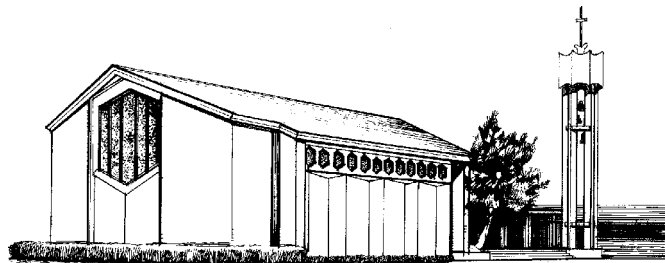


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 12 March 22, 2004

Passover model meal to be presented

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/Passion Sunday Services, followed at noon with a family picnic and Easter egg hunt

Thursday, April 8 - Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm, Wesley Hall ~ fellowship meal and a dramatic reenactment of the Last Supper, 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" by Chancel Choir and orchestra.

Sunday, April 11 - Easter Services ~ 6:30 Sunrise, 8:30 & 11:00 Traditional and 11:00 Contemporary

Easter Sunday parking plan is outlined

In light of our exciting growth in membership and attendance we are anticipating record crowds this year on Easter Sunday. To be proactive we have arranged for:

- Offsite parking at Albertson's on Coit
- Two 25-seat people-mover busses
- Dallas Police officers to control traffic flow on Spring Valley

We will be giving you more information as the Welcome Ministry team puts the overall plan together, and we will be asking for your assistance, cooperation, and involvement in using the offsite parking and for volunteering as greeters, parking attendants, traffic flow co-ordinators and parking lot security observers.

Please thank Bill Crosley and his team at Albertson's when you shop there. We appreciate their assistance in making this possible.

Shop the Spring Bazaar

and Bake Sale

Sunday, March 28

9-12:30

Dining Room

near Wesley Hall

Family picnic and egg hunt

Sunday, April 4

Join us following the 11:00 worship services for a time of fun and fellowship. Bring picnic side dishes to share. Hotdogs and drinks will be provided. After lunch, children (infants through 6th grade) will hunt for eggs in groups according to age.

YOU can help with this event by bringing plastic eggs filled with candy, snacks and/or prizes. There are baskets outside of Jan's office 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 at 972-233-7671, ext. 20 or by email at jhudgins@svumc.org.



What's up for YOUTH...

Sunday, March 28

- 7:45am Youth Singers arrive for 8:30 worship
9:45am Youth Sunday School
11am Worship
3:30pm Youth Singers
5:30pm \$3 Snack Supper
6-7:30pm UMYF - "The Afterlife," led by Steve DeFoe, Jack Harries, and Chase LaFrano



The Annual Spring Spiritual Retreat is only a few weeks away! The Seniors '04 will have a terrific retreat full of fun, fellowship, games, singing, small groups, high ropes, Bible study, spiritual growth, and memories planned for all who attend. Sign up now for this glorious event.

Registration forms are on-line at the church website, www.svumc.org/Education/Youth, for ASP 2004, Colorado 2004, and Spring Spiritual Retreat 2004. People are already signing up for these trips, and there's a waiting list.

Youth Sunday School is the coolest place to be on Sunday morning. It's not your parents' Sunday School. It's not even your older brother's or older sister's Sunday School. It's something completely new and different. You choose which class to take.

The Four Classes from which to choose are:

1. "Open Your Heart" - Taught by George Reese, this is a study of prayer.
2. "Reclaim Your Heart" - Taught by Pam Reese, this is a study of character.
3. "One Heart" - Taught by Diana White, this is a study of Christian community.
4. "A Heart-Stopping Miracle" - Taught by Jayson White & Frank Rahm, this is an incredible story of recovery, faith, and inner strength.

Congratulations to:

Kay Holstien, who was awarded a full scholarship to University of Richmond
Ann Michele King, who was named co-president of National Honor Society at Plano East High School

Jack Harries, whose Destination Imagination team won 1st place in Dallas, and moves on to state competition on April 3.

Mark Your Calendars:

- April 11** Easter SonRise service
April 16-18 Spring Spiritual Retreat, registration form on-line
April 21 Genesis Women's Shelter, it's a Wednesday evening
May 2 Senior Recognition Sunday
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.

Getting our house ready for company

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; supplies will be ready. Thank you for your dedication to the Spring Valley ministry.



