



MONTHLY

Findings

Trinity United Methodist Church

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Volume 42, Number 8, September, 2015

Because of God's love for us through Jesus Christ, we exist to worship, grow and serve.

So many programs - what to do?

It's that time of year again! The Fall season is a great time to choose ways to get involved in the life of your church. At Trinity, the challenge is where will you spend your time and your children's time?

There are many ways to find more information - look for brochures around the church, click the church website (tumct.org), or call the church office (222-1120). There are so many great things to do for all ages! Check out these great choices:

Lay Academy (begins Sept. 16)

Lay Academy is a series of adult education classes offered in five separate terms from September to May. Classes are held every Wednesday, with some classes at 4:15 and others at 6:30 p.m. Study topics are of general interest as well as for spiritual growth. Classes are open to the general public in addition to the Trinity congregation.

The upcoming session will feature many interesting studies, including: **Marriage Enrichment** class taught by Wayne Curry; **BFC Exercise** classes at 4:15 and at 6:30 p.m with Beth Curry; a **Bible Study** class taught by new associate pastor, Jonathan Brewster; a **Look at Our Criminal Justice System** coordinated by Barbara Hynes; a **Men's Study Group**, led by Bill Fritchman. There will also be a single class on **Cyber Security** taught on Sept. 9 by Dan Drake at 6:30.



NETkids (begins Sept. 16)

NETkids is a fellowship group for elementary school children (K-5) that meets Wednesday afternoons September through May. There will be a **Parents Meeting** on Sept. 9 at 6:30 in the Library. Come for dinner at 5:30 and it is FREE!

Youth Bible Study (begins Sept. 16)

Our **Middle School Bible Study** meets from 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. during the school year, and school pickup is available from Raa Middle School. Following an all-church dinner, we have **High School Bible Study** from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Every Wednesday, we have lots of fun so come join us. Surf the church website (tumct.org) or call Youth Director, Blake Swanson (545-2852) to get more information.

BFC Classes (classes are year around)

BFC exercise classes always have cutting-edge exercise equipment and the latest 'torture' device is the BOSU (**both sides utilized**). Classes are given on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:15 and 11 a.m. and on Wednesdays during Lay Academy at 4:15 and 6:30 p.m. Drop into any of our classes and have fun while you get fit! Your \$3 donation funds community projects through the Health Wellness Committee. See page 5 learn more of this activity.



UMW (Welcome Back Luncheon Sept. 1)

United Methodist Women in Ministry Unit of UMW emphasizes hands-on ministry in the community while continuing to support global missions financially.

All women of the church are invited to attend the Welcome Back Luncheon, Sept. 1 at 11 a.m. To join UMW, contact new membership chairman, Jan Hamilton (727-480-2134) or email (grammyjan319@gmail.com). Also, see page 6 for information on UMW Circle meetings.

Adult Sunday School

Because Trinity is a diverse church, we have a variety of Adult Sunday Study Group offerings. Groups and classes meet at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings and span many needs and interests.

There is timely information in the weekly bulletin or on the church website (tumct.org).

Children's Sunday School

Our Sunday School includes adventure, exciting stories, science experiments, arts and crafts, animated video storytelling, and active games — all combined into a living-faith experience that will help children discover what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ today!



Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following gifts from
July 22 — August 24, 2015:



In memory of **Nancy Petrandis** from
Monna Bryant

In memory of **Elizabeth Hill** from Henry
H. Brown

In memory of **Mary Marchant** from David
and Jo Nell Blakey

In memory of **Don Hardison** from Donie
Ann Henderson

Blessing of the animals

Continuing a tradition that dates back to St. Francis of Assisi, Rev. Curry will bless animals on **Saturday, Oct. 3 at 9 a.m.** The blessing will take place in the exterior courtyard that faces Duval St.

St. Francis believed that animals are a valued part of God's kingdom and thus worthy of blessings. So, bring in "Biscuit" the cat or "Taco" the guppy or your choice of transportable pet.

But please, no elephants or blue whales!

