

DECEMBER - JANUARY

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| 13 December Worship, 9:30 & 11:28 Sunday School, 10:30 Library committee, 3:00 Youth to Six Flags | 14 Exercise class, 6:30 (M) Boy Scouts, 7:30 (G) | 15 Cub Scouts, 7:00 (G) | 16 Wednesday Night Live, 5:50 Chancel Choir, 7:15 (S) | 17 Men at Dawn, 6:00 am Basketball pickup game, 7:00 (G) Finance Meeting, 7:00 | 18 Basketball team practices 4:00 - 9:00 pm | 19 UMM Breakfast, 8:00 (K) Science Workshop, 9:00(G) |
| 20 Worship, 9:30 & 11:28 Sunday School, 10:30 Youth Christmas Party | 21 Exercise class, 6:30 (M) Boy Scouts, 7:30 (G) | 22 Cub Scouts, 7:00 (G) | 23 Live Nativity 6:00-8:00 pm Chancel Choir, 7:15 (S) | 24 Christmas Eve Church office closed | 25 Christmas Day Church office closed | 26 |
| 27 Worship, 9:30 & 11:28 Sunday School, 10:30 No Youth Choir No UMYF | 28 Church office closed | 29 Church office closed Cub Scouts, 7:00 (G) | 31 Church office closed No WNL No Chancel Choir | 31 New Year's Eve Church office closed | 1 January New Year's Day Church office closed | 2 |
| 3 Worship, 9:30 & 11:28 Sunday School, 10:30 No Youth Choir No UMYF | 4 Exercise class, 6:30 (M) Boy Scouts, 7:30 (G) | 5 Cub Scouts, 7:00 (G) | 6 Chancel Choir, 7:15 (S) | 7 Basketball pickup game, 7:00 (G) | 8 Basketball practice, 4:00-9:00 (G) | 9 UMM Breakfast, 8:00 (K) |
| 10 Worship, 9:30 & 11:28 Sunday School, 10:30 Youth Choir, 5:00 UMYF, 6:00 | 11 Exercise class, 6:30 (M) Boy Scouts, 7:30 (G) | 12 Circle of Love, 11:00 (L) Cub Scouts, 7:00 (G) Night Circle, 7:00 Trustee meeting, 7:30 | 13 Chancel Choir, 7:15 (S) | 14 Basketball pickup game, 7:00 (G) | 15 Basketball practice 4:00-9:00 (G) | 16 |

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| Rev. Rob Spencer, Pastor Laura Bertwell, Director of Traditional Worship, Director of Chancel and Children's choirs Cheryl Cupples, Business Administrator Ken Loyer, Pastoral Care Traditions Worship 9:30 6445 E. Lovers Lane, Dallas, TX 75214 | Sara Orr, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries Nick La Rocca, Director of Contemporary Worship, and Director of Youth Choir Teresa Roofner, Accompanist Jane Ellen Shilling, Interim Director, Weekday Programs Contemporary Worship 11:28 214-369-9259 www.ridgewoodparkchurch.org |
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Sunday Morning
 Traditions - 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School - 10:30 a.m.
 The Center - 11:28 a.m.

Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Dallas, TX
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6445 East Lovers Lane
 Dallas, Texas 75214
 214-369-9259
 www.ridgewoodparkchurch.org

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EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA THIS CHRISTMAS

Dear Friends,
 Guess what? Christmas is not your birthday!
 I want to encourage all who are able to match dollar
 for dollar (again this year) the amount that you spend on
 gifts, for mission work in Africa.
 As most of you know, Africa has the highest under 5
 (years of age) mortality rate in the world. In the US, the
 rate is 8 per 1,000 children. In many of the countries in
 Africa the rate is over 200!
 Last year through the Nothing-but-Nets program we
 raised \$8,700 and saved 870 lives! Let's do even more
 this year to offer hope to the hopeless.
 In addition to Nets to fight malaria we will partner with
 SHADE and their mission work.
 For 10 years, SHADE with the help of UMCOR (United
 Methodist Committee on Relief), has been winning the
 war against violence, HIV/AIDS, hunger and poverty. The
 ministry is a refuge for thousands of displaced people, in-
 cluding the hungry and poor, vulnerable women, children
 and orphans. SHADE empowers African communities to
 live healthier lives and teaches them how to become self-
 sufficient through income-generating practices, educa-
 tion, and entrepreneurial mentorship and training.
 Choose one or a combination of the opportunities
 below as we work together this Christmas season to save
 more lives and to change the world!
 Peace,
Rob



NETS \$10

Buy a net,
Saves a life.



BIKES \$100

One bicycle
for providing
home-based
care for those
with AIDS



SEED \$500

Seeds for a
large field
for one year's
harvest.



CHICKENS \$500

Poultry shed;
producing food for a
community of 200+
children and adults.

WATER WELL \$6,500

A well for water needed at
satellite building sites that
are too far from a river
and/or where it is too dry
to collect water, even
during the rainy season.



FISH POND \$1,000

Fish pond start-up
(dig the pond; stock
it with fish) producing
food for a community
of 200+ children
and adults



The Live Nativity is back!



