



## ***The Trinity Spirit***

***May 2, 2010***

Dear Church Family:

First, I want to thank all of you who have offered me feedback about the whole concept of the “Trinity Spirit.” You have been kind and encouraging in your comments and that leads me to believe this is a good thing. As I said last month, my desire is to openly communicate to you what I’m thinking about and what is a matter of deep prayer for me as our future continues to unfold before us. Remember, ***wherever we go, we go together*** as a church family.

I want to begin with some comments about **Rev. Nancy Watson**. As you know, it is anticipated that Nancy will take a church of her own at this Annual Conference. She has worked long and hard, endured miles of travel and hours of meetings, and has now come to the edge of her future. On Monday evening, June 7<sup>th</sup>, Nancy will be ordained an Elder in Full Connection in the United Methodist Church. This means she has reached the full relationship of a pastor in our denomination. She has completed all the papers, finished all the courses, met with all the boards. She is now prepared to have Bishop Leeland lay his hands on her and fully ordain her in the United Methodist Church as a pastor. This has been a long journey for Nancy. It has not been easy. I truly hope to see as many of you as possible on Monday evening, June 7<sup>th</sup>, at First UMC in Montgomery for this high and holy moment in Nancy’s life. **It is imperative that you arrive at least 1 hour before the service starts in order to get a good seat. Faith and I intend to be in our seat at least an hour and fifteen minutes before the worship service begins.** Following the Annual Conference, Nancy will be appointed as a senior pastor in our Annual Conference. It is projected that Nancy will be appointed pastor of the **St. Mark United Methodist Church in Pensacola**. We celebrate this great accomplishment with Nancy and pray God’s richest blessings on her. Over the next few weeks, take a moment and write Nancy a card or send her an e-mail and let her know how much she means to you. Congratulations Nancy!

It is also projected that Bishop Leeland will appoint **The Rev. Christina Hale** to Trinity as the Associate Pastor. Christina is a graduate of Daphne High School, Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, and has finished her seminary work at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta. This will be her first full time appointment even though she has served as a student pastor for the last two years. Her first official Sunday with us will be the First Sunday in July. Christina is the daughter of Rev and Mrs. Chip Hale of Pensacola. She is the middle child with an older sister, Caroline who is a therapist for Mobile Mental Health and a younger sister, Anna-Camille, who is in her sophomore year at Huntingdon College. We are delighted to welcome Rev. Christina Hale to Trinity as our Associate Pastor!

I want to also encourage you to personally welcome our **new Director of Children’s Ministry, Rev. Paula Roane**. We are indeed blessed to have Paula join our staff in this capacity. She brings about 15 years of experience to this area of ministry. Paula is a **Full Deacon in the United Methodist Church**. This means she serves through our Annual Conference in a specified area of ministry. Paula also holds a Masters Degree in Family Counseling. *Fruitful and effective ministry to children is crucial in a growing congregation!* She will have her first Children’s Time today in worship. Pray for her – support her – let her know of your love and willingness to help her in any way possible. She has already begun to prepare for Vacation Bible School and other great children’s opportunities this summer. We are delighted to welcome Rev. Paula Roane to Trinity!

**Today, we as a congregation, begin our “Into the Future Together” focus.** This vision has been in the planning stages for almost 18 months and we are now prepared to begin raising the necessary funds to enhance and further beautify our sanctuary. In order to reach our goal of \$200,000, we will all have to pull together. **WE CAN DO THIS!** With God’s guidance and the generosity of our congregation, any debt we will incur will be offset by pledges and promises made by our people. This will enable the full project to be completed because of the faithfulness of God’s people to His promises. The thrust of this effort to raise funds will last for 6 weeks. We certainly can still give beyond that point, but these next 40 days will give us a picture of how we will initially proceed.

Let me close by talking about two of our dear members who have gone to be with the Lord. **Ron Reynolds** died in the early morning hours of April 18<sup>th</sup> and **Harland Cook** passed away a few days later. Both of these men have been faithful to Christ and Trinity and now from their labors rest. Thanks be to God for their faithful witness. Our lives are better because they have passed our way. Please be sure to pray for these families – even though they know their loved one is with the Lord, they still miss them. We have been blessed to hold both memorial services in our sanctuary.

With all these wonderful changes, it is indeed, a great time to be a part of the Trinity church family as we go forward *into the future!*

As always, my office is open to you. Come by and let’s visit – I’d love to see you.

**Pastor Bobby**

