

Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church/Dallas, Texas

Vol. 11, No. 35 September 26, 2005

We are the Church—here it comes, there it goes . . .

As a young child, a high point of the worship service for me was always the offering—something I've often observed in other children since. I think part of my fascination was that "taking up the collection" seemed sort of like an indoor game, with three elements all playing their part: a moving target (the offering plate), money to be placed in the moving target (for me, this was usually pocket change provided by my parents or grandparents), and the players (people seated in the pews and ushers).

The object of the offering game was to plunk that envelope or check or piece of change into the plate as it came gliding by, then to help it along so that others could plunk in their gift as well. What a thrill!

...continued in next column

Down the row the plate would float, like a leaf in a stream, moving toward me, then away, into and out of the hands of others who seemed to know just how to bear it up and along lightly enough, carefully enough. At that age, there was less intrigue about the money that filled that plate than the plate itself. The fact that all these people had developed the skill of getting their money in that plate **on time, then successfully floating the plate on down the row, simply fascinated me.**

It still does. I give more than pocket change now—Elizabeth and I give to Spring Valley what amounts to one-tenth of our income. And I rarely get to plunk my contribution in the offering plate any more because of where my day job has me sitting most Sundays. But I still find the same things fascinating about the offering:

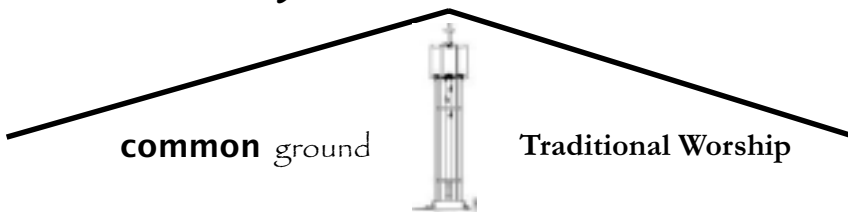
- 1) *It's in the wrist action.* The plate floats into hands that hold it lightly but carefully, the way generous people tend to give—freely, but with regard for the importance of what they're doing.
- 2) *Timing is everything.* Your need and my need to give for God's work through the church is—are you ready—here it comes . . . right . . . **NOW!!** And there it goes . . . off to do the work of ministry . . .
- 3) *The team matters most.* It's not enough that we give to the church, but that we give *as* a church; that is, that we see to it that our *whole congregation* is learning to give more and more freely and faithfully. Which is why we hold church-wide festivals to celebrate everybody's forward steps of giving, small and great. Our next one will be on Sunday, October 23, with dinner on the ground under a great big tent. And you're invited!

This month, as we focus on what it means to say that *we are the church* in giving, the plate is gliding toward each of us. The time is right to give generously and joyfully.

Grace and peace.

Paul Escamilla

Come Sunday...



October 2 - 20th Sunday after Pentecost - World Communion Sunday
Beginning of Stewardship Emphasis Month

Genesis 14:17-24

"The Trick of the Tithe"

Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

October 9

Proverbs 11

"The Wisdom of Sharing"

Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Genesis 14:17-24

"The Origins of An Instinct"

Dr. Paul L. Escamilla

October 9

Proverbs 11

"Words from the Wise"

Dr. Paul L. Escamilla

* *Special music by the Praise Band*

* *please check NOTEworthy news column for music offerings*

What's up for YOUth...

October-Small Groups Start!

- 2 - UMYF - Faith growth night - Scripture (Pop Culture Series)
- Youth musical Auditions - 1:30pm
- 9 - UMYF - Faith Growth night - Tradition (Pop Culture Series)
- 16 - UMYF - Let's talk about ... Stewardship!
- 22 - YAM JAM - in Golden, TX. ALL DAY EVENT. Bring \$10 for lunch.
- 23 - UMYF - Say what? - Communication
- 30 - UMYF - All Hallows Eve Celebration - until 8:00pm

Snack suppers

Oct. 2- Doris Simonson and Lisa Phillips

Oct. 9- Dana Hartgraves and Gail Stevenson

Small Groups start October 5th! Join your friends for a time of fellowship and discipleship! The groups are as follows (details of addresses and phone numbers will be handed out to you on Sunday). Small groups will run from October through December from 7-8:30pm on Wednesday nights!

7th and 8th Grade Girls

Leader: Stephanie Chapman

Location: Kathy Watson's

7th and 8th Grade Guys

Leader: Jared Williams

Location: Youth Office

9th and 10th Grade Guys

Leader: Cy Watson

Location: Lantz's

9th and 10th Grade Girls

Leader: Kathy Cook

Location: Neuner's

11th and 12th Grade Guys and Girls Mixed

Leader: Beth Ann Defoe

Location: DeFoe's

Worship stole consecrated in Guatemala



Members of the SVUMC Mission Team to Guatemala participate in the consecration of a handmade stole, a gift from the team to Rev. Rusty King, as part of their worship on the trip. We are all reminded of our sacramental connection to others this Sunday, as we celebrate World Communion, Oct. 2. Please plan to attend services.



