

Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 7 February 16, 2004

Mardi Gras Madness is here!



After weeks of excitement and anticipation, Mardi Gras Madness returns to Wesley Hall, Sunday, February 22.

Not only does Mardi Gras Madness benefit Youth Missions, but it is equally important as a fellowship event in the fabric of community life at Spring Valley. In addition to the wonderful food, colorful atmosphere, and unforgettable entertainment, there will be both silent and live auctions with some terrific offerings. You can

preview these auction items on the Spring Valley UMC website! Simply surf to www.svumc.org <<http://www.svumc.org>>, then click on "events." The direct link is <<http://www.svumc.org/Events/MGM/default.htm>> (The link is case sensitive, so watch those capital letters!) You'll get the details on the one-week stay at a vacation home in Florida or in the Rocky Mountains. Read about the offer for landscaping, or the formal tea, or the day with an artist. Discover the day at the ballpark or the seven day cruise. These are only a few of the remarkable items available for bid in the live auction. The silent auction offers things like sports memorabilia, china, baked goods, and house cleaning and babysitting services.

There are only a handful of tickets still available after worship in the loggia for only \$12, and they are going fast. Get yours now, and we'll see you at Mardi Gras Madness!

"Love & Logic" parenting series begins Sunday

Mickey George will lead a six-week series on *Parenting with Love and Logic* during the Sunday school hour, beginning this Sunday, February 22. This highly successful parenting approach helps children learn through mistakes and teaches them accountability and responsibility. The focus of the class will be for parents of preschool and elementary children.

Ash Wednesday to be observed with stew supper and worship service

Wednesday, February 25, is the beginning of Lent, the 40 days (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday (the day before Easter).

Our observance of this special day will begin with Ben Dickerson's famous "Hopkins County Stew," served from 6 - 6:45pm in Wesley Hall (\$2/youth and adults; \$1/children). Then at 7pm, a service of worship, including the imposition of ashes on the foreheads of worshippers, will be held in the sanctuary. As with all worship services at Spring Valley, childcare will be available.

Welcome to our new member



Grace Truex

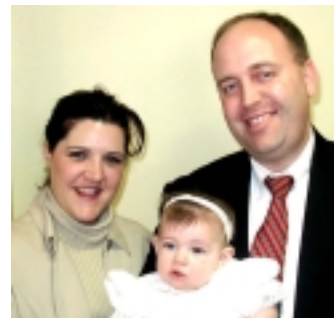
5840 Spring Valley

#201

Dallas, Texas 75240

972-387-4317

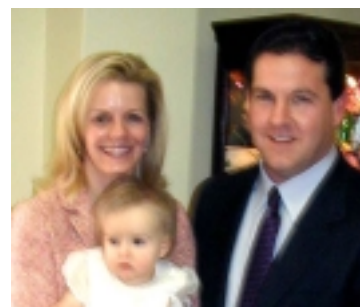
Baptisms on Sunday, February 22



Lauren Kathleen Goree

Born September 17, 2003

Parents are Kathleen and Richard Goree



Mary Katherine Kennedy (Katie)

Born June 23, 2003

Parents are April and Rob Kennedy

Savutos visit Spring Valley on February 22

The Mission Core Process Group is proud to host Bill and Jerri Savuto, as they come to Spring Valley to tell of their journey in Kenya as United Methodist missionaries. They will speak during all worship services this Sunday morning. Be in church to hear them witness to the working of Christ in their lives. The financial support for their work is made possible through contributions of many churches like ours.



The Savutos will also make a more informal presentation to the Seekers Class at 9:45. You are invited to attend that class in Room 201.

Habitat for Humanity Walk-a-Thon on February 28

You have less than two weeks to get in shape for the 11th annual Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat Walk-a-Thon on February 28 at UTD!

Please stop by the Habitat table near the church office Sunday to pick up your pledge form or to learn how you can sponsor an SVUMC walker. Questions about the walk may be directed to Rhonda Huser, 972-788-1288, or Bill Boyer, 972-661-2570.

