

Behold!

Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas



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It's that time of the year again...

School is back in session, fall is right around the corner, and it's an exciting time for children here at Spring Valley! Come and see the progress on the new rooms and the hallway mural. The theater room and the computer room are already in use, and the art and storytelling rooms are both almost completed. Look for information regarding our Grand Opening Celebration...it's coming soon! I am thrilled to be part of the SVUMC family and look forward to doing ministry and meeting the needs of the children and families of this community of faith. I couldn't have imagined a warmer welcome for my family and me.



In Elementary Sunday School, the children are hearing Bible stories of people who tried to bring peace and justice to all of God's people. These stories teach us to be peacemakers today. We will gather in the Theater room and then break out into smaller groups for storytelling, art, and computer.

In Preschool Sunday School, the children are hearing stories of how God's people loved and helped one another, and how God wants us to love and help others in our family and around the world.

Teachers for the month of September are:

Elementary: Storytelling: Ann Sanders and Pat & Fred Williams;
Art: Sharon Robinson; *Computer:* Jeff Robinson. *Shepherds:* T.J. Hartman, Joanna Shampine, and Helen Lazor, Rita Dickerson and Nancy Purcell.
Preschool teacher: Deborah Shaw.

Thank these folks when you see them (or drop them a note) for the gift of their time and energy in sharing God's love with our kids.

Upcoming Events:

Children's Council Meeting, Wednesday, September 17, 6:30pm
Confirmation Class Trip to Temple Shalom, Saturday, September 20.
Children's Sabbath and Third Grade Bible Presentation, Sunday, October 19.

Jan Hudgins, Director of Family and Children's Ministries

Welcome to our new member

We were delighted last Sunday to welcome Walt Buster into membership in our Spring Valley faith community. Walt, his wife, and their two sons live at 6623 Glenhurst, Dallas 75254; their phone is 972-386-0077. Walt's career as an architect has taken him from the design and manufacture of custom light fixtures to his current position as housing privatization project manager for the US Air Force.

Letter to Vacation Bible School attendees from the Guatemala Mission Team . . .

Thank you for the wonderful handmade bead bracelets that we handed out to the boys and girls who had come to the medical/dental clinic. We received lots of smiles in return for the pretty bracelets you made!

Did you know the small pharmacy in the clinic was completely out of children's vitamins? The nurse was so happy to receive the vitamins you donated she almost started crying! They try to give every child who comes a month's worth of vitamins. Thank you for your donations of vitamins for these children.

Monday, our first day at the clinic, the nurse was conducting an eye clinic. Many people came to have their eyes checked because they couldn't see very well. They were so happy to be able to give out the reading glasses and sunglasses you donated.

The VBS T-shirts are going to be given to the neediest of children when they come to the clinic. The office manager (JoAn is a social worker) will be able to determine who they are. Thank you for giving these shirts for the children.

You children of Spring Valley UMC were a big part of this mission to Guatemala. Thank you for showing God's love with your donations and your wonderful interest and questions about the people of Guatemala during VBS this summer. God bless you.

Basic Bible study to begin

Don Barnes will teach a 14-week basic Bible study starting September 28 on Sunday mornings at 9:45. Sign up for this exciting course to learn more about the Bible.

Dimes-A-Day For Habitat

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian-based organization that serves many families. It is not a give-away program. Applicants who meet the screening criteria must put in 400 hours of "sweat equity," make an escrow deposit, and make monthly payments on a non-interest bearing mortgage.

Since 1992, SVUMC has been a member of Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat (Richardson Interfaith), a local area outreach program designed to improve the quality of life for deserving families, and to involve area faith communities in that process and ministry. Richardson Interfaith represents 15 interfaith congregations and supports Dallas Habitat by raising money and recruiting volunteers from the member faith communities. They build new homes or restore existing homes for individual families with character, job stability, integrity, and a desire to own a home. Volunteers from SVUMC have helped build 17 houses and are now working on the 18th house. We have forever changed the lives of 18 families.

