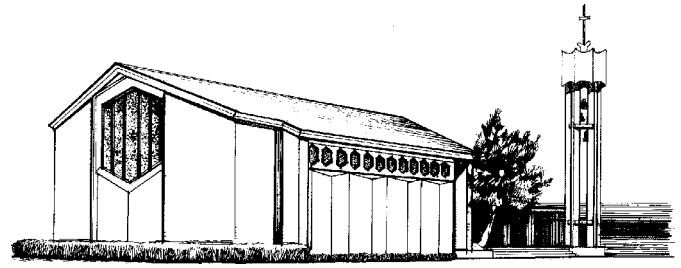


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 3 January 19, 2004

Spring Valley needs...You!

...to be a song leader, a sign-changer, a seamstress, or even a clothing/white elephant donator...

Please take a few minutes to read and prayerfully consider the following articles about possibilities for service to the Spring Valley community of faith. If you have been thinking about doing something new for 2004, one of the following projects may be just the thing you have been seeking.

How does our marquee in front of the church get changed?

Our tall, lighted sign in front of the sanctuary on Spring Valley Road is a very visible and important part of our church communications, both with our members, as well as other individuals in our community. The seemingly ever-changing message on the sign is revised, updated, and maintained by a small group of dedicated volunteers. Dave Booth, Charles McManus, BJ Hall, Doug Sandstedt, and Jim Edwards have served faithfully for several years. Each of them has responsibility for the sign on a rotating basis, which means that they have "sign chores" approximately every 4-6 weeks or so, less frequently when the church news is "slow." The actual time required to change the sign varies, depending on the length and complexity of the message, but rarely does it require as much as an hour. The sign is normally updated on Monday, but it can actually be done anytime during the week, depending on the volunteer's schedule.

If you have an hour to contribute once a month to help with this valuable and visible part of our church, please contact Paula Huffaker at 972-233-7671, x14. She will be happy to forward your name to the sign committee. Also, it will do amazing things to improve your skills for "Wheel of Fortune"!

Song leaders needed for Gardens of Richardson

Your help is needed in a very valuable and rewarding ministry. We need musical people to assist in a worship service at the Gardens of Richardson. SVUMC holds worship services at the Gardens of Richardson on the first and fifth Sundays of the month. You would lead the singing portion, which consists of 7-8 songs selected by the coordinator. The choir normally sings on the fifth Sunday, so our need is really only for the first Sunday. We try to not have to call upon anyone more than once each quarter. The Gardens is located at Arapaho and West Shore behind the Senior Citizens Center in Richardson, and our service is 2-3pm. Our friends at the Gardens are most appreciative to have a worship service to attend. Please pray about this and contact Gene Harrell, 972-235-7038, to help.

Like to sew?

The Spring Valley Parkland Outreach Group needs your help. We sew newborn infant gowns for the babies born to needy families at Parkland Hospital. These flannelette gowns are easy to sew with pre-cut pieces. If you have some time to sew this winter, there are babies waiting for you to help. Call Bobbie Detwiler, 972-387-8779, for information.



UMW garage sale and clothing drive

It's time to clean those closets again! The annual United Methodist Women's clothing drive and white elephant sale will be held in Wesley Hall on February 20 and 21.

Please begin gathering your donations - clothing, accessories, linens, dishes, and other household items. We cannot accept furniture or books for this sale. Your donations can be brought to the church beginning Sunday, February 15, until 5:00 in the afternoon. We will accept donations through Wednesday, February 18. Clean your closets and support the mission outreach of SVUMC.

Copies of "To Hear the Angels Sing" still available

If you have not yet gotten your copy of Jeanne Larranaga's CD, "To Hear the Angels Sing," it's not too late! Copies are still available in the church office; cost is \$15, and proceeds are a gift to Spring Valley.

The CD contains such hymn favorites as *O Holy Night* and *How Great Thou Art*, popular tunes like *Wind Beneath My Wings* and *God Bless the USA*, plus a duet with Max Taylor, *Love Changes Everything*, and accompaniment by John Tarver.

Generous response to Austin Street Centre's needs

Once again our congregation demonstrated its commitment to missions by the support of Austin Street Centre, the nighttime homeless shelter.

Over a dozen SV persons arrived with boxes and bags of food at 4:15am, then a convoy of vehicles drove to downtown Dallas. Grateful men, women, and children moved slowly along the long tables laden with nourishing food, filling plastic bags with sandwiches, cooked eggs, fruit, and beverages.

