



PLYMOUTH PARK VIEWS

an edition of The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections Section A 072585 Vol 158 No. 14 August 5, 2011

**Plymouth Park
United Methodist
Church**

1615 Airport Fwy
Irving, TX 75062
972-255-4185
www.ppumc.org

**Sunday Worship
Traditional Worship**

8:30 am & 11:00 am in
the Sanctuary

**Plymouth Park
Praise** 9:15 am in
Fellowship Hall

The Sacrament of Holy
Communion is observed
each Sunday in the 8:30
service and the first
Sunday of the month in
the 9:15 and 11:00

Upcoming Events

American Girl, Julie
August 4, 6:30 pm

SPR Meeting
August 8, 6:00 pm

Trustee Meeting
August 8, 7:00 pm

Lego Club, Cities
August 9, 6:30 pm

Ministries Council
August 9, 7:00 pm

Young at Heart
August 18, 10:30 am

Alzheimer's Support
August 18, 7:00 pm

Paper Deadline:

Please provide
information for
the August 19
edition to Barbara
Hamilton by Noon
on August 11. Phone:
972.255.4185 - Email:
bhamilton@ppumc.org

Pastoral Staff
Senior Pastor
Dr. Bill La Barr
Associate Pastor
Rev. Dana Norton
Music Ministry
Jason Chavarria
Youth Ministry
Peg Hartung
Children's Ministry
Cori Cossaboom Bell

Lego Club

The Lego Club has been using its imagination, creativity, and learning team cooperation this summer. We have thought of new ways to build buildings, go into space, transport ourselves, and even made a robot. We have also learned about cooperation, and affirming each other. This year we have had some of our youth come to help and they have had at least as much fun as our younger members if not more. Our last Lego Club meeting is on Tuesday, August 9 when we will have a whole club meeting building whatever our imaginations can think of. Everyone is welcome to come!



Back to school supply contest

The Missions committee is kicking off the Farine Elementary School Partnership School Supply Drive Contest this Sunday, August 7. This the 2011 Back-to-School Contest. This year's contest will pit the "Girls" against the "Boys". All girls and women of the church will be on Reverend Dana Norton's team and all the boys and men will be on Dr. Bill La Barr's team. A list of the items that each team will collect is on an insert in your bulletin.

May the Best Team Win!



Missions garage sale August 3-6

Public Sale Free Admission
Thursday & Friday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm



"Tour around the World" Music camp a success!

Approximately 20 kids from in and around the PPUMC church family participated in our first annual "Tour Around the World" music camp, held three consecutive Wednesdays in July. Led by Children's Choir coordinator Kirsten Woodruff, the children learned songs from Australia, Japan, Ireland, and the continent of Africa. They not only sang, but learned to use egg shakers and handchimes, and even engaged in some liturgical choreography using scarves and ribbons. Each session was accompanied by a corresponding craft, and the kids enjoyed rainbow cupcakes, sweet potato cookies, and pound cake "sushi" as their snacks. The program was concluded with a concert in the Sanctuary followed by a pot-luck supper in Fellowship Hall. Special thanks goes out to all adult and youth helpers, including Rosemary Cowart, Sergio Aleman, Susan Heller, Andrew Heller, Kali Bradshaw, Leah Bell, and Jamie Woodruff. We look forward to next year!



Lord's Acre on Saturday, September 24 - donations needed

Biggest, best Lord's Acre is coming soon. The 2011 Lord's Acre celebration and fund-raiser will be the best and biggest ever.

It's easy to make grandiose claims, and since fall is far off and there's plenty of time to get our collective act together, let's all relax and think about donations and other preparations when the weather cools off.

Not...

The big date, Sept. 24, is just around the proverbial corner. In actuality, it's almost exactly two months from the publication date for this edition of the Views.

The new format will include a craft fair, sponsored by Children's Ministry; a festive lunch sponsored by Music, and the silent and live auctions, sponsored by Communications.

The big need now is for donations, and there are opportunities for everyone. Consider doing a "sign & go" dinner or event, where participants agree to pay a set amount to participate. The "sign & go" concept was introduced in 2010, and the first events have resulted in some delightful experiences and new friendships. But wait, there's more, much more.

Are you a DIY kind of gal or guy? Volunteer your handyperson services to the highest bidder! Do you have a vacation home or time share? Offer a week or weekend to the auction.

Perhaps you love fishing or hunting. Someone would love to go with you and pick up some tips.

Are you a crafter? Do you love to make Christmas decorations or other kinds of household décor? There are many who would love to purchase your creations.

