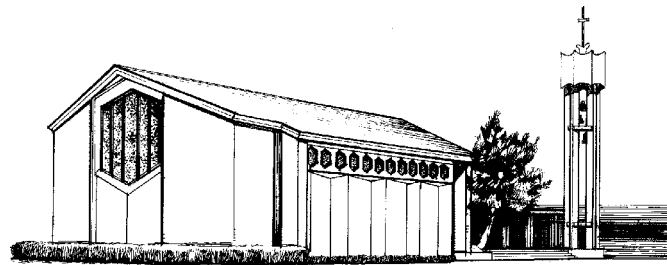


Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 9, No. 35 October 27, 2003



The church as a blessing

I have been very blessed in my life, and foremost among these blessings is the church. One of my earliest memories is going to Sunday school, but I know I had been taken to the nursery before that. Going to church every Sunday was just what we always did. Giving part of my allowance was also "what we always did." Along with that practice, my family felt strongly about

making a pledge so that the church could plan its programs and outreach.

I am grateful for this strong foundation because giving has always been a part of my life. That is a blessing, but the returns of that giving have been an incalculable list of gifts back to me and my family -- gifts such as the friends that have always been there in good times and bad, the warm handclasp when there were no words to express the deep feelings.

I have only been a member of SVUMC for six years, and each congregation has its own personality. However, the special friends here have made my move to Dallas another big blessing in my life.

Jean Holt

I would like to add a post script to what Jean has said above. A few years back, we joined the Beacons Sunday school class. That was a good chance to meet even more new friends, as well as hear an outstanding Bible study. We have been privileged to have Guy Garrett as our teacher, and now John Dvorak is taking over. Another plus is the opportunity to get to know people better than you can if you only see them in a church service and leave as soon as it's over. We have come to the realization that the more you become involved, the greater is the reward. The church is a true pillar in our life support. Without the church, we would be like a "ship without a rudder."

We would like to throw out a challenge--add a little bit to the "pot" and then see if you don't have a warm inner feeling. We believe you will.

Duncan Holt

Welcome, new members



Barry and Harriet Carroll

Travis (14), Charlotte (11),
Blake (9), and Dylan (9)

13635 Peyton Drive
Dallas 75240
972-404-1503

Baptism celebrated



Lisa and Chris Newton

"Big brother" Brayden,
and Allie, who was baptized on
October 26 in our Common Ground service

He who supplies...bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God... 2 Corinthians 9:10



The wonderful month of November when we celebrate Thanksgiving can be a time of great stress for those who are hungry. Among the many services provided by NETWORK of Community Ministries, is a food pantry.

Sunday, November 9, is our time to collect non-perishable food at SVUMC. Monetary donations should be designated for NET and placed in the collection plate or left in the business office. Our church will also collect donated Thanksgiving turkeys for NET. Look for information about that in next week's edition!

Last Saturday for Habitat build

Saturday, November 1, is the final day of construction on our fall Habitat home. Join Amelia Snell, homeowner, and the volunteers as we complete the landscaping, touch-up painting and clean-up. You are invited to attend the house dedication on Saturday, November, 8 at 11am. Questions regarding the build may be directed to Rhonda Huser, 972-788-1288, or Bill Boyer, 972-661-2570.

The Guatamala team in Wesley Hall on November 4 at 7:30pm, sponsored by the SVUMC Mission Core Process Group. Come hear the program, then stay and help package health kits.

This could save your life!

Stroke Prevention Plus/DFW will be at Spring Valley on Saturday, November 8, from 9am-1pm, offering vascular screenings. Stroke Prevention Plus will use ultrasound to screen carotid arteries in the neck for stroke, peripheral arterial disease, and for aneurysms in the abdominal aorta. The screenings are non-invasive, completely painless, and take about 15-20 minutes for all three tests. The tests are \$35 each or all three for \$95. You must pre-register by calling Sadie Price, 214-662-4635, or Carol Maxcey, 214-662-5112, for an appointment. Payment is check or cash only.

Advent workshop is coming soon!

Advent Workshop will be Sunday, December 7. This year's activities include dinner and a family worship time, as well as lots and lots of crafts. Come by the table beginning Sunday, November 2, to sign up your family to attend!



Spring Valley Travelers trips, 2003

<i>November 5-7 - Ozark Fall Foliage</i>	\$419
<i>December 6 - Norwegian Country Christmas Day Trip</i>	\$ 52
<i>December 31-January 1 - Branson New Year's Celebration</i>	\$159
<i>August 31, 2004 - Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, 23 days</i>	\$3,478
<i>September 26, 2004 - Leisurely National Parks, 8 days</i>	\$1,699

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

Noteworthy news

Carillon Ringers at Old City Park



Our Carillon Ringers will be playing a one-hour concert of Christmas bell music on Saturday, December 13, at 7pm at Old City Park. The park is a delight during the season. To have the opportunity to add to their festivities is an honor for the choir. Make plans now to attend to support the choir and enjoy the whole experience of Christmas in the park.

Special Saturday practice for Handel's Messiah on November 8

Members of Chancel Choir and Youth Singers have a rehearsal from 10-1 in the sanctuary to prepare for Handel's *Messiah* as the witness to the Word on Sunday, December 7, at 8:30 and 11:00.

American Chamber Choir comes to SVUMC on November 8

The American Chamber Choir, conducted by Jing Ling-Tam, will give a concert in our sanctuary on Saturday, November 8, at 7pm. Many of you will remember this outstanding group from their previous performances here. John Tarver is the accompanist and assistant director. They will be singing a program of "Spirituals and Spirited Music," joined by Ms. Ling-Tam's A Capella Choir and Chamber Singers from UTA. Tickets are available at the door – and everyone identifying themselves as Spring Valley members will get the special Spring Valley VIP price of \$5 per ticket.

