



MONTHLY

Findings

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Volume 41, Number 10, November, 2014

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

Stewardship 2014 – Reach Up Reach In Reach Out

Paula Smith
Stewardship Chair

The ministry of Trinity United Methodist Church is 190 years old! As I reflect on years past, I have a sense of awe and wonder at God's work here. So many have walked through these doors, sharing the love, passion and commitment of their faith.

How do we continue to share the gospel by word and deed? How do we experience the love of Christ that surpasses all we can ask or imagine? How do we pass our faith to friends, children and grandchildren?

The answer: With grateful hearts, every year, we bring our financial gifts, our time and our talent to Trinity.

November is Stewardship Month. We will celebrate and give thanks each Sunday as we **Reach Up** to worship, **Reach In** in Christian discipleship and **Reach Out** in mission. Soon, you will receive a booklet and a pledge card in the mail explaining how your generous gifts have been used. Please enjoy reading and knowing each dollar contributed has been faithfully invested in the lives of our church and community in mission, education and worship. Through the facts presented, you will get a sense of the depth and breadth of the importance of your financial support. Trinity continues to finish each year in



REACH UP
REACH IN
REACH OUT

the black, with a balanced budget, thanks to the amazing stewardship of a faithful congregation and staff.

In November, in addition to the typical wonderful sermons and music, you can look forward to meeting with our pastors in small groups in Sunday School classes, private homes, circle meetings and any place Trinity members gather. They will answer questions, discuss concerns and describe future plans. If you would like to have a pastor visit your group, please call the church office as soon as possible to schedule.

Sunday, Nov. 23 is Celebration Sunday.

You are invited to a Fried Chicken Feast! Trinity is renowned – among other things – for its awesome cooks. Please bring your favorite side dish or salad and/or dessert to share. Our team of hungry judges will award ribbons to the best dish in each category. This year for the first time, there will be a special Best in Show award. You could be the winner!

Finally, on Sunday Nov. 23, there will be only **ONE CHURCH SERVICE AT 10:30 A.M. AND NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**. Please send your pledge card in as soon as you receive it or bring your pledge card to the service. We are looking forward to worshipping, celebrating and sharing a delicious Sunday Dinner together. Mark your calendars!

2014 Stewardship Committee:

- Sara and Brewster Brown
- Beverly and Bobby Burleson
- Judy and Benson Green
- Kathy and Bill Gunter
- Diane and Jimmy Richerson
- Paige and Stephen Shiver
- Paula and Bill Smith
- Susan and John Thomas
- Paige and James Trafton

- Volunteers Needed -

Start planning now to help with the Fried Chicken Feast!

- **Be a Cook:** Bring your favorite side dish or salad and/or a dessert to share. Join the ranks of Trinity's awesome cooks. Please bring your dish to Moor Hall at 9:45 a.m. Our hungry judges may choose your dish for a ribbon OR it may win Best in Show!
- **Set up Moor Hall:** 10:00 a.m. Friday, 11/21.
- **Receive Food and Complete Lunch Preparations:** Be at Moor Hall Sunday, 11/23, 9:45 a.m.
- **Serve as a Judge** for the Cooking Competition: Sunday, 11/23, be at Moor Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- **Be a Kitchen Helper /Server:** Be at Moor Hall, Sunday, 11/23, 10:15 a.m.
- **Be on the Clean Up Crew:** Be at Moor Hall, Sunday 11/23, 12:30 p.m.

To sign up, please contact Jimmy Richerson, 850-980-0321.

Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following gifts from
September 25 – October 13, 2014:

In memory of **Tamela Sue Williamson** from
Mary Ann and Duncan Moore, Earline and
Larry Adkison and family, and Cookie and
Franklin Darnell.

In memory of **Nannette Hartsfield Harrison**
from Bill and Cynthia Smith.



