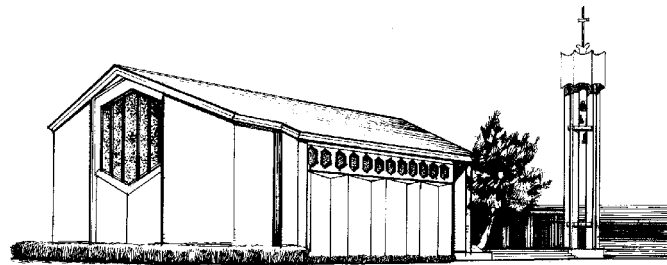


Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 12, No. 5 January 29, 2006

Dear Mardi Gras Mamma...

I am going to Lake Charles to visit my cousin Maudee the same Sunday as Mardi Gras Madness. We are going to the Appledees for the all-you-can-eat catfish dinner for \$3.99. I was looking the the Mardi Gras web page and saw some great live auction items, like that good-lookin' antique desk that I would like to bid on. Is there any way possible to bid on something if I will be at the Appledees eating catfish at the same time as Mardi Gras??

Befuddled *Beauregard*



Dear *Beauregard*,

I am so proud of you for checking out the church's website and the Mardi Gras Madness page! There is some good stuff on there. For the rest of you out there, check out (website/page) for a listing of live and silent available!

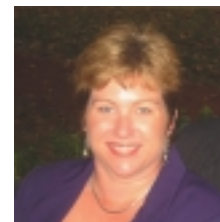
Yes, you can be two places at once. All you have to do is turn in proxy bidding card for a live auction item. Bidding cards can be found in the church office. You will need to fill in the items you want to bid on and the top dollar you will be willing to pay. Then turn in the card and your check to Don Finnie, church business manager, or have Don run a copy of your credit card. We will assign a proxy bidder to bid in your absence and will let you know if you are the winning bid!

So, don't hesitate! Get out there and check out the website and start a' bidding!

Momma

February *Second Helpings* offers valuable program

Internet safety and the role of the Church in combating pornography in cyberspace will be the topic of February's *Second Helpings* event, rescheduled from Jan. 11 to February 8. Dana Allison, Christian educator and children's advocacy expert, will be our guest speaker. For the first half of the evening beginning at 6:30pm, she will discuss how it is IMPERATIVE for us to learn about protecting our children, grandchildren, any children and ourselves from predators on the internet. At 7pm, she will focus her talk on how people of faith deal with internet pornography which affects millions of families and individuals every day. A tasty meal will be served at 5:30pm, and our program begins at 6:30. Childcare is available. Sign-up sheets for meal reservations are in the volunteer office AND in Common Ground AND at the volunteer desk. This is valuable information that will protect your family.



Dana Allison

Come Sunday...



common ground

Traditional Worship

Sunday, February 5, Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Children's Sabbath
Music with *Risen*
Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Mark 1 :29-39
Life in Christ:
The Unnecessary prayer
Dr. Paul L. Escamilla

Sunday, February 12, Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sacred Spaces:
A journey through the Psalms
Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Mark 1:40-45
Life in Christ:
Touching the Untouchable
Dr. Paul L. Escamilla

Kelly Moon is new Interim Youth Director

Hey everyone! My name is Kelly Moon, I am the new Interim Youth Director here at SVUMC and I am thrilled to be here! I am looking forward to meeting everyone and being a part of this wonderful church and AWESOME youth group!



New Year's resolution for walkers

Was exercise one of your New Year's resolutions? Then we have a solution for your resolution - the 13th annual Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat Walk-A-Thon on February 25, 2006. The walk begins at 9am with registration at 8:30 in the University of Texas of Dallas parking lot on the corner of Floyd Road and Lookout Drive in Richardson.

So you say – walking isn't your thing. Then how about picking up a hammer and helping with the construction of the next Habitat home to fulfill that exercise commitment. RAIH will begin building its 21st home on Saturday, February 11.

