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"Preserving-Sharing-Caring"

Crossroads

Special Issue on the Civil Rights Movement: Trinity and the Struggle for Civil Rights

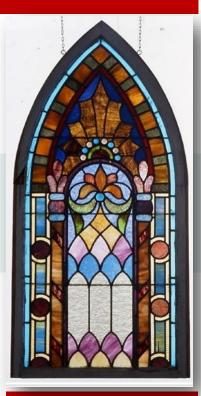
By Gloria Colvin



Florida Memory. (2014, July 7). "Richard Ervin and the Gradualist Approach to Desegregation." Floridiana. Photo Note: In the above picture, dated 1962, young men and women stand outside a theater in Tallahassee, calling on White America to reevaluate racial segregation. https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/295189

pened in part because of coura- tions at the national

The 1950s and 60s were turbu- geous individuals who stood up, lent times for Trinity, Talla- spoke out, and acted in favor of hassee, and the Methodist Church racial justice, often making multias racial practices, attitudes, and ple sacrifices in the process. structures were challenged and Changes also occurred through the slowly changed. Changes hap- leadership of people and institu-(cont. on p. 2)



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Earline Adkison, Cecile Baker, Melanie Gonzalez, Amy Jones, Susan Koehler, Mike Melder, Lynn McLarty, Susan Mick, Pat Striplin, and Matthew Williams for their assistance in the publication of this issue.

Dot Binger

Tallahassee community advocate and Trinity historian Dot Binger died on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. The next issue of Crossroads will be dedicated to this pillar of the church.

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level. To better understand the attitudes and culture of the time, it is necessary first to place these decades in historical context.

Racial Segregation

The practice of racial segregation, particularly in the Southern United States, was a product of slavery and the view that White people were superior to Black people. In practice, segregation became more pronounced after the Civil War and Reconstruction, and in 1896, the Supreme Court's 1896 ruling in *Plessy v. Ferguson* legally established it. "Separate but equal" became the guiding principle for many aspects of life in the South, though "separate" was rarely "equal."

In most Southern towns and cities, including Tallahassee, there were separate school systems for Black and White children with unequal facilities and instruction. Seating on public transportation was segregated. Black individuals were forced to use separate restrooms and water fountains, enter stores and public buildings through separate doors, swim in separate swimming pools, and eat pects of society. Even then, many of those changes in places separate from those of White individu- happened gradually. als. Only certain hotels and restaurants throughout the South served Black people. Separate hos- Black community in 1956 was the spark that ignit-Housing for Black persons was restricted to cer- Florida A&M University (FAMU) students, Wilof the choices and almost none of the privileges of bus to stand in the back, FAMU students were their white neighbors" (Rabby, 1999, p. 2).

Beginning of the End of Segregation

The Supreme Court's 1954 ruling in *Brown v*. Steele the Board of Education overturned the Plessy v. Metz Ferguson ruling and legally ended segregation in protesting the pracschools, igniting change that affected many as- tice



"Boycotting and picketing of downtown stores." December 6-7). Image #RC12402. Florida Memory. Note Summary: Protests were due to lack of progress in desegregating lunch counters "at Neisner, McCrory, Woolworth. Walgreen, and Sears. http:// www.floridamemory.com/items/show/34835



Reverend C. K. Steele (center left), and Reverend H. McNeal Harris (center right), protesting segregated bus seating in Tallahassee." (1956, December 24). Image #RC12419. Florida Memory. Note Summary: The men sat in the middle instead of at the back of the bus and ended a seven month boycott protesting two FAMU women students for sitting beside a white woman. http://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/34854

In Tallahassee, a citywide bus boycott by the pitals provided different levels of medical care. ed many changes. Following the arrests of two tain areas. In addition, there were countless indig- helmina Jakes and Carrie Patterson, who nities Black people endured. "Blacks enjoyed few refused to give up their seats in the front of the

joined by leaders of the Black community, including Rev. C.K. and Rev. Rollins, in of requiring Black people to sit at the back of the bus. Inspired by the bus boycotts in Mont-Alabama. gomery, this protest spread throughout the Black Reverend Metz Rollins, pastor of cott brought bus service to a halt and for Tallahassee and throughout for the rest of the decade" (Rabby, 1999, p. 64).



community. The boy- Trinity Presbyterian Church -Tallahassee, Florida." (n.d.). Image #N047240. Florida Memory. Note Summary: 1950s Civil rights ushered in changes activist who faced criticism, that would "continue ridicule, racial attacks and hostility to have ramifications in his significant involvement of support FAMU of students Wilhelmina Jakes and Carrie Florida Patterson who refused to give up their seats to white passengers on a city bus in 1956. <u>http://</u> www.floridamemory.com/items/ <u>show/155148</u>



"Sit in at Woolworth's lunch counter - Tallahassee, Florida." (1960, March 13). Image #RC03284. Florida Memory. Photo note: "Included in the photograph are Policeman Joe Gregory and City manager Arvah Hopkins." http:// www.floridamemorv.com/items/show/26927

ins at department store lunch counters where em- Central Jurisdiction (Sikes, 1969, pp. 249-250). ployees refused to seat Black individuals, picketed segregated theaters, and demonstrated against entrenched for decades in Tallahassee, it was ac-Whites-only city swimming pools, demanding an cepted practice in Tallahassee for churches to be end to the segregation that was part of the fabric segregated. At this time and according to church of life in the city (Ellis, 1999, p. 173).

Segregation in the Methodist Church

War, most Black people left and joined the Col- Aid Program...," 1958, p. 4). ored Methodist Episcopal Church or the American Methodist Episcopal Church, though at least one **Black Membership in Methodist Churches** member, Memory Adams, continued to worship pp. 24-25; Butterworth, 1999, pp. 37-38).

