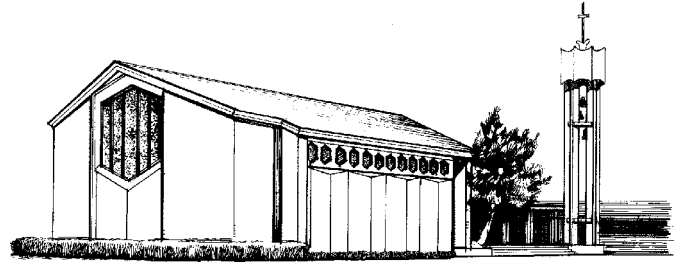


Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 10, No. 48 December 6, 2004

Two Christmas Invitations

Sunday, December 12 ~ 2 - 5pm

Members and friends of Spring Valley United Methodist Church are cordially invited to an **Advent Open House at the Parsonage**. This is Mickey and Larry George's annual Christmas card to the congregation, an opportunity to exchange greetings of the season and to offer gratitude for this wonderful faith community.

The Georges' address is 7123 Winterwood Lane (two blocks south of Arapaho, three houses east of Hillcrest). The cookies will be baked; the eggnog will be poured, and we will hope to see you there!

Sunday, December 19 ~ 6pm

Our Spring Valley family of faith is invited to gather in Wesley Hall for an **all-church Christmas dinner**. The menu will include Baked Ham, Holiday Green Beans, Sweet Creamed Corn, Gelatin Salad, Rolls, and Assorted Pies. The cost is \$5/person or a maximum of \$12/family.

After dinner we will enjoy hearing some Christmas songs, singing some Christmas carols...and there will be a special story for the children. Please join us for this opportunity for "the whole family" to be together in this joyous season!

MORE ADVENT/CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Monday, December 13

6:30pm United Methodist Women's Christmas Dinner in Wesley Hall; tickets on sale, \$10

Friday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

5:00pm Family Christmas Celebration: Children's Musical and Holy Communion in the sanctuary

8:00pm Carols, Candlelight, and Communion with Youth Choir in the sanctuary

11:00pm Carols, Candlelight, and Communion with Chancel Choir and Handbells in the sanctuary

Sunday, December 26

10:00am All-Church Christmas Brunch in Wesley Hall

11:00am All-Church Worship in the sanctuary

Legacy Committee formed

Administrative Board Chair Cynthia Pharr Lee announced at this year's Charge Conference that a Legacy Committee was being formed to seek input with regard to how the generous gift from the A. H. "Dick" and Zoe Thompson estate might best benefit the long-term mission and ministry of Spring Valley United Methodist Church.

That committee has now been named and is eagerly seeking your vision and insights. Over the course of the next several weeks, please speak to a member of the committee and share your ideas of what you see this gift doing in and through Spring Valley, not just now but also for the future.

Committee members are:

Cynthia Pharr Lee, Administrative Board Chair

Frank Andersen, Lay Leader & Finance Chair-elect

Will Tucker, Finance Chair

Bill Hunter, Lay Leader-elect

Guy Garrett, Senior Adult Member At-Large

Steve Taylor, Trustee and Young Adult Member

Larry George, Senior Pastor & Committee Chair

Advent Adventure is a success



Lauren Sandstedt and Shelby Starks

Seventy-five children and adults participated in this year's Advent Adventure for Families. Thanks to chairperson Lisa Phillips and everyone who helped out before and during the event to make it a wonderful time of celebration for the children.

We're still climbing!

Have you made your pledge to help "Extend God's Path" in 2005?

Goals: Pledges 340 Gifts \$1,200,000

As of December 6: Pledges 283 Gifts \$ 928,259



What's Up For YOUTH

Sunday, December 12

- 7:30am Youth Ringers & Youth Singers arrive for
8:30 am Sanctuary Worship
9:45am Sunday School
11am Worship
3:30pm Youth Ringers
4:30pm Youth Singers
5:30pm \$3 Snack Supper
6-7:30pm UMYF – Open Rec Night. It's finals week. If you need a study break, the youth room will be open for games, music, tv, movies, hanging out, whatever. We'll have pizza and soft drinks available in the youth room starting at 5:30pm.

