

## HOME RUN



UPUMC volunteers and others worked together in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Jan. 9 and Jan. 16.

Turn to Page 5 for more photos and a look at what the project means to the new homeowners.

Shown at left are Frank Fleming and Ed Clark.

## MISSION MATTERS

# How we can help in Haiti



### Pray

Please pray daily for those who are suffering, and for those who are providing care and assistance.

out for administrative purposes or overhead.

### Meet tangible needs

UMCOR also needs personal health kits to take to the people of Haiti (see list on page 4). Please make one, or many. Your family, Sunday School class, or small group can make a huge difference.

Our church will be available as a collection point for the community and for other local Methodist churches. Please feel free to pass this "recipe" to others and ask them to help as well.

Some may ask if these health kits can really make a difference. While they're not going to change the infrastructure or re-build buildings immediately, they provide a

See, "Haiti," page 4

### Give

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) International Disaster Response, the United Methodist's first responders, has sent a request for churches to take an offering as quickly as possible to aid Haiti. If making your donation by check, please make it payable to UPUMC and put Haiti on the memo line. You may also donate online at [www.upumc.org](http://www.upumc.org)

**One hundred percent** of these contributions will be given to this cause, and nothing will be taken

## Commitment Sunday pledges act as tools to grow in faith, discipleship

*The question facing all of us is "Look at what the good Lord has given to me. How should I respond?" How do I respond in a way that truly says "Thank You Lord?"*

UPUMC member Joe Brannon posed the above questions in speaking to the congregation Jan. 10, launching the church's 2010 stewardship campaign.

Commitment Sunday, the day for making financial pledges for 2010,

is Jan. 31. By turning in your pledge for this year, you will give the finance committee and church staff the opportunity to put ministry plans into action and move ahead with confidence. Also, by turning in your commitment card, you are using your pledge as a tool to build your faith and continue growing as a follower of Christ.

During worship services on Commitment Sunday, the congrega-

tion will bring commitment cards forward and deposit them in one of five containers labeled with one of the following words taken from our membership vows: **Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service and Witness.** Each person will be encouraged to pick the container that represents the area where they most want to grow spiritually in 2010.

We celebrate that, even in

difficult times, our Church finances remain healthy, with a balanced budget in 2009. The church is careful, conservative and disciplined in budgeting and expenditures so that we can be bold in our mission.

"We can be proud of these results and as chairman of the finance committee, I want to personally thank you for your support of our

See "Pledge," page 5



Explore how to raise boys in today's culture

4A



Mark your calendar and join us for UPLift

5A

### IN WORSHIP JAN. 24, 2010

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.  
"The Good News Made Real"  
Luke 4:14-21  
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.  
"Does the Truth Hurt?"  
Luke 4:14-30  
the Rev. Rebecca Frank

### IN WORSHIP JAN. 31, 2010

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.  
"Growing in Grace"  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.  
"Grown Up Love"  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
the Rev. Rebecca Frank

## Haiti

Continued from page 1  
personal, tangible gift of hope and dignity — a way for people to care in the most essential ways for themselves and their loved ones. They express personal concern for people who may feel completely invisible in their time of deepest crisis.

Thank you for loving the world with God, especially in times of crisis and grief.

### Health kits to sustain everyday life

The kit to the right is used in places where people do not have ready access to many essential supplies for everyday life.

Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster.

Health kits may be delivered to the Welcome Center at UPUMC, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, or Sundays.

*Rebecca Frank is the senior associate pastor at University Park UMC.*

### Directions for a health kit

Please follow the directions **exactly**. Include all items; do not add items that are not on the lists. Extra gifts, though given with the best of intentions, render a kit unusable and must be removed. **Note:** All items sent *must* be new.

1 hand towel (15 x 25" up to 17 x 27")  
1 washcloth

1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)

1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)

1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)

1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)

6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

\$1 to purchase toothpaste (UMCOR Sager Brown is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.)

Seal these items inside a one-gallon plastic bag. Value: \$12 per kit.

**Important:** Please do not include any religious, political or patriotic notes or emblems in any kit. Thank you for your donations. You are helping to make a difference in people's lives.

## Cooper School presents *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.

This class will introduce different viewpoints about science and religion as well as Collins' argument that science and faith need not be incompatible.

When: 6:30-7:45 p.m.  
Feb. 4 though April 29  
Leader: Dr. Kristen Tolson  
Course fee: \$10

Register for this class in the Welcome Center or online at [www.upumc.org/cooper](http://www.upumc.org/cooper). Contact Dick Wilson with an questions at 214.368.1435 ext. 146 or [dwilson@upumc.org](mailto:dwilson@upumc.org).

## Connect with other families through parenting series



*Boys in Guyland: Rearing Boys in a Culture of Violence* is the topic of the next class in the Parenting in Today's World series led by the Rev. Andy Stoker, Ph.D. Connect with other parents as you explore this timely topic at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3.