(MECS) broke from the main denomination in tion led to Southern churches becoming de facto 1844-1845 over the issue of slavery. The MECS racially exclusive. While there were AME and remained a separate denomination until 1939 CME churches in Tallahassee, there were no Black when it joined with the Methodist Protestant Methodist (USA) churches in the 1950s and 60s Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church to (Foster, 1969, pp. 111-12). form the Methodist Church. At that time the denomination established a system of five regional active and valued contributing member of Trinity jurisdictions and a Central Jurisdiction based on since 1981, illustrates the consequences of racial race. All Black Methodist churches in the U.S. exclusion at the time. When Edna arrived in Tallawere assigned to the Central Jurisdiction. This hassee in 1963 to teach biology at FAMU, she move was a concession to the Southern churches, wanted to find a Methodist church to attend bewhich were resistant to having Black members cause of her strong connections to the denomina-(Elford, 2023, pp. 69-72). It remained highly con- tion. She grew up in South Carolina, and though troversial, and national church leaders worked for her parents had limited formal



"Picketing at the Florida Theatre in Tallahassee." (May 1963). Image #TD01498A. Florida Memory. http:// www.floridamemory.com/items/show/270054

In the following years, FAMU students led sit- decades to eliminate the racially discriminatory

In the 1950s, with Jim Crow segregation solidly records, only White people attended worship services and became members of Trinity. Bulletins, Tidings, and "Quarterly Conference Minutes" Segregation extended to churches, too, includ- from this period indicate little activity or discusing the Methodist Church. In Trinity's early years, sion in the church regarding race other than colslaveholders brought their enslaved people to lecting special offerings for two Negro colleges, worship, but they were seated separately in a gal- Bethune Cookman in Daytona Beach, Florida, and lery. Some of the enslaved became members of the Paine College in Augusta, Georgia (Worship Bullechurch (Booth, 1999b, p. 12). Following the Civil tin, 1958; "Special Offering...," 1960; "Announce

Although there were never legal (*de jure*) reat Trinity until her death in 1898 (Booth, 1999a, strictions on Black individuals becoming members of Methodist churches, the practices and laws dur-The Methodist Episcopal Church, South ing the years of discriminatory Jim Crow segrega-

> The story of Edna Bennett, who has been an (cont. on p. 4)

(cont. from p 3)

education, they had stressed the importance of Rights struggle in Tallahassee. As author Glenda -1983," 2016).

education at Bennett College, a Methodist College es in Tallahassee, was a member of the Commitfor Black women in Greensboro, North Carolina tee for Christian Social Concerns, which included ("Bennett College History," n.d.), and then did race relations as one of its areas of focus graduate work at Purdue University. In Indiana, ("Quarterly Conference Roll...," May 1955, p. 47; she participated in the interracial campus minis- Worship Bulletin, 1961). Attorney **John Ausley**, try. Since the option of attending a White Meth- businessman, J.D. Williamson, business owner odist Church was not available in Tallahassee, she Lillian Shaw, and bankers Spencer Burress, attended Trinity Presbyterian Church, which was Julian Smith, and Godfrey Smith were established in 1954 by the Presbyterian church for among others on the church's Official Board Black people (Edna Bennett, personal communi- ("Quarterly Conference Roll...," May 11, 1955, p. cation, June 25, 2024; "Trinity United Presbyteri- 47; April 16, 1956, pp. 118-121; October 21, 1958, an Church History," n.d.).

Tallahassee Leaders in Trinity



Carissa. Photo provided by Edna Bennett.

education. She graduated from Browning Home Rabby points out, "Tallahassee, like other southand Mather Academy in Camden, South Carolina, ern communities, was governed by a close-knit a Methodist High School founded by the Method- group of white men-attorneys, landowners, ist Home Missionary Society. Unlike public Black bankers, and businessmen-who controlled its schools in South Carolina, this school provided an economy, determined its politics, and guarded its education through the twelfth grade for Black stu- social mores" (Rabby, 1999, p. 2). Tallahassee dents, thus enabling her to graduate from high mayor and banker Sam Teague, Jr. was a stewschool and attend college ("Mather Academy 1887 ard on the church's Official Board, a trustee, and a member of the Finance Committee. Judge Ben Edna received a scholarship to continue her Willis, who ruled in many of the Civil Rights caspp. 323-326; May 4, 1959, pp. 333-336; May 17, 1960, pp. 419-426). Tallahassee was a small com-**Illahassee Leaders in Trinity** Many of Tallahassee's leaders in the business, munity of 48,174 in 1960 ("Population of Incorporated Places...," 1960, p. 11), and not surprispolitical, education, and legal communities at- ingly some of these families were friends or relatended Trinity and held leadership positions in tives who socialized with each other (Elizabeth the church at this time, and many of them also Ausley Gablehouse, personal communication, Juplayed an official or unofficial role in the Civil ly 1, 2024; Tanya Hollady, personal communication, June 19, 2024).

> The three senior pastors who served from 1953 through 1972, Rev. Dr. Glenn James, Rev. Dr. H. Melton Ware, and Rev. Dr. George Foster, guided the church through these tumultuous years in Tallahassee. Dr. Ware later recalled that discussions on integration and racial equality took place throughout the community. Quoting Ware, Moody reflected,

The Trinity congregation faced the issue frankly and remained faithful to the Scriptural ideal of acceptance of and compassion for all people of all races. The leadership of the Trinity congregation was described as outstanding during those years, which proved to be important to the church. (Moody, 1999, p. 74)

Attitudes Toward Racial Integration

Attitudes toward race varied within the congregation. As described by Cecile Williamson **Baker**, some were accepting of integration, others promoted it, and still others firmly opposed it (Cecile Baker, personal communication, September 20, 2024). In subsequent years, some of Edna and Nelson Bennett and their children, Nelson and these differences in attitude became more evirupt the status quo.

points of view that at times differed from those son Ough, believes that "no place other than the held by their parents. While not mentioned in any church could have changed attitudes from the of Trinity's publications, Glenda Rabby writes in way I was brought up" (Jeanie Williamson Ough, her book, *The Pain and the Promise*, that in sum-personal communication, June 24, 2024). mer 1956, Rev. Metz Rollins, pastor of Trinity Lillian and **James Shaw**, owners of Shaw's Presbyterian Church, and a leader of the Tallahas- Furniture Store, were members of Trinity, and see bus boycott, spoke to the combined youth Lillian served on the Official Board ("Quarterly groups from First Presbyterian, Trinity, and First Conference Roll and Record," April 16, 1956, p. Christian Church on "The Role of the Minister in 120). Both natives of Quincy, they quietly held the Bus Boycott" (Rabby, 1999, p. 40). In the liberal social and political views different from summer of 1958, two young men who would have their neighbors. In an interview with author Glena lasting influence on some of the church's young da Rabby, Lillian Shaw discussed leaving Trinity Morris was appointed associate pastor of Trinity Official Board) voted against allowing Blacks to and Robert M. "Bobby" Temple, a student at be seated during worship services (Rabby, 1999, Emory, was hired as a ministerial intern, part of p. 70). While no record of this vote, or of any Offiwhose responsibilities included working with the cial Board votes during this period, have been youth for "counsel and direction" ("The Rev. D. J. found, the church's May 1960 "Quarterly Confer-Morris...," 1958, p. 1; "Robert Temple, Jr...," 1959, ence Minutes" indicate that James and Lillian p. 1; "Seminary Student...," 1958). Cecile William- Shaw left Trinity for another denomination son Baker and her sister Jeanie Williamson ("Removals from Church Rolls," May 1960, p. **Ough** were in the youth group at that time and 441). Lillian Shaw told Glenda Rabby that she recall them as charismatic-type leaders with pro- communicated to the Board and Trinity's minisgressive ideas who made a big impression on the ter, Rev. Dr. Glenn James, that the Board's decichurch's youth. At one Methodist Youth Fellow- sion was the reason for their leaving the church. ship (MYF) meeting, a professor from FAMU was In her telling, Dr. James responded by saying that invited to speak to the youth, and some parents he had no objections to allowing Black people to

dent. Some people were vocal in their opinions, were quite angry when they learned of it (Cecile some left the church, and others chose not to dis- Williamson Baker, personal communication, June 20, 2024; Jeanie Williamson Ough, personal The youth of the church were exposed to some communication, June 20, 2024). Jeanie William-

people, joined the Trinity staff. Rev. Danny because the board of directors (presumably the