Big Thanks to Heather Sumner & Emily King! They did a fantastic job leading our spiritual growth night last Sunday as we talked about "Miracles."

Best Wishes to ALL students who are preparing for those semester finals!

Our December visit to Genesis Women's Shelter has been moved to Wednesday, Dec. 29. We'll leave the church at 6:30pm, and we'll return at 8:30pm. Please make plans to join us.

Mark your Calendars:

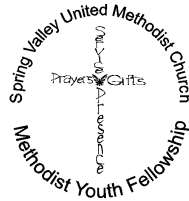
- Dec 24 Youth Ringers & Youth Singers in the 8:00 pm worship service
Dec 29 Genesis Women's Shelter, 6:30 p.m.
Jan 12 Genesis Women's Shelter, 6:30 p.m.
Jan 21 Youth Singers rehearsal, choreography, ½ lock-in
Jan 30 Mardi Gras Madness!!

"Amahl and the Night Visitors" tickets available Dec. 12

Richard Etheridge, Dave Jones, Ellis Ozley and Mark McElroy will play the three kings and the page in this production. It is a story about a crippled boy and his widowed mother who are visited by these men on their way to see the Christ child. Performances are Jan. 6, 7, and 8 at 7:30 in Wesley Hall. Tickets are \$10 each and will be available on Dec. 12.

Poinsettias sales end Sunday

The last day to purchase poinsettias from our Youth Singers will be this Sunday, December 12. The plants are \$10 and may be given in memory or honor of a loved one, or given to the glory of God. Proceeds go to the choir mission tour next summer. They will be placed in the sanctuary and Wesley Hall for Dec.19 worship and may be picked up after Christmas Eve services.



Join us for Sunday school

Christian Parenting - Room 210

Dec. 12 & 19 - "Win/Win" from "Habits of Highly Effective Families"

Fellowship Bible Class - Room 214

We always welcome new faces. Everyone is invited. Call Bill or Lou Wilkin, 972-392-1486.

Friends - Room 216

Dec. 12 - The Role of the Stephen Ministry

Dec. 19 - "Something About Mary," what you may not know about the Mother of Jesus, led by Cynthia Pharr Lee

Prodigals Class - Room 212

(formerly the College Class) This class has begun a correspondence ministry with people on active military duty who are connected to Spring Valley. Please call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler at the church, ext. 19, with contact information for additional personnel.

Seekers - Room 200

Dec. 12 - Rev. Dr. Scott Somers, Christmas message

Dec. 19 - Christmas program with Max Taylor and Paula Huffaker

Wesleyan Class - Dining Room

Dec. 8 - Lunch at Bagelstein's at 11:30am

Dec. 12 - Tom Christian, *Holiness*

Dec. 19 - Jim Veach

Dec. 26 - Christmas celebration brunch, Wesley Hall at 10am

Aldersgate Class - Room 206-08

Dec. 12 - Rosemary Rumbley, lecturer, author, etc. will present "Christmas in Texas."

Dec. 19 - Herb Lee will present Lifestyle Questions, the Win-Win lessons extracted from the writings of Dr. David J. Demko, a gerontologist and editor of "Age Venture News Service."

Beacon Class - Asbury Hall

Dec. 12 - Will it happen to you?

Dec. 19 - Stars beget journeys

Mission needs never take a holiday

Though the hungry and homeless, the sick and the old are “with us always,” their plight seems to tug at our heart strings at Christmas. This congregation is a generous caring church and responds to needs of our brothers and sisters. Last week’s suggestions for alternative gifts will simplify your gift shopping. This week the Mission Core Process Group wants to emphasize:

Second-Sunday non-perishable food drive for **Richardson NETWORK**

Third-Sunday **Dimes-a-Day** offering at the chancel rail during worship.



Stephen Ministry profiles Alice Cromwell

Alice Cromwell and her family have been members at SVUMC since

2000. Also, she has many great memories of being a member with her family

here at SVUMC when she was a child.



She graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1980. She taught Physical Education for 12 years at Lake Highlands Elementary School in Dallas. Alice and David have been married for 14 years, and have two wonderful children, Emily and Nicholas.

Alice is a member of the Quest Sunday school class, the adult bell choir, Prayer Ministry and Stephen Ministry at Spring Valley. She also assists with the children’s bell choir. She is involved in her children’s school in the PTA, and also with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts programs.