To make it easier for busy families to take part, we will provide a family dinner from 5-6 p.m. in the Youth Center. The class follows at 6 p.m. Children's Bible studies and activities (suitable for ages 3-years-old through fifth grade) will be available the same time as the adult study, making this an opportunity for fellowship for the whole family!

The series is held on the first Wednesday of the month. Register online at [upumc.org/cooper](http://upumc.org/cooper) or contact the Rev. Rachel Baughman at [rbaughman@upumc.org](mailto:rbaughman@upumc.org) to learn more.

Childcare for children under 3 is available by reservation by contacting Carolyn Washburn at [cwashburn@upumc.org](mailto:cwashburn@upumc.org).

## Members of Brown Bag Book Club gather for luncheon



Members of the Brown Bag Book Club are shown during a holiday luncheon. The women's book club meets at noon Wednesdays to discuss spiritually inspired books. Come and bring your lunch!



Top: standing, Linda Adams and Carmen Emery; seated, Dianna Sorrells and Laurie Latson

Left: standing, Linda Taylor and Sharon Christen; seated, Marion Hall, Vicki Dolton and Frannie Newsome

## UPLift dinners resume Feb. 3

Join your church family for a weekly UPLift dinner each Wednesday beginning Feb. 3.

We'll share a family-style meal in Fellowship Hall from 6-6:45 pm., and then we'll separate for Bible study and a variety of programs for children, youth and adults.

Dinner is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Children 2 and under are free. No matter what's on the menu for the evening, we'll always have PB&J sandwiches available for the youngsters.

No need to make a reservation, just come and be "UPLifted" with us!

## BIG Time returns this Sunday

BIG Time will be at 6 p.m., immediately after children's choir rehearsals, on Sunday, Jan. 24.

Youth leaders will escort participants (kindergarten through sixth-graders) to the Youth Center for supper, activity time and worship led by the youth. Please bring \$3 for pizza.

For more information, contact the Rev. Rachel Baughman at [rbaughman@upumc.org](mailto:rbaughman@upumc.org) or Neil Moseley at [nmoseley@upumc.org](mailto:nmoseley@upumc.org).



## Pledge

Continued from page 1 church and making it a priority," Joe told the congregation.

"Let me say how much we appreciate your faithfulness in the past. In this new decade, let us continue to support the church and its ministries to spread the good news of Jesus Christ."

The stewardship campaign is for our operating budget and is separate from the three-year Generation To Generation capital campaign that began in 2009. Your financial pledge, arrived at through prayer and backed by your faithful attendance, and your service to others, will be a powerful witness to the world of what this church is capable of doing.

## Habitat helps family's dream come true

*UPUMC sponsored a unique two-week build of a Habitat for Humanity home just southwest of downtown Dallas. Below, read more about the Muhie family and what a difference this home will make in their lives.*

My name is Tesfaye and my wife's name is Bisrat. We were both born in Ethiopia and have also lived in Yemen for several years. When we came to the United States we did not know any English! We know more words now but it continues to be a struggle.

I have worked for Aramark Healthcare for the past three years as a team leader. My wife lost her job after she left the country to visit her very sick sister in Ethiopia.

When I am not at work, I like to spend my time running. I have completed many races where I won medals and I hope to continue to win more in the future! Bisrat loves to cook classic Ethiopian foods, full of vegetables and chicken.

We learned about Dallas Habitat through a friend who became a homeowner in the Greenleaf Village neighborhood. We have been renting a one-bedroom apartment for the past three years

and are so excited that we don't need to renew our lease for another year! We



keep the inside of our apartment clean but our neighbors are quite noisy and there is no room for our family to stay when they visit.

We hope that with our new home, we can now help our

family afford to make the trip from Ethiopia and they can stay as long as they want because we will have space for them. We are especially excited about having a garage and a yard to plant a garden.

This home will give us a sense of stability and we are so thankful to Dallas Habitat for helping our dream come true!



**Strong hands help to build a home for the Muhie family.**



**Brett and Caitlin Smith work together during the build.**

## UPUMC NEWS AND NOTES

### Membership luncheon set for Jan. 24

A membership luncheon following the 11 a.m. worship services on Sunday, Jan. 24, is open to anyone who wishes to explore membership in the church. If you are visiting the church, we invite you to come and hear what it means to be a member of UPUMC. On Jan. 31, we will have a group joining day, inviting those ready to join the church to do so in the worship services that day. For membership questions, contact Jeff McCormick at [jmc-cormick@upumc.org](mailto:jmc-cormick@upumc.org).

### Young adults begin new study Jan. 24

What if faith, not fear, was your default reaction to threats? Max Lucado's study, *Fearless*, challenges us to ask ourselves why we are afraid. Join our young adult class as we examine scripture, watch Lucado's message, and discuss how to trust more. This three-week study begins this Sunday, Jan. 24, and meets in the Parlor, room 101, from noon-1:15 p.m. No sign-up and no need to prepare before-

hand. Come and bring a friend, all are welcome! Your \$3 donation will help cover the cost for lunch. Contact Blair Thompson, [bthompson@upumc.org](mailto:bthompson@upumc.org), to learn more.

