

Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 11, No. 23 June 13, 2005

A word of thanks from Paul Escamilla

As Elizabeth and I entered the beautiful foyer of Spring Valley church one evening in March, we were met with the warmest of welcomes. Bob Hitch introduced himself, then ushered us into the parlor, where we met several other church leaders, along with Ron Henderson, our District Superintendent. Within minutes, we were settled into our seats, furthering our introductions, trading stories, and sharing hopes and dreams for the life and future of a great and dearly loved congregation.



Since that first evening with the Staff-Parish Committee and other leaders, our family has experienced one gesture of hospitality and welcome after another – from staff, church leaders, and members we’ve met in hallways, meeting rooms, and the all-important parking lot. On one occasion, I pulled up with a trunk filled with boxes of books for Tony to stash away in storage until my arrival. It wasn’t my first such delivery, so I asked Tony if he was sure he had room for more of my things. In his wonderfully disarming way, he answered, “We’ll make room.”

And so you have. In so many ways you’ve made room for our arrival into your church family, not only in your storage closets, but in your hearts as well. And as our family has begun the process of settling into a new neighborhood and church community, we have greatly appreciated your many gestures of kindness and care.

Even as you are saying “Welcome” to me, as well as other new staff – Jared and Megan Williams and Don Finnie – I am aware that you have also been about the work of saying farewell to Frank Rahm and Brian Emslie, and to a well-loved senior pastor, Larry George. Larry has been a personal friend over many years, and I am quite aware that his warmth and attentiveness, his humor and compassion, his faith and vision have all been shared generously with you while he has been your pastor. It is a tremendous honor for Larry to have been asked to join the Bishop’s cabinet as a District Superintendent, and yet I know that it is with a mix of pride and protest that you have surrendered him to that work. He and Mickey have left a beautiful legacy with your congregation, one we will treasure and draw upon for years to come.

I consider it an honor as well to have been appointed to serve as your new Senior Pastor. While I have left my former congregation, Walnut Hill, with a deep sense of appreciation and gratitude for seven years of ministry in that church, my heart is open and eager for the journey you and I will share together in the coming years at Spring Valley. (continued in next column)

Welcome, new member!

Cy Watson

7729 Alto Caro
Dallas 75248
972-726-9559

Cy and the former Nancy Meier were married at



Spring Valley on May 28. Also pictured is their daughter, Emily Meier.

Have you signed up yet?

Dr. Paul Escamilla, Spring Valley’s new Senior Pastor, would like to get to know you, your dreams, and hopes for the church through “cottage-style” meetings. Each meeting will include 12+ people and will be held in host homes. Also, two morning meetings are scheduled for 7am at La Madeline's on Beltline Road just east of the tollway. Please call Paula Huffaker in the church office, 972-233-7671, x14, or by email to sign up:

phuffaker@svumc.org. Dates are:

Mornings: June 27, July 25

Afternoons: June 23, 28, 30, July 7, 12, 19, 26

Evenings: June 28, July 7, 18, 19, 25

Yours is a congregation of tremendous gifts and graces for the gospel work, and these are everywhere in evidence! I have already been introduced to myriad ways in which you are alive and active in worship, missions, nurture, formation, fellowship, and the arts.

May God bless both our fond farewells and our new beginnings, so that together we may continue the great adventure of discipleship to which God has called this tremendously vibrant congregation, Spring Valley United Methodist Church.

In Christ, *Paul Escamilla*

George family expresses gratitude

We want to thank the entire Spring Valley family for creating such a memorable farewell Sunday for us. The day was absolutely perfect...from the "family reunion" of so many members and visitors who filled the sanctuary, to the beautiful — and tasty! — reception in Wesley Hall, to the personal cards, good wishes, and gifts, to the remembrances from Africa, to the beautiful flowers for Mickey, Amanda, and Emily, to the gorgeous Waterford vase and engraved silver tray, to the incredibly generous cash gift and travel suggestions...it could not have been better! June 5 was truly a bittersweet day, for it was very difficult to say "good bye" to a place and a people we have loved so dearly these last six years, but it was also encouraging to be reminded that friendships remain even when responsibilities change and inspiring to know that you wish us well in our new appointment. At Spring Valley, the best is yet to be; and we will be watching with love and appreciation as you continue to grow into your Spirit-led future.

