

## Years of support show through on library's shelves

University Park UMC is fortunate to have a thriving adult library. The Fiske Miles Memorial Library, located in room 105, is a place of retreat with its warm, well-stocked wooden shelves.

But it might not be what it is today if it weren't for the love and devotion of one fastidious volunteer who hasn't stepped inside the library for years.

It's not like Dorothy Russell was at a loss for ways to fill her time. In fact, it was the detail-oriented way in which Russell addressed envelopes for church mailings that led the receptionist to recommend her to the library more than 15 years ago, says Phyllis Baker, a longtime library volunteer.

But that simple recommendation was the beginning of something much more impactful.

Russell applied her eye for detail to filing, and she also did some reshelving and other chores. But one area in which she worked the hardest – in which most members of the library team worked the hardest in the 1990s – was in her ability to make scrumptious cookies.

That was how the library paid for itself. Rose Mary Rumbley would do book reviews as chari-

ty for the library, and the library team would make cookies for the events. After a while, Phyllis said, the cookies were just as sought after, if not more, than Rumbley's insights.

"We were all beginning to show signs of wear when it came to making cookies," Baker said. "Dorothy said she'd be glad to just provide money instead of making cookies. We all jumped for joy, and that's how her subsidizing the library began."

For the next several years, Russell made financial contributions to the library on a continuous basis, and eventually the library had a nest egg of its own. Today, the library runs on only the interest that accrues from the money Russell has donated.

Otherwise, most of what you see in the library today is thanks to Russell: the computer system, the wooden shelving, the rich supply of resources.

"She's just such a lady," Baker said. "She wanted to give, and this was her chosen area in which to give. I can't be grateful enough to her."



Dorothy Russell, seated, celebrates in the library with her sister, Adeline Grant.

It's been many years since Russell has been healthy enough to come to church. She lives with her sister and brother-in-law, Charles and Adeline Grant, who also are members of the church. The three of them are now leaving Dallas for an assisted living facility in Fort Worth, where Russell's nephew, David Carter, lives.

It's an appropriate time, said Baker, to say a public thank you to Russell for keeping the library alive.

"She should have some recognition after funding this. It's a treasure house. There's no telling how many dollars are reflected here. People have no idea what's held within these walls."

## Hearne elected to General Conference

Last week was a big week for Richard Hearne.

Not only was he one of a handful of people across the North Texas Conference to receive an Inclusiveness Award, but he was one of 1,000 people across the world elected to be a delegate to General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference next spring.

Hearne was nominated for the Inclusiveness Award by his friend Perry Crenshaw, pastor of Warren United Methodist Church. Looking at Hearne and Crenshaw together, the two seem as different as two people can be.

But opposites often do attract, and over the years, Hearne and Crenshaw have

See "Hearne," page 5A

## Youth Center renovation comes closer to reality

The building permit is in place, and demolition is set to begin Monday on the Youth Center renovation.

Just last week, the Youth Center Renovation Committee met with the company the church contracted with to determine what accessibility issues the project would need to address. The accessibility contractor has given the green light, and the general contractor is mobilizing the subcontractors that will be involved in the project. As soon as Vacation Bible School finishes, the work can begin.

Brett Smith, the architect on the project, said demolition will take about a week and

See "Youth Center," page 4A



Men's WCG feeds homeless

4A



A message from the Rev. JoNell Lindh

5A

### IN WORSHIP JUNE 17, 2007

Traditional, 8:30 and 11 a.m.  
Meeting at the Crossroads  
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.  
Live broadcast of traditional worship

### IN WORSHIP JUNE 24, 2007

Traditional, 8:30 and 11 a.m.  
The Backdrop of Ungrace  
the Rev. Leighton Bearden

The Bridge, 11 a.m.  
"Let us pray", Luke 11:1-13  
the Rev. Rebecca Frank

## Youth Center demolition set to begin Monday

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a half, and the youth can expect to be moved back into the basement before the fall youth program begins.

"I'm excited on behalf of the church not only to have the planning done, but also to have the building permit and to attain the approval of the state-certified accessibility contractor to move forward."

Richard Hearne, who is in charge of raising the \$500,000 to pay for the project, said the church is close to meeting that goal.

A special plaque shaped like a tree will display the names of all those who contribute to the project before June 30. The interior design committee, made up of Mikee Smythe and Katherine Taylor, will determine where the plaque will be placed in the new space.

"It's a real testament of faith that our church was able to raise this amount in cash in such a short time," Hearne said. "We're making a tremendous investment in the youth of our church."



## Men's Wesley Covenant Group strengthens bond through service

They may be wearing their normal weekday business attire, but when the 7:30 Tuesday Morning Men's Wesley Covenant Group meets one Wednesday a month at lunchtime, they roll up their sleeves and push their ties aside to live the scripture – not just study it.

