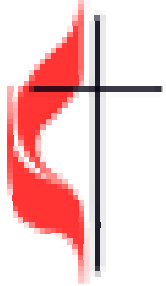


# THE TIDINGS

Vol.8 Issue 7  
August 2010



## Trinity United Methodist Church

*-Called by God—Creating Hope— Connecting People—Changing Lives*

### “Sing Your Heart Out”

When I’m stuck in the traffic on Watson or Russell, I find it fun just to watch folk around me. It’s often that I see someone singing and swaying to the music they’ve got playing on the car stereo. It’s interesting to me how uninhibited people become when they enter the world of “their music”. It doesn’t matter whether they can carry a tune or not, they’re just enjoying the moment. It’s a heart thing! Wouldn’t it be something if we could transfer some of that freedom and self expression to worship! You know as well as I that worship can come alive when we join our hearts together to offer God our praise.

Methodists have a rich tradition of being a “singin’ church.” John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, had a younger brother, Charles, whose greatest contribution to the church came through writing songs for use in worship. In fact, in his lifetime, he wrote more than 6,500 hymns. I suspect that the hymns may have affected the spread of Methodism as much as the preaching. If you’ve sung one of the following, you’ve sung one of Charles’ “hits”:

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”  
“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”  
“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”  
“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”  
“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”  
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

The very first hymn in The United Methodist Hymnal

is one that he wrote. His heart was so full in putting his pen to paper that he did not stop until he had written 18 verses. I’ve never sung all of them, but I particularly like the first one...

“O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer’s praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of his grace!”

John Wesley published Charles’ hymns and even gave instructions as to how they were to be sung. You can find the complete list at the front of the hymnal, but here’s a paraphrase:

1. Learn these tunes before any others.
2. Sing them exactly as printed.
3. Everyone present should sing.
4. Sing out – not as if you’re half asleep.
5. Sing to be heard with, not over others.
6. Keep time and don’t sing too slow.
7. Sing from your heart, looking to God!

These instructions work well in both traditional and contemporary worship styles. So, sing your heart out – and see the difference it makes!

Blessings!

Bill

(Want to listen to some of Charles Wesley’s hymns on-line? Go to <http://gbgm-umc.org/umhistory/wesley/hymns> )

Blessings,

Bill

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# Ministry Steering Committee

-Maria Trenam  
mtrenam40@yahoo.com

Trinity's Ministry Steering Committee met July 19.

## George Fox led a review of the Critical Indicators facing Trinity.

Attendance has been down, especially in June but there are still some questions regarding the consistency of people signing in on the attendance pads. There was a lot of discussion concerning data base construct. It is important to remember that the critical indicators data base is a living document which continues to be developed.

Discussion concerning "welcomers" (individuals with the assigned task to welcome folks to the service (s) and after service thank them for attending). Part of this discussion touched on what actions are taken to contact folks who have missed several Sundays. It is a tiered approach which progresses from cards to telephone calls. It was also mentioned that on 1 August 2010 there will be a training session for greeters.

## Update and plans with Natural Church Development

Pastor Bill Bagwell gave a brief update on plans with Natural Church Development. The facilitator we were using has left and we need to find out who our new mentor will be. Bill will try and verify the new mentor before the next meeting.

## Stewardship – budget setting/being fully connectional/ministry opportunities

Pastor Bill Bagwell addressed stewardship and the importance of budget setting. It is Bill's desire for Trinity UMC to make a concerted effort to work toward paying 100% of its District and Conference apportionments. Bill also covered the work being done by Art Howard in crafting a ministry opportunities list with thoughts about asking members to outline not only their financial commitments for the year but also making time commitments toward service. Maria Trenam and June Underwood volunteered to work with Art Howard on this project. Additional volunteers are also de-

sired.

## Plan for growth – community, evangelism, vision, mission, branding, advertising.

Pastor Bill Bagwell talked about community outreach and the need to assess where we should focus our efforts. It is important that we craft an annual calendar on what events we plan to hold for the year.....think of it as an evangelism calendar.

Mike Hatcher recommended thinking about establishing a theme based annual calendar where as a church we focus our efforts toward certain themes or areas (i.e. Youth Adults, Missions, etc.).

