

Purchase of alley complete

On Thursday, UPUMC officially completed the purchase of the alley behind the church building, an important next step in the church's plans to improve and expand church facilities.

The church now owns the entire 4000 block of both Caruth and Colgate.

At an all-church meeting in June, those present voted unanimously to move forward with the Building Committee's proposal for expansion and enhancement of the church building.

The main features of the conceptual plan are a new multipurpose facility and children's wing, open and welcoming gathering spaces, a new parking lot and other renovations. Conceptual drawings of the plan can be seen in the Welcome Center, Children's Welcome Center and on the second floor near the Welcome Center staircase.

The Building Committee continues to work on the plans, and several subcommittees have been developed to focus on specific pieces of the plan.

LOVE CAN BUILD A BRIDGE



Students in third, fourth and fifth grade build a bridge from Legos as part of the "Summer of Change" the children's Sunday school is experiencing. The Lego creations will be part of a donation to The Bridge, a new homeless shelter in Dallas.

As hunger escalates, what can we do?

By Ann Sedita

It is hard for many of us to imagine skipping a meal, much less growing hungry. We tend to think people who need food are homeless or elderly.

Not so.

Today, food pantries across North Texas are seeing a growing number of working poor among their clients. Rising food and gasoline prices are crippling family budgets and making it difficult for many to put food on the table. According to statistics from the North Texas Food Bank, Texas has the third highest percentage of hungry families in the nation.

To meet the growing need, leaders at the food bank have adopted an ambitious plan to double its output in the next three years.

UPUMC Quarterly Food Drives offer our members an easy opportunity to share our blessings with those in need. **Coming up Aug. 17 and 24**, grocery bags will be distributed throughout the church in Sunday school classes and between worship services.

Our goal is 100 percent participation. That means our goal is for each and every family unit in our church to give *something* to the food drive. If each of us does, imagine the impact we can have!

Food lists from North Dallas Shared Ministries will be attached, and **food will be collected in the Welcome Center through Sept. 7.**

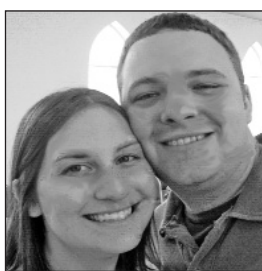
If you are unable to shop, you can still help by giving a monetary donation to the food drive. Please make checks payable to UPUMC, reference food drive on the memo line, and turn it in to the Welcome Center or send it to the church at 4024 Caruth Blvd., Dallas, TX 75225. Or you can give online to the Help the Hungry fund at www.upumc.org.

East Asia missionary first heard God's call as a youth at UPUMC

As a youth at UPUMC several years ago, Jennifer McKain went on her share of mission trips and retreats, including Costa Rica and multiple trips to Juarez. She enjoyed them and always felt the power of God in the places where she served.

But then, at a senior high youth camp at Lake Bridgeport with then-youth director Alan Hamilton, Jennifer felt a more definite call.

"There was a minister there - well, I don't know if he was a minister or if he



was in missions - but he asked me if I would serve Christ for my whole life. That's when I realized this was what I was supposed to do," she said.

For the teen-aged Jennifer, that "ah-ha" moment wasn't necessarily as joyous as it was frightening.

"It scared me!" she exclaimed. "I wondered, does this mean I'll have to go overseas? Not knowing what it looked like to 'serve Christ for my whole life' scared me at first. But with UP and being able to experience the way God works, I

See "Shoemakers," page 5A



Missioner offers perspective on Guatemala work **4A**



Spots filling fast for Tut trip **4A**

IN WORSHIP AUG. 10, 2008

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.
"Hit Him Again, Lord!"
Mark 8:22-25
the Rev. Larry Ravert

The Bridge, 11 a.m.
"Get Inspired by Your Heroes"
Hebrews 12
Jeff McCormick

IN WORSHIP AUG. 17, 2008

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.
"Prayer and Faith Development: Praying Instinctively," Romans 8:26-27
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.
"Stay Focused"
Hebrews 12
Jeff McCormick

PASSING THE BATON

Teams work in tandem to make progress on Guatemala clinic

by Tricia Carroll

It's not every day that you get the opportunity to help someone realize a dream.

