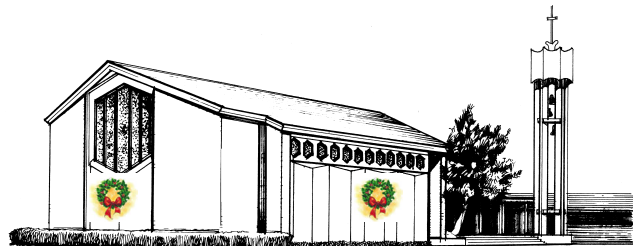


Behold!



Spring Valley United Methodist Church / Dallas, Texas

December 17, 2008

"Oh, Come all ye Faithful!"



Spring Valley's First Annual Live Nativity

Friday, December 19

7:00 - 10:00 pm

Come meet Mary and Joseph
as they share the story of the
Jesus' birth in a stable.

Hot Chocolate and Cookies will be served
immediately after the 20 minute narrative.

You are the host to this special Spring Valley Event! Use this opportunity to Evangelize, Minister and Witness to those around us. Invite your friends, neighbors and family.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 21

11:00 am Traditional
and Common Ground Services



Worship Opportunities

Sunday, December 21

Third Sunday of Advent



Traditional Services:
8:30 and 11:00 am
in the sanctuary
Scripture: Luke 2:1-14
Sermon: *Journeying to
Bethlehem*
Rev. Mark Vowell

Common Ground Contemporary Service:
11:00 am in Wesley Hall
Sermon: *Sharing the Good News!*
Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler



Nueva Vida Services - Spanish
Prayer Meeting - Wednesday 7:30 PM
Sunday School - 12:30 pm
Worship - Sunday 1:30 PM
Rev. Carlos Nascimento

Reception

honoring

Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Sunday, December 21

Noon

in Wesley Hall

Join us as we surround Anna with our love and
best wishes for her new journey!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Calendar - Page 2
Announcements - Page 2, 3, 4, 5
Missions - Page 5
Joys & Concerns - Page 2
Choir & Music - Page 3
Church Attendance - Page 2
Sunday School Classes - Page 6
Staff Listing - Page 6

Behold deadline: Mondays at 11 am

Behold editor: Kathy Watson

behold@svumc.org

Behold Weekly Attendance Report

	December 7	December 14
8:30 Traditional Service	99	197
11:00 Traditional Service	205	380
Common Ground Service	128	58
Nueva Vida	83	76
Nursery/Mission	15	17
TOTAL	529	
First Time Visitors	2	13
Repeat Visitors	23	66
New Members		3

Remember Evangelism is up to EVERYONE!



December

- December 19 Live Nativity 7 - 10 pm
- December 21 Children's Pageant
- December 21 Reception for Anna, noon
- December 24 Christmas Eve Services
- December 25 Christmas Day
- December 26 Church offices closed

The Staff Christmas Traditions

Rusty and his family eat Swedish foods including; Lutfisk, Rusks, and Lingenberry.

Carol and her family attend Christmas Eve services and go home to watch Christmas movies.

Robert and his family keep the "you'll shoot your eye out" movie on until it's impossible to listen to it or watch it any more.

Jan and her family make homemade Beignets.

Holly and her children make a cake for dessert and then leave the rest for Santa.

Kathy and her family put together Christmas puzzles.

Donna and her family go to Christmas Eve service and then open a present.

Kelly and her family have coffee, a breakfast casserole and strudel before opening presents.

Mark's family finds their stocking on their beds and all meet in Mark and Shannon's room to unload the stockings.

Paula and her family always sings the Hallelujah Chorus!

Carlos spends time with his family and has a traditional Brazilian meal.

Prayers of concern, encouragement, hope and love



Sympathy

Hazel and Dick Matthews in the death of Hazel's sister

Our Extended Church Family

- Chita Baladad's sister, Yolanda Berdin
- John and Barbara Clark's granddaughter, Allie Mediacaja
- Dianne Cronenberg requests prayer for Sandra Oberlee
- Steve Curtis' mom, Suzanne
- Nichole Fiorentino friends, Denise and Olivia Marsh
- Robert Goodrich's mother, Maggie and sister, Jennifer
- Gene Harrell's sister, Audrey Ingram
- The Holburn family requests prayer for David Sandlin
- Lisa Hord requests prayer for her sister's step-son, Ayden
- Larry and Naomi Kryske's daughter, Jennifer
- Laura LaFrano's mom, Dorothy Lankenau
- Cynthia and Herb Lee request prayer for Cynthia's mother
- Kurt and Debbie McEnaney request prayer for her uncle, Len Miller
- Cheryl Murphy's father, Bill Bromwich
- Micah and Vicki Roberts friend, Nolan Cooper
- Pat Swindle's son, Sean
- Paula Tarver's niece and husband, Ryan and Kira's new baby
- Virginia Thomas' nephew and wife, Mike and Margo Rask
- Mark Vowell's mother, Glenda
- Those suffering from depression during the holiday season