Habitat provides many opportunities for exercise! Please stop by the Habitat table near the church office to learn more about the walk or the upcoming build. If you aren't into exercise then we hope you will find an SVUMC walker to sponsor. Questions regarding the walk or build may be directed to Rhonda Huser at 972-788-1288, or Bill Boyer at 972-661-2570.

All Scouts to be Honored

Are you a Boy Scout, Girl Scout, Brownie, Cub Scout or leader of a Scout pack? Then join us on Sunday, February 12, at any one of the three worship services, Traditional (8:30 or 11:00) or Common Ground, to be recognized and honored. You are invited to wear your Scout uniform that morning and join us in one of the services for a special recognition. We look forward to seeing all Scouts on Sunday, February 12.



NET Food Drive is February 12

NETWORK of Community Ministries just celebrated 20 years of making a difference in the Richardson area with short-term urgent services. Imagine the thousands of persons who have been helped! Our own Rev. Don Barnes was one of the founders of this agency and is still an active board member and volunteer. Spring Valley U MC is one of the original member organizations. Just last year 515,400 pounds of food was distributed to 23,807 persons. Most of that food was donated by churches, schools, civic groups, and individuals.

Our next food drive is near Valentine's Day. As you shop, pick up extra non-perishable food for this important mission ministry. Perhaps you can select foods that are red, have a red label, or have a seal from the American Heart Association designating it as "heart healthy".

Whatever you select and put in the barrels located in the halls, it will be appreciated. Monetary donations can be placed in the collection plate or left in the business office. For information, visit the web site: www.thenetwork.org.

Neighborhood Service Council plans annual meeting

Neighborhood Service Council invites you to the 2006 annual meeting and luncheon on Feb. 9 from 11:15-1pm at Spring Valley United Methodist Church. RSVP to nsci@nscikids.org or call 972-239-3501.



UMW announced Feb. meeting

Our February luncheon/meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, at 11:30 in Asbury Hall. The speaker, Rev. Jackie Gause, will speak on "A Letter from Peter." You might want to read, in advance, II Peter and perhaps bring some questions and thoughts for discussion.

Jackie, an ordained clergy, was consecrated as Diaconal Minister in 1991 from Brite Divinity School at TCU. She is now semi-retired and living in Arlington, TX. Ladies, this sounds like a program that you don't want to miss! Come and bring a friend!

Guatemala Mission Team Meeting

The second 2006 Guatemala Mission planning meeting will be Sunday, February 5, in the small dining room after the 11:00 services.

At the first meeting, twenty-three people committed to travel, seven home team members were present, and an additional five persons are considering traveling. This number assures the formation of two teams. One team will be traveling from Saturday, July 22, through Sunday, July 30; and the second from Saturday, July 29, through Sunday, August 6.

There is still time to join, so if you like adventure in a safe environment surrounded by your friends, then come on Sunday and challenge yourself to serve your fellow man, the native Mayans of the Guatemala Highlands. For lunch reservations and more information, call, 214-341-1822, or e-mail Robert/Elizabeth Gross at robt44@swbell.net.

Recycle your Christmas cards

Bring your holiday cards to the church volunteer office. During the year, a group will recycle them as greeting cards for Meals on Wheels recipients. For details, call Myrna Ridings, 972-231-4435.

Extending God's Path

YTD Budget: \$ 90,080

Total received to date 108,423

Received Jan. 29 17,917

Give God what's right, not what's left

Mardi Gras Madness information

Event: Mardi Gras Madness
Date: Sunday, February 12, 2006
Time: 4:30 – 7:30pm

Reservations are being taken now; cost is \$12 per person; children under 6 with an adult will get 2 slices of pizza. Additional slices are \$1 each.

Description: Mardi Gras Madness is a fundraiser featuring dinner, entertainment, live & silent auction benefiting Spring Valley UMC youth (7th grade -12th grade) who participate in summer mission trips. All are welcome to attend.

The three trips are:

Youth Singers Choir Tour, June 9 – 15, to Houston and South Texas performing "Celebrate Life." Tour ends with two performances at Spring Valley on June 16 and 17.

