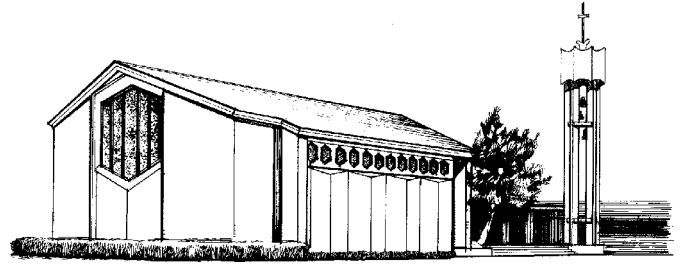


Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 12, No. 20 May 15, 2006



Nic at Night

A musical play for kids by Kathy Hill

Why is Nicodemus sneaking around so late at night? Come Sunday, May 21, at 6:30 PM to Wesley Hall to find out! The night will feature members of the Spring Valley Orchestra and Common Ground Praise Band, Blake Denzer as

Nicodemus and Susan Denzer as Aunt Ellen. Young children are welcome and encouraged to attend. Make plans to bring your friends today!

Congratulations to...



Greg and Erin Rogers on the baptism of their daughter, Lauren, on May 14.

Attention, Prime Timers!

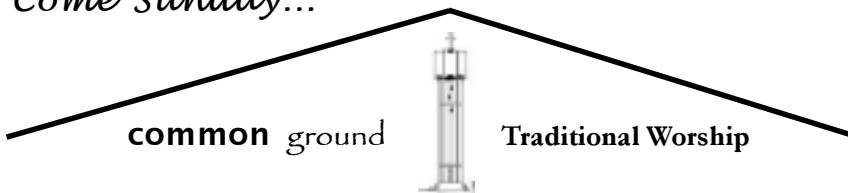
Come one, come all, for free pizza (but donations will be accepted) and a playday. All kinds of games- scrabble, dominos, bridge, rummycube, or bring a game of your choice. The day is May 31 at 11am in Asbury Hall. Bring a friend if you want, but don't miss it. Hope to see you there!



"DaVinci and Dessert: Deconstructing the Code"

This is a special, one-time event on Wednesday, June 7, with Drs. Paul Escamilla and Anna Hosemann-Butler discussing the popular novel (and movie) in relationship to the Christian faith. No meal, but complimentary dessert and coffee will be provided. Make your reservations by calling the church office and invite your friends.

Come Sunday...



Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 21

Acts 10:44-8
Baptism by the Holy Spirit
Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

John 15:9-17
Abiding in Christ...
Dr. Paul L. Escamilla, Emily King,
Josh Wilson, Colleen Yancy

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 28

Luke 24:44-53
The Work of the Church
Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Luke 24:44-53
What we leave behind...
Dr. Paul L. Escamilla

Music Ministry Banquet

Wednesday, May 31, 7 pm, Wesley Hall
Catering by Gloria's Mexican Restaurant
Entertainment by Dr. C. Michael Hawn
Tickets, \$15 each

We are planning on 100 for dinner. Reservations are nice. Cash/check saves you a place. Please be prompt in your reply. Last year Gloria's catered the food and it was great! Our entertainment includes perhaps a bit of levity concerning accordions!!

Extending God's Path

YTD Budget:	\$413,376
Total received to date	400,500
Received May 14	10,883
Attendance	453
<i>Give God what's right, not what's left</i>	

John Dvorak: A Beacon Of Light

Technically, the individual spotlighted this month is not connected with Mission Core programs, but let's stretch just a bit to showcase a person in an important outreach ministry. Opening Curtain!

Act I, Scene I

Scene: The Gardens of Richardson

Cast: John Dvorak, Gene Harrell, and Ruth Dvorak. Quite often they are present on the first and fifth Sundays of each month doing an afternoon worship service for the residents of this retirement home. Gene coordinates, with John leading the worship. He's also been known to lead singing, and play piano. Ruth often participates as a worship assistant at these services.

Scene II

Scene: The Gardens of Richardson, each Monday

John: "The relationship with the Gardens has become a kind of 'hobby ministry' for me. I have conducted funeral services and visited many of the residents. In season, I take flowers several times a week from our garden to distribute to the residents. They call me the 'Rose Man'."