'Group portrait at Tananarive Due's dedication ceremony." (1966). Image # Due017. Florida Memory. Summary of Note: Back row, L-R . Susan Ausley, activist, and later, Johnita's godmother; James and Lillian Shaw, activists and Tananarive's godparents (J. Shaw secretly gave bond money to R. Haley and D. Young to get students out of jail); Rev. Grant A. Butler, minister, Candaisy Blackshear; Horace Walter Stephens, Tananarive's uncle; and Dr. Irene Johnson, FAMU professor. Front row, L-R: Wanda Crutcher, daughter of Rev. James and Addie Crutcher, activists; Dorothy C. Jones, one of Tananarive's godparents and former elementary teacher of Patricia Stephens Due (D. C. Jones allowed Patricia to live with her in the early sixties when it was very dangerous); John D. Due Tananarive); (holding Patricia Stephens Due; and Addie Crutcher holding Stephen Crutcher. (Photo: Steve Beasley). Κ. http:// www.floridamemory.com/items/ show/296146

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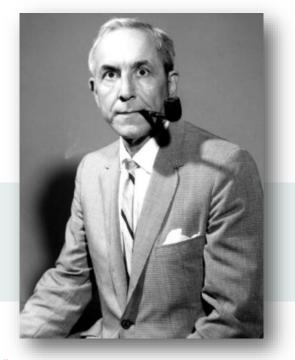
attend Trinity, but he needed to support the church's wishes (Rabby, personal communication, June 20, 2024).

John and Susan Ausley were active members of Trinity. Susan Ausley, a firm believer in integration and equal rights for Black people, was more outspoken on the issue of race than her husband, who agreed with her, but was concerned that it would only cause issues that would hurt his law practice (Ausley & Ice, 1978; Rabby, 1999, pp. 166-167). The Ausleys helped to start John Weslev Methodist Church in the rapidly growing area of Indianhead Acres in 1960, and along with some other members of Trinity, moved their membership to the new church (McLarty, Church Register Book Six..., p. 47). Their daughter, Margaret, recalled that her parents felt that Trinity was moving too slowly when it came to integration and wanted John Wesley as a new church to be more open to Black people (Margaret Ausley Stalvey, personal communication, November 14, 2023). Her sister, Elizabeth, added that her father left Trinity in 1960 because it would not seat Black people, and he felt that the church, which had been working on plans for a new sanctuary, was too focused on buildings (Elizabeth Ausley Gablehouse, personal communication, July 1, Dr. James in the pulpit to let him know that there 2024). Trinity and St. Paul's Methodist Church were Black people at the door who wanted to provided financial support in the new church's come in and worship. Dr. James responded by first years, and Danny Morris, Trinity's associate saying that the visitors should be ushered to the pastor, was appointed as the first pastor of John "front row" (Rabby, personal communication, Wesley (A Brief History..., 2010, p. 1; Parramore, June 20, 2024; Tanya Hollady personal commu-1999, pp. 67-68).

Testing Trinity

test some of the mainline White churches by people in the congregation walked out (Sam Rogat Trinity. It is not clear if there were multiple graduate student at FSU who worshipped at Trininstances or only a single instance, and people ity, witnessed a remember it slightly differently. In an interview with Rev. Davis Thomas, pastor of First Presbyterian, Glenda Rabby records that he had gotten word that a group planned to come to his church and to Trinity. He alerted Dr. Glenn James, Trinity's pastor. According to Rev. Thomas, Dr. James "made sure" that there would be someone to admit them. Only one person showed up that Sunday at First Presbyterian, but all accounts indicated that multiple people showed up at Trinity (Rabby, personal communication, June 20, 2024).

Rev. Austin Hollady, minister at Florida State University's (FSU's) Wesley Foundation, recalled an instance when an usher approached



"John C. Ausley." (1969, May 19). Image # SL23198. Florida Memory. (Photo: Harvey E. Slade). http:// www.floridamemory.com/items/show/48026

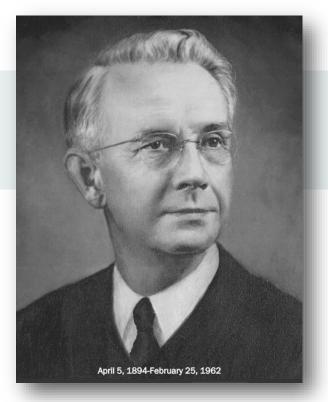
nication, June 19, 2024).

Sam Rogers, Sr. also recalls being at a worship service when a group of Black people were In the early 1960s, Black Americans tried to seated at the front of the sanctuary and that some showing up to attend worship services (Elford, ers, Sr., personal communication, April 30, 2023, p.99). Several people recall this happening 2024). One Sunday, Harry G. Sharpe III, a

> well-dressed Black couple emerging from a Lincoln sedan with NY license plates in front of Trinity and telling the driver to go around the block and they would be right out. (Harry Sharpe III, personal communication, August 6, 2023)

They were seated, and some men who were sitting in the back half of the sanctuary walked out (Sharpe).

Dr. James's daughter, **Carvl Cullom**, has memories of her father getting word that FAMU students were coming to a Sunday service, but in her recollection, the ushers were told to seat the visitors wherever they wanted to sit. She also remembers some of the people in the congregation communication, July 22, 2024). At least one of ing week, communicating that "the way we treat those who walked out later returned and apolo- our Black brothers is a faith issue" (Sam Rogers, gized to Dr. James after another church member Sr., personal communication, April 30, 2024; reminded him that it was not his church, but Harry Sharpe III, personal communication, Au-God's church, where all people are welcome gust 6, 2023). (David Hortin, personal communication, October



"Rev. Dr. Glenn James." (n.d.). Yates Heritage Center Archives. Trinity United Methodist Church, Tallahassee, FL. (Photo: Slade)

27, 2024).

