

Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

Vol. 11, No. 38 October 24, 2005

We Are the Church: "I Love God"

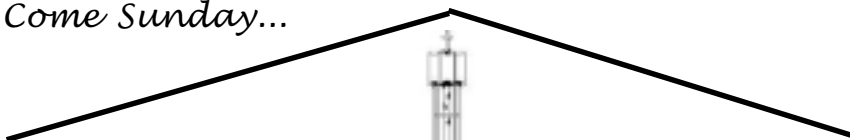
The sanctuary was nearly empty. Sunday's second service had ended with the congregation having brought their pledges of commitment forward to place in baskets as a final act of worship. I lingered at the front for a few minutes visiting with our guest preacher, Don Benton, when a young boy came up the aisle holding a small strip of white paper. I greeted him with a hug, then asked to see what he held in his hand. He had drawn a picture of a person, and written these words above it: "I love God."

I asked him if he wanted to add his picture to one of the baskets, and he nodded. He went forward and placed his strip of white paper in the basket on top of a stack of downward-facing pledge cards. Then he turned and scurried out of the room.

If every Sunday has its moment, then on a Sunday filled to the brim with such moments, this is one I will treasure: that following the great procession of God's people, person after person bringing forward their pledge of support for the God they love through the church they love, "finally comes the poet," as Whitman once put it, a child who put all our numbers and figures and percentages and calculations and check marks and signatures into three of the most beautiful words ever arranged together: "I love God."

(con't in next col.)

Come Sunday...



common ground

Traditional Worship

October 30, 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 3:7-17

Goin' to the Promised Land

Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Ephesians 2:1-8

God's idea of poetry

Dr. Paul L. Escamilla

November 6, All Saints Sunday

Psalm 78

A decree in Jacob

Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Revelation 7:1-7

Remembering those

who've gone before us

Dr. Paul L. Escamilla

** please check NOTEworthy news column for music offerings*

**Special music by the Praise Band*

In a sense, one of our own was offering the benediction to what every single card in that stack was meaning to say. The leaps of faith, small and great, that we each made to pledge our resources for the gospel work—all were our own best efforts on a given day to put into money what we feel in our hearts, to express concretely what we experience spiritually: "I love God."

May God be praised in all the beautiful ways God's people at Spring Valley, both young and old, have expressed in these great days their devotion to God and the great work.

Grace and peace. *Paul Escamilla*

We are the church!

The Spring Valley congregation responded to our Consecration Sunday in a *big* way. As of Sunday afternoon, we had received a tremendous level of participation in pledges of giving for the coming year. To date 221 families have pledged a total of \$815,000 toward our budget for the coming year, with a large number of families yet to complete their pledges. Of the pledges received, 54 represented first-time pledges; of those who have pledged in the past, their gifts represented a 10% increase over their giving in 2005, amounting to nearly \$80,000 in additional pledged giving for 2006.

We are grateful for God's faithfulness is leading the church to respond to the invitation to "step up" in giving, and we are grateful to a very generous Spring Valley congregation. God is doing great things among us!

If you have yet to complete your pledge for the coming year, cards may be obtained through the church office. Your support is essential for the ministries of our church—thank you for your response.

The Stewardship Committee

What's Up for YOUTH...

Hello everyone!

Halloween is fast approaching! We are going to celebrate at the Nicholas' house on Sunday! Be sure to come in a costume. We will run until 8pm Sunday for that event. Here is everything else that is coming up...

October

SMALL GROUPS - On Wednesdays 7-8:30pm (various locations)

30 - UMYF - All Hallows Eve Celebration - until 8pm

November

5-6 - FALL RETREAT @ Pine Cove Retreat Center

6 - NO YOUTH EVENING ACTIVITIES

13 - UMYF - What are sacraments?

15 - Youth Singers - Dinner, Bible Study, and Rehearsal

20 - UMYF - R.E.S.P.E.C. WHAT?

27 - UMYF - Whirly Ball - Until 8:00pm

Mark Your Calendars!!!

IMPACT Florida this summer will be June 24th - July 2nd.

Appalachia Service Project this summer will be July 7th - July 17th.

