

Tidings



A Monthly Publication from Trinity United Methodist Church, Tallahassee, FL

2025 Stewardship

By Michael E. Duclos and Marilyn E. Duclos-Balliet,
Co-chairs of the 2025 Stewardship Committee

Throughout our bicentennial year, we have focused on the faith of our founders; it was this faith that has enabled Trinity to make an impact for the past 200 years. As this celebratory year nears its end, our Stewardship Campaign invites you to join us in moving ONWARD toward Trinity's future.

The life and work of Trinity United Methodist Church rest in the generosity of its members. We call upon you to live your faith and share your gifts, talents, and love with your church family as we move forward. We believe that Trinity loves to give so that our historic church can continue to uphold its five core values: Faith, Worship, Love, Service, Community.

Pledge cards were sent out in the mail, and they are also available on site at the church. We invite you to pray with intention and give from a place of love. Your generous contributions will empower Trinity to embrace the opportunities of the 2025 budget with confidence and joy. We ask that you return your pledge card by Commitment Sunday, November 17, to aid the Finance Committee and church staff in planning for the 2025 budget. Your gifts serve as a loving investment in the vision and mission of Trinity UMC as we continue to shine as a beacon of God's love and actively engage as the heart, hands, and feet of Christ in the world. Together, our Trinity family will march Onward to the Future!



TRINITY | ONWARD
FAITH · WORSHIP · LOVE · SERVICE · COMMUNITY

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Reflections on Stewardship

By Paula Smith, Chair of Church Council



Every Day...

Every Day, I wake up. God is with me.

Every Day, I feel inadequate to face the problems and challenges ahead. God is with me.

Every Day, I wonder what is to become of me. God is with me...EVERY DAY.

I'm sure you get the point – God is with us EVERY DAY. He was with us through the terrible storms of September and October. We were filled with gratitude. More than one hundred of us gave a total of \$50,000+ to Disaster Relief to be matched by \$20,000, bringing a grand total of \$70,000+ that will be sent to those in need. Again and again, I realize with astonishment, God is with us... every day.

Truthfully, I have to admit, I am not always with God. I strike out on my own. I forget to ask Him. I forget to pray. I forget... I forget... Does that happen to you? When will I actually understand that prayer and faith in God is a lifestyle...not an emergency contact? I want to be filled with gratitude for His presence in my life every day.

How about our responsibilities as members of Trinity? I have great pride in the 200-year history of our church. Trinity has taught us, comforted us, and grounded us in the truth of Christ. Our church has also extended God's love into the community and the world. How will that continue? With my help? Or, can I count on others to ensure Trinity's continued existence?

I am personally familiar with the feeling that it can be more satisfying to contribute to a special need than to salaries, committee operations, utilities, repairs, sound systems, etc. – all requirements to successfully operate the church. We cannot get along without those important budget items for our church. What if I only attend occasionally? Is my responsibility less? Will the pastors be available, the church prepared when I have a specific need, an illness, a death? Yes?

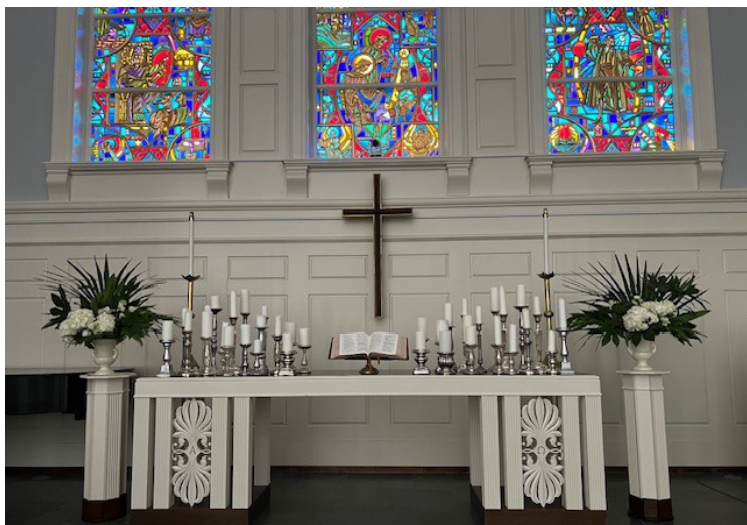
Recently, you received a personal financial update and a letter from Rev. Williams telling us we were \$95,000 behind in contributions to date for the 2024 operations of Trinity. The reason? There is no one reason, but many... we were away for the summer, we didn't attend, not interested in pledging, just give when it's convenient, etc. – all understandable. However, it is not possible to run an effective, prepared church under those circumstances.

