service with Rev. Wayne Curry preaching

All four services are Candlelight with glorious Christmas music!

You are loved,

Wayne

Music News for December

Mark Repasky
Director of Music

Advent/Christmas CD

Many will remember Trinity's Healing Hearts CD (pictured below) which was issued in 2006. That project was a great success with about 500



The Senior Handchimes group play handchimes instead of bells and perform primarily in worship.

of the CD's distributed. Well, as a gift to our congregation, musicians at Trinity are preparing for an Advent/Christmas CD to be available about this time next year. We will be giving these out free to anyone who wants one until we run out! Catch is, we need to record the music this Christmas season even though the CD will not be available until next Christmas season.

As of last count, we have six recording sessions scheduled spanning mid-November through mid-December. If you see (or have already seen) a sign by the sanctuary entrance saying "DO NOT ENTER, RECORDING SESSION," you will know why!

Making Music at Trinity

Music seems such a good fit for the Advent/Christmas season, and Trinity always has a lot to offer. The annual massed handbell concert called "Ring in the Season" is held at First Baptist Church on Saturday, December 6 at 4:00 pm. Our own Trinity Ringers always participate. This is a great way to celebrate the season. It is the only massed handbell concert in the Tallahassee area. There are usually 6 or 7 handbell choirs at this event.

Sunday December 7, Senior Handchimes will provide special music before the 11:00 am service. They will be ringing several Christmas carols in the narthex of the sanctuary.

Our annual Christmas with the Children program, featuring our NETkids ministry, is set for Sunday December 14. We begin with a potluck dinner in Moor Hall at 5:00 pm. The program begins at 6:00 pm..... bring the kids!

NETkids Choirs (photos below) visit Broadview Assisted Living for a Christmas program on Wednesday, December 17, starting at 4:15 pm.

The annual Trinity Preschool Christmas program is set for Friday, December 19 at 11:30 am in Moor Hall. This is always a well-attended event!



The College/Careers handbells perform throughout the year at worship and other events outside the church.

Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Trinity Ringers, College/Career Handbells, Senior Handchimes, both steel pan groups, Cherub Choir, NETkids Choirs and NETkids steel pans ensemble will all provide music for December worship services and/or Christmas Eve services. Let's all celebrate the Advent/Christmas season together.... see you at church!



NETkids on the Road

The NETkids hit the road in costume on the day before Halloween and brought smiles and goodwill to the residents of Westminster

Gardens. They sang a number of songs that they have been practicing during the music portion of NETkids - all from memory!

After their concert, the children established

new friendships with the residents as they circulated throughout the room.

It's never too late to join NETkids (grades K-5th) - just call the church office (222-1120).

Community Christmas Dinner

Gloria Whitaker
Local Missions committee member

Trinity's Local Missions Team — Trinity Cares Spotlight



One of the wonderful events that happens each December at Trinity United Methodist Church is the Community Christmas Dinner. The dinner, which has been hosted by Trinity since its inception in 1987, is intended to add joy to all who would like to share a meal on this special day. Originally the dinner, prompted by the United Way of Leon County and downtown churches, was formed to serve a

fill all kinds of tasks – there is something for everyone: setting up, stuffing goodie bags (which are handed out to each guest as they leave), cooking (ably handled by an all male crew), greeting, serving, singing, conversing, restocking, dish washing, cleaning up, and on and on. No special skills are necessary – just a desire to participate in a wonderful celebration. Volunteers come from all over the

The dinner, which is cooked from scratch, is a veritable feast – as good as can be found anywhere. Our guests are served their dinner consisting of roasted turkey, stuffing and gravy, sweet potato casserole, green beans, assorted rolls and pies of every variety as well as beverages. The younger volunteer members roam the dining room with dessert carts from which guests can make a choice of wonderful mostly home-made goodies. By the time the dinner ends, clean-up is under way, the dishwashers are hard at work, and good-byes are exchanged until next year.

Everyone is invited to join us for the 27th Community Christmas Dinner at Trinity United Methodist Church, come and bring your family and friends. Maybe you know of a neighbor or friend who might be alone, ask them to come too. If you wish to attend the dinner, help with monetary donations, volunteer or need any information, call - Gloria or Blue Whitaker at 878-6064 email - gloria@talweb.com.

