

Worship

Grow

Serve

Monthly Tidings

Trinity United Methodist Church

TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

Volume 46, Number 2, February, 2019

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

HEO (Helping Each Other) looks back on 2018

Erin Platt
HEO Coordinator

Several New Initiatives

HEO had a busy year in 2018! The HEO Executive Committee, staff and teams of volunteers with incredible hearts continued to serve our established programs, while kicking off a few new initiatives: **Heart to Heart**, Christmas caroling, new church member event sponsorship, and the "Love Feast," a monthly worship service at **Westminster Oaks**. HEO embraces opportunities to serve the Trinity congregation, and we invite you to take an active role in this multi-faceted ministry within our church by your gifts, presence, and your service. The work we do is greatly rewarding, and

here are some of the ways we make a difference every day:

Congregational-Based Care

- Visitation program enhanced to include Heart To Heart visitation by assignment with focus on our seniors; new monthly 'Love Feast' communion service at Westminster Oaks.
- **Trinity Chefs** met five times, with wholesome meals prepared and frozen for members in need.
- Eleven funeral receptions, ranging in size, to include receiving of family.
- Special Events: Westminster Oaks brunch, sponsored new member breakfasts; All

Saints Day; Christmas caroling.

- Lovingly prepared by **Prayers & Squares Team**: Twenty-two prayer quilts and five prayer shawls.
- Greeting cards: birthday cards each month, and Easter and Christmas cards for those 70 and older.
- Medical equipment: continual use of supplies closet.

Community-Based Care

- 4000 snackpacks distributed to our neighbors in need (average unit cost: \$1.48 per snackpack).
- Hygiene kits, clothing items and other requested items given with each snackpack distribution.
- Funded out of town transportation \$3,600 to Kearney Center in addition to StarMetro bus tickets.
- Continuous donation drops to Hope House / Big Bend Homeless Coalition.

HEO is only made possible through your active volunteerism, private items donations and financial support. HEO uses all of your items donations, which help to defray costs; and we welcome your participation on any of our incredible teams! HEO is not part of the church budget but is funded solely by your private contributions (please remember to add "HEO" to the memo line of any check). Contact Erin at eplatt@tumct.org to learn more or to serve. **HEO is ours, it belongs to all of us!**



Brittany and Christian are warmly met by the HEO team of volunteers at the Welcome Center door as they receive their snack packs.

HEO expresses love, extra care and support for grieving family and friends by hosting funeral receptions.

Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following gifts from December 11-January 10:



In memory of **Jean Hancock** from Eric and Julianne Hancock.

In memory of **Alice Grow** from John and Jenny Bryant, David and Deborah Fonvielle, Donie Ann Henderson, Joan Newberry, Bill and Paula Smith, Chuck and Mary Anna Mohr, Wayne and Margie Mixson, Larry and Sheila Wolfe, Tom Denmark, Vereen Smith, Moore, Ellison & McDuffie, CPA's, PA, Oliver Dixon, Delta Apparel, Inc., Barbara and Robert Holt, Harry and Emily Sloan, Byron Block, Gayle Swedmark Hughes, Terry and Betty Jo Toole, William Ipock, Starr Lynn Dhabolt, Peg Vroom, Roy Riddel, Fred and Peggy Vroom, Patsy Bush, Thomas and Marge Newbern, Alison and Michael Pitts, Dr. and Mrs. J.V. Nicholson, Jr., Mary Kirkland, John Olson, Sr., Richard Walker, Duncan and Mary Ann Moore, Gayle Watts, Dick and Pat Winchester, and Laura Ritchie.

In memory of **Majel Barrett** from the J.L. Pose, Jr. family, Gayle and Jeff Ziemann, and Lynne Barrett.

In memory of **Bill Smith** from Barrie Rhodes, and Jerry and Virginia Moore.

Trinity on the Radio



Trinity's 11 o'clock service is now being broadcast on FM station - 100.7

Congratulations Rev. Jon Brewster!

