

Our Values

WORSHIP OF GOD THAT
INSPIRES HEARTS AND MINDS

SERVICE TO OUR MEMBERS, OUR
NEIGHBORS, AND THE WORLD

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

BEING A CARING COMMUNITY
OF FAITH



Strawbridge

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Messenger

April 2011

Inside this issue:

April Worship	2
Big Spring Clean	2
Spring Blood Drive	2
Philosophy of Ministry	3
Mozart's Coronation Mass	3
Stephen Ministry	4
Stewardship to Me	4
Lenten Offering	4
Holy Week and Easter	5
Youth Events	6
Mission Northeast Thanks SUMC	6
Prayer Requests	7
Birthdays	8

Welcome Scott Jagodzinske, Director of Student Ministries!

Dr. Jim Reiter

With and on behalf of the Pastor/Staff–Parish Relations Committee (PSPR), it brings me great joy to introduce Mr. Scott Jagodzinske as our new Director of Student Ministries. We look forward to a formal introduction of Scott to the congregation on his first Sunday with us, April 3.

We cannot fully express how very excited we are about the experience that Scott brings to the table! For the last 18 years (first as an college intern, and then as a full-time Youth Director) Scott has participated in building and maintaining effective Student Ministry programs. He has demonstrated an awareness of all the components of a balanced and healthy program to youth:

- developing and training adult volunteers;
- working with parents and youth to design and implement program ideas;
- promoting a holistic ministry program built on fun, fellowship, study, worship, and outreach;
- serving as an effective liaison between Student Ministries and the congregation and Denomination.



A 1996 graduate of Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas, Scott also received a Masters of Christian Education (with a special emphasis in Youth Ministry) from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, in May 2009. His ministry experience includes churches in Kansas, Texas (Temple), and Oklahoma. For the last three years, Scott has served as Youth Minister at First United Methodist Church in Claremore, Oklahoma.

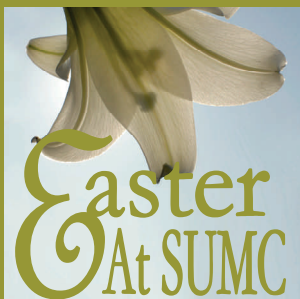
Scott brings with him his wife of 14 years, Stacy, and three beautiful children: Audrey (age six), Addilyn (age three) and Aria (age one). Stacy and the children hope to join Scott before Easter. (When they begin making their home here, we'll have a "house-warming" welcoming them with gift certificates, diapers, dry goods and the other basics for making a house a home!)

Plans to welcome Scott on Sunday, April 3 are:

- introduction at all three morning worship services,
- an expanded introduction at the morning's adult Sunday school gathering in the Activity Center, and
- an afternoon "getting to know you" event geared especially for the youth.

In welcoming Scott, I thank those who gave time through the search process that began almost three months ago: Beth Chenault, Sarah Permenter, and John Reedy who served with

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)



April 9, 2011

Save the Date! On Saturday, April 9 we will have a Big Spring Clean—a day of fun cleaning, power washing, and inside painting—whatever it takes to get the Lord's house ready for Easter! Please plan to join us, and let us know if there is an area that needs some attention, so we can set up a team to tackle the job. E-mail [Paul Hulse](#) or [Lesa Carter](#) or feel free to tell Ann Bryan in the church office.

me at the core of the Search team. Thank you PSPR Chair, Steve McKenzie, and Team Members Bill McMahon, Cheryl Burnett, Donna Ullrich, John Bridger, Kathy Reedy, Lou Perfetti, Wayne Garrison, John Paradysz, and Leslie Wahrmund who gave time, more than once to meet and speak with Scott. Thank you youth and parents who took time on the Thursday before Spring Break to meet with Scott and convey your impressions and feedback to PSPR members.

I look forward to seeing you as we welcome Scott, Stacy and the kids and enter a new and exciting chapter in Student Ministries at Strawbridge!

Pastor Jim



Scott and Stacy with Audrey 6, Addilyn 3, and Aria 1.

When he's not working, Scott enjoys golf, playing with his girls, sand volleyball, camping, and watching 80's sitcoms (about which he remarks, "Did we really dress like that?").



**Spring Blood Drive
April 10**

Donate blood from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the donor coach in the parking lot. As we prepare our hearts for Easter and think about the sacrifice our Lord made for us, giving life saving blood seems like a small gift. The Blood Center typically calls former donors to schedule appointments and we'll sign up donors in the corridor on Sundays. Contact [Skip Richardson](#).