Act II, Scene I

Narrator: In 1999 when Spring Valley began the Stephen Ministry program, John volunteered and was commissioned in the first class. Since that time, he has had a number of care receivers, each one benefiting from his incredible ministry skills. He visits once a week, bringing flowers, spiritual care, and sometimes his skill at dominos! He also regularly follows up on bereaved, another aspect of our Stephen Ministry program. John, whose first wife Mary died of cancer, has special empathy for someone whose spouse has died.

John: "The Stephen Ministry program of the Church is one of the Church's most effective tools for one-on-one spiritual guidance and care for persons who may be going through difficult times."

Scene II

Narrator: Twice monthly, all the Stephen Ministers meet for supervision and continuing education. John provides insights, supportive comments, and affirmation to the others in the group. He regularly leads devotions and recently was the speaker for continuing education, bringing a collection of poetry reflective of human emotions. John has been writing poetry for over 30 years!

Act III, Scene: Stage Right

John: "I have been a facilitator for Disciple Studies every year since 1999. I am in a second cycle of Disciple Studies now, facilitating Disciple II. This year I have an interesting ecumenical group of four Methodists and three Presbyterians."

Scene: SVUMC Kitchen

John: "I assist Gene Harrell with cooking for the Breakfast Bible Study on Thursday mornings. Gene is the 'boss.' I just assist. We begin working at 5:30am.

Intermission

Narrator: John is from Missouri and served in the Navy during WWII. He is a graduate of Marquette University, Perkins School of Theology, and served



as a minister for twenty-two years before becoming a development officer at Bishop College (now Paul Quinn College.) He later was assistant to President Wright Lassiter, Jr. at El Centro College for 11 years before retiring. John joined SVUMC in 1995.

In 1999 he married Ruth, a neighbor for many years, though they had not met until Ruth stopped to ask his advice on buying a new car she had seen parked in his driveway. She has brought joy to him and we are the richer for her being part of his life.

John has 2 sons, 3 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. Much of his time is spent in ministry and preparation for the two classes he teaches each week. He is a poet, enjoys his rose garden, and is an avid treadmill walker doing 4 miles in less than 1 hour!

Act IV

Scene: hospitals, nursing homes, homes.

John: "My assignment as a lay minister assisting the clergy staff with hospital visitation and pastoral care is a rewarding experience. Each Wednesday I spend much of the day visiting, making phone calls, and reporting my findings to the church."

Act V

Scene: Center Stage, bright Beacon Searchlight shining all over Spring Valley

John: "I would say that my greatest challenge and greatest love is serving as the teacher for the Beacon Class. I served as President of the Class two years and then, when Guy Garrett decided after ten years as teacher, he would pass the responsibility on to someone else, I have given it a try. Now, in the 4th year, I can honestly say it has been for me a great learning experience."

Narrator: John writes a biblical lesson he delivers each week. Copies are made available by snail mail or e-mail to class members, and others who are interested in his messages."

Curtain Call

Time for this volunteer to take a well deserved curtain call. Bouquets of flowers to you, John Dvorak! And may your light shine for a very long time!

(Narrator: John's profile was done in this format because he REALLY dislikes training exercises calling for role playing. It's the narrator's opinion he plays his many ministry roles in "Tony Award" fashion without any need for role acting to improve his skills!)

NOTEworthy news...

May 21 8:30 & 11:00, Chamber Singers, Offertory
8:30 Chamber Singers, 11:00 Chancel Choir, *Psalm 139*

May 28 8:30 Ladies Ensemble, *He is Exalted*
11:00 Chancel Choir, *Sing Praise to God*

June 4 Men's Choir, *See How Great a Flame Aspires*
11:00 Chancel Choir, *Hymn of Fire*



Drinking from my saucer

I've never made a fortune
and it's probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much,
I'm happy anyhow.

And as I go along life's way,
I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed...John Paul Moore



The inspiration for this message comes from Jerri Savuto, our missionary. She writes, "You may have read this poem, "Drinking from My Saucer." I have just quoted a few lines of the entire poem. I heard it at the Northwest Texas Spiritual Growth Retreat I was leading a few weeks ago. The idea of drinking from my saucer because my cup has overflowed seemed a perfect description of my life. One of my favorite scriptures is Roman's 15:13, 'May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit'."