**The dinner is funded in large part by Trinity's Local Missions Team and individual monetary donations.*

We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge and thank organizations and businesses that have in the past and continue to contribute to the dinner: Tasty Pastry Bakery, Pepsi Cola, Flowers Bakery, Saint Paul's United Methodist Church, Killarn United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church, Quality Snacks.



For this event, it's mostly the men - of all ages, members and non-members - who do the cooking and loading of plates.

Christmas meal to those who would otherwise not have one; today this is still true, but there is an open invitation extended to all who would like to share in this wonderfully festive event.

community and some come from out of state. Many return year after year; it has become an annual reunion for our volunteer family. The dinner is served from 12 – 2 pm so the bulk of the help is needed during this time, but preparation begins about 8:30 am and continues until Moor Hall is in tip top shape usually about 3 pm. Volunteers are invited and encouraged to eat dinner. Also – doing something is not a requirement for attending – come and soak in the spirit.

While the dinner is being served, there will be a carol sing as visitors and volunteers join the musicians who serenade us until closing time. You don't have to have any special musical talent to join the singers, just sing along for the pure joy of it. For three years in a row now, we've been blessed to have Trinity's Hats for the Homeless Ministry join in the dinner. They bring knitted and crocheted hats and scarves of all sizes and descriptions for men, women and children. It's fun to watch as people look for just the right hat or scarf that suits them.



Some families come every year and make this an opportunity to spend time with extended family.

The dinner offers folks the opportunity to volunteer to help, because as you can imagine there are many hands needed to make sure this dinner is a success. The dinner begins with preplanning, but after twenty- six years, this part is pretty well established. The day of the event is the time of the real need to



Amber and Karissa Pendleton make a guest feel comfortable at the dinner.

Trinity Health Wellness Ministry

Health Wellness Team

Racing for a Reason

Dale Bradley, a faithful Trinity member who belongs to the Trinity Runners and



Walkers Club, believes in taking care of his body so he can serve God to the best of his ability. One of the many ways he does both is by participating in local races that promote charities.

Last month, he ran in the “Run for Lawson,” a race that raises money to fight bacterial meningitis, and won third place in his age category. Nice job, Dale!

The “Run for Lawson” website says, “With the help of more than 2,000 registered walkers and runners and an army of sponsors, in-kind supporters and volunteers, “Run For Lawson” has raised more than \$100,000 for the NMA over the past three years” (<http://runforlawson.org/run-information/>).

The Jingle Bell Run

The big race in December is the Jingle Bell Run at 6:15 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6, as part of the Tallahassee Winter Festival of Lights. All proceeds benefit the Tallahassee Friends of Our Parks Foundation, Inc., a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Trinity’s Runners and Walkers will be there along with Trinity’s Spiritual Outreach Committee, who will hand out bottles of water and hot chocolate. Enter the race, give your support, and/or help hand out refreshments to participants.

Register online or in person ASAP (www.talgov.com/parks/parks-winter.aspx). Meet on the church front steps before the run for a team picture. Contact Marie Bradley mbradley1716@comcast.net if you have any questions. Contact Tom Trunda ttrunda@yahoo.com if you would like to help the Spiritual Outreach committee hand out refreshments. Hope to see you there.

TLC Sunday – Save the Date – Feb. 22, 2015

Trinity Loving Care Sunday is a church-wide celebration of caring for ourselves and others. It combines Health Screening Day, Bear Sunday, and a Youth Lunch Fundraiser. There will be volunteer opportunities and activities for all ages. Bring your friends and join in the fun of learning, helping, eating, and connecting with others. Be there or be square!

For more about the Health Wellness Ministry go to <http://www.tumct.org/community/adults/health-wellness-ministry> or Contact Beth Curry bcseries@yahoo.com

What would Trinity do without its volunteers? After all, volunteers are what make a church “the church.” Pictured to the right are two volunteers who have been busy working on the Trinity website - making it more user-friendly, more intuitive to use, and more attractive to visitors and members alike. Pamela Crosby, left, has been responsible for editing content, and for contacting ministries and committee chairs in an effort to keep the website current. Colleen McConnell has been doing the behind-the-scenes work of making the website operate the way users expect. Both Pam and Colleen researched other church websites similar to Trinity’s, to seek out the most current features and to find the attributes that make websites work best. Thank you, Pam and Colleen!



