

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The goal of the Outreach Committee of Trinity Cathedral is to financially support our outreach ministries and to encourage all people to participate by giving of their time, talents, money and hearts. It is our goal to help make this world a better place for all of its people. We hope that you will volunteer in one of these programs -- or any others which reach out to those in need. Your efforts will change your life and you will receive much more than you give. Rhett Wolfe is the chair of the committee. Tel: 782-0133 or rhett@thewolfeco.com

## 2007 BAZAAR AGENCIES SELECTED

All of the net proceeds from our bazaar go to outreach, to help those who are in need and make this world a better place. Our 59th Annual Bazaar will be held this year on Saturday, November 3, 10 to 3, church block. Each year, five local non-profit agencies are selected to receive the majority of the funds. The remaining funds go to a Small Grants Fund to meet small grant outreach requests during the year, our standing missions: St. Lawrence Place, Finlay House, Still Hopes and Heathwood Hall Rural Mission Project, and ECW projects. Five major agencies are:

**CHILDREN'S GARDEN** which provides childcare for children whose families are homeless or in need. The requested funds will partially fund an assistant teacher in the Toddler One classroom.

**THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY** was founded by five area churches (including Trinity) to verify need and give assistance to those who are at risk. Its clients are mostly the working poor but it also assists a large number of homeless individuals. Our funds will go to The Ministry's Emergency Assistance Program which helps with such things as rent, utilities, medicine, clothing, furniture, bus tickets, work boots and tools, emergency food packages and hygiene kits, etc.

**ST. LAWRENCE PLACE** is Trinity's transitional housing program for homeless families seeking self-sufficiency and permanent housing. Our funds will go to rehabilitate the Children's Program Building.

**SALVATION ARMY KIDS 2 KAMP** provides an opportunity for the poorest of Columbia's children to attend a camp whose purpose is to serve the physical, social and spiritual needs of the campers. Our funds will enable 20 children to attend camp.

**YOUNG LIFE** seeks to introduce high school and middle school students to Christ and help them grow in their faith. Our funds will provide full and partial scholarships for Columbia middle and high school students to attend Young Life camp.

The chairs for the bazaar this year are: Julia Mikell, Missy O'Connor and Anne Runge.

## ADAM & JEN BOSTIC - PERU

Adam and Jen Bostic found themselves far away from rural Tennessee. Hardly before they finished their seminary training in Dallas, they woke up in Iquitos, Peru. A far cry from where they were raised, but where God has called them and they couldn't be happier. They are missionaries with Medical Missions, based here in Columbia.

They are challenged daily with the poverty, differences in culture and the sense of despair they find among many people, however, God has blessed them with a solid conviction and resolve that they are in the right place. God has also blessed them with other Christians who are strong in faith and in bravery. Christians, such as Pedro and Amalia, who are ministers at their local church.

Pedro is the lead pastor at their church. Amalia, Pedro's wife, is a children's pastor who is seen on local television, in Peru. Pedro's vision is to house 20-30 young people to be trained as ministers and missionaries to serve in Iquitos and surrounding jungle villages. They currently house about 12 young people, both men and women. The women are housed at Pedro's home. The men are housed about a block away at the local church.

The church is a rented three story concrete structure similar to a concrete warehouse. They have done an excellent job on a shoestring budget to transform it into a church with a sanctuary, musical instruments, Sunday school rooms and third floor dormitory rooms for the male seminary students.

Each student spends 2 years in study at the church. It is a working arrangement, whereby, they are in class in the morning and are helping to construct their church and dormitory in the afternoon. You see, these are not your average seminary students. These students have all had very tough family environments in Iquitos, from abuse to abandonment, to severe poverty. However, they have been given a second chance on life through God's love poured out upon them by Adam and Pedro's ministry. They are absolutely committed to God's work, especially helping the impoverished youth of Iquitos.

This is where Cliff and I found ourselves in March of this year. As Cliff turned 16, Diana and I felt that exposing him to life in other regions of the world where people do not have the same freedoms or opportunities as here in the US, might help frame his context as he begins to enter early adulthood. We also wanted to frame this context, with a vision of how Christ works through others and keeping to one of the Baptismal covenants, help him to "seek and serve Christ in all people".

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Iquitos is the largest city in the Amazon, at about 400,000 people. It was literally created out of the jungle as a result of the rubber tree trade at the turn of the century. As quickly as Iquitos formed, it just as quickly died as the rubber tree barons moved their fortunes to other markets, such as in Southeast Asia.

