



# PLYMOUTH PARK VIEWS

an edition of The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections Section A 072585 Vol 157 No.22 October 1, 2010

**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

**Commitment Sunday**  
October 3

**Church Work Day**  
October 9, 9:00 am

**Lord's Acre**  
October 16

**Young at Heart**  
October 21, 10:30 am

**Alzheimer's Support**  
October 21, 7:00 pm

**All Church  
Conference**  
October 25, 7:00 pm

### Paper Deadline:

Please provide  
information for  
the October 15  
edition to Barbara  
Hamilton by Noon  
on October 7. 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



## Are You Able?

### Church Work Day - Call for Help!

Isn't it interesting how a crisis can so often cause a bit of self-examination? After the Great Flood of September 8, our Board of Church Trustees did a bit of church self-examination and determined that we need to do some work around the building. Therefore, we have set Saturday, October 9, as Church Work Day, beginning at 9 am. In addition to the usual "inside" work which we need to do at this time of year (cleaning the sanctuary, oiling pews, washing windows, etc.), we need to do some outside work too. The storm drains all around the building need to be cleaned out. The gutters need cleaning, and the gutter downspouts are in special need of attention. Please, all able-bodied persons mark your calendars and plan to help on October 9!

## Hurry! Time Is Running Out To Order Fall Flowers

In preparation for The 2011 PPUMC Ladies' Retreat February 18-19, the Retreat Planning Team is selling Fall & Winter bedding flowers! We heard many raves over last year's sturdy pansies. So we've kept some, added some and included 2 kale.

We will be taking the last orders in the Ministry Center on Sunday, October 4. You may also call the PPUMC office Monday-Thursday at 972.255.4185. Pansies and dusty miller come in flats of 20 plants for \$20, the kale are \$6/1 gallon container. The flowers will be delivered to PPUMC on Saturday morning October 9<sup>th</sup> at covered circle driveway, so please plan to pick up your order between 9:00-12:00 noon.

## Lord's Acre Ready for Harvesting!

Lord's Acre is set for Saturday, October 16. This year, why not consider donating a party, event or service. Parties and events will need to include a limit on number of participants and recommended value per person. Then we will all bring our calendars to Lord's Acre and fill in our social events for this next year! Let Lord's Acre be that first big event of the season as we once again have a wonderful BBQ lunch prepared by Reed and Terri Wigington, a bake sale by the UMW, and silent and live auctions.

The schedule is:

10am - Silent Auction, UMW Bake Sale

11am-1pm - BBQ lunch

1pm - Live Auction

Here's just a few auction items:

- A painting of your child or

# LORD'S



# ACRE

## PPUMC Missions Helps at Farine Fall Fajita Festival

As part of our partnership in education with Farine Elementary, PPUMC members hosted Loteria, Mexican Bingo, on September 17 at the School's Fall fajita festival. Members helping call Loteria were Rita Ruiz, Tiffany and Glenn Nicholas, Jose and Sylva Treminio and Janet Manfull. Special thanks to the Children's Ministry for providing the prizes for the bingo winners.



(Call ahead for special delivery needs.) Payment should be made at the time of ordering.

We look forward to seeing you at the Ladies' Retreat in Feb. 2011! We are planning an EXCELLENT Retreat for you!!!

grandchild by Sonya Terpening

- Hen Party Brunch by Liz Garrett
- A Dozen Cupcakes every month for a year by Jeri Bailey
- Ranger Tickets
- Zoo and Museum Admissions

We still need more items so contact Cori Bell, cori@ppumc.org or Rev. Dana Norton, dana@ppumc.org.

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 2Corinthians 9:6*

## Baptism



On Sunday, September 12 at the 11:00 am Worship, Isabella Rose Mogavero was baptised. Isabella is the daughter of Elaina Mogavero and Donovan McCown and the granddaughter of Terri Mogavero.



