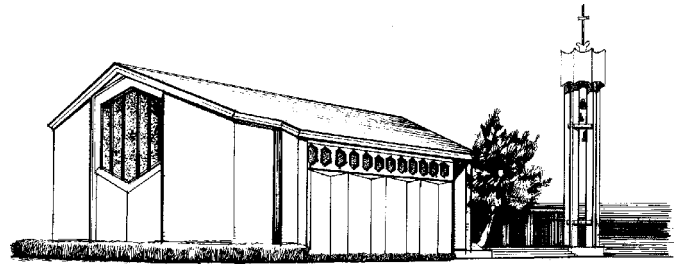


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 18 April 12, 2004

Genesis Women's Shelter of Dallas offers a new beginning

The Genesis Women's Shelter of Dallas exists to provide quality safety and shelter to battered women and their children through crisis intervention and short-term crisis therapeutics, and to reduce the occurrence of violence against women and children in the greater Dallas area. They are committed to raising the level of community awareness regarding the pervasiveness and effects of domestic violence. Spring Valley UMC member Nori Neuner shares the following story:

"I met Hope when she interviewed for a part-time job. She was very soft-spoken and extremely shy but assured me she would do a good job. She did, and has since been promoted to a full-time position with an affiliated company, has good benefits, owns a car and is in the process of building her first home. She is a true success story.

"Hope doesn't discuss her past or troubles, only looking to the future. An employment agency contributing its time and efforts to help the women of Genesis sent her to me. I don't know what led her there, but one day she took her three young children and sought the help and support of Genesis. Genesis provided her with shelter and the basic necessities and then provided her with clothing for interviews and childcare when she was looking for a job. When she was employed, Genesis provided her with a professional work wardrobe and childcare. As soon as she was back on her feet financially, she bought a car and moved into an apartment. From there, she applied for and was accepted by the Habitat for Humanity Program. Her new home will be ready later this spring.

"For me, Hope is my first experience with Genesis and is the face of Genesis and what it hopes to achieve with every woman that comes through its doors. Genesis helped her make good choices to turn her life in a positive direction. She is proud and still quite shy, but she is a good mother, a hard-working employee and well-liked and highly regarded by those who know her. She is a positive person who has taken advantage of the resources available to her so that she has the life for her children that she had always hoped for. It's good when good things happen to good people - and she, with the help of God and Genesis, did it. Now it's our turn to help Genesis so they, with God's help, can continue contributing to success stories such as this."

We thank Nori for sharing this inspiring story of courage and new beginnings. As Easter people, Spring Valley Youth and Missions Core Group

will be conducting a drive to benefit the women of Genesis Women's Shelter and their children. During the next Sundays--April 25, May 2, and May 9--we will collect summer toys and swimwear for children, ages infant to teen. Many fun playthings can be purchased for just a few dollars, even a new hula-hoop is less than a dollar. We will also collect clean, gently used clothes, shoes, and jewelry suitable for job interviews. If you have business suits or business dresses that can serve this purpose, we ask that you have them cleaned and brought to the church on those Sundays. We will deliver all of these things to the shelter on Saturday, May 15.

UMW Spring Banquet is May 10

Mark your calendar for 6:30pm, Monday, May 10, for the United Methodist Women's Spring Banquet in Wesley Hall. Pat Crenshaw, Director of Music and Senior Adult Ministry at Kessler Park UMC, will entertain. A talented musician and performer "with hats and props in tow," she is "guaranteed to make you laugh out loud again and again." Tickets are \$10 and include dinner and entertainment. See Betty Hopper or Barbara Zoeller for tickets.

Children's mission project is a success

Did you take one of the Heifer Project Arks home? If you did, please return your filled ark by Sunday, April 18, to the basket on the table around the corner from Jan's office. The money will be counted next week and sent to Heifer Project International. Thank you for your support of this important mission!



What's new for YOUTH...

Spring Spiritual Retreat Friday-Sunday,

April 16-18.

On Friday, meet at church at 5:30pm and bring your sack supper. We return about 3pm on Sunday.