Alice says, “Stephen Ministry is a big part of my life, and I feel very fortunate to be a part of such a wonderful group of people, including the care receivers as well as the care givers.”

Visiting Nurse Association holiday project is near

Workshop scheduled in Wesley Hall for December 15 & 16

Spring Valley UMC is hosting the annual VNA Holiday Project for the 17th consecutive year! As usual, the activity will fill Wesley Hall with supplies, boxes, wrapping paper, and most important of all, caring dedicated volunteers. Volunteers from the community and from our church jump into what looks like a warehouse and then magically transform plain and ordinary items into prettily wrapped gifts for elderly, isolated, ill, and disabled persons in our community who might not receive other gifts. Gift bags are assembled for nearly 2,800 Meals-on-Wheels clients and 1,300 homebound patients, including hospice patients.



You can participate in two ways. First, we need donations of the following items to complete the gift bags:

white tube socks *3.5-4.5 oz bar soap* *8-13 oz bottle hand lotion*
toothbrush *2.7-4.6 oz tube toothpaste* *8-13 oz bottle shampoo*
wash cloth

10 sheets paper, 5 envelopes, and one pen wrapped together

Secondly, you are invited to come to Wesley Hall and assist in bringing the spirit of the holidays to patients who receive the bags, which also brings the spirit of the holidays to each of you as well! This is a come-and-go activity; bring your friends and family if you like. Refreshments will be served for anyone willing to lend a hand! Times for the workshops are:

Wednesday, December 15

10am to 9 p.m.

Thursday, December 11

1pm to 9 p.m.

Bring Christmas wrapping paper, scissors and tape. Questions? Call Myrna Ridings, 972-231-4435, for additional information.

Two new adult Sunday school classes to begin

Rev. Don Barnes will teach a 10-week course by Philip Yancey entitled *What’s so Amazing about Grace?* beginning on Sunday, Jan. 9, in the Dining Room, and sponsored by the Wesleyan Class. Reservations are needed to have books for everyone.

On Sunday, Jan. 16, a new class for parents of youth will begin and is open to any parent of a teenager. It will be held in Room 192 on the first floor, down the hallway from the children’s classrooms. Contact Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, ext. 19, for details or questions.

"Second Helping" events slated

Wednesday, Dec. 8 - Jill McCollum, Dallas Police Dept. - holiday safety, identity theft, and shopping safety. A tasty meal will be served at 5:30, followed by McCollum’s talk at 6:30. There will be a time for questions and answers during her discussion. Meal reservations may be made by calling the church office. Cost: \$4.50/person; maximum \$15/family. Babysitting is provided.

Wednesday, Jan. 12 - Todd Whitthorne, Dallas television personality, President/CEO of Cooper Concepts, will talk about nutrition and wellness.

"Second Helpings" is a monthly time of food, fellowship, and learning on the second Wednesday of every month throughout the year. A tasty meal is served at 5:30, followed by a topical speaker at 6:30. Childcare is provided, and reservations are required for the meal, which is \$4.50/person, maximum \$15/family. For details, call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, ext. 19.

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:

Fayrene Pospisil

SVUMC Church Family

Oliver Axtell

Terri Hawkins

Frances Ward

The Maddison family

Prissy Shaffer

Alex Huffaker

Elaine Shook

The Hartman Family

Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Stephanie King's brother-in-law's brother,

Wayne Tompkins

Barbara Crockett's brother, Emil Nesuda

Glenna Dodson's son, Jay Wylie

Chris & Lisa Newton's friends, the McDuffies

Gerry Broome's father, George Gordon

Paula Tarver's sister, Martha Jane

Donna & Tom Campbell's friend, Gary Wilson,

and his daughter, Ashley

Rachel Hartman's friend

Dana Taylor's mother, Caren Dumler

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

Don Barnes' cousin, Elizabeth Moore

Kurt McEnaney's father, Dan McEnaney

Jerry and Patti Malone's son-in-law

All persons serving in the military

Our missionaries, the Savutos

Slany United Methodist Church

Those with ongoing concerns

Welcome, new member!

Britt Adams

9050 Markville Dr.

#1131

Dallas, Texas 75234

985-688-9694