Wednesday, December 23rd
 Ridgewood Park United Methodist Church
 Front Lawn
 6:30pm-8:00pm

Bring your family and visit the manger scene on Wednesday, December 23rd from 6:30-8:00pm on the front lawn of the church. In addition to Mary, Joseph, the angel, and the shepherds, there will be live sheep, goats, and a donkey to pet and visit. Feel free to come and go, or even simply drive by and experience the Nativity scene with your family. *Hot Chocolate and Cookies in the Ministry Center will be available.*



You Lost – We Found

Below is a list of items in our lost and found box (which is located in the Copy Room to the left of the copy machine).

- Black Umbrella (1)
- Pink "Chromatics" Umbrella (1)
- White with pink band coffee cup, with lid (1)
- Baseball hat with eagle and "Alaska" on the front (1)
- Blue Fleece blanket (29"x36") (1)
- NIV Bible – large print (1)
- Large Hooded zip-up fleece jacket, "GOTCHA" brand in white/grey (1)
- Large red "Champion" sweatshirt (1)
- Key ring (with fingernail clippers, 2 keys and orange fob with GARRITY on it (1)
- Cassette music tapes (4)
- Hymns of All Seasons, Vol. 2 & 3; Majesty of God
- Bound for the Promised Land
- Black knit gloves (1 pair)
- Medium black T-shirt (Air Max 90)
- Rimless reading glasses, R24+1.50 (1)
- Brown eyeglass case (1)
- Red headband

Confirmation Class 2010

When: Begins January 31, 2010
Time: 12:30-2:00pm
Where: Parlor (lunch will be provided)
Who: All 6th grade students and older who are ready to continue the journey into our faith.

- We invite all parents to come to the first session on January 31st
- We will meet Sundays from 12:30-2:00pm through April 25th, Confirmation Sunday.
- Each Sunday, we will have lunch together and then class.
- Please contact Sara Orr (youth minister) if you have any questions: 214-369-9259 or saraorr@ridgewoodparkumc.org

Dear Church Family,
 Due to my inability to attend and document many of the church functions now, I am retiring after 45 years as your Church Historian, a position I truly loved. Thanks to each of you who assisted me in any way. I hope all members will occasionally browse and enjoy the history scrapbooks in the church library.

Jeannine Verinder

Adult Mission Trip to Sabine Pass/Port Arthur

(Memories by Roz Swan)

Our team consisted of Rob Spencer, Steve Sample, L.C. Clower, Don & Roz Swan, Ron Reeves, Jim Newman, Paul Campbell, and Terri Gwinn.

Before we left for the mission trip I only thought about what we would be doing. And you really can't envision it until you actually see what there is to work with.

The sanctuary in Sabine Pass was basically a shell of a building. You could tell where the partitions were to separate the rooms (office, kitchen, bathroom, worship area). There were old electrical wires hanging all over the place. There were areas that needed boards added before sheet rock can be installed. An alter rail and pads was put in. The building next door will be used for storage of items that will eventually be put in the sanctuary. Stairs were solidly put in front of this building and a dead bolt and door knob were installed to protect items inside. Things were moved around to make room for 18 donated pews that can be picked up in January. Dead trees were cut down here and at some of the members'

homes. Currently their congregation is meeting at the Baptist church. We were invited to share their regular Wednesday night dinner. The fellowship was wonderful. The Baptist church met at the Sabine Pass UMC after Rita hit and are now returning the favor.

The parsonage at Port Arthur needed A LOT of work done. We're not sure how long it's been since someone lived in it. Most of the doorways needed to be fixed or redone. All the current doors were taken off in preparation for painting. The windows were all taped before painting. The ceiling vents were taken down, washed and spray painted white. All the kitchen door handles were removed and scrubbed. The cabinets were sanded to get them ready for painting. There was a vanity put in the bathroom and some plumbing taken care of.

Each Wednesday they have a pot luck lunch, which we were also invited to (we really ate good on Wednesday!). It

was a small, but very appreciative group.

When we left I felt that there was so much left undone. I realize other teams will come and help, but that doesn't help my state of mind. We want to go back and do more. We also want to be there when they actually raise the Sabine Pass church 16 feet off the ground.

The best part for me was the bonding that took place among our team. There were people we had known since joining RPUMC, people we met for the first time (even though the names were familiar) and people we knew just a little from different functions at church. There is a warm place inside when I think of our TEAM. I look forward to being part of another team next year and beyond!!!

Thanks so much!

Thank you so much for your love, support, thoughts, prayers, cards and calls while I was out having surgery. What a wonderful church family we have. You are such a blessing.

the Cupples family

UMW Activities for November

December Kitchen Duty Night Circle

Christmas Shut In Gifts Delivery
 Made by: Mary Martha Circle

December 6, 2009
 Fourth General Meeting 3:00 p.m.
 *Ministry Center
 Program: Installation of Officers
 Hostess: Night Circle

December 13, 2009
 Mary Martha Circle 3:00 p.m.
 Fellowship Cookie Swap
 Ornament Exchange
 Francie Yost Home

The Ridgewood Park Weekday Programs will host their Annual Christmas Pagent

December 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

All 3 and 4 year-olds attending our school have a role in the program. If you need your heart lifted and your spirit warmed, please plan to come and see these adorable children



celebrate the origin of Christmas. The program is short and lasts only 20 minutes, so if you're interested in seeing this heart-warming Christmas celebration, it is best to arrive a little early!