See Lord's Acre page 8a



FROM THE



PASTOR



Dr. Bill La Barr

Long years ago I was the “operating manager” at the Montgomery Ward store in Blue Ridge Mall, Kansas City. The operating manager was responsible for everything in the store except sales, which meant that all the “leased department” income was mine. In that store

we had a beauty salon, cafeteria, optometrist, and a company that sold headstones or grave markers. Most of the time their needs were minimal. I made sure that their facilities were painted, that the carpets were cleaned and the hard-surfaced floors were waxed, light bulbs changed on a regular basis; those types of things. And, when needed, I would add one of their “sales” or “special offerings” to the audio announcements which played about every 30 minutes across the store.

I replaced the hard-surface floor where the headstones were with green AstroTurf, but I could not convince the manager to let me put small mounds of sand under the carpet to simulate a grave. I thought it would be pretty neat, but he was concerned about the “boss,” my store manager.

Each year the headstone company offered “grave blankets” at Christmas. It was incredible to me but people actually bought these grave blankets to cover their “dearly departed’s” graves so that they would not get too cold in the winter. (This was Kansas City; it’s like northern Canada in the winter!) It was a nice income producer during a time when they did not sell too many headstones.

Anyway, one Christmas season I put an audio announcement on the system to the effect that “Montgomery Ward covered your needs from birth to death. Check out the specials on grave blankets in the tombstone area.”

That announcement lasted until my boss came to work at noon.

Well, we in the church meet your needs from birth to death – as you know. One of the more fun duties that we are called upon to do is to preform weddings. If you have not been involved in a wedding lately, you might not know that there is quite a bit involved from the church’s standpoint. We have a mighty crew of “wedding coordinators” who have overseen this part of our life together for as long as I have been here at Plymouth Park. They are becoming weary, however, and we need a new crop of wedding coordinators to take up this mission of our church. I am appealing for help.

To help you, we are making some changes in what has been our tradition which will take effect in the spring of 2012. We are not going to involve ourselves in the work of florists or ordering of invitations. There are businesses that do this much more effectively than we can. We are also going to put our cost structure on the website. Initial calls for availability of the church will be handled by the church secretary, and then the prospective wedding will be passed along to Dana and to me. The wedding coordinator will then be responsible for coordinating the rehearsal and wedding. Hopefully this will take much of the time consuming work out of the process for the coordinator and make the job so that more of you might want to be involved.

Did I mention that this is a paying gig?

The only wedding mentioned in the bible is the wedding at Cana in Galilee in John 2.1-11. What is interesting about that wedding is though we know the identity of some of the guests; we do not know who got married. We do know that there was a “wedding coordinator,” a wine steward, who worked with Jesus to insure that the party would continue. If you think that you might be interested in this work, let me know. See you in church!

Bill

SYMPATHY TO

Elaine Linn and family on the death of her father, Paul Goodner, Mary Summerill and family on the death of her sister, Dorthy Fletcher The family and friends of Dr. Judy Taylor on her death Barbara Iffland and family on the death of her father, Hall Nichols.

CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS

Lynn Beahm; Eric Haus Butler (Robyn Higginbotham’s friend); Joe Canafax; Bill Chrisman; Dorothy Darby; David Dobbins (Carol Dobbins’ son); Tom Fitzgibbons; Sally Ford; Sergio Garcia (Lilia Garcia’s great nephew); David Gilmore; Billy Gowen; Francis Graham; Gloria Gray; Bill Greer; Richard Gwartney (Laura Tapley’s friend); Teresa Haman; Chris Hyde (Chuck Hyde’s son); Leslie Jones; Sherrill Jones; Dr. Bart Kamen (Bob Laningham’s friend); Jerry Labhart; Barb Lindsey (Teri Hyde’s sister); Anita McGraw; Helen Michaels; Rev. Terry Ann Moore, Carolyn Moore and Pat Moore (UMC Pastor and family members); Christina Moreno; Mae Moulton; Haliee Munoz; Robert Rainey (JoAnn Russell’s friend); Joan Rousseau; Debbie Russell (Gary Fox’ sister); Dick Short; Charles Simpson; LuAnn Sleesman (Robyn Higginbotham’s friend); Alice Smith; Barbara Strubhar; Frances Thompson; David Wollenman; Jerry Wylge (Helen Michaels’ son in law); Billie Sue Yancey; friends at Emeritus, and Leta Gorham with our prayer partner church in South Korea, Sabkyo Methodist Church, and our homebound members, Louise Acuff; Shirley Asbury; John Eitson; Lois Mack and Elmyra McNutt.

A complete list of those requesting prayers will be printed on Communion Sundays and is available on our website at ppumc.org.

