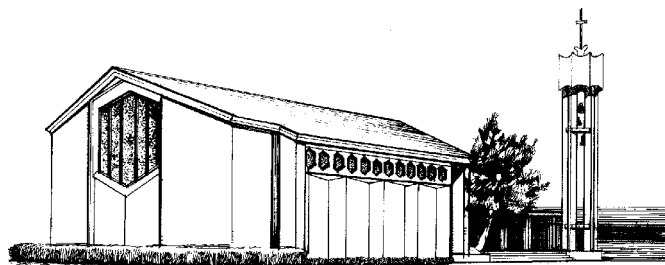


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 9 March 1, 2004

Mardi Gras Madness report

What a special night for the members and friends of Spring Valley United Methodist Church!!!! There was food, fun and fellowship for all.

We raised \$30,000+ through the generous support of the participants and proxy bidders to fund youth missions, which include the June Florida and Georgia choir tour, the July Appalachia Service Project, and the August Colorado Easter Seals Camp. Thank you for your commitment to our church youth.

A dedicated and hard-working committee made Mardi Gras Madness a great success. The following people are recognized for their outstanding effort.

Co-Chairs - Kay & John Hutchins

Ticket Sales - Sherry Peart & Rachel Harries

Printing Coordinator - Tracy Rahm

Decorations - Carol Nicholas & Pat Johnston

New Dinner Menu - Karen Lanier

Dinner Cooking and Serving Crew - Karen Lanier, Tom Hindman, Gail & Layton Pettigrew, Ann Michele King, Jolene Harper, Debbie Ledbetter, Vicki Roberts, Marty Yancy, Pauline & David Greenwell, Terri Chepregi

Pizza for Children - Cindy Sumner & Kathy Cook

Dining Room Supervisor/King Cakes - Bethann DeFoe

Live Auction Procurement/Brochure - Gene Hoffman

Live Auction Updates on Website - Barry Barge

Live Auction Spotters - Pauline & David Greenwell, Cara & Gary Sheroke, Deb & Will Tucker, Gail & Dan Stevenson

Auctioneers - Roger Martens and Steve Ledbetter

Silent Auction - Diana White, David Greenwell, Gail Stevenson, Cindy Sumner

Silent Auction Brochure Design - Jay Mundy, Rusty King

Auction Check-out Crew - Pat & Fred Williams, Buz LaFrano, Stephanie King, Harriet Carroll, Deb Tucker, Paco Otal

T-shirts Design and Production - Karen & Jim Cline

T-shirt sales to youth - Sherry Peart

Buttons - Cindy Sumner

Mardi Gras Parade Coordinator/Mardi Gras Expert - Mark Solomon

Video and Power Point Presentations - Frank Andersen

Thank You Notes Coordinators - Jacqui and Paco Otal

Promotion - Cynthia Pharr-Lee, press release; Dana and Mark Wood, posters; Elizabeth Gross, Sunday School class promotion; Karen Cline, promotion graphics

Tip Jars - Kay & John Hutchins

Procurer of garment bags - Sherry Peart

"Joseph" costumes - Dianne Cronenberg

Entertainment - Dianne Cronenberg, Alice McElroy,

Susan Denzer, Chris and Charlie Whisenand, Max Taylor, Jody Cox, Lenora Pitcher, "Risen," Blake Denzer, Joel Price, John Tarver, Youth Singers and last, but not least - Rev. George and the Georgettes (Paula Huffaker, Nancy Guerra, and Tony Holiday)

In kind donations

Susan and Ernie Hanchey - live auction program design and printing

Cindy Sumner - button maker, pizza

Kathy and Dave Cook - pizza

Jay Mundy - design/layout of silent auction program

...continued inside

Lenten series begins

Dr. Mark Chancey, professor of New Testament at Southern Methodist University, will speak on March 10 and 17 for our Lenten Series. On March 10, Dr. Chancey will speak on "One Passion in Four Gospels," looking at the different portrayals of Christ's Passion in each of the four gospels. On March 17, the topic will be "Historical Questions and Controversial Issues." With the release of Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ," questions and controversies have been raised about what we actually know about Christ's Passion and how Christ's Passion has been interpreted by Christians throughout history. Dr. Chancey will be with us to guide us through these issues and questions.

Join us on March 10 in Wesley Hall for the Second Helping Dinner at 5:30pm, followed by Dr. Chancey's lecture at 6:30pm, and again on March 17 for the concluding lecture at 6:30pm.