IMPACT Florida, June 24 – July 2, to Central Florida, a work project open to all junior high and senior high youth.

Appalachia Service Project, July 7 - 17, Senior High youth go to Kentucky to repair homes in area. For details, Rusty King, 972-233-7671.



Preschool registration begins

Preschool registration for the 2006-2007 begins on Feb. 1 at 8:30am for families of current students and church members.

Registration opens to the community on Feb. 15. The preschool is a part-time program offering classes from 9am to noon for children 12 months and walking through Pre-K. Two, and three day classes are offered for children younger than Pre-K. Special tuition rates are offered to SVUMC member families. Please call the Preschool office, 972-233-2317, for information, or to have an enrollment packet mailed to you.



New Bible study group formed

The church has started a new Bible study at Bill and Lou Wilkins' home. The *Neighbors Home Bible Study* meets on Thursdays at 7:30pm to 9pm at the Wilkin's home at 7740 El Pastel Drive. Please join us for this exciting study!

SVUMC "historians" needed

Our church will celebrate its 50-year anniversary in 2007. We already have "The Spirit of Spring Valley," given by Bobby Detwiler, that gives us a history of the church to 1986; but we need volunteers to fill us in on what happened after 1986. We also need someone to go through old pictorial directories and pictures to document special events in the life of the church.

Our goal is to prepare a book and compact disk that tells the story of Spring Valley United Methodist Church from its beginning to present. In addition, we will prepare a PowerPoint presentation of pictures to show during the anniversary festivities. If you are interested, please contact Paula Huffaker at the church office 972-233-7671, e-mail phuffaker@svumc.org.

Join us for Sunday school

An updated list of all Sunday school classes is now available at the Visitors desk. Some current offerings include:

Aldersgate Class - Room 206-08

Feb 5 & Feb 12 - Robert Gross will lead a study on "Life of Abraham, Man of Saving Faith."

Beacon Class

"The Ten Commandments in a Modern World"

Feb. 5 - No. Three: "Cursing His Name"

Feb. 12 - No. Four: "Worthy Worship"

Feb. 19 - No. Five: "Who Are My Family?"

Feb. 26 - No. Six: "Treating Life as Sacred"

Mar. 5 - No. Seven: "An Analysis of Adultery"

Mar. 12 - No. Eight: "Robbery"

Mar. 19 - No. Nine: "Telling the Truth"

Mar. 26 - No. Ten: "The Two Faces of Desire"

Christian Parenting - Room 210

We are studying Dawn Billings' book, *Greatness and Children*.

Fellowship Bible Class

We are reading *The Passionate Church*, by Mike Breen & Walt Kallestad. Call Lou & Bill Wilkin, 972-392-1486, maestrak1234@yahoo.com.

Quest Class

Join us as we study the book of Revelation.

Seekers Class

Feb. 5 - Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler will speak on Internet safety and the role of the church in combating pornography in cyberspace. A preview of the Feb. 8 *Second Helping* program by Dana Allison.

Feb. 19 - "Our Endangered Values," Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler reviews the best-selling book by former President Jimmy Carter.

Feb. 29 - Rev. Escamilla will give his "State of the Church" address. After 8 months at Spring Valley, what are his impressions of the church and its programs and his vision and ambitions for our future.

S.P.O.T. - Spiritual Parents of Teens,

formerly **PARENTS OF TEENS** - Room 192

We are reading *The Five Love Languages of Teenagers* by Gary Chapman.

What's up for YOUTH...

SVUMC Youth events

Remember – NO Tuesday night rehearsal this week! See below for the schedule that picks up again at the end of February.

Wednesday night small groups resume this Wednesday, February 1. Welcome Riis Christensen, who will be joining us as a small group leader for the 7th and 8th grade boys' group. This group will now be meeting at the home of Carson Tucker,

Bell choir members: be at the church at 8am. Saturday morning for the trip to First UMC in Coppell. The address of the church is 420 South Heartz @ Bethel School Road, and the phone is 972-423-4506. Your lunch on Saturday is paid for, as are snacks. Rusty is confirming that the concert time for those parents who wish to attend is 3:30. After the concert, we will pack, travel home, and unpack by 5:00 when parents can pick up at SVUMC.