UMW needs help with kitchen needs

The UMW is sponsoring a kitchen shower for our church kitchen. Some things just wear out, and others have a way of getting lost. At our meeting last week, many members took an item from our shopping list, while others made cash donations. We would appreciate help from anyone in the congregation. If you can make a contribution, please call Betty Hopper, 972-386-4670, or Joyce Boyer, 972-661-2570. Thank you!

Art is ageless

Our Dallas United Methodist retirement community, C.C. Young, is sponsoring an art exhibition, *Art Is Ageless*, on Saturday, February 28, 2 - 3pm, at Lakewood UMC (2443 Abrams Road). The exhibition is open to all older adults, no matter the level of their talent. All are welcome to display their artwork -- handcrafts, paintings, photography, soft crafts, visual arts, prose, poetry -- as long as the entry was completed when they were 65+.

More information and registration forms are available at the SVUMC volunteer desk, or contact Jessica Doman at C. C. Young, 214-827-8080 x3099, no later than Feb. 23.

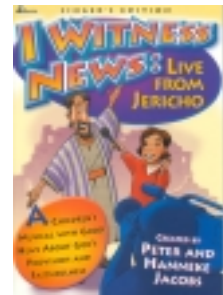
Lenten mission project for children and families

Beginning February 29, children, families, and all church members are invited to participate in Heifer Project International's "Fill the Ark" program. "Fill the Ark" is a daily missions-giving program that spans four weeks. It offers real-life solutions to world hunger, showing that one person, one family, and one congregation can make a difference. As you fill the ark with coins, you'll learn how your gifts can share God's love and help end human suffering around the world. For more information on SVUMC's "Fill the Ark" joint Missions and Children's Ministries project, contact Jan Hudgins at the church. If you would like more information about Heifer Project International and it's efforts to end world hunger, please visit their website at www.heifer.org.

Attention, all Spring Valley children!

Do you like to sing? To be in plays and musicals?

Then children's choir is just the place for you! This year's spring musical is "I Witness News: Live from Jericho," and tells the story of Joshua and the battle of Jericho. All Spring Valley children in 1st--6th grades are welcome to be a part of this very special children's event. There is a part for everyone, and will also include our four and five year-old children as part of this lively story.



Auditions for children in grades 1 - 6 will be held on Wednesday, February 18, at 6:15pm, upstairs in the children's choir rooms. For more information, or for tapes or CD's, contact Paula Huffaker at the church, 972-233-7671, x14, or by email: Phuffaker@svumc.org.

Summer camp registration begins

Summer camp brochures and scholarships are available. Camp dates for kids completing grades 3-5 are: June 22-26, July 27-31, and August 3-7. Children's Music and Arts Camp is June 1-5. For information or registration forms, contact Jan Hudgins. If you register for a camp, please let Jan know!



Vacation Bible School is July 19-23, 9am - noon!

Hero Quest: Powered by Faith will teach children how God's presence and their trust in God becomes the power that makes us into heroes. Registration begins Sunday, May 2. For info, call Elizabeth Wood, 972-385-7601, or Jan Hudgins at church.

Nursery workers are needed

Spring Valley needs two paid caregivers for our church nursery. If you or someone you know loves children and could share God's love with our littlest ones, call Jan Hudgins for information, 214-233-7671, ext. 20. You must be 18 years old+and available on Sundays and some Wednesday evenings. Training is provided.

What's up for YOUTH...

Sunday, February 22

9:45am Youth Sunday School

11am Worship

3pm All Youth arrive to prepare for
Mardi Gras Madness

4:30pm Mardi Gras Madness is here!

Service Saturday, February 21!! Youth Council has decided on some great games to play with the children at Genesis Women's Shelter this Saturday. Please be at the church at 12:30pm. We will return to the church at 3:30pm.

All Youth are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday school each week.

On Sunday, February 29, we begin our "Heart" classes. We will offer four six-week classes. Youth will register for their first two rotations on February 22.

