

Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



Vol. 9, No. 32 October 6, 2003



Giving Back

Faith gives before it receives. Dr. Robert Schuler wrote, "Life's satisfying experiences rush to the person who gives before there is any guarantee of return." As I look back over the years we have been members of Spring Valley, I think of what has been given to me. At times of need, I have been comforted and strengthened by the sermons, prayers, scriptures and beautiful music that are parts of our worship services. When I

have given back through volunteering, teaching or helping with special projects, I always feel that I receive more than I give.

Our church needs all of us to "give back" monetarily; and I am willing to do so because again - what we give, we receive back in so many ways.

"Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Luke 6:38

Mary Kennedy

Spring Valley has been my church home for more than thirty years. I joined, with my young family in 1972. Over the passage of time, Spring Valley has been with me and nurtured me through many of my life's milestones: births, deaths, weddings, funerals, crises of happiness and crises of sadness.

Spring Valley is a sturdy and steady rock in my life. It is where I am able always to find and to be with God. I receive comfort from within its walls, comfort for my soul.

I am so very proud of my church: its members, young and old, its staff, its sanctuary services, its music, its Sunday school, its outreach and mission programs, its new ideas and its longtime traditions.

As I turn in my pledge card each year, I do it gladly, for I know my dollars will be spent wisely and for the good of many.

Jeannie James

What do children need? What does God require?

Nearly 12 million children are poor. Millions are hungry, at risk of hunger, live in substandard housing, or are homeless. Almost 75% of poor children live in households where one or both parents work.

Every minute an American child is born without health insurance. Ninety percent of our nine million uninsured children live in households with a working parent.

Millions of American children start school not ready to learn. Millions more lack safe, affordable, quality child care and early childhood education when parents work.

On October 19, we will join thousands of congregations of all faiths in the 12th annual National Observance of Children's Sabbath. We will respond to the children's crises and God's charge by doing justice for children, loving kindness and serving children, and walking humbly with God, seeking God's will for children.

The children and youth of our faith community will lead in worship as we lift up the needs of children and God's call for justice. The Youth will lead in the 8:30 service. The Youth Praise Band will be a part of the Common Ground service. The children's Choirs will begin in the Common Ground service at 11am and move to the Sanctuary service to lead in worship there.

What can you do? Pray for children, those you know and those you don't know but whose needs you are aware of. Through prayer, focus your heart, and mind, and soul and strength on doing what God wants you to do for children. And join our children and youth in worship on October 19.

Educational resources for adult Sunday school classes are available. Call Jan Hudgins, Director of Children and Families, at the church.

Children's Ministries upcoming events

October 19 - Children's Sabbath and
dedication of new Rotation
Sunday School rooms at noon
October 26 - 11:00 Sanctuary service,
Third Grade Bible Presentation



Mission projects continue

Our Austin Street Sunday is October 19

SVUMC will be serving breakfast at the Austin Street Centre on Sunday, October 19th. There will be a signup sheet for this mission project on Sunday, October 12. For more information, please call Steve and Dana Taylor, 972-234-9867.

Habitat for Humanity update

Only four Saturdays of construction remain on our fall "Building on Faith" home. The work is moving inside this week with cabinetry, trimming, shelving and painting. Come and join Amelia Snell (homeowner) and the volunteers as we continue construction on the Habitat home. Questions regarding this build may be directed to Rhonda Huser at 972-788-1288 or Bill Boyer at 972-661-2570.



Have you forgotten...?

We still have several pictorial church directories that have not been picked up. Maybe you have forgotten about it, but now is the time to come by the church office and get your directory. For those whose picture was taken and for our homebound and new members, the directory is available at no charge. For others, directories may be purchased for \$3.

Does your group need a table?

If you need a table to promote an event on Sunday mornings it is necessary to contact Paula Huffaker in the church office, 972-233-7671, x14. Tables are limited to four per Sunday.

Spring Valley Travelers trips, 2003

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

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

Town hall meetings slated

Spring Valley Lay Leader Cynthia Pharr-Lee has announced a series of town hall meetings to gather input from the congregation regarding "the future direction of Spring Valley and the resources and actions needed to reach those goals." Pre-registration for the date of your choice would be helpful, either at the loggia table on Sunday or by email to Phuffaker@svumc.org. Dates for the meetings at the church are:

Sun., Oct. 12, 9:45am (Beacon Class will host)
Mon., Oct. 13, 7pm Thurs., Oct. 30, 7pm
Fri., Oct. 17, 12noon Sat., Nov. 15, 10am

Nominating Committee begins work

Our Nominating Committee has begun its work for 2004. If you are called about serving in a leadership position, please give prayerful consideration to your response; and/or if there is a place that you would like to serve, please contact a member of the committee: Joyce Boyer, Larry George, Gene Harrell, Katy Hines, Paula Huffaker, Debbie Ledbetter, Doug Sandstedt, Will Tucker, Betty Williams, & Elizabeth Wood.

