

Shrove Tuesday



Kristen Tolsen, Angela Overman and Kristin Kelley pitched in during the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. See more on the supper on page 5.

Youth Auction needs you

Donations of goods and services of \$25 and more are requested for the UPUMC Youth auction, with the online auction running from March 14-April 7 at www.upumc-youth.cmarket.com.

Proceeds from this event support the June 2010 Aldersgate Chorale tour to Washington, D.C. and New York City performing the Joe Cox and Jody Lindh musical *Final Act* and the 2011 junior and senior high mission trips.

Donation possibilities include golf games, dinner parties, gift certificates and professional services. Cash donations and sponsorships are welcome, as well. Go to



www.youthauction.com to make donations or learn more. Or, stop by the Youth Auction table in the Welcome Center for auction contracts and assistance. Volunteers staff the table on Sundays.

A new feature this year is the introduction of Sign & Go events. These are events that

people sign up for on a per person basis. For example, the Evening in Provence dinner (think spectacular food and wine in a lovely setting) accommodates up to 30 at \$50 per person.

Look for this and other Sign & Go events, all great opportunities to See "Auction," page 5

MISSION MATTERS: Do you know how UPUMC is changing lives?



Did you know...?

Did you know that our own Mary Beth Matthews recently returned from Haiti, where for eight days she offered her nursing skills to many wounded Haitians? You can read more about her first-hand experience by turning to page 4.

And did you know that our own Terry Latson has just returned

from Guatemala, where he provided his expertise as an anesthesiologist? You can read more about that too! (Also on page 4.)

Did you know that our congregation has given more than \$15,000 for Haitian relief through UMCOR (the United Methodist Committee on Relief), and did you know that 100 percent of those gifts go directly to the relief effort?

Did you know that our congregation has provided well over 1,000 health kits to be distributed

by UMCOR? Valued at about \$8 per kit, that's a huge and very tangible gift to children, women and men in need.

Well, maybe you already knew all this. I did. But maybe you're like me — amazed and humbled and so very grateful to be part of a congregation that cares deeply, and gives generously. Thank you!

Closer to home...

Did you know that North Dallas

Shared Ministries served more than 60,000 people in North Dallas in 2009? Providing food, clothing, school supplies and uniforms, medical care, ESL classes, job counseling, tax preparation assistance and more, NDSM continues to make a real difference in the lives of real people.

And did you know that our congregation's volunteers provided 375 hours of hands-on support, countless bags of groceries, and

See "Did you know?," page 4



Mary Beth Matthews reports on trip to Haiti

4A



Terry Latson returns from Guatemala

4A

IN WORSHIP MARCH 7, 2010

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.
"The Ministry of Reconciliation"
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.
"So, Go!"
Luke 10:25-37
the Rev. Rebecca Frank

IN WORSHIP MARCH 14, 2010

Traditional, 8:45 and 11 a.m.
"A Father and His Sons"
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.
"The Greatest Story Ever Told"
2 Corinthians 5:16-21 and Luke 15:11-32
the Rev. Rachel Baughman

DID YOU KNOW?

Continued from page 1

more than \$17,000 in grants and gifts?

And did you know that, while UPUMC is one of 49 supporting congregations, many of which are *much* larger than ours, we are the eighth-largest supporter?

And did you know that we'll continue to receive both groceries and cash donations for NDSM, and our March communion offering will cap off our February food drive? Please do your part to continue to strengthen our support of this extraordinary ministry!

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

First person: Dr. Terry Latson in Guatemala

The HELPS group in San Cristobal consisted of about 60 people, with both a medical team and construction team. The construction team installed high-efficiency, vented wood-burning stoves and water filters in the homes. The medical team set up a medical clinic and four operating rooms. In five days, the medical clinic saw over 1,000 patients, and the surgical team performed over 150 operations.

On this trip (my fourth), I worked extensively with a pediatric ophthalmology surgeon from Maryland, providing anesthesia for patients anywhere from 1-year-old to late teens.

Strabismus ("crossed-eyes") is a significant "social stigma" in their society, as well as being a visual handicap. We were able to perform corrective surgery in over 25 children, including eight from one village over a hundred miles away. The smiles on their faces when they look in a mirror and see their "straight eyes" is something you can never forget!

