

# Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 5 February 2, 2004

## Stephen Ministers: The After People

Frequently someone will ask, "I know we have Stephen Ministers at Spring Valley, but can you tell me exactly what a Stephen Minister is?" We'd like to explain that Stephen Ministers are "After People."

Stephen Ministers are there:

- ...after you've washed and returned the last casserole dish.
- ...after the divorce papers have been served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ...after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away--and the house suddenly seems incredibly empty.
- ...after you arrive home following the funeral service and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ...after the relationship has ended but the wounds are still bleeding and painful.
- ...after the doctors have said, "There's nothing more we can do."
- ...after the door has slammed shut--for the very last time.
- ...after the phone call you'd always hoped you'd never get.
- ...after you realize the hands on the gold watch you received at your retirement party move more slowly than you ever imagined.
- ...after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ...after the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ...after the baby has arrived, putting more demands on you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ...after you find the pink slip inserted with what is now your final paycheck.
- ...after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the "After People." They are ready to come alongside you, your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives, and provide comfort and support for as long "after" as they are needed. For information about this powerful ministry, call pastors Larry George or Sara Pair at the church, 972-233-7671, or coordinator Myrna Ridings at 972-231-4435.

## "Second Helping" event continues on February 11!

Every second Wednesday of the month, a dinner is served in Wesley Hall at 5:30-6:30pm for a nominal charge (\$4/adults, \$2/children, \$10/family max). Come and enjoy your "second helping" of food and fellowship, followed by an optional program. Mark your calendar for February 11!

## Mardi Gras Madness tickets on sale now!

We are pleased to announce that 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. Along with the wonderful food, colorful atmosphere, and unforgettable entertainment, there will be 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) < <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!) Tickets are available after worship in the Loggia for only \$12 and they are going fast! Buy yours and we'll see you at Mardi Gras Madness!

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## Habitat for Humanity Walk-a-Thon

It's time for the 11th annual Walk-a-Thon benefiting Habitat for Humanity on February 28 at 9am. Registration is at 8:30 in the University of Texas at Dallas parking lot at Floyd Road and Lookout Drive in Richardson. Come by the Habitat table near the church office during the next three Sundays to get your pledge form, or learn how you can sponsor a SVUMC walker. Join us to help Habitat raise funds to build homes. For questions, call Rhonda Huser, 972-788-1288, or Bill Boyer, 972-661-2570.

## Savutos are coming to Spring Valley

On February 22, in our worship services, Bill and Jerri Savuto, our missionaries, will speak about their work. They have recently been reassigned from Kenya to the U.S. and will actually be living in Plano!!

In a recent letter, Jerri wrote the following as they departed Kenya: "Most of all, Bill and I have learned more about God's goodness and love for ALL His children. We daily see miracles of healing on our wards. We marvel at how He uses YOU to fill in the gaps left by poverty and suffering, drought and death, cruelty and fear. We have learned to trust Him with everything and everyone here and there. We have seen the impossible happen over and over. We have been taught by our Kenyan colleagues how to see God's hand in the darkest places and times of our lives. We have learned to be thankful for every day we are given because it is a gift, and there are literally thousands of people of all ages and races, religions and cultures, who do not have the gift of life today. We have learned to rejoice over life and to move on in death.

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity, this time of learning and growing, and experiencing a new world. Our last 5 ½ years have been a tremendous blessing for which we are thankful beyond words.

Our new job will be to work with the conferences, districts and churches in the South Central Jurisdiction ( 8 states--New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 13 conferences and 6,171 churches) to share about the mission work of the UMC and to increase the number of churches who are supporting missionaries and advance special projects. At present the South Central Jurisdiction has the lowest percentage of any jurisdiction in Covenant Giving to Missionaries with only 7.9% of the churches supporting a missionary. What a great opportunity and challenge for us. Please remember we still need YOU, our supporting churches.