REACH UP
REACH IN
REACH OUT

*Save the
Date!*

**CELEBRATION
SUNDAY**

One Service @ 10:30
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

**November 23
2014**

**Trinity
United Methodist
Stewardship
Campaign**

WAYNE'S WORDS

*By E. Wayne Curry
Senior Pastor*

Dear Friends,

- *Worship...music...preaching...*
- *Friendships...care...support...*
- *Exercise...Bible Study...
Lay Academy classes...*
- *Snack packs...Hope Community...
Habitat for Humanity...*
- *Guatemala...Madison Youth Ranch...
Missionaries...*
- *Shelter meals...ECHO...Bear Sunday...
community garden...
Health fair screening...*
- *Trinity preschool...Children's Ministry...
Netkids...*
- *Sunday School...Youth Ministry...
30 Hour Famine...*

Why do you give to your church? I imagine because of the many ministries listed above, and more! We each have different motivations and capacities for giving, and every gift and pledge is gratefully received. My hope and prayer is that your support for our ministries comes from a profound sense of gratitude and joy for all you receive through your relationship with God and the members of our church.

We are a blessed congregation. We share a strong faith with each other. We celebrate the joyful events in each other's lives and comfort each other in times of trial and sorrow. We welcome everyone and anyone to join us, and we change the lives of people in our community--people who may never set foot in our church--simply because they have no one else to turn to, and we are here.

Our church has ministered faithfully for more than 190 years - but not because members have given year after year out of duty, obligation, guilt or fear. Such motivations can't sustain an institution for nearly two centuries. No, our church is still here, strong and vibrant, because generations and generations of members have counted themselves blessed and have therefore supported its mission with generous gifts of gratitude and joy. Now it's up to us.



In worship, study, faith-sharing groups, service opportunities and more, we're growing as an extended family. Your generous gift will continue to build the web of caring and community for all. As you count yourself blessed, please consider increasing your pledge for 2015 and beyond.

Celebration Sunday is November 23rd. Please plan now to worship with us at a combined service at 10:30 a.m. and stay for the all-church fried chicken dinner afterwards. Over the next few weeks, you'll be hearing some deeply personal messages from members of our church family who feel blessed to be among us. Please use this time to reflect on the many ways you can count yourself blessed and then give gratefully, generously, and joyfully in support of our missions in 2015. Thank you!

You are loved,

Wayne

Music News for November

Mark Repasky
Director of Music

Organist progress report

The process of applying for religious visas for our new organist Viktor Billa (known as R1 visa) and his wife Yuliia (R2) is well

email, he said: "But I want to work in church, to serve the Lord. In America there are a lot of churches where work of the organist is paid. In Ukraine also there are many churches, but here work of all musicians without payment. Therefore I look for work in America."

Why an organist from overseas?

Our Organist Search Committee worked diligently from late January to May of 2014 looking for suitable candidates. Unfortunately, we were not successful. We brought two candidates to our church during that time, but they were not a good match for our unique needs. We need an organist who is a highly skilled musician: a very strong sight reader, able to read open score, a sensitive and experienced accompanist, and well-versed in hymn playing that supports congregational singing. Viktor was the only candidate that met all these criteria! We had done a national search for an organist. Partly as a result of this concerted effort, Viktor had seen our announcement on the internet.

A musician's mission project

Earning a living by Viktor and Yuliia will be severely limited by their religious visas. Yuliia cannot work at all. Viktor can only work for our church. For instance, he cannot be organist for a wedding at St. John's Episcopal Church and be paid for it. That means their income will be quite low for several years and they will need some help ... our help! Once we receive news that the State Department has approved their visas, we can fairly accurately predict when they will arrive in Tallahassee. We will issue a wish list to the congregation of items that will help them establish a household in Tallahassee. Think about it - they are moving from Ukraine with very few possessions (they are bringing a cat!). The Chancel Choir, for instance will

underway. All the paperwork was completed and sent to the US State Department in late June. Additional information was requested by the State Department, which we and Viktor supplied in early to mid- September. We are in a holding pattern, awaiting word from our State Department. It is difficult to predict how long this will take, though we were given an early estimate of six months, which would put their arrival in Tallahassee in late December.

Viktor's first contact

In an email dated February 24, 2014, Viktor made first contact with our church about the organist position. He explained why he needed to move somewhere else: "Since July, 2011, I moved to live in my hometown where there is no opportunity to apply all my gained experience. I want not only to accumulate knowledge but also to share them with people. To develop not only myself, but also to develop people around, to glorify the Lord together." Later in the same



An Organ Recital with a Twist!