## Fall Again

The weather outside is cooling down and there is finally a touch of fall in the air. Halloween costumes are out and candy corn is stocked on the shelves.

Soon I'll be preparing to make caramel apples and be thinking about how we will spend Thanksgiving.

For now, Lord's Acre is almost upon us. I have hopes that over the next few years Lord's Acre will develop into one of those "must attend" events because it is where we schedule many social events for the coming year. In my head, it becomes a place where we have items for silent bidding and a few highly select items for the live auction. But the biggest and most anticipated piece would be gathering around descriptions of sign-and-go socials. While a few dinners would continue to be bid on as in the past where one large group might buy a dinner that they will share together, many other items would have set dates and a price per person (a limit on number of attendees would be a given). Then we all find the events that look like fun to us on dates we are available and sign up. It's a wonderful opportunity for people to get to know one another across all those artificial lines that we set in any organization of people.

Years ago I attended a large Sunday School class that did something similar to sign and go socials. The class was very large and it was difficult to get to know everyone well. But I met and built relationships with people I would never have really known otherwise over "Tuna Christmas" and a very creative scavenger hunt that carried us all over town. There were progressive dinners and sit down theme dinners. There were fishing trips and grown ladies slumber parties. We had lots of fun, but most importantly, we grew together as a community who really knew and cared about one another. I socialized with people I would never have seen outside of class in any other way. It was an incredible blessing!

When I think of fall, I also think of the Wednesday Night Church Dinners that come back each September. I have heard that long ago PPUMC hosted dinner for the children of the church which is not at all unusual in churches. I worked at a church that attempted to formally arrange for children to build relationships with others in the church. Mentor type adults sat at the tables with children and tried to get to know them. It was one of those program things that had some limited success. The amazing thing about PPUMC's Wednesday Night Dinners is that people of all ages attend and build those relationships informally without ever realizing what they've done. Yes, children attend with their families. But so do adults attending Bible Study who are unrelated except as church family to any of the children. The Finance Committee eats with everyone when they have a meeting scheduled on Wednesday night. Some youth are with us as well or adults who will be with the youth during the evening. Occasionally, we have someone who just didn't feel like cooking that night make a reservation. No matter why you're there, it is a great opportunity for fellowship. The food is catered and really, really good. All that anyone in the church as to do to attend is let Cori Bell know that you would like a reservation.

It is not uncommon to hear folks speak of the church in terms of doom and gloom...suggesting that we won't even exist in the future because we have become obsolete. Yet when I walk through the halls of PPUMC and feel the excitement and energy, I wonder what church those folks are talking about. When children and youth are building relationships not just with one another but with the rest of the church, that church is alive and possesses a healthy heart. When people cross artificial barriers, such as Sunday school class affiliation, type of worship, age, and so many others to build nurturing, supportive relationships with one another, that church is alive and possesses a healthy heart. The heart of PPUMC is not its programs or even its staff. It is you. It is you on Wednesday nights. It is you at Lord's Acre. It is you on Trustees Work Day. It is you in worship on Sunday morning. Energized by the Holy Spirit, it is you who God uses to supply the life blood to His Church at PPUMC. So for each of you I say, thanks be to God.

Blessings,

*Dana*

### SYMPATHY TO

Mike Ross and family on the death of his uncle, Dale Cochran and to Gail Johnstone and family on the death of her father, Bob Touby. Ina Stevens and family on the death of Glen Stevens

### CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS

Lynn Beahm; Billy Bruner (Nancy Poynter's brother-in-law); Bill Chrisman; Amy Clark (Wade Boykin's friend); Pat Dulgar; Vera and John Eitson; Bill Evans (Kay Schecht's brother); Tom Fitzgibbons; Shirley Flippin (Rexanne McCauley's stepmother); David Gilmore; Scott Gorton (Missy Gorton's husband); Jean Gowan; Carolyn Gray; Gloria and Bob Gray; Jerry Labhart; Don Killian; Peggy Mahoney; Carol Maroney (Donna/Paul Dean's friend); Emily McPherson (Terrie Mogavero's friend); Sara Mellady (Rexanne McCauley's daughter); Mae Moulton; Jim Naico; Lisa Paubee (Gaylynn Taylor's daughter); Larry Ross (Andy Ross' father); Nancy Rudderow; Sandy Ray; Evelyn Rivers (Terri Wigington's grandmother); Austin Romero (Robin Witcher's former student); Keith Sessions (Liz Garrett's brother); Jim Shilstone; Dick Short; Nanette Simpson; Charles Simpson; Zip Taylor; Frances Thompson; Barbara Thurston (John Thurston's sister); Alexis Trevino (Sandi Trevino's daughter); David White (Terrie Mogavero's friend); Jean Witten (Donna/Paul Dean's friend); Joy Wisener; David Wollenman (Nancy Beall's friend); friends at Emeritus, and our prayer partner church in South Korea, Sabkyo Methodist Church, and all of our homebound members: Louise Acuff; Shirley Asbury; Leta Gorham; Lois Mack; Elmyra McNutt and Claudia Tullos.

Please pray for the complete prayer list that can be found at [www.ppumc.org](http://www.ppumc.org)

	Worship Totals	Sunday School Totals
August 1	356	175
August 8	360	171
August 15	362	172
August 22	359	169
August 29	377	159
<b>August Avg. Attendance</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>169</b>

August Operating	Year-to-Date Operating
Required .....\$ 74,748	Required..... \$ 598,784
Received .....\$ 93,269	Received..... \$ 572,804
Spent.....\$ 69,974	Spent..... \$ 617,199
Over Budget ..\$ 23,295	Over Budget...\$ 44,395

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

<b>2010 PPUMC Budget</b> .....	<b>\$ 896,320</b>
<b>Received Year-to-Date</b> .....	<b>\$ 572,804</b>
<b>2010 Apportionment to PPUMC</b> .....	<b>\$ 92,373</b>
<b>Received Year-to-Date</b> .....	<b>\$ 64,661</b>

### Service Opportunities:

Lord's Acre

Church Work Day

service  
witness

## Let's go skiing!

It's time to start planning for our annual Youth Spring Break Ski & Snowboarding trip.

We're headed to Keystone, Colorado. We'll leave here Sunday night, March 13 and travel by motor coach to Colorado. We'll ski Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, travel Thursday night and return home on Friday morning, March 18.

The cost for this fun-filled week is \$575 for youth and \$525 for adults over age 25. This includes transportation, 3 days of ski rental and lift tickets, 3 nights stay in condos, breakfasts & dinners at the condo and a t-shirt. You'll provide your meals on the road, lunch on the mountain, lessons (required for first-timers), and optional upgrades to performance skis or snowboard.

A \$150 non-refundable deposit is due by October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Payments totaling 1/4 of the balance will be due November 7, January 2 and February 6 with the final payment and all forms due March 6. This trip will fill up fast! You must pay your deposit by October 3<sup>rd</sup> to hold your spot.

Everyone is welcome! We ask, however, that youth younger than 8<sup>th</sup> grade be accompanied by a parent. See Peg for registration forms or if you need more information. [peg@ppumc.org](mailto:peg@ppumc.org) or 972-255-4185 x208

## Thank You! Thank You!

Dear Dr. LaBarr and Church Members:

You just helped provide great medical care for people who often need it the most, but who can least afford it.

This letter acknowledges your gift of \$500, which will help volunteer doctors, dentists and nurses at the Irving Interfaith Clinic improve the health of our city's neediest residents.

The foundation sends stewardship reports about how the clinic serves thousands of patients each year. I hope you'll enjoy reading these brief updates, which you now will receive because of your gift.

Gratefully,  
Tom Trotter  
Chairman of the Board

## Don't Forget

Remember to notify the church or clergy if you or a family member enters the hospital.