Sunday, April 18, 2004

9:45am Sunday School

11am Sanctuary or Common Ground Worship

Afternoon: There are NO youth choir or fellowship activities this Sunday afternoon.

Registration forms are On-Line! Registration forms for Spring Spiritual Retreat 2004, ASP 2004, and Colorado 2004 are all available at the church website. Go to www.svumc.org/Education/Youth. We are now filling the "waiting list" for ASP.

In Sunday School, we have completed our first six-weeks in our "Heart" classes. The second section starts on April 25. There is still plenty of space available if you have not registered for the second class yet. On April 18, those who are not on the retreat will meet for Sunday School and will visit some of the adult Sunday School classes to announce the summer toy/swimwear drive for Genesis Women's Shelter. This collection of summer toys and swimwear for the children at Genesis Women's Shelter will also include collection of gently used & cleaned clothes, shoes, jewelry suitable for the women to wear to job interviews and to their new jobs. This is a joint project of Youth and Missions Core Group.

Mark Your Calendars:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| April 16-18 | Spring Spiritual Retreat (Registration form is on line.) |
| May 2 | Senior Recognition Sunday |
| July 9-18 | Appalachia Service Project (Registration form is on line.) |
| July 31-Aug 6 | Colorado Easter Seals Trip (Registration form is on line.) |

Calling all children 4 years - 6th grade!...

...to be part of the "I Witness News" team visiting with Joshua and Caleb and witnessing the Battle of Jericho. Our children's choirs are working every Wednesday from 6:15 to 7:30 on this exciting spring musical, which will be presented in Wesley Hall on Mother's Day evening, May 9. All children are invited to be part of our news team. See you there!

Car Wash

Church Parking Lot on every Wednesday, 10-4

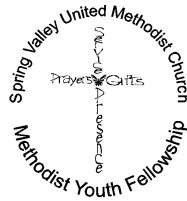
Wash & Dry, \$6

Wash, Dry & Vacuum, \$20

Detail & Wax, \$49

Benefitting the SVUMC Hispanic Ministry Missions Projects

972-239-9440



Getaway offered to Puerto Rico



There's still a chance for you to go to the Caribbean!

John and Jeanne Larranaga have made available to Spring Valley a wonderful week's getaway to Puerto Rico!

The 3-bedroom, 2-bath island condo also has a queen sleeper sofa in the living room, providing accommodations for 8. Central air conditioning, cable TV, balcony, telephone, and furnished kitchen are all part of the condo's amenities.

"The Mediterranean-style villas of Club Cala de Palmas are set on the southeast coast of the island, overlooking the Caribbean. Nestled within a resort community, facilities include two championship golf courses, a multiplex tennis center, swimming pools, a fitness center, jogging trails, boat marina, riding stables, three miles of beach, shopping, salons, and numerous restaurants and lounges. It is just a 45-minute ride from San Juan."

This wonderful Caribbean getaway is available from Saturday to Saturday, May 15-22. If you would like to make a gift to the church and enjoy a wonderful week in Puerto Rico, please contact Larry George for details.

The SVUMC Preschool celebrates Tony's birthday

Tony Holiday receives a birthday present from the children in our pre-school for his birthday, April 5.



Spring Valley receives award from VNA

At their annual volunteer recognition on April 29, the Visiting Nurse Association will recognize Spring Valley UMC for all its contributions. Spring Valley has driven a Meals-on-Wheels route since 1973. For the last two years we have driven two routes - one in Richardson and one in South Dallas. David Booth is the coordinator for the church routes.



For 14 years, Spring Valley has hosted the annual December Holiday Project in Wesley Hall. During the four-day workshop, volunteers sort, wrap, and package personal care products for over 2,500 elderly or disabled persons receiving home-care services. Many volunteers are church members. Myrna Ridings is the chair for the Holiday Project.

If you have ever participated in these activities, you are invited to attend the coffee: Spotlight on Volunteers: VNA's Shining Stars

Thursday, April 29 from 10:00-11:30am

Northway Christian Church, 7202 W Northwest Highway, Dallas

VNA greatly appreciates the contributions of Spring Valley and its members.