IMPACT is open to all youth (Jr. and Sr. High). ASP is for Sr. High only.

Reminders....

Snack Supper has resumed! Sunday nights at 5:30. Cost is \$3.

30 - Carol Nicholas

13 - DeDe Leask and Deb Tucker

UMYF is on Sunday nights from 6:00 (5:30 w/ supper) until 7:30. If there is a change, it will be noted.

Youth Music times are: 3:30 Ringers, 4:30 Singers.

We have a lot going on here at SVUMC. If you have any questions, call us or send us an email, and our door is always open.

MTLBYAKY, Jared and Megan

Has your email address changed?

If so, please be sure to contact Paula Huffaker in the church office, 972-233-7671, x14, or by email, Phuffaker@svumc.org, to insure your receipt of the weekly *Behold* newsletter.

SVUMC "historians" needed

Our church will celebrate its 50 year anniversary in 2007. We already have "The Spirit of Spring Valley," given by Bobby Detwiler, that gives us a history of the church to 1986; but we need volunteers to fill us in on what happened after 1986. We also need someone to go through old pictorial directories and pictures to document special events in the life of the church.

Our goal is to prepare a book and compact disk that tells the story of Spring Valley United Methodist Church from its beginning to present. In addition, we will prepare a PowerPoint presentation of pictures to show during the anniversary festivities. If you are interested, please contact Paula Huffaker at the church office 972-233-7671, e-mail phuffaker@svumc.org.



Warren Hogan to speak

After a 20 year career in general management with Texas Instruments and 5 years as president of AirBorn Inc., Warren founded the Hogan Center for Performance Excellence in 1987 to strengthen America by helping organizations, teams and individuals achieve performance excellence. The Hogan



Warren R. Hogan
Chairman, Hogan Center for Performance Excellence

Center provides training, consulting and products that helps its members achieve higher levels of operational and financial performance and recognized business excellence.

Hogan will be our guest speaker on Sundays Nov. 6 and 13, sponsored by the Christian Parenting class, Room 210. The Hogan Center has been instrumental in leading six small entrepreneurial businesses to achieve the Malcomb Baldrige award for performance excellence. Because of a severe tragedy when he was eight years-old, Hogan became an agnostic and remained so until age 64. He will be telling his personal story about developing a relationship with God which launched him on a new mission to reach 100 million people globally with God's transforming presence through their workplaces by 2015. He will also address the issue of applying Christian values in the workplace and how one's work matters to God. All are invited to attend.

Holy Land Missionaries

The Rev. Don and Mrs. Gloria Delaplain of Aransas, Texas will provide the program at our final Fall Fellowship Dinner on Wed., Nov. 2, at 6:30. They will speak about their mission work and the Israeli/Palestinian situation through a power-point presentation. The Delaplains are Individual Volunteers in Mission of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. They have recently returned to the United States after serving in Israel and Palestine. They will go back to the Holy Land early next year. Our menu is chicken spaghetti, green beans, salad, bread, dessert; and for children, corn dogs. Meal is served at 5:30 and the program begins at 6:30. Please make your reservations at the church office to attend. All are invited.

NOTEworthy news...

Worship & Music Offerings

Sunday, October 30

8:30 Ladies Ensemble *Shepherd Me, O God*

11:00 Chancel Choir *Lord of All Hopefulness*

Hymns

#368 *My Hope is Built*

#2060 *God the Sculptor of the Mountains*

#378 *Amazing Grace*, Soloist on verses 1 & 2, Danielle Williams

Upcoming music:

Sunday, November 6

8:30 Men's Choir *How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely*

11:00 Chancel Choir *At the River*

8:30 and 11:00 Susan Denzer *Goin' Home*

Hymns

#711 *For All the Saints*

#2275 *Kyrie* (tune from New World Symphony)

Sunday, November 13

8:30 Ladies Ensemble

11:00 Chancel Choir *Treasure* with Diane Garst, cello

11:00 Carol Ringers, Joyful Ringers

Hymns

#103 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

#2130 *The Summons*

#159 *Lift High the Cross*

Prime Timers plan next trip

Sixteen Prime Timers enjoyed a fun trip to Grapevine last week.

