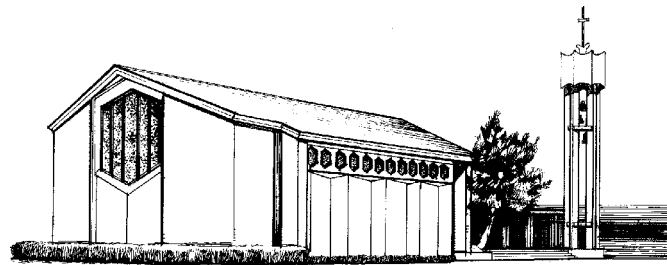


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 9, No. 13 March 31, 2003

Speaking of Lent...

"Let's play" is not the typical Lenten mantra, but for Elizabeth J. Canham "Lent is a good time to stop doing and try being." True, "relinquishment lies at the heart of the Christian gospel and is a countercultural choice that hones our discipleship."

But what we need to give up is something more substantial than eating chocolate or watching TV. It is our "workaholic guilt that degrades the value of play" and our anxiety "about not having enough of everything..." So rather than depriving yourself of something for Lent, consider taking up painting, listening to music, reading good novels, walking in the woods, writing poetry, dancing, soaking in a hot tub or enjoying good food with friends (*Weavings*, March/April).

Marlene Kropf has another image for Lent—a spring housecleaning for the soul. "In the daily round of life, dust and cobwebs accumulate in our souls. The hidden corners of our hearts become encrusted with grime or filled with forgotten debris. During the weeks of Lent, God's Spirit is given the opportunity to clear away the clutter, sweep away the dust and wash us clean. We are invited to prepare ourselves—heart, soul, mind and body—for the new life of Easter" (The Mennonite, February 18).



New Members

Elaine Winters and daughter, Tessa

1322 Cheyenne
Richardson, TX 75080
972-783-2703

Joyce and Bill Kemp

5626 Preston Oaks, Apt. 33C
Dallas, TX 75240
972-960-8509

Kasi Pollock and daughter, Abby

7435 Overdale
Dallas, TX 75254
972-851-9900

Baptisms

Bassey Okon Wilson

daughter of Sophia and David Wilson

Autumn Delaney Kniering

daughter of Cathy and Bill Kniering

and granddaughter of Barbeece Copeland

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

Please remember the blood drive this Sunday, April 6. 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. For details or phone sign-up, call Pat Hill, 972-669-3915.

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!



Daylight savings time begins!

This is a reminder that daylight savings time begins this Sunday, April 6. Set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night so you won't be late for church!

What's new with YOUTH...

Sunday, April 6

9:45am Common Ground Worship Service

11:00am Youth Sunday School

No afternoon youth activities today, due to the retreat

Sunday School:

We continue our series on The Trinity by discussing that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have eternally acted together and are active in our lives. Read Psalm 139:13-18.

UMYF: No MYF this week, due to the RETREAT!

Best wishes to everybody who has UIL competition this week; and to Kay Holstien, Danielle Williams, and all who are taking the SAT this week.

Youth Singers are selling Easter lilies for two more Sundays.

Youth Singers perform *Godspell* at FUMC Allen next Tuesday, April 8.

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

- April 4-6 Spring Spiritual Retreat - planned, led by Srs. '03.
- 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



New Directions is an adult Sunday school class for folks in their 30's, 40's and 50's. 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*.

April 6 The Roundabout Way

April 13 And the Greatest of These Is Love

Beacon class programs

Traveling through "The Beginnings" led by John Dvorak.

April 6 - "The Colossal Cheat" - Genesis 25-27

April 13 - "Jacob's Vision" - Genesis 28

April 20 - "Jacob at the Jabbok" - Genesis 29-33

April 27 - "The Joseph Story" - Genesis 37-50

Visitors are welcome - Asbury Hall - 9:30 - 10:45am

Seeker class programs

April 6 - Rev. Don Barnes begins a two-week abbreviated study of his course on Philip Yancey's book, *The Jesus I Never Knew*.

Aldersgate class program

Sunday, April 13 Robert Gross will present a program, "An Easter Message." Also, the Aldersgate class is organizing an all-church flea market on May 16-17. Proceeds will support our children and youth programs. Donations of clothing, household items, toys, jewelry, furniture, etc. are needed. For more information, call Earl Barnette, 972-233-3129, or Donna Campbell, 972-661-1855. More details will follow in the *Behold!*



Noteworthy news...

Easter lily orders

Lilies may be ordered through the Youth Singers for two more Sundays, April 6th and 13th.

Plants are \$10 each, can be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply be given to the glory of God.



Upcoming Music

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*

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.

Upper Room & Alive Now booklets

The *Upper Room* daily devotional guide and *Alive Now* publication are usually available to SVUMC members and visitors at no cost. This year, we're suggesting that you make a donation, if possible, for either publication. We are recommending the following donations:

Upper Room \$1.00

Alive Now \$2.00

The booklets will be available at the Welcome Center desk on Sunday mornings. During the week, please ask for them at the volunteer's desk. A donation container will be available with the booklets. Thank you for your consideration.



