

University Park United Methodist News An Edition of The United Methodist Reporter

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UPWORD

4024 Caruth Blvd. at Preston Road
P.O. Box 12038 Dallas, Texas 75225-0038
214-368-1435 www.upumc.org

**Making
Disciples of
Jesus Christ**
Through Worship
of God, Covenant
Relationships and
Service to Others.

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School**

June 11-15

Artist's work is a window to her faith

Many of us in the Dallas area are very familiar with artist Pamela Nelson's work. But most of us probably don't know it.

If you've visited the Prayer Chapel at the Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas, admired the Rose Window at First United Methodist Church of Richardson as you travel along I-75, or you've ridden the DART Light Rail to or from Mockingbird Station, you've enjoyed a Nelson original.

And in viewing her work, you would have viewed an expression of her faith.

In fact, Nelson said, her faith plays an integral role in her artistic process – whether she's painting on canvas, designing brickwork or arranging stained glass.

"Even in my so-called secular art, I often meditate on a Psalm or a hymn as I am working," she explained. "The rhythms of the Psalms are especially important to me. As St. Benedict said, 'My work is my prayer.'"

It's completely fitting, then, that Nelson is the featured speaker at the Spiritual Arts Series Member Art Exhibit and Lecture at 7 p.m. May 20 in Fellowship Hall. Her lecture, "The Creation Story and the Creative Spirit," will be in conjunction with the Member Art Exhibit, which begins at 5 p.m. in the Caldwell Room. Members will be exhibiting artwork that depicts their faith.

That can mean different things to different people, Nelson said.

"Faith is such a mystery, and it can't be real literal for me. I don't work with figurative art or narrative art. That's my approach. Others may have a much different approach."

Nelson said her lecture will focus on the liturgical work she's done at FUMC Richardson and Presbyterian Hospital and the importance of public art – which is art that is incorporated into



public places, such as the DART Light Rail stations.

"Private art has its place, but only a few people end up enjoying it," she said, adding that research shows that when there's art in a public place, people are less likely to mistreat the area and will "behave a lot more civilized."

Nelson became a public artist quite by accident. When DART was building the Light Rail, they began a program to put public art in each of the stations. At the time, Boston had the only other mass transit in the United States to incorporate public art. Nelson got into the program in the planning stages, and she ended up designing the brickwork for three stations on the starter line.

Her work with FUMC Richardson began just as innocently. She had a longtime working relationship with Frank Welch, one

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Member art show pieces due Sunday

Sunday is the last day to submit artwork for the Spiritual Arts Series Member Art Exhibit, which will be 5-8 p.m. May 20 in the Caldwell Room.

All mediums are welcome, and the artwork does not need to be current. The only requirement is that a written description of how the piece reflects the artist's faith must be submitted along with the art. For more information, see the display in the Information Center.

At 5:30 p.m., Lynn Erickson will present her portrait drawing of the Rev. Thomas Q. Robbins. Also on display at the exhibit will be a compilation of crosses that have been created by members of the youth program.

Dessert and coffee will be served at the exhibit, and the guest speaker for the evening, local artist Pamela Nelson, will begin at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Hula, Hula, No More Schoola! Register now for Kids' Night Out

Register by May 16 for the next Kids' Night Out, which is 5-9 p.m. May 19. This end-of-school celebration – dubbed "Hula, Hula, No More Schoola!" – will include a bounce house and other special activities.

Kids' Night Out is a fun evening of fellowship for children 4 months old through the fifth grade, and it's a great opportunity for a parents' night out. Infants and toddlers will enjoy play time in their normal classrooms. Older children take

part in creative activities as well as a pizza dinner and recreation.

The cost for Kids' Night Out is \$25 for one child, \$35 for two and \$45 for three or more from the same family. Registration forms are available at the Weekday School office and the Information Center desk, and payment must accompany registration.

If you have questions, contact Mindy Dague at 214.368.1435, ext. 135 or e-mail mdague@upumc.org.



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Sunday, May 13, 2007
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
The Festival of the Christian Home

Traditional Service, sanctuary
 Thomas Q. Robbins, *preaching*
 Scripture Lesson: John 19:25b- 27
 Liturgists: Larry Ravert and Dick Wilson

Music
8:30 a.m.

Anthem, "Sing to the Lord" by Ken Medema,
 sung by the Aldersgate Chorale.