Our next activity will be an early **Thanksgiving lunch** in Wesley Hall on **Wednesday, November 16**. Turkey and all the trimmings will be served, starting at noon. We will need reservations by Sunday, November 13. As usual, there will be a signup sheet on the Volunteer desk. Please join us for fun, fellowship and food.



Family Fellowship dinners slated through Wed., Nov. 2.

Next Wednesday, Oct. 26, the menu includes:

Mexican Enchiladas For Children:

Taco Rice Chicken Nuggets

Fruit Salad

Chocolate Cake

Dinner is at 5:30. Please make your reservations by Sunday if possible by calling the church office. The final session of "God's Politics" will follow the meal on Oct. 26, and is planned as an extended session until 8 pm.

On Wed., Nov. 2, Don and Gloria Delaplain, former United Methodist missionaries to the Holy Land, will be the featured speakers after dinner in Wesley Hall. Reservations can be made by calling the church office. Make your plans to attend this very exciting and timely presentation.



Join us for Sunday school

An updated list of all Sunday school classes is now available at the Visitors desk. Some current offerings include:

Aldersgate Class - Room 206-08

Oct. 30 - Please join us for a classroom brunch while you check out Aldersgate.

Nov. 6 & 13 - We will be joining with the Christian Parenting Class in Room 210 to hear Entrepreneur Warren Hogan speak on Theology in the workplace.

Beacon Class

Oct. 30 - Communion of Saints

Nov. 6 - Forgiveness of Sins

Nov. 13 - Life Everlasting

Nov. 20 - Our Response to the Creed

Christian Parenting - Room 210

We are studying Dawn Billings' book, *Greatness and Children*.

Friends Class

All young adults, 20s-40s, married and single, are invited to join us for the video series, *That the World May Know*, by Ray Vander Laan.

Seekers Class

Oct. 30 - "Back to the Mountain," A continuation of the study of "The Sermon on the Mount"

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

formerly **PARENTS OF TEENS** - Room 192

We are reading *The Five Love Languages of Teenagers* by Gary Chapman.

Quest Class

Join us as we study the book of Revelation.

Christmas schedule

Christmas Eve: Sanctuary services at 5:30, 8, 11pm

Christmas Day: Sanctuary, 11am

Children and Youth will not have Sunday school on Christmas Day.

Adults classes who wish to meet need to notify the office and provide their own refreshments and beverages.

Thanks, Anna Hosemann-Butler

Habitat home almost finished

With only two Saturdays left on the Habitat build schedule, we hope you will join us as we complete the Blackmon home. This Saturday, October 29, we will be finishing up interior trim work, caulking, spackling and painting. Then on November 5 we will be landscaping and finishing out a punch list of touch-up items.

This past Saturday, we put Aundrae Blackmon's professional painting skills to work as he finished up the exterior painting – and what a professional job he did! As with previous Habitat builds, we have been blessed to work with a wonderful family. Habitat and all of its volunteers are so fortunate to lend a hand up to each of its deserving families.

The address of the Blackmon's home is 1822 Reinthal Court in the Pleasant Grove area. (Since this is a new subdivision, to find directions online use 2020 N. Masters Dr., Dallas, Texas 75217). Maps and detailed information about the build can be found on the Habitat table near the church office or you may contact Rhonda Huser, 972-788-1288, or Bill Boyer, 972-661-2570.

Savutos continue mission work

Bill and Jerri Savuto, Spring Valley's missionary couple, continue their work in the U.S. on behalf of the General Board of Global Ministries raising awareness of mission concerns. They are "on leave" from their assignments in Maua Methodist Hospital, Kenya, and hope to return there in the future. Jerri writes, "On our travels we have had the opportunity to meet several persons/couples who are interested in doing mission work. What an incredible joy it is to see people who are so excited about working with the 'least of these' and feel called to serve in countries around the world."

She continues, "We continue to hear stories about the work being done after Katrina and Rita and what will need to be done in the future. And in the midst of our tragedy is the earthquake that has killed over 20,000 people in Pakistan and India. Goodness, as I write there is Hurricane Wilma raging.

In the midst of all these disasters we continue to hear stories of faith and love, of lives changed – both the helpers and the helped, and of the difference each one of us can make.

