

Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 11, No. 1 January 3, 2005

Amahl and the Night Visitors presented January 6, 7, 8, at 7:30

Lynn Mock plays the mother and Jordan Graf plays Amahl in our production of Menotti's Epiphany opera. This work is in English and is less than an hour long. The singers will be accompanied by an 18-piece professional orchestra. Children of all ages can understand and enjoy this delightful experience. Tickets are \$10 per person with a \$35 family maximum and are available at the door for all three performances. A reception will follow each performance. For more details see our website; click on events and then on Amahl or use this web address - <http://www.svumc.org/amahl.html>.



Children's musical presented Christmas Eve



Christmas Eve at 5pm was a time of celebration when our children's choirs presented "Miracle at Midnight." The children shared, through the eyes of the shepherds, stars, angels, wisemen, and even sheep, the story of the birth of our Savior. Following the musical, all of the children of the congregation were also invited to the manger, dressed as kings, shepherds and angels. Seeing the children in the chancel manger, and hearing their beautiful voices was truly a joyous and exciting event.

Welcome, new members!

David & Melissa Baker
7747 Chalkstone Dr.
Dallas, TX 75248
972-233-6404



Stephen Ministry training begins January 20

Stephen Ministry is a program of our congregation that equips lay persons to provide distinctively Christian one-to-one care to those who are experiencing all kinds of life needs and circumstances, in both our congregation and community.

Since Spring Valley began the program in 1999, several persons in our church have felt the impact of this special care as they have been paired with a trained Stephen Minister.

A new training class begins January 20 and will continue each Thursday morning through mid-May. Class leader is Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler. Join others in our congregation as they begin to learn and extend Christian care to those in need. Additionally, the concepts are applicable in everyday life with family, friends, co-workers.

For more information, call Myrna Ridings, 972-231-4435, Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, or any of the Stephen Ministers.

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 Kindergarten classroom for the Pre-School) on Sunday, Jan. 16, beginning at 9:45am. For information, call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler. We invite you to attend if you are interested.

Mardi Gras Madness restaurant survey update

You can go to the church's web page and click on this web address - http://www.svumc.org/mgm_poll.html. There you will find a survey of area restaurants. We are trying to get information about the restaurants that our members frequent, so that when we solicit these establishments for gift certificates for the silent auction, the managers will know that Spring Valley supports their restaurants. Just go to the web page and follow the directions. We appreciate your help in advance.



Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, Jan. 30 at 4:30** for our annual Mardi Gras Madness celebration! Tickets will go on sale in early January, so get together with friends and make plans to attend. Proceeds from this event benefit our total youth program.

Kitchen Help Needed: On Saturday, Jan 29th, Pat Johnston will be in the Wesley kitchen coordinating the Mardi Gras Madness dinner. We are asking for 4-6 additional volunteers to help in the kitchen during two shifts: 9-12 and 12-3. Contact Pat at Agnana1876@aol.com if you can help. We will greatly appreciate it!

UMW events planned for 2005

The first 2005 meeting of the UMW is on Monday, Jan. 10. The morning group meets at 11:30 for lunch in Asbury Hall, and the program begins at 12:15. The evening UMW will be organizing on Jan. 10 in the Parlor at 7pm - same date as the daytime meeting. Our speaker is Dorothy Botnick from Perkins School of Theology, who will talk about high school juniors who are interested in community service.



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

Noteworthy news

Upcoming Music

Jan. 9, 8:30 & 11:00 Carla Jett - *El Shaddai*

11:00 Chancel Choir - *My Eternal King*

Jan. 16, 8:30 & 11:00 Peggy West and Susan Denzer - *I Waited for the Lord*

11:00 Chancel Choir - *We Are Glad*

Jan. 23, 8:30 Youth Singers - *Sing to the Lord with Joy and Gladness*

8:30 Youth Ringers - *Little David, Play on Your Harp*

11:00 Chancel Choir - *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name*

Youth Friday rehearsal is January 21, 7pm

Youth Singers will rehearse their spring musical, "Star," in Wesley Hall from 7pm until 12:30.



Join us for Sunday school

Prodigals Class - Room 212

(formerly the College Class) This class has begun a correspondence ministry with people on active military duty who are connected to Spring Valley. Please call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler at the church, ext. 19, with contact information for additional personnel.

Seekers - Room 200

Jan. 9 - "Overcoming" - part one

Speaker, Jerry H. Hinnant, M.D.

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. 9 - "Let's start with God. Just what kind of God is out there?" Questions on God's nature or being, what we can know, what we cannot know, does it matter? Led by Jim Veach.

Beacon Class

Jan. 9 - "Who's in Charge?"

Jan. 16 - "Thinking, Thanking, Trusting"

Jan. 23 - "Love Is Action."