In Caryl Cullom's memory, an Official Board *cipline*, which stated, meeting was called that evening following the seating of the Black visitors in the worship service, leaving Dr. James and his family wondering if he would be asked to leave the church. At that meeting, Dr. Coyle Moore, an FSU professor whose son was battling cancer, told the Board members that there were so many more important things for the church to do, and welcoming others "is what Jesus would do" (Caryl Cullom, personal communication, July 22, 2024). No official accounts of this meeting have been found, but Dr. James remained as senior pastor at Trinity. During his tenure at Trinity, he faced opposition from some members of the congregation, and there were threats to cut his salary, but he stood firm (Rabby, personal communication, June 20, 2024). According to Sam Rogers, Sr. and Harry Sharpe III, Dr. James addressed the issue with

leaving in protest (Caryl James Cullum, personal the congregation in a worship service the follow-

Changes Within the Methodist Church

As the Civil Rights Movement changed American society, the Methodist Church was also working to eliminate the race-based Central Jurisdiction. The Central Jurisdiction was created as a separate conference for Black churches in the Methodist Church in 1939; unlike White churches whose jurisdiction depended on physical location, all Black churches regardless of location were members of the Central Jurisdiction. At the 1956 General Conference of the Methodist Church, Amendment IX allowing local churches or conferences to transfer from the Central Jurisdiction to a regional jurisdiction was passed and approved by annual conferences. In the following decade, there were mergers in areas other than the South, and the General Conferences continued to work at eliminating the Central Jurisdiction. In 1961, the Florida Conference passed a resolution to eliminate it and later passed the General Conference amendment to eliminate it in 1965 (Temple, 1987, pp. 330, 337). In 1968, the Methodist Church merged with the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Church to form the United Methodist Church, and the Central Jurisdiction was eliminated from the new constitution. The following year, the Florida Conference of the Southeast Jurisdiction merged with the Florida Conference of the Central Jurisdiction (Foster, n.d, pp. 108-112).

In 1964, paragraph 106.1 was added to the Dis-

Therefore all persons, without regard to race, color, national origin, or economic conditions, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, to participate in its programs, and when they take the appropriate vows, to be admitted into its membership in any local church in the connection. (Discipline of the Methodist Church, 1964, p. 49)

As Dr. Rev. George Foster pointed out, by the end of the 1960s, actions by the General Conference and the Methodist Discipline established that the United Methodist Church was inclusive at all levels (Foster, n.d., p. 112).

Welcoming Black People as Members

Through the 1960s, as Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other civil rights legislation, and as Tallahassee began integrating its school system, movie theaters, and public trans-(cont. on p. 8)



Dr. Rupert and Georgetta Seals. "The Sealses-45 Years." (2000, Apr 29). Reno Gazette-Journal, 43.

viduals as members of its congregation since the her to bring the children. Her children, Nelson, Jr. Civil War and Reconstruction.

when Dr. Seals accepted a position as dean of Ag- June 25, 2024). ricultural Science and Home Economics at FAMU ("New Faces ...," 1969, p. 136). In Iowa, the Seals Trinity Members' Influence in the Community had attended a White Methodist church, and they Legal and societal changes influenced much of chose Trinity as their church in Tallahassee, join- the change that took place in Tallahassee and at day School class with the Seals, they were "the attitudes regarding civil rights and served as experfect family to bring into the church" (Orson amples for others. Smith, personal communication, June 24, 2024). classes so that the teachers would know how he beth Ausley Gablehouse, personal communicaexpected them to be treated (Barbara Hynes, per- tion, July 1, 2024; Tanya Hollady, personal comfamily and continue to strive to care about all peo- 1999, p.34). ple" (Curry, 1970, p. 177). Georgetta Seals became tian Service and Church Women United ("World beginning of his second term. In her book, Rabby

Community Day Set," 1972, p. 62; "United Methodist Women...," 1974, p. 3). Three of the Seals children, Rupert, Rori, and Regan, were confirmed at Trinity (McLarty, Church Register Books Eight...) and participated in the MYF (Rupert L. Seals, personal communication, July 22, 2024).

In subsequent years, other Black people joined Trinity, including international students from Nigeria studying at FSU and FAMU ("Trinity Welcomes 18...," 1977; "Trinity Welcomes These...," 1977; "Trinity Welcomes Nine...," 1978). By the 1980s, Black membership in the church was more accepted, and Edna Bennett, who was unable to join Trinity in 1963 because of racial attitudes, joined the church in 1981 (McLarty, Church Register Books Eight..., p. 85). She had heard from the Seals that Trinity was open to Black membership. When she called the church office to inquire about bringing her children to Sunday School and portation, attitudes of Trinity members regarding identified herself as being a Black person, she was integration were also changing. In 1970, Trinity greeted by an enthusiastic staffer who told her welcomed to the congregation its first Black indi- that they were welcome to come and encouraged and Carissa, grew up in Trinity's Sunday School **Dr. Rupert and Georgetta Seals** and their and MYF, and she taught Sunday School for many four children moved to Tallahassee from Iowa years (Edna Bennett, personal communication,

ing the church in 1970 (Orson Smith, personal Trinity, but individuals also played important communication, June 24, 2024; McLarty, Church roles. Since many of Trinity's leaders and mem-*Register Books Eight....*). According to **Dr. Orson** bers were prominent people in the community, Smith, who attended the Advanced Studies Sun- they were in positions to help influence policy and

John Ausley and Governor LeRoy Collins The Seals children attended Sunday School at were law partners, and John and his wife, Susan, Trinity (Rupert L. Seals, personal communication and Rev. Austin Hollady and his wife, Becky, July 22, 2024). Rubie Butterworth, director of were friends of the governor. According to their Christian education at the time, later told Rev. daughters, they were influential in his change in Barbara Hynes that she and Senior Pastor Dr. positions on race (Margaret Ausley Stalvey, per-George Foster personally took the children to their sonal communication, November 14, 2023; Elizasonal communication, June 11, 2024). In his re- munication, June 19, 2024). In his first term as port on social concerns to the November 10, 1970, governor, Collins called a special session of the Charge Conference, Associate Minister Ben Cur- legislature following the Supreme Court's Brown ry noted that "We have come a long way in this v. Board of Education decision to find ways to area as a church. We have received our first black prevent integration of the state's schools (Rabby,

Glenda Rabby writes that Collins admitted that very involved with the Women's Society of Chris- his attitude toward integration had changed by the growing feeling that my attitudes were not correct had just started to do that surgery, so he, along and there was much inherent in segregation which with surgeon **Dr. Nelson Kraft**, pushed the pawas unfair and wrong to black people" (Rabby, tient in a wheelchair across the street from Dr. 1999, p. 53).