The abandonment of the only industry of Iquitos (rubber trade) has left a city with generations of poverty and lack of education. These descendents of the rubber trade workers are the object of the Bostic's ministry. Whether they are teaching in the local church in Iquitos or sharing Christ with the children and parents in the Iquitos hospital they demonstrate Christ to all that they contact.

I have often wondered why others travel to distant countries on mission trips when there is need in our own backyard. While I'm sure that there are many reasons, one became very obvious to me. When people demonstrate such a solid conviction of Christ living in areas of such poverty and lack of opportunity, it strengthens our resolve, that Christ knows no boundaries. His love is readily available for all who seek it. For many in Iquitos, his love is all that they will ever have, but how much richer is everyone who seeks it. Coming from a country where our culture preaches that your worth is always performance based, they helped teach me that our worth comes as a free gift from God. Our value comes as a son or daughter of God, not what we do.

From the perspective of the Peruvians, many wondered why we were there. Cliff and I knew no one there and had never been there before. Our response was that we were there to help in whatever way that they needed. They replied that they gained hope that someone from America cared to come to their city to help without an agenda.

My prayer upon my return is that Cliff and my

lives will be altered in such a way as to be aware of the vast opportunities of our great country and to take advantage of these opportunities to share the reality of Christ's love and transforming power in our lives.

In June, twenty Trinity youth along with six adults will take this same journey to Iquitos and back. I know that our youth will enrich the lives of all that they interact with in Iquitos. They will give the youth there, rays of hope that from the message of Jesus Christ, people from another country really care about them.

The young people in Iquitos will teach our youth that faith and love of Christ is the very foundation of true life and that people of faith in Jesus Christ can experience a strong bond through his love, although they have stark differences in their countries' customs and lifestyles.

I thank Dr Francis Burriss at Medical Missions for arranging this trip for Cliff and me. He has a wonderful ministry in Iquitos. We look forward to hearing some of the great experiences that our youth and adults from Trinity will share upon their return from Peru.



Lee Ayers, Pastor Pedro, Dr Dante Rabinez & Cliff Ayers

## ST. LAWRENCE PLACE

For this parishioner, St. Lawrence Place had been just one of the many outreach opportunities that I had read about in the *Tidings* UNTIL May 2006. Canon Joye Cantrell had joined the Trinity staff in February 2006. Over several months I had made numerous comments to her regarding my desire to get more involved in our Cathedral's Outreach Ministries. She asked me to join her at St. Lawrence Place's staff recognition picnic, on one Saturday in May. At the picnic a new resident was introduced. We learned that her family had just lost their home to fire and that one of her 3 children had received severe burns requiring her hospitalization at the Augusta Burn Unit. At the conclusion of the picnic I told Canon Cantrell that I was going to "adopt the family." She was surprised to say the least. That afternoon I made numerous phone calls to friends both within and outside the Trinity Parish. Within two days I had collected enough furniture, clothing, kitchen items, children's toys that I was able to outfit TWO apartments at SLP. A new friend that I had met at one of Trinity's Covenant groups heard what I was doing and offered to help. Mary Ann Pruzin and I loaded up our cars and a friend's truck with all of the items I had stored in my garage and made numerous trips to SLP. Mary Ann scrubbed on her hands and knees for hours while I dragged furniture from one room to another to make the place look more homelike. One afternoon I took a break. Leaving Mary Ann there to scrub, I went to the grocery store to pick up some food items to stock the kitchen cabinets. Looking a bit "haggard" ( it was a hot summer), I ran into one of my physician friends who commented on my appearance. When I told him what we were doing, he took a \$100 bill out of his pocket and told me to use that to buy food for the family I had adopted. The looks on the faces of the mother and her children when they first saw their new home at SLP

was enough reward to let me know that I needed to adopt this ministry. Over the past year my "rewards" have grown exponentially. An added bonus has been meeting many exceptional Trinity parishioners when I pick up donations from their homes for SLP.