Bazaar time is almost here!

It is the time of year that everyone begins to prepare for our upcoming annual Bazaar. Everyone will be coming to buy all those special goodies that the ladies prepare. We need your favorite desserts, pies, cakes, breads, candies, pickles, preserves, jellies, and jams. Call or email Betty Hopper at ladyhop7@sbcglobal.net, or 972-386-4670, and let her know what you would like to contribute.



Prime Timers plan next trip

We will be taking a day trip to downtown Grapevine on Thursday, October 20. Come with us to eat lunch and enjoy the sights and shops of this interesting town, so close to home. We will leave from the back parking lot promptly at 9:30am and return by 3pm. Transportation will be provided. There is a sign up sheet on the Volunteer Desk. Contact our Fearless Leader, Mary Huffhines, if you need more info.



UMW activities slated for September and October

In September, the UMW contributed \$500 to the SVUMC Mission Committee to be used toward helping our adopted evacuee families. The craft group contributed an additional \$1,000 to the SVUMC Mission Committee and \$1,000 to UMCOR for hurricane relief.



The next luncheon meeting is on Monday, Oct. 10, at 11:30. We will be completing our plans for the annual Harvest Bazaar on November 9-10, and will need everyone's help to make it the success it was last year. If you like to knit, crochet, or do counted cross-stitch, the craft group has projects you can do at home. Call Elizabeth Kilgore, 972-231-8539, for more information.

Extending God's Path

YTD Budget:	\$727,644
Total received to date	725,492
Received Sept. 25	24,788
Attendance on Sept. 25	508
<i>Give God what's right, not what's left</i>	

NOTEworthy news... *Worship & Music Offerings*

Upcoming music:

Sunday, October 2

8:30 Men's Choir *My Gratitude Now Accept, O God*

11:00 Chancel Choir *What Shall I Render to My God?*

Hymns - *What Gift Can We Bring? One Bread, One Body*



Sunday, October 9

8:30 Youth Singers *Come With Rejoicing*

8:30 Youth Ringers *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

8:30 & 11:00 *Risen* (Youth Praise Band) *Sing to the Lord, God's in the House, and The Lord's Prayer*

11:00 Carol Choir, Cherub Choir & Joyful Singers

11:00 Children's Bell Choirs

Youth Singers officer election results

President: Emily King

Vice-President: Emily Rahm

Chaplains: Charlotte Carroll & Sarah Chepregi

Secretaries: Kathyrn Holburn & Jason Cook

Librarians: Tyler Stevenson & Jenifer Otal

Robes: Chris McEnaney, Josh Wilson & Carson Tucker

Phone team: Ben Gutmann, Steven Harris-Mills,
Caleb Hudgins, Janice Sechyi

Communications: Paul Chepregi & Madeline Steiner

Youth Singers musical auditions Oct. 2

At 1:30 on October 2, the members of Youth Singers will learn choreography to the song "He Is Alive" from *Celebrate Life*. This is the musical for next spring. The auditions for speaking and singing roles will commence following that learning time. Each person who tries out for a speaking role will get one. There are 3 ladies solos, 2 solos for guys and 3 more guy parts – the three Kings.

You're not too late!

If you would like to involve your child(ren) in the Children's Music Ministry, you still can! We have been in rehearsal for 3 weeks now, and are planning to sing in worship on Oct. 9. We would love to have you with us!

Questions? Call Jeanne Larson at 972-233-7671, ext. 12.

Children's Music Ministry update

We have rehearsed for 3 weeks and we have 2 weeks left before we sing and ring in the 11am Traditional Service on Oct. 9. We need all children planning to be in worship at rehearsals! If you cannot be in worship or at a rehearsal, please call Jeanne at 972/233-7671, ext. 12. Thanks for your commitments!

Audiovisual help needed

The Common Ground PowerPoint team is looking for new volunteers to help with the audiovisual component of the contemporary service. Anyone with some degree of computer literacy is invited to be a part of this exciting worship planning team. Hands-on training will be provided. For information or to volunteer, contact Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler at the church.

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. 2 - Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, the British Methodist Church's response to terrorism.

Oct. 9 - Paul Christley, a presentation on this year's Bolivia Mission trip.

Oct. 16 - Robert Gross, a presentation on this year's Guatemala Mission trip.

