

MISSION MATTERS

Lifting up a family through Habitat build



This Saturday, Jan. 9, we begin our 2010 Habitat for Humanity house! We'll be building with the Tesfaye Muhie family at 1834 Bayside in west Dallas (directions and details are available at www.upumc.org).

Building will continue on Jan. 16, and the next few weeks will be completed by our partner team from Highland Park High School! Dedication Day is Saturday, March 20.

Did you know?

Dallas Habitat for Humanity gives a hand up—not a hand out—to deserving families who meet strict criteria. In return they are offered the opportunity for affordable homeownership with a zero percent mortgage.

Habitat families must:

- Be employed and able to afford monthly payments of \$500-\$650 and a one-time escrow payment of \$2,000 for taxes and insurance
- Have at least one year of good rental history
- Be willing to complete 400 hours of sweat equity
- Have an acceptable credit history
- Be a United States citizen or permanent resident
- Meet family income level criteria

Families save over \$100,000 in interest payments with their 0 percent mortgage. Habitat families contribute over \$800,000 in property taxes each year to the city. Since 1986, Dallas Habitat has created stable, permanent housing for over 2,330 family members, including more than 1,220 children.

See "Mission," page 5

Mission for SoupMobile Christmas Angel Project raises \$6,000 to help the homeless

By Hillary Barnard

"This is so awesome," a homeless woman said as she shook Wil Kahlich's hand and moved down the red carpet towards the Hyatt Regency. Simultaneously, Megan Smith and Elizabeth Kraft cheered, "Merry Christmas!" as they patted another guest on the back.

On Christmas Eve, 150 UPUMC members headed to the SoupMobile Christmas Angel Project, an annual

event that provides 500 homeless men and women a night's stay at the Hyatt Regency downtown. We lined the red carpet to cheer and welcome the guests as they entered the hotel, where each received warm meals, new clothes and a warm, safe room with a bed.

Beginning in December, the youth and children's ministries kicked off this Christmas mission by rolling out red carpets at two of the church entrances. Over the next few weeks, the youngsters raised money by babysitting, sending letters and selling cookies to raise more than \$6,000 to contribute to the event, enough to pay for at least 60 people to stay at the hotel Christmas Eve.



UPUMC members were among the volunteers who gathered to greet the homeless men and women entering the Hyatt Regency for an overnight stay on Christmas Eve.

"This is definitely going to be a new Christmas tradition for our family," Carrie Lochausen said as we left the Hyatt. Children and youth echoed the sentiment, adding their thoughts and ideas for making next year's project even better.

Raising \$6,000 and bringing together 150 volunteers is pretty awesome. But even more incredible is the lasting effect that this experience had on our community. As we drove home on Christmas Eve, the overarching question among the youth was, "What can we do next?"

Hillary Barnard is associate minister to youth and families at University Park UMC.



Photos from chili cook-off and Live Nativity

4A



Register now for spring courses

5A

IN WORSHIP JAN. 10, 2010

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.
"The Gift of Power and the Power of Gifts," Luke 3:15-22
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.
"Remember Who You Are!"
Luke 3:15-22
the Rev. Rebecca Frank

IN WORSHIP JAN. 17, 2010

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.
"Getting Together"
1 Corinthians 12:1-13 and Psalm 36:5-10
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.
1 Corinthians 12:1-12
the Rev. Rebecca Frank

On the road with Travel Ministry

Where would you like to explore?

Travel and change of pace impart new vigor to the mind. — Seneca

Come for a light lunch following the 11 a.m. worship services on Sunday, Jan. 17, in the Parlor, to hear the Rev. Larry Ravert's suggestions for Travel Ministry in 2010.

Larry will share his thoughts about the possibilities of traveling to Savannah, Jekyll and St. Simons Island in late March; to the Hill Country, including Fredericksburg and San Antonio; Grandbury Opera's Fourth of July Show; to New York City in December, and a day trip to Clifton, Texas, for the Norwegian Country Christmas.

Everyone is welcome to make suggestions for day trips and longer, multiple-day trips. All interested members and their friends of University Park UMC are invited to the lunch and to participate in traveling with the group, whether or not they have previously traveled with UPUMC's Travel Ministry.

