

Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 11 March 15, 2004

Family Picnic and Egg Hunt Sunday, April 4, 2004

Bring a picnic lunch and join us in the courtyard following the 11:00 worship services for a time of fun and fellowship. After lunch, children will hunt for eggs in separate areas according to age groups.

YOU can help with this event by bringing plastic eggs filled with candy, snacks, and/or prizes. There will be baskets outside Jan's office, beginning March 21, to collect the filled eggs. Volunteers are also needed to help hide the eggs.

Contact Jan Hudgins, Director of Children and Family Ministries for more information by calling 972-233-7671, ext. 20, or by email at jhudgins@svumc.org.



**Shop the Spring Bazaar
and
Bake Sale
Sunday, March 28
9-12:30
Small Dining Room
near Wesley Hall**

Baptism of Cody Ernest Dorris

8:30 service, March 14



Grandparents: Parents:

B.J. & Sharon Hall Courtney & Clint Dorris

Lenten series continues

Our Lenten series continues on March 17 with discussion groups on Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" at 6:30 in Wesley Hall. Come and discuss this challenging and controversial film. On March 31, Rivka Arad, director of Jewish Education at Temple Shalom, will be with us to present a model Passover meal at 6:30 in Wesley Hall. Passover is the celebration of God's act of liberating the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt. The meal and symbols of Passover play an important role in our understanding of Christ's passion and the Jewish faith. We hope you join us!

Holy Week Services

Sunday, April 4 - Palm Sunday Services, followed at noon with a family picnic and Easter egg hunt
Thursday, April 8 - Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm, Wesley Hall, fellowship meal, a dramatic reenactment of the Last Supper, and ending with Holy Communion.

Friday, April 9 - Good Friday, 7:00pm, Sanctuary A "Service of Shadows" (Tenebrae) featuring a choral offering of "The Seven Last Words of Christ"

Sunday, April 11 - Easter Service, 6:30 Sunrise, 8:30 & 11:00 Traditional/11:00 Contemporary

What's up for YOUTH...

Sunday, March 21

- 9:45am Youth Sunday School
11am Worship
12:15 Youth Council with lunch
3:30pm Youth Singers
5:30pm \$3 Snack Supper
6-7:30pm UMYF, "Gossip," led by Kay Holstien & Caitlin Tucker.

A BIG thank you to each member of the Confirmation Class who shared a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship with us at Group Dynamix this past Sunday. It's only a few more weeks until you will be a part of the youth group full-time! Thank you also to the adult volunteers who joined us. Finally, thanks to Cindy Sumner who provided our meal.

All Youth are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday school each week. We are now well underway with our "Heart" classes, which last six weeks. 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, this is 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, this is a study of character. Many of the things God wants us to 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, this is a study 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's an incredible story of recovery, faith, and inner strength.

Registration forms are on-line at the church website for ASP 2004, Colorado 2004, and Spring Spiritual Retreat 2004. People are already signing up for these trips. (Reminder: only fifteen slots for ASP.)

Go to www.svumc.org/Education/Youth.

Sympathy to: Anna Haney & Chris Haney on the death of their grandmother.

Mark Your Calendars:

- Mar 24** Genesis Women's Shelter (It's a Wednesday evening.)
April 11 Easter SonRise service
April 16-18 Spring Spiritual Retreat, (registration form on-line)
July 9-18 Appalachia Service Project (registration form on-line)
July 31-Aug 6 Colorado Easter Seals Trip (registration form on-line)

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.



Vacation Bible School 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 information, tapes, or CDs, call Paula Huffaker, 972-233-7671, or phuffaker@svumc.org.

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.



Adoption information session scheduled

The Methodist Mission Home (www.mmhome.org) will be offering an adoption information session on Saturday, March 27th, 10am - 12noon, at First United Methodist Church in Mesquite. All individuals who are interested in adoption (older child, international, infant domestic) are cordially invited. Call the church at 972-285-5456 for directions, or contact Terri Strevva for further details (210-696-2410 or terris@mmhome.org).

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*

Habitat for Humanity

We often have opportunities to put our faith into action. Sometimes we recognize those opportunities, but sometimes they pass us by and we've missed the chance to grow in our faith and discipleship. I recently had one of those opportunities. I met and worked with a woman whose life is very different from mine, and I suspect, very different from many of yours. She is Amelia Snell, a 40-year-old single mother of three. She has lived in Texas all of her life, worked since she was fifteen years old, graduated from high school and Mansfield Business School, and is currently raising Kristal, Alicia and Phillip. Last August, Amelia and I worked side by side, along with other volunteers, to build a home for her and her family through the efforts of Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity. Amelia took advantage of an opportunity - one that benefited her, her family, and the greater community.

On March 21 you have the opportunity to help with activities carried out by Habitat for Humanity. I challenge you to take advantage of this opportunity by participating in our Dimes-a-Day program. As you know, Spring Valley United Methodist Church has long been a supporter of the Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat and Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity. These organizations give us numerous opportunities for discipleship, service, and planting seeds of faith.