Beacon Class

Oct. 2 - Jesus, Part I

Oct. 9 - Jesus, Part II

Oct. 16 - The Holy Spirit

Oct. 23 - The Holy Catholic Church

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. This is a history of the Old Testament and its applicability to the New Testament and our lives today.

Parents of Teenagers - Room 192

We are studying a book called *Making Love Last a Lifetime*, by Adam Hamilton. We will go to lunch following church, so we hope you can join us.

From Terry Crist, NETWORK of Community Ministries

The 8th Annual Billye Meyer Golf Tournament,
Church Challenge Division

Why: To Benefit the NETWORK of Community Ministries

When: Friday, October 21, 2005

Where: Sherrill Park Golf Course, Richardson

How: Either as an individual, or on a church-sponsored team

Details: www.THENETWORK.org

Email: BILLYEMEYER@THENETWORK.org

Response to Katrina is amazing

Spring Valley members and friends are responding to the emergency needs of our Louisiana neighbors. The call went out and we heard from a number of you with generous donations...don't stop now! There are long-term needs for the families who arrived here with nothing. The Mission Core Process Group is coordinating donations to needy families.



Clothing, furniture and household donations are needed

As families are moved from emergency shelters into housing, many will need beds, bedding, tables, chairs, dishes, cookware, and other items for daily living. The church CAN'T store these items until they're needed, but we would like to know now WHAT you can donate. A database has been created and when your items are needed, you will be contacted and arrangements made for transport directly to the newly created home.

Lamps are especially needed as there are no ceiling lights in the apartments. All donations must be in good condition and clean.

Clothes for Arrington Family

BOYS —Clothes 6 – 7 – 8.

Shirts —12/14—14—18. L

Pants — 12/14—16—18

Shoes — 5—7—9—10 ½—11

LADIES – Dress — 14/16—16—18

Shirts — M—L—XL—2X .

Pants — 6/7 T—14—16—18—

9/10—18/20T.

Shoes — 8 to10 ½—(9W)

GIRLS – Clothes 7—10/12

Shoes — Kids 12

MENS –Shirts —L—XL—1X.

Pants—32/30—32/31—36/32—
38/32—36/?

Shoes —8 to11

Contact Neil Williams at 972-238-5608 or via e-mail: nbwms2@comcast.net to list how you can help.

Jobs

If you can assist with job placement, please channel that information through the church. Some beautiful connections have already been established. The more links we can make, the stronger all of us will be! Please e-mail job information, truck or van availability, and ways you can volunteer to Betty Reichel, Mission Chair: breichel@svumc.org or place a written report in the Mission folder next to the copy machine in the library/work area.

Other ways to help

~UMCOR, Financial gifts to Advance Special #982523

~Neighborhood Service Council, Inc.

Financial gifts for enrollment, soccer program, more volunteers needed

~Richardson NETWork of Community Ministries

financial gifts, school supplies

~The Visiting Nurse Association's Meals on Wheels

financial gifts, additional volunteer drivers

Mission, continued...

Habitat home is progressing

Work continues on Aundrae and Ruthie Blackmon's Habitat home. Their boys are Shannon, 13, and Nehemiah, 10. The girls are Shakimah, 8, and Aliyah, 6. To fulfill the required 400 hours of "sweat equity," Aundrae and Ruthie will participate in the construction of their home.

Much has been accomplished: installing shingles on the roof, interior blocking, and installing the windows. Next Saturday's workday will be to put on siding, finish the soffit, and begin exterior painting.

On Oct. 8, Spring Valley will provide food for the volunteers. It would be great to have a big turnout from Spring Valley that day, especially!

The address of the Blackmon's future home is 1822 Reinthal Court in the Pleasant Grove area. This is a new subdivision, so to find directions online, use 2020 N. Masters Dr., Dallas, Texas 75217. Maps and details can be found on the Habitat table, or call Rhonda Huser, 972-788-1288.

Oct. 16 our Sunday at Austin Street Centre

Just as most social service agencies are being stretched to the limit, Austin St. is bulging with about 100 extra homeless persons.

Extra effort is focused on placing homeless families into more permanent housing. One small way in which we can help is to bring non-perishable food. This will allow families to have staple food as they begin a more independent life.

Executive Director Rev. "Bubba" welcomes our support. Sign up at the table on Sunday, Oct. 2, to help serve breakfast on Oct. 16 and see this ministry in action. Call Dana or Steve Taylor, 972-234-9867, to help.

Blood Drive October 16

Carter BloodCare has assured us that a good way to help victims of Katrina and Rita is by *increased donations* on October 16. The mobile unit will be at Spring Valley from 9am-2 pm on Oct. 16.