Pastor Bill Bagwell suggested we think about establishing a Trinity logo so there is a readily identifiable connection between the logo /symbol and Trinity UMC (much like the connection of the Cross and Flame to the UMC). Bill emphasized that this would take a lot of thought and consideration because once established and promulgated it would be a part of and associated with Trinity for several years.

## Connectedness – Dreams and Visions Retreat, Annual Mission Day, Block Parties

Pastor Bill Bagwell suggested having a dreams and visions retreat, maybe on a Saturday, and working to get something on the calendar in the next five months (before the end of the year). Pastor Bill also suggested trying to organize and put in place an annual missions day event where every member was involved in some type of mission's ministry on that particular day. In connection with the idea for a retreat, mission day, and block parties, Shirley Siegel emphasized the critical need to establish and publish an annual calendar so every member (and guest) can see what's scheduled for the year and plan accordingly.

The next Ministry Steering Committee will be held September 27, 2010.

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# Church Council Corner

-Shirley Siegel  
siegelsas@aol.com

Trinity's Church Council met June 27 to discuss a variety of topics concerning the church. Here is a synopsis of what was discussed:

**Angela Gilbert** reported that **Vacation Bible School** was a success and between 150 and 160 children are attending **Summer Funtime** each day. **Preschool** registration is going well. **Kindergarten** will be part of preschool this year.

**Shirley Boan** talked about all the events **Prime Timers** participate in during the year and encouraged all who are over age 55 to join in their activities.

**Joyce Miller** reported on the successful **Jamaica Mission** trip. Besides the medical mission, the construction/repair mission and the cooking and sewing lessons were much appreciated by the Jamaicans.

**Mike Hatcher** discussed the financial status of Trinity. Receipts do not match the budget, so spending is being carefully monitored. He also responded to the congregational inputs regarding the financial shortfall.

**Art Howard** reported that enough **SPLOST** money has been received to roof the Activity Building. The

Trustees are gathering multiple bids for this project. The initial estimate for the roof was based on a reputable bid. Now that the money has been received, Trustees want to make sure it is the best bid for the project.

The Council decided to compile a notebook(s) of minutes of committee meetings in the church office. This is for the historical benefit of the church and to allow the congregation to read them. Due to the nature of the business it discusses, the minutes of the Staff Parrish Relations Committee will not be included in this compilation.

**Bill Bagwell** expressed his pleasure at being reappointed to Trinity. He reported a bit about Annual Conference and stated that Trinity was recognized for having the largest number of professions of faith in the conference. He also expressed his disappointment that Trinity is not able to pay full apportionments and articulated that this should be a priority in the next year's budget.

Remember, all Church Council meetings are open meeting. We meet the last Sunday every other month. The next meeting will be **August 29 at 7:00pm** in the Asbury Classroom.

## Pathways to a Healthy Church

Pathways will be held at Trinity on Saturday, Aug.14th sponsored by the Connectional Ministries Council of the South Georgia Conference. It takes many "helping hands" to host this event - watch and listen for ways you can be of service & to volunteer! Or contact Shirley Siegel, George Fox, Margaret Mathews, Marty McLeod, or Angela Gilbert to be of service at this event.

## Pathways Information Brochures

The brochures are available from the information racks located around the church. You will find a list and description of the classes available and registration information in the brochure. We are the host church—registration is thru the Connectional Ministries Office ([www.sgaumc.org](http://www.sgaumc.org)). Registration deadline is August 6th.

# Finance Forum

-Mike Hatcher  
mksrocket@cox.net

Our financial results as of the end of June 2010 are as follows:

	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>YTD</u>
General Fund Mo Budget Need:	\$ 70,788	\$ 424,728
General Fund Receipts:	\$ 70,253	\$ 401,735 (\$ 22,993 below budget)
General Fund Expenses;	\$ 62,963	\$ 407,517
Net Result	\$ 7,290	\$ (5,782)

Our financial results are improving. While we still have a deficit, the amount is decreasing. For this portion of the year we are much closer to solvency than we have been in the last few years. The effect of your prayers and contributions are being felt. The cost saving measures taken by the Trustees and the church staff are beginning to make a difference as well and I expect them to improve more in the near future. Couple this improvement with the great start we have with the SPLOST campaign and there is reason to feel more confident about meeting our goals.