Where can you hear a Bach prelude and fugue, a French toccata, a Beethoven symphony, and the theme from "Pirates of the Caribbean?"

On Sunday, November 2 at 2 p.m. our former organist Rob Hlebinsky (pictured above) will perform a recital that will showcase this music! The first half of the program will feature traditional organ music including works by J. S. Bach, Franz Liszt, and Louis Vierne. The second half of the program will explore the organ as a one-man orchestra. You may hear modern arrangements of well known pieces like Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, as well as popular music from "Star Wars," "Pirates of the Caribbean," and "Frozen."*

Join us for an afternoon of music that will have something for everyone, and will let you hear the organ in a way you've never experienced before!

*Program subject to change

provide a pounding for them, similar to the very successful pounding our congregation did for Trinity's new Youth Director Blake Swanson and his wife, Elizabeth, a few months ago. I have recently heard from some of Trinity's leaders that this is a very generous and supportive church, and it will rally to support these new arrivals.....BRAVO! In thirty-three years as a fulltime music director at United Methodist Churches, I have never seen such a great opportunity to help a fellow musician build a new life in this country. How exciting!

Notes from Ruth Ann High - HEO Coordinator

Ruth Ann High
HEO Coordinator

Soon, cold days will be here and I will see many people coming to Trinity asking for coats and blankets. Last year I handed out all the blankets and coats I could find. I am asking for donations of any large or extra large sweat shirts or coats along with

blankets and sleeping bags. Please help me keep our downtown neighbors warm. Shelter residents must be out by 7 a.m. and often have no warm place to go until ten o'clock. Donations can be left in the closet at The Welcome Center. I can come pick

up donations as well. Just let me know by calling the church office or sending me an email at rahigh@tumct.org.

Thank you for your help in helping those who are in need.



Refuge House

Melanie Quinton
Local Missions committee member

Our local Missions Committee is proud to support and highlight Refuge House as an ongoing mission we support. Refuge House serves all people affected by domestic violence and sexual assault across the eight counties of the Big Bend. In addition, they offer support and resources to people who have been hurt by abuse or violence, along with guidance and encouragement for families and friends worried about a daughter, sister, child, or parent.

Their Mission:

The mission of Refuge House is to provide direct services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to their children and families, as well as to eliminate such violence through community education and public advocacy.

Here are a few of the services Refuge House provides:

- **Emergency Shelter:** Free confidential shelter including food, emergency clothing, counseling, and support for children, transportation, legal and medical assistance.
- **Hotline:** A 24-7 crisis counseling hotline providing safety planning, rape crisis response, crisis intervention, resource referrals, and screening for the emergency shelter.
- **Outreach Counseling:** Face-to-face, supportive counseling or therapy involving eight sessions or more, support groups, advocacy and support with law enforcement,

landlords and employers.

- **Courthouse Assistance:** Information and assistance in preparing petitions for protective injunctions, courtroom accompaniment, along with referrals to free legal assistance and other Refuge House services.

- **Rape Crisis/Hospital Response:** Forensic exams performed by Refuge House rape crisis nurse examiner, along with crisis counseling, law enforcement advocacy for victim and significant others, medical supervision, forensic expert testimony in rape trials, along with ongoing counseling and medical follow-up.

- **Transitional Housing:** Supportive, low/no cost housing and counseling for domestic violence victims and children. Educational support, job readiness, financial literacy classes, legal assistance for immigrant victims along with residency for up to 2.5 years; an on-going healing program.

Ways to get involved:

- **Adopt a Family for the Holidays:** With the holiday season right around the corner, Refuge House is turning their attention to these families in need and making the holiday time of year easier for the women and children served. For many of the families, the holidays

Trinity's Local Missions Team — Trinity Cares Spotlight



are filled with painful memories and a longing for a peaceful family gathering. The holidays can also be a time of frustration for mothers who have very little money with which to buy gifts for their children and food for their special holiday meal. Refuge House's goal during the holidays is to help the families they serve begin to build new memories, ones of peace and love. Contact Refuge House for more information to help these families!