Aldersgate class

Sunday, November 2 - "Touched by a Dream"

We continue our lesson on Spiritual Gifts and how to discover what plan God has placed in each person's heart. Cynthia Pharr Lee will facilitate. Everyone interested in learning more about spiritual gifts is invited to participate.

Harvest Bazaar is nearly here!

Volunteers are needed to help with the dinner.

Tues., Nov. 11, 4pm - 8pm, cook at the church

*Wed., Nov. 12, 12noon - 7pm, cook & serve dinner
6pm - 9pm, clean up*

At-Home Dessert Cooks, recipes supplied

Many thanks for any time you can give to this annual event.

Mickey George

What's up for **YOUTH**...

Sunday November 2

9:30am Gather for Sunday School *Note starting time!*

11am Worship

3 pm Return from Retreat

No Youth Choirs or UMYF today.



Youth Sunday School News

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ALIVE! Come share the spirit! On Sundays, we gather together at 9:30 for announcements, prayer, and singing, etc. We'll start our second rotation on Sunday, November 9. If you have not yet registered for a Sunday School class for this second six weeks, there is still space for you. Please come and be a part of this exciting spiritual motion.

UMYF News

On Sunday November 2, there is no MYF due to the retreat. **UMYF UPDATE!!!** Scott Donovan, geneticist and Methodist, will be returning to our Youth Group on Sunday, November 9! We remember how terrific he was the last time he visited us as he spoke about genetics, science, and genetic ethics. You may recall that we ran out of time, and we had barely scratched the surface! Mark your calendars to attend this special UMYF!

Special Congratulations to:

John Sumner, who earned a "First Division" rating at vocal competition last Saturday and was nominated for outstanding vocalist!

Katie Ledbetter and *Colleen Yancy* who are part of the Berkner High School Ram Band who won state marching competition last Saturday!

Youth Bible Study

has returned to Wednesday Nights for the Fall Semester. Please join us from 7:45-8:45 most Wednesdays as we take a spiritual walk through the Gospel according to Mark. Make plans to be there. You'll be glad you did!!

Mark Your Calendars!!

Nov. 1-2 – Fall RETREAT

Nov. 15 – UMYF Game Day at SMU football. Youth Groups from all over North Texas will be there for worship, lunch, campus tours, and the big game against Rice! We'll leave the church at 11am and return about 7pm. The price for lunch, registration, tour, t-shirt, and ticket is only \$20. Snacks at the game are "pay-as-you-go."

Nov 16 – Noon with lunch – Youth Council meeting

Dec 14 – Youth & Family Christmas Dinner in Wesley Hall.

UMW meets on November 10

The UMW will meet at 11:30 on Monday, November 10, in Wesley Hall, for lunch and a business meeting. There will be no program this month, as we will be busy getting ready for the Harvest Bazaar on November 12 and 13. There are lots of opportunities to help. Come see what's going on and join in the fun! We hope to see you there.



See the Great White Elephant on November 12 and 13!

The 30th HARVEST BAZAAR will be Nov 12 and 13. This year there will be child care so Mom and Dad can shop the Bazaar



and enjoy a great home-cooked meal with friends, knowing their little chicks are safe and happy. The price for the dinner is right, too. The delicious meal is \$6, and prepared by none other than our "First Lady," Mickey. Last year everyone was having so much fun they hated to leave the table.

But you eventually do need to leave the table and wander through the great white elephants. I have seen some of them already, and there are several treasures. The books are always a popular spot. We will provide comfortable chairs so you can enjoy a little reading time. Ladies, we have found this is a great place to leave your husband while you look at the quilt, jams, mixes, lavender sachet harvested just this fall in Washington state, and all the many handmade decorations and gifts for the holidays.

The featured item this week is called *My Story*. Everyone has a story to tell about themselves, and this "story in a bag" helps you get started. Inside the bag are about 100 pieces of paper that have a question on them, like "Describe your hometown at Christmas time when you were little" and "Where were you and what were you doing when the first man walked on the moon?" These are fun things to think about and need to be put down for your children and grandchildren to read. The *My Story* bag comes packaged with a pretty journal and makes a great gift for yourself or someone you love.

We need your books, treasures, and baked goods to help make this bazaar a big success. With your help we have been able to give back to the church over \$42,000 over the last 5 years. This has all gone to the youth, children, choirs, building fund and the many missions we support like NSCI, Habitat for Humanity, Hispanic Ministry and Meals on Wheels.

Pat Axtell, coordinator

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.

Discharged

from hospital

Floy Naugle

Oliver Axtell

SVUMC Church Family

Russ Karpenko

Verleen Sloan

Jeff Taylor

Janet Williams

Bob Crockett

Troy Sumner

Bob McGuire

Gene Mundy

Georgie Ann Davis

Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Amy Gutmann's father

Jan Hudgins' friend, Cheryl Malone

Jo Alice's pastor, Denny Slaughter

Mary Jo Lee's granddaughter's friends

Jerry Horn Turecky's friend, Greg Argo

Sharon Robinson's brother-in-law, Clint Price

Steward Huckaby's friends, the Loren Erickson family

Tryna Knox's niece, Nicole Beach

Claire Neuner's friend's brother in Iraq

Emily Meier's friend, Ms. Majors

Paula Tarver's friend, Darlene Ceilley

Mickey George's brother-in-law, Jack Holmes

Those with ongoing concerns

Our Missionaries, the Savutos

Slany United Methodist Church

We rejoice with:

Jeanne & John Larranaga on the birth of a
grandson, Jaxon Butler Deutsch, on Oct. 21