Next week will mark the first use of the new cash counting team members. Thanks to Eddie Watson and Angie Jones, our treasurer, the procedures have been exercised and refined several times to help insure simplicity and accuracy. Best of all, I think it will easily meet the IRS criteria while significantly improving our documentation and financial controls. This was the "big rock" in our basket of "to dos" from the last audit and we have worked hard to get it done.

We are very near completing the review and refinement of Trinity's designated fund accounts. The next step is to get comments and feedback from the respective committees and/or chairs/leaders who direct them to be sure what we have is accurate. Once that is completed we will take our recommendations to the Church Council for approval.

I mentioned the SPLOST campaign earlier without stating the current results. We have reached the first goal of re-roofing the Activity Building and have about \$10K toward the second priority. It will require another \$26K to get it done. The Trustees are moving to firm up the bid and contract for the initial project. They had to wait to commit until the money was in hand to prevent the bid(s) from lapsing. We will keep you posted on the actual progress as the project gets underway.

Thanks again for your support, comments and prayers. Please keep them coming.

## Trinity SPLOST (Special Purpose Love Offering Supporting Trinity) Update

Great news: \$18,566 is already in hand. The Trustees are getting bids to reroof the Activities Building — # 1 on our list!!! To date forty pledges (40) have been received for a total of \$52,365.96 pledged over the next 2 years.

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# Trinity Happenings

SAVE THE DATE!  
50 Years of Celebration  
Taste of Trinity  
Nov. 4th.  
Outback Steakhouse will  
be preparing the meal.



September 18 ~ Crafters Sale  
FLC 9-3 pm  
Contact Grace Harmon for more in-  
formation

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELP FOR HAITI

Oct 15 - 22. UMVIM {United Methodist Volunteers in Mission} sponsored trip to Dominican Republic with trips into Haiti to deliver food and other supplies; work with Haitian refugees. Cost around \$1200. There is room for a few people. Bill and Terry Huddle from Bonaire will be returning for the third time. [check out *His Voice* for a report by Bill] A meeting for interested persons will be held 10 AM on August 7 at the Huddle's home in Bonaire.

They are collecting light shoes -- cros, flip-flops, sandals, etc, for kids and adults. {Light weight is important}; small soft animal toys (e.g., beanie babies), new or gently used children's clothing (especially for boys) and tote bags. They plan to load the food into cloth tote bags rather than plastic grocery bags, because the plastic bags tend to come apart. Goal: 300 bags to take food to both the orphanage and to Camp Victory. Some supporters are sewing cloth tote bags, but the pre-made ones -- like the ones they hand out at Conferences -- are also excellent. Also reusable grocery totes. After the food is gone, the cloth bags will still be useful to the recipients. Bonaire UMC is having a spaghetti fundraiser on Sunday, August 15 to help pay for food purchases in Barahona, if you would like to stop by. Dave and Carolyn Schomer attended a similar trip in March and can answer questions. [schomerc@bellsouth.net](mailto:schomerc@bellsouth.net) We also have more details regarding this trip or if interested, contact [billhuddle@bellsouth.net](mailto:billhuddle@bellsouth.net) A bin for donations will be in the Trinity FLC hallway.

First week in December. -- 10 people for 10 days. UMVIM will not know where the team is going in Haiti until November, but we will be doing de-construction for a school and solar cooking in some community setting. They do not set any specifics until 6 weeks ahead of time. They are working on in-country costs for Haiti, but estimate is \$1450 each with each person also raising \$350 from their church. This is then matched by UMCOR. We will raise \$3500 and UMCOR will match it so we will bring \$7000 to whatever project we're assigned. Of the 10 team members, at least 5-6 needed to do heavy labor. Team leader is Jamie Gibson who has taken teams to many countries and disaster follow ups.

