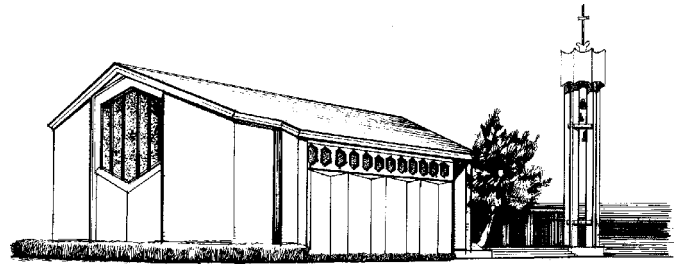


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



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Apportionment computations detailed

Last week's *Behold!* offered an overview of the uniqueness and importance of the apportionments in describing this system of shared financial responsibility as "a distinctive feature of United Methodism." Apportionment giving financially underwrites United Methodist ministry and mission beyond the local church and is a vital expression of faithful stewardship.



But the question remains: How are the apportionments calculated for each local church, specifically for Spring Valley? The answer is actually a two-part decimal: 1/3 membership and 2/3 finance. Here is the procedure:

- 1) The 2003 membership part of our decimal is computed by dividing the total 2001 membership of the Annual Conference (159,652) into the 2001 membership reported by Spring Valley (2,591). This becomes our membership decimal.
- 2) The financial part of the decimal is computed by adding the amounts of the operating expenses we reported in 2001, excluding capital improvements, mortgages, and missions (\$685,733). That total is then divided by the Conference total of the same items (\$58,728,630). This becomes our finance decimal.
- 3) The finance decimal is doubled, and the membership decimal is added to the doubled finance decimal. This total is then divided by three to become our apportionment decimal.
- 4) The apportionment decimal for Spring Valley is multiplied by the Conference total of each apportionment (e.g., World Service Fund, Ministerial Education Fund, Conference Benevolences, etc.) to determine the amount that we are asked to pay toward the apportionment.

Having described the "why" and "how" of the apportionment system, we will begin next week highlighting each of the apportioned ministries that allow all United Methodists to be in mission together.

Our Lenten schedule

At the heart of the Christian faith is our participation in the life, suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ as Lord. During the season of Lent, our focus is on the suffering and death of Christ, as we seek a deeper



Welcome new members!



Robert and Judy Blome
1100 Hilton Dr.
Richardson, Texas 75081

personal commitment to the lordship of Christ and a deeper sense of what it is to be the church, the people of God. Lent is a time for spiritual growth through repentance, fellowship, prayer, fasting, and concentration upon our baptismal covenant. In addition to weekly worship, please join us - and invite others - for these special Lenten offerings:

Wednesday, March 5, 6:30pm

Ash Wednesday Sanctuary Service

Wednesday evenings, March 12-April 9, 6:30pm

"Wesleyan Spirituality: The Sermon on the Mount in John Wesley's Sermons," led by Dr. Scott Somers

Wednesday, April 16, 6:30pm

Taizé Service for Holy Week

Thursday, April 17, 6:30pm

Maundy Thursday Drama and Meal

Friday, April 18, 6:30pm

Good Friday "Behold the Darkness" Service of Shadows, led by the Chancel Choir

Childcare is always available for church-wide services and celebrations, but please call to let Connie Miller know the number and ages of children to expect (972-233-7671 x20).

What's up with YOUTH...

Sunday, March 2

9:45am Common Ground Worship Service

11am Youth Sunday School

3:30pm Youth Singers

5:30pm \$3 Snack Supper

6pm UMYF - We have a special guest speaker for UMYF this Sunday. You may have read about Allison Monroe in the news recently. She is 23 and spent the past year with the Peace Corps, living as a Christian white woman in the Middle East. She has quite a story to share with us. This is indeed a special event, so all youth are encouraged to do everything to make Allison feel welcome. Get those chores and school projects done, so that you don't miss MYF! You'll be glad you did.

A special thanks to Ann Michele King, Amanda Nicholas, and Melissa DeFoe for their hard work for our MYF lesson on *Gossip and Rumors* last Sunday! Great job! And everybody: remember your Rumor Rap!

Sunday Morning: This Sunday, we renew our series on WORK. The lesson is "*How Do I Maintain My Balance?*" Read 1 Peter 4:10 to prepare.

Attention Confirmation Class: On Sunday, March 9, we are going to join the youth at Group Dynamix. Meet at church at 1:30pm. We will return about 5:30pm. Bring \$10, signed permission slip, close-toed shoes. It's a blast!!

Bible study announcement: Our Tuesday evening Bible studies are really special. You are invited to eat with us at 6 and stay for Bible Study at 6:30. We'll meet on March 4 and March 18. See you then.

RETREAT!!! Our annual Spring Spiritual Retreat is only a few weeks away. It's going to be terrific this year, and it's priced right too! Look for registration forms in your mailbox. They'll be there soon.

Mark Your Calendars!! Wow!! There's a lot going on!!

March 9, Group Dynamics, with the Confirmation Class

March 15, Service Saturday for March

April 4-6, Spring Spiritual Retreat - planned and led by Srs. '03. (Seniors planning and leading will become a new tradition at Spring Valley!)

April 26, Amigos Days (Service Saturday for April)

Basic lay speaking course to be offered

Being a Lay Speaker in The United Methodist Church is about responding to God's call through service within your local church. The Lay Speaking Ministries Program starts with the Basic Course, which is designed to introduce you to the necessary spiritual elements of leading, caring, and communicating. The examination of these three essentials is a prerequisite for the remaining courses available through the program.