Sunday, Feb. 5: NO BELL CHOIR, but youth choir practice will be from 3:30 to 4:30. We will then travel in the church van to the LaFrano home for a Super Bowl party! If you don't plan to come to choir, just show up at the LaFranos' home (6411 Westgate Dr., 972-788-2004) at 5:00 p.m. Girls, bring a snack of some kind and guys, bring a bottle of soda. Parents will pick you up at the LaFranos' home.

***There will be NO HANDBELL PRACTICE until April 2.

***Tuesday evening rehearsals for Celebrate Life! resume on February 28. NO REHEARSAL on March 14 due to Spring Break.

***First performances of Celebrate Life! will be on Saturday, March 25 at 10:00 a.m., and on Tuesday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m.

***You will need a POLO shirt, ordered through Rusty, to wear at Mardi Gras Madness and during the choir trip. Cost of the shirt is \$12 and Rusty needs your order by Friday of this week!!

***Have you and your parents seen the list of Mardi Gras Madness AUCTION ITEMS? The list is now up at http://svumc.org/mgm_auction.html

***Kelly Moon's email address is working now! kmoon@svumc.org if you have any questions about what's going on in youth group.

***Want to know the schedule for what's coming up in UMYF? Check out the calendar at <http://svumc.org/ycalendar.html>

Mark your calendars for the future:

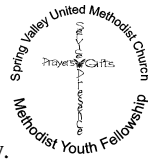
February 12 - MARDI GRAS MADNESS!

Feb. 17-19: Annual mixed (Jr. high & Sr. high) mid-winter retreat at Bridgeport Conference Center. Cost is \$68 a person, but the cost should not be a factor in your decision to attend; call Paco if you need any assistance.

This year's theme is **J....MOBILE: GET MORE FROM LIFE**. Pick up a copy of the registration form at any SVUMC youth event. Be sure to turn in this form at UMYF or Sunday School by Sunday, February 5. Questions about the retreat? Call Paco, 972-671-5744 or pacojacjen@aol.com

The Appalachia Service Project (ASP) is July 7-July 17. It is designed for youths in the 10th - 12th grade. Those entering 10th grade (current 9th graders) should consider signing up for this rewarding mission trip.

(Continued in next column...)



Those students graduating this year are also invited to participate. We will be working in Letcher County in Kentucky. More detailed information to follow.

If you want to go to ASP 2006, please send Paco an e-mail indicating your interest (pacojacjen@aol.com). Paco has to give a count to ASP by Feb.1. We need your help to make ASP a successful mission trip!

New SVUMC Youth mailing list from YAHOO GROUPS!

please send a blank email to svumcyouth-subscribe@yahoo.com. If you have not already joined this group, You may be prompted to set up a yahoo account, but you can still choose the address you'd like the emails delivered to. This email group will really help with communication for the foreseeable future, so don't be out of the loop! Email nwatson@pisd.edu if you have any questions.

NOTEworthy news...

Upcoming Music



Sunday, February 5

8:30 Men's Choir, *There's Within my Heart a Melody*

11:00 Chancel Choir, *It is Well With My Soul*

Sunday, February 12

8:30 Choral Ensemble, *Ain't Got Time to Die*

11:00 Chancel Choir *Ain't Got Time to Die*

Youth Ringers attended handbell festival

The Youth Ringers gave up a Saturday to attend the Greater Dallas Handbell Association on February 4. They joined with other youth bell choirs in presenting a concert at 3:30. It was held at FUMC in Coppell.

Children to sing Sunday, Feb. 5

This is to remind all parents that the Children's Choirs will be singing in Common Ground worship, this Sunday, Feb. 5! Please meet in Wesley Hall at 10:30, unless your child(ren) are in Sunday School, and someone will be picking them up.

We are continuing to work on the musical and also an intergenerational song that we will be singing in worship on February 19. Children are still invited to participate at anytime! Come sweaty from a sports practice, or even a little late. We don't care! For questions, call Jeanne at 972-233-7671, ext. 12, or email her at jlanson@svumc.org.