Collins's evolving personal beliefs and national political ambitions moderated his views on race. surgery went well. Dr. Smith speculated that the In a televised speech on segregation in 1960, he hospital staff was willing to provide care for anysaid that he could "no longer reconcile this view one who needed it and was likely relieved to comwith the moral, religious framework that influ- ply with the law without having to get into politics enced his personal and public decisions" (Rabby, (Orson Smith, personal communication, June 24, 1999, pp. 107-108, 197-198).

As mayor of Tallahassee in 1963-64, Sam



(c. "Sam Teague, Jr." 1950). Image #PR11924. Florida Memory. https:// www.floridamemory.com /items/show/10323

keeping balance state laws the proactive proponent

lahassee was not as positive as life in the Southern son and Eleanor Smith's son, David, was in first town was from his perspective. He tried to keep and second grades at Kate Sullivan, Melodee communication open with leaders of the Black community and worked with the police department to eliminate night sticks and electric cattle prods and to add Black police officers to the force (Teague, 1978). According to Rabby (1999), on other occasions, he defended the action of a police officer that was clearly an act of brutality and authorized the use of tear gas on student protestors to maintain order and prevent violence (p. 147).

When Dr. Orson Smith moved to Tallahassee in 1962, he practiced at both Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH), which served the White community, and the FAMU Hospital, which served the Black community. The condition of the facilities and the level of care were significantly different at the two hospitals. In the late 1960s after the Civil Rights Act was passed, he helped to integrate Dr. Orson and Eleanor Smith. Photo provided by family TMH when one of his Black female patients had a members.

quotes Collins as saying that he had undergone "a heart blockage and needed a pacemaker. TMH Smith's office to TMH for the surgery.

> There was no resistance from TMH, and the 2024).

The buildings, books, and instructional materi-Teague, Jr., a former als in Leon County's Black schools were signifimember of Trinity at cantly inferior to those in White schools, and the the time, tried to students were academically disadvantaged (Power keep the peace in the From Within..., 2023, p. 128). Susan Ausley and community and was **Peggy Hughes** volunteered at Raney Elementary largely successful in School, a school for Black children at the corner of protests what is now Centerville and Fleischmann Roads. from becoming vio- Susan Ausley was involved in the Raney commulent. Thrust into the nity, working with the Raney Betterment Associarole of mayor at a tion and helping to prepare pre-K students for eleyoung age, he had to mentary school. Her efforts led to getting the upholding HeadStart program established there (Margaret with Ausley Stalvey, personal communication, Novemgrowing unrest in ber 14, 2023; Elizabeth Ausley Gablehouse, percommunity. sonal communication, July 1, 2024; Ausley & Ice, While he was not a 1978; Beall, 2021, p. 2).

Public schools in Leon County began integratof integration, he under- ing in 1963, and it took until 1970 for that process stood that times were to be completed (Rabby, 1999, pp. 239-240, 258). changing and came to Leon High School and Kate Sullivan Elementary realize that from the were the first public schools to integrate ("Negro point of view of most Girl Will...," August 29, 1963, p. 13; "3 Negroes Black people, life in Tal- Registered...," September 3, 1963, p. 1). When Or-



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(cont. from p. 9)

attend Kate Sullivan, was in his class. While it was on an equal basis (Phifer, Mrs. G. [Betty], 1965, p. likely a difficult time for Janice as the only Black 5). student in the school, Eleanor, as the class mother for their second grade class, tried to make sure original poems at city commission meetings prothat there was no friction in the class. Years later, testing the closing of the city's swimming pools Janice recognized Eleanor while out shopping and rather than integrating them (Margie Phifer was especially pleased to see her. The two women Tullos, personal communication, October 23, sat and talked for a long time ("Mixing Is Qui- 2024; "Prose Pushes Pools," March 29, 1967). The et...," 1963, p. 9; Orson Smith, personal communi- mother of three daughters, she often took them cation, June 24, 2024).

hassee Junior College in 1966 and started as an sonal communication, October 23, 2024). integrated institution. Dot Binger worked for the college from its beginnings until her retirement in 1991, initially as business manager and later as a faculty member and administrator. Dr. Fred Turner, the college's first president, impressed upon the senior staff that all types of students would attend the school, and that they were all to be treated the same. The school made deliberate efforts to hire Black faculty and cultivated good relationships with both FAMU and FSU since some of the students would likely transfer to those universities. Dot recalls Tallahassee Community College as "an inclusive atmosphere" (Dot Binger, personal communication, July 2, 2024).

Rev. Austin Hollady conceived of creating an interracial choir of FSU and FAMU singers in hopes that the beautiful harmony of their music would help to change hearts and attitudes about race. He and Dr. Rebecca Steele, FAMU choral director, founded the Wesley Singers, who performed at the FSU Wesley Foundation, toured in Florida, and appeared on the Ted Mack Amateur Hour (See accompanying article on Wesley Singers). Austin and his wife Becky took their three daughters with them on some of these trips, where they were introduced to the everyday discrimination that Black people experienced. Tanya and Wendy Hollady both recall drinking out of the "Colored" water fountain, not understanding why it was called "Colored," and Tanya bursting out crying when she discovered that the water did not have any color (Tanya Hollady, personal communication, June 19, 2024; Wendy Hollady, personal communication, July 10, 2024).

Betty Phifer taught for many years in FSU's Religion Department and held strong positions on racial justice, the Vietnam War, and other social **Phifer**, who also attended Trinity, wrote monthly issues. She frequently wrote letters to the editor of letters to the editor of the *Tallahassee Democrat*. the Tallahassee Democrat and shared her views Some of those dealing with racial issues called for with the community. In one instance, she re- creating an interracial committee of leading citisponded to a previous letter writer who described zens to try to "explore this serious problem" and the relationships between Black and White indi- later celebrating the end of Jim Crow segregation viduals as a servant-service relationship and em- in the South (Margie Phifer Tullos, personal com-

Janice Thompson, the first Black student to phasized the need for people of both races to be

On two occasions in 1965 and 1967, she read with her to protests and introduced them to the Tallahassee State College was founded as Talla- issues facing society (Margie Phifer Tullos, per-



Betty Phifer, at far left wearing glasses, with image partially cut off. Her father-in-law, Rev. Lyndon Phifer, at top of stairs in the rear. Two of Betty's daughters are in the photo The other persons have not been identified.

Betty's father-in-law, Rev. Lyndon Burke

munication, October 23, 2024; Phifer, L. B., 1960, 1963).