Technology today offers us a myriad of ways to keep our church financial obligations current. Monthly electronic withdrawals (ACH), online bill pay, credit cards, debit cards, and of course, the old fashioned but reliable checks and cash. Trinity needs your gifts, your love, your presence, and your participation.

Help Trinity continue as an important source of faith, comfort, and inspiration into the next 200 years. Finish 2024 strong with an extra gift. Bring your pledges for 2025 on Stewardship Sunday, November 17, 2024. Let's surprise ourselves and give gratitude to God with an enthusiastic response that will allow Trinity to plan and prepare for all the blessings that lie ahead. God is with us EVERY DAY. Let us work together by contributing to the operations of the church, showing our own gratitude to God EVERY DAY!

Remembering All the Saints

By Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams, Senior Pastor



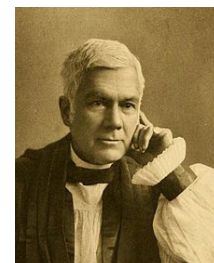
On Sunday, November 3, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday, a sacred day of remembrance and thanksgiving for the communion of saints who have come before us and now rest in the presence of God. God knows what this Sunday is for — it is for us, for the Church, for remembering the people we loved, who shaped our lives, and who are now with God in the eternal victory of resurrection. It is a day to acknowledge the depth of our grief and to trust that God holds us in infinite love, as we remember those who have passed from life to eternal life.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote, “Nothing can make up for the absence of someone whom we love. It is nonsense to say that God fills the gap; he doesn’t fill it, but on the contrary, he keeps it empty and so helps us to keep alive our former communion with each other, even at the cost of pain.” Grief is one of life’s most profound experiences, often long and lonely. But through this process, the stories of our loved ones resurface, transforming sorrow into cherished memories that bring peace. At Trinity, we light candles to remind us that death does not have the final word, but through Christ, we will live eternally in the light of God’s glory. We also celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and as a part of this liturgy, all are invited to speak aloud the names of loved ones.

“Nothing can make up for the absence of someone whom we love...”

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

William Waltham How penned the words to the beloved hymn of the church For All the Saints. I am moved each time I sing it and perhaps it is because of the spirit behind it. Ordained in the Church of England, How served various congregations and became Suffragan Bishop in East London in 1879 and Bishop of Wakefield in 1888.



William Waltham How

Called both the “poor man’s bishop” and “the children’s bishop,” How was known for his work among the destitute in the London slums and among the factory workers in West Yorkshire. He was familiar with death among peasants and the poor that occurred all too often and all too soon.

A large part of his ministry was proclaiming the promises of God and lifting the poor in Spirit to come to trust in the glories of eternal life. He writes:

*O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*From earth’s wide bounds,
from ocean’s farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

“For All the Saints”
William Waltham How, 1864

As we prepare for All Saints services, I invite you to bring with you the memories and thoughts of those you’ve lost — your loved ones who have joined the Church Triumphant. All Saints Sunday offers a time to reflect on their lives, to share in one another’s grief, and to remember that God is with us in our mourning. It is a moment to recall not just the images of those we’ve lost, but the stories they left behind to inspire us.

As the Apostle Paul reminds us in Ephesians 2:19, “So now you are no longer strangers and aliens. Rather, you are fellow citizens with God’s people, and you belong to God’s household.” Let us join together in this holy remembrance lifting our voices in song, knowing we belong to God and to one another.

BFC (Becoming Fit at Church) Ministry Gives to Local and Global Community Service Projects

By Beth Curry, BFC Team Leader

November is the month when we all consider our giving commitment at Trinity. It's not often that we think of fitness and giving in the same sentence, but that's exactly what makes the BFC (Becoming Fit at Church) Ministry so unique.

How does BFC Ministry give? For over sixteen years our great team of BFC instructors have volunteered their time to lead fitness activities like exercise classes, walking/hiking and cycling events, and they have even taught people how to play pickleball. While attending these activities, our participants are asked to make a suggested donation each time they join us. Working together in this way, over \$85,000 has been raised since 2008! One hundred percent of the donations received during the daytime programs goes to community service. The evening donations are used mainly for specially designated projects as well, with a very small portion going to offset program costs for expenses like purchasing equipment.



