

Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 10, No. 13 March 29, 2004

Holy Week services scheduled

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 - SonRise on the Courtyard (Wesley Hall if rain); 8:30 & 11:00 - Traditional "Darkness to Light" in Sanctuary; and 11:00 Contemporary 'Common Ground' in Wesley Hall



Easter Sunday parking plan is outlined

During the past few weeks, more and more people have come through the doors of SVUMC to worship God and join in fellowship together. The good news is that we are anticipating more people to be in worship on Easter Sunday than in recent years. The bad news is parking for 1,100 people! We have a plan, but we need your help.

The Welcome Ministry has scheduled two people-mover busses to help shuttle people from the Albertson's parking lot and has arranged for police officers to direct traffic on Spring Valley. In order to keep church property traffic lanes open for the busses, we will be designating an on-campus area for visitor parking. This area will be convenient to the sanctuary entrance. Members who need to use the church lot will be asked to park at the Wesley entrance.

We need:

1. Members to use our off-site parking at the north end of Albertson's parking lot on Coit Road. Please thank Bill Crosley and his team at Albertson's when you shop there. We appreciate their assistance in making this possible.
2. Members, if at all possible, to drive one car per family on Easter.
3. Volunteers for parking lot security and parking attendants. Call Judi Hitch at 972-661-8716 if you can help.
4. Everyone to be unofficial greeters, welcoming and greeting visitors and members in the name of Christ.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee announces appointment change

We United Methodists are part of an itinerant system, which means that pastoral appointments are made one year at a time. In the spring each year, appointments of clergy to United Methodist congregations are reconsidered by the bishop and district superintendents, in consultation with the ministers and the congregations. Such itinerant ministry allows for the careful appointment of ministers in the prayerful hope that the needs, gifts, and graces of the congregation, the clergy, and the community will all be considered, and the kingdom of God will be advanced on earth.

Three years ago Spring Valley received the appointment of Sara Pair as Associate Pastor. Sara and Shane were coming to Dallas so that Shane could complete his Master of Divinity degree at Perkins School of Theology, SMU. An ordained elder in the North Arkansas Conference, Sara was seeking an appointment in the Dallas area. Shane has now completed his studies and served a year on a local church staff; Sara has decided to postpone her plans to begin a doctoral program. Together Sara and Shane, and in consultation with their bishop, have decided that this is the year that their family should return to Arkansas. Bishop Janis Riggle Huie has announced her intention to appoint Sara as the pastor of the Alma United Methodist Church and its sister congregation of Mountain View in Alma, Arkansas.

A new associate pastor for Spring Valley will be announced in the very new future. Sara will continue with us full-time through mid-June, giving us ample opportunity to express appreciation to her and give thanks to God for her ministry here as we offer our prayerful support as she and her family prepare to return to Arkansas.

What's new for YOUTH...

Sunday, April 4, 2004

9:45am Youth Sunday School

11:00 Worship

3:30pm Youth Singers

5:30pm \$3 Snack Supper

6-7:30pm UMYF "Capital Punishment," led by Steve DeFoe & John Sumner

An important Spring Valley UMC tradition is approaching: Easter morning, April 11, SonRise will be led by the youth. The service starts at 6:30am, and the youth are asked to arrive at 5:45am to begin preparations. We'll also spend some time in UMYF this Sunday preparing to lead the congregation in worship.

Do you remember how much fun you had last April at the Spring Spiritual Retreat? Do you remember that it was so great that we couldn't stop talking about it for weeks afterward? Remember all the fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth we did? Want to do it again? Here's your chance!

Registration forms are On-Line! Forms needed for registration for Spring Spiritual Retreat 2004, ASP 2004, and Colorado 2004, are all available at the church website. (We are now filling the waiting list for ASP.) Go to www.svumc.org/Education/Youth.

Don't Miss Sunday School. It's worth getting up in the morning for!

Coming Soon: Collection of summer toys and swimwear for the children at Genesis Women's Shelter.--a joint project of Youth and Missions Core Group.

Mark Your Calendars:

April 11 Easter SonRise service

April 16-18 Spring Spiritual Retreat (Registration form is 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 is on line.)

July 31-Aug 6 Colorado Easter Seals Trip (Registration form is on line.)

Calling all children 4 years - 6th grade!...

...to be part of the "I Witness News" team visiting with Joshua and Caleb and witnessing the Battle of Jericho. Our children's choirs are working every Wednesday from 6:15 to 7:30 on this exciting spring musical, which will be presented in Wesley Hall on Mother's Day evening, May 9. All children are invited to be part of our news team. See you there!

April UMW meeting is after Easter

April 19 is our next UMW meeting. We are meeting a week later than usual because of the Easter holiday. Our speaker is our Youth Director, Frank Rahm, who will talk about youth activities and the coming youth mission projects.

The UMW meets for lunch at 11:30, and the program will begin at 12:15. Please come and be with us.



Palm Sunday events for children and families

All children, two years and older, are invited to participate in the Palm Processional this Sunday, April 4, during the 11:00 worship services. Children in the choirs will meet at 10:30 in the sanctuary. The children's choirs will process with palms and first sing in the sanctuary, then process and sing in the Common Ground service. The children will then sit as a group and remain in the Common Ground service. The Cherub Choir children may go to the nursery following Children's Time in Common Ground.