Edgar Maxwell



St. Lawrence Place family at home

### SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE COORDINATOR

This volunteer job requires only FOUR HOURS during June and July! The Cooperative Ministry holds a school supply drive each summer to gather necessary school articles for thousands of children in the Columbia area. Parishioners are asked to bring such supplies as notebook paper, pencils, pens, rulers, notebooks, backpacks, crayons, glue sticks, folders, etc. to the church when the drive starts (announced in *The Tidings*). A volunteer is needed to pick up the supplies every week or two and drop them off at Trenholm Road Methodist Church where they are individually packaged by hundreds of other volunteers. PARISHIONERS -- please plan to bring school supplies to Trinity during the drive. Supplies should be new except for expensive items (like backpacks and hard cover notebooks which can be used but in good condition). IF YOU CAN PICK THESE UP AND DELIVER TO T.R.U.M.C., please call Patsy Green, 783-2788.

## Homeless Breakfast

I went with my dad on Easter Sunday to feed the homeless and it was an experience I will never forget. Getting up at 5:30 so you can arrive at Trinity isn't fun, but seeing the joy and happiness in these people's faces after you have helped them is worth it. The homeless that attend the breakfast asked me questions about my school, the sports I play, etc. They are no different than us and have great attitudes about life. Most of the people there are strong believers of Christ and say "God bless you little man". I had to pass out bag lunches and take up the lunch tickets. I learned that there are many different jobs that must be performed to make sure things run smoothly. Also a lot of preparation goes into this. Different groups from the church help cook the food, make the lunches, clean up, etc. Volunteers are always welcome and many people do come and help. Preparing for everyone coming to eat is the biggest task. You must make dozens and dozens of waters, milks, and orange juice. You have to put tons of salt, pepper, and sugar packets on the tables. Then you have to cook the food. The work is fun though, and the outcome is worth the work and the early morning wake-up.

James Godbold (12)

TRINITY REACHES OUT is issued quarterly. It is a celebration of the spirit of volunteerism as seen through the eyes of our missionaries as they reach out to those in need. It is an exploration of Trinity's missions and how they were developed to meet specific needs. In this issue, our feature article is an early trip to Peru by Lee Ayers and his son, Cliff. They were not able to go on the planned youth mission trip in June, so Lee took his son to Peru to do their part in this outreach program. There is a wonderful article by James Godbold about his helping in our Sunday Breakfast Program, a story by Arney Love on W. A. Perry. This wonderful teacher gives cooking lessons to our Perry students who get a course in cooking as well as doing the math for the recipes!. Edgar Maxwell offers an article on the need and joy in volunteering at St. Lawrence Place. ALL OF OUR MINISTRIES NEED VOLUNTEERS! Our faithful ministers would love to have some seasonal help in the summer when some are on vacation --even for a few hours. Patsy Green, Editor - 783-2788

Ralph Green plays the piano for our guests during a Sunday breakfast. Pianists are needed on Sunday mornings. If you can give an hour one Sunday morning, it would be greatly appreciated by our guests. Even one Sunday a year would be great. Call Rusty Miller (Breakfast Chair) if you can volunteer



to play or help in the kitchen. (865-2830)

**SOUP CELLAR** needs volunteers for the summer. One Thursday morning a week or even one Thursday morning for a few hours would help so very much. This dedicated team needs some vacation time. Our team makes and serves the lunch on Thursday mornings at Washington Street Methodist Church to those who are hungry and in need of a meal. Call Ruth Tibshrary, Soup Cellar Chair, at 787-4309.

## My trip to Peru

For my 16<sup>th</sup> birthday my parents gave me something unconventional, a trip to Peru. It was a mission trip to the Amazon where we stayed with missionaries Adam and Jen Bostic, their son, and other Peruvian natives who they took in as disciples to them. Adam and Jen grew up in Tennessee and traveled to Peru on a mission trip and fell in love with Iquitos and decided to move there, where they have been for the past 2 years. We woke up to Jen making s a Tennessee breakfast with little bit of a jungle twist.

On the first day we went to the main market of Iquitos where we saw everything from dried monkey to the latest DVD's. After we spent the first part of the day in the market we went to the city of Belen and took a boat ride of the "Floating City." In Iquitos, the government does not charge people for water property so these people build their homes on rafts so that it doesn't cost money, literally being floating homes. Belen is the poorest city in Iquitos where the people use the diseased Amazon for everything. From drinking water to cleaning their clothes, the people use this river to survive. This trip to Belen made me appreciate what I have and realize that even the poorest people of Columbia are more privileged than the people of Belen.