April Worship

April 3 *"Blessed are the Pure in Heart: A People of Confession"* (Matthew 5:7)

April 10 *"Blessed are Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness: A People of Repentance"* (Matthew 5:6)

April 17(Palm Sunday) *"Blessed are the Merciful Peacemakers: A People of Reconciliation"* (Matthew 5:7,9)

April 21 (Maundy Thursday) *"Blessed are Those Who Sit at the Feet of Jesus: A People of the Journey"* (Matthew 5:1,2)

April 22 (Good Friday) *"Blessed are the Persecuted: A People of Outreach"* (Matthew 5:10)

April 24 (Easter) *"Blessed are Those Who Believe [in Resurrection] Without Seeing [Jesus]"* (John 20:29)

In the chapel throughout Lent, we will be following the traditional lectionary readings.

My Philosophy of Ministry

Scott Jagodzinski

My calling in ministry is to reach students by using discipleship, fellowship, worship, and mission outreach. All of these ministry areas develop a strong ministry, but the goal of a student ministry is to encourage and integrate these four ministry aspects into the service, small groups, and personal relationships, that helps a ministry develop followers of Christ—that can stand strong on their own a part from the student ministry they are being nurtured in.

Living a worship lifestyle is one that amplifies the life and teaching of Jesus Christ.

My ministry calling is in developing strong Christian relationships and helping students to discover what and why they believe what they do. This is done most effectively through discipleship worship opportunities. In Matthew

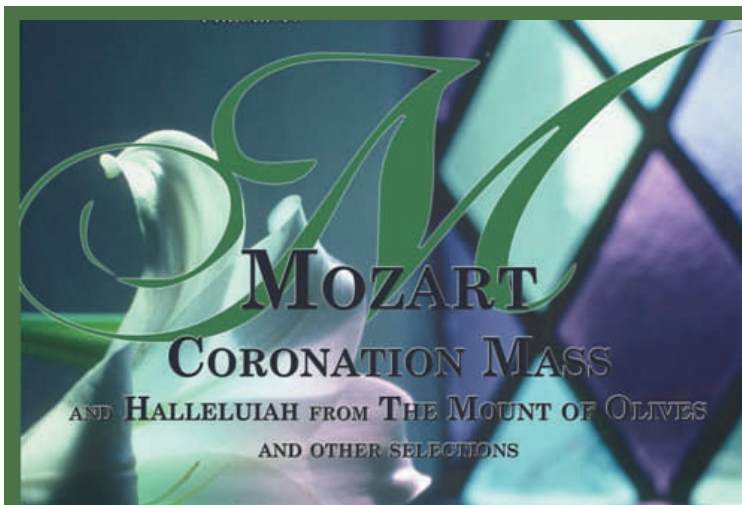
28:19 we are called to make disciples of all the nations. We are called to minister to students inside and outside of the walls of the church. With discipleship comes a closer fellowship. Fellowship with one another not only helps encourage us along our walk but also unites the body of the church and community. Fellowship is one of the greatest out reach tools that a church can provide to a person looking for a church.

Worship is dear to my heart. Worship is not just music, but a way of living. Living a worship lifestyle is one that amplifies the life and teaching of Jesus Christ. Through worship we join our selves together with others to give praise and honor to our God and creator. Worshipping God is a gift that gives us incredible experiences and glimpses into what God's love holds for us.

We are called to a life of service. Sacrifice and service are the living out of our faith in



the world that we live in. Serving others is us fulfilling our calling as Christians to be the representational body of God's love in a world that is hurting and wanting to know God.



Sunday, April 3, 2011 at 7 PM

Presented by the Combined Choirs and Orchestra of Strawbridge and Kingwood UMC

Richard Aslanian and Gary Showalter, Music Directors
Leslie Boyette and Sheila Childers, Organists

With Service of Holy communion

**Stephen Ministry Poem
"I Care"**

I'm not here to judge you;
I am here to listen
To what you need to say.

I'm not here to blame you;
I'm here to know how you feel.

I'm not here to say,
"It shouldn't have been this way";
I'm here to share your questions.

So though I do not know
How best to ease your load,
I'm here so you don't feel alone.

I'm not here to offer answers
To rights or wrongs,
Or to question anything.
But I'm here
To simply be with you
When things are not
As you'd wish they were.

I am your friend
And I care!

Stephen Ministry

As you have heard, we have begun our Stephen Ministry training. We ask you to be in prayer for our trainees. These trainees are Susan Essick, Marianne and Bill Armosky, Rhian Webb, and Marilyn Mann.