Church Office: 972-255-4185

Dr. Bill La Barr  
(cell): 972-467-2537

Rev. Dana Norton  
(cell): 972-989-3562



## Note from Bill

Sisters and brothers, though the calendar still says that it is summer for a few more weeks, we in the church know that we must be attentive to the business of fall, and that includes preparing for the Year of Our Lord 2011.

Our church's "all church conference" is set for October 25. We have much work to do between now and then.

The Committee on Nominations is responsible for nominating the church's leadership for the next years. By the *Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, the major committees of our church are elected in three year cycles. Task forces are more flexible with members joining and then serving for as long as they feel they can contribute. The Spirit is leading some of you to serve. Please submit your name, phone number, email address, and the committee in which you are interested. This is what we need.

**Board of Church Trustees:** three persons for a three year term. The church's Trustees are responsible for the physical upkeep of the campus and the safety of staff, members and visitors.

**Staff Parish Relations Committee:** three persons for three years. The SPR is the church's personnel committee. Obviously, the work of the SPR is very important to the life of our church.

Though we do not operate with secrets, their work does tend to be confidential.

**Committee on Finance:** three persons for three years. The Finance committee is responsible for overseeing the financial life of our church. Since we are in pretty good condition financially, this committee's work is not too difficult these days.

**Wesleyan Academe Board of Directors:** We need three people to serve a three year term.

In addition to the three committees mandated by the Discipline, we also have opportunities for persons to serve who are interested in **worship, outreach, missions, and communications**. If you are interested in serving in any of these areas, please email at [bill@ppumc.org](mailto:bill@ppumc.org).

Grace and peace, Bill

## Have You Remembered Your Church in Your Will?

For more information or to speak confidentially, contact Dr. Bill La Barr, Sr. Pastor at 972-255-4185.



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# Youth Yak

I grew up in a tiny Presbyterian Church in a tiny little town in South Dakota. Every Saturday night, my seven siblings and I were summarily scrubbed and polished; our best clothes laid out, and our Sunday shoes shined. On Sunday morning, our mother marched us out the back door, across the alley and up the steps to church. Other than the initial jockeying for positions, there was no messing around under the watchful eye of our very strict mother. Rain or shine, week in and week out, we were there – Sunday School and worship. My father often used the excuse that he needed to work, but there was no excuse for any of the rest of us - right up until the day we left for college.

In a sense, our children brought us back to church. Mark and I joined a church in Louisville, Kentucky before the birth of our first son. Then we moved. It wasn't until the second and third child needed to be baptized that we searched for and found another church home. My children also kept me at church. I remember more than one Sunday morning when our oldest was singing with the Children's Choir, Mark was out with one pre-schooler and I had the other one. There was nothing in our pew but the debris we'd left behind. It would have been easier to stay at home, but there we were every week. As the children grew older, the struggle to get them in the pews with us changed in scope. I was not nearly as strict as my own mother, but managed to have them there most of the time.

Here are some of the lessons and activities I paid for over the years. Between the three kids: drums, trombone, tennis, Karate, dance, piano, vocal, gymnastics, tumbling, Scouts, football, baseball, softball, and soccer. And guess what? I'm free to say this now that they are all in their twenties, but none of them became a drummer, a trombone player, a Karate expert, a dancer, a pianist, a gymnast or a professional athlete of any kind. But do you know what they did become? Pretty remarkable young adults - that's what they have become!

I like kids in church. I don't mind fussy babies, I enjoy watching preschoolers form exotic creatures with pipe cleaners, I love it when Cori is challenged with a vocal group of elementary school kids during Children's Time, I think it's wonderful to serve communion to families with a bunch of kids, and I especially like sitting in the back of the sanctuary surrounded by a crowd of middle and high school youth. I think the sound of kids in church is the sound of a healthy church.