Where have these funds gone? During 2024, contributions have been made (or will be made) for recent hurricanes Helene and Milton disaster relief, to Sowing Seeds of Comfort, to FSU Wesley Foundation to purchase an onsite AED, to Trinity for the purchase of new chairs, and to our unhoused local neighbors for cooling towels in the summer and hats, gloves, and jackets in the fall. Through the years, contributions have been given locally to numerous charities as well as globally to medical missions in Guatemala and for scholarships to students wishing to go on mission trips.



As you consider your giving at Trinity, our BFC Ministry Team invites you to join us for one of our great weekly fitness activities. Not only will you become more fit, but you will help those less fortunate when making your suggested donation each time you attend.

There is something for everyone with our four weekly BFC Exercise classes and weekly Thursday night BFO Pickleball. Preregistration is required. Please contact BFCSeries@yahoo.com for details or call the church office and ask for a return call.

Scan the QR Code for more information, including class descriptions and schedules as well as a complete list of where all the BFC donations have gone over the years. Together We Can Make A Difference!



Upcoming Men's Study

By Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams, Senior Pastor

All men of the church are invited to join Rev. Williams and Rev. Curry for our new morning gathering, "Men's Daybreak," beginning on December 4 at 7:00 AM. Enjoy coffee and a continental breakfast as we gather for fellowship, devotions from Trinity's Advent devotional book, sharing, and a time of prayer together.

This time is designed to be an encouragement for men, whether retired or heading to work. We will meet in the Trinity Conference Room. Mark your calendars, and we look forward to seeing you there!



Trinity Welcomes Rev. Clarke Campbell-Evans

By Sally Huggins, Co-Chair of SPRC

Rev. Clarke Campbell-Evans to Preach at Trinity on November 10

“Just love people.”

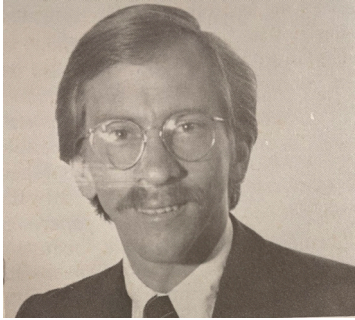
Upon his retirement, the most important thing Clarke Campbell-Evans said he learned during his 42 years of ministry was the above. And he credits his time at Trinity for driving home that message.

As part of Trinity’s year-long Bicentennial celebration, we are so happy to welcome back Rev. Clarke Campbell-Evans to the pulpit on November 10. Clarke was appointed as an associate pastor to Trinity in 1986, and he served our church for two years before moving to North Miami Beach as pastor at the multicultural Fulford United Methodist Church.

In an interview with the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church highlighting his many years of ministry, Clarke said that the assignment to Trinity seemed like an odd choice at the time. He had a passion for inner-city churches, and Trinity was a large church in an affluent area. He was unsure how the congregation would receive him. But he said, “These people taught me how to bridge the church to the world. I came in with all these ideas about that church, but I came to understand that you just love people, and all the rest...takes care of itself.”



Clarke grew up in Tampa where he was active in the First United Methodist Church. He received a B.A. in psychology from the University of South Florida and a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Before coming to Trinity, he served in the United Methodist Church’s Mission Intern Program, splitting his time between international and domestic assignments. This work included working with farmers and coffee growers in the Dominican Republic and with an inter-religious community organization in El Paso, Texas.



In his 42 years of ordained ministry in the Florida Conference, Clarke served as a pastor, including time as the Senior Pastor at Saint Paul’s United Methodist Church, Director of Missional Engagement for the Conference, plus Disaster Recovery, Justice, and Outreach ministries. He has served as a missionary in Latin America and worked as a liaison to the Evangelical Methodist Churches in the Southern Cone, the Andes, and Cuba. His last appointment before retirement was District Superintendent for our North West District.

Clarke is married to Sally Campbell-Evans, an ordained Presbyterian pastor. They have three adult children and one adorable grandson, Parker.

Welcome back to Trinity, Rev. Clarke Campbell-Evans!

