

# Trinity Methodist News

May 1998

Volume II Issue 1

*A publication of:*  
**Trinity Methodist Church  
Trinity Methodist Church Cemetery, Inc.  
Raleigh, Mississippi  
Smith County, Mississippi**

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**Trinity Methodist Church  
Smith County, Mississippi  
(5 miles northeast of Raleigh, MS)  
1847-1998**

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***151<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Sunday, July 19, 1998***

### From the Editor

We expect to publish the next newsletter in October, 1998. If you know someone who did not receive this issue, but has an interest in Trinity United Methodist Church or the cemetery, please contact W.M. Tramel at (601) 956-3135 or at 1060 Briarfield Rd., Jackson, MS 39211.

### Homecoming Celebration – Sunday, July 19, 1998

Our annual Homecoming will be at the usual time - the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in July. We are making plans for a great day of fellowship with God's message through preaching, singing, and tracing our heritage to past generations. Come be a part of a good day of sharing.

#### Sunday, July 19, 1998 Agenda

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9:45am	Trinity Methodist Church Cemetery Association Meeting
10:15am	Singing – The T's. Also singing will be other groups, individuals, and the audience. The audience may request special songs.
11:15am	Church service – Dr. Robert "Bob" Bowling will bring the message. See elsewhere about Dr. Bob.
11:50am	Dinner on the ground (bring food for your family and a little extra)
1:30pm	Assemble in church. A short talk about early settlers of Smith County. Also, each person will have an opportunity to connect with others and to update each of us on happenings since the last homecoming.



**Dr. Robert Clark Bowling** (Bob) of Decatur, Georgia will bring God's message at homecoming this year. He is presently the pastor of Oak Grove United Methodist Church in Decatur, Georgia. Bob was born in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, the son of the late Ochie May and Selby C. Bowling. Bob's father accepted God's grace in Trinity Methodist Church and is a descendant of the Bowlings who settled in the Trinity area many years ago.

After graduating from Millsaps College and Emory University, Bob was Minister of Education and Music and Associate Pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Biloxi, MS, and later pastor of several United Methodist churches in Georgia.

**The Singing T's**

We are blessed again this year to have The Singing T's as the lead singers at Homecoming. Other groups, individuals, and the audience will also be singing, so come sing the old hymns of yesteryear as well as present songs.



**Past Pastors**

A special effort is being made to invite and encourage all past pastors to attend Homecoming on July 19, 1998. Each will be encouraged to relate some of their memories of their involvement at Trinity.

**As I See It - by the President of the Cemetery Association**

Church building - Sometime in the near future the church building will need a new top.

Plots for grave sites - The unused portion of the cemetery needs to be filled and leveled.

Broken tombstones - We are pleased to report that much progress has been made in the replacement of broken tombstones. Mrs. Mary Stewart, wife of S.L. Stewart has provided the leadership and has replaced three Stewart markers and repaired others as follows:

Name	Remarks
Joseph James Stewart 1849-1926	Rock replaced. S.L. Stewart grandfather
Emily Pilgrim Stewart Sep 15, 1855 - Nov 2, 1895	Wife of Joseph James Stewart S.L. Stewart grandmother
Lizzie Sullivan Stewart 1862-1899	2 <sup>nd</sup> wife of Joseph James Stewart Rock replaced
Eli, son of J.J. and Emily Stewart Jan 5, 1895 - Sep 12, 1896	Repaired Asleep in Jesus.

There were also broken and scattered tombstones for six children; some of whom died of yellow fever in the late 1800s. With continued cooperation between those who live nearby and those in other parts of the country, we can continue to keep the Cemetery beautiful.

Jesse Lee Rogers



Replaced tombstones, left to right: Joseph James Stewart, Emily Pilgrim Stewart, Lizzie Sullivan Stewart



Broken tombstones not yet replaced or repaired

## Memorial Day - May 30<sup>th</sup> (holiday observed on May 25<sup>th</sup>)

Memorial day is a patriotic holiday in the United States. It is a day to honor American service men and women who gave their lives for their country. Originally, Memorial Day honored those who had died in the Civil War. It now also honors those who died in other wars.

The editor knows that two people are buried in the Trinity Cemetery who lost their lives in World War II. There may be others who died in the Armed Forces in other wars.

1. Kenner J. Bailey - 3<sup>rd</sup> Marines Division, Feb 1945.
2. Joseph J. Stewart - 25<sup>th</sup> Armored Engineer Battalion, 6<sup>th</sup> Armored Division, April 19, 1945.