Diaper Drive for Refuge House

The **Local Missions Committee** has agreed to hold a diaper drive for Refuge House.

Refuge House serves all people affected by domestic violence and sexual assault across the eight counties of the Big Bend.

Many women and children find a safe haven at Refuge House while they put their lives back on track.

They have many needs, but one is diapers - of all sizes. They go through approximately 1,800 diapers per year.

They have a particular need for **sizes 5 and 6 diapers**, since those are the sizes that they go through the quickest. Or, if you would like to contribute **baby wipes, baby powder, or baby shampoo/soap**, they would welcome those as well.

Please support this mission by dropping off boxes of diapers or other baby supplies in the drawer **in the Welcome Center**.

WAYNE'S WORDS

By E. Wayne Curry
Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

I hope you were able to get away this summer for a bit of rest and relaxation. We always look forward to that summer vacation and it comes and goes much too quickly. Now we're back into the busy routine of life. I wonder if we can take some of the lessons of summer rest and bring it into our busy lives?

Over 150 years ago a theologian wrote, "Busyness makes it almost impossible for a person to form a heart." And what he meant is that when we are in a state of constant busyness, we can't focus our minds long enough on what truly matters to have hearts formed by God, the Gospel of Christ, the Spirit. Instead of having a strong center out of which to decide and act and live, our hearts and minds constantly flit from here to there and our lives and world become even more overwhelming and unmanageable.

So what can we do? We can do no better than take a page from Jesus. In the midst of the constant demands and pressures he faced day after day, now and then Jesus would get up very early in the morning and go off to a lonely place to pray, think, and pray some more. In other words, he found a quiet place where his heart could be formed more and more by God. It was the only way Jesus could keep being Jesus and do what he had to do.

Perhaps each of us need such a place, such a time, if we are to have a center to our lives out of which we are able to manage our lives and this world with faith, hope, strength. We need to turn away from the demands, turn off the distractions, and turn toward God and take the time to pray, listen, think. Most of us probably do a pretty good job of telling God what we want; listening to the word God speaks to us in the Gospel and all that happens may be another matter, however. That's the thing about busyness: *it makes it hard to listen*. And the other thing about busyness is that there's *no time to do any real thinking*. The great temptation



for people today is to allow the "talking-heads" on radio and television to do their thinking for them and simply repeat what they say, with little or no thought. Thinking is as much a part of the life of faith as is prayer and listening. Lack of thinking leads to bad theology and shallow faith that are no match for the realities of our lives and world.

But to pray, listen, think, and form a heart requires non-busyness from time to time --the courage to stop and open ourselves to what God might be saying to us. In lives like ours with all the demands, and in a world like ours with all the distractions, it could perhaps be the bravest and most responsible thing we do.

And who knows? Maybe one day, when people ask us how we are, we will tell them that we're not that busy or tired and are managing quite well, because we've been to a quiet, lonely place and are strong in heart. That is my prayer for each of us as we return to our busy lives.

You are loved,

Music News for September

Mark Repasky
Music Director

September is the month when the sound of music springs forth from many sources here at Trinity. If you have a musical talent, we want you to be part of our music ministry. First step is to join a music group. You can also contact our music leaders - **Mark Repasky, Lisa Prasse, and David LaJeunesse** - for additional information. Already up and running: **Chancel Choir, Circle of Friends Praise Band, Youth Choir, Youth Praise Band.** Starting in the next few weeks: **Trinity Ringers, College/Career Handbells, Heavenly Handchimes, two steel pan groups, NETkids Choirs** and **instrumental**

ensemble and **Cherub Choir.** We also involve talented instrumentalists.

So, how about you? Some music recruiting posters make interesting observations. "WANTED: CHOIR MEMBERS Whereabouts unknown. Last seen hiding out in the congregation." Another merges two quotes: "Music Can Change the World" by Beethoven and "Because it can change people" by Bono. One for children stated: "The fact that children can make BEAUTIFUL MUSIC is less significant than the fact that music can make BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN"a quote from Cheryl Lavender. You might



Many thanks to Alex and Adriana for the great music they shared in late August!

have seen or will soon see some of these posters within our church facilities.