Health Wellness Calendar

Drop in any time!

Classes are in the Parlor.

BFC Series

Exercise Classes

— Tuesdays and Thursdays —

- 9:15 - Staying Strong
- 11:00 - Variety Mix**

*\$3 suggested donation ** Nursery by reservation only

— Wednesdays —

- 4:15 p.m. - Staying Strong PM
- 6:30 p.m. - Variety Mix PM

NOTE: BFC classes will take a break starting Dec. 17 and resume in Jan.

Upcoming Events

JINGLE BELL RUN
Dec. 6, 6:15 p.m.

MATS FOR THE HOMELESS
Dec. 11, 10:30 a.m.
Conference room - *Help is needed!*

HATS FOR THE HOMELESS
Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m.
Conference room - *Help is needed!*

TLC SUNDAY
Feb. 22 *** Save the date.***

For more information about the Health Wellness ministry visit tumct.org/community/adults/health-wellness-ministry/ or contact: Beth Curry - BFCSeries@yahoo.com

WinM to Raise Funds for School Back Pack Program

Linda Yates,
WinM Communications

At their Tuesday, December 2, luncheon meeting, Women in Ministry (UMW) will face a challenge imposed by their Executive Committee:

Bring donations to help raise at least \$1,000 for Second Harvest of the Big Bend's School Back Pack Program. Funding previously provided by government and social services agencies was greatly reduced this year and many at risk children no longer are given a bag of food to take home on Fridays to help feed their families over the weekend.

Trinity's Women in Ministry (UMW) help pack the bags once a month and know how much families whose children eat at school during the week depend upon the bag of canned fruit, vegetables and staples. They took \$400 out of their budget as a starter gift and are calling on fellow members and concerned members of the church to pitch in to reach their goal. Any money contributed during December will be matched 2 to 1 by a Second Harvest benefactor.

UMW will install new officers for the 2015 year during the December luncheon

beginning at 11:15 in Moor Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Reservations should be made by calling Nancy Kerce at 877-6546 by Nov. 28.

WinM Action Team Meetings

The **Aultie Foster Action Team** and the **Dorcas Action Team** are combining and will meet together for the first time at 1 p.m., December 2, in the church library.

The **Alpha Action Team** (Circle 1) will meet Monday, December 8, at 10 a.m. Hostess will be Cynthia Smith, 807 Greenbriar Lane.

The **Mary Martha Action Team** will not have a regular meeting in December but instead will deliver poinsettias to shut-in Trinity members.

The **Sojourners Action Team** will meet for lunch at noon on Wednesday, December 3, at St. Johns Cafe.

The **Voice Action Team** will meet Thursday evening, December 18, 6:30 p.m., for dinner at a local restaurant. Contact Patti Oakley for location.

Susanna Wesley Action Team will meet Tuesday, December 16, 10 a.m. for a program and Christmas covered dish lunch at the home of Liz Smith, 3930 Meandering Lane.

Morning Coffee Action Team will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 9, at a coffee shop. Contact Ruth Ann High at 894-2806 or rahigh@comcast.net.

Members join on Celebration Sunday

Corey and Laura Fordham joined from another denomination. They have three children, Isabelle (9), Will (7), and Jake(3). Corey works at First American Title as a financial analyst and Laura is the business manager at G5 Engineering. Laura and Corey are graduates of FSU and love FSU Football. **Jason and Kim Gassett** transferred their memberships from local churches. Jason is a project manager for Childers Construction and Kim is an administrative assistant at

Timberlane Appraisal. Kim is active in Junior League of Tallahassee and Jason enjoys golf, hunting, fishing, and woodworking.

Karen, Anna, and Hayden Gill joined by profession of faith. Karen works for Leon County Schools and is a Tallahassee native. The family has been visiting Trinity for years and enjoy it. Karen's parents were both principals in the Leon County school system.

Charles Greenberg joined from another denomination. He is from Orlando and

came to Tallahassee for graduate school and graduated from FSU in 2012. While at FSU, Charles attended the Wesley Foundation on FSU's campus.

