

Former members check in with Tirnity family

Hello Trinity Pres.!

Just wanted you all to know that Scott and I (and Liz and Ben) continue to enjoy the newsletter, and that we read it "religiously" (?) every month, eager to learn what's going on with our Denton family. You remain always in our prayers.

I also wanted to let you know that Scott's new book (a spiritual memoir, not another puzzling book of poems!) has just been released by HarperSanFrancisco, and that Trinity Presbyterian figures admirably in certain passages of the book (though UNT and Denton in general figure somewhat less favorably, albeit in passing). In any case, for those interested, I'm attaching a flier that HSF sent for Scott to use in alerting friends to the book.

I'm still doing journalism, though I've limited myself to writing a column here. Scott is thriving as Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing at Univ. of Missouri. He won a Guggenheim Fellowship last year, which was a wonderful surprise.

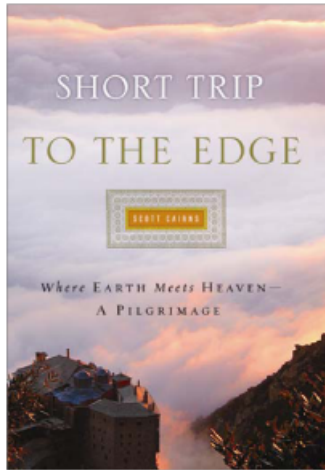
Liz is a junior at Mizzou, majoring in English and Theater, and Ben is a junior at the high school, majoring in friendship. :-)

Please keep us in your prayers, and on the mailing list

Love to all, Marcia

SHORT TRIP TO THE EDGE

Where Earth Meets Heaven – A Pilgrimage
By Scott Cairns



While walking on the beach with his Labrador, poet and literature professor Scott Cairns ran headlong into his midlife crisis. Cairns realized that his spiritual life was moving at a snail's pace and time was running out. This crisis launched Cairns on a search for what it means to have a "prayer life," leading him to set out on a spiritual journey to the mystical Greek peninsula of Mount Athos.

With a humorous yet humble voice and a poet's exquisite prose, Cairns immerses his readers in the history and power of the holy mountain and the faith of the monks who worship there. For centuries this ancient and austere place has been the spiritual center of the Orthodox Church. Only monks live there and only male pilgrims are allowed to visit its twenty monasteries and numerous "sketes." Cairns candidly shares the physical and spiritual realities of his pilgrimage, from his conversations with monastic leaders to mealtime conventions, never losing sight of his search for a prayer father in his quest to discover the true prayer life. The harsh beauty of Mount Athos and the devoted lives of its people are more than simply a backdrop for this remarkable story of spiritual growth; they are an integral part of Cairns's experience as a modern pilgrim.

Available everywhere books are sold
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SCOTT CAIRNS teaches modern and contemporary American literature and creative writing at the University of Missouri. He is an accomplished poet whose writing has appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly*, the *Paris Review*, the *New Republic*, *Books & Culture*, and *Image*. He was recently named a Guggenheim Fellow.

 HarperSanFrancisco
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