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Marcaroni Grill Addison, Geoff Wood, General Manager - chocolate dessert
Jacqui and Paco Ota - Thank You cards
Carol and Greg Nicholas and Pat Johnston - Decorations
"Joseph" T-Shirts design and production - Karen & Jim Cline

This event was truly a church wide effort. Congratulations to all of you on a job well done!! Special thanks to Rusty and Frank for their insight and guidance and the entire church staff for their continued support of the youth!

Laura LaFrano, Chair of Mardi Gras Madness

NETwork 2nd Sunday food drive

How thin can the "pie" be sliced to serve everyone who shows up at the table? Rather, what is the impact of our tougher economic times? Richardson NETwork of Community Ministries serves those families living in the RISD boundaries and looking for a place at the "table." That's the challenge for social service agencies like NETwork - how to provide emergency services to those really needing that "hand up."

Spring Valley is partially the answer with our 2nd-Sunday collection of nonperishable food. Boxes are in the hallway for your donation. John Hutchins delivers the food to NETwork, then it's on its way to a family's table.

A financial donation can be placed in the collection plate or left in the business office, too. For details, call the church office, 972-233-7671.

Wanted!!!

People who like adventure and are not afraid to take a leap of faith (outside the North Dallas bubble); people who are not afraid to answer the call to serve God; people who want to experience a life-changing event with plenty of Christian Fellowship.

Then: You are ready to EXPERIENCE GUATEMALA

Time: Noon, Sunday, March 7, in the Dining Room

Call for lunch reservations: Elizabeth or Robert Gross, 214-341-1822

Habitat for Humanity

The annual Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat Walk-a-Thon was held Saturday, February 21. Over \$7,500 was raised by the 13 interfaith congregations. These funds will help build a Habitat house for a deserving family.

Thanks to all who contributed to the success of this event. And a special thanks to the Spring Valley walkers: Gene Harrell, Nancie DeCourcy, Nippy McManus, Joe Lees, Alice McElroy, and Dick & Myrna Ridings.

Construction on the next Habitat house will begin in the fall and will be the 19th house that Spring Valley UMC has helped build. If you need more details about this worthwhile mission project, call Rhonda Huser at 972-788-1288 or Bill Boyer at 972-978-2019.

Thanks, *Bill Boyer*

Noteworthy news



Sunday, March 7

8:30 Men's Choir,

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

8:30 and 11:00

Charlie and Chris Whisenand, *Were you There*

11:00 Chancel Choir

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

"Love & Logic" series begins

Mickey George is leading a series on *Parenting with Love and Logic* during the Sunday school hour. This highly successful parenting approach helps children learn through mistakes and teaches them accountability and responsibility. Attendance and participation are growing each week. And although the focus of the class is for parents of younger children, many of the methods are helpful for parents with children of any age. So please join us on Sunday mornings for fellowship, 9:30-9:45, and study/discussion, 9:45-10:30.

From the Trustees

All-Church Clean-Up Day is Saturday, April 3, 8am to noon.

Everyone that benefits from this glorious church facility is highly encouraged to clean, scrub, paint, dust, mop, pickup and throw away! All adults, youth, children, NSCI, Hispanic Ministry and Preschool can unite to make our church home sparkle for the Easter season.

Donuts, coffee, and milk will be offered at 8am.



Lenten mission project for children and families

Remember the Heifer Project International's "Fill the Ark" program, a daily missions-giving program that spans four weeks. As you fill the ark with coins, you'll see how your gifts can share God's love and help end human suffering around the world. For details, call Jan Hudgins at the church. If you want more information about Heifer Project International, please visit their website at www.heifer.org.



What's up for YOUTH...

Sunday, March 7

- 9:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School
11:00 Worship
3:30 p.m. NO Youth Singers today
5:30 p.m. \$3 Snack Supper
6:00-8:00 UMYF: putt-putt, video arcade, go-karts. Bring \$20. We'll return to the church about 8pm.

Youth Sunday School is terrific! This is not your typical Sunday School.

These classes include discussion that involves youth and fosters spiritual growth. We currently offer four six-week classes. There is always the opportunity to join any of the four classes, even if they are already in session.

The four classes from which to choose are:

- 1) "Open Your Heart" - taught by George Reese
A study of prayer, the privilege we have in prayer, how prayer brings us closer to God, and how prayer changes lives
- 2) "Reclaim Your Heart" - taught by Pam Reese
A study of character, as many of the things God wants us to be have been lost to modern culture. We'll talk about reclaiming our own Courage, Discipline, Confidence, Patience, Endurance, and Contentment.
- 3) "One Heart" - taught by Diana White & Courtney Elliott
A study of love, unity, and Christian community.
- 4) "A Heart-Stopping Miracle" - taught by Jayson White & Frank Rahm
This class will view and discuss a video called "After the Fall." It is an incredible story of recovery, faith, and inner strength.