On November 10, our Guest Clergy Rev. Clarke Campbell-Evans will preach at the 9:45 AM and 11:00 AM services. There will be no 8:30 AM service that day. We invite you to greet Rev. Campbell-Evans at a reception in the parlor following the 11:00 AM service.

*Mark your calendars for Trinity’s Bicentennial Celebration
January 12, 2025*

The Curry Years at Trinity

By Beverly Burleson

Wayne Curry's first Sunday as our Senior Pastor was July 6, 2008. While a new pastor always brings a fresh beginning, most had no idea what a treasure we were receiving.



Wayne brought us an additional treasure, his Beth, who worked tirelessly by his side. I am a firm believer that behind every successful person is a partner or person who helps to make it all happen so my tribute is to both Wayne and Beth—what a power couple! They both find ways to make new ideas work, not reasons why they won't. Additionally, they manage to do everything with contagious enthusiasm.

Most of us know of Wayne's extraordinary talent for remembering people's names. Everyone appreciates being recognized by his name so what a gift that is. In addition, he has taken our pictures, exercised with us, shared pictures of their wonderful garden and probably knows more about us than we can imagine. On top of that, he and Beth are a ton of fun.



I have always thought of Wayne as the "People's Pastor." Love, respect, acceptance, and radical hospitality were always important values in his ministry. He often spoke about how through love and respect for one another we could better receive and share God's love. I remember reading in a *Tidings* article, Wayne encouraged us to "look around yourself. You won't have to look long or far to find someone who needs you. We are the body of Christ and we need each other to be whole."

While space does not permit doing justice to all his many accomplishments, I will mention several of great significance and some that our newer members might not be aware of.

Viktor and Yuliia Billa

Viktor and Yuliia Billa (our Organist and Director of Music) arrived in Tallahassee from Ukraine on April 10, 2015. The music committee was doing a nationwide search, and Viktor first contacted the church via email February 24, 2014. Trinity facilitated their application for religious visas and the U.S. State Department needed additional information, so it was a slow process.



Viktor wanted to work in a church, but churches in Ukraine did not pay their organists. Trinity needed an organist who was a highly skilled musician. Earning a living was severely limited for Viktor and Yuliia by their religious visas. In true Trinity fashion, many of our members rallied around them and now, almost 10 years later, we are so very blessed by this dynamic, talented, and very gifted couple.

Through the Years

2011 In September, The Clothing Connection was created by a Lenten study group whose members felt compelled to do something to tangibly exhibit "extravagant generosity." Over 6,000 pieces of clothing were given to our guests one Saturday morning. The following year we donated more than 9,000 pieces of clothing to those in need. The smiles on our guests' faces are something I will never forget.

2011 This was the year of our first mission trip to Panajachel, Guatemala to work with Porch de Salomon to build houses and provide medical assistance to the indigenous Mayan population. For the initial leadership of Frank and Barbara Leonard and Jayne Mittan's dedication and tireless work these many years, we are forever grateful.

2012 This was the year that Trinity became very involved with Hope Community. Under the coordination of Sam Rogers, Sr. Trinity partnered with Hope Community to help children and families. Fifteen rooms were remodeled with new beds and mattresses, six bathrooms were repaired and painted, and commercial washers and dryers were installed. Happy faces and grateful hearts were once again displayed.



Rev. Wayne Curry, working hard and making friends during a mission trip to Panajachel, Guatemala

2015 This was the year of Trinity’s Visioning “project.” The Visioning process was intended to help Trinity stay vibrant and relevant into the future. The process was also intended to discern God’s vision for us, as opposed to our vision for us. An extremely capable consultant was hired to shepherd us through the process.

Trinity’s Core Values were decided on May 9, 2015, by 172 people who spent many hours contemplating and discussing who we are and what we stand for.

Church Council later approved the five words as Core Values of Trinity... Faith, Worship, Love, Service, and Community.

Also developed through this process were our Mission statement “Because of God’s love for us through Jesus Christ, we exist to worship, grow and serve.” and our Vision Statement “Trinity United Methodist Church will be a diverse Christian community shining as a beacon of God’s love and actively engage as the heart, hands, and feet of Christ in the world.”