In a church setting, music has a second calling. Making beautiful music is one thing. Making beautiful music as a form of worship, praise or prayer creates a powerful new dynamic. From a poster that hung in the choir room at First UMC

Clearwater for many years: St. Augustine said "He who sings, prays twice."

By the way, our Sunday bulletin is a great source of information about practice schedules for music groups at Trinity.



The Men's Ensemble performs a couple of times each year. They are pictured here performing in August - check out Rev. Curry and Rev. Brewster singing with the group on the far left.

Wesley Foundation at FSU update

Christina Pacelle
Wesley Foundation at FSU

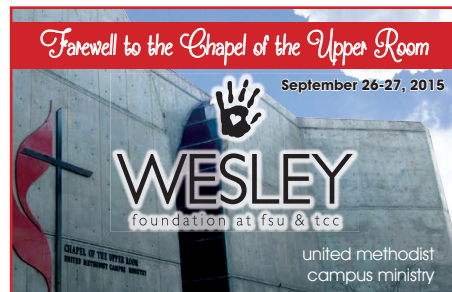
Let's connect!

The FSU and TCC Wesley Foundation is looking to connect with as many alumni and friends as we can - we would like to stay in touch as well as keep you updated on our growing ministry! Two of the easiest ways for you to stay in the know is through our FSU/TCC Alumni Facebook page (<http://on.fb.me/1dZLoLY/>), or join the email list on the alumni page of our website (www.fsuwesley.com).

Say goodbye to an old friend

FSU Wesley will be saying farewell to the Chapel of the Upper Room on September 26th - 27th, 2015 and we are inviting all alumni, family and friends to celebrate with us prior to its demolition in November. A new, multipurpose building will be built in its place and will be used for worship, meals, events, offices, and meeting spaces. If you would like more

information about the building, check out <http://bit.ly/1IsedNk>, to read a letter from Rev. Mike Toluba, FSU Wesley Campus Pastor. You can also always visit the



news page of our website for more information.

Many of our alumni stay in or return to Tallahassee after they've graduated. FSU Wesley Alumni are currently serving at Trinity in many ways - as clergy, leaders,



volunteers, and members. We would love the opportunity to come and share some of the wonderful things happening in this ministry with you individually or through Trinity's United Methodist Men, UMW Circles, Sunday School Classes, and Missions Teams. Please contact Christina Pacelle at Christina@fsuwesley.com or (850) 222-0251 to learn about this vital and vibrant ministry!





The **Guardian ad Litem (GAL)** program advocates for children in our community who have been abused or neglected. Volunteer based, the GAL program works every day to ensure the children's needs and voices are heard. The trained volunteers are advocates in the court and the community for the children who need it the most.

A GAL volunteer advocates to make sure children's interests are heard and served. They ensure the children receive the services they need and that the court knows what is going on. The children do not 'slip through the crack.' The Guardians are also the voices for the child, which give the child a little power back into their lives. The child no longer feels alone and lost. They know they have someone who is solely there for them. The volunteer child advocate becomes the child's mentor, confidante and friend and sometimes family.

The Guardian ad Litem program also tries to make the child's life as normal as possible in their abnormal situation. They advocate for normal activities such as going on social outings, church, prom or getting a driving license. It is important that these children feel like everyone else.

The only way that the Guardian ad Litem program can continue our mission is through the support of community organizations like yours. If you have the calling to be a voice of a child, please consider becoming a Guardian ad Litem volunteer. All you need is the heart for and

dedication to a child. It may not always be easy, but it is always rewarding. There is an interview, background check and training. For more information, please visit www.gal2.org or call 606-1213.

Child Advocates II (CA II) is a local nonprofit that supports the local GAL program. Its members raise funds to meet various needs of the children we serve. CA II and the local GAL currently have a number of projects designed to help the children we serve.

