



In Stream

December 2007

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Pastor

Rev. Jason Hamilton
jason@silvercreekumc.org

Children's Minister

Rev. Karen Samford
karen@silvercreekumc.org

Director of Youth Ministries

Robert Goodrich
robert@silvercreekumc.org

Contemporary Worship Leader

Josh Nix
josh@silvercreekumc.org

Choir Director

Stephen Vick
stphnvick@yahoo.com

Nursery

Keturah Sims
keturah@silvercreekumc.org

Pianist

Dianne Randolph
dianne.randolph@att.net

Administrative Assistant

Mica Hicks
mica@silvercreekumc.org

www.silvercreekumc.org

Office Hours: M-F 8:30am-12:30pm
817-444-1382

Board Members

Ed Schairbaum, Chair Church Council
Steve Williams, Lay Leader; Annual Conf.
James Smith, Chair PPR
Dena Hall, Chair Finance
Hugh McClendon, Chair Trustees
Peggie Muir, Church Treasurer
Charles Thompson, President UMM
Sue McClendon, President UMW
Cheryl Sims, Co-Chair to C.O.M. (1)
Lana Chance, Co-Chair to C.O.M. (2)
Leanne Mathis, Lay Member (1) 2007
Byron Constintine, Lay Member (2) 2007
Kristie Coleman, Lay Member (3) 2007

Last week my family and I were standing in our living room, surrounded by boxes stuffed full of ornaments, lights, singing snowmen and other Christmas paraphernalia and I found myself scratching my head wondering how Christmas got here so quickly. It seems like we just took all of this down! An even greater shock came when Melissa pointed out that this will be Allison's fourth Christmas! It's amazing how fast time goes by!!

As I was standing there amidst the clutter and the decorations and the tree I began getting excited as I realized that although this may be our daughter's fourth Christmas (since she is a December baby she has one more Christmas than birth years), it will likely be the first year that she really begins to understand the meaning of this time of year. She doesn't seem to remember last year's Christmas, so I am anticipating spending much of the next four weeks telling her the story of Jesus' birth. Christmas promises to be a special one at the Hamilton house, and I hope it will be for you, too.

Part of what makes Christmas special is that intangible thing I hear people call "the Christmas feeling". It's hard to pinpoint what exactly triggers that feeling – some people think it's the first really cold day, others say it's the sales at the mall, or Christmas music on the radio. For some of you, that "Christmas feeling" stopped happening a long time ago.

As I get ready to teach my soon-to-be 3 year old the meaning of Christmas, I am reminded again that Christmas has to be about more than all of that. We have let the marketing experts of our day define a holiday that use to be a holy day. I would like to see us reclaim Christmas for what it really is: a time to celebrate the promise and hope that comes with the proclamation: God is with us! This proclamation delivers incredible significance for our lives, as we allow God to be our teacher and our guide – as we allow the message of Jesus to teach us a new way to walk through this world. It is also a season to live out the message of hope that Christmas brings as we seek out ways to make the lives of those who are hurting around us a little bit easier.

It is in that spirit that I encourage each of you this year to think about the ways that the Christmas Promise has changed your life. As you do this, think also about the ways that Promise enables you to bless the life of others. In your bulletin this month you will find a list of alternative gift ideas – ways to spend some of your Christmas budget bringing life to those in our world who need it most. We are also holding a blanket drive for the homeless in our area. Bring a blanket – either a new one or one from your home – on Christmas Eve and we will deliver it to a local shelter.

Reclaim the Christmas feeling this year! Let this be the year that you recapture the magic of the season. Let this be the year that Christmas changes your life again, as you discover the joy of giving the gift of life! I'll see you Sunday.

Jason

Deep Roots, Tall Branches: Growing in God's Grace

Building Committee Update

All bids for the Phase One project were due the last week in November. During December the Building Committee will review all proposals and then schedule each contractor in for a presentation to the Committee. On January 7th, 2008, we have scheduled a meeting with the District Committee on Building and Church Location where we will present to them the Committee's recommendation on which contractor to hire for Phase One. During this meeting with the District Committee, we will also review all financial options for additional funding of Phase One. The next Charge Conference is scheduled for January 13th, 2008 where all current members of Silver Creek will have the opportunity to vote on the final plans and financing for the Phase One project. What a GREAT way to start the New Year!

Ed Schairbaum

Prayer List

JOYS

- Our Many Blessings

CONCERNS

- Bill Sharp
- Dee Ridgeway
- Gladys Gilley
- Marlin Albritton, Phae Rahi's brother
- Don Wright
- OB Jordan
- Jeanette Barber

ON GOING CONCERNS

- Military
- Margaret Wright
- Eloise Wray

<i>Attendance</i>	<u>Synergy</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>Traditional</u>
November 4	47	47	96
November 11	50	53	103
November 18	40	46	113
November 25	42	46	132

Put Silver Creek on your gift list this Christmas! Don't forget that your church needs a little boost to make it through Christmas, too. Your tax-deductible contribution goes directly toward the ministries that you see in action every week - bless the church so the church can continue to be a blessing to others!

