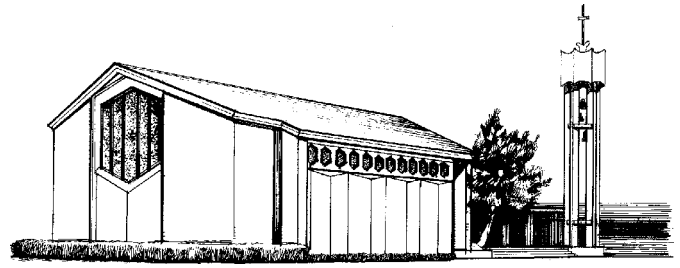


Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 11, No. 13 April 4, 2005

The teaching church

It is widely acknowledged that some of the best facilities for healthcare in this country include Johns-Hopkins, the Mayo Clinic, Parkland Hospital, and the MD Anderson Cancer Clinic in Houston. The world's leading medical professionals, caregivers, and researchers are found at these hospitals. They are working to find cures for disease, to promote hope for the ill and their families, to encourage healthy lifestyles, and of course to provide care for their patients. But that is not all. These hospitals have something else very important in common. They are widely known as "teaching hospitals." These and many other healthcare facilities accept the best and brightest medical students as residents and interns, teaching those men and women the latest and best in medical technology and medical care. It has often been said, "For the best care, go to a teaching hospital."

While our congregation has never labeled itself as such, Spring Valley United Methodist Church is a "teaching church," in much the same way that these hospitals are teaching hospitals. Each member of our present staff has benefited from the teaching attitude of our church in one way or another. You have sent us to seminars, continuing education classes, and field trips. You have supported Anna Hosemann-Butler in her ministry residency by providing a review committee. You have also continued to support her doctoral work. You have supported me in my studies at Perkins School of Theology at SMU. You also allowed me to do my internship here, and provided an internship group that is actually named the "Lay Teaching Committee."

In his book "The Teaching Church," Eugene Roehlkepartain writes that there are five crucial elements that enhance faith growth through Christian education. They are 1) A Thinking Climate, 2) Quality of Worship, 3) A Sense of Family, 4) Service to Others, 5) and a Warm Climate. He writes that the warm climate reflects a church's attitude toward not only members, but also to visitors. Considering Spring Valley, we must add the congregation's attitude toward the staff. Because of your teaching attitude toward the staff, the staff is better equipped to share this ministry with you. Because you want each staff person to fulfill God's gifts and graces, we are able to promote hope for you and your families through the proclamation of the Risen Christ. We are able to promote a lifestyle of healthy living through prayer and service to our neighbors. We are able to provide loving care and pastoral guidance for each of you. Spring Valley is a teaching church. I know that some of you have invited your friends and co-workers to worship with you. You have said, "For spiritual enrichment and to grow your relationship with God, go to a teaching church. I know just the place."

Frank Rahm

Business Administrator accepts new position

It is with a heavy heart that I must inform the Spring Valley faith community that I have accepted a job offer with another company. I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity of working here at SVUMC. The confidence you have shown in me by allowing me to try to implement your administrative goals has been both challenging and gratifying. I have met and grown to love many of you, and for this I will always owe a debt of gratitude. I have learned from the example, counsel, and collegiality of the church staff; and I am indebted to them, as well.

May the Lord continue to bless and keep Spring Valley United Methodist Church; may he make his face to shine upon SVUMC, and give SVUMC peace. You will forever be in my prayers.

Thank you for this experience. *Brian Emslie*

United Methodism class continues

The United Methodism class, led by Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, meets at 9:45am. Topics include an overview of the organization of the Church, its history, missional activities and doctrine. The class will meet through April in Room 210 (upstairs in the East Wing), and is sponsored by the "Friends" class. Anyone who is new to the United Methodist tradition, or who would like to learn more about our common faith heritage is invited to attend.



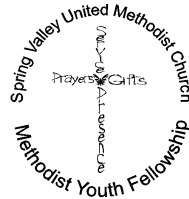
Next "Second Helpings" is April 13

Scott Donovan, an expert in biomedical ethics, will speak on April 13 for the monthly "Second Helpings" event. He will talk about "What does our DNA tell us about God?" "Second Helpings" is a monthly time of food, fellowship and learning, held on the second Wednesday of every month. Dinner is served at 5:30pm, followed by a program at 6:30.

What's up for YOUth...

Sunday, April 10

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship
1:00 pm Return from the retreat (tentative)



No youth activities this afternoon due to the Spring Spiritual Retreat.