I think one of Wayne’s furthest reaching ministries (while not always remembered) was his weekly, Wednesday message, “From the Rev.” Hundreds of our members eagerly awaited his early morning message to enjoy with their coffee. From there it went to people in their offices, friends across the United States, and countries beyond. I can only imagine the thousands of people who “know” Wayne through those weekly messages. I still have some of my favorites stashed away in my “keepers”.

What would we be without Beth’s programs for wellness and fitness? They are healthy, fun and necessary as we age. We at Trinity have been greatly blessed by both Wayne and Beth’s gifts of life sustaining love.

Wayne’s last Sunday as our Senior Pastor was June 12, 2016. Wayne always embraced us at the close of each service by saying “Always remember how much you are loved.” Obviously, the turnout for his final service demonstrated how very much he and Beth are loved by us.

After a brief retirement and a stint at Woodville United Methodist he returned to Trinity in 2022 as our Minister of Pastoral Care. I can’t think of a better way for him to carry on his legacy.

Trinity Reflections

Compiled by the Bicentennial Publicity Committee

“I belong to Trinity because it is my home, in every sense of the word. Who I am today is a direct result of Trinity friends over so many years who have mentored, nurtured, and loved me.”

— **Sally Huggins, Trinity UMC Member**

“Miriam and I joined Trinity in April 1979 when Gene Zimmerman was the Senior Minister. Immediately, we became involved in the Koinonia Sunday School Class. We could readily recognize that Trinity members were devoted to the Church and were very caring personally. As we became more involved at Trinity by serving on many committees, we have been kept in the midst of Trinity’s history. Through love, care, and understanding, the Trinity’s preschool was foundational for our three daughters’ development.”

— **Lynn and Miriam McLarty, Trinity UMC Members**

Trinity's Chapel: A Place of Serenity

By Susan Koehler, Director of Communications

When Glenn Clawson James arrived at Trinity in 1953, he immediately began to promote plans to replace the deteriorating 1893 structure. However, replacing the sanctuary was not his only plan. Dr. James suggested and continually promoted the idea that Trinity needed a smaller more intimate space to complement its larger place of worship.

Sadly, Dr. James did not live to see his vision become a reality. It was not until after his untimely death on February 25, 1962, that construction was completed on the sanctuary, fellowship hall, offices, and chapel.



Rev. Dr. Glenn C. James



Rev. Dr. Glenn C. James

The Rev. Dr. Glenn C. James was Trinity's pastor from 1953 to 1962. During his tenure, he led the church through both physical and social changes.

As in most white Southern churches at the time, Trinity had no Black congregants. However, Dr. James instructed ushers that Trinity would not turn anyone away and that Black visitors seeking to worship here were to be seated up front. When a group of Black worshippers arrived one Sunday to attend a service, several members walked out of the church in protest. Dr. James then addressed the congregation about the church's reconciling role in the issue of race.

In addition to expanding Trinity's membership and social awareness, Dr. James also expanded Trinity's physical presence, laying the groundwork for replacing the 1893 sanctuary with the beautiful structure we enjoy today. He and Trinity Trustees bought additional property, including lots on the west side of Duval Street, which provide most of our parking. He envisioned a new sanctuary and chapel, and he led the initiative to develop plans for their construction. Dr. James' untimely death occurred only one week after those plans were delivered to the church.

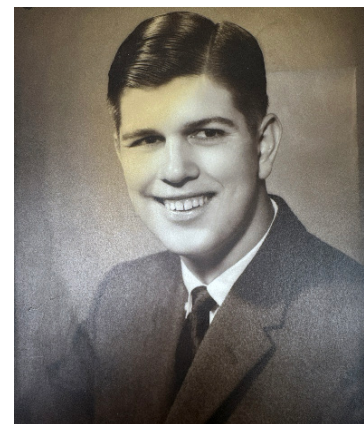
Two years after church leaders had committed to building the new sanctuary, Trinity's official Board paid tribute to Dr. James' ministry with a resolution that read in part: "His church grew. Its horizons expanded. He inspired evangelical objectives which the church embraced . . . and a great building program was undertaken." And on May 3, 1964, the new sanctuary was consecrated and the chapel was fittingly named in memory of Dr. Glenn C. James.

The Chapel Organ

In 1962, the chapel organ was given by Dr. and Mrs. Coyle E. Moore, Sr., in memory of their son, Coyle E. Moore, Jr. The younger Moore had been an outstanding leader in the church and community who succumbed to cancer in 1961 at the age of 27.