JoAn Dwyer, a Volunteer in Mission in Guatemala, lives in Panajachel on Lake Atitlan. She has a dream of one day operating a permanent site for medical/dental clinics.

Mission teams like our North Texas Conference team that traveled to Guatemala July 4-13 come to Guatemala and set up clinics in schools, meeting halls and churches. The facilities are often rustic, crowded and without convenient bathrooms. JoAn is coordinating construction teams in an effort to convert a former Church building into a permanent clinic site.

Last year an intrepid group of five construction volunteers, together with JoAn and Francisco (a local mason), labored to build a bathroom on the grounds of the church. We discovered in a very personal way the importance of such a facility to a team. We had to go to the neighbors' homes and use what sometimes amounted to a latrine (hole in the ground). We saw first-hand one of the contributing factors to the health problems of the indigenous Maya.

Francisco was our foreman and directed our efforts at masonry. I quickly learned that my gifts were sifting sand and mixing mortar, not laying cinderblock. Francisco would look at my block, shake his head, and say, "No, no, no."

So Melissa Cuellar and I sifted and mixed. We were only able to complete part of the bathroom in the five days we worked. Thanks to the generosity of several members of the UPUMC Chancel Choir and our construction team, we were able to send money back to Guatemala for the completion of the bathroom.

This summer, I couldn't wait to return to Guatemala to see my friends and the finished bathroom! Wow, what a blessing!

Last year at a follow-up meeting of the 2007 mission trip, Karrell Johnson asked me what changes needed to be made for future trips. I told him we needed more construction workers on the

team. God answered my prayer with three additional people.

Along with four returning members of the '07 team (Mike and Jeff Bennett, Melissa, and me) we had Ken Carroll, Reid Ferring (from FUMC Denton) and Dawnie Dahir (from Holy Covenant UMC). Mary Miciklas (JoAn's assistant) was our leader, bookkeeper, lunch maker and translator. Francisco worked with Mary to ensure that we had adequate supplies and instructed us in our tasks.

The construction job this year was putting a drop ceiling in the former church building and erecting walls to form examining rooms and a pharmacy. The church has a corrugated tin roof and gets very hot inside. Before our arrival, Francisco had installed the cross beams for the ceiling and prefabricated walls for the examining rooms. He was assisted by Mary and her sister, brother and parents who had come to "visit." Our team finished the ceiling by putting up and painting the plywood and trim. We were ably assisted by Sylvia Luedtke, a member of the medical team who "floated" to our team to help paint.

The prefab walls require three layers of stucco, and we managed to get one layer on most of the surfaces. Francisco remembered how disappointed we were last summer when we couldn't complete the bathroom. He decided that we should concentrate on the ceiling installation and leave the walls for another team to complete. Dawnie Dahir is leading a team from her church this fall, and several other construction teams are planned throughout the year.



Above, members of the construction crew included: top from left, Ken Carroll, Mike Bennett, Jeff Bennett and Reid Ferring; and, bottom from left, Tricia Carroll, Dawnie Dahir, Melissa Cuellar and Sylvia Luedtke. In the photo at left are Melissa, Mary, Jeff and Mike; and in the bottom photo are Francisco (a local mason) and Reid.

Photos courtesy of Tricia Carroll

Jim Slaughter Children's Library celebrates 25 years

All are invited to a reception commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Jim Slaughter Children's Library after worship on Sunday, Aug. 17, in room 254.

The library was created in 1983 as a tribute to Jim Slaughter, who died tragically in 1982. At the time, he was a young officer in the Arlington Police Department. He would be 50 years old this year.

As they mourned their loss, Bill and Joan Slaughter searched for a way to pay tribute to their son that would



combine his love for children and his love for learning. Thus, the Jim Slaughter Children's Library was created and dedicated Aug. 21, 1983.