While talking with Bishop Robert Hayes of the Oklahoma Conference he shared his favorite hurricane story with us. He said a daughter rushed in her vehicle to find her mom and evacuate her from her home in New Orleans. After the daughter got her mother and a few things situated in the car, she looked at her and said, "Mom, I have no idea where we should go". Her mom smiled and said, "Just start driving as far as you can and then we'll find a United Methodist Church."

A portion of your Dimes-A-Day offering is allocated for the financial support of our special friends, Jerri and Bill Savuto. Bless them for the hard work they do on our behalf.



Celebration cookbook planned

One of the ways we're celebrating the 50th anniversary of Spring Valley United Methodist Church is to publish a cookbook! We want everyone to contribute a favorite recipe. Please type or print a favorite recipe(s) on a card or paper, sign your name, and turn it in as soon as possible. A basket has been placed in the office for the recipes, or you can mail them to the coordinators listed below. The deadline is January 30, 2006. Please hurry!

Prissy Shaffer

709 Hyde Park

Richardson, TX, 75080 svcookbook@svcgloba.net

Barbara Zoeller

7652 La Verdura

Dallas, TX 75248

barbarazoe@sbcglobal.net

Betty Hopper

13416 Mill Grove

Dallas, Tx. 75240

_ladyhop7@sbcglobal.net

Plans slated for future Guatemalan trips

As we were unable to accommodate everyone for this year's mission trip to Guatemala, we have the dates for the 2006 trip. We believe that because of the high interest and this church's commitment to this mission that we can fill two 15-person teams. The dates for the first week are July 22 to July 30, and the second week, July 29 to August 6. Please note that these dates are before most schools start to accommodate any families with youth who want an unique educational and service vacation. There will be an organization/educational/informational meeting after Jan. 1.

Extending God's Path

YTD Budget: \$797,071

Total received to date 795,322

Received Oct. 23 14,120

Give God what's right, not what's left

Countdown to 32nd Annual Harvest Bazaar

Wednesday, November 9

5-8:30pm

Harvest Dinner 5:30-7pm

\$6 Adult, \$2 Child



Thursday, November 10

11 to 2pm

Lunch 11:30 to 1:00

\$5 Adult, \$1 Child

It's that time of the year again! The weather is cooler (well, maybe by the time this goes to print), the leaves are falling, hopes are rising for a wonderful holiday season, and our thoughts are turning to the Spring Valley UMC Annual Harvest Bazaar.

The upcoming 32nd Bazaar, Nov. 9-10, has something for everyone. Decorative items for Thanksgiving and Christmas, gifts for the holiday season, baked goods, arts and crafts, white elephant items, used books, ceramics, jellies, pickles, and candy will all be on sale. There will be a wonderful dinner on the 9th and a tasty luncheon on the 10th. As in past years, there will be the opportunity to win a priceless, one-of-a-kind handmade quilt.

Looking for a good home for those white elephants that keep popping up and those books that you've read and don't really know what to do with? Pat Currin and Joyce Kemp (White Elephant Committee Chairs) and Sundra and Joe Culver (Book Sale Committee Chairs) have the perfect solution. You can donate them to be sold at the bazaar. Your white elephants and books may be just what your friends at Spring Valley UMC have been searching for.

After the 11am services on Nov. 6, volunteers will begin accepting household articles, books, video tapes, and DVDs for the White Elephant/Used Book sales in Wesley Hall. (No clothing, furniture or large items, please.) Items will be accepted until 7pm on Tues., Nov. 8. Call Pat Currin, 214-473-8209, if you can help with receiving, setting up, and pricing items on Monday (11/7) and Tuesday (11/8) or working during the Bazaar. If you are unable to bring your items to the church, call Pat. She will arrange to have them picked up. If you can donate baked goods, homemade pickles, or preserves, call Betty Hopper, 972-386-4670. Thank you to the ladies of the new UMW Evening group who graciously volunteered to help with the articles, posters, and publicity for this year's event.