But even the warmest and most generous hearts won't keep the chill of the winter from those who spend at least 16 hours each day on the street. So, warm clothing - lots of coats, gloves, caps, scarves, etc. - were handed out as well. Donated cold and flu medicines will be dispensed by staff as needed.

Finally, no one will be surprised to learn that Tony Holiday helped a great deal with the collection of items you donated for the shelter. Blessings to you, Tony.

And somewhere downtown, we have wrapped our coat sleeves around a congregation of God's street people.

2004 mission trip to Guatemala

Are you interested in being a member of Spring Valley's mission team and traveling to Guatemala this year? If you are 15 years or older, you can experience a week's work of construction/repair on the clinics in Quetzaltenango (urban) or Camanchaj (rural) at the Salud y Paz clinic in the western highlands of Guatemala. Medical/dental professionals are encouraged to join us to work hands-on with the indigenous Maya people.

The work week begins Monday, August 9. Cost per person is approximately \$1,000. For more information, or to sign up for an orientation meeting, call Jo Martens, 972-387-3158, jomartens@juno.com, or Betty Reichel, Mission CORE group chair, 972-380-5838, Betty@reichel.com.

"Second Helping" event continues on February 11!

Every second Wednesday of the month, a dinner will be 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!

Your invited to *Hospitality of the Heart*, with Marilyn Brown Oden

Mrs. Oden, author and wife of North Texas Conference Bishop William Oden, draws on her own experience as a guest of the Benedictines at St. Joseph Abbey and the "desert fathers" to help others expand their understanding of hospitality in its broadest sense. Hospitality involves helping our guests (and members) feel truly at "home" and meeting their needs. Hearing her may change your life...and it may change our church! Saturday, February 7, 9:30am, Gathering & brunch, 10am-1pm, Program St. Andrew UMC, Plano at 5801 W. Plano Parkway, \$15 per person Brochures available in SVUMC office; reservations by February 2.



Noteworthy news

January 25

8:30 Chancel Choir, *Awake My Heart*

11:00 Youth Ringers, *Timbrel & Dance* and
How Beautiful

Youth Singers, *In Thee Is Gladness*

February 1

8:30 & 11:00 "Risen" Forever

8:30 & 11:00 "Risen" *Come, Now Is the Time
to Worship & Heart of Worship*

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Set Me as a Seal*

February 8

8:30 Men's Choir, *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow*

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

Youth Singers & parents meeting, Monday, January 26, 7:00pm

Half of your choir tour fee is due now! We will look at itinerary updates, fund raisers, and details of upcoming events. Afterward, we have a meeting on Mardi Gras Madness. Both meetings are in the choir room.

Youth Singers supper, Bible study and rehearsal, Tuesday, January 27, at 6pm

Youth will have supper (\$3), Bible study, and a rehearsal on "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." *NOTE:* Homecoming Concerts are scheduled for June 19, 20, and 21 at 7:30pm in Wesley Hall. Tickets will be \$10, and desserts will be served at intermission.

Check it out!

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

3rd, 4th, and 5th Graders!

Mark your calendars for Friday and Saturday, February 6 and 7! We will have an overnight Bible Retreat here at Spring



Valley! Make plans to come and enjoy lots of fun activities to teach you how to use your Bible in understanding God's plan for your life. We will also have lots of food and games, too!

For details, or to help with this event, contact Jan Hudgins at 972-233-7671, ext. 20, or email jhudgins@svumc.org.

What's up for YOUTH...

Sunday, January 25, 2003

- 9:30am Youth Sunday School
- 11am Worship
- 3:30pm Youth Ringers
- 4:30pm Youth Singers
- 5:30pm Snack Supper
- 6-7:30pm UMYF - A unique study of racism, led by Emily Rahm.

We're going to look at this issue from a new perspective. It will be worth your time. Please make plans to be there!

Youth Council met on Sunday and reached two exciting decisions. First, the council reviewed some curriculum options for future university-style Sunday school and their choices are excellent. Our next menu for Sunday school is going to be appetizing!

Second, the council has decided to engage in a relationship with a local shelter for women and their children through our monthly Service Saturdays. This promises to be a special series of Saturdays. Stay tuned for further details as they are developed.