Since then, many volumes have been donated to the library from adults and children alike.

The library continues to be a wonderfully unique asset of the church and community

Spots remain for Granbury; Tut filling fast

There is still space available for the Travel Ministry's next trip, which will be a one-day jaunt to Granbury on Aug. 14.

More than 40 people participated in the ministry's latest trip, which was a Dallas tour with Rose-Mary Rumbley and Larry and Carol Ann Ravert. Participants have raved about how fun it was.

Granbury promises to be just as good. The group will leave the church parking lot at 10:30 a.m. and have lunch at a new downtown restaurant in Granbury before seeing the delightful show, "The Music Man" at the Granbury Opera House. There will be time for browsing the distinctive shops on what Texas Highways magazine has dubbed "Best Town Square in Texas."

Cost is \$75 per person, which includes motorcoach transportation, lunch, show, escort, taxes, gratuities and service. Hand

in your payment at the Welcome Center desk or mail it to the church at 4024 Caruth Blvd., Dallas, TX 75225. Please put "Travel Ministry" on the note line of your check.

While you're at it, you might as well go ahead and reserve your spot for the Oct. 9 trip to see the Dallas Museum of Art's King Tut exhibit. Spaces are filling fast for this popular trip, which is \$75 and includes motorcoach, lunch, entrance fee, gratuities, escort and service. A \$25 deposit is due by Sept. 26, and final payment is due Oct. 1.

Dallas is the first city granted the right to host an encore showing of the King Tut exhibition, which includes more than 130 artifacts from the tomb of Tutankhamun and other ancient Egyptian sites. We will depart from UPUMC at 11 a.m. and return at 4 p.m.

UMW representatives attend School of Christian Mission

by Norma Matthews

University Park UMC was blessed to have nine members from our United Methodist Women unit attend the North Texas Conference United Methodist Women 36th Annual School of Christian Mission the week of July 28-31.

The sessions were held in the beautiful facilities of Plano FUMC. The group "went green," carpooling daily, conserving fuel and saving costs.

Three studies are offered each year, which can be taught in the UMW Circle meetings or can be presented as churchwide studies. The 2008 courses were "I Believe in Jesus," "Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival" and "Israel and Palestine." Studies were also offered for youth and children.

According to the Women's Division By-Laws of 1996, the

purpose of the Schools of Christian Mission and Mission Education Events is to:

... provide a primary setting for mission education, confrontation with current issues, spiritual growth, general leadership development, specific officer help for members and elected leaders of the organization, to introduce current and new program emphases, and to build personal relationships among division members, staff and the elected leadership of the organization.

The primary focus of the school is the work of the Women's Division and those places in the General Board of Global Ministries where historic work of women, children and youth is lodged. Schools of Christian Mission enable United Methodist Women to explore and to accept their responsibility in the church and society.



Women who attended this year's School of Christian Mission are, from left, Toni Terry, Betty Robertson, Barbara Jackson, Norma Matthews, Sharon Christen, Kelli Sander, Chrys Franklin, Estelle Potts and Jan Karns.

Photo courtesy of Norma Matthews

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



At top, Brett Smith removes the protective coating from the metallic surface of the new sign behind the Welcome Desk in the Youth Center. The sign, which was designed to match the logo for Youth Ministries, pays memorial tribute to David Franklin and David Simmons, who both devoted much of their time and spirit to the youth at UPUMC. At bottom, the handmade wooden Methodist cross and flame adorns the new desk in the Children's Welcome Center. A team of dedicated woodworkers and handymen created the cross and flame and the curved desk. A big thanks goes to Fred Christen, Terry Chambers, Dick Taylor, Bob Munroe and Jim Dorsey.

Shoemakers seek support in making disciples in East Asia

Continued from page 1

realized that's what I needed to do."

Fast forward six or seven years. Jennifer graduated from high school and left Dallas to attend school at Texas A&M, where she became active with Grace Bible Church. Through church, she got involved with the organization Campus Crusade for Christ, with which she took a six-week evangelistic trip to East Asia in 2006.