Volunteers are also needed to help with registration and in the canteen. For info, call Pat Hill, 972-669-3915.

Elementary School news

Kindergarten through 5th grade students are learning about three Bible characters, Peter, Paul, and Priscilla who were all transformed by Christ. Through the Holy Spirit they were made into "new creations."



We are also learning about the fruits of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control from Galatians 5:22-23. The fruits of the spirit are character traits in each one of us and allow others to see that we have been transformed by Christ.

Sunday, Sept. 25	Sunday, Oct. 3
Game: 4th/5th	Game: 2nd/3rd
Video: K/1st	Video: 4th/5th
Computer: 2nd/3rd	Computer: K/1st

October 9 is our Celebration Sunday. On this day we will celebrate the unit and all that we have learned.

We need teachers and shepherds for future units. If you would like to volunteer in this important teaching ministry of the church, please call Jan Hudgins, Director of Children and Family Ministries at 972-233-7671 or email jhudgins@svumc.org

Time to get your nametag

We still have many nametags left that people have not claimed. For those of you in the Common Ground service, check the table in the Loggia and see if your nametag is there. Thank you for helping us to get this program working.

Plans slated for future Guatemalan trips

As we were unable to accommodate everyone who wanted to go on 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.

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	Barbara Zoeller	Betty Hopper
709 Hyde Park	7652 La Verdura	13416 Mill Grove
Richardson, Tx. 75080	Dallas, Tx. 75248	Dallas, Tx. 75240-5536

svcookbook@sbcglobal.net barbarazoe@sbcglobal.net ladyhop7@sbcglobal.net

4th annual Aldersgate golf tournament

This golf tournament benefits Aldersgate charities and the Katrina relief funds. It is sponsored by Spring Valley United Methodist church. It will be on Thursday, October 6, at Sherrill Park Golf Course at 1pm with a shot gun start.

We would like to challenge all North Texas Conference churches to enter as many teams as possible. The winning team will have their names and their church's name put on a silver trophy which they will have the opportunity of keeping until the following year.

Barbeque and beverages will be served following the tournament. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. We look forward to enjoying a great day of golf and fellowship for a worthy cause. Please complete the registration form and mail as soon as possible. You may sign up as an individual and be placed on a team or provide your own team with an A,B,C, and D player. If you are unable to attend but would like to participate, please indicate your choice of either donating a prize, sponsoring a hole or monetary donation. Checks should be made payable to Aldersgate Golf Tournament and mailed to Spring Valley United Methodist Church, 7700 Spring Valley Road, Dallas, TX, 75254, Attention: Don Finnie. For more info, call Ben Dickerson, 972-437-0345, or email BDickerson4@aol.com.

Name _____

Handicap _____

Church Affiliation: _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Team Registration: Please complete a form for each player and mail in as a team.

- ___ Enclosed is my \$100 entry fee
- ___ Unable to attend, but I can contribute \$ _____
- ___ Unable to attend but can sponsor a hole for \$100
- ___ Unable to attend but would like to donate a prize or giveaway.

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 Elizabeth Rogers
Dorothy Willhite

SVUMC Church Family

Mary Jo Walker
Lisa Phillips
Maxine Bryson
Martha Cannon and family
Helen McEnaney
Charles Hudgins
Randy Smith
Eva Dawkins
Joe Tureckey
Bill Darnall
Ann Michele King
Homebound members

Extended Church Family

Caleb Hudgins' great grandmother, Beth Mayberry
Chris Newton's grandfather, Tony Harris
Harriet Carroll's father
Suellen Turner's dad, Dick Donley, and
her friend's brother-in-law, Bob Drummond
Cassie Dickerson's friend's family
Randy & Margaret Smith's daughter, Camille
Jim Yates
Cindy Stamps' sister, Gloria Thompson
Betty Hopper's son and daughter-in-law,
Gary and Jacqui Hopper
Kim Cox
Cindy Stamps' sister, Gloria Thompson
Donna Campbell's friend, Ashley Wilson
SVUMV friend, Greg Haase
Barbara and Frank Zoeller's friend, Meg Brophy
Roger and Jo Martens' daughter, Molly

All persons serving in the military
SVUMC missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church
All Katrina hurricane victims
Those with ongoing concerns

Congratulations to

Erin and Greg Rogers on the birth of their baby daughter, Lauren Elizabeth. Proud grandparents are Gail and Dan Stevenson.

Sympathy to:

Jack Brown and family in the death of his stepmother
Family and friends of Dick Weart
Harriet Carroll and family in the death of her mother, Ibbly Hunt
Ruby Arrington and family in the death of her mother