In love and gratitude, Larry & Mickey George,

Emily George, Amanda, Dean, Ashton & Georgia Micknal

June 19 worship opportunities offered at SVUMC

We will welcome guest preacher, Rev. Cammy Gaston, campus minister for the North Texas Conference in Denton. Rev. Gaston, a long-time Elder in the North Texas Conference, will preach at the 11am Common Ground service. In the sanctuary, Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler will preach a sermon entitled "The Family of Faith," based on Genesis 21:8-21 at 8:30 & 11am. **Sanctuary music:** # 2236, *Gather Us In*; # 141, *Children of the Heavenly Father*; # 548, *In Christ There is No East or West*; Benediction, # 2184, *Sent Out in Jesus' Name*; Solo by Alice McElroy, *His Eye is on the Sparrow*; Anthem: *Alleluia, Sing With High Delight*.

Children's Ministry News

Preschool and Elementary Promotion Sunday will be July 10. Children moving up to new age groups or classes will attend the new class on that day. Look for your letter in the mail for specific information about your child!

Ranch House Kids VBS, July 18-22, 9am-High Noon - We still need volunteers! If you are available even one day, or a few hours each day, WE NEED YOU! Please call Lisa Phillips, VBS Director, at 972-392-1756, or Jan Hudgins, 972-233-7671, x 20, or (email: jhudgins@svumc.org) to volunteer.



Please note new summer Behold schedule

Effective the week of July 3, the Behold will be published every other week until the week of August 14.

Please make sure your articles are submitted in a timely manner to jpatton@svumc.org. The deadlines for submitted articles are at noon on:

July 5 (because of July 4 holiday) July 18
August 1 August 15

Thank you for your cooperation and have a great summer!

Sunday, June 26

This will be Dr. Paul Escamilla's first Sunday to preach in sanctuary services at 8:30 and 11am. It will be a wonderful opportunity to praise God by coming together in worship and to welcome the Escamilla family: Paul, Elizabeth, Sarah, David, and Anna.

Message from the Trustees

The Trustees have started looking into the purchase of an external defibrillator and training to use this equipment. Does anyone have access to acquire this equipment and training at a discount from retail pricing? Please contact either Judy Kesler at 972-991-8133 (dkesler@viscern.com), or Steve Taylor at 972-234-9867, or (stevetaylor@na.cokecece.com).

STAR tickets available

Youth Singers will present "Star," a musical on the life of David, in dinner theatre on June 17 and 18, following their Chicago choir tour. Tickets are on sale now for \$10. Friday night dinner will include three salads - Caesar, Chicken Caesar, and Pasta salad. Saturday night dinner will be barbeque with all the trimmings. Doors will open at 6pm, dinner at 6:30, with show starting at 7:20pm.



The Music Man tickets on sale now

SVUMC's summer musical is slated for August 4-6. Tickets are \$18, \$15 and \$10. All tickets are reserved until July 15, when \$10 tickets will be general admission. You may still join the musical chorus. Call Rusty at 972-233-7671. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday nights in June from 6:30-7:30. We will stage construction days the last week of June. If you can help, call Rusty.



Extending God's Path

Total received to date \$433,222

Received June 12 16,571

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

Attendance at worship services: 338

Guatemala mission team needs suitcases

The 2005 Guatemala Mission team consists of twenty missionaries, including both construction and medical personnel, who will be traveling to Chichicastenango in August. On behalf of the Mayan people who visit the clinic at Camanchaj, the members of the Guatemala Mission Team thank the Spring Valley congregation for its continuing generosity in giving both cash and in-kind donations to support Dr. Phil Plunk's medical/dental mission. With your donations, we will be able to purchase construction materials and medications for use at the clinic.

If you or your neighbors have any old suitcases lurking in the attic, we need them to transport medications. In particular, we can use large, non-returnable suitcases with sturdy clasps. Thank you again for the love you show to your neighbors.