While at A&M, she met Jared Shoemaker, a like-minded person who also felt God's call on his life. He took a short-term trip to a Muslim country in Central Asia in 2005 - a country where Americans are no longer allowed due to political issues. Jennifer and Jared fell in love and got married in July 2007.

It's now August 2008, and Jared and Jennifer Shoemaker are about to embark on another trip to East Asia with Campus Crusade for Christ. This time, they'll remain there as short-term internationals for a year, sharing Christ with college students there and helping them learn to be

disciples so that they, in turn, can share their faith with others. At the end of that year, they'll make a decision whether to stay an additional year.

"What I'm looking forward to most is seeing one of my friends who I met when I was there (in 2006). She accepted Christ, and I was there to see the very first point of her Christian walk, and now I'm getting to go back two years later and see where she is in her faith walk. I'm excited to see that," Jennifer said.

Before they can depart on Aug. 26, the couple has one more goal to meet. Campus Crusade for Christ workers must seek their own support system - including prayer support and financial support. To date, the Shoemakers have reached 50 percent of their financial goal, and they are required to

Support the Shoemakers by giving with a bank draft or a debit/credit card online at <http://give.ccci.org/give/0600073> or by contacting them at jaredandjenn@gmail.com or 979.676.1304.

have at least 80 percent before Aug. 15.

"We have seen God's faithfulness in so many ways during this support-raising time, and even just in calling us to

this ministry," the couple wrote in a recent e-mail newsletter. "We are resting in the Spirit for guidance and perseverance during this - what can be frustrating - time."

If you feel called to support the Shoemakers, you can help them with one-time gifts or with monthly support of \$75, \$100, \$200 or any other amount. Contact Jennifer and Jared at jaredandjenn@gmail.com or call them at 979.676.1304.

Make all checks payable to Campus Crusade for Christ and do not put the Shoemakers' names anywhere on the check. You can also give online with a bank draft or credit or debit card at <http://give.ccci.org/give/0600073>.

UPUMC NEWS AND NOTES

School ... already?

It's back to school time! And that means it's time for the Youth Ministries Back to School Retreat.

This year, the retreat will kick off at 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14 in the Youth Center with H.O.T. (Hang Out Time). During the afternoon, youth will take a bus to a special activity in town.

At 6:30 p.m., youth, parents and anyone else who wants to come are invited to a barbecue in the Youth Center. The evening will culminate in a lock-in in the Youth Center, and the doors will open at 7 a.m. Friday. Please RSVP by Aug. 11 to Zach Burgess at 214.368.1435, ext., 123 or zburgess@upumc.org so we can be sure to have enough food..

Dedication honors 'the Davids'

All are invited to attend a dedication reception honoring the late David Franklin and David Simmons at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 24 in the Youth Center. Light refreshments will be served as tribute is paid to "the Davids" for their endless love, devotion and support of the youth program at UPUMC. A video of the dedication will be available for those who can't physically get down to the basement Youth Center. For a copy of the video, contact Zach Burgess at 214.368.1435, ext. 123 or zburgess@upumc.org.

UMW presents 'The Lost Girls'

United Methodist Women Circles 1, 2 and 3 invite one and all to join them at 10 a.m. Sept. 8 in the parlor for a special program, "The Lost Girls." The program will feature the author of "The Dark Exodus," a

book that details the stories of the girls who escaped from Sudan and walked to the refugee camps. At least one of the women from the stories will also be present. Come hear the heart-breaking but inspiring stories of these wonderful Christian women whose strong faith sustained them as they escaped.

Interested in disaster relief?

UPUMC's Mission and Outreach Committee is considering the development of an early response disaster relief team. UPUMC member Ed Clark is compiling a roster of interested volunteers and coordinating their participation in an upcoming training program hosted by the North Texas Conference.