Beyond the Basics:

This year our back-to-school drive is focusing on needs that sometimes go unmet. Instead of asking for community support to help provide basic supplies like pens, pencils, and paper, we are asking for support to provide all the other things a child needs in order to start school on the right footing. According to the National Retail Federation, averagely it costs over \$600 to send a child to school. This can include clothes, shoes, school fees, band instrument rental, haircuts, etc. CA II will be collecting gift cards and monetary donations so our volunteers can take our children school shopping. We want our children to feel like all of their peers. By doing this, we will give them a good start to productive school year.

1st Beginnings:

One of the milestones of growing up is getting your first place. Most people have

a support system of family and friends who assist them with setting up their first place. A lot of our youth do not. Sometimes they enter their first place without a bed to sleep on. Our **1st Beginnings** project is designed to provide our youth with everything they need in order to make that first place a home. We have a storage unit that we are utilizing to create a store where youth can come and pick out items for their place. This includes furniture, sheets, kitchen items, décor and other household items. We are asking for community support to assist with providing new household goods and donations so we can provide our youth with all they need.

Holiday Drive:

Every year our program and nonprofit ensures that each one of the children we serve has a Christmas. Community supporters donate toys and funds to make that possible. Some supporters will fulfill specific wish lists from our children. Together over 400 children in our community will have gifts under their tree.

Though those are our three established and ongoing projects, every day our program is faced with additional needs from our children and families, whether it is providing diapers or helping a mother with her home so she can be reunified with her children. Any assistance your organization can provide would be appreciated. Together we can better the life of a child. Thank you.

Notes from HEO

Ruth Ann High
HEO Coordinator

Thanks to all the people who helped to make 280 snack packs! After 11 o'clock worship, more than a dozen people helped make these snack packs in just about thirty minutes. Now I have plenty to hand out to the many people who feel comfortable to coming Trinity.

Since January, there have been over 350 different individuals who have come to our door for a snack pack. This has been a great ministry to our downtown neighbors in need. I will have another church-wide snack pack assembling after a worship service in late September. Check your bulletin and come join in the fun!



All ages were represented as volunteers packed snack packs at the recent HEO event after church.

Health Wellness News for September

Health Wellness Team

BFC Exercise

Wednesday classes resume in September

The Wednesday afternoon and evening BFC (Becoming Fit at Church) exercise classes will resume in mid-Sept when Lay



Academy starts - Strength and Balance at 4:15 and Power Hour at 6:30. Tues and Thurs classes will continue as always - Staying Strong 9:15 a.m. and Variety Mix at 11:00.

Mats for the Homeless

The Mats for the Homeless Group will meet Thursday, September 10, from 10:30-noon in the Conference Room. Our group cares for God's Homeless and God's earth



by making sleeping mats out of recycled grocery bags. Everyone is welcome, even if you do not know how to crochet. We will teach you, but we also need people to :

- *Save bags*(grocery type bags, any color)
- *Cutters* (people who will fold and cut the bags.)
- *Make Plarns* (plastic yarn rolled into a ball.)
- *Crocheters.*

Work may be done at home. For more information, please contact Rose Glenn at: budsthorn@comcast.net

TUFF - Trinity United in Fitness and Fellowship

"Building healthy bodies ready to serve" (formerly Trinity Runners and Walkers)

TUFF Kickoff Meeting – You're invited! Sat, Sept 19, 10am-12pm at Cascades Park: we'll have walking, running, strollers, water park, playground, kickball for all ages, signups for groups to exercise together. EVERYONE is INVITED to participate!!! Bring snacks, lunch, drinks and be ready for fitness and fellowship.

TUFF T-shirts will be available for online ordering. They have the same red color and the word TUFF on the front; the back has the Trinity logo with the scripture, "I will run and not be weary...walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31.

Contact Marie Bradley for more information mbradley1716@comcast.net and watch the bulletin for additional details.



Helpers Needed for Community Garden Fall Planting – Sept 19 at 9 a.m.

Please come to our garden planting day on Saturday, September 19, at 9:00 a.m. We'll be planting greens such as collards, cabbage, lettuce, kale, broccoli and carrots. Email Gloria Whitaker at whitakgm1002@gmail.com if you can help. No experience needed.