Big Thanks to Heather Sumner & Emily King, who led our Easter celebration session called "From Nails to Fish." It was terrific and a great illustration of how life can bend us and weaken us, but our baptism in Jesus Christ strengthens us and gives us new shape!

Church Camp!! If you are in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade this year, you are invited to Junior High Camp this summer at Lake Bridgeport. We will participate in JH Camp 2, from June 27-July 2. The cost is \$240. This is a North Texas Conference event, so there will be youth from Methodist churches throughout North Texas. To register, go to <http://www.bridgeportcamp.com>, or see Frank in the youth office.

Mark your Calendars:

April 16 - Youth Singers Perform "Star" at Appletree Court

April 20 - Genesis Women's Shelter, 6:30-8:30 pm

April 24 - WhirlyBall!

May 1 - Senior Recognition Sunday

UMW meetings planned for April 11

The April UMW meetings are on Monday, April 11, in Asbury Hall. The daytime group meets for lunch at 11:30. Myrna Ridings will speak on Spring Valley's Stephen Ministry program. The evening group meets at 7:15pm. Stacy Ellis, Executive Director of Wesley Rankin, will talk about volunteering and the services offered there.



The UMW Spring Banquet is May 9, 6:30pm, in Wesley Hall. The hat lady, Pat Crenshaw, will be our program. Call by May 4 for reservations.

A church workday "thank you" from the trustees!

Thank you to all of the dedicated volunteers who participated in the church workday a few weeks ago. It was a busy morning of cleaning, painting, raking, planting, etc. All of it was performed in good fellowship with one another. Ever so often it's good to take care of those odd jobs that require a few extra hands. This is especially true when "company" is coming; and, thanks to your efforts, our grounds and facilities were in shipshape condition for Easter services. Your enthusiasm and hard work were much appreciated.

Steve Taylor, Chair

Join the Seekers' trip on April 23

Join the Seekers on a trip to Granbury to see the play "Forever Plaid," on Sat., April 23, from noon to 8pm. The cost is \$30 per person (\$15 for the charter bus, \$15 for the theater ticket). We leave at noon from SVUMC, get to Granbury for the 2pm show, shop from 4-5pm, depart to Chop 'n Block barbecue restaurant for dinner (\$5.95 per person to go through the line or order from the menu). Cost of the dinner is up to you! We'll get back to SVUMC at 8pm. Call Jeanne Hunter, 214-348-1704, for details.

Noteworthy news Upcoming Music



Apr. 10

8:30, 11:00 Carillon Ringers, *Fantasy #3 in G Minor & Allegro Glorioso*

11:00 Chancel Choir, *I Am His Child*

Apr. 17

8:30, 11:00 Chamber Singers, *Go Out With Joy* and *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

8:30 Chamber Singers, 11:00 Chancel Choir

April 24

Ladies Ensemble, *When We All Get to Heaven*
Chancel Choir, *I Hear Thy Welcome Voice*

The children are getting ready...

Costumes are being designed, music is being learned, and drama lines are being memorized, as the children's choirs work on their spring musical, *Esther-Ordinary Faith*, to be presented in Wesley Hall on Sunday, May 15 at 6:30pm



Rehearsals are held each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30pm (we gather between 6:15 and 6:30pm), upstairs in the adult Sunday School wing.

It is never too late to become part of the choir. The door is always open, and every child has a special part and a costume. So join us, as we learn the story of Esther, Mordecai, King Xerxes, Haman, Xerox, the scribe, and Esther's "Extra-Ordinary" faith!

An apology...

The flower dedications were accidentally left out of the Sunday traditional service bulletin. One of the beautiful arrangements was in honor of Pat and Oliver Axtell's 50th wedding anniversary and given by their children and grandchildren. The other arrangement was in honor of Jo and Roger Martens' 24th wedding anniversary.

I want to congratulate both of these great couples and say I am so sorry for the absence of an acknowledgment in the bulletin. These are wonderful milestones, and I will try to do better in the future. Love in Christ, *Jo Alice Patton*

Richardson NETWork of Community Ministries

April 10 is our Sunday to donate non-perishable food to our local agency serving persons residing in RISD. Help keep the food pantry stocked with nourishing items for those down on their luck. Monetary donations are also welcome and can be left in the business office or placed in the collection plate. Your generosity is appreciated! For formation about NET, call Rev. Don Barnes, 972-818-2523 or Georgia Goodrum, 972-235-9855.



Blood Drive April 17

It's 5pm and even though your household is on the "No Call List," the phone rings and it's Carter BloodCare asking you to donate because blood reserves are dangerously low. Do you dismiss the call in the same way as when "XYZ Charity" phones and asks you to put out some items for their thrift store?