The training will be 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Aug. 16 at the North Texas Conference Ministry Center, Room 135, 500 Maplelawn Dr. in Plano. It will cover many of the basics involved in responding after a disaster, including safety, tarping roofs and cleaning out homes. Space is limited, and advance reservations are required.

To participate with UPUMC, contact Ed at eclark004@tx.rr.com. To register for the training on your own, contact the Rev. Marji Bishir at 972.526.5000 or bishir@ntcumc.org. Bring \$7 for lunch.

Register now for Amigas de Amor

The 2008 Amigas de Amor all-women homebuilding trip to Mexico will be Oct. 2-6, and registration is under way. Cost for the trip is \$375, and a \$200 deposit is due by Aug. 15. Sign up online at www.upumc.org/pages/Amigas_de_Amor or contact the Rev. Rebecca Frank at 214.368.1435, ext. 113.

PRAYERS

(Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. To extend, call 214.368.1435, ext. 104.)

Birth

Grant Field Fleisher was born July 30. Parents are Gregg and Suzy Fleisher and grandmother is Rose Mary Carr.

Hospital

Marjorie Hopkins May

Prayer Requests

Mark and Jeanette Smith family; Paul Piper; Laurie Sullivan; Harold Reese, grandfather of Micah Reese; Kevin Thompson, friend of Micah Reese; the Rev. Kathleen Baskin-Ball; Lauren Hill, niece of Jack Brown; Doug Yancey Hale, son of Jo Hale; David Muegge, nephew of Gloria Thomas; Ella Luna, friend of Ann Petty; Yogi Casas, father of Candice Meredith and husband of Judy Casas; Hattie Thompson, grandmother of Becky Hudson

JULY ATTENDANCE REPORT

	Attendance	Visitors
July 6	431	39
July 13	489	60
July 20	431	27
July 27	<u>432</u>	<u>32</u>
Totals	1,783	158

Of the total visitors in July, 21 were first-time visitors.

Welcome Report

New Members

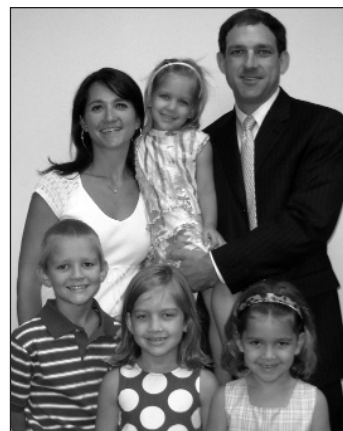
Welcome Mark and Ellen Turner, who joined July 13. They are members of the Trinity Sunday school class and have 5-year-old twin girls named Caroline and Jacquelyn. They joined by transfer from Alamo Heights UMC in San Antonio.



Baptisms



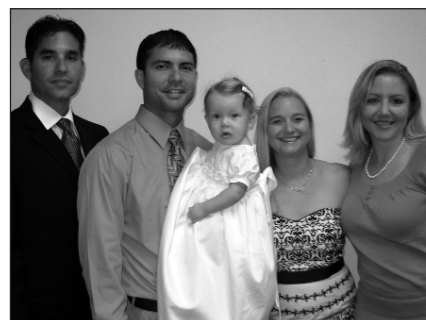
Lucy Wells Montgomery was baptized July 13. She is the daughter of Jeff and Rebecca Montgomery and the sister of Lewis and Sam and the great-granddaughter of Kay Montgomery.



Leah Kathleen, Clara Lillian, Margot Criswell and Tal Wilson Armayor were baptized July 13. They are the children of Travis and Jennifer Armayor.



William Hutcheson "Hutch" Brooker was baptized July 13. He is the son of Chip and Rebekah Brooker.



Jordan Elizabeth Bruno was baptized July 13. She is the daughter of Joe and Melinda Bruno, granddaughter of Bill and Debbie Merritt and the great-granddaughter of Bill and Billye Nutting.

Julia Catherine Kennedy was baptized July 27. She is the daughter of Wade and Lauri Kennedy and the sister of Gracie and Maggie. Her grandparents are David and Sandy Kennedy. (Photo unavailable)