### Signed up for a Cooper School class?

There are a variety of classes to enrich your faith, mind and body. Register in the Welcome Center or online at [www.upumc.org/cooper](http://www.upumc.org/cooper). Upcoming courses include: *Women of the Word*, beginning Jan. 27; *Disciple II: Into the Word - Into the World*, *Acts* and *Modern Parables: Living in the Kingdom of God*, both beginning Feb. 3; and *The Language of God: Faith and Science*, beginning Feb. 4. Contact the Rev. Dick Wilson at [dwilson@upumc.org](mailto:dwilson@upumc.org) for more information.

### Toy drive benefits shelter

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 to select gently used toys for dona-

tion. Toys will be collected throughout the month of January, with collection boxes available in the Welcome Center and Children's Welcome Center. Donations will benefit the Austin Street Shelter.

### Donations needed for Christ's Foundry

During January and February, the youth will serve dinner at the children's and youth services of Christ's Foundry on Wednesday evenings. Donations are needed to help supply the food. To help, contact Neil Moseley at [nmoseley@upumc.org](mailto:nmoseley@upumc.org) or Hillary Barnard at [hbarnard@upumc.org](mailto:hbarnard@upumc.org).

### Submit church news for UP Word

We welcome your church news and photos for UP Word. The next issue will be published Feb. 5. Please submit your information no later than Jan. 29 to be published in this issue. Submitted items also may be published online at [upumc.org](http://upumc.org). E-mail materials to Carolyn Washburn at [cwashburn@upumc.org](mailto:cwashburn@upumc.org).

## Never too old to go to school



Family members spent a fun day with the children of the Weekday School during Grandparents Day.

## Growing in faith with UMW

United Methodist Women at UPUMC are on a roll.

On Jan. 16, several of the new officers attended a leadership training event offered by the Dallas-Denton District at Schreiber Memorial. It was time well spent by Kelli Sander, Carmen Emery, Chrys Franklin, Estelle Potts, Sharon Christen, Maxine Bearden and Laurie Latson.

If you've not been a part of this vital group, make this your year to get involved! Watch the UP Word newspaper, the weekly UPUMC Life e-newsletter and the church website to learn schedules and events for general membership meetings and monthly circle times, places and studies.

Contact Kelli Sander at 214.368.6781 to get involved.

## February UMW Circle meetings

### Circle 3

Leader: Maxine Bearden  
Date: Monday, Feb. 1  
Time: 7 p.m.  
Place: home of Kelli Sander, 7430 W. Northwest Hwy. #8  
Program: TBA

### Circle 4

Leader: Savannah McClure  
Date: Monday, Feb. 1  
Time: 7 p.m.  
Place: Church Parlor  
Program: TBA

## PRAYERS

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

**In the hospital** - Freda McQueen; James Curtis Dooley, brother of Brian Dooley; Rose Mary Carr; Sophie Annabelle Lungwitz

**Prayers** - People of Haiti and those who are serving there; A.J. and Diego Luna, friends of Ann Petty; Bill Barker; Bill Kendrick; Carol Drought, sister-in-law of Violet Clapp; David Dillard, friend of Greg Klugiewicz; David and Eileen Cali, friends of Mary Baughman; Doug Smellage; Edgar, brother of Easter White; Frannie Newsome; Forrest Baker; Hanna, Rebecca, Rachel and Sarah Brecher, granddaughters of Martin and Karen Cude; Helen Karnes, mother of Keith Karnes; Jack Hickman; John Moore, uncle of Jon Bjork; Rev. Jim Olney, cousin of Marcia and Dick Wilson; Jim Storey; Lesley family, friends of Hillary Barnard; Marion Hall; Teresa Montgomery and family, friends of Dolan and Marilyn McKnight

**Long-term Prayers** - Adam Klugiewicz, son of Greg Klugiewicz; Bethany Dean, daughter of David Dean; Betty Lang, stepmother of Joe Lang; Bob Shaw; Bruce Utkov, brother of Gary Utkov; Carmen Copeland, friend of Colleen Flowers; Cindy Bartkoski friend of Yvette LaCroix; Charlotte Webb; Edna Chambers, mother of Mark Chambers; Emma Lou Nielson; Gary Isaacs; 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; Josh Glover, friend of Leslie Blum; Judy Likkel, mother of Erin Byxbee; Kim Anbouba; Laura Gibbs, niece of Gay Iglehart; Layden Stroud, friend of Lu and Tommy Turner; Mary Alice Williams, sister of Virginia Wiley; Tom Anderson; Wanda Knight and Ann Weaver, sisters of Blue Harris and aunts of Paige Flink

**Death** - Joe Ward, uncle of Matt Blum, on Jan. 19.