11 a.m.

Anthem, "A Gaelic Blessing" By John Rutter
 and "Sing to the Lord" by Ken Medema,
 sung by the Chancel Choir.

The Bridge contemporary worship, Fellowship Hall
11 a.m.

Rebecca Frank, *preaching*
 The Ties That Bind
 Exodus 20:12

Featuring The Bridge Band with Leslie Williams-Blum,
 worship leader

Radio Broadcast

UPUMC Sunday morning broadcast: 9-9:30 a.m. on
 WRR-FM (101.1) featuring preaching by Thomas Q. Robbins and
 music by the Chancel Choir of UPUMC

Sermons on the Internet

Hear sermons by Thomas Q. Robbins and
 Rebecca Frank on the Internet.

Visit our church's Web site, www.upumc.org, and click on "Sermons
 Online" under the Worship & Pray section. The necessary software
 may be downloaded directly from this page.

Crosses make great gifts

Are you yet a proud owner of the UPUMC James Avery cross? This is a perfect gift for Mother's Day (May 13), graduation, Father's Day (June 17) or for a child going off to college.

UPUMC commissioned James Avery Craftsman to create the cross in 1989 to celebrate the church's 50th anniversary. The inscription on the back of the cross reads, "UPUMC 1939-1989." James Avery recently found seven of these original crosses, and they are available for purchase for \$55, chain not included. The cross was re-released just prior to the 60th anniversary with the inscription "UPUMC est. 1939." The cost for this cross is \$65, chain not included.

These crosses are a beautiful reminder of our relationship to God and our church family. Both samples can be seen in George O'Reilly's office during normal church hours.

To purchase a cross, contact Candy Hearne at 214.841.0895.

UMW Circle meetings for May

Circle 4

Monday, May 21, 9:30 a.m.
 Leader: Ashley Holbrook
 Location: Parlor
 Program: a speaker on child safety

Circle 8

Monday, May 21, 6:30 p.m.
 Leader: Laura Robertson
 Location: Cantina Laredo

UMC launches missionary recruiting campaign

"We need missionaries," the Rev. R. Randy Day told directors of the General Board of Global Ministries at the opening of the mission agency's semi-annual meeting in Stanford, Conn., on April 23. Day is chief executive of the international mission and service agency.

The campaign theme is: "The Face of Today's Missionary: Is It Yours?" Personnel are needed for work in evangelism, church development, education, medical care, agriculture, legal services and financial administration. A majority, although not all, assignments are outside the United States.

"Our recruitment initiative is quite broad," Day said. "It covers regular, or 'standard support,' missionaries as well as persons in special categories, including short-term young adult service, Hispanic ministries, and our Church and Community Workers program. It also includes a new category, Global Health Missionaries, which is currently focused on sub-Saharan Africa."

Extensive information on the recruitment campaign in five languages can be found on the Web site of the General Board of Global Ministries at www.ummissionaries.org. The languages are English, French, Korean, Portuguese and Spanish.

United Methodist missionary assignments are carried out in collaboration with partner churches around the world and with annual conferences and church-related or ecumenical institutions in the United States.

The General Board of Global Ministries currently has about 220 standard support missionaries, mostly outside the United States. Partial support is provided to another 120 people, mostly in the United States. These include Church and Community Workers, Hispanic/Latino Plan missionaries, Alaska missionaries and short-term young adult missionaries. These people are "commissioned" personnel. To "commission" means to send forth for special service.

Another 100 people are "noncommissioned" mission personnel, and the agency helps to support 293 "persons in mission" selected by partner churches around the world. (Deaconesses and home missionaries are commissioned by the board but are not salaried by the agency unless they enter one of the missionary categories.)

The qualifications for missionary service can be found online at www.ummissionaries.org.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

New Members:

Our church family welcomes Ken Dippel and Mary Ann Webber, who joined Sunday, April 29.

Birth:

Congratulations to Steve and Elizabeth Daniels on the birth of their son, Henry William, on Feb. 22.



Ken Dippel



Mary Ann Webber

Baptism:

We rejoice with David & Nikki Anderson on the baptism of their son, Alexander Blackwell, on Sunday, May 6. Also, pictured are older sisters Abby and Bekah and older brother, Josh.