Jan. 30 - "Take My Hands"

Feb. 6 - "Hearing and DOING"

Friends - Room 216

Jan. 9 - "Serving from the Heart - Talents & Resources," a Spiritual Gifts class in combination with the Parenting class

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

Jan. 9 - Mar. 13 Rev. Dr. Don Barnes - "What's So Amazing about Grace?", a study on Philip Yancey's book of the same name

Jan. 12 - Monthly luncheon at *Amore* at 11:30am

District leadership training event for local church leaders is

Sunday, February 6, 2-4pm, White Rock UMC

Behold / Spring Valley UMC / Dallas, Texas www.svumc.org

972 233-7671

Spring Valley responds to tsunami disaster

Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief, we are already responding to the tsunami disaster. For details of what your church family is doing, see the insert in this issue of the *Behold*.



Austin Street Centre breakfast to be served on Jan. 16

This mission for the homeless, located in downtown Dallas, is a residential, pastoral care program offering help and hope to 350+ men, women and children each day. They receive the three basic things they need most in the world: shelter, food, and a safe environment that affords them a sense of security.

In addition to food, clothing, showers and sleeping space, medical and psychiatric teams provide emergency care and counseling weekly. About 1/3 of the shelter's population suffers from chronic mental illness; many suffer from chronic medical and physical disabilities.

Community volunteers and church groups provide and serve meals. Our church provides breakfast every three months. Sign up to volunteer on Jan. 9, or call Dana & Steve Taylor, 972-234-9867. Additionally, hats, scarves and mittens/gloves are being collected for distribution that morning. Bring them on Jan. 9 or leave them in the volunteer's office. For more info, Austin Street Centre's web page is <http://www.austinst.org/services.htm>.

"Listen to your heart, pray, and do what Jesus would have you do."

Rev. Bubba Daily, Executive Director, Austin Street Centre

NETwork collects food on January 9

Anytime we come to Spring Valley we can receive spiritual nourishment. Some neighbors seek out Richardson NETwork of Community Ministries for nutritional nourishment. What an opportunity we have, not only to bring donated sacks of food, but to do it with love and concern for those who are in need. Say a prayer that the family who receives your food will indeed feel nourished.

2005 Guatemala mission project meeting planned

You are invited to the first informational and organizational meeting for the 2005 Guatemala Mission Project on Sunday, January 23, at noon in the Dining Room. Travel dates are August 13 to August 21. Even if you are not going to Guatemala, we welcome you as members of a home-based support team. A light lunch will be served. If you plan to come, please call Elizabeth Gross, 214-341-1822, or e-mail robt144@swbell.net. For questions, call Robert or Elizabeth Gross or any member of previous teams. We hope to see you there.

Trustees elect 2005 officers

President	<i>Steve Taylor</i>
Vice-President	<i>David Armstrong</i>
Secretary	<i>Elizabeth Kilgore</i>
Foundation Reps.	<i>Chuck Apthorp, Earl Barnette, Greg Harris</i>

Thank you...

The Welcome Ministry thanks all who graciously served as Greeters for the three Christmas Eve services. We were host to over 900 worshippers that evening, and many visitors. Those who volunteered in this ministry were instrumental in helping all who attended on that very special evening.

"Second Helping" event slated

On Wednesday, January 12, Todd Whitthorne, Dallas television personality, President/CEO of Cooper Concepts, will talk about nutrition and wellness.



Todd Whitthorne

Todd Whitthorne has been in the public eye for more than 20 years. He is currently the president and chief operating officer of Cooper Concepts, Inc., a division of The Cooper Aerobics Center in Dallas. He serves as the host and executive producer of "Healthy Living Radio with Dr. Ken Cooper," a two-hour weekly radio program based in Dallas and syndicated from Los Angeles to Boston. Todd is also a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Physical Fitness.

After graduating from UCLA with a bachelor of science degree in kinesiology with an emphasis in exercise physiology, Whitthorne began a career that would take him to various stops from Washington, D.C., to Phoenix and Dallas. He won an Emmy and a Katie award as co-host of "Good Morning Texas" on WFAA-TV, the Dallas ABC affiliate.

"Second Helpings" is a monthly time of food, fellowship, and learning on the second Wednesday of every month throughout the year. A tasty meal is served at 5:30, followed by a topical speaker at 6:30. Childcare is provided, and reservations are required for the meal, which is \$4.50/person, maximum \$15/family. For details, call Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, at ext. 19. A sign-up sheet is available for dinner at the volunteer desk.

Baptism for Tyler Hayden Ratcliffe



Tyler Hayden Ratcliffe, son of Kathleen and Ronald Ratcliffe, was baptized on Friday, December 31, 2004. The maternal grandparents are Spring Valley members, Henry and Ellen Mei.

We'd like to say "THANK YOU"
to these Spring Valley leaders who have completed
terms of service to our congregation and community.