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# Jamaica Mission Team

-Angela Gilbert

On June 4, Trinity United Methodist Church sent its 18<sup>th</sup> Mission Team to Jamaica. The team consisted of 34 people that traveled to St. Anne's Bay. Many were seasoned veterans that have attended multiple years. Dave and Carolyn Schomer have participated on all eighteen trips. My 20 year old son, Alan, and I, were part of the group of first timers. We did not know what to expect when we headed out toward

the airport at 4:30 a.m. What I discovered was a group of people united in one common goal – to share the transforming power of Christ's love.



We were very blessed to have many people working ahead of time to arrange all the details and logistics of the trip. Toby and Anna Hill completed the paperwork that had to be in place to get the medical supplies through Jamaican customs. Reverend Pauline McCatty and Dr. Horace Betton worked inside Jamaica to get all the details together. Their efforts achieved wonderful results. The team went through customs and arrived at Hunny Bay, "our home away from home," with our 36 boxes of supplies in tow. The only casualty was the bottle of children's bubbles that didn't quite make the airplane ride.

Over the course of the week, we had the opportunity to travel to four different Methodist churches, Walkerswood; Whitehouse; Jefferyville and Watsonville. Medical clinics were set up inside each of these sanctuaries. The doctors and nurses lovingly cared for 415 adults and 220 children. In addition to the over 600 medical exams and 1600 prescriptions, this year's clinics also distributed hundreds of eyeglasses!

The Construction team worked long hot days adding some needed space onto one of the local churches. Besides mixing concrete and working on the addition, they also found time to paint the sanctuary. The Construction Team also cemented some new friendships with the school children nearby. Much of the children's recess time was spent with the construction crew.

Two new education classes were added this year – sewing classes and solar cooking. These groups of ladies shared their skills and talents with 15 – 20 students each day. The participants had the chance to make their very own tote bags and enjoy a meal that was cooked with a solar oven made from cardboard. The sewing machines and supplies remained at each of the churches visited. What a powerful witness to watch the team meet so many needs!

I had the privilege of working with Anna Hill each day in the Children's Ministry. Over the week we worked in small rooms inside churches, outside under tarps and even inside one of the Jamaican schools. The smiles, hugs and kisses from the children will remain my most treasured memory of Jamaica!

Pastor McCatty preached a sermon on Sunday in Jamaica, entitled "A Little is Much When God is in the Mix." God was certainly in the mix of this trip! During every step of the trip we were met with love and support – from our home congregation at Trinity to our Jamaican congregation led by Reverend McCatty. How thankful I am to have been a small part of His big plans!



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## ***Our Church Family at Home***

-Uplift these friends in your prayers and with cards and phone calls

### **Church Home for the Aged**

2470 Hwy 41 North  
Fort Valley, GA 31030

Gladys Rissmann  
Jewel McGarity

### **Summer's Landing**

608 Kimberly Road ~ 31088

Alice Reese  
Margaret Poole  
Jean and Sam Hendry

### **Summerhill Assisted Living Community**

500 Stanley Drive, Perry 31069

Nell Posey ~ Veranda East Room 13

### **Willow Creek Assisted Living**

Bldg.1 ~1900 Macon Road Perry, GA 31069

Linda Averett

### **Homebound**

Billie Curry  
320 Bernard Drive ~ 31088

Shirley Matthews  
421 Woodland Drive ~ 31088

Mae Kincaid  
319 Oakview Square ~ 31088  
Jim Kincaid—Dublin VA Hospital

Ruth Wehrmeyer  
111 Pearce Drive ~ 31093

Billie Meaders  
109 Ginny Drive ~ 31093

Continue to update this list by emailing [theunderwoods1@cox.net](mailto:theunderwoods1@cox.net)

## ***Deployed Active Duty Military***

Ryan Hall (serving in Iraq and Afghanistan) son of Ron and Donna Hall

Wayne Smith (Basic Training) Hammakers

Trey Thomas (Afghanistan) Thomas and Overcash Families

Major James B. Phillips, Jr. (Iraq) Mitt Team US Army

Jason Thaggard Iraq) nephew of Shelby Snow

Major Seana Jardin daughter of Roy and Bronwyn Jardin

Joshua Green (Iraq) nephew of Stacy Green (Trinity Preschool Teacher)



John Simonton (Afghanistan) wife, Lori. - 2 children, Bobby and Alexandria



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# So Many Reasons to Celebrate...