The Basic Course will be offered March 22 and March 29 at First UMC in Allen, 9:30am - 3pm. Cost is \$13 for registration/fees and should be received by March 1. For further information, see the SVUMC church office or contact Melinda Smith at 972-226-2306 or email her at jbconsults@att.net.



Noteworthy news...

Anthem given in memory

of Michael Cummings

Sue Cummings' sister and brother-in-law, Dr. L.D. & Bettie Redden, made a donation to purchase an anthem in memory of the Cummings' son, Michael.

The anthem will be sung for the first time in the March 2nd worship service at 11am. The title is *Servants of Peace*. The text, written by James Quinn, is a modern paraphrase of the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. The tune was written by K. Lee Scott.

Each time the choir sings *Servants of Peace*, it will be dedicated to the memory of Michael Cummings.

The cast of *Godspell*



Front row: Katie Case, Kay Holstien, Melissa DeFoe, Kim Sumner, Chase LaFrano, Nikki Chapman

Back row: James Wilkin, Danielle Williams, Jon Andersen, Stephanie Chapman, Lauren Parrish, and Drew Hartgraves



Weekday preschool news

We want to thank all of you who supported our major fund-raiser of the year, the Silent Auction. With your help, we made close to \$6000, which we'll use toward refurbishing the bathrooms in the children's wing.

It has arrived...The UMW white elephant and used clothing sale!

Friday, February 28 - 9:30 - 6:00

Saturday March 1 - 9:00 - 2:00



United Methodist Women meeting

The March meeting of the United Methodist Women will be on Monday, March 10. Lunch is at 11:30, and the program will be at 12:15. The program will be presented by Neil Williams, who will give us an update on our partnership with the Slany United Methodist Church in the Czech Republic. We will also have a report on the results of the UMW used-

clothing and white elephant sale. We'll see you there!

Aldersgate class program

Sunday, March 9 - Margaret Zaho, Ph.D, will present "Renaissance Art in the Old Testament." She is an art historian who lectures at area universities and studies frequently in Europe, notably Italy. Please come and enjoy this visual, lively lecture as Margaret explains how artists preserved Bible stories and brought scriptures to life!

Seeker class programs

March 2 - Program Chairman, Bob Crockett, will give a program entitled "In the Beginning."

March 9 - Guest speaker will be Dr. Don Renshaw.

March 16 - Guest speaker will be Nancy Sperando from the Baha'i Faith of Richardson.

March 23 - Dr. Don Barnes will present a program entitled "When you pray, say..."

March 30 - Our guest will be Susan Madison from First Unitarian Church. She will speak on "Unitarian Beliefs and Practices."

Come join us in Room 201. Refreshments and fellowship begin at 9:30am.

Spring Valley Travelers trips for 2003

April 17 - DART rail to the zoo

April 24 - Titanic, the Artifact Exhibit, Oklahoma City

September 27-October 5 - Niagara Falls and Toronto

November 5-7 - Ozark Fall Foliage

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

We depend(s) on you!



Monthly collection for Richardson NET

Depends, diapers, deodorant, detergent. They are essential to personal hygiene, but we take them for granted. Not so, if you "depend" on food stamps to purchase needed items at the grocery store, as they can't be used for non-food items. Persons coming to Richardson NETWORK of Community Ministries often need these items, especially if they are job hunting.

For the March 9 collection (in boxes in the hall), please consider bringing personal care items: toothpaste, toothbrushes, bars of soap, laundry and dish washing soap, baby diapers, adult diapers, etc. Certainly, the need for non-perishable food is always urgent, so appropriate items can be left in the boxes, too. Thanks for your continuing support of this important ministry!

**Calling old cell phones!
Donate them to NETWORK!
Leave them in the basket in the church
office. Thanks!**

Wanted for Habitat:

A person is needed to represent Spring Valley UMC on the board of directors of Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat. For more information, call Habitat board member, Bill Boyer, 972-661-2570.

Habitat Walk-A-Thon was a big success, thanks to all at SVUMC who made contributions and/or walked. Over \$6,500 was raised. These funds will be used to help build homes for deserving families.

Saturday, March 1, we will begin construction on the next home for Maria Escobar and her ten-year old daughter, Maria Felix Escobar. You are urged to participate in this worthwhile mission project which will take about 12 Saturdays to complete and is scheduled to be dedicated on May 31. The Habitat table will be near the church offices March 2. If you want to work on Saturday, March 1, but haven't signed up, call Bill Boyer at 972-661-2570 or by email at bjboyer@ev1.net.

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.

Hospitalized

Gwen Watson, Baylor,
Richardson
Kay Kee, Mesquite
Community

SVUMC Church Family

Bob & Darlene Twiss
Wanda Bettis
Dottie Cheek
Charlotte Muskopf
Gene Mundy
Sandra Guthrie
Ellen Mei
Florence Campbell
Georgie Ann Davis
W.L. Rowland

Extended Church Family

George and Barbara McVay's friends,
Eddie Buford and Karl Young
Judy Hitch's friend, Bill Burch
Lori Johnson's dad, Ron Johnson
Frank Rahm's uncle, Jack Rahm
Glenna Dodson's grandson, Tanner Wylie
Max and Betty Taylor's son, Jeff
Paula Huffaker's neighbor, Bev Johnson
Margaret & Randy Smith's daughter-in-law, Carrie
Chase LaFrano's grandfather, Chuck LaFrano
Homebound members
Those with ongoing concerns
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church

Sympathy to:

Barbara Williams and family in the
death of her brother, Bob Winnick

A Joy:

Florence Lewis returned safely home from
Sierra Leone.