- **Turkey Trot:** Refuge House is one of four organizations that benefit from the proceeds of the Turkey Trot! Come out and support Refuge House in a fun, helpful way! <http://tallyturkeytrot.com/>
- **November Donation Drive:** Looking for Paper plates, plastic and Styrofoam cups, plastic tableware, paper towels, napkins, zip lock baggies in sandwich quart, gallon sizes, trash bags, aluminum foil, wax paper and plastic.
- **Food Drive:** Refuge House is always in need of non-perishable foods for the families.

Refuge House Contact Information
P.O. Box 20910
Tallahassee, FL 32316
(850) 922-6062



Give the World a Present

Leslie Elliott
Missions Committee

We are happy to announce that Henrietta the hen and some of her friends, Alada the miniature horse, Greta the goat and Rizzo the rabbit will be coming back to Trinity this year! On Sunday morning, December 7, they will all be here in the outside courtyard to celebrate the annual Heifer International effort sponsored by our church.

The mission of Heifer is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth. Since 1944, Heifer has helped 8.5 million families in more than 125 countries move toward greater self-reliance through the gift of livestock and training in environmentally sound agriculture. The impact of each initial gift is multiplied as recipients agree to "pass on the gift" by giving

one or more of their animal's offspring, or the equivalent, to another in need.

The foreign Missions Committee will begin "selling" animals on Sunday, November 9 during Trinity's Ministry Expo at a table marked "Heifer" and thereafter on four Sundays at the welcome center.

Please consider an alternative Christmas gift for a loved one this year and also plan to visit the courtyard before and after worship and Sunday School on December 7 to visit the

animals and participate in the petting farm. Attractive gift cards will be available for those you have chosen to honor through your donation to Heifer.



Trinity Health Wellness Ministry

Health Wellness Team



Above is a beautiful photo collage put together by Health Wellness team member, Colleen McConnell, that describes with pictures the multi-faceted Health Wellness ministry.

From the top left and continuing clockwise, the photos depict: the Hats for the Homeless ministry; the Bloodmobile that is scheduled for visits to Trinity on a regular basis; a photo showing Jayne Mittan holding a Guatemalan baby representing the medical needs of the Guatemala missions that are supported by Health Wellness; the Staying Strong morning BFC class; a garden workday; the Variety Mix morning BFC class; Mats for the Homeless; another Variety Mix class, and the BFC (Becoming Fit at Church) logo.

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

Upcoming Events

- Bloodmobile -
Nov. 23, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
in front of church

- TLC Sunday -
Feb. 22, 2015

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

Betty Phifer Class Advent Study

Miriam Peirce
Class leader

Make plans to visit the Betty Phifer class this Advent season. This time of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus will be different from ones we have done before - perhaps very different for some of you. We hope to introduce some contemporary theologians and their perceptions of the Christmas story and our traditions.

We believe that it is important to understand the research of scholars and discover how it fits in with our faith. We also believe that we need to distinguish

between fact and truth. We do this by asking not "Did it happen?" but "What does it mean?" Learning some new perspectives about the Christmas stories should in no way detract from our traditions but enhance them.

Nov. 30 is the beginning session, December 21 the last. Sessions begin at 9:45 each Sunday morning and close at 10:45.

We welcome all to join us for this series.

Come join us for these four Sundays and see for yourself.



Support the Preschool at the Book Fair Nov. 17-21

Please consider supporting the preschool by visiting the Scholastic Book Fair



scheduled for November 17-21. We will have a variety of books for sale for preschool and elementary level readers. Purchase your books now and have them ready for

Christmas! We will have the fair set up in the preschool during the weekdays and will be in the Welcome Center on Wednesday, Nov. 19 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We appreciate your support!

Women in Ministry Will Meet Nov. 4

Linda Yates,
WinM Communications

Members of Trinity's Women in Ministry (UMW) will bring their annual World Thank Offering to their luncheon meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 4, beginning at 11:45 in Moor Hall.

The World Thank Offering is an opportunity for individuals to respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission carried on through United Methodist Women's national office in the United States and around the world. Treasurer Esther Harrison will explain how the funds will be used.

All women of the church and their guests are invited to the luncheon. Reservations may be made by calling Nancy Kerce at 877-6546 by Oct. 31.

The WinM executive committee will meet at 10:30 that day in the church library to complete a slate of nominees to lead the group in 2015. All officers and action team chairs are urged to attend.