Financial Report

<u>Offerings Received:</u>	<u>Nov. 4</u>	<u>Nov. 11</u>	<u>Nov. 18</u>	<u>Nov. 25</u>	
Budget	\$3,904.48	\$2,202.34	\$2,105.50	\$1,973.10	
Special	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 6.00	

Budget Report

2007 Operating Budget:	\$150,000.00
Weekly Need:	\$ 4,729.17
YTD Operating Budget Needs:	\$134,000.00
YTD Operating Budget Received:	\$121,625.10

Capital Campaign

Receipts to date:	\$50,934.89
Spending to date:	\$13,453.12

Up Coming Events

*“Christmas Letters”
The Children’s Christmas play
will be December 16th at 5:30 pm.*

Practices for the play are December 9th & 16th during Sunday School. After the play, we will have cookies with Santa in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring snack items of: cookies., chips, dips & sweet if you like. Please bring a gift for each of your children (less than \$5) that is wrapped and labeled to your child from Santa. Place your gift under the Christmas tree in the Fellowship Hall and Santa will deliver to your child.

If you child(ren) would like to be in the play, please call Laurie Smith at 817-448-9328. Please let me know your child's name, age, and whether they would like a speaking or non-speaking part. *You may also fill out the participation form in the Sunday bulletin.*

Please call Maggie with questions concerning the Children's party at 817-270-1956.

Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24th

5:30pm and 7:30pm

*Please join us in celebrating our
Lord Jesus Christ's birth.*

If you want to exchange Christmas cards with Silver Creek Church friends, please bring cards to foyer no later than Wednesday, December 12th. Cards will be distributed Sunday, December 16th.

Deadline for January Newsletter: Wed. December 19th

If you have information that you would like included in the newsletter please email it to mica@silvercreekumc.org or call Mica at the church office.

December volunteers

Week of December 2

Nursery Synergy:	Nancy Davis
Nursery Sunday Morning:	Angie Romer
Pre-School SS:	Chris Campbell
Children SS:	
Youth SS:	Ed Schairbaum
Children's Church:	Elisha McDonald
Youth Group 4:00:	
Nursery Mid Stream:	Kristie Coleman

Week of December 9

Nursery Synergy:	Chris Campbell
Nursery Sunday Morning:	Maggie Stark
Pre-School SS:	Evelyn Daams
Children SS:	
Youth SS:	Dena Hall
Children's Church:	LuVerle Talmage
Youth Group 4:00:	
Nursery Mid Stream:	Chris Campbell

Week of December 16

Nursery Synergy:	Michelle LeMasters
Nursery Sunday Morning:	Jerri Bradford
Pre-School SS:	Lana Chance
Children SS:	
Youth SS:	
Children's Church:	Youth
Youth Group 4:00:	
Nursery Mid Stream:	Maggie Stednitz

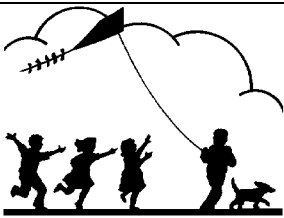
Week of December 23

Nursery Synergy:	Kristie Coleman
Nursery Sunday Morning:	Melissa Hamilton
Pre-School SS:	Lana Chance
Children SS:	
Youth SS:	
Children's Church:	Theresa Holian
Youth Group 4:00:	
Nursery Mid Stream:	Maggie Stark

Week of December 30

Nursery Synergy:	Dena Hall
Nursery Sunday Morning:	Steven Swartz
Pre-School SS:	
Children SS:	
Youth SS:	
Children's Church:	Jerri Bradford
Youth Group 4:00:	
Nursery Mid Stream:	





Children's Corner December's Lessons

Sunday School

Children's Church

December 1

The Prophecy (Isaiah) Jesus: The Gift of Hope

December 9

Christmas Play Practice Jesus: The Gift of Peace

December 16

Christmas Play Practice Jesus: The Gift of Joy

December 23

The Birth & the Shepherds Jesus: The Gift of Love

December 30

The Wise Men Jesus: A Gift to Celebrate



Youth News

Hey Silver Creek,

I hope all of you had a great Thanksgiving, this time of year always makes me wish I were a little kid again for some reason....anyway. I just want to reiterate what Jason said and congratulate you all on being so quick to support those families who are in need. That's what the church is all about and what God desires from all of us...to help those who are in need which in turn makes the world a little brighter.

The youth are going to go caroling again this Christmas, so be prepared, we may be swingin' by your house! We are also going to have a lock-in soon, so any of you who are brave enough to be a sponsor for a lock-in, bring it on!