Preschool-age children and older children not in choir who want to participate in the palm processions should come to the preschool Sunday school and nursery classroom (Room 162) at 10:45am. Two-year-old children will be gathered from their nursery classroom for the processions. Parents are welcome to participate in the processional with their young toddler children. Following both processions, kindergarten (not in choir) and younger children will be returned to the nursery. Older children not in choir will go and sit with their parents for the remainder of the service. Please make sure your child knows which service you are attending. There will be volunteers to help the children find you.

After the 11:00 worship services, we'll go to Asbury Hall for the family picnic. Hot dogs and lemonade will be provided. Please bring a picnic side dish to share. The egg hunt starts at 12:30. There will be a crafts in Asbury to keep little ones busy between eating and when the hunt begins.



Rotation Sunday school in April

April's lesson theme is the Lord's Supper. Children will learn how Jesus gave his disciples-and us-the Lord's Supper as a way to remember him and all he taught us. Children will experience the Lord's Supper through sight, visualization, and hearing the story by using computers, cooking, and drama. On April 25, Larry George will join us and serve communion to the children, explaining the different ways the sacrament is served at our church.



Austin Street Centre breakfast

We who are part of SVUMC have wonderful worship opportunities as Lent ends. On Maundy Thursday, the dramatic reenactment of the Last Supper is followed on Good Friday by the solemn Tenebrae Service led by the choir. Easter Sunday greets us with light and the promise of the Resurrection! These services are wonderful food to feed our Christian soul. But Jesus asks much more of us than just to feed ourselves!

April 18 is Spring Valley's turn to provide breakfast to the homeless at the Austin Street Centre. There will be a table in the hall on April 4 and 11 where you can sign up for food for the 350 or so men, women, and children who will spend the night at this downtown shelter. You are invited to come to the church at 4:15am on April 18, join with others in mission and be back in 2+ hours. For more information, call Dana or Steve Taylor, 972-234-9867.

What does Resurrection mean in our life? Does it mean something different to a homeless person, who struggles each day to stay alive and keep the demons away? Can we make Resurrection more meaningful by resurrecting broken lives? Nourishing food and a bright Christian smile on April 18 is one small way.

Guatemala mission trip, 2004

The 2004 Guatemala Mission team now has 18 missionaries, including construction and medical personnel, who will be traveling to Chichicastenango in August. Also a part of the team are equally important non-traveling members who are providing Dallas-based communications, informational and logistical support. The next planning meeting will be held in the Dining Room on April 4, immediately after the 11am church services. A light lunch will be served, so please contact Elizabeth or Robert Gross at 214-341-1822, or robt144@swbell.net if you plan to attend.

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.



Noteworthy news

Palm Sunday, April 4

8:30 Men's Choir

We Sing Our Glad Hosannas

8:30 & 11:00 Chamber Singers, *Sanctus*

11:00 Cherub Choir, *Little Gray Donkey*

11:00 Joyful Choristers & Carol Choir

Ride On Now, O King

11:00 Chancel Choir, *The Palms*

Easter Sunday, April 11

6:30 Youth Singers, *Hallelujah, Now Be Joyful*
and *On The Third Day*

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

8:30 and 11:00 Chancel Choir & Orchestra

Hallelujah Chorus

"Seven Last Words of Christ," Good Friday

Theodore Dubois' powerful, moving work will be presented by the choir, soloists, and orchestra. Soloists are Peggy West, soprano; Max Taylor, tenor; and Dave Jones, baritone.

Sunday School news...

Aldersgate Class

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.

April 11 - The Forty Days from Resurrection to Ascension - The four Gospels record the miraculous event of the Resurrection and Jesus' many appearances during the 40 days prior to his ascension. We will see how these events are relevant to the salvation of believers. Robert Gross will lead.

Beacon Class

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

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

Seekers Class

April 4 & 11 - Rev. Dr. John Ogden will present Easter lessons.

April 18 - "The Unauthorized Bible," by Gary Holthaus, will be presented by Bill Hunter.

April 25 - Dr. James Caswell, VP of Student Affairs at SMU, will speak on current students' interests, concerns, and the administration's coping.

Wesleyan Class

April 4 - Gene Harrell: "It Is Finished" (video)

April 11 - May 9 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

Keith Kakacek

SVUMC Church Family

Diana Zimring

Carmen Copeland

Catharine Gebhardt

Gerry Broome

Bob McGuire

Tommi Ezell

Randy Smith

Dillon Tucker

Jerry Rainey

Beth Copeland

Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Betty Burrage's grandson, Scott Himes

Terri Hartman's aunt, Esther

Elizabeth Woods' grandmother, Janet Wilkinson

Kathy Watson's grandmother, Ernestine Derden

Nadine Haefs' friend, Karen Taylor

Harriet Carroll's friends, Ann and Charles Hartman

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:

Stan Kroder on the birth of his grandson

Rudy Guerra, just made a full professor
at Rice University.