Join us, and enjoy the fellowship of other Christian travelers!

For more information about the lunch or the Travel Ministry, please contact Larry Ravert at 214.368.1435.

Travelers experience Norwegian Christmas

By Carol Ann Ravert

"Velkommen! Welcome!" a costumed representative of Clifton's Chamber of Commerce's annual Norwegian Country Christmas greeted 42 UPUMC travelers.

Clifton is a community committed to preserving the heritage of the early Norwegian settlers. The celebration is held during the first weekend of December each year.

Munching popcorn in the historic Cliftex Theatre (the oldest continuously operating movie theater in Texas), savoring a traditional Norwegian meal in the Civic Center, and tasting goodies at several sites was lovely.

Perched on the northern edge of the beautiful Texas Hill Country, Clifton has been a magnet for artists. We observed demonstrations and artisans at work: bobbin lace making, spinning wool, wood carving, wood craft, and more.

The Ringness House, a Norwegian-style house built in 1854 that was the first site of Lutheran church services, was decorated for a traditional Christmas. Costumed docents told about the house, traditions and period furniture.

We knew our Christmas would be enriched by our experiences in Clifton.

BIG Time had by all

December's BIG Time brought together all ages for fun activities and a chili cook-off before the Live Nativity performances.

Nelson Pruett's entry (pictured below right), dubbed Pruett's Pot of Red, received best chili honors as judged by the professional taster. The popular vote, based on receiving the most \$1 donations, went to Jeff and Sarah McCormick and Kristin Kelley's 10Twelve Chili entry.

All proceeds from the cook-off were donated to the SoupMobile Christmas Angel Project.



Youth, confirmation class heading to Sky Ranch for retreat

Registration has begun for an all-youth retreat to Sky Ranch. We will depart on Jan. 15 and return before noon on Jan. 17. Cost is \$100, and the deadline to register is Jan 10.

This retreat will focus on the principles and different modes of worship. It will also serve as the kick-off for a new youth worship service called Mobile.

Jeff McCormick will bring the confirmation class out on Saturday, Jan. 16, to join the youth and to stay the night. The cost is \$40 for this group, which will meet at 11 a.m. Saturday at the church to travel to Sky Ranch in the church bus.

To register, contact Neil Moseley, nmoseley@upumc.org, or Hillary Barnard, hbarnard@upumc.org. Contact Jeff, jmcormick@upumc.org, to register for the confirmation overnight trip.

Celebrating in song



The combined choirs of the church performed during the Festival of Lessons and Carols, a traditional Christmas service celebrated in churches around the world. Beginning with the procession of choirs, the service featured readings of the Old Testament prophecy and the Christmas story with singing of related carols and anthems.

Celebrating Epiphany



Epiphany Sunday offered special activities for children during the Sunday School hour, including a journey to follow the star that the Magi followed to the Christ child.



Mission

Continued from page 1

Please be part of this very tangible way of loving the world with God, by participating, supporting (online giving makes it easy!), and praying for the family and volunteers who make this happen.

Other opportunities this month

Saturday, Jan. 9 and Sunday, Jan. 10: Serve breakfast at Austin Street Shelter. If you'd like to help prepare or serve, please contact rfrank@upumc.org by Friday, Jan 8.

All month: The Epiphany Toy Drive is a great way for children to be involved with mission to others. Please help your children go through their belongings and pick out some gently used toys to donate to the Austin Street Shelter. Toys will be collected in both Welcome Centers through January.

Rebecca Frank is the senior associate pastor of University Park UMC.



SPRING 2010 COURSES

Register in the Welcome Center at the Cooper School table or online at www.upumc.org.

Christian Yoga

In this 10-week, gentle yoga class, you will stretch and tone with deep breathing as well as learn different relaxation techniques to release stress. All levels are welcome.