The four classes from which to choose on the 22nd are:

1. "Open Your Heart," taught by George Reese. This is a study of prayer, the privilege we have in prayer, how prayer brings us closer to God, and how prayer changes lives.
2. "Reclaim Your Heart," taught by Pam Reese. This is a study of character. Many of the things God wants us to have been lost to modern culture. We'll talk about reclaiming our own courage, discipline, confidence, patience, endurance, and contentment.
3. "One Heart," taught by Diana White & Courtney Elliott. This is a study love, unity, and Christian community.
4. "A Heart-Stopping Miracle," taught by Jayson White & Frank Rahm. This class will view and discuss a video called "After the Fall." It's an incredible story of recovery, faith, and inner strength.

Mark Your Calendars:

Feb. 21 -- Service Saturday at Genesis Women's Shelter, 12:30pm - 3:30pm

Feb. 22 -- Mardi Gras Madness!

Feb. 28 -- Youth Singers performance of "Joseph" at Appletree Court

Mar. 2 -- Youth Singers performance of "Joseph" at FUMC, Allen

Mar. 14 -- Group Dynamix with the Confirmation Class! Tradition!

Volunteer Appreciation Valentine Brunch is a big success!

Mickey George and Gerry Broome, co-coordinators for Congregational Life, hosted a Valentine's Day brunch honoring several groups of church volunteers, including those who answer the phones, stock the sanctuary pew racks, change the outdoor sign, run the sound systems, produce the Common Ground graphics, and mail the *Behold*.



Sunday School news...

Aldersgate Class

February 22 - Mark and Lynn Solomon lived in Louisiana for 40 years, growing up with the mystique and traditions of Mardi Gras. They saw it, not from the perceived side of the madness, but from the family side that loves to get together and celebrate the life that we have been given. Come and learn about the roots of the Mardi Gras traditions and pageantry from the view of an ordinary citizen.

February 29 - Classroom brunch! Have you been thinking about joining a Sunday school class? Come to our social get-together in our classroom ... with food! In this informal setting, we can answer any questions you may have. Please join us!

Beacon Class

February 22 - "*Climbing Sinai*"

Exodus 3:1-6; Luke 17:20-21

February 29 - "*Time, Tension, Then and Today*"

Acts 17; Ephesians 2:14; Matthew 5-7

Seekers Class

February 22 - Bill & Jerry Savuto, SVUMC's missionaries to Africa

February 29 - Jan Hudgins, SVUMC's Children's Minister

Wesleyan Class

We have three superb speakers for the next 7 weeks.

February 22 - Tom Christian, "Expectations," in preparation for Easter.

February 29 - Rev. Dr. Scott Somers, "Christian Stewardship," based on Jesus' parables

March 7 - Tom Christian, "Waiting"

March 14, 21, & 28 - Don Bowen, "Magic, Miracle, and Folklore"

Noteworthy news

February 22

8:30 and 11:00 Chancel Choir,

Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land

8:30, 11:00 Chamber Singers,

Ain't That Good News

Seasonal Singers are invited to join the Chancel Choir on Wednesdays to rehearse for our Good Friday (April 9) work, *The Seven Last Words of Christ*. The first rehearsal will follow the 7pm Ash Wednesday service on February 25.



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

Tommi Ezell
Kay Kee
Catharine Gebhardt
Keith Kakacek
Betty Williams
Jack McKinster
Beth Copeland
Bob and Rosemary McGuire
Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Doris Smith's sister-in-law, Sue Goodman
Nancy Guerra's mother, Arlene Hatcher
Judy Coke
Jerry Hitt's father
Betty Hopper's friend, Jo Kay Gary
Jeanne Larrañaga's sister-in-law, Carla Moore
Jim & Rachel Edwards' daughter, Erin Dial
Mark Wood's friends, Dillan and Zack
Hamilton and Rhetta Wood

Susan Haney's mother, Yvonne Russell
Paula & Greg Huffaker's neighbor, Dave Johnson
Dan Malin's friend, Craig Christopher
Forest and Sue Cummings' friend, Patti Roberts
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
Those with ongoing concerns