United Methodist Women, 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 her story with us. Lunch is at

11:30, and our program is at 12:15.



Easter at Austin Street Centre

On Easter Sunday, April 20, we will serve breakfast to the clients at Austin Street Centre. On the third day before dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb of the crucified Jesus and found it empty. For Christians, this day is now called Easter.

On the day we celebrate Easter, dedicated pilgrims from Spring Valley will make their way downtown to provide breakfast for 350 homeless persons, where down-trodden, poor, mentally ill can seek overnight shelter. These are the very men, women, and yes, even children, Jesus referred to as he preached the gospel. What could be more meaningful to celebrate the risen Christ than by rising early with others and going downtown to serve life-sustaining food. You will be back at church in time to participate in all the church services! There will be a sign-up table in the hall, or you may call Dana or Steve Taylor, 972-234-9867.

Habitat for Humanity continues building



Construction continues on the Habitat house. We have had good participation from SVUMC. Rhonda Huser, pictured, is installing the brick frieze. Rhonda is one of SVUMC's representatives on the Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat Board.

On April 5th, our church will be serving lunch to the volunteers. We would like to see lots of SVUMC volunteers working on that day. If you would like to work on the Habitat house, you can sign up at the

Habitat table near the church offices on Sunday. For more information call Bill Boyer at 972-661-2570, or Rhonda Huser at 972-788-1288.

Spring Valley Travelers trips for 2003

- April 23 - DART rail to the zoo \$ 10
- July 4 - Trinity Fest fireworks, *Beauty & the Beast*, dinner and transportation \$139
- Sept. 27-October 5 - Niagara Falls & Toronto \$609
- November 5-7 - Ozark Fall Foliage \$419

Call Chris Parton for details at 972-239-3369.



Foundation meeting scheduled

Spring Valley Foundation will meet Wednesday, April 9, at 7:30pm in the small dining room.

Wheelchair needed

Carlos Nascimento has a congregation member that could use a donated wheelchair. If you have one that you could give for this family, please call Carlos at the church, 972-239-9440. Thank you for your help.

Children's Chatter



Sunday School

On Sunday, April 6, all children (infant through fifth grade) will start preparing for Easter. They will learn about Jesus and how to tell others about the Good News. Be sure to come every Sunday this month! Also, the Seekers donated supplies to all classes as they prepare for Easter. Thank you very much, Seekers, for your time and energy. Kudos to this wonderful class!



Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival

April 19th, 10:00-Noon
Infants through fifth grade

Bring your friends to the Easter Egg Hunt and

Carnival to celebrate Easter! Look for time schedules for the different age-level egg hunts. You can also enjoy the petting zoo, bounce houses, snow cones, popcorn, cotton candy, face painting, and pictures with the Easter Bunny. Clowns will be handing out balloons. We will have an SVUMC information table in front of the church for visitors.

Teacher Appreciation Sunday

On Sunday, April 27, we will honor the "cream of the crop" at Spring Valley. All special persons who have worked with children will be honored with refreshments and recognized in the worship service. They have given their time, love, and energy to our children and we want to show them how much they are appreciated. Remember to tell your child's Sunday morning leader how much you appreciate them here at Spring Valley.

Confirmation

Our sixteen confirmation students are busy now preparing for Confirmation Sunday, May 16th. They are learning what it means to be a Christian and how God offers new life to everyone through Jesus. Richard and Dorothy Milner have taught an awesome confirmation program for many years. We are very blessed to have them leading this extremely important year of a sixth grader's growth in faith. We all look forward to Confirmation Sunday to witness this class publicly announce their commitment to Christ's holy church.

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

Carmen Copeland,
Jackson Bldg, Presbyterian

SVUMC Church Family

Lynna Fraser
Dale Kesler
Gene Mundy
Susan Kasten
Lorraine Reese
Bob & Darlene Twiss
Bob Hitch
Gwen Watson
Kay Kee
Dottie Cheek
Sandra Guthrie
Georgie Ann Davis

Extended Church Family

Alex Huffaker's friend, Glen Owen & family
Frances Dale's son-in-law, Virgil Wiesner
Betty Hopper's granddaughter, Robin
and Betty's friend, Jo Kay Gary
Paula Tarver's sister, Marty Land
George & Barbara McVay's friends,
Karl Young and Ed Buford
Kathy Watson's grandmother, Minnie Sigler
Barbara Cornelius's friend, John Blankenship
Ann Sanders' brother-in-law, John Allen
Judy Hitch's friends, Bill and Delores Burch
Carlos Nascimento's father, Joaquin Nascimento
Paula Huffaker's neighbor, Bev Johnson
Max and Betty Taylor's son, Jeff
Homebound members

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 Nite
Gary Stephen's son-in-law, John Patterson

Deepest sympathy to:

George Williams in the death of his daughter,
Margery, in Austin on March 27.