The group is actually the first Wesley Covenant Group (WCG) that formed at UPUMC, and the members volunteer once a month to help Warren United Methodist Church in downtown Dallas serve a hot meal to 75-100 needy adults.

The service project is a natural fit for the group since Perry Crenshaw, pastor of Warren UMC, is a member of the WCG. The group meets three Tuesdays a month at UPUMC and one or two Tuesdays a month at Warren UMC.

Richard Hearne and John Jenkins first formed the group shortly after Sept. 11, 2000. When the group began looking for a service project, Hearne thought about the daily hot lunches that his friend Crenshaw and the others at Warren UMC served to needy people in the area.

The group began serving regularly at Warren, and Crenshaw quickly became a part of the WCG. Seven years later, the group is still dishing up the satisfying home-cooked meals provided by the folks at Warren UMC.

Eventually, Hearne and Jenkins left to start new groups so that more men could find the personal fellowship a WCG offers. By definition, WCGs must remain small – no more than 10-12 people. So when a group grows too large, some members agree to spin off to create a new group. That way, there is always room for more, and always a place for newcomers to fit in.

Today, the members of that original WCG include Crenshaw, Greg Bustin, Thomas Chandler, Warren Hubbard, Joe McElyea, Charles Turner, Alan Hamilton, Mike Sturlin and Keith Wiley.

Wiley said having a service project is important for the group because it brings the men together in a different way than their weekly meetings.

"It allows us to develop a deeper bond with each other, as well as helping each of us become a better Christian by helping those in need."

In fact, Warren UMC could use more volunteers to help serve meals, which are provided during lunchtime five days a week. If your WCG or other small group is interested in making a commitment to serve, contact Wiley or one of the other men in the 7:30 Tuesday Morning Men's WCG for more information.

UPUMC now has 21 WCGs – both

## Sister church in Bratislava sends prayer requests

*UPUMC is In Mission Together with Bratislava UMC in Slovakia. We support them with financial gifts, and our congregations support each other with prayers and encouragement. To learn more about our involvement with Bratislava UMC and other global mission projects, visit the Web at [upumc.org/pages/Foreign\\_Missions](http://upumc.org/pages/Foreign_Missions). Following are some prayer requests from their pastor, the Rev. Viera Hroncova.*

Please pray for the campaign "40 Days with Purpose," which started in late May and will go on through June. Please pray that many people in our congregation will participate in this who could receive a new blessing and renewal in their faith. On June 23, we will have an all-day program for children. Please pray for our leaders, for the children who will

come, for wisdom and God's leadership for the preparation of the program, for the anointment for the one who will have the Bible lesson, for reaching children with God's word, and for protection both spiritual and physical.

Please pray for Martha and Phil Brice as they come to Bratislava from Ohio as individual volunteers with their granddaughter Aria for two years. We also ask for wisdom to see what opportunities there are to use them to proclaim the gospel to people in Bratislava. We thank God that he has provided a good apartment for them not far from the school Aria will attend.

## We are sent

by the Rev. Phil Mercer, evangelism

I believe that the appointive system is the best – better than all the rest. Our process of preparing individuals to serve local congregations works well.



For example, our Staff-Parish Relations Committee interviewed, approved and recommended Jill and Mark Chambers to advance further in this process. And now both are being sent to do internships within this conference. Mark will intern at New Covenant United Methodist Church, and Jill will intern at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, where the Rev. JoNell Lindh is senior pastor.

This congregation is to be commended for your effective leadership through the years.

On behalf of the Evangelism Committee, I express appreciation to Jill and Mark for assisting this congregation in many ways. We especially thank them for hosting our Hospitality Room in the parlor following the 11 a.m. worship services.

Please join us in greeting our guests in the Hospitality Room each Sunday.



From left, Thomas Chandler, Greg Bustin and Warren Hubbard help volunteers and workers from Warren United Methodist Church dish up plates to feed a hot meal to about 75 needy adults.

## A message from JoNell Lindh



With feelings of anticipation and sadness in leaving UPUMC, I accept the appointment made for me by Bishop Norris and the cabinet to serve as the senior pastor of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church. I

trust the Holy Spirit's direction in guiding the bishop to match the needs of the Chapel Hill congregation to the God-given gifts and graces I bring to ministry.

I am able to accept this appointment with the sense of being ready because of the nurture, love, support and guidance University Park has offered me.

I will take the responsibility of being pastor of Chapel Hill UMC on June 15 and preach my first sermon on June 17. As God is my companion and guide, I will strive to be His good messenger to the people of Chapel Hill. As people of the Methodist connection, I am counting on experiencing the true relationships that I have received from UPUMC. I will always remember you each with love and joy. I covet your continued prayers. I will carry you in my heart.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and give you His peace.