"I love the idea of hope overflowing and drinking from my saucer, cause my cup is overflowed. I don't know about you but my cup is in a continuous state of overflowing. Bill and I are blessed beyond measure. How thankful we are to be missionaries of the United Methodist Church and to have had the opportunity to serve in this country at the Navajo Methodist Mission School and now as Missionary Interpreters for the South Central Jurisdiction and in Belize, Nigeria, and Kenya. What a great joy it is to be returning to Kenya in January 2007."

"We find ourselves so encouraged and supported by each of you. After my last email, I have received books and numerous offers of help for my new job in Kenya and we received so many emails stating you were praying for us. Prayers are our greatest need and certainly your greatest gift to us."

"Yes, we are drinking from our saucer; 'cause our cups have overflowed. It is now our prayer that some of that overflow can pour or drip into the lives of those we interact with here in the US and those we will work and serve with in Kenya."

Our Dimes-a-Day offering supports mission efforts like Bill and Jerri Savuto. They will visit Spring Valley on Sept. 10 to preach and teach. Be in church May 21 and share something from YOUR saucer. Truly we have cups which have overflowed!

MAD Camp June 26-30 Registration Starts Sunday, May 21, \$20

Children who are going into 1st through 6th grade are welcome to join our Music, Arts and Drama Camp on June 26-30 from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Children will learn more about the Bible, music, drama, and about preparing a musical. We will explore the Old Testament story of Moses in the musical, *Moses and the Freedom Fanatics*.



Homecoming Concerts June 16 & 17, \$5.00, On Sale Sun., May 21

Celebrate Life – Sanctuary, 7:30, Dessert Served
Youth Singers will present their Homecoming concerts on Friday and Saturday, June 16 and 17, at 7:30 in the Sanctuary. Desserts will be catered by Penny Wilson.

John Tarver will be featured on the opening and closing song of the musical with a reflective opening piece and a jubilant closing song on our magnificent Thompson Memorial Pipe Organ. As always, the Youth Singers will conclude with their traditional blessing "A Closing Prayer." Alumni are invited to join us at the conclusion of the program each night to sing this benediction. *Celebrate Life* is about the life of Christ and his teachings. The music is very enjoyable and is accompanied by orchestra. There will be pipe organ, piano, bass guitar, string bass, guitar, trumpets, flutes, clarinets, violins, viola, and French Horn.



Coffeehouse – June 23, Friday at 7:00 in Wesley

Our next coffeehouse will feature Eric Folkerth who is a singer/songwriter and guitarist. He brings two guys with him who add to the performance. Opening up for Eric is our own Josh Wilson. Josh is a senior in high school and is also a singer/songwriter. He plays guitar and will share a 45 minute set. Donations will be accepted for United Methodist Committee on Relief. Our next coffeehouse is set for Saturday, September 16 at 7pm. Mark your calendar now. It will be a tribute concert, but what group/artist will it be? Stayed tuned for more info!



Josh Wilson



Eric Folkerth

What's up for YOUTH...

We have so many OUTSTANDING youth at Spring Valley!! Along with being incredible members of our church, they are incredible students at their schools!

For their academic awards, CONGRATULATIONS to Kristin Holburn, Caleb Hudgins, Chris McEnaney, Madeline Steiner (who also opened her ceremony singing the National Anthem) and Emily Hennington received the "President's Outstanding Academic Excellence Award." Christopher Stephens was awarded Most Outstanding Pre-AP Biology student and "Mr. Physical Education". Other recipients are Christine Earl, Elizabeth Metzger, Trent Bjorkman, Nick Lewis, Erin Nicholas and Sarah Watson. Charlotte Carroll received a behavior award, Michael Simonsen received the "President's Achievement Award" for orchestra and Emily Hennington received the "Outstanding Warrior" award for Language Arts. A couple weeks ago, from the freshman class of Pearce HS, Tyler Stevenson received an "Award of Excellence" in Spanish and "Outstanding Biology Student." Sam Hodde received first place in the "Desktop Publishing – Single Page" contest and, along with a President's award, Sierra Wilmot is the new Student Council President at Westwood JH. You all are so awesome and we are incredibly proud of you!!!! If this list is missing anyone, please let Kelly know.

Senior Sunday is this coming Sunday! Seniors will be participating in the 11am Traditional service and there will be a luncheon afterwards, including the Senior Slideshow. Everyone is invited! All youth, parents, and youth volunteers are invited to celebrate these wonderful people.