 <b>August Birthdays</b> 					
1st	J. B. Mason	10th	Charles Farmer	23rd	Doris Richey
2nd	Charline Arent		Nelle Piper		Kevin Benoit
	Carol Brown		Frank Huff		Daniel Brown
	Macie Flescher	12th	Zack Boan		Josh Rizer
	Bronwyn Jardin		Franklin Holland		Bill Vaught
	Karen McCall		Chuck Sparks	24th	Ken Alligood
	Mike Simpson		Joshua Stewart		Herschel Vandiver
3rd	Vikki Arnold	13th	Kim Bryan	25th	Emily Brown
	Frank Dejeet, Jr.		Jean Hendry		David Gilbert
4th	Eric Hudnall		Ruth Kukshel		Pam McCollough
	Bill Macer		K.W. Thomas		Chuck Rawls
5th	Claudia Butterick	14th	Janice Stewart	26th	Kelsey Alligood
	Gene Miller	15th	Leslie Lorenz		Lori Chaloult
	Carolyn Stonehouse		David Sams		Jim Kling
6th	Paula Howard		Kate Sayers		Mark Zeuner
	Elizabeth Sanders	16th	Les Arent	27th	Kristin Pospisil
	Eve Shope		Brock Dunn		Earl Rowland
7th	Joel Applegate	17th	Bud Abbott		Terri Thompson
	Andy Davidson		Shirley Mathews		Amanda Wagner
	Kathy Rissmann		Luci Powell	28th	Neal Thompson
	Ruth Van Dusen	18th	Pam Winge	29th	Nathan Andrews
	Alisha Verhage	19th	Laura Beth Hawkinson		Pamela Ivey
	Alisha Verhage		Stephen Farr		Ashley Loudin
8th	John Hickcok		Barbara Macer		Dale Newberry
	Kimberly Peck		Conner Sams		Rachel Walker
	Charles Singleton		Beth Ann Warnock		Morgan Weeks
9th	Joyce Thompson	20th	Jessica McLeod	30th	Bob Day
		22nd	Paula Brannen		Jennifer Kitchens
			Adam Butterick		Logan Lorenz
			P. L. Clearman		Dana Mudd
			Toby Hill	31st	Chris Ealer
			JaLynn Hudnall		Heather Pennycuff

 <b>August Anniversaries</b> 			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Chris & Lori Chaloult	14 <sup>th</sup>	Dick & Judy Bexton
	Doyle & Peggy Pratt		Dave & Maxine Hopper
	George and Nancy Stefano		Donnie & Delores Powell
3rd	Perkins and Christy Nobles	17 <sup>th</sup>	Jim & Vicki Grove
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ryan & Tabitha Pugh		George & Dawn Reddick
	John & Kathi Shawhan	19 <sup>th</sup>	Bill & Kim O'Daniel
5 <sup>th</sup>	Paula & Vince Brannen	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Barry & Grace Bilbro
	Joel & Marian Dampier	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Stan & Lisa Ward
	Mike & Susan Davenport	25 <sup>th</sup>	Allen & Becky Tatman
	Brett & Heather Gallaher		Mark & Melissa Zeuner
	John & Jennie Rood	26 <sup>th</sup>	George Brannen & Karen McDonald
6 <sup>th</sup>	Richard & Linda Turk		Ed & Suzy Varner
8 <sup>th</sup>	Roger & Kay Darnell	27 <sup>th</sup>	John & Shannon Hickcok
9 <sup>th</sup>	Bill & Sue Bagwell		Joe & Irene Hofsash
11 <sup>th</sup>	Franklin & Wanda Holland		Phillip & Lori Johnson
	Jeff & Molly Townsend		Jim & Becky Kling
12 <sup>th</sup>	Allen & Luci Powell	28 <sup>th</sup>	Charles & Mary Singleton
	Mike Threadgill & Judy Ross	29 <sup>th</sup>	Charlie & Dottie Cole
13 <sup>th</sup>	Marty & Kathy McLeod		Homer & Dot Hobbs
			Terrell & Helen McCord
			Jerold & Jean Smith
		30 <sup>th</sup>	Donna & Rick Pallini