Glen and Adriana Squire transferred their membership from another Methodist church. They moved to Tallahassee from Virginia. Glen works for the Social Security Administration and enjoys history, travel, and watching baseball. Adriana is from Romania and enjoys the arts, music, sports, and nature.



Rev. Curry (far left) introduces each new member from memory. They are from left; Anna, Hayden, and Karen Gill; Charles Greenberg; William, Corey, Laura (holding Jacob), and Isabelle Fordham; Jason and Kim Gassett; and Glen and Adriana Squire.

Youth Happenings in December

Blake Swanson
Youth Director

John Freeze
Youth Intern

A Note from Blake!

"A God Who Provides"

It is hard to believe that it is already December. It seems like just a few weeks ago that Elizabeth and I were first arriving in Tallahassee and starting this completely new chapter of our lives. For us, this position was something only the Lord could have orchestrated. If you get a chance, I would love to share that story with you sometime. It has been amazing to see the ways the Lord has provided over the last couple of months. We had a great time celebrating Thanksgiving with my parents and it was a much needed time with them. We look forward to welcoming Elizabeth's parents in just a couple weeks.

You see, even at my somewhat young age, I have come to realize firsthand that our God is a God who provides for us. He knows exactly what we need better than anyone else around us. We may not always fully understand what all of those needs are, or the desires that we have that maybe are not our needs. Thankfully, our Father in heaven does though. I think about the verse that talks about how if the Lord cares for the animals as much as He does, how much more does He care for us.

As we enter into this Advent and Christmas season, I pray that you would seek after the God who provides. He



knows exactly what you need and wants to provide that for you. This may look different for all of us, but I hope that it is something we can all come together on. May He provide for you abundantly, until your heart is full of a love that only He can provide. In the words of Pastor Wayne, go knowing exactly how much you are loved.

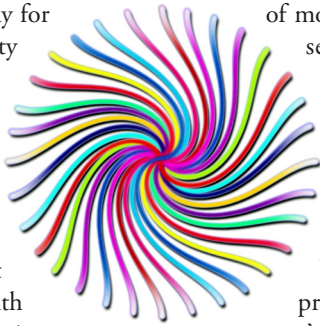


Stay
Current
visit!
undergroundministries.org

The Youth celebrated Halloween with a costume party and a pumpkin carving contest.

Ministry Expo Sunday 2014

Sunday, Nov. 9 was a day for learning about what Trinity members do to "Reach Out." On that day, Trinity hosted a Ministry Expo that highlighted many of the church's ministries as well as several of the community agencies that TUMC supports - either with volunteers or through donations



of money. Over 30 booths were set up with informational displays and representatives eager to answer questions and provide information on how one can become involved.

Lunch was provided by the Youth with the proceeds going toward next year's missions.



In the picture above, left-right, Dale Bradley, John Lucas, Tom Trunda, and Jacqi Sisto worked at the Spiritual Outreach, and the Clothing Connection booths.



In the photo above, Steve Denmark, left, signs up to help with the Providence Neighborhood project, hosted by Lora Chapman.



Pictured above are three of the mission members from the recent mission trip to Guatemala, from left, Ken Morrison, and Barbara and Frank Leonard (chair).



Sandy Kappes, above, works at the Red Carpet Team booth. The Red Carpet Team welcomes visitors to Trinity and helps new members integrate and become a part of the Trinity family.



Gloria Colvin (above left) answers a question about the Madison Youth Ranch from Nancy Waugh. Gloria also keeps the Trinity library organized and categorized.



Showing some of the many things that the Health Wellness Committee does for Trinity, like exercise classes, the community garden, Hats and Mats for the Homeless, and Trinity Runners/Walkers. Pictured here from left-right, Beth Perry, Jacqi Griffin, Gloria and Blue Whitaker, Rose Glenn, Beth Curry (chair), and Marie Bradley.



The three young women above, including Jennifer Dickson (center), were handing out humongous cinnamon buns that smelled (and tasted) heavenly!

At left, Pamela Crosby and Colleen McConnell showed off the newly re-done Trinity website, in which their work was integral. Read more about these two great volunteers on page 4 inside.

MONTHLY
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