Consequences for Advocates of Racial Justice

od was not without its personal consequences. the church from a segregated institution to one Leaders in the Black community received criti- that welcomed people regardless of race. Most of cism from within their own community as well as these people grew up in the Deep South in a time criticism and harassment from Tallahassee's of racial segregation and inequality but had expe-White community. They were subject to riences that changed their thinking and attitudes "increased threats of physical violence, property on race. damage, loss of income, and strained friendships and community ties" (Rabby, 1999, pp. 38-45).

cross was burned in the Hollady's yard, and a ra- needed to change. Reading about segregation and cial epithet was written on their house. On anoth- civil rights made an indelible impression on other occasion, pine straw was placed in front of his ers. The beliefs and examples of family members car and set on fire (Tanya Hollady, personal com- motivated some to oppose the social norms of the munication, June 19, 2024; Wendy Hollady, per- day. Significantly, it was their Christian faith and sonal communication, July 10, 2024).

At one point in the early 1960s, a cross was some attitudes. burned in John and Susan Ausley's yard. Their son was bullied, threatened, and beaten at Leon Black people that had the most impact on peo-High School by students because of his parents' ple's attitudes during the time of racial strife. stands on racial justice, prompting his family to With integration, there were more opportunities send him away to school in New England. Accord- for people to work, attend school, and worship ing to their daughters, the family also lost friend- with Black people. Vivian Bevis Smelley comships because of their racial views (Margaret Aus- mented that the church changed a lot during the ley Stalvey, personal communication, November years when the Seals family joined Trinity. It was 2023; Elizabeth Ausley Gablehouse, personal Myron Munday, though, who she credits for communication, July 1, 2024).

Influences on Views About Racial Integration

As they did in the community, individuals in leadership positions and members of the congre-Speaking up for racial justice during this peri- gation also played an important role in moving

In some cases, people observed firsthand the inequalities in the legal and social treatment of As a result of the stands Austin Hollady took, a Black people and realized that it was wrong and the church that were instrumental in shaping

> Perhaps it was the opportunity to get to know doing the most to improve racial attitudes at the



Organist Myron Munday loved the Trinity children and won the hearts of the congregation. Trinity UMC archives.

(cont. from p. 11)

church (Vivian Bevis Smelley, personal communication, July 17, 2024).

Dr. Myron Munday arrived as Trinity's organist in 1984 amid some initial opposition over hiring a Black organist (Vivian Bevis Smelley, personal Foster, G. A. (1969). "The Methodist Church and the Negro: Yestercommunication, July 2024; Nancy Kerce, personal communication, June 4, 2024). That opposition was short-lived, though, as he won over the congregation with his vibrant personality, humor, and excellent skills as an organist. He was beloved by the Trinity congregation and greatly mourned when he died prematurely at the age of 44 in 1995 McLarty, E. L. (Ed.). (n.d.). Church Register Book Six, 1929-1944. (Carrington, November 9, 1995). For several years following his death, Trinity hosted a concert in his memory.

Undoubtedly there are other stories that will add to this picture of the church during these years, and they would be most welcome. Moving from a segregated church to one that welcomed Black people as visitors and members did not hap- "Mixing Is Quiet in State Schools." (1963, September 4). Tallahassee pen overnight at Trinity. Through the leadership of the pastors and forward-looking members of the congregation, the church navigated those difficult times and ultimately remained faithful to "Negro Girl Will Attend Sullivan. (1963, August 29). Tallahassee Christian beliefs that all people are children of God and equal in God's sight.

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to

Pamela Crosby, chief editor, at pcrosby@tumct.org

The purpose of **Crossroads** is to provide descriptions of historical events and to publish news related to the Trinity United Methodist Church Historical Society. Its intent is not to endorse or criticize theological or ethical positions related to issues that these descriptive accounts might raise.

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> In Memoriam Linda Herold Yates Bob Yates Mary Margaret Rogers Dorothy Nelson Binger

Wesley Singers Helped Break Down Racial Barriers

By Gloria Colvin

Foundation. In 1927, when it was Florida State students from Lively Vocational School and some College for Women, Trinity helped found the of the protesting students, he tried to break up a Methodist Student Organization on campus fight between two of them. In the process, "he (Parramore, 1999, p. 53). Until Rev. Austin Hollady was appointed as its first minister in 1954, Methodist students came to Trinity for Sunday worship. Prior to assuming the roles of minister and director of the Wesley Foundation, Rev. Hollady served as an associate pastor at Trinity (Yates, 1999, p. 8), and his family attended the church, further strengthening that connection.

A Persevering Social Activist

A social activist and firm believer in equality, Rev. Hollady was willing to challenge the status quo. In an interview with author Glenda Rabby, he recounted that university leaders had been upset with his predecessor for inviting a Black woman singer to campus and asked that as the new minister he not do anything to embarrass the Although he understood university. the university's position, "he couldn't promise that there might be times 'when we would disagree" (Rabby, personal communication, June 20, 2024).

Two years later, he approached the FSU Board for permission to hold a Bible study for Black Methodist students from Florida A&M University was punched in the face and knocked to the (FAMU) and White Methodist students from ground" (Rabby, p.145). After that incident, he FSU. When the Board did not immediately agree became committed to settling disputes using only to his proposal, he asked that the members study nonviolent means (Rabby, 1999, p.146). his proposals and report back in a year. They never reported back (Rabby, communication, June 20, 2024). Apparently, Austin Holladay persevered, though, according to with racial struggles, Rev. Hollady had a vision of a 1959 Trinity Tidings article, describing an using music to change racial attitudes. He "ecumenical, inter-racial study group...[that] approached Dr. Rebecca Steele, associate meets weekly at various student houses on the professor of voice at FAMU and director of the F.S.U. campus." This study group was preparing FAMU Concert Choir, about the idea of forming for the Student Conference on the Christian an interracial choir of FAMU and FSU students World Mission to be held in Athens, Ohio. Austin that would present concerts locally and in the Hollady was co-coordinator of the conference region. People, he thought, would be won over by ("Wesley Foundation December 1959, p. 5).