Dr. Wayne D. Wiatt
Senior Pastor

About a year ago, Jonathan asked me if he could begin working on his elder's application for the Florida Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. I remembered when I was applying for my Elder's Orders some 35 years ago and my senior pastor, Dr. Thomas E. Farmer, Jr., gave me one day a week out of my associate pastors' schedule to complete my paperwork. I was forever grateful for the freedom to concentrate on the different aspects



Reverend Jonathan Brewster, approved for Full Connection Elder. (Photo from first sermon at Trinity.)

of the elder application and granted Jonathan that same freedom for about six months. Today's requirements seem more stringent than they were three decades ago. Being a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry, I often joke that I'm not sure I could pass the requirements today!

Ordination candidates must now complete forty pages of theological reflection answering questions like; *How is the Bible true, What is your understanding of grace, and What do you understand to be the nature and mission of the Church?*

Other sections of the ordination paperwork include reflections on your personal growth in ministry during



the past three years, submission of your best examples of your preaching (video and transcripts), and another section on your understanding and practice of leadership in the church.

Add to the application an Elder Project, which for Jon was his emphasis on marriage ministry and the celebratory evening that included a comedy club. It was a delightful evening where more than 150 of our members enjoyed a wonderful night out and laughed at the comedy team of Barnes and Minor until our sides were hurting.

The second week of January, Jon completed his interview with the Board of Ordained Ministry and passed with flying colors. He will be ordained an Elder at our Annual Conference on June 5-8 in Lakeland. I know you will want to congratulate Pastor Jon and let him know how proud you are of his tremendous accomplishment!

Watoto Children's Choir February 6 at 6:30

Mark Repasky
Music Director

WHAT IS "WATOTO"?

It is the Swahili word for children. The name was "adopted" by missionaries Gary and Marilyn Skinner who planted a thriving, community-focused church in Kampala, Uganda in 1984.

Their website - <https://watoto.com/> - includes the following information:

The Watoto Story

Back in 1988, in a town called Rakai, Gary Skinner was confronted by a stark reality that he could not ignore. Eight years earlier, he and his young family had moved to Uganda; a country that was known for its violence and poverty. They planted a church in Kampala, which they believed God would use to restore hope to the city and nation.

Uganda's people had endured so much. Corrupt and oppressive rulers had waged ruthless wars against the people and, when they were done with their slaughter, nearly a million were dead.

Widows and Orphans

Gary was taken to visit a 79-year-old widow who had mothered seven children. As they walked through the banana groves behind her small hut, she pointed out the graves of her husband and six of her children. AIDS had killed them all. Her one surviving child, a daughter, was dying of the same disease. Visiting this woman stirred Gary to the core of his being and became one of the defining moments of his life.



He was reminded of James 1: 27, which says: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

In 1994, Watoto Child Care Ministries was birthed out of Watoto Church as a result of this encounter. It started with one simple house in Kansanga; a suburb that is eight kilometers south of Kampala. Here, eight orphans and a widow were given the chance to become a new family.

What a powerful ministry! It has grown a great deal since then, and now includes traveling children's choirs to help spread the word and raise funds for the ministry. One of these choirs (17 children, ages 7 to 13, and 11 adults) will visit us! Mark

your calendars for Wednesday, February 6. The children will first meet our NETkids children's choirs for 30 minutes, and then join us for Wednesday night dinner at 5:30 p.m. They will sing one selection at the dinner, and then present a 60-75 minute concert in our sanctuary starting at 6:30 p.m. I am told all the children speak English!

Our church needs to provide overnight housing for them. This would be a very good opportunity to practice Trinity's generous hospitality by individual members of our church! One adult and



two children are grouped together. The children can sleep in the same bed provided it is full size bed or larger.

A second bed is for the adult. Please help if you can by contacting me or the church office, we need nine "host angels!"