Czech Republic speaker

Jana Krizova, a Lay Leader for United Methodists in the Czech Republic, will speak at Christ United Methodist Church, Farmers Branch, on April 21, 7pm, following a dinner at 6pm. Our sister church in Slany is in the Czech Republic. For more information, call Neil Williams, 972-238-5608, and we will carpool to hear Jana.

Seeker Class will celebrate 40 years

The Seeker's Class is planning a birthday party on May 1 & 2 to celebrate 40 years together as a "Family of Friends." All former Seekers and former Spring Valley pastors and wives are also invited to this reunion. If you were ever a member of the class, you are invited. Planned activities are:

May 1, Saturday, 6pm - Dinner (on your own) at Spring Creek Barbeque in a private room.

May 2, Sunday, 9am - Fellowship will begin as we gather in Seeker Room 201.

Class begins at 9:45am; Dr. Don Benton will teach that day.

We will attend worship at 11am; a block of seats will be reserved.

At 12 noon, there will be a catered luncheon in Asbury Hall.

For information and reservations, call Joyce Boyer, 972-661-2570, or Jolene Harper, 972-235-6154. *Reservations are needed by April 25.*

April UMW meeting is after Easter

Our next UMW meeting is April 19. Our speaker is Frank Rahm, Youth Director, who will talk about youth activities and youth mission projects. Lunch is at 11:30; the program will begin at 12:15.



The response was wonderful for the Wesley Hall kitchen shower! We now have new small appliances, pots and pans, new linens, and many new utensils. A great big thank you to all in our congregation who have helped us.

Noteworthy news

April 18

8:30 and 11:00, *I Am His Child*

Jo Martens, Alice McElroy & Patti Malone, trio

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Kyrie* by Dvorak from "New World Symphony"



Sunday School news...

Aldersgate Class

April 18 - Roger Boldt will talk about Spring Valley's Stephen Ministry.

Beacon Class

Beacon Class Series, April 18 - May 30

April 18 - "But the Greatest of These is Love"

April 25 - "Revolutionaries, Reactionaries, and Reconcilers"

May 2 - "Houses or Homes"

May 9 - "The Inner Light and the Outer Glow"

May 16 - "The People of God"

May 23 - "Faith: Form or Force"

May 30 - "Great Religion and a New Pentecost"

Seekers Class

April 18 - "The Unauthorized Bible," by Gary Holthaus, will be presented by Bill Hunter.

April 25 - Dr. James Caswell, VP of Student Affairs at SMU, will speak on current students' interests, concerns, and the administration's coping.

Wesleyan Class

April 18 - Gene Harrell, The Resurrected Life -

April 25 - Gene Harrell: To be determined

May 2 - Dan Kasten: To be determined

This month's luncheon is at Eduardo's at Arapaho and West Shore (SE corner) on Wednesday, April 14, at 11:30am.

New college class begins on May 16

If you have children in college, or friends in college, or you know somebody in that age group, please spread the word: we are reigniting our college class starting Sunday, May 16. This will be an opportunity for our young people to reconnect with each other and Spring Valley UMC. In this class, they'll be invited to share their thoughts, feelings, and ideas about the world they are inheriting and how their faith might shape their world.

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.

SVUMC Church Family

Michael Simonsen
Dillon Tucker
Keith Kakacek
Catharine Gebhardt
Gerry Broome
Bob McGuire
Tommi Ezell
Randy Smith
Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Buz LaFrano's stepmother, Sue LaFrano
Paul & Debbie Ledbetter's niece, Amy Downing
Tom & Nancy Purcell's son, Bryan
Terri Hawkins' friends, Paula, Lynn & Zeb
Lola & Burt Copeland's friend, Lucas Raney
and family
Lori Johnson's fiance
Tricia Smith's friend, Josh DeVous
Terri Hartman's friend's son-in-law, Shaun Edwards
Herb Lee's father, Ed Lee
Forest and Sue Cummings' friend, Patti Roberts
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
Those with ongoing concerns

Deepest sympathy to:

Cynthia Pharr Lee and family in the death
of her father, J. C. Ivy
Betty Hopper and family in the death of
her friend, Jo Kay Gary