Commitment to Nonviolence

errand in downtown Tallahassee, FAMU students Hollady, personal communication, June 19, 2024;

rinity has always had a close relationship with were protesting in front of the segregated State L Florida State University's (FSU) Wesley Theater. Seeing a skirmish between some White



Rev. Austin Hollady

personal The Wesley Singers

Having rejected violence as a means of dealing Presents Program...," the beauty and harmony of their blended voices. Initially, Dr. Steele was resistant to the idea because of racial tension at the time, but she went back to Rev. Hollady and told him that she shared In 1963, while Rev. Hollady was running an his dream and wanted to join forces (Tanya



Rebecca Walker Steele, American educator, Fair use. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ File:Rebecca Walker Steele.jpg

vision in this way:

rekindle in the hearts and minds of our hearers the dream and hope of a world in which men may live in mutual respect, trust, and love for each other. It is hoped that through the harmonious notes which we sing our listeners will hear the vibrations of the chords of human brotherhood. We are committed to the belief that love is stronger than hate and trust and respect far more desirable than power and prestige. ("The Wesley Singers")

performed at other local venues, and toured Southeast. In 1968, their tour included concerts Florida and other areas in the Southeast. Tanya in Deland, Jacksonville, Boca Raton, Winter and Wendv daughters, remember occasions when boos from also hosted a concert of spirituals and sacred and audience members initially greeted the choir, but classical music ("FSU, FAMU Students Join by the time the choir ended the concert with their Wesley Singers Concert," 1968, p. 5). The signature song "Oh Happy Day," the audience following year the church hosted the choir's was standing and applauding (Tanya Hollady, performance of the "Human Rights Cantata." It personal communication, June 19, 2024; Wendy was based on the opening words of the 1948 Hollady, personal communication, July 10, United Nations Universal Declaration of Human 2024).

Linda Thomas joined the Wesley Singers as a first-year student at FAMU in 1967. It was her initial experience in a racially integrated setting.

She remembers that Austin Hollady wanted everyone in the choir to get to know each other, and when they traveled, Black and White students sat together on the bus and roomed together in hotels. As the choir traveled on tour and as it auditioned for the popular television program, the Ted Mack Amateur Hour, the students encountered incidents of racial discrimination. In Dothan, Alabama, the hotel where the group had reservations only gave rooms to the White students. When Austin Hollady explained the situation to the choir, they all agreed to spend the night on the bus. On another occasion, the group went to eat at a fastfood restaurant, and the employees refused to take food orders from the Black students. The White students ordered lots of food and then left without picking it up or paying for it. The group then went to another restaurant where all were served (Linda Thomas Andrews, personal communication, June 28, 2024).

Ted Mack Amateur Hour

After winning local and regional contests, the Wesley Singers won a trip to New York City to appear on the Ted Mack Amateur Hour. Rev. Datt, 1972, p. 47). Thus in 1965, the Wesley Hollady obtained donations for a chartered plane Singers choir was born. A document describing to take the sixty-member choir, and the singers the performing group stated its purpose and appeared on the Christmas Eve show in 1967 ("Choir Goes to N. York," 1967, p. 8.). A feature article on Dr. Steele in the *Tallahassee Democrat* Our objective, beyond the sheer joy of singing, is to several years later noted, "Needless to say, the Wesley Singers were a smash hit on the Ted Mack Christmas show and gave everyone in Tallahassee something to be proud of" (Datt, July 9, 1972, p. 47).

Impact of The Wesley Singers

In addition to the distinction the choir received after appearing on the Ted Mack Amateur Hour, the group traveled and gave The group sang at the Wesley Foundation, concerts in Florida and other places in the Hollady, Austin Hollady's Haven, and Miami, Florida. That year, Trinity **Rights:**

All human beings are born free and equal. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act toward one another in a spirit of brotherhood. ("Wesley Group in Cantata," 1989, p.11).

The choir also performed for the Florida Methodist Annual Conference and the Tallahassee District Conference in 1970 ("Annual Conference...," 1970, p. 2; "Program: Tallahassee District Conference," 1970). In 1975, the Wesley Singers sang at the Inaugural Inter-Faith Prayer Service prior to Governor Reuben Askew's inauguration ("Inaugural Prayer Service...," 1975, p. 7).

Austin Hollady remained a friend and mentor to Linda Thomas. Her experience with the Wesley Singers she claims "made us better people" (Linda Thomas Andrews, personal communication, June 28, 2024). She wrote in a letter in 1987 that "at Wesley, I felt that people accepted me not as a Black woman, but as a human being" (Wesley Foundation scrapbook). In a letter to the editor in the *Tallahassee Democrat* in 1970, Linda wrote about her experience with the Wesley Singers as a singer and student conductor. In conclusion she stated,

I know that when I directed the Wesley Singers last week I gave a message to my group, the audience, and the world. I said, "This is my small step which when multiplied by millions more will make a giant leap for mankind—a leap toward total peace and love among all the races of the world." Thomas, 1970, p. 4)

For the Hollady family, the close relationships that they formed with the students and with Dr. Steele remained lifelong friendships. Daughters Tanva, Wendy, and Trava traveled with the choir on some of their trips and witnessed racial injustices firsthand, which as children had a profound effect on them (Tanya Hollady, personal communication, June 19, 2024; Wendy Hollady, personal communication, July 10, 2024). At the time of his retirement in March 1987, Austin Hollady reflected on the success of the Wesley Singers as one of the high points of his career. "I was trying to find some means to get the dream of the family of God together without turning off other people." The founding of the Wesley Singers, he said, "surpassed even our wildest dreams" ("Wesley Minister Honored," March 7, 1987, p. D2).



The Wesley Singers. Official photo for performance in Ted Mack Amateur Hour. 1967. Seated: Dr. Rebecca Walker Steele, conductor, seated. 1967. Photo provided by Tanya Hollady.



The Hollady family joined members of the Wesley Singers in New York for the choir's appearance on the Ted Mack Amateur Hour in 1967. Becky Hollady is at left wearing a head scarf. To her right are daughters Tanya (in front with glasses) and Traya (behind Tanya). Choir member Linda Thomas is behind Tanya. Austin Hollady's face is barely visible at the rear of the group between the heads of two choir members. Photo provided by Tanya Hollady.



Caption: "Section of Wesley Singers sing with Mrs. John Steele."

: ". . . full group of Methodist singers gaining wide acclaim."

"FSU, FAMU Students Join Wesley Singers Concert." (1968, May 11). *Tallahassee Democrat*, 7.

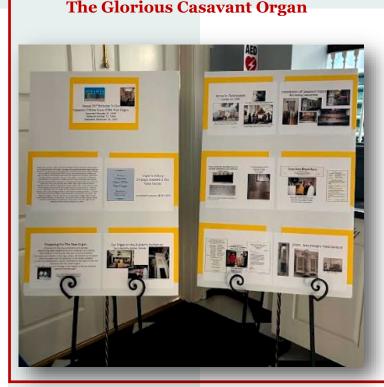
(cont. on p. 18)

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Making History: Quarterly News from Trinity's Historical Society and **Preservation of Church History Committee**



Update of History Volume

Trinity's history (by adding a chapter on events was postponed from the third Sunday in Septemsince 1999) as part of the church's Bicentennial ber 2024 to January 12, 2025, due to the projectobservance. In the chapter "A Heart for the City: ed landfall of Hurricane Helene in the Big Bend info into sections according to the pastorates of sometime in 2025.