Again and again, I find my own faith "rejuvenated" by the Guatemalan people, who maintain such a strong faith in spite of having so little, and who are so gracious and appreciative of what limited help we can provide.



Terry Latson (left) is shown with the medical team and clients in Guatemala.

Save the date!

Be part of God's amazing work in the western highlands of Guatemala by joining a construction team Aug. 7-14. A \$100 deposit by April 4 will hold your place. Balance is \$750 if paid by June 15, if after it is \$850. Some scholarship support is available. Contact Rebecca Frank at rfrank@upumc.org.

First person: Mary Beth Matthews in Haiti

When the earthquake happened, about 40,000 people fled from Port-au-Prince to the St. Marc area. With the aftershocks, they were scared to death. How they made that 50-mile journey is a mystery. About 10,000 people have more or less made St. Marc a permanent home.

We undertook the job of registering these displaced people. About 5,000 were registered by the time of my arrival, 20 days after earthquake.

The clinic was strictly for refugees from the Port-au-Prince earthquake and their families. We had orphans, and sad stories, and people who had lost everyone.

By the time I got there the overnight patients were fewer and we did mostly outpatient wound care during the day. We had 15 patients and their families that were arranged on mats. IVs were hanging from whatever we could find.

Three people had just come back from the hospital from surgery that day. One had a crushed ankle that had been pinned, and was in a cast. Another had received a skin graft to her ankle. I must tell you that a skin graft, taken from the thigh, usually, is worse pain and higher risk of infection than the site where it is placed. So I felt for this girl. We just had oral antibiotics, all donated from money given by you, so thank you!

Keeping wounds clean and uninfected was a real challenge. We had peroxide and saline, and sterile and unsterile bandaging, but it still was on the ground, in the dust.

The nature of the wounds I saw were mostly scrapes - deep ones from concrete blocks falling on arms and legs, and crushed hands and feet. There were broken shoulders and collar bones, and lots of head bumps and cuts. Everyone had a headache. They really don't do pain medication so we would have to encourage Ibuprofen.

Many couldn't sleep, very indicative of post-traumatic stress disorder. We saw a lot of indifference, which is also a big sign of PTSD. There was amazing strength for people who have suffered so much.

After two days in the temporary clinic we shifted the patients to a building that had been found in the town. It had running water and flushing toilets. It is a large building with many rooms that is great for a clinic. Half of it is still being constructed. We were fortunate to be able to provide a safe place for people to be, as many had no other place to go.

We distributed food to the community the last day I was there, consisting of U.S.



Top: Mary Beth Matthews was among those providing medical aid in Haiti.

Bottom: This building was destroyed in the earthquake.

Army rations known as MREs. We had so many people show up that we had police, U.N. guards, Argentinean guards, Haitian Special Forces, but it was never out of control. I never felt threatened once while I was overseas. The people were friendly and kind, and I can't envision their sad heartaches. May God have mercy on them.

We'll never forget our tour of Port-au-Prince, the site of the worst. To describe it is to describe hell. The buildings all collapsed, but business attempted to go on as usual. We drove around, and then went to the city center where the Presidential Palace is located, and across from that the main police station.

We were able to walk around and see tent city and imagine the horror and see the streets where people were trapped in the rubble. Now it is a city in shock. I read it in their eyes and faces. I saw it in the way they stood.

This tent city is a miserable existence in my eyes, but how much differently did they live before? I worry about the rains when they come. Will their "houses" collapse and just wash away?

Oh Haiti, you have so many trials. I have so few. May I always look at my life with gratitude.

Pledges empower growth of church

There's an exciting buzz filling UPUMC hallways and classrooms on Sunday mornings as church members discuss how the church is taking on new challenges. It's clear that more and more people are becoming involved in ways that nurture their spirit and make a difference in the lives of others.

You and your gifts help empower that kind of growth and development in the church. So as we wrap up our financial projections for the months ahead, please help - if you have not already done so - by estimating your annual giving to the church and submitting a pledge on a commitment card or online at www.upumc.org. Thank you for your commitment to support the mission and ministries of UPUMC!

