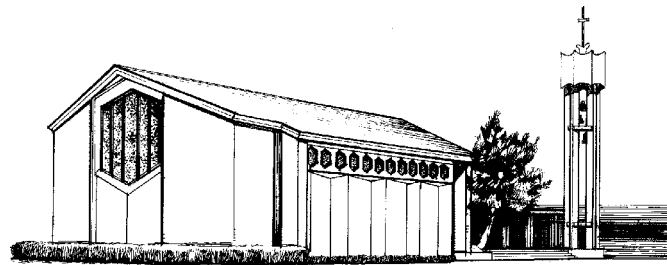


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 9, No. 25 August 4, 2003

Colorado youth trip is a great experience!

Once again, Spring Valley Youth have answered the call of Jesus Christ to love our neighbors. This time, we traveled to help our neighbors in Colorado at Rocky Mountain Village, the Easter Seals Camp of Colorado. Easter Seals provides services to children and adults with disabilities and other special needs, and support to their families. (For more information on Easter Seals, please visit www.easter-seals.org) Once again representing Spring Valley and representing Jesus Christ, our youth acted as camper buddies to the children at the camp who live with challenges ranging from severe autism to Down's syndrome. By lending our loving hand, we lend these children independence, equality, and dignity. The entire congregation can be proud of these youth, just as the youth are grateful to the entire congregation for your support, love, and prayers. As the camp staffers told one of our youth, "You have touched lives this week."

In fact, selecting a photograph to accompany this article was very difficult, as we have so many memories and wonderful images from which to choose. This picture of Colleen Yancy and camper Rachel Dudley says it all. Love was at the camp, and our group helped the campers experience it. In return, the campers reminded us about love in many ways.



Disciple classes set for fall

This year we are offering the New 2nd Generation Disciple Study, *Jesus and the Gospels*. Participants will have required reading and attend a 2-hour class discussion once a week.

Sign-up for all Disciple classes will begin August 10 and classes will start the week of September 15. Call Sara Pair for more information.

Disciple I: This 34-week study of the entire Bible gives students a thorough grounding in stories and scriptures of the faith. Fee: \$35

Disciple II: This 32-week study explores Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Acts. Pre-requisite: Disciple I. Fee: \$35

Disciple III: This 32-week in-depth study explores The Prophets and The Letters of Paul. Pre-requisite: Disciple I. Fee: \$35

Disciple IV: This 32-week study will explore in the Old Testament: Ruth, I and II Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms and Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations and Daniel; and in the New Testament: John, James, Jude and Revelation. Pre-requisite: Disciple I. Fee: \$35

Jesus and the Gospels, 2nd Generation Disciple Study: This new 30-week study concentrates on the portraits of Jesus that emerge from the four Gospels. Pre-requisite: Disciple I. Fee: \$35.

Christian Believer: This 30-week class explores classical doctrines of the Christian faith. Participants daily read both Scripture and writings of early and modern church leaders and theologians. Fee: \$40.

New adult class meets on Tuesdays through August 19

Paula Tarver is continuing her class on excerpts from Christian writers, such as C.S. Lewis and Henri Nouwen, to see their impact on the church's developing theology. After a meditation to help apply their words to our everyday lives, we will journal our thoughts and plan an action for the week. We meet on Tuesdays, August 12 and 19, from 6:30 to 7:45 in the Library.

The Common Ground service is at 11am during the month of August.

We BET you're SET for NET!

On August 10, the Mission Core invites you to YET another opportunity to fill the hall containers with non-perishable food suitable for donation to Richardson NetWork of Community Ministries. This social service agency serves persons residing in the Richardson School District who are temporarily without funds for food and shelter. Careful screening is part of the interview process.

LET giving to NET be MET with cans, boxes, and containers of nourishing food suitable for adults and children, not a PET.

NET'S DE(B)T'S could disappear if you'd like to SET your monetary gift in the offering plate or the church office.

O.K., GET NET, you BET!