We invite you - relatives and friends - to honor all former men and women who served in the Armed

Forces in all wars by placing flowers and flags on their graves.

## Tramel Family Reunion

The descendants of Albert G. Tramel and Carolyn L. Spaulding Tramel will be held at Trinity Church on Sunday, July 19, 1998. The reunion will coincide with the Trinity Homecoming. Please make your plans to be there.

## Area Obituaries

**Clifton Bruce**, 84, of Route 2, Raleigh, MS 39153 died December 18, 1997 at Smith County General Hospital. Clifton was a resident of the Trinity area and a U.S. Army veteran. Rev. Bill Hegwood and Rev. Eugene Young officiated at the memorial service that was held at Trinity Methodist Church with burial in the church cemetery.

**Allen Holmes Boykin**, 72, retired farmer, died May 14, 1998. Allen lived in the Raleigh area and was a World War II Navy veteran. Rev. Jimmy Lynn Chestnut officiated at the memorial service. Burial was at Trinity United Methodist Church Cemetery.

*Editor's comment: Allen was a playmate of mine when we were boys. Swimming, catching tadpoles, fishing, etc. in Bowling Creek. Playing Rook on his father's front porch while Mr. Alva was cutting the hair of all of us boys (no charge, of course). What memories we do have.*

## Bruce Family

The earliest Bruce to whom the Smith County Bruces can find connection was William Bruce who resided in Halifax County, North Carolina, and died about 1795. Second generation descendant, Alsey Bruce resided in Jones County, Georgia in 1811; resided in Monroe County, Mississippi Territory in 1816; resided and buried in Pike County, Alabama, 1830-1839.

Then some of the Bruces came to settle in Leake County, Newton County, and Neshoba County, Mississippi about 1850-1875. James Newton Bruce and Mary Jane Bruce Thomas came to the Trinity area of Smith County. Mary Jane was a licensed midwife. She drove a red horse named "Snap", hooked to a buggy all over Smith County delivering babies.

James Newton Bruce, 1853-1923, married Jane P. Hickman and had 6 boys and 1 girl; Calvin, James (Jim), Frank, Charlie, Rejintha Bell, Wesly (Wess), Martin (Mart), and Levey Albert (Dritt). Descendants of James Newton were active in the life of Trinity united Methodist Church. Other descendants lived in other parts of Smith County, other counties of Mississippi, and in other states.

There are four generations of Bruces buried in Trinity Cemetery. For more details and additional information about the Bruce branches and roots contact John B. Windham, 4624 Park Drive North, Metarie, LA 70001-3324.

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### **New Orleans Christian Advocate - January 3, 1857 - reprint**

Raleigh, Miss, Nov. 22d, 1856

*Dear Bro.* -- I have now ended my year's work on the Raleigh Circuit and Strong River mission. This is a large work, twenty-three appointments; about 400 miles round. Assisted by Bro. R.A. Jones, we have added this year 152 members to the church, and I have baptised 42, and have obtained 41 subscriptions to our different periodicals, and found only two or three on the work at the commencement of the year. This matter has been greatly neglected in some places. I have distributed about \$300 worth of books. Please give this a place in your paper, that my old friends may know that I am yet alive and trying to do something for the good cause in my latter days. Yours truly,

Mathew D.T. Homason

*Editor: We owe much to the Methodist circuit riders of yesterday.*

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### **Cemetery Association Improvement**

When sending donations for upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery and church please do not send cash. Make the check payable to "Trinity Methodist Church Cemetery, Inc." and send it to the Secretary-Treasurer of the cemetery association, W.M. Tramel at 1060 Briarfield Rd. Jackson, MS 39211. You will receive an acknowledgement and the receipt can be used for tax purposes. Please also provide the following information. Thanks.

1. Sender Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address \_\_\_\_\_
3. Amount      \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \_\_\_\_\_
4. In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name **and** address)\*
5. In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name only)\*

\* This is necessary so that the honoree or memorial relative can be notified of your thoughtful gift.

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In order to make better plans, you are requested to let us know if you will be able to come to the homecoming on Sunday, July 19, 1998 (151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Trinity Methodist Church). Complete the following, clip along the dotted lines, and send to:

**W. M. Tramel, 1060 Briarfield Rd., Jackson MS, 39211**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

- Plan to come. Number in party \_\_\_\_\_  
 Want to come, but will not be able to in 1998.  
 Plan to come in 1999.

Remarks (tell us something about yourself): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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*Trinity Methodist Church Cemetery, Inc.*  
*Route 2, Box 266*  
*Raleigh, MS 39153*