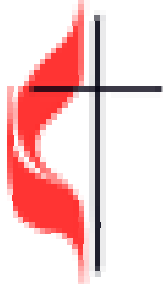


THE TIDINGS

Vol.9 Issue 5
May 2011



Trinity United Methodist Church

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

Transitions...

The month of June brings to us several staff changes at Trinity. First, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Marty McLeod. Marty has been associate pastor here since June of 2008 and has brought much joy to all of us. Marty, Kathy and Jessica (...and Roderick) will be greatly missed by our church and the community. Marty and Kathy will be serving as co-pastors of the Epworth United Methodist Church in Jesup, Georgia beginning June 15th. This is a very active congregation that no doubt will continue to flourish under their leadership. On Sunday afternoon, June 12th at 5 p.m. everyone is invited to attend a "Farewell Reception for the McLeods". This will be held in the Asbury Classroom. Jessica will be on the youth choir tour, but this will be a great time for us as a congregation to say goodbye to Marty and Kathy. Plan to be here for this special time together.

Second, we welcome Hugh and Becky Davis to Trinity. Hugh will be serving as a part-time associate pastor here beginning June 15th. Hugh's responsibilities will mainly include preaching, teaching and visitation – although he as well will keep some office hours during the week. I mentioned in worship recently that Becky and Hugh are better known around Trinity as "Karen Stewart's Momma and Daddy." Hugh is a retired United Methodist minister with great energy, deep faith and much experience. He has served a number of prominent churches across the South Georgia Conference and was Superintendent of the Thomasville District at the time of his retirement

in June of 2009. We are a very privileged congregation to have Hugh and Becky among us. Already this wonderful couple has found special ways in which they can be involved at Trinity. Hugh and Becky want to get to know you, so when you are near them, introduce yourself and give them a warm welcome.

Third, we are happy to announce that George Whiddon has been hired as our new Director of Youth Ministries. George and his wife, Rachel, are from Cordele, Georgia and have been active for years in the Cordele First United Methodist Church. Since 2004, George has had weekly responsibilities in various areas of youth ministry. George has degrees from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and The University of Georgia. He has been Operations Manager at Ag Technologies, LLC for the past 3 ½ years, but with much thought and prayer, is following a call into full-time youth ministry. George will join our church staff officially on June 12th. Welcome to George and Rachel!!

Finally, let me speak a special word of thanks to Tim Burkes and the youth director search team. After much time spent in advertising, reviewing resumes and interviewing candidates, your work has finally come to its conclusion. All of us are indebted to you for the time and care you have put into this process. We look forward to the good things that will come because of your efforts.

Grace and Peace,

Bill

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Warner Robins, GA 31088

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Change the World

-Angela Gilbert
 childrenareloved@trinity-methodist.org

Change the World is a global movement of United Methodists doing what they can to improve lives and community. In 15 countries, United Methodists reached out to their neighbors through more than 2,000 projects. The occasion was Change the World weekend (May 14-15)



and the ministries were as varied as the participants were. As part of the Rethink Church initiative, Change the World incorporates outreach to make a positive difference in the world beyond the church doors <http://www.rethinkchurch.org/>. During the second annual event on May 14-15, more than 2,000 individual churches in 15 countries participated. United Methodist churches around the globe got outside their buildings and performed acts of service in their communities.

Trinity United Methodist participated in Change the



World supporting its mission statement to be centered on Christ and fully committed to seeking the lost, serving the needy, feeding the hungry and healing the wounded. A variety of activities allowed every church member an opportunity

to participate. Trash pick-up, cookies and notes for our shut-ins and our deployed military, mission meal, car wash, volunteering at Cherished Children Daycare, 5K Race, Biking for Bibles, Post Office Food Drive, books for a title one school, planting azaleas at a local nursing home, creating a community garden, home repair and painting are some of the events that took place. Volunteers took lunch to NAMI (mental health residence) and stayed to play Bingo with the residents. Trinity's youth



were involved in a 30-hour famine followed by communion service. Trinity's children collected change for several weeks to donate to Imagine No Malaria.

Trinity kicked off the Change the World Week with a 5K. Over 240 runners/walkers came out to *Change the World, One Step at a Time*. After the 5K, Biking for Bibles was underway. Our world changers ranged in ages from 18 months to 80! Over \$1500 was collected for Imagine No Malaria, over \$1100 was donated to the 30 Hour Famine to end world hunger, \$1000 was collected for home repair, \$800 for bibles and approximately \$250 for the planting ministry and Community Garden. Throughout the week, approximately 100 volunteers worked on these mission opportunities throughout the community! Great job World Changers – make plans to be part of next year's mission opportunities!

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Change the World

-Margaret Mathews
mmplaid@cox.net

On May 23, several volunteers from Trinity ended a year of activities at Miller Elementary with a book distribution in the Media Center. Every student at Miller received TWO BOOKS from Trinity for very own to take home to read over the summer. You can see from the pictures that everyone was pleased with their books. Many thanks to Carolyn Schomer, June Underwood, and Martha Dobson for helping with this activity.