Our Church Family

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Oliver Axtell | Ruby Baker |
| John Lonke | Guillerminia Guerra |
| Emily Meier | Lois Murphy |
| Lenora Pitcher | Max Taylor |

- Our Care Receivers of Stephen Ministers
- Members of our congregation serving in the armed forces around the world
- Our homebound members
- Bill and Jeri Savuto, Missionaries in Africa
- Buea Methodist Church in Cameroon

Joys and Concerns: Call Alice Cromwell, 972-239-7332, or e-mail her at dallasal@swbell.net.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 21

- 7:45 Youth Ringers
- 10:00 Common Ground Praise Band
- 10:00 Orchestra
- 10:30 Chancel Choir
- 3:30 Youth Ringers
- 4:30 Youth Singers
- 4:30 Cherub Choir
- 4:30 Children's Choirs
- 6:00 Carillon Ringers



MUSIC FOR SUNDAY

- 8:30 Youth Ringers
Good King Wenceslas
- 11:00 Children's Choirs
- 11:00 Chancel Choir & Orchestra
Mary Did You Know
- 11:00 Chancel Choir
Angel's Carol
John Tarver and Lisa Phillips,
organ and piano duet –
Carol of the Bells

Wednesday, December 24

- 4:45 Children's Ringers
- 5:00 Children's Choirs
- 5:30 Service - Sanctuary**
- 6:30 Chancel Choir & Youth Singers
- 6:30 Youth Ringers – sanctuary
- 7:00 Service - Sanctuary**
- 7:30 Service – Common Ground**
- 9:30 Carillon Ringers rehearse
- 10:00 FLAME and Chancel Choir rehearse
- 10:30 Pre-Service Carillon Ringers concert**
- 11:00 Service - Sanctuary**

HYMNS

- No. 224 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*
- No. 203 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*
- No. 238 *Angels We Have Heard on High*



Picture of Christmas Cantata

Shown is the Chancel Choir, Youth Singers and Orchestra singing this past Sunday in worship. They presented Mark Hays's *Magnificat* for both services. There were 25 in the orchestra and approximately 75 in the combined choir.

FLAME Choir for Young Adults Continues This Sunday, December 21 at about 12:45 Following Anna's reception

- Third gathering – Sunday, December 21, 12:30-1:00 Choir Room
- Fourth gathering – Monday, December 22, CHRISTMAS CAROLLING, 5:30 go singing, Party to follow at Jackie and Courtney Elliot's (hot chocolate)
- Fifth gathering – Wednesday, December 24, 10:00 pm Rehearsal in choir room, 11:00 pm Service
- Sixth gathering – Sunday, December 28, 12:30-1:00 Choir Room
- Seventh gathering – Sunday, January 4, 7:45 Rehearsal, 8:30 and 11:00 Sing in worship services



Hope you can join us for any and all of these times. Invite friends to all, especially to the Christmas caroling on Monday, December 22. We plan to go to shut-ins, neighborhood houses, nursing homes, etc.

When FLAME sings in worship, songs our group will sing Christmas Eve are "O Holy Night", "The First Noel" and "Carol of the Bells", perhaps with Chancel Choir.

Child's Christmas Tree Design Delivers Big Message

by Stephanie Lucero

DALLAS (CBS 11 News) — Eight-year-old Richard Fogarty was born with Poland's Syndrome - a rare disorder that left him without his right hand.

"The hardest thing right after he was born was accepting it and understanding that he's going to be okay and there's really nothing wrong," said Chris Fogarty, Richard's father.

Richard never does anything half-hearted. Not only does Richard play football, basketball and baseball, his parents say he scores.

"He'll try things that people with two hands and a full body would never try," said Chris.

Richard knows that people look at the hand he is missing. It's what he has that matters more.

"Sometimes they say nothing. Sometimes they'll ask me what happened, and I'll say God made me like this," Richard said.

"It's so wonderful that Richard has the opportunity to change people's minds," said Lori. "You know people look at children with missing limbs and feel sorry for them, and they don't need to."

So when it came to designing a Christmas Tree, Richard relied on the items that have helped him to achieve.

"He said, 'Mom, the title of my tree is going to be Scottish Rite Rocks.' And I said, 'Okay, what are you going to do?'" said Lori Fogarty, Richard's mother.

He used books that have helped him with dyslexia, wheelchairs, walkers and crutches all around. On the top of Richard's Christmas Tree, prosthetic hands reach upward.

"The tree is magnificently beautiful," said Lori.

Richard's design was chosen along with five others to be made into window displays at the Downtown Dallas Neiman Marcus. A total of 52 children from St. Philip's School and Community Center and Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children were asked to design their fantasy tree.

The drawings from the trees were used as blueprints. All six trees are also available for purchase, with the proceeds going to the two children's organizations.



A Spring Valley Connection

Richard and his brothers have all attended our Preschool and his brother Joe is in the Clown class this year.