Network's current pantry needs are:

dry beans	rice	cooking oil	cereal
chili	beef stew	canned meats	powdered milk
pasta, pasta sauce	flour	sugar	Jello
baby food	diapers	laundry soap	bath soap
shampoo	deodorant	dish soap	toothpaste
toilet paper	paper towels	Kleenex	

also needed are:

macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly, canned vegetables and fruit, baby food #1 #2 #3, and Similac Formula with and without iron.

Dimes-a-day offering is August 17

There's no vacation time from mission ministry! Though we may be enjoying the more relaxed pace of summer, the need for monetary gifts for missions NEVER takes a day off!

Programs like the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the needs of Slany in the Czech Republic, and Habitat for Humanity continue to look to us for financial support. The Mission Core, on behalf of the recipients, is grateful for your support.

Habitat for Humanity

Construction on the next Habitat house starts on September 6. Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat will be partnered again with First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, which has asked the 2nd Baptist Church of Garland to also join us.

The build is on an aggressive 9-week schedule beginning on Saturday, September 6, and continuing September 10, 11 and 13 of the next week. The rest of the build days will be on Saturdays. The address is 4050 Vine Maple in Greenleaf Village where we built the last house. We will have a sign-up table near the church office beginning August 17. For more information, contact Rhonda Huser at 972-788-1288, or Bill Boyer at 972-661-2570.



Noteworthy news...



Upcoming Music

Sunday, August 10

8:30 Men's Choir, *I Surrender All*
8:30 and 11:00 Thiaga Nasciemento, piano
11:00 Chancel Choir, *Servants of Peace*

Sunday, August 17

8:30 and 11:00 Ellis Ozley, solo
11:00 Chancel Choir, *O Clap Your Hands*

Sunday, August 24

8:30 Choral Ensemble, *The Lord Is My Shepherd*
11:00 Chancel Choir, *The Lord Is My Shepherd*
Katie Ledbetter, oboe

Choir registration is August 24

There is a place for you in the music ministry of our church. You do not need to know how to read music. The only qualification you need is that you are grateful to God for God's many blessings. You will find warm fellowship and support in the music groups, as well as receiving the satisfaction that only comes in service to God as you help lead in worship through music. We have groups for all ages and experience levels and a wonderful team of leaders. Sign-up on August 24!

There are many musical groups to choose from:

Chancel Choir~

Adults & Youth, Director – Rusty King

Youth Singers~

Youth Director – Rusty King

Common Ground Praise Band~

Adults by audition, Director – Daniel Milner

Joyful Singers~

Grades 4 through 6, Director – Paula Huffaker

Carol Choir~

Grades 1 through 3, Director – Paula Huffaker

Cherub Choir~

4- and 5-year olds, Director – Nancy Guerra

SVUMC Orchestra~

Adults/Youth, Director – Rusty King

Carillon Ringers~

Adults by audition, Director – Rusty King

Carillon Ensemble~

Adults, Director – Rusty King

Youth Ringers~

Youth Director – Rusty King

Joyful Ringers~

Grades 4-6, Director – Michael McElroy

Carol Ringers~

Grades 1-3, Director – Michael McElroy

Bible breakfast--is it for you?

The longest-running Bible study class at Spring Valley United Methodist Church is the Thursday Morning Bible Breakfast, a tradition that began in 1960 and has since continued with the same format. Both men and women are welcome in this group. We gather in Asbury Hall at 6:30 AM (yes, that early!) to find that some of our members—currently Gene Harrell and John Dvorak—have provided breakfast for us.

After breakfast someone reads a few verses from the book of the Bible that we are studying at the time. (Right now it is Second Corinthians.) Then we discuss the reading, doing our best to interpret what the writer meant to say and moreover how it applies, and has applied, to our lives. We make no assignments for outside study other than the portion of the Bible we are to read at the next meeting.

Whoever wishes to can lead a study session. Oliver Axtell does so often these days. Dick Matthews is also a frequent discussion leader. For guidance we employ commentaries. We have come to realize that our goal is not to discover exactly what the sentences mean but rather to enrich our understanding of God.

We have also come to realize that we can learn valuable lessons about God from the thoughts and experiences of our friends—thoughts and experiences that we would not likely divulge to one another without God's Word to stimulate us.

