

Northaven Now

Northaven United Methodist Church 214-363-2479 www.Northaven.org

July 15, 2010

Vacation Bible School Set for August 2-6: Creating Peacemakers

by Martha Stowe

Northaven's Vacation Bible School is not just for children anymore! While the children remain our main focus, families again this year are invited to participate with their children.

This year's VBS will be held from August 2-6, and again, be held at night from 6-8 p.m. each evening.

This year's theme is **Creating Peacemakers**. Each evening will start with a meal, a story, an activity and a song. Attendees will then gather together to work on learning projects based on stories that teach acceptance, listening, communication, sharing and awareness. Each evening will close with worship. Together children and their families will seek to truly understand the meaning of "Blessed are the Peacemakers."

Throughout the week, VBS will also be collecting school supplies to donate to area schools because we know that education increases peace.

VBS is open for all ages. There will be a nursery for 1 and 2-year olds. If parents cannot attend with the child, the child will be "adopted" and included by another "family." Adults are welcome to come without children. You won't want to miss this community-building week of activities.

Registration has started with forms online as well as at church offices. The cost is \$15 per person to cover the cost of the dinners and supplies.

Vacation Bible School is a program of the Children's Council. Donna Wiles is the creative genius behind this very special week of activities for our children and families.

For more information, please go to our church website (www.northaven.org) or call church offices at 214-363-2479.

To find the latest church calendar events
visit our website: www.northaven.org.

Northaven UMC Launches New Ministry

by Nancy Kruh and Patty Harvey

We're excited to announce that the website, www.thisiknowstudy.org, was officially launched the first week in July – the culmination of almost three years of work by Northaven volunteers to generate and publish a new small-group curriculum on the subject of homosexuality and Christianity.

The seven-week study, "This I Know," is intended as a companion to the award-winning documentary *For the Bible Tells Me So*, and it features original material by such nationally recognized Christian figures as evangelical leader Brian McLaren, Jesus scholar Marcus Borg, Disciple Bible Study author Richard B. Wilke and Victor Paul Furnish, a renowned authority on the Apostle Paul.

The study initiative evolved out of the congregation's desire to use a portion of our Black Tie Dinner proceeds to make a significant national impact on the issue. Even then, production costs have been kept to a minimum throughout the project, and all of the authors donated their work.

So far, the non-denominational curriculum has earned enthusiastic reviews from test groups conducted this spring at Northaven, as well as in Tulsa, Okla., and Nashville, Tenn.

"Excellent series ... excellent class ... great work!" one Nashville participant wrote in his feedback survey. "Absolutely critical to helping remove the religious myths about homosexuality!"

One Northaven participant wrote that "it has strengthened my personal feelings even more towards justice and inclusion of all peoples."

In reflecting on what she enjoyed most, a Tulsa participant responded in her survey: "The lessons were well-written, reflective and caused me to think about things in a different way. The lessons definitely created lively discussion."

Among the official endorsements received already is one from author and lecturer Peggy Campolo, who called the study guide "the best collection of information [on the subject] I have read in more than 25 years of standing with those children of God who happen not to be straight."

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Welcome New Members

CHURCH STAFF

Eric Folkerth
Senior Pastor
eric@northaven.org

Mary Clair Lowrance
Minister of Spiritual Formation
mary@northaven.org

Valinda Woods O'Connor
Minister of Music and the Arts
valinda@northaven.org

Andy Packard, Organist
andy@northaven.org

Chris Reed
Youth Director
chrisreed@northaven.org

Mindy Dague
Office Administrator
mindy@northaven.org

Chuck Cummings
Building Manager

Kathy Delsanter — Director
Co-operative Pre-School
214-691-7666

Stephanie McCranie
Children's Choir Director

Tricia Dudley
Administrative Assistant

Adriana Lozano Jr.
Nursery Supervisor

OFFICE HOURS
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Monday–Friday
214-363-2479

Sunday school at 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
www.Northaven.org

LAY LEADERSHIP

Curtis Henderson
Lay Leader
chenderson@approachresources.com

Elaine Wiant
Leadership Council Chair
ewiant@sbcglobal.net

Bryan Coley/Marlene Haskell
Program Council Chairs
bdcoley@verizon.net

Joanna Shields
Staff-Parish Commission Chair
jmshields768@att.net

John Wiles
Trustees Chair
jwiles@wilesrealty.com



Kristina Taylor
6909 Lloyd Valley Ln
Dallas, TX 75230
214-215-7239 or 214-890-1213



Suzanne Berger
8459 Southwestern Blvd., # 5164
Dallas, TX 75206
214.272.7510
suzanneberger@msn.com

September 12, 2010

SAVE THE DATE

The 2010 Feast of Beginnings



Dr. Zan Holmes will preach at the morning worship service
and deliver an evening address at 6 p.m.