Administrative Board At-Large	<i>Carol Baughn</i> <i>T. J. Hartman</i> <i>Greg Huffaker</i> <i>Susan Kasten</i> <i>Jerry Malone</i> <i>Dorothy Milner</i> <i>Richard Milner</i> <i>Joan North</i> <i>Greg Rogers</i>
Congregational Life Co-Coordinator	<i>Gerry Broome</i>
Disciple/Small Group Coordinator	<i>Burt Copeland</i>
Finance Committee Chair	<i>Will Tucker</i>
Finance Committee	<i>Pat Christley</i> <i>Tim Earl</i> <i>Bill Escarre</i>
Nominating Committee	<i>Katy Hines</i> <i>Debbie Ledbetter</i> <i>Joyce Boyer</i>
Spring Valley Foundation.....	<i>Jolene Harper</i>
Spring Valley Foundation Trustees Representatives	<i>Elizabeth Kilgore</i> <i>Roger Martens</i> <i>Deb Tucker</i>
Staff-Parish Relations Committee	<i>Terry Baughn</i> <i>Bob Kennedy</i> <i>Pam Hiam</i>
Stewardship Committee	<i>Pat Christley</i> <i>Will Tucker</i>
Trustees	<i>Roger Martens</i> <i>Ken Phillips</i> <i>Deb Tucker</i>
Volunteer Coordinator.....	<i>Donna Campbell</i>
Welcome Ministry Coordinator.....	<i>Judi Hitch</i>
Youth Ministries Coordinator.....	<i>Diana White</i>

After walls of water, hope in half a dozen countries

"I have come into the deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me... Yet God's steadfast love is good." Psalm 69:2b, 16

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) is assisting survivors of tidal waves set off by a powerful 9.0 earthquake. Tens of thousands died. About 5 million people lack basic essentials.

Half a dozen countries in South Asia and Southeastern Asia will receive United Methodist aid. Gifts will help feed and shelter 50,000 families in India alone. In addition to India, United Methodist gifts will be at work in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives.

- ~ Coordinated response is most effective. UMCOR will work through its international faith-based partners to provide food, clean water, and shelter. Its partners -- Action by Churches Together and Churches Auxiliary for Social Action -- already have relief workers at hard hit locations.
- ~ Sanitation and fresh water have been compromised. So aid workers will restore sanitation facilities and provide fresh water to families.
- ~ Food supplies have been cut off. Disaster workers are distributing food to the most vulnerable.

UMCOR is delivering "love in action" on behalf of United Methodists.

Here are some ways you can continue to be there.

- \$12 Provide a health kit for a child.
- \$100 Underwrite relief items such as cooking utensils, sleeping mats, blankets, and tarps for a family.
- \$1,000 Invest in long-term reconstruction -- buy roofing, shingles, and other building materials to restore a family's house.

As is its practice in all projects, UMCOR seeks to work with key partners such as local religious leaders. This ensures a holistic and integrated response, true to Christ's mandate to serve heart, mind, spirit, and body. Please consider a generous gift.



How to Give...

Already our Spring Valley faith community has revealed its generous and caring heart. **Our January 2 communion offering for the tsunami disaster victims totaled \$6,162.95.** Those funds are being sent immediately to UMCOR which is already at work in the devastated region.

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.

UMCCOR.

Multiplying Hope.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief delivers hope and enhances human dignity through food, shelter, health, and peace projects.

UMCOR

475 Riverside Drive
Room 330
New York, NY 10115

www.umcor.org

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

Fayrene Pospisil

Betty Hopper

The Maddison family

Homebound members

Don Barnes' cousin, Elizabeth Moore

John and Mary Huffines' granddaughter,

Amy Williams

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

Jason Malek

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

Extended Church Family

Tracy Rahm's aunt

Jan Hudgins' cousin's

daughter, Haley Packer

Dottie Cheek's nephew,

Jimmy Moore

David Clegg's friend,

Cecaly Gibbs

Betty Hopper's son, Gary

Maude Lee

Elise Stark's friend,

Robert Bennett

Otal Family friend, Beverly June Bryan

Tom & Donna Campbell's friend,

Gary Wilson, and his daughter, Ashley

Gerry Broome's father, George Gordon

Kurt McEnaney's father, Dan McEnaney

Alan & Jeanne Moore's friend,

Anna Wright

Becky Hydrick's friends, Amanda,

Tammie, George, John and Brett

Sally and Carmen Kilgore's relatives,

Daniel Kilgore and Bianca Kilgore

Kathy and Glenn Watson's neighbors,

and Kathy's father, Bill Derden

Sympathy to:

Roger Horn in the death of his

mother, Minnie Horn, on December 26

Robert Leedy in the death of his life-long

friend, Blake Armstrong, on December 27

Congratulations to:

Frank and Barbara Zoeller on the celebration of their 51st wedding anniversary

Myrna and Dick Ridings on the marriage of their son, Jeff Ridings, to Amy Benz on December 30.