Thank you so much for your continued love and support. Knowing you are with us, lighting your candle to show us the Light of God, and loving us in a multitude of ways is a blessing beyond compare. We are so anxious to see you.

In His grip, *Jerri and Bill*

Be here February 22 to hear their inspirational message and meet this terrific couple!

**Dimes-A-Day offering, February 22** Among the many ministries your gifts support is the ministry of Bill and Jerri Savuto. Prayerfully consider your gift and the impact it can have on our outreach program.

## UMW meeting on February 9

Our speaker will be Prissy Shafer, former Assistant to the Food Editor of the Dallas Morning News. Her favorite part of the job was judging chocolate cakes with Julia Child at the State Fair of Texas, a job she still performs every fall. In honor of Valentine's Day, Prissy will talk about ...CHOCOLATE! Lunch is at 11:30, and the program starts at 12:15. Please come join us!



## Noteworthy news

### February 8

8:30 Men's Choir,

*Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow*

11:00 Chancel Choir, *As the Hart Longs*

### February 15

8:30 & 11:00 Peggy West, solo

11:00 Carillon Ringers,

*The Gift of Love, and Trumpet Voluntary*

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Here I Am, Lord*

### 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 Thata Good News*

## Youth Singers supper, Bible study and rehearsal

On Tuesday, February 10, at 6pm, youth will have supper for \$3, Bible study, and a rehearsal for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

## Attention, kids!

North Texas Conference Summer Camp brochures are now available. There is an early bird registration



fee if you register by April 1. Also, scholarships are available. You can register online at [www.bridgeportcamp.com](http://www.bridgeportcamp.com). Camp dates for children 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. All camps are at Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center, and staffed by church professionals and North Texas Conference volunteers. For information or registration forms, contact Jan Hudgins. If you register for a camp, please let Jan know!

## Vacation Bible School is on the way!

VBS 2004 is July 19-23, 9am-noon. At *Hero Quest: Powered by Faith*, children will learn how God's presence and their trust in God becomes the power that makes an ordinary person a hero. Registration begins Sunday, May 2. For information, or to volunteer, call Elizabeth Wood, VBS Director, at 972-385-7601, or Jan Hudgins at ext. 20 at the church.

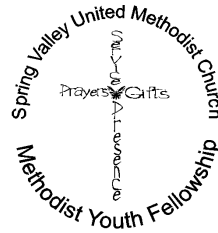
## What's up for YOUth...

Sunday, February 8, 2004

9:45am Youth Sunday School

11am Worship

No Sunday afternoon Youth activities due to the Mixed Mid-Winter Retreat



**Genesis Women's Shelter:** While we experience Christ together, there are many people in our community who need a loving touch of peace in Jesus' name. Did you know that many women and children in our community face domestic violence? Statistics show that one out of every three teenage girls experiences dating violence. Those are two of the reasons that shelters like Genesis Women's Shelter for women and children have become necessary. Starting February 21, we will spend some time one day per month at the Genesis Women's Shelter with the children there. In late April, we will invite the entire Spring Valley congregation to donate summer toys and swimwear for the children at the Shelter. It's a great way to serve God, our neighbors, and earn community service hours. Amidie Shaw, the Director of Volunteers at Genesis, will be our special guest speaker for UMYF on February 15. She will help us understand today's issues for women, their children, and why a place like Genesis is necessary, and how we can help.

**Sunday School:** All Youth are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday school each week. There, we learn about God's grace and love, our spiritual lives, and how God works in our lives right now. On Sunday, February 8, members of the "Angels" class will meet with the "Biblical Battles" class.

**Important Dates approaching:** February 22, register for next six weeks classes; February 29, begin next rotation. The four class choices are: Prayer, Character, One Heart, and After the Fall. Class descriptions follow soon!