Slany UMC Has New Pastor

Spring Valley's "sister" church in the Czech Republic is Slany United Methodist Church. Slany, a city of 16,000 persons, is 25 kilometers northwest of Prague. At their recent Annual Conference, Rev. Daniel Hottmar was appointed to replace Rev. Pavel Kuchynka. This little church continues to struggle, as do most churches in the re-birth of Christianity after the fall of communism. But its dedicated members are so hopeful their church will thrive, they have inspired the Mission Core to continue to offer financial support to the congregation. Our previous financial gift was matched with "sweat equity" by Rev. Pavel and the congregation, painting and refinishing floors and furniture to make it useable after 40 years of nonuse.

Jana Krizova, the lay leader of the Czech Republic who has visited Spring Valley twice, recently wrote, "I attended our Annual Conference in Bratislava last weekend. I am happy with our bishop's decision to appoint Daniel Hottmar to the Slany and Kladno churches. Daniel proved to be a good servant during the last year and now he has the authority to speak for the church and assign funds coming from you. Thank you for all the mission support. Daniel and his church will need prayers."

June 19 is Dimes-a-Day Sunday

A portion of our gifts is designated to continue our covenant relationship with our "sister church." As you place your financial gift at the chancel rail, won't you offer a prayer for our brothers and sisters in Slany?

Rev. Pavel wrote, "We thank our Lord for your belief which is manifest in your acts of love for our church. We express our gratitude for your generosity and friendship."

Has your email address changed?

If so, please be sure to contact Paula Huffaker in the church office, 972-233-7671, x14, or by email, Phuffaker@svumc.org, to insure your receipt of the weekly *Behold* newsletter.



Join us for Sunday school

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

Christian Parenting - Room 210

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

Aldersgate Class - Room 206-08

June 19 - Revs. Bubba Austin and Harry Dailey will share the story of how they transformed the Austin Street Centre. In addition, we will have Russ Pate, author of "Heaven Sent," a book detailing the work that Bubba and Harry have done.
June 26 - Welcome Ministry Chair, Max Taylor, and Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler will speak on Spring Valley's Igniting Ministry plans and all-church evangelism.

Parents of Teenagers - Room 192

We are studying a book called *Making Love Last a Lifetime*, by Adam Hamilton, beginning June 19. We will go to lunch following church, so we hope you can join us.

Quest Class

June - "Daniel and his Prophecies" - We invite all to come and hear our lessons.

Prime Timers want you!

June 22 - Jud Shook will speak to us about genealogy. Please bring your lunch. We will meet from 11am until 1pm.

July 24 - "Crazy for You" musical

Aug. 24 - Stew lunch, cooked by Ben Dickerson

Sept. 17 - Hopkins County Stew Cook-Off - Seniors, come and be part of the fun! Bring your friends!



We need quilters!

Do you want to learn the fine art of quilting or just start it up again? Shirley Barnes and Dee Yates - resident, experienced quilters - need you! They meet on Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30am-noon, in the craft room. They are working on the annual Bazaar quilt. Come and join them!



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

Franaces Dale

SVUMC Church Family

David Currin

Fayrene Pospisil

Ann Michele King

Freda Clark

Prissy Shafer

Floy Naugle

Judson Shook

Mildred Eubanks

Catharine and Ted Gebhardt

The Maddison family

Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Fred & Pat Williams' grandson, Joey Schweser

David Armstrong's father, Paul

Alice Cromwell's friends, Bobby Hull &
the Read family

Bethann DeFoe's mother, Betty Lee Brandt

Betty Hopper's son and daughter-in-law,

Gary and Jacqui Hopper

Tom & Donna Campbell's friend,

Gary Wilson, and his daughter, Ashley

Jo Alice Patton's friend, Sandi Frank

Jan Hudgins' grandmother, Beth Mayberry

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

Johnny & Lillian

Pat Johnston's friend, David Gilbert

Charles & Jan Hudgins' friends, the Harding family

All persons serving in the military

SVUMC missionaries, the Savutos

Slany United Methodist Church

Those with ongoing concerns

Baptism

Luke Fiorentino was baptized June 12 in the

Common Ground service. His parents are

Mike and Nichole Fiorentino, who joined

Spring Valley on March 27.

Congratulations to:

Rich & Dorothy Milner on the birth of a

granddaughter, Madeline Lucy Milner