UMW February 5 "UMCOR Sager Brown-A Sister Trip"

Nancy Bedford
Communications Officer



UMW member Nancy Bedford will present pictures and commentary about her experience volunteering at the UMCOR Sager Brown campus in Baldwin, Louisiana. *All (couples and men included) are invited to attend. Monthly meetings are held in Moor Hall from 11:45-1:00.

This is an opportunity to enjoy fellowship, an informative program and a delicious lunch!

Reservations please by Friday, February 1! Call Nancy Kerce 877-6546. We hope to see you there!

UMW Circle Meetings

Alpha Circle: Monday, February 11, at 10 a.m. Westminster Oaks, Cynthia Smith chair

Dorcas Foster Circle: Tuesday, February 5, at 1 p.m. in the church library, Nancy Kerce, chair.

Mary Martha Circle: Monday, February 11, at 6 p.m. 2104 W Randolph Circle, Julie Pararo, chair.

Sojourners Circle: Wednesday, February 6, at noon, Cafe at St. Johns, Marti Chumbler, chair.

Susanna Wesley Circle: Tuesday, February 19, at 10 a.m. Specialty House, Meandering Lane, Westminster Oaks, Liz Smith, chair.

The Voice Circle: Thursday, February 21, at 7 p.m. 2027 Shady Oaks Dr., Sandra Genetin, hostess, Patti Oakley, chair

Trinity Women to Share Travel Adventures

In the coming months three Trinity women will speak to UMW about their recent travel experiences.

Tuesday, February 5, Nancy Bedford will present details of her trip to UMCOR Sager Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana.

Tuesday, March 5, Jane Mittan will share her experiences on an African mission trip.

Tuesday, April 2, Barbara Hynes will talk about walking El Camino de Santiago in Spain.

Each of these monthly presentations exemplify Trinity women fulfilling personal goals. We invite all interested women and men to attend these events. You do NOT have to be a member!

The luncheon meeting is 11:45 – 1:00 in Moor Hall and costs \$6 for the delicious lunch buffet. PLEASE notify Nancy Kerce 877-6546 by the Friday previous to the meeting for a reservation so that enough food can be prepared!

HEO Prayer Quilt Ministry

Erin Platt
HEO Coordinator

"I can feel the warmth, love and even imagine the prayers being said for both of us."



"I feel the love every time I have my quilt on my lap."

Our **Prayer Quilt Ministry, Prayers & Squares**, is a chapter member of an interfaith outreach organization that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of hand-tied quilts.

Our talented and dedicated volunteers design and stitch together beautiful patterns of fabric, with heavy thread used to take stitches through the quilt layers with ends left free to be tied with a square knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is

offered for someone in need.

What makes each quilt unique is not the pattern, color, or workmanship, but the fact that prayer is symbolically tied into each one. These "comforters" are a statement of faith, and a testimony to our belief in God and in the power of prayer.

Do you know someone who should be wrapped in prayer? Direct your prayer quilt request or related inquiry to Erin

Platt, HEO, eplatt@tumct.org or contact our church office. Prayer Quilts are a part of the HEO Ministry, and are available as a gift to friends and family of Trinity members.



Becoming Fit at Church in February

Becoming Fit at Church Team

It's not too late to join 8 Week BFC Challenge!

[BFC \(Becoming Fit at Church\)](#)
Exercise is having an 8 week challenge to start the new year – and it's not too late to join us! Attend any class – any time and receive points. Suggested donation is \$3 per class. The participant with the most points will receive a Fit Bit Charge HR and the runner up gets a Personal Grocery Store Shopping Trip with our own BFC instructor - Jaqui Griffith, RD. See the website or bulletin board outside the conference room for more information, or email BFCSeries@yahoo.com.



Variety Mix starts the BFC Challenge on Jan 8, 2019! Come join us!

2019 Class Schedule

Staying Strong – Tues/Thurs – 9:30 a.m. – (Ruth Ann or Beth, and Jaqui as a sub) – Join us for a gentle, easy and basic full body exercise class using a seated or standing format. Great class for beginners or those who do not wish to get down on the floor. Contact Beth for more info.