Simply stated Stephen Ministry is Christ caring for people through people. As Stephen ministers, we will multiply the ministry of our church by providing care to those who are grieving, ill, homebound, hospitalized, aged, lonely, and discouraged. One myth is that church members automati-

cally care for one another and that people automatically receive the care they



a plan to ensure all of our congregation and community receive sufficient care.

As Stephen ministers, we will work side-by-side with our pastors to carry out the call to be disciples and caregivers. As our congregation implements the Stephen Ministry program, more needs can be met, more lives will be changed, and our church will grow stronger in love and caring.

need. The reality is many people fall between the cracks and our congregation needs a team of fully equipped lay caregivers and

**Stewardship...To Me
Skip Richardson**

Be honest now, do you ever think, while filling that offering envelope or dropping your gift in the plate, "What could I do with this money if

I didn't have to give it to the church?" Dwelling on such thoughts will rob you of the joy that comes with faithful stewardship.

during 2009-2010, His care for us and faithfulness to us were almost miraculous. It was exciting and humbling to watch Him work in our lives and bless us so richly.



Stewardship, at our home, comes from an "Attitude of Gratitude." I was raised in a family that believed and practiced stewardship—in all areas of our Christian walk. When I recognize that, ultimately, everything I am and everything I have comes from Him, it is easy for me to give back a little of what He has shared with me. Through nearly fifteen months of unemployment

My prayer is that you know, really know, the same Lord I know—the One who cares for me and upholds me in ways that never fail to leave me almost breathless. I challenge you to ENJOY finding ways to be a steward of all He has given to you.



Lenten Offering

Capture the Joy of 'Reaching Out'!

We're reaching out during Lent 2011 with a goal of \$16,000 to benefit: HAAM, missionaries, Bill and Jerri Savuto, and Dr. Mark Zimmerman, Kairos Prison Ministry, and Habitat for Humanity. Contact Howard at harv@kingwoodcable.net.



Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, April 17

8:30 and 11 a.m. Worship Services in the Sanctuary
Come to one of two identical worship services. Our worship will begin with Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem heralded by a palm procession, and end at the cross. The Children's Choirs and Adult Choir will sing.

Noon Luncheon

Luncheon, egg hunt, and games for all ages will include pizza, dessert, a live drama, an Easter egg hunt for children up to 3rd grade, and a spoon race for 4th and 5th graders. The luncheon costs \$5 per person with \$20 family max. Register in the church hallway on Sundays.

Maundy Thursday, April 21

7 p.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Worship will include a "Living Last Supper" presentation and Holy Communion. Nursery and childcare will be available for children through young elementary.

Good Friday, April 22

7 p.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Worship will be focused on the seven last words of Christ from the cross in both word and music. The Youth will present a dramatic Via Dolorosa. Nursery and childcare will be available for children through young elementary.

Easter Sunday, April 24

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the Sanctuary
11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Each worship service will feature a Children's Message Time. Nursery will be provided for all services.
Children's Sunday school will not meet.
Adult classes will meet as they choose.



Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) is for all youth. Come Sunday evenings 5 to 7. This is our time of faith, fellowship, and fun! We have fun and become closer to God and one another. Bring \$3 for snack supper.

Spring Youth Events

April

- 4/16 Car Wash fundraiser at Town Center, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- 4/22 Good Friday Service at 7 p.m. Youth will present Via Dolorosa
- 4/24 Easter (No Methodist Youth Fellowship)

May

- 5/1 All Youth Mission Trip Sponsors Meeting At 3 p.m. in the SUMC library
- 5/8 All Youth Mission Trip Meeting for youth and parents from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Activity Center. We'll talk about rules, themes, other necessary topics, and have a question and answer time.

- 5/14 Car Wash fundraiser at Town Center, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- 5/15 Confirmation at all worship services. Confirmants and parents are invited to breakfast at 9:45 a.m.
- 5/22 Senior Sunday

Mission Northeast Thanks SUMC

Pam Dickson, Mission Northeast Director

Thanks to financial contributions of \$8,540, Strawbridge UMC was instrumental in providing services to approximately 20,000 persons who sought assistance at The Mission in 2010. Your donations during the summer and in November and December came at the two times of greatest need. In the summer we have more challenges as kids are out of school and not receiving free or reduced breakfasts and lunches; so those families

have increased needs. Then, during holidays, we also experience greater needs. Thanks to support from Strawbridge, we were able to better meet those needs, and that included a first time ever distribution of food for Christmas!

The week preceding Thanksgiving we distributed Thanksgiving meals with turkey or ham and all the trimmings to more than 1,600 individuals, in addition to the regular distribution that month of food to over 1,800 individuals.