WinM Action Team Meetings

The Aultie Foster Action Team will meet Tuesday, Nov. 11, in the Church Library at 10:30 a.m.

The Dorcas Action Team will meet in the Church Library at 1 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 4.

The Alpha Action Team (Circle 1) will meet Monday, Nov. 10, at 10 a.m. Call Cynthia Smith at 561-1112 for location.

The Mary Martha Action Team will meet at 6 p.m., Monday, Nov. 10, at the home of Julie Pararo, 2104 West Randolph Circle.

The Sojourners Action Team will meet for lunch at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 5, at St. Johns Cafe.

The Voice Action Team will meet Thursday evening, Nov. 20, 7 p.m., at home of Esther Harrison, 2107 Rankin Ave.

Susanna Wesley Action Team will meet Tuesday, Nov. 18, 10 a.m. at home of Barbara Ware, 4771 Buckhead Ct., telephone 421-0207.

Morning Coffee Action Team will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 11, at a coffee shop. Contact Ruth Ann High at 894-2806 or rahigh@comcast.net.

Youth Happenings in November

Blake Swanson
Youth Director

John Freeze
Youth Intern

UNDERGROUND ministries



A Note from Blake!

The youth had a great month during October, with two events that really kicked off the month for us. We had several students head to Lake Ella for the annual Crop Walk, and along with their time and energy to participate in the walk, also donated several items that went toward assisting local food pantries. These donations really help, especially as we head into this holiday season.

The month of October also meant Confirmation Retreat for the newest members of Underground Ministries.

We took a total of 11 students to Warren Willis for a weekend, where we examined the different questions of faith they would be asked at the end of Confirmation, as well as had a ton of fun playing disc golf, painting nails, doing a low ropes course and even going out for milkshakes. We are excited to see the ways that these students will be growing into leaders throughout their time in our group.

Looking to the future, be on the lookout for Christmas tree and

wreath orders in the bulletins. By ordering a Christmas tree through the youth fundraiser, you are helping many students go on retreats and mission trips. We will be taking orders throughout this month and hope you will be able to support us as you decorate for the holidays. Thank you!



This group of four photos were taken at the recent Confirmation Retreat at Warren Willis camp in Leesburg. The photo at top left is the group shot in front of the floating cross with adult volunteer David Dickson. The photo to right shows the group doing a team-building exercise. The photo below shows the boys doing boy things near the lake. And the photo to the left shows the girls doing girl things with adult volunteer, Jennifer Dickson.



Time to order
Christmas
Trees



It's time to get your Christmas tree! Watch for inserts for buying your tree in the weekly bulletins beginning November 9. **Deadline for ordering will be Sunday November 23.**

Pick up will be **Wednesday, December 3** from 4 - 9 p.m.

Funds raised will go to youth mission trips.

Dedication of Madison Youth Ranch

Gloria Colvin
Children's Home Liaison

A group from Trinity joined over 750 United Methodists and friends of the Children's Home for the dedication and opening celebration of the Madison Youth Ranch in Pinetta, Florida on September 23. It was a great day that included tours

The Maulsby House



of the two youth homes, a program of prayer and dedication, lunch, and great fellowship of United Methodists from around the Florida Annual Conference.

The Madison Youth Ranch is the newest ministry of the Florida United Methodist



The Ranch Entrance

Children's Home, which serves children in situations of financial hardship, abuse, and neglect by providing a home where each of them can feel safe and experience the love and care they need to succeed in life. Each residential home can house up to 12 children and has two sets of house parents who alternate every other week. Each child has his/her own bedroom and bathroom. The children eat in their homes "family" style, share in chores, and attend local public schools.

Eventually, the goal is to serve 100 youth ages 6-17 in the residential program. To meet that goal,



The opening Celebration drew more than 750 people to the Madison Youth Ranch.

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Rex Adams, **Director of Communications**

PERIODICALS
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USPS 01 3-030
TALLAHASSEE FL

additional homes will need to be built, along with a stable, campus life center, chapel, learning center, daycare, counseling offices, houseparent retreats, dining hall, gym, vocational tech center, commissary, and volunteer housing.

This new and exciting venture offers opportunities for Trinity and other area churches to be involved in making a difference in the lives of children who are caught up in difficult situations.