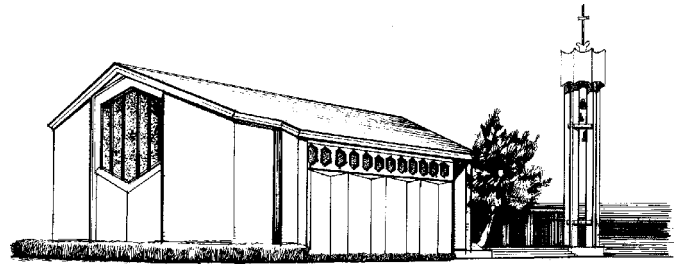


# Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 9, No. 12 March 24, 2003

## Sharing our Lenten journey

We are now halfway through Lent, the season for new beginnings in faith, the time for returning to the Lord. During Lent we recall our mortality and wait upon the Lord for a renewing Spirit. Lent is a time for putting aside the sins and failures of the past in the light of who we are yet to become by the grace of God. We are tested by the Spirit so that our participation in the meaning of Easter may be authentic and a true dying and rising with Christ to new life in God.

These dual themes of light and dark, failure and salvation, judgment and hope, dying and rising continue throughout Lent. But they are especially and dramatically vivid on Ash Wednesday, as the season begins. This year, as we moved through that service and the evening grew dark, Paula Tarver found herself reflecting on the dual themes of the season; and, prompted by the mood of the service and the changes in our beautiful "Behold" stained glass, she wrote **The Window**:

*It is gone black, with only inkling remains of the former brilliance that moves us.*

*Is it the measure of what we really know of you ... what we see so darkly?*

*Maybe Rachmaninoff, Michelangelo, Monet, Wordsworth, Tennyson, Windberg, Front and Mendelssohn reflect just what our squinting eyes are able to bear. The truer picture in the glass is at night - when the limits of our "enlightened" minds are overcome by reality.*

*In the waning image is the clearer, truer image.*

*Always, I have looked on that black glass with sadness; the colors and forms that please my eyes - lost to night. Never again. Found is new image, new hope for growth toward light, Being.*

*I will think on these things and seek assurance that the light and the dark are real and the same.*

*If not exactly so, then perhaps, at least, an encouragement to hope when times of light and dark are entangled in confusion and fear...like now.*

"Light and dark entangled in confusion and fear" ... yes, these are such days; yes, this is such a time. Thank you, Paula, for sharing your spirit and for offering us "an encouragement to hope."  
~ Larry



## Spring bazaar and bake sale!

Remember, the Spring bazaar and bake sale will be held this Sunday, March 30, from 9:30 to 12:30.

Also, please remember to bring your baked goods to Wesley Hall at 8:30 that morning.



## Blood drive, April 6, 9:15am - 2pm

The need for blood is even greater during war. Many donors are serving active duty in the military and are therefore unavailable to donate for local needs. Also, Carter BloodCare will supply blood products for the military if the Department of Defense cannot meet its own military needs during wartime. Giving blood is a great way to support our troops.

There is a sign-up table in the hall. Walk-ins are welcome. For details or phone sign-up, call Pat Hill, 972-669-3915.



## Easter egg carnival on April 19th!

**10am-Noon, Infants through 5th grade**

Come and enjoy the free petting zoo, face painting, bounce houses, cotton candy, popcorn, snow cones, egg hunts, and much more!

We still need lots of candy and treats by **March 28** to fill 3,000 eggs. Please put your donated candy and treats in the boxes near the Children's Ministry bulletin board. Thank you for your help in this project.

## What's new with **YOUTH...**

### Sunday, March 30

- 9:45am Common Ground Worship Service  
11:00am Youth Sunday School  
Noon Seniors '03 Lunch meeting to continue  
Spring Spiritual Retreat planning  
3:30pm Youth Singers Godspell Rehearsal  
5:30pm \$3 Snack Supper (Yum!)  
6-7:30pm UMYF

**RETREAT!!! SIGN UP NOW!!!!!!** Our annual Spring Spiritual Retreat is only a few weeks away. It's going to be terrific and it's priced right too! (Only fifty bucks!) The theme for this year's retreat is Crxxxx (oops, top secret!) But just know that spiritual growth will happen for you on this retreat. PLUS, there are NEW CABINS at Bridgeport, a new chef, and new kitchen workers!! By now, you have your registration form, so please complete it, sign and turn it in to the youth office by April 1, (no fooling.)