Bring your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc. to the Harvest Bazaar which opens Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 5-8:30pm, with dinner from 5:30-7pm (adults \$6, children under 12, \$2). Thursday hours are 11am-2pm, with lunch from 11:30am-1pm (adults \$5, children under 12, \$1). Advance tickets are encouraged and will be available on Sun., Oct. 30 and Sun., Nov. 6.

Volunteers needed for Bazaar dinner

The Fall Bazaar Dinner is coming soon, and we need your help for a successful evening. How can you help?

1. Please buy your dinner tickets on Sunday morning
2. Bake a dessert. The sign-up sheet and recipe are in the office.
3. Volunteer to help Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday of bazaar week. (Sign up in the office)

If you have questions call Joyce Boyer, 972-661-2570, or Jolene Harper, 972-235-6154. Many thanks for your help.

Visiting Nurse Association

plans holiday project



Spring Valley UMC is hosting the annual VNA Holiday Project for the 18th consecutive year! The workshop is scheduled in Wesley Hall on November 30 and December 1. And as usual the activity will fill Wesley Hall with supplies, boxes, wrapping paper, and most important of all, caring and dedicated volunteers. Volunteers from the community and from our church jump into what looks like a warehouse and then magically transform plain and ordinary items into prettily wrapped gifts for elderly, isolated, ill, and disabled persons in our community who might not receive other gifts. Gift bags are assembled for nearly 3,000 Meals on Wheels clients and 1,000 homebound patients, including hospice patients.

You are invited to participate in two ways: donations of the following items are needed to complete the gift bags:

3.5 - 4.5 oz bar soap	wash cloth
adult size white tube socks	toothbrush
2.7 - 4.6 oz tube toothpaste	8-13 oz bottle shampoo
8-13 oz bottle hand lotion	

Secondly, you are invited to Wesley Hall to help in bringing the spirit of the holidays to patients who receive the bags. The really wonderful thing about participating is that it brings the spirit of the holidays to you as well! This is a come-and-go activity; bring your friends and family if you like. Refreshments will be served for anyone willing to lend a hand!

Times: Wednesday, November 30

Thursday, December 1

11:00 am to 8 p.m.

2pm to 8pm note new times this year

Bring Christmas wrapping paper, scissors, and tape. Questions? Call Myrna Ridings, 972-231-4435.

Bazaar time is almost here!

We need your favorite desserts, pies, cakes, breads, candies, pickles, preserves, jellies, and jams for our Country Store. Call or email Betty Hopper at 972-386-4670, or ladyhop7@sbcglobal.net, and let her know what you would like to contribute.



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

Lauren Rogers

Cecilly Gibbs

SVUMV friend, Greg Haase

Dan Haefs

Martinez family friend, John Baker

SVUMC Church Family

Bonnie Reed

Garan Webb family

Cindy Stamps' sister, Gloria Thompson

Mary Jo Walker

Former member, Kathy Brunson

Donna Campbell's friend, Ashley Wilson

Frances Dale

Suellen Turner's friends, Curtis & Brenda

Chris & Lisa Newton's friend, Ryan Ramsey

Helen McEnaney

Barbara Zoeller's brother James, and the

Sharon Robinson's friend, Cathy Bjorklund

Randy Smith

Zoeller's son-in-law

Charles McManus's stepmother, Hazel

Joe Tureckey

Nikki Chapman's friend, Steven Mills

Emily Meier's friend, Estalle Peason

Bill Darnall

Barbara Cornelius's cousin, Debra Sutphen,

All persons serving in the military

Ann Michele King

and friends, Dolores Maxwell &

SVUMC missionaries, the Savutos

Homebound members

Tiffany Cotney

Slany United Methodist Church

Extended Church Family

Mr. Cederic

David and Shirley Hughes' relative, Martha

Those with ongoing concerns

Bruce Weaver

Caleb Hudgins' great grandmother, Beth Mayberry

Congratulations to:

Dale

Randy & Margaret Smith's daughter, Camille

Mike and Pam Metzger in the birth of a

Klosterman

Betty Hopper's son and daughter-in-law,

son, Matthew Mayo Metzger, born Oct. 20

Gary and Jacqui Hopper



Remember, Daylight Savings Time ends on October 30...

Set your clocks BACK one hour on Saturday night, Oct. 29!