The Anderson Family

Visitors:

We welcomed 54 visitors on Sunday, April 29, including the following Dallas-area first-time visitors:

Mara Baumann
 Summer Chase
 Paul & Ellen Flowers
 Jane Glancy
 Priscilla Schmitz
 David & Susan Webster
 Tom & Fran Lout

In the hospital as of May 8:

St. Paul Don Adams

Our commitment to UPUMC

Sunday collections

May 7	\$ 42,079
May 13	\$
May 20	\$
May 27	\$
Total May 2007	\$ 42,079

Worship attendance

8:30 a.m.	174
11 a.m.	366

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of the architects who was designing the church's new facility on I-75. When he learned of the church's plans to make a rose window the focal point of the new sanctuary, he thought of Nelson.

"I had often wanted to do a rose window," she said, adding that she'd never worked with stained glass before. "I thought if I could ever be old enough and wise enough ... I have rose window postcards all around me on my desk.

"He said, 'I'm not saying you'll get chosen, but I'll bring you to the committee and you can make a presentation.'"

The rest is history. Nelson embarked on her first attempt at stained glass, collaborating closely with the fabricators in Bryan, Texas, and reducing her learning curve as she went. The result is a stunning collection of art pieces that will bring light, color and beauty into the sanctuary for years to come.

Nelson is proud of it, too. In fact, of all the public art she has on display in Dallas, the windows in FUMC Richardson sanctuary are what she would most encourage people to view.

"I'm real excited about Northpark (Mall, where she has an exhibit that will remain up for a few more months). I just sat in the Chapel at Presbyterian Hospital, and I'm still pleased with that. But the windows at (FUMC Richardson), they're so permanent. They're the most permanent, most important things I've done."

Nelson's last remaining windows are scheduled to be installed at FUMC Richardson soon, and they will be dedicated in the church's 11 a.m. traditional worship service on May 27.



Update from the Rev. Wes Magruder, missionary in Cameroon, Africa

UPUMC offers financial and spiritual support to a United Methodist missionary in the field through the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. The Rev. Wes Magruder and his family are currently appointed to lead the growth of the Methodist church in Cameroon, Africa.

At the recent Annual Meeting, delegates from a village in the Southwest Province arrived bearing a gift for the mission superintendent and family. Actually, the gift was for Leah. Last year, Leah traveled to N'chang, during which time a baby had just been born to Pastor Arrey's wife. They decided to name the baby after Leah.

And in honor of Leah and her namesake, the church brought a goat to Yaounde, tied it under a tree at the meeting and presented it to her!

I'm pretty sure that the goat was meant as a culinary gift, but you know what happens when you get young children around an animal. Suddenly, it's a pet! Before the goat was home, it already had a name - Pierre. And you simply can't eat anything with a name.

To make matters worse, Chloe decided that the goat didn't smell very nice and needed a bath. So the goat has also been the victim of a scrub from three girls.

All I can say is ... what do you plan to give YOUR district superintendent and bishop as a gift this year?

The highlight of the Annual Meeting every year for me is the time we spend listening to reports from the local churches in Cameroon. We give each church a total of three minutes to give a short account of what they have done and are doing in their community. Most of the congregations also submit a typed or handwritten report.

I find the reports to be very interesting: sometimes humorous, other times disappointing. But never dull!

You can read many of these reports on Magruder's daily blog at www.preachpeace.blogspot.com.

THIS WEEK

- Sunday, May 13**
 8:30a Worship Service
 8:45a Library Open
 9:45a Sunday School
 11:00a Worship Services
 4:00p Aldersgate Chorale
 5:00p Womens' Covenant
 Men's Covenant
 5:15p Women's Covenant
- Monday, May 14**
 7:00a Men's Covenant
 9:00a Weekday School (M-F)
 10:00a Communion & Prayer
 UMW Circle 1 Meeting
 Communications Meeting
 6:00p Boy Scout Troop 72
 6:30p
- Tuesday, May 15**
 7:00a Men's Covenant
 7:30a Men's Covenant
 8:15a Women's Covenant
 2:00p Library Open
 7:00p Finance Meeting*
 Women's Covenant
- Wednesday, May 16**
 7:00a Men's Covenant
 8:30a Womens' Covenant
 9:30a Disciple 3*
 10:00a Parent/Child Music Class
 11:30a Womens' Covenant
 12:00p Brown Bag Book Group*
 4:00p Parent/Child Music Class
 6:30p Boots and Bowties
 Dinner*
 7:00p Women's Covenant
 8:00p Chancel Choir
- Thursday, May 17**
 6:15a Men's Covenant
 7:30a Men's Covenant
 2:00p Library Open
 7:00p Boy Scout Troop 72
 Committee Meeting
- Friday, May 18**
 7:00a Men's Covenant
 7:30a Men's Covenant
 9:15a Women's Covenant
 12:00p Men's Covenant
 7:00p Overtones End of Year Party
- Saturday, May 19**
 8:30a UMM Breakfast Meeting
 10:00a Guatemala All-Team meeting
 5:00p Kids' Night Out