Newsletter Staff

Editor: Travis Jordan

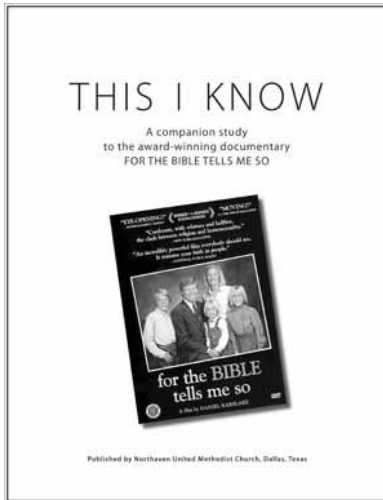
Associate editor: Fran McElvaney

Writers/proof editors: Marty Brownlie, David Goodloe, Jan Murray, Joanna Shields, Charlotte Walker

Layout/Design Consultant: April Hull

Newsletter mailing team: Gerry Hastings, Jan Murray, Charlotte Walker, Frankie Giesler, Carolyn Melton, Jane Johnsen, Sandy Wimberly and Genie Mitchell, Patty Harvey, Bill and Kay Dozier, Marlene Haskell

The next step now will be to market and sell the study nationally. The curriculum is currently available exclusively on the website as downloadable pdf's, a method of distribution inspired by the web-based success of the popular "Living the Questions" series. Web sales ensure national distribution and a reasonable price of \$40 per class. (In contrast, hard-copy Sunday school study guides can cost an average of \$8 to \$12



each.) Publishing on the web also offers the ease of updating or adding to the curriculum, as needs are identified.

For the \$40 price, buyers have access to pdf's of the six lessons (50 pages of curriculum) and a six-page leader's guide, as well as a DVD of the documentary (shipped separately). By sales agreement, the purchaser then can distribute the pdf's via email or photocopies to a class of up to 40 participants. Depending on demand, a hard-copy version of the study may eventually be printed.

The success of the study now depends on spreading the news about it, and you can help by getting out the word to your friends, family, colleagues—anyone you know who may be interested. To help you out, you'll find not only study excerpts and an expanded description of the project on the website, but also a sample "tell your friends" email that can be cut, pasted, and personalized. We also have prepared a ready-to-send email flyer that we can forward to you. (Send your request to either pharvey3723@sbcglobal.net or nkruh@att.net.)

In addition, we are looking for volunteers for a number of tasks, including:

- Build and maintain a database.
- Handle anticipated correspondence/questions from customer base.
- Identify specific targets (individuals and organizations) to receive marketing information and publicity material.
- Maintain a social networking site on Facebook.
- Help organize an upcoming church event to introduce the study to the Dallas area.

If you have an interest in any of these opportunities -- or any other task that you can identify -- please contact project manager Patty Harvey (pharvey3723@sbcglobal.net) or project editor Nancy Kruh (nkruh@att.net).

Drums Missing from Upstairs Youth Room

Does anyone have any information on the drum set missing from the youth room? The drums were on loan to the youth and to the church. It was discovered that they were missing this past Sunday, but they apparently have been gone for about a month. If anyone has any information about their whereabouts, please notify someone in the church office. The drums belong to Rick and Valinda O'Connor.

OUR NORTHAVEN FAMILY

We hold these members in our hearts and pray for sustaining grace for them and their loved ones:

Kim Batchelor's brother-in-law Steve Goldberg is in the final stages of Parkinson's disease.

William Henning's mother and **Carol Carsey's** mother-in-law, Nancy Henning, is in the hospital following a heart attack.

Bob Meeks' brother John, a United Methodist pastor in Memphis, is suffering serious side effects from the treatment of his leukemia.

Julie Reeves' mother Dot is facing medical tests because of multiple physical symptoms.

And we join in rejoicing with:

Mark Daves whose cancer is now in remission.

Lew King who had successful surgery on his neck this past week.

Jan Murray who is recovering from spinal surgery at home.

Paul and Norma Terrell who are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Mary Beth Terrell to Adam Bennett on Saturday, July 3, in Austin where the newlyweds will reside.



Julia Kuhn and Brian Knopp would like to share with their Northaven family the news of their engagement on June 12. The couple is planning a spring wedding in Northaven's Celebration Garden.

Chautauqua Summer

By Fran McElvaney

The summer Chautauqua series was off to a rousing start last Sunday with a reasonable facsimile of a campground complete with campfire, courtesy of the creativity and talent of Tom Karges and Donna Wiles, plus lots of music with singin' and clappin' and various instruments, courtesy of our musicians extraordinaire!

There were even hand-held fans (to remind us of how hot a "real" camp meeting would be!) made by our resident baker Connie Marshall. Susie Marshall read a brief history of what the Church of England was like in John Wesley's day which explained why he went "out in the fields" to preach! And Eric Folkerth reminded us that "the world is our parish" just as it was for John Wesley and the "circuit riders" that followed him into the wilds of America.

On July 18 Eric will help us explore the "General Rules" of the early Methodist Societies and discover why we are called "Methodists," and we'll continue to enjoy wonderful hymns by John and Charles Wesley as well as having Daniel O'Connor (Rick and Valinda's nephew) back as guest organist.

On July 25 there will be a brief worship service followed by a morning of service, both at the church and in the community. In other words, we'll worship with our hands and feet, just as Wesley encouraged his followers to do! There are sign up sheets in the Atrium for each service opportunity, and we hope you'll sign up in advance..

On August 1 Mary Clair Lowrance will be preaching on "Grace-It's Amazing!" and everyone will experience amazing grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Join us for fun and fellowship as well as discovering our marvelous heritage as Methodists – worshipping the God of our forefathers and mothers!



NORTHAVEN
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11211 Preston Road
Dallas, Texas 75230-3547

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



A 2010 BLACK TIE DINNER
BENEFICIARY