For more information about the Health Wellness Ministry, contact Beth Curry at BFCseries@yahoo.com or visit the website at www.tumct.org/serve/health-wellness-ministry/.

Health Wellness Calendar

Drop in any time!

BFC Series

Exercise Classes

— Tuesdays and Thursdays —

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

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

— Wednesdays (Begins Sept. 16) —

- 4:15 p.m. ~ Strength & Fitness
- 6:30 p.m. ~ Power Hour

Upcoming Events

- **Mats for the Homeless** meetings resume on Thurs Sept 10 at 10:30 a.m. - Conference room
- **Hats for the Homeless** meetings resume on Tues Sept 15 at 10:30 a.m. - Conference room
- **TUFF kickoff meeting** Sat. Sept 19 at 10:00 a.m. - Cascade Park
- **Guatemala trip** in October. Donations of needed supplies are greatly appreciated and will be collected May-Sep. Boxes in the Narthex and Welcome Center.

For more information about the Health Wellness ministry contact:
Beth Curry - BFCseries@yahoo.com



We can make a difference - Become a reading mentor!

Jane Olson
Kate Sullivan liaison

Welcome to another exciting school year and welcome back to **Trinity's Reading All Star Program** with **Kate Sullivan Elementary School**. Experts will tell you that a child must have a keen reading proficiency by the third grade to ensure their success in life.

We as a church participate in a reading mentoring program for just this purpose and with over 800 students enrolled for this academic year our help is needed!



Mentors meet once a week with their student to work on developing vocabulary and reading skills. We work primarily with kindergarten through 2nd grades but if another grade is preferred this can easily be arranged

Our mandatory mentor orientation is held Wednesday, September 16 at 10 a.m.

in the school's media center. Returning mentors need only update their forms while new members stay for a brief introduction and instructions. Any questions can be addressed to **janeolson@embarqmail.com** or **Roberta Klawinski at 562-8145** or **klawinskir@leonschools.net**

Together, we can make a difference!

Help with our International Outreach to Guatemala

Each year, members of Trinity UMC travel to Panajachel, Guatemala, on a mission trip to serve the needy people in this Central American country. Trinity has been working in Guatemala since 2011 with the in-country ministry of *Porch de Salomon*.

Your Help is Needed

Join us on Sunday, September 20 for a

fundraising lunch after church. Also, this year's Guatemala mission team is in need of the following: artificial tears, Tylenol for adults, kids, and infants; ibuprophen; Aleve; cough and cold medications; Benadryl; and Pepto Bismol.

Our trip is just weeks away and it will be here before we know it! Help us help the indigenous Mayan people with your generous donations. Look at the video on the

Trinity website and please consider giving them your support: <http://www.tumct.org/serve/us-and-international-missions/>.



Guatemala Mission members, Quill Turk and Gary Cherry wait for patients.

Sept. 1 Fellowship Lunch in Moor Hall

Lynette Halter
President

September 1 - Fellowship Luncheon 11:45 a.m. in Moor Hall

The program will be "CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE." Everyone is welcome to attend, even if you aren't a member of UMW in Ministry. Please call Nancy Kerce at 877-6546 for lunch reservations by August 28. Hope to see you there!

New Evening Action Team

If you are interested in joining a new evening Action Team with a focus on serving, missions and forming lasting friendships, contact Renee' White, creneewhite11@yahoo.com or call 850-878-9702 after 6:00PM for more information.

UMW Action Team Meetings

Alpha Action Team (Circle 1): Mon, Sep 7 at 10:00 a.m. Contact Kathi Pope, chair (mlpopejr@aol.com) for location.

Dorcas Foster Action Team: Tue, Sep 1 at 1:00 pm in Church library. Nancy Waugh, chair.

Mary Martha Action Team: Mon, Sep 14 at 6:00 p.m. 2104 W Randolph Cir, Julie Pararo, hostess & chair.

Sojourners Action Team: Wed, Sep 2 at noon, Café at St. Johns. Marti Chumbler, chair.