* Childcare by reservation only. Please call 72 hours ahead to 214.368.1435, ext. 325 and give names and ages of the children for whom you need care.

Internet crime specialist to talk about safety

Sgt. Byron Fasset of the Dallas Police Department and the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center will present a program on Net Safety during the Youth Sunday school class at 9:45 a.m. May 20 in Fellowship Hall. Fasset, who has extensive experience investigating Internet crimes against children, will give helpful pointers on:

- Signs for recognizing online predators,
- Risks of meeting someone offline,
- Personal responsibility when using the Internet, and
- Setting guidelines for what is and isn't appropriate to put online.

All are invited to attend. This program is especially helpful for parents of teenagers, pre-teens and children in Club 345. For more information, contact Robin Wilson at rwilson@upumc.org.



The Magruder family with "Pierre."

Robin Wilson, director of youth activities & programs
rwilson@upumc.org

YOUTH STUFF

Garth Allen, assistant youth director
gallen@upumc.org

It is almost summertime! We do not have any activities coming up, but don't forget to sign up for mission trips. The deadline is May 14.

Sr. High Mission Trip
 June 3-9
 Gulfport, Miss.

Jr. High Mission Trip
 June 24-29
 San Marcos, Texas



UPUMC NEWS and NOTES

Get your tickets for Boots and Bowties

Boots and Bowties is the theme for an all-church dinner at 6:30 p.m. May 16 in Fellowship Hall to bid farewell to the Rev. Thomas Q. and Ruth Robbins. The dinner, which will be catered by Bubba's, will be followed by a program celebrating the Robbins' time at UPUMC.



Tickets are \$12 per person and are available through Friday at the Information Center desk. Free childcare for this event is available by calling at least 72 hours in advance to 214.368.1435, ext. 325.

Thomas Q. will deliver his last sermon on June 10. There will be no Bridge service that day, and a live feed from the sanctuary will be available in Fellowship Hall for overflow seating. Immediately after the 11 a.m. worship service, there will be a reception in Fellowship Hall.

Ladies: Come have tea with Ruth Robbins

As the Rev. Thomas Q. and Ruth Robbins prepare to say goodbye to UPUMC, the United Methodist Women invite all women of the church to a tea in Ruth's honor. A Ladies' Tea will be 3-5 p.m. May 20 at the home of Janet and Tim Mountz, 3712 Wentwood. No reservations are required, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

UMW general meeting features Terry Parsons

Terry Parsons will be the featured speaker at the next general meeting of UPUMC's United Methodist Women. All women are invited to the meeting at 10:30 a.m. May 21 in the Caldwell Room, followed by a salad luncheon.

Parsons is a minister and psychotherapist who has devoted himself to helping people find the right mates, develop intimate relationships, and have thriving, lifetime marriages. His topic will be "Genesis Journeys - New Beginnings."

Childcare is available with 72-hour advance notice. Call 214.368.1435, ext. 325.



Cooper School needs communicator

The board of the Cooper School of Discipleship is looking for a devoted individual to take over communications duties.

This volunteer job takes about 15 hours per week and includes working with the UPUMC communications staff members to ensure timely communications in the church newspaper, Web site, bulletins and e-newsletters; designing and producing print promotional materials; managing direct mailings; and other communications activities. A background in communications and knowledge of inDesign software is helpful.

Contact Dana Manley at dbmrrm@mac.com or 214.987.1322 if you're interested.



Find out about pastoral care at dinner

The volunteers who support UPUMC's Pastoral Care Ministry will have their biannual potluck dinner and meeting at 6 p.m. May 22 in the parlor. If you are already a volunteer with this ministry, please attend and bring a dish to share. If you are not already volunteering and would like to learn more, please be our guest.