Your servant and His,  
The Rev. JoNell Lindh

## Hearne one of 1,000 across the world to decide on issues affecting the United Methodist Church

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developed the kind of friendship that allows open, honest conversation – a forum for debating issues and better understanding the opposition.

"We don't demonize each other, and we don't call each other names," Hearne explained. "Because of our friendship, I understand more and he understands more."

It was Hearne's "continued attempt to understand other cultures" that prompted Crenshaw to nominate Hearne for the award.

"I'm convinced that the way we're going to solve the social issues facing the church – and society as a whole – is through one-on-one conversations and in small groups," Hearne said.

Perhaps that's why Hearne has felt it important to be involved with the North Texas Conference. As lay leader for the conference, he's had the opportunity to develop many of those small group relationships.

He'll have even more impact in April and May 2008 as a delegate to the General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference in Fort Worth.

As a General Conference delegate, he'll participate in making decisions regarding changes to the discipline of the United Methodist Church. The conference addresses petitions from members across the world dealing with a wide variety of issues.

"We have the most democratic system of any church there is," Hearne said. "At confer-



**Richard Hearne pictured with his wife Candy and Perry Crenshaw who nominated Richard for the Inclusives Award.**

ence, there are 500 laity and 500 clergy. It's where the laity really has their power. It keeps one faction from taking over the church."

As a delegate to the Jurisdictional Conference, Hearne will participate in electing bishops. He and the others from the South Central Jurisdiction will meet at least every three weeks for the next year to discuss legislative issues and review bishop applications.

"It's not about me, but it's the fact that it's going to be one of us who makes these decisions," Hearne explained. "I'm just a normal person who sits in the pews like everyone else. What I want the people at UP to know is that they have a voice."

## A report from our delegates to Annual Conference

by Marilyn Hamilton

This year was an exciting time to be a delegate to Annual Conference! With all of the usual business of the conference – mostly acting on legislative proposals and hearing reports from the many committees that keep the North Texas Conference up and running – we had the responsibility of electing delegates to the General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference, both to be held next year.

Casting ballots for those to represent us was a responsibility we all took very seriously, keeping in mind some of the legislation that will certainly come before the General Conference and the fact that new bishops are elected at the Jurisdictional Conference.

There was a University Park UMC presence throughout the entire conference. Carmen Emery is serving on the Conference Planning Committee, several of us were hosts at the dedication of the new Conference Ministry Center in Plano, and Richard Hearne was elected a delegate to the General Conference and is the Conference Lay Leader-elect. We are in good hands.

The Rev. JoNell Lindh served on the Worship Planning Committee, and you could feel her influence in so many beautiful ways.

The Rev. Thomas Q. Robbins was the



preacher for the Memorial Service remembering those clergy and clergy spouses who died since the last conference. He reminded us that we, as Christians, die differently and view death differently as we "cross over" into the arms of God. JoNell and Greg Lungwitz joined voices in singing "Jesus, Lover of My Soul."

The Rev. Leighton Bearden, our new senior pastor, has served as conference secretary for several years, and it was good to see him on the stage seated at the table with Bishop Norris. It is Leighton's job to take notes of the proceedings, collect the committee reports and publish the Conference Journal.

It is always a treat to see longtime friends each year at Annual Conference: Dr. David

Grant, who grew up in UPUMC and is now associate professor of religion at TCU; Milton Gutierrez, a former youth minister who is now district superintendent of the Dallas South District, and his wife, Kathy; the Rev. Noel and Frances Marie Bryant, here from their retirement to Boerne, Texas; Leslie Stephens, now serving at St. Phillip's in Garland; Steve and Connie Robertson; Marc and Michelle Corazao; former youth minister Leslie Janovec, who is now serving as an Air Force chaplain stationed in San Antonio and who will probably be deployed to Iraq soon; and Gloria Thomas, a delegate from First UMC in Denton.

Tuesday evening's Ordination Celebration is always a highlight of Annual Conference, and the one this year was outstanding as the Rev. Kathy Johnson, Jody Lindh and our Chancel Choir provided the music for this occasion.

As the appointments were being read, it was a bittersweet moment to watch the Rev. JoNell Lindh, who has called UPUMC her church home for 40 years, rise from her seat at our table and walk over to join the delegates from her new appointment, Chapel Hill UMC. We wish her God's blessings as she ministers to her new church.

**Correction: Number to call for Stephen Ministry**

The article about the Stephen Ministry in the June 1 UP Word reported an incorrect phone number. If you're interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, contact Herb or Marilyn Hamilton at 214.221.2201.

**UMM schedules annual day at the Ballpark**

Men of the church are invited to join the United Methodist Men as they take a group of boys from Methodist Children's Home in Waco to a Texas Rangers baseball game.