Leader: Cherry Fowler

When: 5:15-6:15 p.m., Wednesdays, Jan. 6-March 10, Fee: \$70
8:45-9:45 a.m., Tuesdays, Jan. 12-March 9, Fee: \$63
8:45-9:45 a.m., Thursdays, Jan. 14-March 11, Fee: \$63

Women of the Word

This Bible study for women of all ages will concentrate on women found in the New Testament. Participants will meet women, some familiar, some obscure, but all intriguing as various scriptures are studied. This study will look at how the story of each woman can challenge women today.

Leader: Rebecca Frank

When: 10-11:15 a.m., Wednesdays, Jan. 27-March 24
Course Fee: none

Parenting in Today's World

Join other parents as family systems theologian, the Rev. Dr. Andy Stoker, provides this opportunity to explore a variety of parenting issues. Offered the first Wednesday of each month February through May, each topic will stand alone in content.

When: 6-7 p.m., Wednesdays
Feb. 3 April 7
March 3 May 5
Course Fee: None

Disciple II: Into the Word - Into the World, Acts

This eight-week course is an in-depth study of the Acts of the Apostles which emphasizes the rhythm of coming to God through the word and going for God into the world.

Leader: Teal Lang

When: 9:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesdays, Feb. 3 - March 31
Course Fee: \$9

Modern Parables: Living in the Kingdom of God

This original film-based Bible study on six of Jesus' parables combines cinema and theology to guide participants in understanding and living the parable.

Leaders: Blair Thompson and Jeff McCormick

When: 6:30-7:45 p.m., Wednesdays, Feb. 3-March 17
Course Fee: \$9

The Language of God: Faith and Science

Join us as we explore *The Language of God* by Francis Collins, a geneticist who headed the Human Genome Project and is now head of the National Institutes of Health. We will talk about the compatibility of faith and science, specifically discussing creationism, intelligent design and evolution.

Leader: Dr. Kristen Tolson

When: 6:30-7:45 p.m., Thursdays, Feb. 4-April 29
Course Fee: \$10

Disciple III: Remember Who You Are, the Letters of Paul

This 15-week course is an in-depth study of the letters of Paul through which Paul was continually calling his readers back to their God and to a sense of who they were. We can experience that same sense as God's people today.

Leader: Rev. Dick Wilson

When: 5-7 p.m., Sundays, Feb. 7 - May 23
Course Fee: \$18

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

This class teaches stewardship - how to manage 100% of what God has given. Through this 13-week course taught by Dave Ramsey via DVD, participants are equipped with a biblically-based accountability of managing their resources.

Leaders: Susan de Larios, Sarah and Jeff McCormick

When: 5-7 p.m., Sundays, Feb. 7-May 9
Course Fee: \$90 per family

Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey through Holy Week

Join in five sessions that take you on a spiritual journey through Holy Week as we explore the Gospel texts and Paul's writings that deal specifically with the last week of Jesus' life and the resurrection.

Leader: Rev. Dick Wilson

When: 6:30-7:45 p.m., Wednesdays, Feb. 24-March 24
Course Fee: None

UPUMC NEWS AND NOTES

Young adults to hold after-church studies

The Young Adults Sunday School class is switching to a new format in the new year. Young adults will no longer meet for 9:45 classes on Sunday mornings. Instead, they will gather after the 11 a.m. services, from noon-1:30 p.m., in the Parlor (room 101) for three- or four-week studies. Lunch is served during the study time. The next study will be Jan. 24 and 31, and Feb. 7. Contact Blair Thompson, bthompson@upumc.org, to learn more.

Weekday School 2010-11 registration

Applications for all new students are due to the Weekday School office by Jan. 15. Please call for a school tour and to pick up an application.

Registration for current students is as follows:

- Jan. 19 - Current students of church members
- Jan. 20 - All other current students
- Jan. 22 - Current student registration deadline
- Jan. 26 - Waitlist begins being filled

Submit church news for UP Word

We welcome your church news and photos for UP Word. The next issue will be published Jan. 22. Please submit your information no later than Jan. 15 to be published in this issue. E-mail materials to Carolyn Washburn at cwashburn@upumc.org.