UMYF for this Sunday will be attending the Nic @ Nite production that is put on by the Children's Choir. This is an opportunity for us to support the even younger part of our church! I've seen the rehearsal and it's going to be good. Another opportunity to support the children's department comes on May 24 from 6-7:30. This is the Children's Carnival and the youth have been asked to help in some of the activities. Please let me know if you are available to help for some or all of the carnival. Who wouldn't want to go to a carnival?

PARENT MEETING this Sunday from 4:30 to 6:00. This meeting has just come up and we know this is short notice. We realize that some of you will be staying for the "Senior Luncheon" after church, we hope you can make it back. And some will be dropping off younger siblings to prepare for Nic @ Night performance that starts at 6:30. As Gina put it, it just looks like Sunday has evolved into "Come Early, Stay late" kind of day. This is a parent meeting, but if you need to bring your youth up with you, there will be places they can hang out. Gina Tucker will be coordinating a simple meal and please RSVP to her at ginatucker@mac.com.

May is a CRAZY time for so many of us. I hope you all are finding time to get away every once in a while. Making time to take care of yourself is an important part of surviving these hectic times. If you don't take care of yourself, you will be less able to take care other people and things. Today, I went and sat in the sanctuary for a couple minutes to clear my head and pray for focus. Whether it's being quiet, going to a movie or hitting the batting cages, I hope you all are taking time to do something away from the busy daily life.



Companions in Christ Class has retreat

The *Companions in Christ* Class, led by Jan Hudgins, culminated nine months of study with an overnight retreat at The Prothro Center at Lake Texoma.



Companions in Christ is a 28-week spiritual formation study where participants learn about and practice spiritual disciplines. This class looks forward to sponsoring future spiritual growth opportunities for the women of Spring Valley UMC. Pictured are class members, Jan Hudgins, Becky Hydrick, Gina Tucker, Kathy Watson, and Dorothy Curtis.

Friends, fun and fellowship – attention all young professionals

FRIENDS is the young professionals fellowship of Spring Valley United Methodist Church...not simply a Sunday School class.

We are studying "Taking Life to the X-Treme - the Book of James" on Sunday at 9:45 during May. Please join us and bring your friends!

May 21 - lunch after 11am church services, La Madeline, Beltline, across from Prestonwood Town Center

June 9 - Free Salsa concert by Vincho Vicenzio - Addison Circle's Esplanade Park. picnic & cooler!

June 23 - Friday night Coffee house at Spring Valley UMC, we'll have several tables

June 24 - Saturday, Cinema in the Circle, fun & free outdoor theatre in Addison Circle Park...Picnic!

July 15 - Free Jazz concert, John Adams Quintet, in Addison Circle's Esplanade Park...picnic and cooler!

August 12 - Free concert by Dallas Wind Symphony, Addison Circle's Esplanade Park, picnic and coolers!

We'll also do a hands-on mission project, TBD. Join us for a fun and fellowship-filled summer! Call Betsy and David Willis, willisbf@yahoo.com, or Cynthia Pharr Lee at 214-529-5555.

KNOW...GROW...GO!

You'll want to remember that our next rotation is called *Jesus and Discipleship, Calling All Believers*



Children will learn that they too are disciples of Jesus, what that means, and why Jesus wants them to KNOW...GROW...GO! Join us for this fun rotation, beginning May 14-June 18 during the Sunday School hour, 9:45-10:45am.

Vacation Bible School

July 17-21, 9am-Noon, Ages 3-completed 5th grade

Come join the *Adventure of the Treasure Seekers* as we explore God's promises. Registration begins Sunday, May 7! Want to volunteer to be a part of sharing God's word and love with 150 children? Call Jan Hudgins today to explore how you can help.



New Preschool Director is on board



The Preschool Board and SPRC are pleased to welcome Holly Lewis as our new Preschool Director. Originally from New Jersey, Holly has a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication from Arizona State University and a background in marketing as well as child development. She has lived in Dallas in the Lakewood area for 13 years. For seven years Holly worked at Lakewood United Methodist Church as a teacher, Assistant Director and later the Director of the day school before its closure. Currently Holly is teaching preschool at Northway Christian Church's Preschool.



Holly is the proud mother of two children. Her daughter, Grayson, is a 2nd grader at St. John's Episcopal School in East Dallas and her son, Cadyn, is 14 months old and will be attending Spring Valley Preschool in the fall. Holly is very passionate about the connection between the preschool and the church and is excited about the possibilities ahead for the preschool. Holly and her family are active members at First United Methodist Church of Dallas. We are so glad to have Holly on board and look forward to her beginning work in July.