Samplings of auction items at Mardi Gras Madness

There is only one week left to buy your tickets for the all-church Mardi Gras Madness! The \$12 ticket covers dinner, entertainment by youth, staff, and church members, and opportunities to bid on fabulous items in our live and silent auctions. As the major fundraiser for youth mission and choir trips, this annual event raised over \$29,000 last year, enabling our youth to travel to Chicago and western Virginia. In each of these destinations, the wonderful youth of our church spread the word of God through music and service.



This year, the youth choir will go to Corpus Christi to present many performances of *Celebrate Life!*, a musical they have been hard at work practicing. Also, UMYF participants will work at Appalachian Service Project (ASP), building and repairing homes for people in Kentucky, and at IMPACT Florida, doing home repair projects within the Orange and Seminole counties.



Many of the youth couldn't afford to go on these trips without the donations and sponsorships provided through the contributions of church members and the generous bidding on live and silent auction items at Mardi Gras Madness. Please join us by providing ample funds for meaningful, enriching outreach experiences for the future of our church: our fabulous teenagers.



Donations for the live and silent auction are still being accepted through Sunday, February 5! For more information on donating items for MGM attendees to bid on, contact Barry Carroll at 972-404-1503 or barrycarroll@sbcglobal.net; or Doris Simonsen at d.simonsen@att.net, or 972-239-5629.



Elementary Sunday School news

This rotation we're learning that you can't hide from



God—even in a WHALE!

That's what Jonah tried to

do. Jonah didn't *catch* that God's message of Compassion, Mercy, and Grace is for EVERY-ONE! You can learn about compassion, mercy, grace and repentance through art, computer, puppets, science, writing, and video. Check the new bulletin board outside the gathering room to what room your class is in each week. Come to Sunday School and *catch* an important message from God...for you and everyone.

Human Sexuality Workshop planned for 5th and 6th graders

A Human Sexuality Workshop for 5th and 6th graders will be held on March 2, 3, & 4. The curriculum is *Created By God* and is published by Cokesbury. For information or to preview the curriculum, contact Jan Hudgins, 972-233-7671.

New classes offered for adults at SVUMC:

Each Thursday, Rich and Dorothy Milner are facilitating a Bible study class entitled "The Journey." It is a chapter by chapter study of the New Testament. No materials or fee are needed. All are welcome. Confirmation Room, 7-9 pm. weekly.

Beginning in mid-March, Dr. Don Barnes will facilitate the new, shorter version of Disciple Bible study on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour. Dr. Barnes will begin with a nine-week overview of the Old Testament, which follows the Disciple format but in shorter form. This is an excellent way for anyone to begin or continue the Bible Study. Reservations are required. For information, contact Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler, extension 19.

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.

Hospital

Ruth Mendoza
Bob Muskopf
Frances Dale

SVUMC Church Family

Morris Arrington
Jean Holt
Harriet Carroll
Susan Kasten
Terri Hawkins
Ed Pierce
Betty Carter
Betty Lou Noble
Bonnie Reed
Luiz Santos
Randy Smith
Bill Darnall
Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Jan Hudgins' grandmother, Beth Mayberry
Guy Garrett's mother
Jim Arrington, father of Preschooler,
 Jett Arrington
The Grottola family
Tricia Smith's friend, Michelle DeVous
Duwayne Matthews
Rhonda Huser's mother
Greg Haase
Betty Hopper's son and daughter-in-law,
 Gary and Jacqui Hopper
Camille Smith
Cindy Stamps' sister, Gloria Thompson
Donna Campbell's friend, Ashley Wilson

Ruby Arrington's brother, Johnny Nickerson
Kathy Watson's friends, the Butch Freeman family
All persons serving in the military
SVUMC missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
Those with ongoing concerns

Sympathy to:

Cynthia and Herb Lee in the death
 of their friend, Bob Grottola
Joyce Covey and family in the death
 of her grandson, Shawn Roberts