Several weeks ago, a small group of Middle School youth decided they were all going to sit together in that back corner of the sanctuary during the 11:00 am service. That decision had been made before I even got in the door and sat down behind them. The four of them were stretched out in a pew adjacent to three or four high school youth. These young people, who normally sit with their parents in that same service, were a little wound up, to say the least. As time went on, their voices got louder, they moved closer and closer to each other, played tug-of-war with notes and paper airplanes and tried really hard to pull the high school kids into their shenanigans. Despite repeated and increasing dire warnings from me, by the time we stood for the very last hymn, everyone around us, especially those directly in front of them, was pretty unhappy.

I had a short talk with the four of them immediately following the service and kindly shared with them my opinion that they were not quite ready to sit by themselves. I'll gladly give them another try in a couple of months, but for now, it's back to Mom and Dad. As a church, Plymouth Park is proud to be living out our baptismal promise. We promise to help you raise your child. We will pray for you. We will be a family not just for you but for her and for him. We will provide a faith community where we will get to know you. We will get to know your child so that if you ever have difficulty, if you are ill, if you are struggling, you can call us and we will be there. We will be there. Not because we met you on the soccer field, or at Karate practice, but because we met you at the church and this

is what we are called to do. This is our purpose.

Kids are a pain in church. They're noisy, they're restless, they can't go for an hour without getting up to get a drink and use the bathroom, they make origami out of the inserts in the bulletin, they pass notes and giggle about the content, they text (gasp!) their friends, they go through each other's purses, they won't stand when they're supposed to and if left alone, will sleep sitting up. Why do we even bring them to church, let alone insist on it when they begin to resist?

My own kids are no longer in church every Sunday. I'm lucky to get them here on Christmas and Easter. I know they'll be back eventually, perhaps when their children bring them. And I'm OK with that. Because they have grown into remarkable adults. They know how to love and they know how to share and they do know how to keep their word and they know how to tell the truth. They learned these things in Sunday School.

They're tolerant of other cultures. They learned how to respect their elders and each other and most importantly, themselves. They learned that who we are is more important than what we own and how we dress. They didn't learn that out there in the world. They learned that in church.

And that's why we bring them to church. Among the fussy infants, restless preschoolers, and noisy youth is the future of our church. Eventually those Middle School kids are going to grow up – and they too will become remarkable young adults. And for that we should give thanks.

See you in the back row!  
Peg

## PPUMC E-Store

Remember that you are now able to order PPUMC shirts, caps, and a multitude of other merchandise directly from Lands' End. Just link to the PPUMC E-Store through the homepage of our website at [www.ppumc.org](http://www.ppumc.org) When you select a logo for your merchandise, you will find two choices. The cross and lettering on

## Pastoral Counseling

The Rev. Shannon M. Hamrick, LCSW, comes to Plymouth Park UMC on Mondays to see clients as a part of her counseling practice with the Pastoral Counseling and Education Center.

In her practice, Shannon sees adults, couples, older teens and families. Her work includes a variety of issues such as relationship difficulties, depression, dealing with life transitions, divorce recovery, 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, and at Plymouth Park UMC, Irving. Fees are established on a sliding scale and determined on an individual basis

## Counseling for Veterans

Pastoral Counseling and Education Center has again received a generous grant from the TEXAS RESOURCES FOR IRAQ – AFGHANISTAN DEPLOYMENT FUND (TRIAD FUND) of the Dallas Foundation. This grant will be used to underwrite counselling for veterans and the spouses, children, and families of veterans of the Iraq or Afghanistan wars. Please advise veterans and their families in the Dallas area of these services we are honored to provide. Therapy may be scheduled at our Lemmon Avenue office or in the satellite office here at Plymouth Park UMC by calling 214-526-4525.

Thank you for helping us to spread the word to the brave men and women of our armed services.

the 'PPUMC' logo is black while the cross and lettering on the 'PPUMC2' logo is wood brown. We hope that these two options will expand the colors that are available to you and still allow the PPUMC logo to be seen.