Semi-truck loaded with crates of pipes, millwork, console, and other components

The Casavant organ at Trinity has produced music since 1999 to express the power, depth, and beauty of God's love and magnificence. To mark the 25th anniversary, Lynn McLarty assembled in December a detailed history told in photographs and descriptions for display in the narthex.

John Willis, Wayne Curry, Wayne Wiatt, To help mark Trinity's 175th anniversary, Trin- and Matthew Williams, marking such nationity United Methodist Church: Tallahassee's First al events as the September 11, 2001, attack on the Church 1824-1999, edited by Linda Yates, was Twin Towers and Pentagon, and the Covid-19 published in 1999. Twenty-five years later, Marti pandemic. The chapter ends with the church's **Chumbler** is completing an updated version of observance of its 200th year—a celebration that 2000-2008,"Chumbler divides the newly added area. The updated version will be published

Lay Academy

Hurricane Helene caused havoc in many ways at Trinity, including disrupting the schedule of Lay Academy presentations that were planned as part of the Bicentennial observance. Some changes to the schedule were also due to illnesses. The final schedule was as follows with all classes meeting at 6:30 in room 305.

September 4

"Trinity in WWII," Lynn McLarty

This presentation provides examples of how WWII affected our town and the interaction of our church with the general population and service members.

September 11 and September 18

"The Susannas of Trinity, Part 1 and 2," Susan Mick and Patricia Striplin

These sessions feature some of the Trinity women who have followed in the church leadership footsteps of Susanna Wesley.

October 2 and October 9

"Tallahassee in WWII, Part 1 and 2," Lynn McLarty

These sessions are focused on the lives and events in Tallahassee that were influenced by the US involvement in WWII.

Presentations on World War II

nis (October 30 and November 6) and Trinity's a critical vacuum in the church's history. Circle One Alpha at Westminster Oaks (October 7, October 11, and December 9) about the influence of WWII on the lives and events in Trinity and Tallahassee.

Plans for Visitors' Guide

tifying some of the items on display. The project the project which is planned for June 1, 2025. will now involve identifying all of the items, categorizing them, reorganizing their location, and labeling them.

Children's Trinity History Book

meeting at the end of January 2025 to begin ry items by category. Artifacts with no identificaplanning for a subsequent publication of a Trinity tion will be purged or given away. history book for children. Candace is director of



L to R: Patty Williams, Pat Striplin, and Susan Mick after presentation by Pat and Susan on September 18. Patty joined others in attendance in room 305 to learn about Trinity women who have followed in the church leadership footsteps of Susanna Wesley. Photo Credit: Pam Crosby; Location: Room 307, Trinity UMC.

children and adult education at Trinity.

Welcome, Mike Melder

Mike Melder has joined the Historical Society and will be involved in researching events that Trinity's historian, Dr. Lynn McLarty, who is occurred in Trinity and Tallahassee during 1855 widely sought in our community as a presenter of 1865 and into the 1870s. Detailed records of this historical research on Trinity and Tallahassee, era in Trinity history have not been found at this has presented at such recent gatherings as Kiwa- time, thus, research of this timeframe is presently

Wall Display Timeline Leadership

With the leadership of Gloria Colvin, Susan Mick, and Mike Melder, the timeline wall display will soon be updated. After the rescheduled Bicentennial Sunday on January 12, 2025, these Pam Crosby is drafting plans to design and three individuals will meet to determine what publish a guide to assist visitors of the Yates Cen- photos, dates, and labels will feature highlights ter with information about artifacts and docu- from 2015 to 2024, adding to the chronology that ments available for their viewing. A sketch of the begins with the founding of the church in 1824. room revealed that there is a lack of details iden- Brett Ingram will provide the means to finish

Ongoing Organization of Archives

Amy Jones has made locating documents and photographs for all of Trinity's historians much easier. She has created an inventory of artifacts Pam Crosby and Candace DuClos are and records and will begin grouping the invento-

(cont. on p. 20)

(cont. from p. 19)

News & Notes Newsletters Preservation

Pam Crosby has initiated the archiving of ited.

Membership Registers

Membership registers of Trinity provide records *News & Notes*, a weekly online newsletter, featur- for researchers of family history and all aspects of ing information about events and programs at the past church life. These registers have become church. Because the newsletters are only digital available online in the Trinity archives and in the with a possible short shelf life, preserving backup Yates Heritage Center. Contact Pam Crosby copies in various platforms is important, especial- (pcrosby@tumct.org) if you have questions, and ly preserving newsletters sent during the COVID she will direct your query to Lynn McLarty, arpandemic times when communication was lim- chivist, who has directed the publication of Trinity's records.

From the Editor: A Defining Moment for Trinity UMC Tallahassee

people during the Civil Rights Era. The division church. was not only between Black and White people, but

also between White individuals who joined the movement to end segregation and those who fought to preserve it. Trinity had members and leaders who represented both sides.

Compiling information from interviews with former pastors, current and past members, relatives of those involved, together with documents, photographs, and other resources, Gloria Colvin has knitted together stories of failure and achievement, pride and shame, courage and cowardice, wins and losses. Out of these stories has emerged a detailed narrative of the struggles of a downtown Southern church in the middle of a political and social crisis that would reflect a defining moment of this nation.

This journal issue is perhaps the most important issue Crossroads has published since its beginning in 2017. When I first read Gloria's articles, I was both proud and ashamed of my church. But Gloria and I both knew that it was important for her to tell the truth as she found it by means of the best available evidence. Readers can see how far we have come as a loving church, guided by a loving and accepting God, who evokes us to learn from our mistakes. Reading about the lives of those who were courageous to fight the battles for a cause that they knew was worth fighting for can teach our young people to take their places in future battles where they, too, must be courageous.

Thank you, Gloria, for all of the work you have

ike many residents of Southern cities in the devoted to this research and the superb writing United States, Tallahasseeans were a divided that will be a critical addition to the history of our



Panela C. Crosby, Editor

Call for Stories and Articles

- "I Remember When" snapshots: These are short descriptions that recount church life memories. They are usually **25–100 words** long.
- Oral interviews: Interviews may be audio or video taped. Trinity historians write up the interviews in narrative form with approval from the persons interviewed before publication. Videos or audios of the interviews may be posted on Trinity's website with permission from persons interviewed.
- Firsthand stories: Individuals may submit stories based on their firsthand experience at Trinity. The stories are generally **500 words**, but can be longer.
- For general guidelines and/or to submit Word document, contact Dr. Pamela Crosby, editor, at pcrosby@tumct.org