Deadline is January 30!!! Sign up NOW for Mixed Mid-Winter Retreat, February 6-8, at Bridgeport Conference Center. It is a unique retreat for all youth from United Methodist Churches in the North Texas Conference. The theme this year is "Gone Fishin'...(for People, that is)." It's only \$67, plus \$10 for a t-shirt. Registration forms are available in the youth office and registration deadline is January 30. This retreat is co-directed by Chris Everson, Youth Minister at FUMC Gainesville, and Frank Rahm, Spring Valley.

Sunday School

Sunday School is where we learn about God's grace and love, our spiritual lives, and how God is working in our lives right now. All Youth are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday school each week.

Mark Your Calendars:

- February 1 Super Bowl Party - at Caitlin Tucker's house!
- February 6-8 Mixed Mid-winter Retreat, all-conference event, \$67
- February 14 Service Saturday (tentative)
- February 22 Mardi-Gras Madness!
- February 28 Youth Singers performance of "Joseph" at Appletree Court
- March 2 Youth Singers performance of "Joseph" at FUMC Allen

Neighborhood Service Council annual meeting set

The NSCI annual meeting is February 12. The speaker is Council Member Lois Finkleman. Sign-in is 11:30, and the meeting and lunch are 12-2pm. RSVP to 972-239-3501, or NSCI@sbcglobal.net.



Sunday School news...

Aldersgate Class

January 25 - Robert Gross speaks on "How God Communicates with Us." Five class members will share their sensory encounters with God/Christ.
February 1 - Don Barnes will talk about Network of Community Ministries, an organization that assists the needy in Richardson and has 300 volunteers. Don was one of three founding fathers of Network.

Beacon Class

How I Can Become a Better Me This message will focus on individual and world challenges that we face in the year 2004. We meet in Asbury Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:45am.

January 25 - "No Saints Suddenly" Luke 2:39-52

Wesleyan Class

The Wesleyan Class meets at 9:30am in the Dining Room. Don Bowen is reviewing some of the minor books in the New Testament. Contact person is Gene Harrell, 972-235-7038.

Seekers Class

January 25 - Susan Kasten, "Back to the Future"

UMW meetings report

Our speaker at our January meeting was Bill Hunter, who is deeply involved in Vision 20/20. Pledges to Vision 20/20 are used to update United Methodist conference and retreat facilities, develop inner-city ministries, and establish new UM churches in areas of population growth. Changing economic conditions have made it difficult for many churches to follow through on their pledges.

In the spring of 2001, Spring Valley pledged \$75,000 to Vision 20/20, to be paid over the next five years. To date SVUMC has paid \$54,338 on that pledge. SVUMC has budgeted to pay its pledge in full by the end of this year. Last year the UMW contributed \$750 from the proceeds of the used clothing sale to be used toward SVUMC's Vision 20/20 pledge.

Our February 9 meeting will have a fun program with a Valentine's Day theme. Mark your calendar!



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
Susan Kasten
Jan Andersen
Roselyn Douglas
Caleb Hudgins
Rachel Hartman
Connie Peterman
Beth Copeland
Bob and Rosemary McGuire
Wanda Bettis
Homebound members

Karen Sumner's daughter-in-law, Carrie
Kathy Brunson, former member
Greg & Paula Huffaker's friend, Rebecca Berry
Dottie Cheek's sister-in-law, Pat Cheek
Jim & Rachel Edwards' daughter, Erin Dial
John Tarver's aunt, cousin, and mother
Forest and Sue Cummings' friend, Patti Roberts
Paul and Terri Hartman's brother-in-law,
Don Bailey, & Terri's aunt, Norma Murdock
Jo Alice Patton's friend, Dora James
Mark Wood's friends, Dillan Hamilton
and Rhetta Wood

Extended Church Family

Marty Yancy's father, Theo
Denise Peters' daughter,
Jeannie

Cynthia PharrLee's father, J.C. Ivy
Susan Haney's mother, Yvonne Russell

Lola Copeland's friends, Don Whitaker & family
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
Those with ongoing concerns

Deepest sympathy to:

Clarence Gilmore in the death of his mother
Louise Miller in the death of her mother
Patti Malone and family in the death
of her aunt, Margaret Atkinson
Stephanie King and family in the death of
her great aunt, Gladys
Ted and Janis Dumas in the death of Janis's
cousin, Jana McClanahan; and the death
of her friend, Patrice Whitford's son