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. 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. For information about Heifer Project International, please visit their website at www.heifer.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*

Guatemala mission team

Plans for the 2004 Guatemala Mission are maturing rapidly. Thus far, thirteen missionaries are committed to traveling to Guatemala; several other team members are providing important home-based support. Deadline for committing to the travel squad is April 4. The next planning meeting will be held in the Dining Room on April 4, immediately after the 11am church services. As a light lunch will be provided, please notify Elizabeth or Robert Gross at 214-341-1822 or robt144@swbell.net if you plan to attend.

Our Dimes-a-Day at work at our sister church in Slany, Czech Republic

Neil Williams, SVUMC mission liaison to Slany, recently received an e-mail from a Slany church member with updates on the church. Renata writes that, most importantly, they want to thank us for our generous gift of \$600 sent early last year to help with window repair in their small hall. (In 2002, Spring Valley through Dimes-a-Day sent money to complete the window project in their sanctuary in time for Christmas Eve service.) We sent \$1,500 in December, 2003, and this month we are sending an additional \$500 to completely fund the rest of the window project. Renata closes with the following:

"Dear Neil and Betty, give our best regards to everybody in your congregation and be sure that I appreciate very much everything what you do for us. Thank you so much and God bless you. Best wishes to you. Your sister, Renata"

Substance abuse conference to address problem of youth

So Help Me God! is an all-day conference on religion, spirituality, and substance abuse and is sponsored by the Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Greater Dallas Faith Community, and Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. It will be held on Friday, April 23, at Highland Park United Methodist Church, 3300 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, beginning at 8:30am.

Father Leo Booth, an Episcopal priest, will be the speaker. He is an internationally acclaimed author and lecturer on all aspects of spirituality and recovery and has worked with recovering addicts of all kinds, recognizing that unhealthy religious messages often play a major part of creating ingrained guilt and shame. He writes a weekly column that appears in newspapers across the U.S.

Cost is \$35, including lunch and conference materials. Limited scholarships are available. Deadline is April 5. For more info, call Suzanne Sugalski, 214-522-8600, ext. 238, or Myrna Ridings, 972-231-4435.

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 Streva for further details (210-696-2410 or terris@mmhome.org).



Noteworthy news

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

Palm Sunday, April 4

8:30 Men's Choir

11:00 Children's Choirs

11:00 Chancel Choir, *The Palms*

Easter Sunday, April 11

8:30 and 11:00, Chancel Choir, *Joy in the Morning*

8:30 and 11:00 Chancel Choir & Orchestra

Hallelujah Chorus

Youth Singers will take orders for Easter lilies

through March 28. There will be no orders taken on Palm Sunday, April 4.

Sunday School news...

Aldersgate Class

March 28 - Rusty King and John Tarver will present music from the new *The Faith We Sing* hymnal supplement.

April 4 - Thad Sims will tell about the Ethical Will, a written document or letter which a person prepares and leaves behind for family and friends. The "Ethical Will" has Biblical origins and usually contains the following themes: important personal values and beliefs; important spiritual values; hopes and blessings for future generations; life's lessons; love; forgiving others and asking for forgiveness.

Beacon Class

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 28 - Don Bowen, "Magic, Miracle, and Folklore"

April 4 - Gene Harrell: "Jesus Christ" (video)

April 11 - Gene Harrell: "It Is Finished" (video)

April 18-May 16 - Gene Harrell, "The Resurrection"



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

Diana Zimring

SVUMC Church Family

Catharine Gebhardt

Barbeece Copeland

Gerry Broome

Bob McGuire

Tommi Ezell

Bryan Purcell

Randy Smith

Dillon Tucker

Jerry Rainey

Beth Copeland

Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Kimm Carpenter's mother, Joan Webb

Kathy Watson's grandmother, Ernestine Derden

Nadine Haefs' friend, Karen Taylor

Harriet Carroll's friends, Ann and Charles Hartman

John Clark's friend, Jim Fittz

Christine Certain, Ted Osioh, and family

John Sumner's friend

Darryl Summer's father

Tracy Rahm's friend

Gene Hoffmann's friend, Lee Smith

Jerry and Patti Malone's son

Cynthia Lee's father, J.C. Ivy

Herb Lee's father, Ed Lee

Forest and Sue Cummings' friend, Patti Roberts

Our Missionaries, the Savutos

Slany United Methodist Church

Those with ongoing concerns

Congratulations to:

Sue Polson who celebrated her 96th
birthday on March 17