Loan your "part" for the celebration

Spring Valley will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary as a church in March, 2007. Tom and Linda Christian, and Gail and Layton Pettigrew are the anniversary co-chairs. To truly make the celebration a church-wide event, we need your help! Photos, memorabilia, and stories that are part of Spring Valley's past may be in your possession.

There is a box in the volunteer's office for receiving photos and other memorabilia. If you are willing to loan your photos, etc., simply place the information in a brown envelope (provided in the box), label it with your name, phone number, etc. Please label the photos as well. You may also transmit photos (in JPEG format), and stories, via e-mail to Dick and Myrna Ridings, ridings2@airmail.net.

Join us for Sunday school

An updated list of all Sunday school classes is available at the Visitors desk.

Aldersgate Class

May 21 - Anna Hosemann-Butler - 50th Anniversary, Full Clergy Rights for Women in the United Methodist Church

May 28 - TBA

June 4 - John Thornburg - Truces in the Worship Wars

June 11 - Jim Veach - "Are You a Fundamentalist?"

Beacon Class

New series of studies dealing with the first century of the Church, called "When the Church Was Young."

May 21 - "Philippi and the Advance to Europe"

May 28 - "Corinth and the Corinthian Correspondence"

June 4 - "Ephesus and Christian Caring"

June 11 - "The Journey to Rome"

Christian Parenting - Room 210

We are studying how to parent a willful child.

Fellowship Bible Class

We are reading *The Passionate Church*, by Mike Breen & Walt Kallestad. Call Lou & Bill Wilkin, 972-392-1486, maestrak1234@yahoo.com.

Quest Class

This class is presently joining Don Barnes in his Disciple I, Old Testament study in Room 204

Seekers Class

May 21 - Dr. Joerg Rieger will speak to us about **PAUL TILLICH SCHLEIERMACHER**, and contemporary theology. Dr. Rieger is Professor of Systematic Theology at Perkins.

May 28 - Our former pastor, Rev. Dr. Don Renshaw, will provide insight in the theology of **DIETRICH BONHOFFER**. Dr. Renshaw is now partner in the firm of church Development and finance Associates.

S.P.O.T. - Spiritual Parents of Teens,

We will conclude our study of *30 Days to Understanding the Bible* in May. If you have pre-teens, teenagers, or post-teens, come try us out! There is a SPOT for you in our class.

Neighbors Home Bible Study

This group meets on Thursdays at 7:30pm-9pm at the Bill & Lou Wilkin's home at 7740 El Pastel Drive. Join us for this exciting study!

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.

Hospital

Sue Cummings
Bronson Balzac

Luiz Santos
Randy Smith
Bill Darnall
Homebound members

Elizabeth Wood's friend, Shelley Embry
Former member, Sarah Arnett
Joyce Covey's son, Tom
Jan Hudgins' grandmother, Beth Mayberry
Will Tucker's mother, Ruth Gene Tucker
Mary Huffhines' brother, Eldon Harrison
Paul & Doris Simonsen's friend, Gus Cuello
Sue Cummings's friend, Jenny Hearn
Joyce Covey's son, Tom
Suellen Turner's dad, Dick Donley
Billie Wolf's sister, Joyce Featherstone
Donna Campbell's friends, Ashley Wilson
and Larry Bryan
All persons serving in the military
SVUMC missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
Those with ongoing concerns

SVUMC Church Family

Betty Portwood
Dorothy Wilhite
Grace Truax
Pat Currin
Frank Clements
Bob Muskopf
Steve Harper
Troy Sumner
Georgia Goodrum
James Rea
Ed Pierce
Betty Carter
Betty Lou Noble

Extended Church Family

Dianne Cronenberg's aunt, Dona
Betty Hopper's niece, Robin Bruehl
Lincoln & Rosanna Hinsch's family member,
 Jessie Berry
Ted and Anna Butler's friends,
 the White family
Mark Wood's nephew, Dylan Hamilton
Charlotte McConnell's nephew
Betty Reichel's son, Duane
Karen Sumner's friends, Mitch & Jessica
Margaret Tucker's godniece,
 Eletta Bacy-Fouche