During his short life, Coyle E. Moore, Jr. served both his church and his community with enthusiasm. While attending the Florida State University School, he achieved academic honors, held multiple positions of leadership, was a member of the school band, and became an Eagle Scout. He was active in Methodist Youth, served as chairman of the FSU Interfaith Week, and delivered lay sermons to churches in Tallahassee and the surrounding areas.

Heartbroken by their son's untimely death, the Moores established a scholarship at FSU in his honor and dedicated the chapel's Austin organ to his memory.



Coyle E. Moore, Jr.

The Chapel Windows

The Chapel windows, an impressionistic work of art, are composed of nine panels that create a sweeping glass mural. It floods the space with a ministry of color and reflects Psalm 148, a song of glorious praise for God's creation.

The central focus at the top is the cross, the enduring central image of Christianity. From the cross, bursting rays display a host of angels. Throughout the panels, creation is celebrated.

The sun, moon, stars, and planets shine with radiance. Along with a powerful burst of lightning, the elements of wind, rain, snow, and fire are displayed. The green earth, mountains, wilderness, and terra firma sing praise to the land, and flowering trees and animal life extol the majesty of living organisms. The bottom third of the panels depicts mankind, faces uplifted in praise to God.

The light that shines through these windows fills the intimate space with praise and joy, creating an atmosphere of serenity that is ideal for meditation and thanksgiving.

In front of the windows, the altar table is surrounded by a communion rail, allowing communicants to kneel around the table as they observe the sacrament of communion.

The Chapel Today

With a seating capacity of ninety, the Glenn C. James Memorial Chapel is ideal for intimate gatherings as well as solitary contemplation. The chapel is open during the day for prayer and meditation. It is also used for Trinity's preschool chapel services and can be scheduled for weddings and small services.

This unique space is transformed to reflect liturgical seasons so that worshippers can enjoy an atmosphere of peace in the busyness of these seasons. During Lent, the chapel hosts the Stations of the Cross, leading worshippers through a series of images that depict Jesus' last hours upon the earth. For the Advent season, the chapel becomes a beautiful space of celebration in anticipation of the arrival of the Christ child.

Beginning in December 2024, the Glenn C. James Memorial Chapel will become home to the 8:30 Early Liturgical Service at Trinity. Worshippers will enjoy the beauty of this structure and sense the presence of God, the joy of creation, and the sacredness of a space conceived long ago in Trinity's chapel, a place of serenity.



The chapel windows reflect Psalm 148, a song of praise to the Creator.

Psalm 148

- 1 Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!**
- 2 Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!**
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!**
- 4 Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens!**
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.**
- 6 He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be
passed.**
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,**
- 8 fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!**
- 9 Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!**
- 10 Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!**
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!**
- 12 Young men and women alike,
old and young together!**
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.**
- 14 He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the Lord!**

Children's Ministry Update

By Candace Duclos, Director of Christian Education

Our children's ministry is learning and growing! NETKids meets each Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Kids enjoy cooking with Marti Chumbler and Nancy Mitchell, crafting, and creating with Rev. Jim Mitchell. While it may be November, the NETKids are preparing and planning for our annual Christmas Event! On Wednesday, December 11, please join the NETKids in the prayer garden as they present *A Walk Through Whoville!* Come experience the Christmas story like never before—through the eyes of a redeemed Grinch! There will be games, crafts, food, and fellowship. So join us, 5:30-7:00 p.m. on December 11, for *A Walk Through Whoville!*

Our Sunday School classes are continuing to learn about the amazing love of God each week. We are studying stories from the Old Testament to discover that God is always faithful!



Marti Chumbler cooks with NETKids.

Preschoolers on a Mission!

By Stacey Duggar, Preschool Director

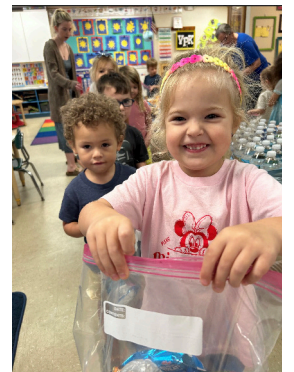
The Preschool collected supplies to assemble 200 snack packs to help out the HEO team! We collected items for the entire month of September, and on Monday, October 7, we presented our donation to Cindy McDuffie, who coordinates the distribution of snack packs for the church.