I pray that God reveals God's loving Spirit in a new way to all of us this Christmas season. May God continue to bless this church and may we continue to bless this world through the power of God's Holy Spirit.

As Always, I look forward to seeing you, especially during this Christmas season.

Robert

Church Family News

Silver Creek Community Services Auxiliary, located at 195 E. Shangri La Drive, Azle, Texas 76020 needs your help with their annual Christmas Angel Tree Project. This project benefits children and senior citizens of the Silver Creek community. The list of needy children is provided by the Faculty of Silver Creek Elementary. The Angel trees are located at Dollar Bill's, A to Z grocery, Silver Creek Elementary and other businesses around Azle. Please help by picking up One of the Angels or for more information, call Donna Buchanan at 817-444-3653.



Don't forget to order your Poinsettia! Each plant is \$13 and orders must be received by December 18th. Order forms can be found in Sunday Bulletins or come by the church Office, during the week.



For December

- 7 Tori Schairbaun
- 12 Brianne Merck
- 13 Mackenzie Campbell
- 14 Allison Hamilton
- 14 Mica Hicks
- 17 Kyle Davis
- 21 Wendy Tamjidi
- 24 Clark Schairbuam
- 25 Phae Rahi
- 25 Bill Davis
- 26 Della Botts
- 29 Sam Merck
- 29 Sue Wilson
- 30 Madison McDonald

- 10 Hugh & Sue McClendon
- 18 Sam & Janet Merck
- 27 Bob & Cheryll Sims
- 27 Sam & Karen Samford
- 31 Sonny & May Lynn Whitlock

Gladys Gilley has moved to Azle Manor Nursing Home - Room 310 A. Her address is PO Box 1829 Azle, Texas 76098 new phone# is 817-444-2982. We appreciate the prayers, visits, calls and cards very much during this time of adjustment.

Memorials

Mary Scott
Janet Merck & Dena Hall
Clodell Briggs

in memory of
in memory of
in memory of

Nancy Sharp
Waymon Wright
Nancy Sharp

December 2007 *Silver Creek United Methodist Church*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Regular Sunday Activities:</u> <i>Synergy Worship 9 am</i> <i>Traditional Service 11am</i></p>	<p><i>Sunday School 10 am</i> <i>Youth Group 4 pm</i></p>					<p>1 Food Pantry 10 am - 12 pm Progressive Dinner 6pm</p>
<p>2 COMMUNION Children's Advent 4:30pm; Hanging of the Greens 5:30pm</p>	<p>3 Staff Mtg 10:15 am Synergy Rehearsal 7pm</p>	4	<p>5 Mid-Stream Dinner 5:30 - 6:30 pm Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm</p>	6	7	<p>8 Food Pantry 10 am - 12 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PEARL HARBOR</p>
9	<p>10 Staff Mtg 10:15 am Synergy 7pm</p>	11	<p>12 Mid-Stream Dinner 5:30 - 6:30 pm Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm</p>	13	14	<p>15 Food Pantry 10 am - 12 pm</p> <p>Staff Party 6:30pm</p>
<p>16 Ladies Circle next mtg Jan. Children's Christmas play 5:30pm & Christmas Party</p>	<p>17 Staff Mtg 10:15 am Synergy Rehearsal 7pm</p>	18	<p>19 Mid-Stream Dinner 5:30 - 6:30 pm Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm</p>	<p>20 Youth - Agape Dinner at Broadway 5pm</p>	<p>21 Possible Youth Caroling Time - TBD</p>	<p>22 Food Pantry 10 am - 12 pm UMM Breakfast & Workday 8 am</p>
<p>23 Synergy: SCUMC Family Christmas Traditional: Can-</p>	<p>24 CHRISTMAS EVE 5:30 pm Service 7:30 pm Service OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>25 CHRISTMAS DAY OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>26 No Mi-Stream Activities No Choir Practice Mica Vacation</p>	<p>27 Mica Vacation</p>	<p>28 Mica Vacation</p>	<p>29 Food Pantry 10 am - 12 pm</p>
30	<p>31 Staff Mtg 10:15 am NEW YEAR'S EVE</p>					

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

Synergy Worship	9:00 am
Sunday School	10:00 am
Traditional Worship	11:00 am
Youth	4:00 pm
Ladies Circle of UMW	5:00 pm (third Sunday)

Monday

Synergy Rehearsal	7:00 pm
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Wednesday

Mid Stream Meal	5:30 pm
Mid Stream Bible Study	6:30 pm
Choir Practice	7:30 pm

Saturday

Food Pantry Open	10 am - 12 noon
UM Men Church workday	8:00 am

(all church members invited fourth Saturday)

Silver Creek United Methodist Church
2200 Church Road
Azle, Texas 76020
Address Correction Requested