Susanna Wesley Action Team (SWAT): Tue, Sep 15 at 10:00 a.m., Kitty Ball, hostess: 1366 Hollow Oak Circle...Westminster Oaks. Phone: 386-2521.

The Voice Action Team: Thu, Sep 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Jim and Milt's. Patti Oakley, chair, 877-4898.

Watch the bulletin and website, www.tumct.org/connect/ (then select UMW in Ministry & Action Teams) for details as they become available.

Youth Happenings in September

Blake Swanson Youth Director
Jeremy Hanna Youth Ministry Assistant



A Note from Blake ...

There is a praise song that has a line in it that says, "Break my heart for what breaks yours" in reference to our

odds and stories of enduring tragedy. God showed up in amazing ways during this trip and it was reflected deeply within each person on the team.

Our middle school team also had many opportunities to meet some amazing people. They loved seeing the big smiles on the faces of all the kids at a local preschool for migrant farming families. They listened to a lady

hands and feet of Christ to the world. They entered into someone else's world, many times at the sacrifice of personal comfort, in order to empathize with those with whom they were serving. They represented Trinity and more importantly, represented Christ. I would challenge you to invite them to share their specific stories of the trip with you, and I hope you can be blessed by them as well. Thank you again for all your support!



Girls from the New Orleans neighborhood fixed the hair of the high school girls.

hearts breaking for the same things that God's heart breaks for. In this particular sentence, the essence of the youth summer mission trips can be described. Our students had the opportunity to meet and interact with so many people in so many different situations.

Our high school team in particular was impacted by the kids they hung out with each morning in a local park. They got to hear their stories and share some of their own as well. They got to experience the kids being kids, but also hear some of the harsh realities of life in an inner-city neighborhood. They heard stories from those living underneath the freeway, stories of faith despite all

They listened to a lady tell a story of how she is remaining homeless for the time being, because even though she could have a little something now, if she waits until it is cold, it will save her brother more. They taught new card games to local foster kids who lived in a group home and came to the mission base for the night. All of these experiences provided glimpses of the ways God is working through the lives of people in different places.

Overall, each and every student on these trips lived out our calling to be the



Photos from the Mid-High mission trip to Vero Beach.



Photos from the High School mission trip to New Orleans



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Paula Smith
Sound Committee Chair

Drum roll, please...

By the time you receive this Tidings, you will be enjoying the fruit of many years of acoustical research and financial investment to improve sound quality in the Trinity sanctuary. **Sound the celebratory horns, please!**

We have a new mixing board, relocated to the center back of the balcony. It is providing digital recording capability as well as better sound for radio broadcast. New speakers, located on the front columns in the sanctuary are delivering greatly improved clarity of the spoken word to every pew location in the sanctuary. Our pastors have new microphones and the balcony has great new speakers. Special thanks goes to Pastor Tony Fotsch. His persistence, leadership and guidance were the keys to success. Thank you Brett Ingram, Chip Huggins, Tim Peck, and Les Stephenson (Music Masters) for your time and dedication,



installing and implementing this new system.

How are we paying for this amazing worship improvement? The congregation has contributed generously. For the most recent upgrade, \$35,000 has already been contributed. We have a debt of \$14,000 remaining. Please help celebrate your improved worship experience by sending a gift to Trinity - designate Sanctuary Sound System in the memo of your check.

Thanks for listening!

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P.O. Box 1086
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 222-1120 www.tumct.org

E. Wayne Curry, **Senior Pastor**
Jonathan Brewster, **Associate Pastor**
Barbara Hynes, **Associate Pastor of Discipleship**
Rex Adams, **Director of Communications**

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Scholastic Book Fair Information

Stacey Duggar
Preschool Director

The preschool has scheduled a Book Fair from September 14-18, 2015. Please stop by the school any time during school hours to browse the vast selection of books. Books will be available for purchase from 7:30am to 5:30pm. Please



use this special web link access code to view and purchase books online (<http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/trinityunitedmethodistsps>). Call me if you have any questions; the direct line to the preschool is 850-224-8992 x3.

