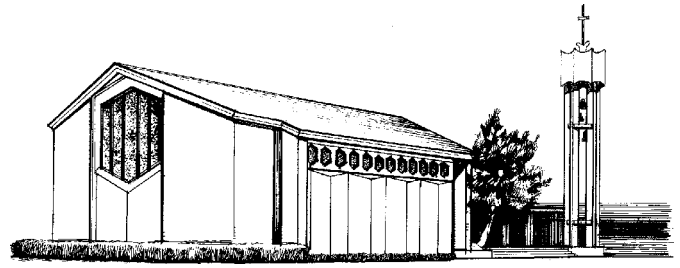


Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 11, No. 2 January 10, 2005

Mardi Gras Madness is coming on Jan. 30!

Be sure to make reservations on Sunday, Jan. 16 or 23 for the big event! You will not receive a ticket as has been done in the past. Adults are \$12 a person; children, 6 and under, with a paying adult are not charged and will be served pizza. You can pay by cash or check (made out to SVUMC).



The menu is chicken fricassee, red beans and rice, tossed salad, rolls, and King Cakes. Dessert is wonderful chocolate cake.

New this year at Mardi Gras:

- A donated software program which sets up each family bid number.
- The silent auction will be located in Asbury Hall, along with the check-out. (Thanks to Carlos for allowing us to use the room on Sunday.)
- Credit cards can be used at auction check-out. We will accept VISA, Mastercard, American Express, and Discover.

The Live Auction brochure will be available Sunday, Jan. 16; or check out the church's website for an on-line listing. If you can't attend Mardi Gras, we have a proxy bidding form that you fill out and give to Brian Emslie in the church business office. He will handle the details; and our proxy bidder, David Armstrong, will bid for you per your instructions on the proxy bidding card! Back to handle our live auction will be Roger Martens and Steve Ledbetter.

Plan to attend this exciting family evening of great food, good service, entertainment, and live and silent auction fun. The proceeds support our Youth Ministries at Spring Valley UMC, allowing every youth to participate in missions and have the opportunity to serve others. Questions? Call Laura LaFrano, 972-788-2004, or Rusty King at the church.

Leadership training scheduled

The Dallas Northeast District will offer training for local church leaders at White Rock UMC on Sunday, Feb. 6, from 2-4pm. It begins in the sanctuary and offers workshops in the following areas: Administrative Board, Children's Ministries, Youth Ministries, Welcome Ministry, Church Finance, Stewardship/Endowments, Lay Leaders, Trustees, Missions (Local and Global) & Staff-Parish Relations.

Guatemala mission project to have meeting

The first organizational meeting for the 2005 Guatemala Mission Project will be held on Sun., Jan. 23, at noon in the dining room. Trip dates are August 13-August 21. All who are interested in going and also the home-based support team are welcome. Call Elizabeth or Robert Gross, 214-341-1822, or e-mail at robt144@swbell.net, if you can attend. A light lunch will be served.

Amahl and the Night Visitors enchanted more than 400!

Children 4 years of age through other persons who are children at heart watched in rapt attention as the story of Amahl was unwrapped last weekend. Audience members laughed and cried. The experience was a delight to all and,



Lynn Mock, mother and Jordan Graf, Amahl

for some, was their first time to see and hear an opera. The good news of Christ's arrival as the light of the world was proclaimed in this work for Epiphany. Many thanks to the cast, the chorus, the crew, the production staff, the Sunday School classes that provided receptions after each of the 3 performances, and the orchestra for all the dedication and for a job well done!

Rusty King

Parents' Sunday school class begins

An organizational meeting for the new adult Sunday School class for the parents of teenagers will be held in Room 192 (formerly the Kinder-garten classroom for the Pre-School) this Sunday, Jan. 16, beginning at 9:45am. For information, call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler. We invite you to attend if you are interested.

Tsumani contributions continue

Additional contributions can continue to be given through the church office; and you can be confident that 100 percent of all gifts will go directly to meet human need and to express the love of God and the compassion of God's people through UMCOR. Gifts are being sent immediately to UMCOR, which is already at work in the devastated region.

What's Up For YOUTH

Sunday, January 16, 2005

9:45am Sunday School

11am Worship

3:30pm Youth Ringers

4:30pm Youth Singers

5:30pm Leave for Traidust Restaurant (no snack supper today)

8pm Return from Traidust.