	Worship Totals	Sunday School Totals
June 5	382	183
June 12	497	178
June 19	375	177
June 26	463	150
June Avg. Attendance	429	172

June Operating	Year-to-Date Operating
Required\$ 74,033	Required..... \$ 460,331
Received\$ 55,603	Received..... \$ 437,533
Spent.....\$ 78,871	Spent..... \$ 449,003
Over Budget ..\$ 23,268	Over Budget.....\$ 11,470

**Operating Budget amounts are based on historical giving patterns (not proportional throughout the year). E.g., a positive balance in June income may show up as a negative balance in July.*

2011 PPUMC Budget	\$ 925,120
Received Year-to-Date	\$ 437,533
2011 Apportionment to PPUMC.....	\$ 89,944
Received Year-to-Date	\$ 44,972

Service Opportunities found in this paper

- Lord’s Acre - page 1A
- Wedding Coordinator - Pastor’s Note

Share these opportunities for understanding and healing with your friends, neighbors and co-workers.

- Garage Sale
- Lord’s Acre
- Discipleship classes

Thank You! Thank You!

THANK YOU for all of your prayers and support for my Mission Trip to DRC (Congo). The mission team was brought together by God for his purpose in Congo and we have seen doors open that we never imagined. It is evident that God's will is being done in Congo and you are all a part of this. It is amazing how the Methodist Church is growing here and the number of churches that are being dedicated to the glory of God. It was a hard decision which church to help build with the Lenten Offering I took in your name.

Thank you for your help.
Peace, Phil

Pastoral counseling and education opportunity

The Rev. Samuel Park, Ph.D. comes to Plymouth Park UMC on Tuesdays to see clients as a part of his counseling practice with the Pastoral Counseling and Education Center. In his practice, Samuel sees adults, couples, children, and families. His work

Fall 2011 Discipleship courses coming soon!

This fall Plymouth Park UMC will be partnering with the other four Irving United Methodist Churches to offer a broader opportunity for discipleship. While waiting to hear from our sister churches, below is a list of the courses that will be offered at PPUMC.

Course	Start Date	Day & Time	Materials	Leader(s)
Disciple IV	August 30	Tuesday 10:00 a.m.	Bible Workbook	Dr. Bill La Barr
Companions in Christ	Sept. 11	Sunday 2:00 p.m.	Bible Workbook	Rev. Dana Norton
Pastor's Men's Study	Sept. 7	Wednesday 7:00 p.m.	Bible	Dr. Bill La Barr
Pastor's Women's Study	Sept. 7	Wednesday 7:00 p.m.	Bible	Rev. Dana Norton
Here & Now... Then & There by Beth Moore	Sept. 7	Wednesday 10:00 a.m.	Bible Workbook	Amanda Nicholls
Beginning Sign Language (30 lessons)	Sept. 10	Saturday 9:00 a.m.	S.E.E Dictionary	Rev. Dana Norton
Intermediate Sign Language (30 lessons)	Sept. 10	Saturday 10:30 a.m.	S.E.E. Dictionary	Bethany Richeson Certified Interpreter

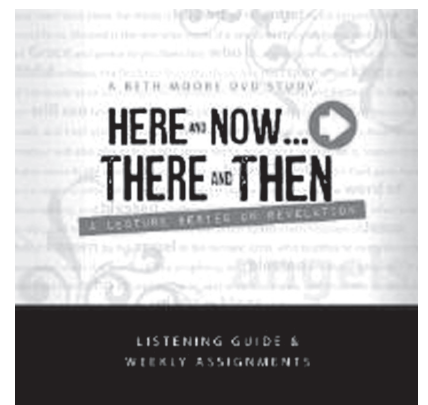
More information will be coming soon describing all courses, both here and at our sister UM Churches in Irving. Contact Rev. Dana Norton by email dana@ppumc.org or in the church office (972-989-3562) for cost and other questions.

includes a variety of issues such as relationship difficulties, spiritual and religious concerns, depression, dealing with life transitions, divorce recovery, addiction, anxiety, and bereavement.

To make an appointment, call the Pastoral Counseling and Education Center at 214-526-4525. Day and evening hours are available as well as two office locations: 4525 Lemmon Ave., Suite 200, Dallas,

Women's fall Bible study

Join us this fall for the women's Bible study: *Here and Now... There and Then* by Beth Moore, an 11-session lecture series on the book of Revelation. Beth presents many points of view, allowing women to decide for themselves when the interpretation varies among scholars. She teaches that God is as specific about what He does reveal as He is about what He does not reveal. This group meets each Wednesday morning from 10:00-12:00 in room 109 beginning September 7, 2011. Contact Amanda Nicholls at 214.492.0432 or amanda@2amps.com with any questions and to reserve your workbook. Childcare is provided.



and at Plymouth Park UMC, Irving. Fees are established on a sliding scale and determined on an individual basis.

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Good News

The Power of Her Faith

By Cori Bell

Sixteen years ago, not long after my beautiful, healthy daughter was born a friend of mine gave birth to twins three months early. One died and the other lived but cannot walk or feed himself, has numerous heart and organ problems, and is

blind. My friend and her husband have gone through so many challenges with him but have never given up. They consider all the hospital visits and day-to-day issues just what you do as parents.

