

The Chapelwood UMC Garden Gate



Spring 2010

Published by the Women's Council

11140 Greenbay

Houston, Texas 77024

713/465-3467

www.chapelwood.org

Spring Thing Ends and the Sharing Begins

The banners have been folded and put away. The elegant "Rose Room" has transformed back into an ordinary gym. Chapelwood hallways and rooms are in order after serving as temporary backdrop to the buzz of activity and vibrant Christian fellowship over two days in March.

The 47th annual Chapelwood United Methodist Women's Spring Thing Market has come to a close. We praise God for guiding another successful year! Collectively, Chapelwood's staff and volunteers worked together to raise more than \$65,000 for carefully-selected local and global missions supporting women and children.

Following are the 20 organizations and missions who received Spring Thing disbursements:

Local: Caring Adoptions, Chapelwood Year Round Manna, Child Builders, Children at Risk, Esperanza en Cristo Ministry, Fair Haven Food Pantry, Good Neighbor Healthcare Clinic, House of Tiny Treasures, Houston Area Women's Center, Memorial Assistance Ministry, School Age Parenting, Shalom Health Center, Wesley Community Center, Westside Homeless Partnership and the Yellowstone Academy.

Global: Free Wheelchair Mission, Maua Methodist Hospital Alternative Rite of Passage, UMW Missions, Tapachula Mission on the Move, Uganda Mission (Library and Orphan Support), UMCOR Haiti, UMCOR Chile and UMCOR kits.

Spring Thing would not happen without the hundreds of helpers who generously donate their time and talent; who gather silent auction items, bake pies, cakes and cookies, invite friends and lovingly extend hospitality to strangers.

Thank you, Spring Thing workers and shoppers! Chapelwood UMW recognizes that our market would not be a success without your prayers, your commitment to service and your generous support of those who need our help. The grace you extend in supporting this event will make a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world.

Women interested in being a part of this very dynamic expression of Women's Ministry at Chapelwood should contact UMW president, Diana Bates, who will direct your request to the appropriate UMW Board member. She can be contacted at batesfamily6@sbcglobal.net or you may go to the Chapelwood web-site, www.chapelwood.org, and click on Women's Ministry. You will find entries about monthly Circle Meetings, quarterly General Meetings and Sew Sociable sewing projects on the second Tuesdays of each month.

Carrie Hoye
Spring Thing Publicity Chair



MILESTONES IN MINISTRY

This is a year of milestones for our family....my husband, Gary, celebrated his 50th reunion from Texas A and M last week, and I celebrated my 50th reunion from Bellaire High School last weekend. We will celebrate our 48th wedding anniversary on June 1. Following these celebrations, our daughter, Laura, is expecting identical twins in August. We are thankful for this double blessing and ask for your prayers.

On a personal note, I have made the difficult decision to retire on July 1. I arrived at this decision after much prayer, and I am confident it is the right one. My retirement will be recognized at the Texas Annual Conference on Tuesday, June 1, at a Worship Service honoring retirees at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary at Woodlands United Methodist Church. And at Chapelwood on Sunday, May 23, 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall a Retirement Reception will be held. I hope to see you there.

Looking back over the last 30 years, I am humbled to see the depth of meaning that ministry has brought to my life and hopefully to the lives of others. God has brought healing in my life through servant ministry. My gratitude goes to each member of our clergy, our staff, and especially to Jim Jackson, Bob Johnson, Kelly Williams and Carey Sayers, who have supported and encouraged me. Their vision helped me discover ways that God could use EVEN me for His work. Ordained as a deacon in 1997, I vowed to live a life of Christian service. I pray this service has been fruitful for growing God's kingdom. My story and my ministry has unfolded in these ways.....

*In 1952 when I was 10, my mom and I came to Houston to live with my grandmother. Bethany Methodist Church was near our new home. I rode my bike to church to find peace in the midst of the chaos of divorce.

*In 1954 Jimmy Reese became my Junior High Youth Minister at Bethany. Now in 2010, Jimmie and I serve together on the Board of Ordained Ministry. At our March meeting, he gave me a picture from 1955 when I was dressed for a Methodist Youth Hobo Party. I was spiritually knocking at the door of the church to find answers about my parents' separation. As an only child, I felt alone - no one I knew had divorced parents. In 6th grade Confirmation, I felt adopted into God's family. Two of our 4 grandsons have been confirmed here at Chapelwood. We look forward to the twins being baptized here at their church home.

*In 1974 our family moved to the Memorial area. We joined CUMC after one visit during the August Revival. Sunday nights our children were in choir while we were in Bible study. We ate hamburgers in Fellowship Hall—for \$1 each.

* In 1979, Kelly Williams asked me to join the staff as the Director of Social Concerns and Family Ministry.

* In 1980, I accepted the position of Children's Director. Ann

Mobley and I were hired at the same time. People confused us, so we jokingly referred to ourselves as Mopsy Mobley and Ann Andrews.