Variety Mix – Tues/Thurs – 11:00 a.m. – (Amy or Beth) Come enjoy a fun fast-paced hour of exercise using a variety of equipment in a variety of formats. Full-body workout with cardio, strength and flexibility segments. Intermediate to

Advanced class. Contact Beth for more info or Amy for nursery reservation (In Advance ONLY)

Fit Mix – Weds 6:30 p.m. – (Elaine) – Try a circuit style class which incorporates strength and cardio into one class. Intermediate to advanced. Contact Elaine Freni (elainefreni@gmail.com) for more information.

For more information about BFC, please contact: Beth Curry (BFCSeries@Yahoo.com), Amy Leach (AmyCleach@hotmail.com), or Elaine Freni (elainefreni@gmail.com)

BFC Calendar

Drop in any time! *Classes in the Parlor*

BFC Series Exercise Classes*

Tuesdays and Thursdays

- 9:30 - Staying Strong
- 11:00 - Variety Mix**

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

— **Wednesdays** —

Fit MIX meets on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. as part of **Lay Academy**

For more information about BFC, please contact:
Beth Curry (BFCSeries@Yahoo.com), **Amy Leach** (AmyCleach@hotmail.com), or **Elaine Freni** (elainefreni@gmail.com).

Help Needed!

Sabrina Denmark
Local Missions Co-Chair

Volunteers Needed for Serving Shelter Meals at The Kearney Center

We [serve meals to the homeless](#) on the 1st & 4th Mondays of every month. The schedule is broken down into quarters. Please contact Sabrina Denmark at 850-566-5253 or sab.den@comcast.net for details and/or to volunteer.

Local Missions Brochure

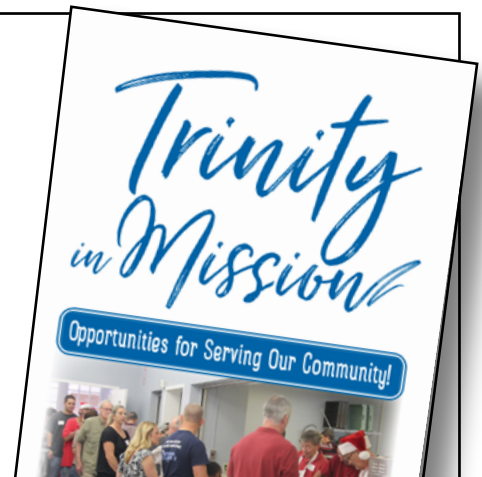
Have you seen the exciting brochure created by the **Local Missions Committee?**

It will keep you informed of:

What We Do and Where the Opportunities are!

This brochure is informative and is kept up to date.

Pick up your copy in the Narthex today!



It's February And You Know What That Means: **BEAR Sunday, Feb. 17**

Sabrina Denmark
Local Missions Co-Chair

Bring a cuddly teddy bear to help a hurting child. Trinity has been donating these bears for many years. This year's recipients will be **Caring Tree of Big Bend Hospice, Children's Home Society, Hope Community, Guardian ad Litem & the Leon County Sheriff's Department.** These organizations distribute them to children in stressful situations. This is such an awesome ministry started by Reverend John Willis. I am grateful that Trinity is carrying on this mission.

Please mark your calendar and remember to bring a bear to church with you. Let's fill up all the windowpanes with cuddly teddy bears. ([Local Missions Committee](#))

Caring Tree of Big Bend Hospice

Most of you know who and what Big Bend Hospice is, but what is the Caring Tree program of Big Bend Hospice? The Caring Tree was created in 1995 as a community outreach of Big Bend Hospice. The program is designed to meet the unique needs of grieving children and teens. The Caring Tree creates safe, therapeutic, and age-appropriate environments in which young people and the adults around them can learn to understand and cope with loss.