Amelia took advantage of an opportunity. I hope you will do the same by joining me in supporting all of our local missions through your Dimes-a-Day offering.

Rhonda Huser

Guatemala mission team

The next planning meeting for the Guatemala Mission Trip will be held in the Dining Room on March 21 immediately after the 11am church services. It's not too late for you to EXPERIENCE GUATEMALA. Everyone definitely going to Guatemala this August needs to make an initial deposit of \$200 per person for travel expenses. Please call Robert Gross, 214-341-1822, or email at robt144@swbell.net, if you are going to attend the planning meeting, as we are making arrangements for a light lunch.

From the Trustees

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

Everyone is encouraged to help make the church facility sparkle for the Easter season. The Trustees have a list of jobs that include cleaning, painting, and replacing ceiling tiles. We need the congregation, along with the groups that enjoy the benefit of our inviting facility, to come April 3 to be a part of this mission to Spring Valley. Just show up ready to work. Tony will have the supplies ready. Thank you for your dedication to the Spring Valley ministry.



Noteworthy news

March 21

8:30 & 11:00 Chamber Singers,

Ubi Caritas

8:30 & 11:00 Jan Apthorp, flute, and Diana

Zimring, violin, *Duet*

11:00 Chancel Choir,

Grant Unto Us Thy Peace, O Lord

March 28

8:30 Youth Singers, *Glory to God in the Highest*
from "Gospel Mass," Kay Holstien, soloist

11:00 Joyful Ringers,

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

11:00 Carol Ringers, *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Libera Me*, Ellis Ozley, soloist

Easter lily sales continue

Youth Singers will take orders for Easter lilies on March 21 and 28. There will be no orders taken on Palm Sunday, April 4. A \$10 lily may be given in memory of a loved one, in honor of a loved one, or to the glory of God. There will be a table in the hallway where lilies can be purchased.

Sunday School news...

Aldersgate Class

March 21 - Suellen Turner will provide a historical perspective on Celtic symbols and crosses and why they were used by the Celts and other religious groups.

March 28 - Rusty King and John Tarver will present music from the new *The Faith We Sing* hymnal supplement. Please join us for a tuneful experience!

Beacon Class

March 21 - "Three Ways a Man Can Die"

March 28 - "Who Crucified Jesus?"

April 4 - Palm Sunday, "Meaning of the Cross"

April 11 - Easter Sunday, "The Meaning of Easter"

Seekers Class

March - Dick Matthews will lead discussions on *"What Is Happening to Christianity in China?"*

Wesleyan Class

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



Prescription Savings Card Program: Questions and Answers

From the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries

The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries has announced that United Methodists can obtain a free prescription savings card through a partnership with DestinationRx, a prescription benefit management company based in Los Angeles. The program was developed after a two-year study by the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. The savings card is not an insurance product.



Here are some questions and answers regarding the program:

Q: What is being offered?

A: The program offers a savings card that allows users to purchase prescriptions and other health care supplies at discounted prices. Most prescription medications are covered in the DestinationRx Prescription Program through its network of participating pharmacies. In addition, DestinationRx provides prescription savings through a toll-free telephone number for maintenance medications and savings through its Web site on traditional drugs, including pet medications, vitamins/minerals, over-the-counter medications and vision care.

Q: Who is offering it?

A: DestinationRx and the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries are making the program available.

Q: Who is eligible for the benefits? Does one have to be a member of The United Methodist Church?

A: Any member of The United Methodist Church may obtain the card at no membership cost.

Q: Can the card be used with traditional prescription coverage?

A: The DestinationRx program cannot be used in conjunction with a traditional prescription program. However, the DestinationRx program provides savings to the member for non-covered items that may not be part of a traditional prescription program, such as birth control, smoking cessation, cosmetic and fertility products, and anti-obesity medications. In addition, the DestinationRx program can be used by individuals who have deductibles, maximums and major medical programs.

Q: Does the local church have to do anything in order for a member to enroll?

A: All the administration will be performed by DestinationRx.

Q: How do you obtain the card?

A: Cards may be ordered by calling DestinationRx at (800) 379-9040. Indicate that you received the invitation to apply for the card from the United Methodist Association and give the Group Number: UMA999. DestinationRx also has a Web site, but United Methodists need to obtain a permanent membership ID and prescription card prior to proceeding to the Web site.

Q: When will the card be delivered?

A: The card will be delivered within seven to 10 business days.

Q: Does each member of the household need an individual card?

A: One DestinationRx Savings ID card is good for all family members residing at the same address with the same last name.

Q: How does DestinationRx determine whether someone who calls for the card is a United Methodist?

A: The member contacting DestinationRx should mention that they are part of the United Methodist family. At the direction of the United Methodist Association, DestinationRx is not performing any verification of church membership.

Q: Where can I obtain more information online?