For UMYF this week, we will go to the Traidust Restaurant for dinner and dancing. (Don't forget the big slide! Socks are helpful here!) Dinner at the restaurant is a little pricey, so bring about \$25. Frank will be able to help anybody out with the money, so don't let the price tag stop you! This will be a great time for everybody! Also, for fun, wear one of your dad's old neckties that he won't mind if he never sees it again.

Big Thank You to Ann Michele King & Amanda Nicholas for their great work leading our spiritual growth night last Sunday at UMYF.

Prayers for Heather Sumner, who is ill.

Best Wishes to Emily Rahm, who is in the play "Different Drummer" at Richardson High School this week.

Congrats to Ashley Wilson. Her soccer team won their first match of the season, 7-0.

Also, a big welcome home to Nicole Chapman! We're glad you are back! We visit the Genesis Women's Shelter this Wednesday, Jan. 12. We'll leave the church at 6:30pm and return at 8:30pm. Please make plans to join us.

Be sure to visit the church website for the January newsletter.

Mardi Gras Madness is only three weeks away! Thanks to all parents who have already pitched in! Thanks also to parents who have solicited donations for our silent auction from area businesses. We could always use even more help in this area. If you are a parent and would like to join in this tremendous fun, please do not hesitate to contact Frank or Rusty at the church.

Mark your Calendars:

Jan. 12 Genesis Women's Shelter, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 21 Youth Singers rehearsal, choreography, ½ lock-in

Jan. 30 Mardi Gras Madness!!

Feb. 4-6 Mixed Mid-Winter Retreat

Feb. 6 Super Bowl Party!

Stephen Ministry training begins January 20

Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler will lead a new training that will begin on Jan. 20, 9:30am to 12 noon, and continue each Thursday morning through May. Come and learn to extend Christian care to those in need. The 50-hour training class and the Stephen Series training manual are free of charge.

Stephen Ministry equips lay persons to provide Christian one-to-one care to those experiencing difficulties in our congregation and community. For details call Myrna Ridings, 972-231-4435, Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, or any of the Stephen Ministers.



Join us for Sunday school

Seekers - Room 200

Jan. 16 - "Overcoming" - part two

Speaker, Bob Langford, PhD

Jan. 23 - "Overcoming" - part three

Speaker, Dr. Don Benton

Jan. 30 - Alice McElroy will present "Not All Who

Wander Are Lost," the long-awaited account of her adventures on the Appalachian trail.

Aldersgate Class - Room 206-08

Jan. 16 - "Who do you say that I am?" Jim Veach will finish his three-week Theology 101 series.

Jan. 23 - Open class discussion on Aldersgate goals, priorities, and mission statement.

Beacon Class

Jan. 16 - "Thinking, Thanking, Trusting"

Jan. 23 - "Love Is Action."

Jan. 30 - "Take My Hands"

Feb. 6 - "Hearing and DOING"

Friends - Room 216

Jan. 16 - CNN documentary - "The Two Marys: The Madonna and the Magdalene"

Jan. 23 - "Wealth Is Worthless" How are we investing our lives?

Jan. 30 - Lifestyles and Life Expectancy - A light-hearted self-exam led by Herb Lee.

Wesleyan Class - Dining Room

Rev. Dr. Don Barnes - "What's So Amazing about Grace?", a study on Philip Yancey's book

Jan. 16 - Session 1: The Missing Ingredient:

A Beautiful Word, a Powerful Concept

Jan. 23 - Session 2: Letting Grace Soak In:

God's Love for the Undeserving

Jan. 30 - Session 3: An Unnatural Act: Extending

Grace When You've Been Wronged

Feb. 6 - Session 4: The Art of Forgiving:

Responding with grace when it seems impossible

Feb. 13 - Session 5: Skin-Deep: The Power of

Grace to Penetrate Racism

Prodigals Class - Room 212

(formerly the College Class) This class continues its correspondence ministry with people on active military duty who are connected to Spring Valley. Call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler at the church, ext. 19, with contact information.

Austin Street Centre breakfast served on January 16

Once every quarter a group of dedicated Spring Valley persons brings breakfast to homeless persons at the Austin St. Centre. Though the volunteers "hosting" don't say the words, it is a way of celebrating communion, for we are sharing our food in Christ's name.