Children's Home Society

CHS leads the way in serving children and families involved in the child welfare system, and just as importantly, they lead the way in changing how we serve children and families.

Protecting Kids: Dependency Case Management

Children unable to live safely at home find security, guidance and opportunity with CHS. The first priority is always their safety and well-being, and CHS's case managers are passionate about building bridges to success for children in foster care.

CHS also empowers kids to realize their full potential by providing opportunities for counseling, tutoring and other educational activities, recreational activities, mentoring and more.

Hope Community

Their mission is to end homelessness in the Big Bend through leadership, education, advocacy, and the provision of quality services.

They are dedicated to providing the vital services necessary to prevent and end people's experience of homelessness:

- Emergency shelter
- Permanent and permanent supportive housing
- Homeless prevention and rapid rehousing

They compassionately and effectively meet the needs of our community's most vulnerable:

- Veterans
- People with disabilities and long histories of homelessness
- Families with minor children

Guardian ad Litem

The Second Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program is part of a statewide coalition of community advocates and professional staff providing a powerful voice on behalf of Florida's abused and neglected children.

Our mission is simple: advocating for the child's best interest is our only interest.

Leon County Sherrif's Department

Sometimes something familiar like a cuddly bear is just enough comfort for a young child when life gets difficult.



Youth Happenings in February

Lisa Prasse Youth Director Tristen Jahn Youth Ministry Intern



A Note from Lisa ...

As January ushered in another new year, so did our [youth!](#) We are back up and running in the Underground and it never ceases to amaze me just how quickly we're running! Please see a little of what we're running toward in the coming months and be reminded of Sunday school every Sunday morning at 9:45 in the Underground and mid-week youth bible study on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.!

We started January with a wonderful visit from our friend and former intern, **Ryan Frack** who is now a pastor with the [Florida United Methodist Children's Home!](#) Ryan told us all about the Children's Home, who it serves, where and how, emphasizing all the good work Trinity is helping do there.

We also went to work as hands and feet over the MLK holiday as we helped our church family deliver Meals on Wheels! It was so wonderful to visit with friends - new and some we've seen on these same paths in years past!

We had fun exploring different ways to worship during January as our confirmation class went on the road with a fun Friday night dinner at Moe's and a terrific service with **Rabbi Jack Romberg** at **Temple Israel**. It's wonderfully eye opening to see how others worship and to learn about why they do the things they

do and believe what they believe.

This month, we're going to visit the **Catholic church** as we take in a morning service together on **Sunday, February 3**. This is another awesome opportunity to see how different worship can look, sound and feel. Confirmands will learn even more as we head down to **Warren Willis** for our **Confirmation Retreat** in March! The next couple months will be full for our confirmands!

Our juniors and seniors were invited to a weekend retreat at Warren Willis at the end of January where they connected to college ministries from all around the state of Florida. Those ministries were represented by volunteers, workshop leaders, worship bands, and speakers. The kids had a great time and made some terrific connections with new friends they hope to connect with a little later in their lives. While our upper classmen were away, the other youth participated in Music Ministry Sunday, sharing their musical gifts and talents with their church family!

We're busy preparing for our high school mission trip to North Carolina in March and are so grateful for your support leading up to this big event! We look forward to sharing all we learn there and the work we'll be able to do there as the hands and feet of Jesus. Thanks always for all you do to support and promote our terrific youth group. We are endlessly grateful!



The upperclassmen recently visited the Warren Willis camp for **College Connection**.



The Trinity confirmation class visited the synagogue at Temple Israel as part of their confirmation process.