Having sufficient blood is indeed a life and death issue! Spring Valley is in partnership with Carter BloodCare to help our congregation by offering a convenient location to donate. We also can assist if a church member needs blood by donating our "blood credits."

Sign up next Sunday in the hall and schedule a time convenient for you. The hours are 9am-2 pm. Volunteers are also needed to help on April 17. Information is available at the sign-up table or call Pat Hill, 972-669-3915. The website is <http://www.carterbloodcare.org>.

Austin Street Centre needs you

Mother always said that a good breakfast was the best way to start the day! For the 350+ men, women, and children who stay nightly at this downtown homeless shelter, any food is the best way to start the day. Our church provides breakfast once a quarter, consisting of sandwiches, fruit, juice, and hard cooked eggs, all sprinkled liberally with our Christian love. Just as Christ taught us, we are putting scripture into action by sharing what we have with the homeless.

Steve and Dana Taylor are the Spring Valley leaders and can answer your questions. Stop by the sign up table in the hall on Sunday or call 972-234-9867. For additional information go to: <http://www.austinst.org>.

Help a Habitat home happen!

Board by board, a dream is coming true at 4311 Metropolitan, near Fair Park. Soon lumber and other materials will be plastered, painted, polished and made into a home for Mr. Clarence Johnson and his family. Next week, read Mr. Johnson's story.



The Habitat build schedule has been revised. We will not work on April 23 as originally planned. Spring Valley is now scheduled to provide lunch on May 7. April 23 is no longer a work day for Richardson Interfaith volunteers and Spring Valley UMC.

To volunteer your services, stop by the Habitat table in the hallway near the church office. Maps and driving directions to 4311 Metropolitan are there, as well as the construction schedule. Questions regarding this build may be directed to Bill Boyer, 972-661-2570.

Join us for Sunday school

Aldersgate Class - Room 206-08

Robert Gross will teach each Sunday in April using the theme of "The Life of Christ."

Apr. 10 - Who Is Jesus? - The Book of Hebrews

Apr. 17 - The Second Coming

Apr. 24 - Where Jesus Walked - A Photo Tour of the Holy Land

Christian Parenting - Room 210

This class will begin a study of Dawn Billings' book, *Greatness and Children*, on April 10. The study will continue through April 24.

Parents of Teenagers - Room 192

All interested parents are invited to attend. This class is designed to be a fellowship and support group for parents of teenagers.

Wesleyan Class - Dining Room

Apr. 10 - Paul's Lists

Apr. 13 - Lunch at Dos Rios at 11:30am

Apr. 17 - Don Bowen - "Paul's Lists"

April 17 is the last class meeting. Although classes have life cycles, this is a sad time because the Wesleyan Class was the charter adult Sunday school class at SVUMC. The members will be visiting other Sunday school classes after the 17th.

Common Ground worship slated

11am, Sundays in Wesley Hall

Sunday, April 10 - Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler preaches on Luke 24:13-35, the "Walk to Emmaus." Sermon title is "Wake Up and Smell the Coffee."

Sunday, April 17 - Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler preaches on the book of Acts 2:27-42. The sermon title is "Learning to Live Together."

Sunday, April 24 - Common Ground will celebrate the gifts and lives of Spring Valley UMC's graduating high school seniors. Special music will be provided by *Risen*, the Youth Praise Band, and the bell choirs.

Thank you to Miriam Bruton...

Have you noticed the new stained-glass window brochures in the sanctuary? If so, please take a moment to thank Miriam Bruton, who donated the printing costs for the new brochures.



Joys and concerns

Call Alice Cromwell, 972-239-7332, or email her at dallasal@swbell.net for any prayer concerns.

These concerns will stay on the list for two weeks unless otherwise requested.

Hospitals

Carson Tucker

SVUMC Church Family

Carol Robertson

Audrey Rozelle

The Maddison family

Ted & Catharine Gebhardt

Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Betty Hopper's son, Gary

Bethann & Steve DeFoe's mothers

Steve Baxter's brother, Scott

Jan Hudgins' grandmother, Beth Mayberry

Tom & Donna Campbell's friend, Gary Wilson,
and daughter, Ashley

John Dvorak's son and daughter-in-law,
Johnny & Lillian

Kathy Watson's friends, Sheila & David Heal,
and their daughter, Kathryn Hostetler Heal

Jo Alice Patton's friend, Sandy Frank

Betty Reichel's son, the Bielling family

Gerry Broome's father, George Gordon

All persons serving in the military

Our missionaries, the Savutos

Slany United Methodist Church

Those with ongoing concerns

Congratulations to:

Ray and Edna Hennigh on the birth of
a granddaughter, Sadie Marie