Mark your calendar for 3 p.m. June 23, when the group will see the Houston Astros vs. the Texas Rangers at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington. Before the game, they will have lunch at the Rawlins All American Grill.

The church bus will leave the church at 12:45 p.m., or you can meet the group at the ballpark — for lunch or just for the game. Tickets are \$15 each. Call Floyd Burke for information at 469.583.1523.

**July dates available for providing altar flowers**

There are three dates available in July to honor or remember a loved one by providing altar flowers for the sanctuary: July 1, 8 and 22. If you are interested, call Chrys Franklin at 214.368.3992.

**Women's Sunday school class starts strong**

The new women's Sunday school class got off to a great start last week. Eighteen women attended the kickoff for the class, led by the Rev. Rebecca Frank and Linda Taylor. If you're interested in a Sunday school class for women of all ages and occupations, join the group at 9:45 a.m. Sunday in Room 233.

**Get ready to help with Project Transformation**

Join in UPUMC's 10th year of partnership with Project Transformation at Oak Cliff UMC. Project Transformation sponsors a Christian summer day camp for children living in inner-city Dallas. The camp is facilitated by college interns and urban-suburban partner Methodist churches such as UPUMC.



How can you help? Find out more about these volunteer opportunities at the display in the Information Center.

- Be a reading volunteer - Volunteers needed 9:30 a.m.-noon each day June 25-28. Transportation and childcare is available at UPUMC with reservation.

- Help prepare a big lunch - Make lunch for 100 hungry college interns at UPUMC on July 8 and/or July 20.

- Donate supplies - Check the Information Center for the list of snacks, craft supplies, athletic equipment and computers that are needed.

For more information, contact Kim Brannon at 214.696.9437 or ksbrannon@sbc-global.net.

**Rock 'n' Rollers: Celebrate with us in Granbury**

Do you remember Feb. 3, 1959 - The Night the Music Died?

Despite the Don McLean-derived title, The Night the Music Died is not some morbid rock opera, but a song-by-song, announcement-by-announcement recreation of what ended up being the last stop on the ill-fated 1959 "Winter Dance Party" tour.

Join the UPUMC Travel Ministry as we celebrate that the music actually lives on at the 2 p.m. show on Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Granbury Opera House.

Picturesque Granbury is sure to delight

everyone, whether a first-time visitor or a repeat for many years. Our lunch will be at the popular Pecan Plantation. There will be time for browsing the shops of the famous Courthouse Square between lunch and the show.

Cost is \$85 per person, due now in order to purchase show tickets on time. Reservations are nonrefundable, but name changes are allowed. Price includes motorcoach transportation, lunch, show, escort, taxes, gratuities and service.

Call Carolyn Corrigan at 469-916-9610 or Phil Mercer at 469-916-9624 for more information or to reserve a place. Reservation forms are also available at the Information Center desk.

**Weekday School seeks preschool teacher**

The UPUMC Weekday School is looking for an experienced preschool teacher for a part-time position. Contact Ramona Randle or Susan Dudley at 214.361.4626, or send an e-mail to rrrandle@upumc.org or sdudley@upumc.org.

**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 dbmrrmm@mac.com or 214.987.1322 if you're interested.

**Journal entries help prepare Guatemala team**

UPUMC will send 10 people to Guatemala July 6-16 to join missionaries from around the world in medical and construction work. As they prepare, we look back at the journals written by last year's team. See more entries in the June 29 issue of UP Word.

- Early morning. Breakfast at Hotel Modelo. I am absolutely amazed at how happy and adorable all of the children here in Guatemala are. They have so much less than us, yet they seem to be much more content. The serv-

ice yesterday at the Methodist church was powerful, beautiful, and I was very impressed with how warm and welcoming all of these people we came to help are. I was also amazed at how the service lasted two hours. The praising of God and his amazing works was very powerful. -

**Melissa Myers**

- Our second day on the construction site, we were met by Senor Perez already busy at work. He stopped his work to greet each person on our

team with a handshake and "Buenos Dias." Señor Perez worked side by side with us all day long. I felt his pride and anticipation in beginning his long-awaited home. His wife, Maria, has come by every day to watch the work, and both are there to eat with us during the lunch break. I am so excited for the Perez family and hope the home will be for them a shelter from the weather and a warm place to grow old in. -

**Laura Robertson**

**Prayers**

Our church family extends sincere sympathy to the following members:

family and friends of Kenneth C. Dippel who passed away May 29. Services were held June 1.

June Swift and family on the death of her husband, Jack Swift, on May 30. Services were held June 2.

Suzanne Miller and family on the death of her aunt of Kentucky on June 8.

We have the following members in the hospital as of June 12:

Julia Frazee at Baylor - Roberts  
Barbara (Babs) McGauley at The Forum Healthcare