**Big Thanks to:** Caitlin Tucker and her entire family for hosting us for the Super Bowl Party.

### Mark Your Calendars:

Feb. 15 Youth Council meeting with lunch

Feb. 15 UMYF Special Guest, Amidie Shaw, from Genesis Women's Shelter

Feb. 21 Service Saturday, 12:30-3:30pm

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

## UMW Used Clothing & Garage Sale!

**Friday, February 20, 9am-5pm & Saturday, February 21, 9am-1pm**

Clean your closets - we need your donations! (except for furniture or books.)

Help us raise money for missions, by spreading the word to friends and neighbors. You may bring your donations, beginning at noon, on February 15.

## "Love & Logic" Parenting Series begins February 22

Mickey George will lead a 6-week series on *Parenting with Love and Logic* during the Sunday school hour. 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. Watch the *Behold* for more information.

## Sunday School news...

### Aldersgate Class

**February 8** - Volunteering is a way of sharing love, changing lives, neighborhoods, and the world. Janis Dumas, Executive Director of Neighborhood Service Council, Inc., will be discussing many volunteer outreach opportunities available in the North Dallas and Richardson area.

**February 15** - Bill Hunter will lead a discussion about the 2004 United Methodist General Conference. For the past four years, Bill chaired the conference committee on Creating Congregations. Visitors are welcome.

### Beacon Class

**February 8** - "Growing Pains" Matthew 13:24-33

**February 15** - "Free to Love"

Galatians 5; Matthew 25:31-46

**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 8** - Bob Crockett, *In Search of Truth*

**February 15** - Bob Dorsey, *Volunteering! Why?*

**February 22** - Bill & Jerry Savuto, SVUMC's African missionaries

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

### Fellowship Bible Class

Our Sunday School class men will provide dinner for the ladies on Sunday, February 15, at 11:30am after class. The men made reservations at the Blue Mesa Grill at the Village at the Parkway, between Montfort and the Tollway and between Spring Valley and Beltline. Our class has couples and singles 40+ years old. Come visit us. For reservations, call Bill and Lou Wilkin, 972-392-1486.

### Wesleyan Class

Dick Matthews is discussing "In the Beginning" and applying it to our faith. For information, call Gene Harrell, 972-235-7038.

We'll see you for lunch at Southern Recipe on Wednesday, February 11, at 11:30am.

### Check it out!

<http://www.svumc.org/Events/MGM/default.htm>

## 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:

Margaret Harstad  
George McVay  
Zoe Thompson  
Keith Kacacek

### SVUMC Church Family

Jack McKinster  
Connie Redus  
Sandy Bell  
Tommi Ezell  
Susan Kasten  
Roselyn Douglas  
Beth Copeland  
Bob and Rosemary McGuire  
Wanda Bettis  
Homebound members

### Extended Church Family

Lola Copeland's friend, Scott Hudgins  
Betty Hopper's friend, Jo Kay Gary  
Pam Hiam's father  
Bill Wilkins' friend  
Jeanne Larrañaga's sister-in-law, Carla Moore  
Barbara Clark's sister, Muriel Heideman  
Neil & Betty Williams' son's boss  
Dottie Cheek's sister-in-law, Pat Cheek  
Jim & Rachel Edwards' daughter, Erin Dial  
Forest and Sue Cummings' friend, Patti Roberts  
Mark Wood's friends, Dillan Hamilton  
and Rhetta Wood  
Cynthia PharrLee's father, J.C. Ivy  
Susan Haney's mother, Yvonne Russell  
Kathy Brunson, former member  
John Tarver's aunt and cousin

Sylvia Knox's daughter's father-in-law,  
Everett Stevens  
Marty Yancy's father, Theo  
Our Missionaries, the Savutos  
Slany United Methodist Church  
Those with ongoing concerns

### Deepest Sympathy to:

Carol Baughn and family in the death  
her uncle, John W. Johnson  
Carlos Nascimento in the death of his  
brother

### Congratulations to:

Sharon and B.J. Hall in the birth  
of their grandson, Cody Earnest Dorris