The next day my dad went to talk to a dentist and also pastor in Iquitos and I helped the disciples at the church that the missionaries run. The male disciples live in little huts pretty much at the top of the church building and I helped them build bunk beds so they didn't have to sleep on the floor and share hammocks. After this we went to see an upper-middle class home in Iquitos of a man named Pastor Pedro. Pastor Pedro liked to brag about how nice his home was and how he had electricity and running water, which are two commodities that we take for granted every day. Pastor Pedro thanked the Lord every day for what he had which doesn't even compare to what we have in Columbia.

This trip really opened my eyes to reality. I realized how much I take for granted in everyday life. Even something small to us, like a chair, is big to the people of Iquitos. The chairs that they have at their church are plastic lawn chairs, not even as nice as the chairs we use in school, and the people are ecstatic to have chairs as nice as they do. This is just one of many examples that I realized I take for granted. Even in writing right now about my trip to Peru I have thought of many more everyday things that I am blessed with.

Overall, my trip to Peru brought me closer to God, which is perfectly right before my confirmation. I have started to thank God more for all that I have and for all of the opportunities that I have been blessed with, along with a loving family and a Dad that would take his son to Peru instead of just going to dinner for his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

-Cliff Ayers



Women washing clothes in the Amazon



The church in Iquitos. Note the plastic chairs.



Visiting a child in the local hospital

**SEEDS OF HOPE MARKET TO BEGIN IN JUNE**

Our farmer Louis Reed will be in the Trinity parking lot, beginning in June (until early August). Plan to buy his wonderful fruits and vegetables while you can. **LEE AND WILLIAM HUTSON** have graciously consented to chair this program. Volunteers are needed on Sunday mornings to help our farmer--weighing produce and collecting money.

Call Lee or William at 782-4980 to sign up.

**GIVE THANKS!**

Everyone in this Diocese should feel blessed to have been a part of our ongoing involvement on the central plateau of Haiti, creating an oasis of hope as we fight malnutrition, disease, and poverty. Dr. Paul Farmer, being honored at Wofford in March, spoke of the remarkable achievements. He said they have now taken this same model project to other countries in Africa. He has even taken Haitian workers he has trained with him to help get the new centers up and running. Instead of touching several hundred thousand yearly, our investment of time, money and creative energy will now touch millions of lives.

We have never done things TO the Haitians, or FOR the Haitians. We have done many, many good healing things WITH the Haitians -- THANKS BE TO GOD!

Jeanne Kean

***“At the Table” Cooking Club at WA Perry***

Sixteen to twenty middle school students gather around tables every other week at WA Perry learning to cook. Middle school itself is a time of contradictions and diversity. Some students are four feet tall, while others tower over the teachers at six feet. Some have often helped out around the kitchen at home – and others have never cracked an egg or read a recipe. Some can read with ease – others struggle with the simplest words. Because of the world and neighborhoods they come from, some of the differences among us are unimaginable. But we gather and learn and laugh and share food and fellowship.

We start each semester sharing our favorite foods, and choosing the foods the students want to learn to cook. Each class we learn to make and eat something different. We always start with clean hands and a clean workspace. We work in groups of four, and quickly learn that cooking requires reading, math and cooperation. Slice and bake cookies, individual pizzas, cakes and cupcakes are always on the agenda. We add lessons about nutrition, table manners and table setting.

The final class is a grand meal that the students have planned and prepared. The last menu was lasagna, salad, garlic bread, red velvet cake, chocolate cake and banana pudding. As they were putting the final touches on the table setting, cake decorating, flower arrangements, the teachers they had invited began to trickle in the room. One of the students welcomed the teachers with a this prayer that she had written:

Thank you heavenly father  
 For bringing us here today.  
 We are very fortunate that we could be here for the closing chapter of cooking class.  
 Thank you for gathering us each and every other week.  
 May you heavenly Father, bless this food.

I think my fellow volunteers would join me in saying that we feel fortunate to be gathered with these children each and every other week. Their smiles, enthusiasm, and appreciation for so many things that we and ours take for granted are not only joyful, but deeply touching.

Arney Love



Arney Love assigning tasks to WA Perry students

**HARVEST HOPE FOOD BANK** always needs extra food during the summer months. School is out and many children do not have access to free and reduced lunch and breakfast. We have found, from volunteering at Perry, that many of our children do not have supper when they get home, so you can imagine how hungry they are when they do not get breakfast or lunch at school. Please bring canned goods to the church. Make a habit of putting some extra canned goods on the back seat when you are grocery shopping. You will always have them when you arrive at the church. Mason Hawley is our Harvest Hope coordinator, 254-9378.