*In 1989 Ann and I were consecrated as diaconal ministers. In 1990, Noel Denison and Sandy Londa were consecrated.

*In 1997 all of us were ordained deacons. We attended Perkins School of Theology at SMU for 2 weeks each summer for 6 years to be accredited in Christian Ed and UM Foundational Studies. Gary bought a microwave and grill to cook his meals.

*From 1980 – 2001, I served as the Director of Children's and Family Life Ministry. During these years, Children's Sunday school grew from 235 to 800 preschool through 5th graders. Family Nights and VBS were great times for learning with kids.

"Just Me and the Kids" was developed for children of divorce. The parents and the volunteers learned of the impact of divorce on children. God was doing his transforming work in our lives.

*Since 1995 in Women's Ministry the focus has been on forming deep spiritual friendships through UMW, Spring Thing, Celebration, Women's Retreat, Bible and Renovaré small groups, the Women's Life Skills Classes at Spring Branch Family Development Center, Mi Casa-Su Casa Home Tour and the Tapachula Mission Team. Transformation has happened as we come in faith to embrace our sisters in Christ.

*In 2001, the Workshop Rotation model of Sunday school was launched for children first through fifth grades with the opening of the Learning Center; "The Way" and "Bibleland" were created by talented folks in our congregation to enhance the Bible learning environment for children.

*In 2002, the launch of BOLDer Adult Ministry, "Being Our Lord's Delight," for those who are 50+ offered the vision of ministry to and through older adults as they find the JOY in each day. Many thanks to my administrative assistant, Judy Jones. She has been my partner in ministry during these last 9 years.

* The Gathering Place began in 2006 to provide respite care for the caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and dementia. These monthly gatherings are a time of delight and reconciliation for folks dealing with loved ones with this devastating disease. At 57 my mom was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 1969. By caring for families in grief, visiting hospitals and the homebound, and offering transportation we take church to others.

* In 2002 the JET ministry, Job Encouragement for Transition Ministry, was developed for job seekers.

*Between 2002 and 2005, serving twice as Interim Director for Singles Ministry, new friendships grew at A Place for You. Relational ministry is my passion - God's treasure in my life.

God healed the wounds in my life by transforming them into catalysts for servant ministry. The love of this congregation has sustained me. It has been PURE JOY to be in ministry with all of you. My life is best lived when I live trusting in God's grace. As I retire, I know that I can turn everything over to God.

God's blessings to each of you as you continue to grow God's Kingdom.

Peace, love and grace,

**CHAPELWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH INVITES YOU TO A
RETIREMENT RECEPTION HONORING**

REVEREND ISABELL "MOPSY" ANDREWS

**SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2010
10:30 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
Appreciation Tribute - 12:30 p.m.**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL
Chapelwood United Methodist Church
11140 Greenbay Drive, Houston, Texas 77024**

**Offsite parking shuttles are available at Kinkaid School on San Felipe and
Memorial Drive Elementary on Smithdale.**

R.S.V.P. by noon, Monday, May 17, to (713) 354-4490.

**On July 1, 2010, Mopsy will retire after 30 years of service at Chapelwood.
Over the years she has served as Pastor to Children and their Families,
Social Concerns, Singles, JET Job Seekers, BOLDer Adults and Women.**

**She cherishes the friendships that have been shared in Christian love.
Your presence is your gift to her. Gifts in honor of Mopsy to be used for Mission Initiatives of her choice
may be made payable to Chapelwood UMC - Attn: Gisela Hopkins.**

**THE TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO A WORSHIP SERVICE HONORING RETIREES
Woodlands UMC Sanctuary - Tuesday, June 1, 2010—11 a.m.**

**In the Texas Annual Conference, Mopsy has served as Chair of the Order of Deacons, on the Board of Ordained Ministry,
on the District Committee on Ministry, Chair of Family Life Ministries and on the Safe Sanctuary Committee.**



**Those who respond to God's call to lead in service
and to equip others for this ministry through teaching, proclamation, and worship
and who assist elders in the administration of the sacraments are ordained deacon.**

SPRING THING MISSION DISBURSEMENTS

Caring Adoptions	500
Chapelwood Year Round Manna	7,500
Child Builders	2,000
Children at Risk	1,000
Esperanza en Cristo (Chapelwood Hispanic Ministry)	1,000
Fair Haven Food Pantry	4,000
Free Wheelchair Mission	1,000
Good Neighbor Healthcare Clinic	2,000
House of Tiny Treasures	2,000
Houston Area Women's Center	2,000
Maua (Kenya) Methodist Hospital	4,000
Memorial Assistance Ministry	3,000
Mission Giving to Women's Div.	8,000
School Age Parenting	500
Shalom Zone	3,500
Tapachula Mission on the Move	3,000
Uganda Mission	2,000
UMCOR – Haiti	2,000
UMCOR – Chile	2,000
UMCOR Kits	1,000
UMW Pledges	5,000
Wesley Community Center	2,000
Westside Homeless Partnership	5,000
Yellowstone Academy	<u>1,000</u>

\$65,000