PRAYERS

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

In the hospital - Sophie Lungwitz; Charlotte Webb; Helen Karnes, mother of Keith Karnes Jack Hickman; Mary Perrin

Births

- Pearson MacDonald (Mac) Brooker, son of Rebekah and Chip Brooker, on Dec. 27. His big brother is Hutch.
- Kennedy Lynn Crozier, daughter of Katie and Chad Crozier, on Dec. 31.

Prayers - Alan Smith, son of Doris Landford-Ricks; Bill Barker; Emma Lou Nielson; Rev. Jim Olney, friend of Marcia and Dick Wilson; Jane DeFord; Kristy Henderson, daughter of Ken and Lynn Kite; Julie Manning, daughter of Jim and Susan Pleasant; Carol Drought, sister-in-law of Violet Clapp

Long-term Prayers - Adam Klugiewicz, son of Greg Klugiewicz; Bethany Dean, daughter of David Dean; Betty Lang, step-mother of Joe Lang; Bob Shaw; Bruce Utkov, brother of Gary Utkov; Carmen Copeland, friend of Colleen Flowers; Cindy Bartkoski, friend of Yvette LaCroix; Commelitte Schumacher, mother of John Schumacher; Edna Chambers, mother of

Mark Chambers; Gary Isaacs; Gerry Kuskey, mother of Bill Gallagher; Homer Jones, father of Mary Jacobs; James Grant, brother of Laurie Lang; Jarvis, nephew of Constance Harp; Jimmy Williams, father of Leslie Blum; Joann Nelson, sister of Iris Lewis; Joe Ward, uncle of Matt Blum; Josh Glover, friend of Leslie Blum; Judy Likkel, mother of Erin Byxbee; Kim Anboubas; Laura Gibbs, niece of Gay Iglehart; Layden Stroud, friend of Lu and Tommy Turner; Pat Haywood, sister of Virginia Wiley; Tom Anderson; Wanda Knight and Ann Weaver, sisters of Blue Harris and aunts of Paige Flink

Deaths

- Linda Rudy, aunt of Lydia Rudy, on Dec. 15.
- William Everitt Myers, III (Billy), father of Ritt Myers, on Dec. 19.
- Henry Braselton, uncle of Charles Hosch, on Dec. 21.
- Bill Stokes, Sr. on Dec. 27.
- Richard Whittle, brother of Rose Mary Carr, on Dec. 27.
- Don Box, husband of Terri and father of Crawford and Samuel, on Jan. 6.

WELCOME REPORT

New members



Kathryn (Katie) Cole joined Dec. 13 by transfer from Trinity UMC in San Antonio.



Tyler Karns joined Dec. 13 by transfer from Calvary UMC in Syracuse, IN. He is pictured with his wife Avery, a member of St. Monica Catholic Church.

Baptisms



Grant Bayer Kennington, son of Clark and Chris and grandson of Dorothy Kennington, was baptized Dec. 20.



Pictured left, Isaac Edward Li, son of Eric and Jill, was baptized Dec. 27.



Britton Grace Wilson, daughter of Gravelly and Storey, granddaughter of Lee and Martha Carter and great-granddaughter of Dorothy Carter, was baptized Dec. 27.

Riley Ann Dudley, daughter of Tricia and granddaughter of Quentin and Susan Dudley and great-granddaughter of Charles and Virginia Myers, was baptized Dec. 27.



Tatum Elizabeth and Campbell Reese Tremper, daughters of Cary and Amy, were baptized Dec. 27.

January UMW Circle meetings

Circle 1

Leader: B.J. Dorsey
No meeting

Circle 2

Leaders: Barbara McAfee and Fran Farmer
Date: 10 a.m. Jan. 11
Place: 6247 Desco Dr.
Planning meeting and fellowship

Circle 3

Leader: Maxine Bearden
Date: 7 p.m. Jan. 11
Place: Home of Maxine Bearden, 2643 Lakefront Ct.
Program: TBA

Circle 4

Leader: Savannah McClure
Date: 7 p.m. Jan. 11
Place: Church Parlor
Program: TBA



Shown at the UMW Christmas luncheon are incoming president Kelli Sander, speaker Gloria Thomas and outgoing president Laurie Latson.