

## **History of Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church – September 2011**

### **Looking back at Holy Trinity—by Susan Exley**

*Psalm 100:5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.*

Mr. Jackson Zipperer is the oldest male member of Holy Trinity at 97 years of age. His father, Thomas E. Zipperer, Sr. was a Charter Member and first Secretary of the Congregation. Mr. Jackson recalls that his father told him that he placed a stickpin in the cornerstone when it was laid on August 11, 1909.

Mr. Jackson became a member of Holy Trinity when he was 9 years of age, confirmed by the Reverend T. W. Shealy. Mr. Jackson's father, a Newberry College graduate and schoolteacher, had taught him the catechism.

As a young lad, Mr. Jackson was hired by Holy Trinity and paid fifty cents a month. His duties included: unlocking the church doors, getting wood inside and making a fire in the stove (heater) in winter, opening windows in summer, ringing the church bell and pumping the organ for second Sunday evening and fourth Sunday morning services. In addition, he received one dollar a month for those duties from the Sunday School which met every Sunday.

Although he lived for awhile in Savannah, Mr. Jackson has spent the majority of his church life at Holy Trinity. He rarely missed any services until his health failed. Raising many varieties of grapes in his yard, wine making was one of his hobbies. Supplying wine for communion at Holy Trinity for many years was his pleasure. Although he has shared many talents through the years some positions that come to mind include: vice-president of the Georgia-Alabama Luther League, church council member, secretary of the Bethel Parish Joint Council, choir member, Sunday School teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, officer, lector, and committee member.

Along with his dear late wife Theresa, they reared their four children in a Christian home. They were proud to have a son who became a Lutheran minister; the Reverend Andrew Jackson Zipperer, Jr. now retired in Tennessee.

Think of all the changes in the facilities at Holy Trinity throughout Mr. Jackson Zipperer's years here. Many pastors and members have come and gone. He has seen wood heaters, electricity, central heat and air conditioning, the addition of the educational building, electronic organs, cushions on wooden benches and speakers to amplify sound. The steadfast thing in his life has been his unwavering faith in God demonstrated by his avenues of service at Holy Trinity. Please pray for Mr. Jackson and for all of our shut-ins. Mr. Jackson's lifelong dedication is an inspiration for others at Holy Trinity.