Call Dana & Steve Taylor, 972-234-9867 if you'd like to help. Additionally hats, scarves, and mittens/gloves are being collected for distribution that morning. If you would like to know more about Austin Street Centre, go to their web page at: <http://www.austinst.org/services.htm>

Dimes-a-Day collection is January 16

Spring Valley has mission on its mind! From under our roof (*Neighborhood Service Council, Inc.*) to local (*NETwork of Community Ministries*) to city (*Habitat for Humanity*) to worldwide (*Slany Church in the Czech Republic, missionaries Bill and Jerri Savuto, to all the programs we support through United Methodist Committee on Relief*) **WE** are there.

Every time you put an offering in a mission envelope and walk to the chancel rail on the third Sunday, or leave a check in the business office, you are helping. Please open your wallet and say a prayer for those who are waiting for our assistance.

Committee seeks input

It was announced at our late-November 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 was named and has been eagerly seeking your vision and insights. If you have not yet done so, please speak to members of the committee and share with them — or even better, give to them in writing — 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:

Frank Andersen, Finance Committee Chair

Lola Copeland, Stewardship Committee and SVUMC Foundation

Guy Garrett, Senior Adult Member At-Large

Larry George, Senior Pastor

Bill Hunter, Lay Leader

Cynthia Pharr Lee, Administrative Board Chair

Steve Taylor, Trustees Chair and Young Adult Member

Will Tucker, Immediate-past Finance Chair and Stewardship Committee

New Bible study starts in February

The Mayberry Bible study, a four-week study connecting the Bible to contemporary culture, will be held on Thursdays in February. Dorothy and Rich Milner will facilitate. The Bible study uses episodes from the television show "Mayberry RFD" to examine issues of life and faith.

Topics which will be covered include: pride, accountability, trouble, and teaching. For more information or to register call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler at the church, ext. 19.

Children's Ministry Family Night

Join us for dinner and an interactive learning experience with your child, led by Jean Blaydes Madigan on Jan. 14 from 6-8pm in Harkness Hall.



**Jean Blaydes
Madigan**

Jean Blaydes Madigan is an internationally known educational consultant, speaker, and author on the subject of how brain research supports the need for movement in learning and how movement enhances learning. She has taught for 27 years in the classroom, in physical education, and as a college professor. Her excellence in teaching is recognized by several awards, such as Richardson ISD Teacher of the year, Texas AHPERD Teacher of the Year, and one of six National Elementary Physical Education Teachers of the Year, as well as the Texas AHPERD Honor Award.

Jean has appeared on TV and radio, advocating the importance of children's health and learning. Her dynamic, interactive presentations will have you on your feet, experiencing learning through movement and making valuable applications that enhance cognition and give students an advantage to learn. She is a Christian and has used her expertise in the development of Rotation Model Sunday School curriculums. She is pleased and excited to have the opportunity to come and share with you how movement helps kids (and adults) learn more about God!

This event is free of charge and is sponsored by the Children's Council. For more information contact Jan Hudgins, Director of Children and Family Ministries, 972-233-7671, ext. 20

UMW event planned for 2005

Please mark your calendar for the Used Clothing and White Elephant Sale on February 18-19. This is an important fund-raiser for the UMW, so set aside your unwanted items as you do your cleaning after the holidays.



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

Lenora Pitcher

SVUMC Church Family

Fayrene Pospisil

Betty Hopper

The Maddison family

Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Tracy Rahm's aunt

Dottie Cheek's nephew,

Jimmy Moore

Betty Hopper's son, Gary

Maude Lee

Rodney Arrington's grandmothers, and
five other family members

Mark Wood's mother, Henrietta Wood

Dillon, a 10-year old

John and Mary Huffhines' granddaughter,

Amy Williams

Charles & Norma Warner's son-in-law,

Jason Malek

Otal Family friend, Beverly June Bryan

Tom & Donna Campbell's friend,

Gary Wilson, and his daughter, Ashley

Gerry Broome's father, George Gordon

Alan & Jeanne Moore's friend, Anna Wright

David Clegg's friend, Cecaly Gibbs

Kurt McEnaney's father, Dan McEnaney

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

Johnny & Lillian

All persons serving in the military

Our missionaries, the Savutos

Slany United Methodist Church

Those with ongoing concerns

Congratulations to:

Dan and Katrina (White) Grandquist who were married in the Spring Valley sanctuary at noon on January 8.