This is one of my favorite projects to do with the kids as this is something that they can really understand. Some people do not have food to eat. That is a powerful statement and one that brings out the empathy in children.

The entire school donated supplies, and the children in the 4-year-old class (also known as VPK) assembled all 200 bags!

Our next mission project will be to collect books to benefit the First Reads Program for the Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend.

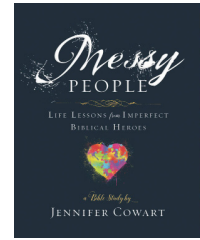
We will run this campaign in the spring, but if you see a good deal on new books geared to children 0-7 years old and would like to contribute to our donation, you may drop them off with me at the preschool any time!



Women's Ministry

By Candace Duclos, Director of Christian Education

Our women's ministry is off to a fantastic start! The Monday night Women's Bible Study has been meaningful and enjoyable as we have dived into the stories of "messy people" from the Bible! Please join us on Mondays from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. in the library. Our next six-week study will begin on January 13, "Perfectly Flawed" by Lisa Toney. Contact Candace at cduclos@tumct.org for more information!



Also, women from our church represented Trinity at the annual Winning Women for Christ conference at Epworth-by-the-Sea! It was a beautiful weekend filled with lots of food, laughter, and inspiration to live life more joyfully! If you would like to be on the Women's Ministry email list so you are up to date with the latest opportunities to join together, please contact Candace at cduclos@tumct.org.



Rev. Williams was able to pray with the women before they set off for Epworth by the Sea.



Trinity's participants attend an inspiring presentation at Epworth's Conference Center.

Accessibility Build Ministry

By Susan Koehler, Director of Communications

Trinity's Accessibility Build Ministry Team (ABM) celebrated their one-year anniversary in September. The purpose of this ministry is to build ramps and half-steps for members of the community in need of better accessibility into and out of their homes. Under the leadership of Ray Diaz, the team has completed 12 projects, logged 592 volunteer hours, and involved 32 different ABM volunteers over the past year. Eight of those volunteers were students from the Wesley Foundation at FSU.



Generally, the ABM team schedules build days on the third Thursday of each month. However, after taking July and August off due to the hot weather and heat advisories, the ABM team scheduled two projects in September. One project was planned for their regular third Thursday build day, and the other was scheduled for the last Saturday in the month. The build on Thursday, September 19, occurred as planned, with three new volunteers joining the group. The project scheduled for Saturday, September 28, faced last-minute changes due to uncertainty surrounding Hurricane Helene. The team made the decision to go forward with the build that Friday evening (but brought a generator just in case). On Saturday afternoon, six volunteers stood with a very thankful homeowner on her completed set of half-steps.

The need for ramps and half-steps continues, and Trinity's ABM team is ready to help. They completed another build in October and plan to schedule many more in the future. There is always room for additional volunteers who are willing and able to help. Congratulations to our ABM Team for a year of meaningful ministry, working as the hands and feet of Christ in our community.



If you are interested in becoming part of this meaningful ministry, contact Ray Diaz at raydhhs@msn.com. No experience is necessary!



Monthly Publication from
Trinity United Methodist Church
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WORSHIP SERVICES

Early Service: 8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Contemporary Service: 9:45 a.m. in Moor Hall
Liturgical Service: 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

9:45 Contemporary Service and 11:00 Liturgical Service are livestreamed
on [YouTube @TrinityUMCTallahassee](https://www.youtube.com/@TrinityUMCTallahassee)

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Anna Brook Opalinski, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. E. Wayne Curry, *Minister of Pastoral Care*

MINISTRY STAFF

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Ben Armstead, *Sexton*
Dori Barton, *Financial Assistant*
Viktor Billa, *Organist*
Yuliia Billa, *Director of Music*
Zachary Cramer, *Technical Director*
Candace Duclos, *Director of Christian Education*
Sarah Duclos, *Sexton*
Stacey Duggar, *Preschool Director*

Betsy Gingery, *Culinary Coordinator*
Melanie Gonzalez, *Church Operations Administrator*
Patti Groh, *Sexton*
Brett Ingram, *Facility Director*
Susan Koehler, *Director of Communications*
Charlotte Mathews, *Sexton*
Alexis McEntire, *Children's Ministries Assistant*
Katelin McLeod, *Sexton*
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