Upcoming Events

Check out the youth website for more information: <https://www.tumct.org/connect/community/youth/>

— Summer 2019 —

March 16-23:

High School Spring Break
Mission Trip-NC)

June 2-8 ...Youth Week

June 10VBS Training

June 11-15:

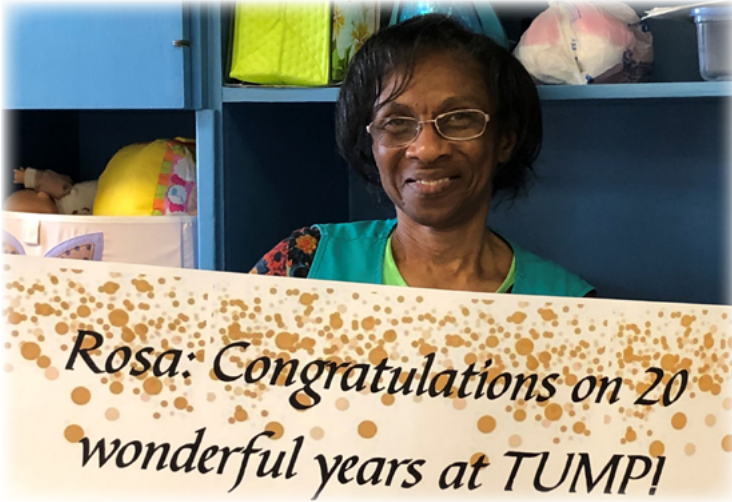
Vacation Bible School

July 21-25:

Mid High Mission Trip (Orlando)

July 8-13:

CaMp! Week at Warren Willis



Congratulations to **Ms. Rosa Morris**, who just had her 20 year anniversary of working at [Trinity's Gold Seal Preschool!](#) Rosa has worked in the infant room for all these years, and the babies in her care are certainly fortunate! We are blessed to have Rosa on our staff and look forward to many more years together.

Homeless Mats

"Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from You." (Hymn 432 in our Hymn Book.)

Tallahassee has many homeless neighbors to which we can show our love by serving by helping to bring aid and comfort.

Our [Homeless Mats Group](#) endeavors to help by making sleeping mats for those who sleep outdoors. This is a mission project that anyone and everyone can help with. It doesn't

take any talent to save grocery type plastic bags,(don't crunch up), fold them and bring them to the church. We cut and roll into balls of Plarn to crochet into mats.

Anyone can attend our meeting to learn to do any part of our work. Some of our members work from home.

Our next meeting will be **February 14**, in the **Conference Room from 10:30-noon**

every 2nd Thursday.

Verse 3 of the hymn "These are the ones we should serve, These are the ones we should love, All these are neighbors to us and You."

Rose Glenn (budsthorn@comcast.net)

HEO Trinity Chefs cooking it up

Erin Platt
HEO Coordinator

The HEO [Trinity Chefs](#) came together on Tuesday, January 15th in Moor Hall Kitchen for another cooking and baking adventure. On The Menu: Cranberry Frozen Salad, Chicken Pot Pie and Conflicted Cookies. Working in pairs, the Chefs demonstrated their culinary adroitness by preparing, labeling and freezing three dozen FROM SCRATCH meals! Special thanks to our fearless team leader Judy L. for seeing us through a rather challenging entrée, start to finish; to the following Chefs: Earline A., Nancy L., Patti O., Margie S., Nancy W. The laughter and fun was as pervasive that afternoon as the smell of freshly baked cookies wafting through Trinity. You are invited to join HEO Trinity Chefs on Tuesday, April 9th for our next kitchen event!

These wholesome meals are prepared by the HEO Trinity Chefs and are ready to be taken to members in need at a moment's notice. If you have a member in mind who might benefit from receiving a meal, please reach out to an HEO team member, as this is part of our commitment to congregational care.



Team leader, Judy Levy, Earline Adkison, Nancy Lachance, and Nancy Waugh try to find the room in the freezer for all of the delicious food that they just cooked as members of Trinity Chefs. They meet periodically to cook and freeze meals for people who would benefit from a home-cooked meal - like new mothers or friends who have lost a loved one. Contact Erin (eplatt@tumct.org) for more information on joining Trinity Chefs, or to get a meal for a friend in need.



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