We'd like to think that the Miller-Trinity Partnership engages in Change the World activities throughout the year. Each week, volunteers are at the school reading to classes, tutoring students, and helping teachers. We work with the staff to provide Christmas gifts for families that are having a difficult time during the holidays, proctor during standardized testing, work concessions on Field Day, and provide school supplies. To support teachers (who change the world *all day every day*) we provide motivational "goodie bags" on special occasions, and have a luncheon in our FLC during Teacher Appreciation Week in May.

Many, many thanks to all those who have helped out

with this ministry over the years – we have been working with Miller for five years now!



If you would like to be a part of the Miller-Trinity team, all that is required beyond the desire to help, is a routine background check. As this can take some time, please contact Margaret Mathews (mmplaid@cox.net; 929-9408) soon if you think you would like to be a part of this very enjoyable and rewarding ministry during the 2011-2012 school year.



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Finance Forum

-Mike Hatcher
mksrocket@cox.net

Our financial results as of the end of May 2011 were as follows (note these may vary slightly since they were taken before the books were closed for the month in order to make this article):

	<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
General Fund Mo Budget Need:	\$ 66,232	\$ 311,160
General Fund Receipts:	\$ 63,126	\$ 307,674
General Fund Expenses;	\$ 57,107	\$ 291,062
Net Result	\$ 6,019	\$ 16,612

The data for May shows a positive balance of \$6,019. This is great considering we have yet to see the full effect of our typical summer cycle and some planned expenses which come later in the year. It is also a great improvement over last year when we were already \$11k behind at this point. I think both of these are attributable to the tightened budget for 2011. While we can not operate at a “loss”, we made some very unpopular and painful decisions to get here.

As we begin to enter the summer months two things have traditionally affected our financial situation. The first is the increased need for air conditioning which results in much larger utility bills. Last year through a combination of thermostat adjustments, closer management of building usage, some aggressive cost cutting, and the understanding and help from the entire congregation we were able to offset most of the impact.

The second aspect is a drop in general fund receipts. This is something which is somewhat puzzling to me. The first thought is that many are out of town for various family reasons typical of this time of year – graduations, extended visits with family members, “time at the lake” or other summer favorites. All of these are wonderful opportunities to spend quality time with the family, close friends and loved ones. Even though it may not always be

possible to be at Trinity on Sunday it is still very easy to continue to support Trinity and it's work through your tithing and donations each week or month. E-giving is a great way to insure your support continues no matter what other distractions may be occupying your mind. If you want to know more about how you can do that, just give Angie Jones, our church treasurer, a call (923-3797).

Missing a month or several weeks can make it difficult to get back on track with your intended tithing – both in terms of a commitment and financially. The challenge for the church is the fact that the expenses continue every day and week – the needs of the ministries are constant. Trinity's budget is based directly on anticipated giving each week. While the budgets for programs and services are planned for the year, the funding of those is a “real-time” process. In other words, we do not have a “savings” fund to draw on when the receipts fall short of the expenses. We must either borrow or raise the funds quickly or drop the services, ministries or otherwise cut the costs. Big swings in receipts present some real challenges and can cause tough decisions for Trinity.

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Cookies “Thank You”

Dear Trinity United Methodist Family,

Sorry I am not sending a formal thank you card, but they don't carry cards in the PX trailer we have on the Coalition FOB that I live on....they actually don't carry much of anything. I can't tell you how surprised I was to get the big box of cookies you sent. I will admit that I could not possibly eat that many cookies without gaining way too much weight, but you will be happy to know that your act of good will turned into an international event. I took a bag of chocolate chip cookies for myself...a big bag....after sampling every type of cookie in the box. All were good, but at heart I am a chocolate chip guy.

Anyway, I shared the other cookies with some people on my floor of the barracks – Greeks, Jordanians, Canadians, and Romanians all partook. I brought the rest to work at the National Military Academy of Afghanistan where my team (Turks, US Army, US Air Force, US Navy, DA civilians) devoured what remained. I did secure a good sampling for the Afghan CG (MG Zazai) and some of his staff that I work closely with.

Watching Turks and Afghans eat chocolate chip cookies is a joy to behold – trust me when I say that chocolate chips are not a staple over here...but Afghans wish they were. Being able to tell them that my parent's church (my childhood church) sent the cookies was also satisfying – they started asking a lot of questions which I was happy to answer.

While I personally appreciate your gesture, I will tell you that you should probably feel better about putting a smile on the faces of folks who represent many different nations. The impact of that kind of personal touch should not be underestimated.

We can't win this particular fight with bullets....but we might be able to do so with cookies. Thanks again for your generosity and for thinking of me and my brothers and sisters in arms who are over here trying to do some lasting good. God Bless you all.