**Sunday School:** The Trinity series continues. We're off to a rousing inspirational start, looking at God in three & three in God. Your youth director is proud and impressed with how much you already know, understand, and believe about this.

**UMYF:** Frank has the program this week! Bet you can't guess what it is. Best wishes to everybody who has UIL competition this week; Danielle Williams, who will sing "Day by Day" at FUMC Allen this Sunday during their morning worship; Nicole Chapman, who has a choir performance at school on Tuesday evening; Ann Michele King, who has the Spring Show at her school this weekend; and to our seniors who are working on applications, finals, summer schedules, graduation, and also the Retreat and *Godspell* here at the church in the midst of all their other responsibilities.

Please pray for Kim Sumner, Troy Sumner, & Jonathan Andersen, whose friend died suddenly last week.

### Mark Your Calendars!! Wow!! There's a lot going on!!

- April 4-6, Spring Spiritual Retreat - planned, led by Srs. '03. (Seniors planning and leading this retreat are a new tradition at Spring Valley!)  
April 20, Youth lead SonRise Service on Easter Sunday  
April 26, Amigos Days (Service Saturday for April)  
May 4, Senior Recognition Sunday 2003, (SRS 03)  
May 4 Showcase

### Stephen Ministers will host meeting

#### Suicide and Crisis Center speaker, April 2

Robert Harrison will speak to Spring Valley's Stephen Ministers in Wesley Hall, April 2, 7:30-8:30 pm about the issues of suicide. Those of you who are interested in learning more about suicide are invited. Stephen Ministers from King of Glory Lutheran Church and First UMC, Richardson, have also been invited to attend. For details, call Myrna Ridings, 972-231-4435.



## Noteworthy news...

### Easter lily sales start Sunday, March 30

The Youth Singers will be taking orders for lilies starting Sunday, March 30. They are \$10 each, can be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply be given to the glory of God. The last Sunday to order is April 13, Palm Sunday.



### Upcoming Music

*Sunday, March 30*

8:30 and 11:00

*I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked*

Rusty and Stephanie King

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Kyrie Eleison*

*Sunday, April 6*

8:30 Men's Choir, *Come, Share the Lord*

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Wondrous Love*

*Sunday, April 13*

8:30 and 11:00, *The Holy City*, Jeanne Larrañaga

8:30 and 11:00, Carillon Ensemble

*How Majestic Is Your Name*

and *All Glory Laud and Honor*

9:30 and 11:00, Children's Choirs, *Lo, He Comes*

### Youth Singers Tuesday rehearsal

We will add 30 minutes to our rehearsal time this Tuesday, April 1. Supper is at 6pm and dress rehearsal is from 6:30 - 9:00.

### Holy Week Wednesday Taizé service

On Wednesday, April 16, the Spirit Choir will lead a special service at 6:30 in the sanctuary.

### Good Friday Tenebrae Service

On Friday, April 18, we will observe a service of darkness (tenebrae), led by the Chancel Choir.



### Trustees schedule all-church workday

On Saturday, April 5, our Trustees are sponsoring a "clean-up, spruce-up, get-ready-for-company-on-Easter" workday at the church. Mark your calendars, save the date, and join us for a great day!

## United Methodist Women will meet April 14

Bobbie Boger will talk about her return trip to Haiti in February. She delivered the backpack with gifts to our sponsored child, Siliane, and will share pictures, and stories about Siliane, and other events from her trip.

Lunch is at 11:30 and our program will be at 12:15. We hope to see you there for fellowship and a very interesting program.

## Breakfast with the Bible

For 40 years at this church, every Thursday at 6:30am, a devoted band of Bible students have gathered in Asbury Hall to enjoy a great country breakfast and spirited discussion of the Word of God.

Gene Harrell and John Dvorak make pancakes, grits 'n gravy, bacon or sausage, biscuits, or perhaps sausage and eggs. (All for one dollar, what a deal). We usually begin Bible study about 6:50am. Someone reads a few verses from scripture and we discuss them. Each person says what he or she thinks; we are in no hurry. Our aim is to understand! Discussion ends at 7:25, followed by a prayer. Class is dismissed at 7:30 sharp.