A: More information is available by going to <http://www.umc.org/interior.asp?mid=3647> on The United Methodist Church's Web site. DestinationRx is also developing a site for United Methodist participants; details will be available soon.

Q: How many pharmacies are participating? What are some of the better-known stores?

A: More than 25,000 pharmacies across the United States are participating, including those at Eckerd's, Kmart and Target stores.

Q: What kind of discounts does the card provide?

A: Savings vary based upon where one obtains medication. However, savings can range up to 25 percent on brand medications and up to 50 percent on generic drugs. Those savings are based on typical pharmacy prices at a retail drugstore.

Q: What range of products does the card cover?

A: The DestinationRx card covers most prescription drugs. In addition, on the DestinationRx Web site, the card covers items such as pet prescriptions, contact lenses, over-the-counter medications and vitamins/minerals.

Q: Does it cost the cardholder anything?

A: There is no membership cost to United Methodist members.

Q: How much is this plan costing The United Methodist Church?

A: There is no cost to The United Methodist Church or the United Methodist Association.

Q: How was this program developed? What roles did the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries and the United Methodist Association play?

A: Both the General Board of Global Ministries and the United Methodist Association have been researching ways to help reduce the financial burden of drug prescriptions for United Methodist members throughout the United States.

Q: What is the United Methodist Association?

A: The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries Inc., based in Dayton, Ohio, is a network of about 400 health and human services organizations. It was founded in 1940 as the Board of Hospitals and Homes of the Methodist Church. The organization is now an independent, not-for-profit corporation, and is identified as a "covenanting body" by the denomination's General Conference. That status is noted in the church's 2000 Book of Discipline.

Q: What is the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries?

A: The Board of Global Ministries, with offices in New York, is the missions agency of The United Methodist Church. The board's health and relief unit worked on arranging the drug-benefit card program for United Methodists following a two-year study.

Q: What is DestinationRx? Who founded it and how long has it been in business? What kind of record does it have?

A: DestinationRx is a privately owned company based in Los Angeles. It was founded in 1999 as a Web-based aggregator of prescription medications. "They have an outstanding record," said Jane Ehrman, health consultant for the Board of Global Ministries. During the two-year study, she looked at other providers in the industry and talked to clients of DestinationRx, and determined that the company had a high level of integrity, communications and service.

Q: Why would DestinationRx offer this free service to the United Methodists?

A: The DestinationRx Savings Program is funded through its contractual relationships with participating pharmacies and drug manufacturers.

Q: How much would DestinationRx usually charge for such a card?

A: DestinationRx has charged \$9.95 for this same benefit as a one-time fee. Similar programs without the added benefits of Web-based savings have charged anywhere from \$90 to \$120 a year.

Q: Is the church offering these benefits or is DestinationRx?

A: DestinationRx is providing the benefit, not The United Methodist Church.

Q: Are the United Methodist General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and the General Council on Finance and Administration involved in the plan?

A: No

Q: Where can I get more information about the program?

A. Call DestinationRx at (800) 379-9040. You can also call the United Methodist Association in Dayton, Ohio, at (937) 227-9494.

As a service to inquiring church members, this article was compiled and distributed by United Methodist Communications with information provided by DestinationRx and the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.

NOTE: This prescription savings card is not connected to The United Methodist Church's health benefits program.

Reminder: Mark Chancey will complete his series on *The Passion of Christ* with a lecture titled "Historical Questions and Controversial Issues" on Wednesday, March 17, in Wesley Hall at 6:30pm. Childcare will be provided. Please join us!

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.

Hospitals

Gerry Broome
Bob McGuire
Catharine Gebhardt

John Clark's friend, Jim Fittz
Betty Hopper's friend, Jo Kay Gary
Christine Certain, Ted Osioh, and family
John Sumner's friend
Darryl Summer's father
Tracy Rahm's friend
Nancy Guerra's mother, Arlene Hatcher
Gene Hoffmann's friend, Lee Smith
Claudia Miller's friend
Jerry and Patti Malone's son
Marsha Aaron's friend, Brenda Walsh
Linda Holstien's son, Paul
Cynthia Lee's father, J.C. Ivy
Herb Lee's father, Ed Lee
Georgie Ann Davis' friend, Nellie Finberg

Forest and Sue Cummings' friend, Patti Roberts
Burt & Lola Copeland's friends,
Kristin & Tony Tipping
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
Those with ongoing concerns

SVUMC Church Family

Tommi Ezell
Howard Ellis
Bryan Purcell
Randy Smith
Dillon Tucker
Jerry Rainey
Beth Copeland
Homebound members

Deepest Sympathy to:

Susan Haney and family in the death of
her mother, Yvonne Russell
Kenneth Sloan and family in the death of
his wife, Verleen Sloan
Family and friends of Bill Poole, who was
a member of the Seekers class

Congratulations to:

Margaret and Michael McElroy who were
married at Spring Valley on March 13

Extended Church Family

Chris Haney's friend