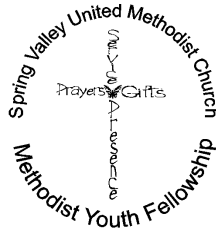
Mark Your Calendars:

- Mar 14** Group Dynamix with the Confirmation Class! Tradition!
Mar 24 Genesis Women's Shelter (It's a Wednesday evening.)
April 16-18 Spring Spiritual Retreat

UMW meeting, March 8

The next UMW meeting will be held on Monday, March 8. Our speaker will be Jan Hudgins, Director of Ministries with Children and Families, who will talk about "Children and Mission."

At the March meeting, the UMW is also sponsoring a kitchen shower to supply things for the church kitchen that have become worn out or lost. At our last meeting, members took an item from our shopping list; others made cash donations. We appreciate help from anyone in the congregation. If you can make a contribution, please contact Betty Hopper (972-386-4670) or Joyce Boyer (972-661-2570). The UMW meets for lunch at 11:30, and the program begins at 12:15. Please join us.



Vacation Bible School is July 19-23, 9am - noon!



Hero Quest: Powered by

Faith will teach children how God's presence and their trust in God becomes the power that makes us into heroes. Registration begins Sunday, May 2. For info, call Elizabeth Wood, 972-385-7601, or Jan Hudgins at church.

Attention, all Spring Valley children!

Spring Valley children, 1st-6th graders, can be part of this year's spring musical, "I Witness News: Live from Jericho." There is a part for everyone, including our four- and five-year olds. For more information, tapes, or CDs, call Paula Huffaker at the church, 972-233-7671, or phuffaker@svumc.org.

Summer camp registration begins

Summer camp brochures and scholarships are now available. Camp dates for kids completing grades 3-5 are: June 22-26, July 27-31, and August 3-7. Children's Music and Arts Camp is June 1-5. For information or registration forms, contact Jan Hudgins. If you register for a camp, please tell Jan.

Sunday School news...

Aldersgate Class

March 7 - Don Barnes will talk about the four versions of the Lord's Prayer, taken from different Bible translations and our hymnal.

March 14

Suellen Turner will focus on the life of St. Patrick ... the truth and the myths. Please join us to learn the answers.

Beacon Class

March 7 - "The Road to Jerusalem"

March 14 - "The Easter Preview"

March 21 - "Three Ways a Man Can Die"

March 28 - "Who Crucified Jesus?"

April 4 - Palm Sunday,

"The Meaning of the Cross"

April 11 - Easter Sunday,

"The Meaning of Easter"

Wesleyan Class

March 7 - Tom Christian, "Waiting"

March 14, 21, & 28 - Don Bowen, "Magic, Miracle, and Folklore"

Usher volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the 11am worship team in, April, July, and October. Contact Ray Williams at 972 233-6590 if you can help. Thanks, *Ray*

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

John Huffhines
Randy Smith
Dillon Tucker
Jerry Rainey
Catharine Gebhardt
Beth Copeland
Bob McGuire
Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Linda Holstein's son, Paul
Kay and Jerry Holmes' son, Kurt
Bill Escarre's brother, Jim
Betty Hopper's friend, Jo Kay Gary
Ken Carpenter's mother, Joan Webb
Tammie Wanning's friend, Tara Neal

Phil and Linda West's friends,
April, Alex, and Jessie
Caroline Watson's friends,
Rebecca and Keegan
Paula & Greg Huffaker's neighbor,
Dave Johnson
Forest and Sue Cummings' friend,
Patti Roberts
Kim Sumner's sister-in-law, Carrie Sumner
Steve and Jolene Harper's niece,
Kathy Belasco
Terri Hartman's friend, Shaun Edwards
Beverly Whitley's friend, John Theron
Susan Haney's mother, Yvonne Russell
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
Those with ongoing concerns

Deepest sympathy to:

Jerry Rainey and Jerry Ann Turecky, in the death of their daughter and sister, Kay Kee
Doug Sandstedt and family in the death of his grandmother, Theresa Krueger

Congratulations to:

Don and Gwen Bowen on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary
Jim and Rachel Edwards on the birth of a granddaughter, Katherine Elaine Dial on February 26

Thank you to:

Head Chef Ben Dickerson for his delicious, award-winning "Hopkins County Stew," prepared for our Ash Wednesday dinner, and to Sous Chef Jack Brown for his very able assistance in the kitchen.