Respectfully,
Kevin Parker

Summer Missions

Bell Tour: June 1-4 Jamaica: June 3-11
Choir Tour: June 9-17 Hinton: July 10-15

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Scouting

-Roger Boan
rboan@cox.net

The Troop 566 committee has worked for over a year to establish an Eagle Scout educational scholarship and when they had the requirements and procedures defined they ended by naming it the Charles Singleton Eagle Scout Scholarship. Charlie Singleton has a goal of expanding this to provide an annual \$500 scholarship. The Eagle Scout is expected to be active in the Troop and serving as an example to his brother scouts. The Eagle Scout must be pursuing his education beyond High School.

Troop 566 presented their first Charlie Singleton Eagle Scout Scholarship last week. One of the founders of the troop, Charlie Singleton has been an active volunteer with Troop 566 for over 45 years. Pictured is Scoutmaster Tim Loudin and scholarship winner Ben León. Ben is an Eagle Scout with Troop 566, a member of the Order of the Arrow and served the troop as Senior Patrol Leader. He is a 2011 graduate

of Warner Robins High and will be attending Georgia Tech in the fall.



Change the World



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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

Margaret Poole, Apt. 1B
Jean and Sam Hendry, Apt 66

Summerhill Assisted Living Community

500 Stanley Drive, Perry 31069

Nell Posey ~ Veranda East Room 703

Continue to update this list by emailing theunderwoods1@cox.net

Carlyle Place

5300 Zebulon Road
Macon, GA 31210

Roger Fulling

Homebound

Billie Curry
320 Bernard Drive ~ 31093

Shirley Matthews
421 Woodland Drive ~ 31088

Mae Kincaid
319 Oakview Square ~ 31093
Jim Kincaid—Dublin VA Hospital

Ruth Wehrmeyer
111 Pearce Drive ~ 31093

Billie Meaders
109 Ginny Drive ~ 31093

Deployed Active Duty Military

James Easterling—(Afghanistan)
Kevin Parker—son of Eileen and Walt Parker
Jeff Dorsey (Afghanistan) nephew of June and Eddie Underwood
Troy Maskell - grandson of Nancy and Bill Birdsell
Stephen Kelly (Afghanistan) son of Connie and Ken Adkins
Wayne Smith (Basic Training) Hammakers
Jason Thaggard (Iraq) nephew of Shelby Snow
MSGT Carey Rissmann—son of Ken and Kathy Rissmann
Brandon Smith (Afghanistan) Grandson of Pat Smith

Continue to update this list by emailing theunderwoods1@cox.net

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So Many Reasons to Celebrate...

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1 st	Nancy Birdsell Marie Hitchcock Patrick Nakayama	12 th	Grace Harmon Jean Posey Roy Jardin Kevin Logan
2 nd	Jacob Benoit Julie Luschen	13 th	Vera Newsome
3 rd	EC Warnock	14 th	Melanie Brooks Mary Edenfield-Gibbs
4 th	Duncan Brown Don Farris	15 th	Brent Sappe Cheryl Minor Sheryl Shoman
6 th	Loren Clifford Crystal O'Leary-Davidson	16 th	George Stefano Cameron Kemp Jessica Yandell
7 th	Jessica Applegate Zella Bradsher	17 th	Kyler Richmond Ryleigh Yandell
8 th	John Palmer Janet West	18 th	Lauren DeJeet
9 th	Mason Benoit Luke Burkes	19 th	Sheila Boutselis Debi Brin Margaret Poole
10 th	Brenda Benoit	21 st	John Simonton
11 th	Lauren Edenfield Haven Hancock	22 nd	Lori Johnson Doug Pugh
		23 rd	Betty Ann Fenimore
		24 th	Todd Sappe Tim Burkes Joyce Miller
		25 rd	Dave Daniel Todd Oxyer Dale Snyder
		26 th	Zane Cooper Ruth Davis Christopher Nobles
		27	Jerry West
		29 th	Gail Grove
		30 th	Tristan Andrews June Kelly Charles Loudin Allen Powell Alfred Stephens



Birthdays & Anniversaries

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ ☆ <u>June Anniversaries</u> ☆ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆			
3 rd	John & Gail Grove Steve & Deborah Taylor	12 th	Gil & Charlotte Terhune
4 th	Gene & Carolyn Miller	13 th	Charles & Mildred Chapman Gary & Jamie Cook Randy & Kelly Dempsey David & Angie Sams
6 th	Jim & Sheila Boutselis Pat & Eve Shope Glenn & Karen Watson	14 th	Dale & Ginny Newberry
7 th	Frank & Linda DeJeet	15 th	John & Rhea Phillips
8 th	Nathan & Denise Andrews J.B. & Anne Mason	16 th	Ken & June Kelly
10 th	Wayne & Angela Gilbert Janet & Jerry West	21 st	Bud & Pauline Abbott John & Shirley Hurst
11 th	Frank & Grace Harmon	25 th	Hubert & Tris Myers Sharon & Bruce Radebaugh Lea & Victor Volskay
		26 th	Sam & Jean Henry Frank & Virginia Huff
		30 th	Brian & Nancy Getzin