Noteworthy news

Upcoming music

Sunday, October 12

8:30 Ladies Ensemble,

Trust and Obey

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Praise God with Cymbals*

Sunday, October 19

8:30 Youth Singers, *The House of the Lord*

8:30 Youth Ringers, *Timbrel and Dance*

11:00 Children's Choirs,

Sing, Dance and Clap Your Hands

Joyful Ringers will perform

Carol Ringers, *Holy, Holy, Holy,*

violin, Diana Zimring



UMW meets on October 13

We will hear a report from Nancie DeCourcy, a Guatemala Mission Team member, about their recent trip. Lunch is at 11:30 and the program is at 12:15. We hope to see you there.



What's new with YOUTH?

Sunday October 12

- 9:30am Gather for Sunday School *Note starting ime!*
- 11am Worship
- 3:30pm Youth Ringers
- 4:30pm Youth Singers
- 5:30pm \$3 Snack Supper
- 6-8 pm UMYF: Trip to Planetarium; *Note ending time!*

Tuesday, October 14

- 6 pm Snack Supper
- 6:30pm Bible Study to correspond with scheduled rehearsal scenes
- 7-8:30pm Youth Singers Rehearsal, Joseph/Dreamcoat

No Youth Bible Study on Wednesday, October 15, **BUT** Bible Study returns on October 22.

Youth Sunday School News: **YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ROCKIN'!**

On Sundays, we gather together at 9:30 for announcements, prayer, and singing, etc. Then we will disperse to our different classes. Your teachers urge those students enrolled in “Case for Faith” and “Bad Girls of the Bible” to remember your reading.

UMYF News

Thanks, Kay Holstien & Melissa DeFoe, for our terrific discussion on Religious Diversity. This **Sunday, October 12**, we will go to the Skyview Planetarium. They have prepared a special lesson about God and creation just for us, and it's free. We thank Karen Sumner for helping put this event together for us! This will not be the same old boring school field trip to the planetarium! Please make plans to join us.

On Sunday October 19, we'll elect Youth Council officers and conduct retreat planning.

RETREAT to Sky Ranch

It's a one-nighter, Saturday Nov. 1 - Sunday Nov 2. We will leave the church about 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning; return Sunday about 3:00 p.m. Plus, there is a special event planned for Saturday evening that you won't want to miss! Pick up registration forms Sunday, October 12. They are due Wednesday, October 29.

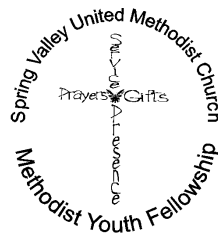
Youth Bible Study

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!!

Sunday, October 12 – UMYF at the Skyview Planetarium, courtesy of Karen Sumner (thanks, Karen!)

Saturday, October 18 – Day Trip to the State Fair of Texas, Free Admission courtesy of Steve Ledbetter (thanks, Steve!), but money still needed for snacks and rides, yet there is plenty to see and do for FREE at the fair!



Seekers class

- October 12* - Roger and Jo Martens will talk about their SVUMC mission trip to Guatemala.
- October 16* - Dr. Don Renshaw will speak on the Middle East (follow-up of a September talk).

Beacon class

- October 12* - Town Hall meeting with a church planning committee presentation at 9:45am in Asbury Hall
 - October 19* - “Life at the End of a Bungee Rope”
 - October 26* - “God’s Plan for Human Suffering”
- The Beacon Class meets in Asbury Hall from 9:30-10:45am. All visitors are welcome - singles and couples. John Dvorak will lead the class in this series.

Aldersgate class

October 12 - Aldersgate will focus on the importance of individuality in using our spiritual gifts. Ephesians 4:4-7: “But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift.” Looking at personality types, participants will discover their own individuality and the implications for the ways style can affect serving God in church and community. Visitors welcome.

October 19 - Robert Gross will speak on the significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls to modern Christians and their value in understanding the theological environment in which Christianity developed. Visitors are welcome.

Then...go with us to the Biblical Arts Center for the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit on Sunday afternoon, October 19. Everyone is invited. We will meet at 3pm at the Biblical Arts Center (Boedeker and Park Lane), northwest of NorthPark Shopping Center. Call Elizabeth or Robert Gross in advance, 214-341-1822, to purchase tickets at a discount price of \$16 each. Dinner is planned afterward at a restaurant near the Arts Center.

Dining out?

Steak and Ale will provide a refund check to the church for 10% of the net amount of your guest receipt. They have expanded their menus to include many “other-than-beef” items. Put your receipts in the marked basket in our workroom. Questions - contact Betty Williams 972-238-5608.



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.

Hospitalized

Verleen Sloan, Richardson
Regional Medical Center

SVUMC Church Family

Nancy Bryan
Bob McGuire
Gene Mundy
Georgie Ann Davis
Tryna and Kevin Knox and family
Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Marsha Lasater's friends, Helen and Manny Gomez
Darlene Twiss' friend, Marlyn Redd
JoAnne Norwood's mother
Tommi and Levon Ezell's friend, Dr. Guy Kindred
John Dvorak's daughter-in-law, Lillian Dvorak
Amy Garrow's mother
Betty Hopper's friend, Jo Kay Gary
Those with ongoing concerns
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church

Congratulations to:

Charles & Nippy McManus on the
marriage of their granddaughter
on September 18.