Richard's tree is on the display at the Downtown Neiman Marcus store, on the HGTV website and Richard and his tree will be featured on a HGTV Christmas special.

Merry Christmas

The Praise Band's new Christmas CD are ready! You can purchase them this Sunday for \$10, by Wesley Hall.



Band members:

Phil West
Barry Carroll
Paul Simonsen
Carol Chapman
Robert Leedy
Jennifer Leedy
Blake Denzer
Mike McKay
Bryan West

Don't miss this opportunity to get your CD
They make great stocking stuffers!!!!



Nueva Vida

A Prayer of Nueva Vida

by Carlos Nascimento

Dear Heavenly Father,
You are the almighty God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of all people, even strangers and immigrants.

We come to you with a special prayer today, in the presence and in the name of our resurrected Lord Jesus Christ who has made us citizens of the heavens, to thank you for the vision and love of our brethren of Spring Valley, Arapaho and First Richardson United Methodist churches.

We praise your holy name for making us part of the ministry of these congregations that have helped Nueva Vida to become such a thriving church, working together in extending your love and care to immigrant families in our community.

We present to you the gratitude of our hearts for the encouragement, support and participation of the angels of these churches, Mark Vowell, Jack Soper and Clayton Oliphint and their congregations. We thank you, also, for the devoted members of our Hispanic Board who helped us to experience such a blessed year of growth and fellowship.

May your Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant among us who speaks all languages, grant our people and our community many life changing experiences and miracles, that we all may keep on growing in faith, hope, love, peace and service to others.

In the name of Jesus, the displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home, we pray. Amen

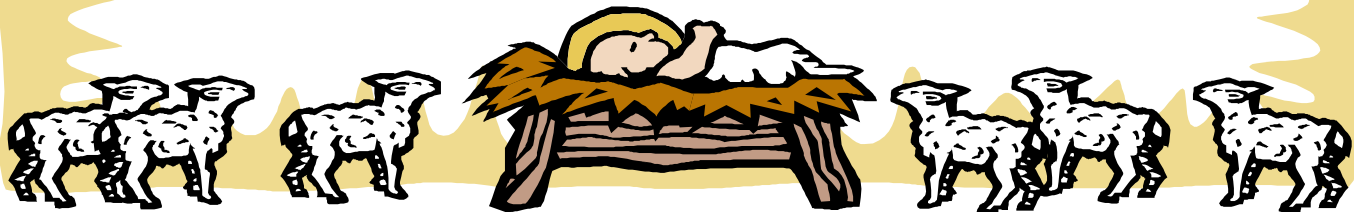


Christmas Eve Service Schedule

5:30, 7:00 and 11:00 pm -
Sanctuary Carols, Communion & Candlelight Worship Service

7:30 pm - Common Ground (Contemporary Worship)
with Carols, Communion & Candlelight Worship

10:30 pm - *Pre-Service concert by Carillon Ringers*





Spring Valley UMC

7700 Spring Valley Road
Dallas TX 75254

**Non-Profit
Org.**
U.S. Postage
PAID
Richardson, TX
Permit No.
1443



Bible Lectionary Readings

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:47-55
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

Aldersgate Class

December 21 - Classroom Christmas Brunch
December 28 - Suellen Turner
Everything you never wanted to know
about Epiphany
January 4 - VNA CEO - Combined with the
Seekers Sunday School Class

Beacons

"The Birth Story" - The Way You've
Never Heard it Before
with Guy Garrett

SPOT Class

December 21 - Advent 2
December 28 - Solution Sunday, Planning 2009

Seekers

December 21 - "The Christmas Journey We
All Need to Take" by John Dvorak
December 28 - The Annual Seekers Brunch
January 4 - VNA CEO -
Combined with Aldersgate

Come As You Are

*To Live Is Christ,
Joining Paul's Journey of Faith
by Beth Moore*

Staff email addresses

Mark Vowell, Senior Pastor #15
Anna Hosemann-Butler, Senior Assoc. #19
Carlos Nascimento, Assoc./ Hispanic #26
Rusty King, Music Director #24
Donna Alexander, Music Assist. #12
Robert Goodrich, Youth Director #18
Tony Holiday, Maintenance Supervisor #16
Jan Hudgins, Children's Director #20

mvowell@svumc.org
abutler@svumc.org
cnascimento@svumc.org
rking@svumc.org
Music_admin@svumc.org
youth@svumc.org
tholiday@svumc.org
jhudgins@svumc.org



Paula Huffaker, Administrative Assist. #14 phuffaker@svumc.org
Holly Lewis, Preschool Director #21 hlewis@svumc.org
Cheryl Murphy, Director of Evangelism #17 cmurphy@svumc.org
Carol Nicholas, Business Manager #11 cnicholas@svumc.org
John Tarver, Organist #24 jptarver@verizon.net
Kathy Watson, Communications #10 behold@svumc.org
Kelly Williams, CG Coordinator, # 25 kwilliams@svumc.org