Discussion ends at 7:25 with prayer. Class is dismissed at 7:30 sharp. Those who need to get to work leave at that time, but those who don't need to get to work often continue to talk, over a second cup of coffee!

We invite you to join us on Thursday mornings as we walk the Way together! For further information, please phone Oliver Axtell at 972-661-1571.

Meals-on-Wheels drivers needed

Our drivers are doing a splendid job in serving our meals-on-wheels clients; but, due to sickness and/or travel, we are in urgent need of drivers as follows:

- 1 or 2 drivers for a Thursday AM route, the third Thursday of the month, on our South Dallas route. It takes about three to three and a half hours.
- 1 or 2 drivers for Wednesday AM, the week each month that has five Mondays, comes up about four or five times a year. It takes about three or three and a half hours, for our East Richardson, West Garland route.

Our clients are mostly elderly and infirm and are most appreciative of our service. If you are interested in caring for these, our neighbors in need, please call Dave Booth, 972-233-1195.

Spring Valley Travelers trips, 2003

November 5-7 - Ozark Fall Foliage

\$419

Call Chris Parton for details at 972-239-3369.



News about "the move"

The remodeled children's and youth rooms are scheduled to be ready for occupancy on August 17. If you can help with remodeling these rooms or just moving furniture, please call the church office and we'll put you in touch with the "room captains."

From the Trustees...

We still need help in the following areas:

drywall *electrical*
carpentry *concrete*
roof *painting*

If you can help with this important ministry, call the church office.



Seekers class

August 10 - Bob Dorsey will speak on teaching religion at the State Prison in South Dallas County.

August 17 - We will visit with "sprouts" and learn about what is going on their lives.

August 23 - We will meet our newest members: Jan and Chuck Apthorp and Bill Pool and others.

August 30 - Rev. Dick Schaefer will be our speaker.

Beacon class

"CARE"-actors in the Book of Acts

The story of the leaders of the early "Jesus" Movement and how their lives impact us as we seek to be "followers of Jesus" in the 21st Century.

August 17	The First Christian Martyr
August 24	The Light that Waits for You
September 7	A Chosen Instrument
September 14	A Good Man
September 21	Philip, the Ideal Evangelist

Join us in Asbury each Sunday at 9:30am as John Dvorak leads this series dealing with characters (CARE-actors) in the Book of Acts.

Aldersgate class

Sunday, August 10

Cynthia Pharr will be leading the class in discussion on "The Treatment of Women" from the book, "Jesus Confronts Today's Controversies."

Sunday, August 17

The class will "commission" the Aldersgate Guatemala Mission Team.

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

Sue Cummings

Frances Ward

Jean Bragg

Dottie Cheek

Georgie Ann Davis

Carol Robertson

Bryan Purcell

Roselyn Douglas

Bob Hitch

Homebound members

Congratulations to:

Karen Sumner and family
on the marriage of her son,
Brian, to Carrie Smith

Extended Church Family

Kathy Brunson, former member

Susan Kasten's father

Floy Naugle's husband, Russell

Burt & Lola Copeland's friend,

Jan Wintermeier

Tricia Smith's friend, Chester Thomas

George Reese's son, George

Paula Huffaker's neighbor, Bev Johnson

Joyce Boyer's cousin, Janet Engelbert

Lola Copeland's uncle, Don Sederns

Beth Copeland's sister, Dorothy Garrett

and Beth's friend, Parkes Dibble

Guy Garrett's mom, Margaret

Those with ongoing concerns

Our Missionaries, the Savutos

Slany United Methodist Church

Sympathy to:

Joanna Shampine and family in the death of
her sister-in-law, Jo Thomason

Linda Holstien and family in the death of her
cousin, Anne Hutto

the Bart Rath and Curt O'Neal families on the death
of their daughter and granddaughter

Thank you...

(The following note of gratitude was offered in appreciation for emergency assistance provided to one of our church families through our communion Sunday special offerings.)

Dear SVUMC,

Words are few to write and express our gratitude for your support, otherwise it would take several pages. We appreciate all you do in our difficult times. We do believe with God "all things are possible." May God continue to bless, guide, and protect you as you touch several wearied hearts.