The Pastoral Care Ministry supports church members in a variety of ways, including making visits to homebound members, sending cards with encouraging messages, preparing and delivering meals to member families in need or in crisis situations, and providing receptions after funerals or memorial services. For more information, please contact the Pastoral Care Office directly at 469.916.9610.

Volunteers needed to serve our children

Volunteers are needed to teach children's Sunday school for the 2007 summer session June 3 through Aug. 19, as well as the 2007-08 session. Previous experience is not required, and all lessons and materials are provided. No advance preparation is necessary. Many openings are available in all classes, from 2-year-olds to second-graders. We welcome individual volunteers, as well as teams of volunteers who can rotate Sundays. For more information, contact Stephanie Bumgardner at 214.363.1939 or utbums@sbcglobal.net.

VBS registration ends May 27

Registration tables for Vacation Bible School will be open in the church hallway before and after this week's 11 a.m. worship services. Deadline to register is May 27.

This year's VBS will be June 11-15. It is open to all children who will be 4 years old by Sept. 1 (and to children of any age whose parents volunteer to help out).

For the first time, UPUMC is offering an extended-day option to make VBS a viable option for more children. Regular VBS will be 9 a.m. to noon, and the extended-day VBS will be 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day. Children in the extended-day program will bring their own sack lunches.

The morning-only program is \$35 per child with a \$100 family maximum, and the extended program is \$150 per child. The theme for this year is Lift Off: Soaring to New Heights with God.

The \$35 fee is waived for all children of parents who volunteer to help with VBS all five mornings. Many volunteers are needed to help with crafts, decorating, drama/Bible storytelling, providing food for volunteers, mission, music, recreation, registration, snacks, coordinating youth volunteers, the end-of-week celebration lunch and clean-up. Volunteers are also needed to be class guides and to work with Club 345.

If you're interested in volunteering, contact Kathy Dreyer at kathydreyer@sbcglobal.net or Dick Wilson at dwilson@upumc.org or 214.368.1435, ext. 146.



Blended worship for June 10 and 17

On June 10 and June 17, the 11 a.m. worship services will be combined so that the entire congregation can gather for the Rev. Thomas Q. Robbins' last sermon and the Rev. Leighton Bearden's first sermon. There will be a live feed of the traditional service into Fellowship Hall for those who would like to sit there. There will not be a separate service of The Bridge on those Sundays.

Brown Bag Book Club begins new volume

Bring your lunch and join the Brown Bag Book Club as they study "Hearing with the Heart" by Debra K. Farrington from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays in room 235. The group reads and discusses one or two chapters a week. They began their current book on May 2 and will finish the middle of July. Books are available at the Information Center desk or at the club meeting. Childcare is available by 72-hour advance reservation. Call 214.368.1435 ext. 325 and leave the name and age of each child that needs care.

Have you considered joining UMW?

UPUMC's United Methodist Women is a thriving organization devoted to mission and Christian fellowship for women of all ages and backgrounds. Circles meet monthly, and study leaders present topics on Bible study, spiritual growth and mission.

If you're a woman at UPUMC and you have not yet joined UMW, you're missing a wonderful opportunity to bond with your fellow women of the congregation. Whether you are young or wise, a career woman or a domestic diva, there's likely a circle where you'll fit right in. Contact Lynn Erickson at 214.824.6648 for help finding the right circle for you.

Upcoming events for UMW include the Annual School of Christian Mission, July 16-19 at Lovers Lane UMC in Dallas, and the Week-End Cooperative Mission Event, July 20-22 at Austin College in Sherman.



United
Methodist
Women

Build your faith in a Wesley Covenant Group

Did you know that it is possible for someone to join a church and a Sunday school class, attend weekly, sing in the choir, go to Bible study, volunteer on a committee and still never get to the place where they know and are known by others on an intimate level?

Wesley Covenant Groups (WCG) are designed to assist individuals in their spiritual growth with Christ through small group ministry. These groups of 6-12 that meet weekly in homes or at the church have grown in numbers by 50 percent in the past six months.

If you are not in a group, you are missing an opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with your fellow church members. To learn more about joining a WCG, contact Amy Schumacher at amydschu@hotmail.com or 214.692.1595.