Our group has both men and women. Our members say that we have learned how to live life better as a result of our Thursday morning breakfast with the Bible, for we learn from one another, as well as from the Bible.

We invite you to join us as we stride along the way! Currently we are considering 2 Corinthians, Chapter 1. For further information, please phone Oliver Axtell at 972-661-1571.



## Spring Valley Preschool

Check out the school web page at [www.svump.com](http://www.svump.com) and see what we've been up to lately and other preschool information.

## Powerpoint volunteers needed!

We need people to join the PowerTeam that runs the Powerpoint slides during the Common Ground service. Each team member is assigned one Sunday a month and is responsible for creating and running the slides. If you would like to be involved in this valuable ministry, please call Linda West at 972-605-6395.



## Lupus Foundation of America, Inc.

The North Texas Chapter of the Lupus Foundation is having a program on massage therapy on April 12 from 11am-12:30pm at Spring Valley United Methodist Church. The program is not a substitute for medical advice or treatment but is designed to help individuals know what lupus is, symptoms, diagnosis, current treatment, and care. The speaker is Cara Davis.

Although the program is free, space is limited, so please call to register at 972-345-4824, or email [info@lupus-northtexas.org](mailto:info@lupus-northtexas.org).

## Aldersgate class program

Sunday, April 6 - Aldersgate will be "Experiencing Africa" with Mickey George. Visitors are welcome!

## Children's Chatter

### April Activities for Children

Sunday School will be very exciting for children during the month of April!



Thank you to the Seekers Sunday School class for all your hard work in preparing our activities. Lots of fun, meaningful plans have been made. Because of the Seekers' hard work, the Center Leaders only have to show up because everything has been done!

In April, toddlers and two year olds will be making a blessing book.

School age children will learn that through Jesus, God offers new life to people everywhere. They will learn how to tell the good news with their own unique gifts and talents.

Confirmation (sixth graders) are involved in the most important weeks of their Confirmation study. They are learning about what it means to be a disciple of Christ and their commitment to the church. Sixth graders are also going on a wonderful field trip to the Biblical Arts Center.

We are expecting more people in church during the month of April, so we need lots of help with Sunday School. Call Connie Miller, (972) 233-7671, or [CMiller@svumc.org](mailto:CMiller@svumc.org), today and say, "Yes, I want to be part of April's excitement."



New Directions is an adult Sunday School class for folks in their 30's, 40's and 50's. (Or, as we like to say, "wore mini skirts and drove VW Beetles the FIRST time around!") We meet in the Dining Room near Wesley Hall on Sunday morning at 11am after the Common Ground service. Please join us as we continue to explore the *series Spiritual Growth, Training versus Trying*.

March 30 Three Transforming Prayers  
April 6 The Roundabout Way  
April 13 And the Greatest of These Is Love  
Come for inspiration, fun, food & fellowship!

## 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

Gene Mundy  
Susan Kasten  
Jan Andersen  
Charlotte Muskopf  
Loraine Reese  
Bob & Darlene Twiss  
Bob Hitch  
Gwen Watson  
Kay Kee  
Dottie Cheek  
Sandra Guthrie  
Georgie Ann Davis  
Carmen Copeland

### Extended Church Family

Paula Tarver's sister, Marty Land  
George & Barbara McVay's friends,  
    Karl Young and Ed Buford  
Kathy Watson's grandmother, Minnie Sigler  
Tracy Rahm's cousin's sister  
Charlene Meadors' son-in-law, Kirby Felder & family  
Barbara Cornelius's friend, John Blankenship  
Ann Sanders' brother-in-law, John Allen  
Nancy Purcell's friend, Barbara  
Judy Hitch's friends, Bill and Delores Burch  
Frank Rahm's uncle, Jack Rahm  
Carlos Nascimento's father, Joaquin Nascimento  
Paula Huffaker's neighbor, Bev Johnson

Max and Betty Taylor's son, Jeff  
Homebound members  
Family and friends of SVUMC military  
Those with ongoing concerns  
Our Missionaries, the Savutos  
Slany United Methodist Church

### Our Military family in the Middle East:

Tom and Nancy Purcell's son, Bryan  
Marci Armstrong's cousin,  
    John Austin Knight  
Gary Stephen's son-in-law, John Patterson

### Deepest sympathy to:

Mark Solomon in the death of his  
    brother-in-law, Waymon Ivey, on March 25