Open house at the Weekday School was a huge success

Open house took place at the Weekday School the same evening as the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper sponsored by Young Adult Ministries. We had a great turnout of parents, children and "alumni" of the school. The families were able to visit the classrooms and experience what the children are learning, and many took part in the pancake supper. Thank you to all of the Weekday School teachers for making open house a great event.



Travel Ministry extends deadline for first outing

Experience Christian fellowship and exploration with the Travel Ministry at UPUMC, which offers day and weekend trips for adults led by the Rev. Larry Ravert. Get the full itineraries in the Welcome Center.

The deadline to sign up for our first trip has been extended so get on board to see the Painted Churches, Brenham, Washington-on-the-Brazos, the spring wildflowers and have lunch at Royers. This trip is on April 13-15 and the price is \$355 per person. Full payment is due March 15.

Holy Week and Easter observances

Join us for worship and activities, which will include:

Palm Sunday, March 28

A Palm Sunday procession at 9:45 a.m. will feature children and youth in a re-enactment of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The combined choirs will sing at the 11 a.m. traditional service. The evening's BIG Time - a youth-led worship and activity time for children - will spotlight the meaning of Holy Week and Easter.

Maundy Thursday, April 1

The Rev. Leighton Bearden will lead us in a service of Holy Communion at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. There will be music by the Chancel Choir. The service concludes with the stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday.

Good Friday, April 2

An evening of music at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary is a wonderful opportunity to invite others to join you in worship at

UPUMC. The program will feature sacred music by Antonio Vivaldi, J. S. Bach and Maurice Duruflé. Their music will be brought to life by our Chancel Choir, professional orchestra, a chamber choir accompanied by period instruments and soloists including *countertenor* Ryland Angel, Laura Chester, Derek Chester and Jason Awbrey.

Easter Sunday, April 4

Christ is risen! Come, and welcome others to join you for this joyful day of worship. The day begins with a sunrise service at 7 a.m. with music by The Bridge Band. Services in the Sanctuary with choirs, organ and brass will be held at 8:30, 9:45 and 11 a.m. An Easter celebration for families with children in fifth grade and younger will include a butterfly release, music by The Bridge Band and an egg hunt, starting at 9:45 a.m. The Bridge contemporary worship service will be at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Childcare (3 and under) available for all of the above.

THANKS FOR SUPPORTING PT

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper raised over \$1,500 for Project Transformation, a nonprofit United Methodist organization that provides ministry exploration and leadership development opportunities to college-aged young adults, and community-oriented programs for children and youth. Thanks to all of our young adults who helped to organize and run the event and to all of those who came and ate pancakes in support of this great cause!



AUCTION

Continued from page 1 socialize with friends and enjoy a night out. Sunday School classes and other groups looking to share social time will find many exciting possibilities among the Sign & Go events.

The Youth Auction and Luncheon is at noon on Sunday, April 11, in Fellowship Hall. Reserve your tickets in the Welcome Center starting March 21 or by contacting Alice Karnes at akarnes@upumc.org.

For questions, contact Karen Keith at 214.373.3933 or k-keith@sbcglobal.net. Kim Beeby (214.361.2626 or kbeeby@swbell.net) is the contact for item donations.

UPUMC NEWS AND NOTES

Donate during quarterly blood drive
Carter BloodCare will be at the church from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. this Sunday, March 7, for our quarterly blood drive. Donations will be taken in rooms 205 and 206. Contact Andrew Hamilton (hamyjunior@gmail.com) with any questions.

Author to speak at circle meeting
Missy Buchanan, author of *Living With Purpose in a Worm-Out Body: Spiritual Encouragement for Older Adults*, is the speaker at UMW's Deborah Circle (Circle 1) meeting at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 8, at the church. All women are invited to attend.

Mary Martha Circle (Circle 2)
No meeting in March.

Create Chrismons for UPUMC
We are off to a great start! Our Chrismon stitchers have begun the exciting process of creating Christmas ornaments for our UPUMC Christmas tree. We still want help with this counted cross-stitch project. March 10 is our next meeting. Come either at 4:30 or 6:45 p.m. Contact Mary Tabor at 214.341.0497 or marymtabor@gmail.com.