At Christmas, we assisted approximately 1,000 individuals with Christmas gifts. The gift cards, toys, and cash donations so generously given by members of your congregation went a long way in helping us accomplish this. Also, several members of Strawbridge came out to volunteer with us in setting up the Christmas donations. This was the first Christmas that we did not have to go out and purchase items for our Christmas "store"!

We are the only agency that provides a special Christmas party and gifts for our senior citizens, as well as gifts for the parents of the children who receive toys and gift cards. In addition, this year we assisted 96 area children who were removed from their homes by CPS, and for the first time, assisted over 100 elementary school children in east Conroe.

We appreciate very much the support that the congregation of Strawbridge has shown to us at the Mission Northeast. It has been my pleasure since the inception of Feed My Lambs in 2002 to work with many wonderful members of Strawbridge. You have a generous and Christ-filled congregation!

The Strawbridge staff volunteered at the Mission Northeast on Tuesday, March 1, 2011.

Below L to R: Trish King, Kimberly Kurtz, Sandra Pilar, Ann Bryan, Pam Dickson, Mary Lallier, and Marsha Wycoff.



Prayer Requests

Sympathy to:

Steve Schellinger and family on the death of his uncle, Tony Hallman.
 Family and friends of Jerry Goodwin who died recently.
 Family and friends of G.M. (Gerald) Church who died recently.
 Shayne Wright and family on the death of Shayne's father, Wayne Wright.
 Donna and Carter Ullrich and family on the death of Donna's mother.

For our family and friends who are experiencing illness or injury:

Jeff White; Esther Jones; Inman Vaughn (Rev. Beth Chenault's father); Thomas Joseph Stanton; David Wells (brother of Carolyn Reed); Mike Harris

For our family and friends who are recovering from surgery:

Lee Kidd; Bobby Johnston; Kevin Brown; Joyce Williams (mother of Andrea Lee); Tara White (Bev Puckett's daughter)

For our military family and friends who are deployed overseas:

Matt Lennon (son of co-worker of Marsha Johnson); Wesley Smith (son of Marsha and Frank Johnson); Spencer Brady (friend of the Capaletti family); Michael Cox (son of Karla Goolsby); Heather Lane; Lance Stephens

For our family and friends who are living with cancer:

Don (father of Nola Ostrowski)
 Donna (friend of Crystale Strange)
 John (friend of the Telljohann family)
 Lori (friend of Laurie Zalewski)
 Tommy (step-father of Laura Ross)
 Alysha (Pauline and Garry Musy's niece)
 Dave (former member of Strawbridge)
 Debra (co-worker of Halina Duncan)
 Megan (friend of Ashlyn Smith)
 Matt (teammate of Cody Smith)
 Stacey (niece of Cindy Rasch)
 George (co-worker of Rick Bryan)
 June (aunt of Ann Bryan)
 Cade (13-year-old friend of Ann Bryan's daughter's family)
 Amy (niece of Rick and Ann Bryan)
 Debbie (friend of Pat Chandler)
 Andrea (friend of Frank and Marsha Johnson)
 Joel
 Sam (father of Sindi Sonnier)
 Jeanette (friend of Jan and Freddie Black)
 Rosalyn (co-worker of Elisha James)
 Joyce (friend of Kelsey Belflower)
 Lucy (3-year-old daughter of a friend of David Bornstein)
 Debbie (cousin of Linda Barnett)
 Anne (friend of Jennifer Cargill)
 Charlie (3-year-old cousin of the Drees Family)
 Meagan (Jennifer Cargill's sister-in-law's mother)
 Peggy (sister of Sam Ellington)
 Howard (brother of Carolyn Treynor)
 Jeane (Laurel Erickson's grandmother)
 Ward (Sky Cheney's father)
 Vivian (friend of Theresa Snyder)

Rob (son-in-law of Sue and Donald Howlett)
 Carol (friend of Paul and Brenda Hulse)
 Maria (friend of Laurie Zalewski)
 Heather (friend of the Ahmanns)
 Frank (grandfather of Erin Robbins)
 Jennifer (cousin of LaNell Anderson)
 David (friend of Bill Chenault)
 Mary
 Jim (stepfather of Gary Williams)
 Marge (friend of John Barnett)
 Jack (friend of John and Linda Barnett)
 Lucy (friend of John Barnett)
 Mr. Miller (friend of John Barnett)
 Martha (mother of George and Carolyn Reed)
 Debbie (cousin of Linda Bell)
 Tom (Cheryl Burnett's brother)
 Keith (friend of Layne Smith)
 Matt (nephew of Layne Smith)
 Sean (friend of Lauren Llewellyn)
 Richard (cousin of Barbara Stream)
 Wanda (friend of Pat Flinn)
 Tom (Doug Henry's father)
 Mary Anne (friend of Marsha and Frank Johnson)
 Ron (friend of Carolyn Ruth)



To honor the need for privacy regarding medical information, it is necessary to list first names only for some of our friends and family.