There are many lessons in this story. One is that I should thank God every day (and I do) for my healthy children. Another is that through all of this they will tell you that it was their church who gave them the help they needed and saw them through all the worst times. We should always strive to be that church. But the story I want to tell it not about those things.

When the child was about 1 ½ years old I got a letter from my friend telling me about all the latest struggles. She was very upbeat but it really touched my heart and I prayed for her and her child. It sounded to me that he was not long for this world and I was very upset. After reading the letter I went to the grocery store. What happened next is an experience I will never forget.

I must have had a look on my face or maybe I just carried myself in a way that showed my sadness. Maybe the Holy Spirit was present. I don't know. But when I went to check out the young woman who was at the cash register took one look at me and said, "What's wrong?" I spilled out the whole story of my friend and her son. She picked up a small pad of paper and pen and asked his name. I told her and she wrote it down. Then she said, "Ok, now he's on my prayer list."

We all know the story of the paralytic man lowered to Jesus through the roof by his friends. In Luke 5:20, we are told, "Seeing their faith Jesus said to the man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven." We don't know anything about the man who was healed. We don't even know if he had faith in Jesus' power to heal. All we know is that because his friends had faith he was healed.

That young woman's faith strengthened mine. I have thought about this experience so many times over the years and each time it renews my spirit. Her faith healed me. Her belief in the power of Jesus gave new life to mine. I will never forget her and strive to be like her every day.

Who can you heal with your faith? Who needs your faith to make them whole?

And by the way, my friend's son will celebrate his 16th birthday this fall. And that's good news!

Choral Singing 101 Offered in August!

Calling all singers! The Music Ministry of Plymouth Park United Methodist Church will be offering three sessions of "Choral Singing 101" on Wednesdays August 17th, 24th, and 31st from 7:00-7:50 p.m. These sessions will be sponsored by the Chancel Choir, and will be geared towards beginners and experienced singers alike. Come have some fun while learning about the fundamentals of good singing, including breath support, good posture, and healthy tone production. Those who wish are invited to sing with the choir in August, and who knows, you may want to stay! Remember, no experience is necessary, and we welcome new singers who may just want to learn a little about singing. Come and join us, and bring a friend!



Lord's Acre

continued from 1A

Other hand-crafted items for adults and children, jewelry, gift baskets, dinners, events for the live auction, services (such as photography or home repair) and event-based contributions, including tickets to sports events, the zoo, family entertainment venues, stays at "destination" hotels, museum trips, and music and theater tickets are among the many popular contributions.

With the creativity and imagination of Plymouth Park UMC members, plus the gifts, skills and products of a wide variety of vendors who are purchasing booth space, the 2011 vintage Lord's Acre will be a destination shopping experience for members of the church and community.

The new and expanded schedule will include: Vendors and Sign & Go Socials, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; meal, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; first silent auction tables, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; second silent auction tables, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; live auction, 1 to 2:30 p.m.; and third silent auction tables, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Lord's Acre planners are open to more new ideas and invite suggestions. Donation forms are available for pick up at the church and can be downloaded from the PPUMC website www.ppumc.org or e-mail Rev. Dana Norton, dana@ppumc.org.

Still stumped for ideas? Take a look at what's been donated so far:

Fine Arts and Crafts	
Sleeping Baby Bunny is a handcrafted original	Sarah Hale
Porcelain dolls are handmade and painted with handmade clothes	Karla Martin
Dining	
Authentic Italian Cuisine	Italian Café
Sunday Champagne Brunch	Via Real
Gumbo Dinner	Bill & Joan La Barr and Jerry & Kim Cross
Mexican Fiesta	Bill & Joan La Barr and Jerry & Kim Cross
Entertainment	
Weekend Getaway for 2	Hilton Garden Inn Las Colinas
Ice Stake Lessons	Ice Skate Center—Galleria
Admission Tickets	National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame Fort Worth Zoo Grapevine Vintage Railroad Fort Worth Museum of Science and History NASCAR Camping World Truck Series
Sign & Go Socials	
Saturday Brunch	Bill & Joan La Barr and Jerry & Kim Cross
Chinese New Year Celebration	Andy & Dana Norton

We're just getting started! What will you donate? Will it be items for auction or a Sign & Go Social?

Wait! Market at the Park is new this year

We are very excited to announce that this year we are adding a vendor gift sale to Lord's Acre. It will be on Saturday, September 24 from 9am-5pm in the Activity Room. We are looking for vendors who sell handcrafted items as well as those who represent company products. If you know of someone who would like to have a booth at the gift sale please contact Cori Bell at X205 or cori@ppumc.org.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for September 24th and come to Lord's Acre!

Remember all proceeds benefit the Children's, Music and Communication Ministries of Plymouth Park UMC. For more information or to make a donation, please contact Rev. Dana Norton at X202 or dana@ppumc.org.