It costs approximately \$55,000 to build one home. Habitat for Humanity is not in the SVUMC budget. If you divide the cost of a house equally among the 15 members of Richardson Interfaith, SVUMC's share is \$3,667. Last year, the Dimes-A-Day program provided \$1,000 for this mission outreach program. We can do better. **The Dimes-A-Day offering on Sunday, September 21**, will go to Richardson Interfaith for building houses. We encourage you to support this cause as we continue to provide clean, decent and affordable housing for deserving low-income families. On behalf of Richardson Area Interfaith Habitat and Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity, we thank you for your financial support, and for helping to make this a huge success.

Fall blood drive, Sunday, October 5, 9am – 2pm

Spring Valley's fall blood collection through Carter BloodCare will be in Asbury Hall. All blood types are urgently needed, so please donate if you qualify. The Dallas-Ft. Worth area uses over 800 pints each day.

Next Sunday, come by the sign-up table near the church office to reserve your best time. The entire process takes about 45-60 minutes; and you'll receive a free t-shirt!. Volunteers are also needed to help during the collection time, so please call Pat Hill, 972-669-3915, if you can help.

Laptop computer is needed

If you are upgrading to a new laptop, we could use your old one in our new Children's theater! Call the church office or music office for details.

SMU football anyone?

Join Congregational Life for college football, SMU vs.Boise State, on Saturday, October 18, United Methodist Day at SMU. Tickets are \$10 and must be ordered by September 24. We'll take orders and money on Sundays, September 7, 14, and 21. Your \$10 ticket is also your dart rail ticket to the Mockingbird station where a shuttle will take you, at no extra cost, to SMU's stadium. Come early and march with the band down the Boulevard before the game, or just meet us at the stadium. We'll see you there.



Alice and Dianne

Noteworthy news

Upcoming Music

Sunday, September 14

8:30 Ladies Ensemble,

Let's Sing Unto the Lord

11:00 Chancel Choir,

God is Our Shepherd

Sunday, September 21,

8:30 & 11:00 Solo, Jeanne Larrañaga

11:00 Chancel Choir, *Go Out With Joy*



Youth Singers planning meeting

Tuesday, September 30, 7pm

This is our first business meeting of the year. Everyone needs to help. As we look at our calendar and see the fund-raisers, the Florida choir tour, our musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, we do in fact have visions of how we can be a part of those activities that God is blessing. We need you!

Parents - we can't accomplish our goals or be all that God wants us to be as the organization of the Youth Singers without your help.

Please check your closet!

If you have taken a costume home at anytime, please return it to Rusty or the choir room ASAP! Thanks!



Just a reminder...

...that you need to contact Paula Huffaker in the church office, 972-233-7671, x14, to reserve a hallway table for Sunday morning. We are asking each group to schedule a table only when absolutely necessary, so that we have 4 or fewer tables each Sunday morning.

Thank you for your help as we try to improve our hallway congestion on Sunday mornings.

There's still a chance...

...to participate in the Christian Writers study group. This group will continue through next year, and plans to meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in Asbury Hall.

Spring Valley Travelers trips, 2003

November 5-7 - Ozark Fall Foliage

\$419

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

What's new with YOUTH...

Sunday September 14,

9:30am	Gather for Sunday School
11:00am	Worship
5:30pm	Snack Supper
6-7:30pm	UMYF: "Pop Culture," led by Stephanie Chapman & Josh Wilson



Youth Sunday School News

This Sunday, September 14, we will dedicate our new classrooms downstairs in the renewed Youth Center. We will have a special consecration experience, asking God's blessing on our new space.

Registration for our "University Style" Sunday School began September 7. If you didn't register that day, there are still spaces for you in our classes, so do not worry. Come to Sunday School. Session I classes start Sunday, September 20 and end October 26.

Each Sunday, we will gather together for announcements, prayer, and singing, etc. Then we will disperse to our different classes. Your Youth Leadership and your teachers are very excited about this new model.

Wesley Coffee House returns on Thursday, September 18!

Recording artist Derek Webb will perform at Wesley Hall. Tickets are only \$10. Derek was one of the founding members and driving creative forces behind the group Caedmon's Call. You can read more about Derek Webb at www.derekwebb.com. Put this exciting event on your calendar. Bring your friends! It starts at 7pm.



Mark Your Calendars!!

Sept 18 – Wesley Coffee House – Derek Webb in concert!