**STRAWBRIDGE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

5629 Kingwood Drive
Kingwood, Texas 77345
281-360-4500
www.strawbridge-umc.org

E-mail submissions to:
karla.goolsby@strawbridge-umc.org

Submission Deadline:	For Issue:
April 15	May

**Strawbridge United
Methodist Church Staff**

SR. PASTOR

The Rev. Dr. James H. Reiter

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

The Rev. Beth Chenault

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Kimberly Kurtz

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES

Scott Jagodzinske

SR. ADULT MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Trish King

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Mary Lallier

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Richard Aslanian

ORGANIST

Leslie D. Boyette, Jr.

OFFICE AND FINANCIAL MANAGER

Ann Bryan

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Sandra Plilar

CHURCH SECRETARY

Marsha Wycoff

MUSIC ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Debbie Norris

STUDENT MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Lacy Roxburgh

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Karla Goolsby

AUDIO DIRECTOR

David Vavra

DIRECTOR OF VISUAL ARTS

Jeff Rose

CROSSROADS PRAISE BAND LEADER

Chris Dickson

A Spiritual Sanctuary in a Hectic World

April Birthdays

4/1 Jade Gard	4/14 Annika Dillewyn	4/22 Pon Olonilua
4/1 Travis Maddox	4/15 Jorge Perales	4/22 Reagan Drees
4/2 Shirley White	4/15 Paul Belk	4/22 Nancy Grizzle
4/2 Esther Jones	4/15 Norma Wagner	4/23 Kent Grizzle
4/2 Eric Pfeiffer	4/15 Tj Olonilua	4/23 Barb Averill
4/2 Robin Young	4/15 Sue Miller	4/23 Bryson Burger
4/3 Laura Tatarzyn	4/16 Pauline Musy	4/23 Jane Moring
4/3 William Van Dyke	4/16 Lori Rose	4/23 Sarah Hoose
4/3 Karson Champion	4/16 Kathy Reedy	4/23 David Henrick
4/4 Parker Wills	4/16 Mary Gammage	4/23 David Vannauker
4/4 Colin Goss	4/16 Mallory Estopinal	4/24 Amy Price
4/4 Ryan Thorpe	4/17 Clayton Strube	4/24 Linda Swank
4/4 Elisha Smith	4/17 Natalie Gilpin	4/24 Lacy Roxburgh
4/5 Tye Roberts	4/17 Shirley Evans	4/24 Jennifer Cargill
4/6 Addison Gray	4/17 Mark Kreischer	4/24 Jennifer Pedigo
4/6 Steven Kollehner	4/18 Cheryl Pinson	4/25 Megan Betts
4/6 Barbara Livesay	4/18 Jackson Creech	4/25 Kelsey Betts
4/7 Caitlin Bass	4/19 Morgan Lipstreuer	4/25 Nick Talamantes
4/7 Michelle Mayfield	4/19 Simone Belflower	4/26 Barret Bentsen
4/7 Kari Johnson	4/19 Nancy Marvin	4/26 Kathy Zyrroll
4/8 Kacey Thomson	4/20 Mackenzie Mitchell	4/26 Jaime Thorpe
4/9 Carrington Lisser	4/20 Caden Kent	4/26 Kyla Hollar
4/9 Sandra Plilar	4/20 Jan Black	4/26 Lauren Bowman
4/9 John Reidy	4/20 Sara Sonnier	4/26 Jillian Paradysz
4/10 Cobie Hollar	4/21 Ellie Wilcox	4/26 Joe Hyde
4/10 Julia Livesay	4/21 Ethan Wilcox	4/27 Jenny Vannauker
4/10 David Matuschak	4/21 Evan Wilcox	4/27 Amy Cuda
4/11 Isaac Hughen	4/21 Kyra Vick	4/28 Diane Benham
4/11 Nathan Williams	4/21 Lillian Hood	4/28 Carl Stroud
4/13 Amelia Keel	4/21 Carolyn Treynor	4/29 Kelsey King
4/13 Helen Meley	4/21 Kristin Stalnaker	4/30 Ellen Fagin
4/13 Peter Vannauker	4/22 Sue McMahan	4/30 Richard Nielsen
4/13 Chris Burluson	4/22 Judy Brown	4/30 Uliana Claros
4/13 Seth Dohse	4/22 Patrick Snyder	