All-church conference on March 24
An all-church conference is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24, to hear the Building Committee present

the current building plan. After questions and discussion, the meeting will conclude with a vote to approve the plans and proceed with building.

Host homes for college students
Host homes are needed for members of the A&M Century Singers, performing at UPUMC on Friday, March 26. Sign-up forms are available in the Welcome Center. Or, contact Jody Lindh at 214.368.1435, ext. 115, or jlindh@upumc.org.

Support UMW's caladium sale
Please help support UMW missions for your yard! Many varieties are available. Order forms are available in the Welcome Center. Orders are due by April 2. Call Lynn Erickson at 214.824.6648 with any questions.

UPUMC crosses for special occasions
Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduation – all are perfect times to give the UPUMC anniversary sterling-silver cross as a gift. Cost is \$75. Contact Candy Hearne at 214.841.0895 or by e-mail at cchearne@gmail.com.

Pecans still available
Karen Cude has pecans available for purchase at \$9 per pound for halves or pieces and \$5 per half pound for flavors. Contact Karen at 214.942.2833 or kecude@tx.rr.com.



Don't be late for church!
DST begins Sunday, March 14.
Set your clocks ahead one hour
Saturday night, March 13.

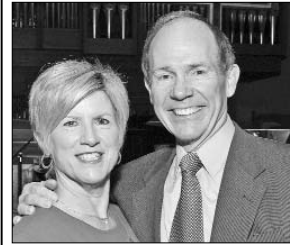
YOUTH OUTING



Wil Kahlich is shown with youngsters on an IRC outing to the Science Place. IRC helps refugees relocate and become self-sufficient.

WELCOME REPORT

New members



Dick and Ginny Gay joined Feb. 14. Both transferred from an Episcopal church in Stafford, Texas. They are retired and have joined the New Life class.



John and Jessica McIntyre joined Feb. 14. She transferred from a Methodist church and he from a Presbyterian church.



Christina and Samuel (Sam) Broyles joined Feb. 14. He transferred from a Baptist church and she from a Catholic church. They are expecting their first child in the coming months.

Baptism



We rejoice with Bo and Megan Williamson on the baptism of their daughter, Millie Rose Williamson, on Feb. 14, 2010. Her big sister is Emma and her grandparents are Jerry and Diane Williamson.

PRAYERS

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

Birth - Andrew Christopher Swenton, son of Julia and Eric Swenton and little brother of Sarah, was born Feb. 24.

In the Hospital - Dan Yoder; Forrest Baker; Sophie Annabelle Lungwitz

Prayers

People of Haiti and Chili and those who are serving there; Bud Knight, friend of Mary Helen Allburt; David Terry, friend of Gin Ann Gunn; Dewey Purvis, father of Megan Williamson; Fred Conshafter, father of Todd Conshafter; Freda McQueen; Iva Fleck; James Curtis Dooley, brother of Brian Dooley; Karen, friend of Katie Cole; Kim Stamen, friend of Bruce Lawrie; Marcia Wilson; Ruth Zabelny, friend of Beth Fitzgerald

Long-term Prayers

Al Pope, friend of Wynn Moore; Betty Lang, step-mother of Joe Lang; Bill Barker; Bob Shaw; 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; Jerry Peterman; Rev. Jim Olney, cousin of Marcia and Dick Wilson; Jim Storey; Jimmy Williams, father of Leslie Blum; Joann Nelson, sister of Iris Lewis; John Moore, uncle of Jon Bjork; Josh Glover, friend of Leslie Blum; Judy Likkel, mother of Erin Byxbee; Kim Anbouba; Layden Stroud, friend of Lu and Tommy Turner; Mary Alice Williams, sister of Virginia Wiley; Wanda Knight and Ann Weaver, sisters of Blue Harris and aunts of Paige Flink

Deaths

- W. Woody Merritt, father of Bill Merritt, on Feb. 4
- Marian Sherwood, daughter of Frannie Newsome, on Feb. 25