Sept 21 – Youth Council Elections

Sept 27 – Day Trip to Dr Pepper Museum

Sept 28 – Paint-Ball

Nov 1-2 – Fall RETREAT

Youth Bible Study returns to Wednesday nights for Fall semester.

Please join us from 7:45-8:45 most Wednesdays this semester for Bible study. We will take a spiritual walk through the Gospel According to Mark. Make plans to be there. You'll be glad you did!!

Dear Spring Valley

On behalf of C.C. Young, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for the church's \$250 donation. Contributions such as yours are vital to the success of our mission to provide faith-based care to older people and their families well into the next millennium. C.C. Young continues to evolve to meet the needs of the growing number of older people in our community.

Your thoughtfulness in your gift will enable us to embrace the uniqueness of each resident and provide resources to assist them in celebrating the "ageless spirit."

Sincerely, *Kenneth Durand*, President

Seekers class

September 14 - Bill Hunter

Methodism at the Crossroads:

The 2004 General Conference

September 21 & 28 - Rev. John Ogden

Beacon class

"CARE"-actors in the Book of Acts

The story of the leaders of the early "Jesus" Movement and how their lives impact us as we seek to be "followers of Jesus" in the 21st Century.

September 14 A Good Man

September 21 Philip, the Ideal Evangelist

Join us in Asbury Hall at 9:30am. John Dvorak leads this series dealing with characters (CARE-actors) in the Book of Acts.

Aldersgate class

Sunday, September 14

"Serving from the Heart" is featured. We will study *Discovery of Your Unique Spiritual Gifts*, part of the put-it-all-together to discover JOY in ministry for Christ. Cynthia Pharr Lee will facilitate.

Sunday, September 21

The Spring Valley Guatemala Mission Team will report on their mission trip. The overwhelming success of this trip was due to Spring Valley's membership support, a lot of hard work, and faith in God. All are welcome to join us on the 21st.

A note of thanks

There is a plaque that I keep at the entrance of my home and which my son managed to save from the fire. It is from Joshua and Psalm 91 and certainly has a new meaning for us: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." "If you make the Most High your dwelling, then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent." I will never forget your kindness during the fire recovery.

Julia Soto Cabrera, NSCI Admin. Asst.

I am writing to thank all those who helped us when our apartment went up in flames. Your prayers and gifts were a real blessing, and it is good to know that there are people out there who can lend a shoulder to cry on. It's amazing how many people helped us, some whom we had never met. That meant a lot to my mother, and it meant a lot to me. Thank you and God bless you.

Joseph S. Cabrera (son of Julia Cabrera)

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

Sandra Guthrie
John Hutchins

SVUMC Church Family

Betty Schoonover
Wanda Bettis
Randy Smith
Jimmy Mays
Fayrene Pospisil
Jerry Rainey
Bob McGuire
Dottie Cheek
Georgie Ann Davis
Homebound members

Congratulations to:

Kristine and Brad Nash,
who were married on
August 30

Extended Church Family

Sharon Hall's mother, Carolyn Ozment
Tommi Ezell's sister-in-law, Myra Koch
Herb and Cynthia Lee's daughter-in-law's
sister, Ann Waldron
Elizabeth Wood's grandmother
Jeanne Larranaga's nephew, Bill Clark
Roger Martens' father, Walter
Ted Dumas's mother
Mark Reese's friends, Gene
and Dena Garrow
Layton and Gail Pettigrew's
son-in-law, Brent
Floy Naugle's husband, Russell
Herb Lee's dad, Ed
Joyce Boyer's friend, Bertha Jordon
Those with ongoing concerns
Our Missionaries, the Savutos
Slany United Methodist Church

Baptisms:

It was a high and holy moment in our worship last Sunday when Harriett and Samuel Macauley presented their year-old twins — Francis and Mabel — for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Standing with the parents were grandparents Mabel Macauley and John Cole and former SVUMC members Wallace and Victoria Gary, now of Pembroke, Georgia.

Church receives note of appreciation:

How can I find the right words to thank you for your visits, thoughts, and prayers? The very shock of my terrible auto accident is very hard to deal with and without the thoughtfulness of our friends, would be impossible to deal with. I'm so thankful to be a part of the wonderful community of faith at Spring Valley United Methodist Church. Such an amazing display of love and faith from everyone and so very appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

God bless, *Howard Ellis*