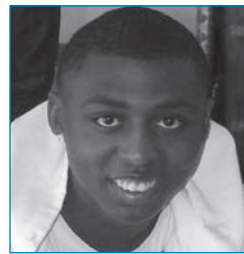
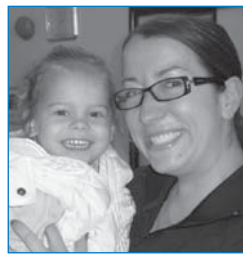


Blue SKIES

SUMMER 2010



Methodist Mission Home

Giving God's Children a Faith, a Family, a Future

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A Spiritual Awakening

Walk with Jesus retreat described as 'mountaintop experience'

On April 9-11, students of the Southwest Center for Higher Independence (SCH) at Methodist Mission Home (MMH) came together for a weekend of spiritual support during the 14th Annual Walk with Jesus retreat.

Walk with Jesus is a transformational three-day event designed to provide students with the opportunity to talk about Jesus and learn how having a relationship with Him will impact their lives.

Along with MMH Chaplain Carol Williams, other spiritual advisors including Methodist church members and former Chaplain Gina Symons were on hand to answer students' questions, provide information, and participate in discussions and activities.

"The students related to a lot of the topics we talked about on spirituality," said Williams who had volunteered at the event before, but joins the retreat this year for the first time as MMH Chaplain. "I love seeing the students grow from this. It's a mountaintop experience for many of them."

According to the radio show "Faith Matters," the term "mountaintop experience" comes from the Book of Luke in the Bible where Jesus went up on a mountain with three of his closest followers, Peter, James and John. While there, Jesus "transfigures" or changes in appearance. The event is said to have been an intense, life-shaping experience that fed the faith of all three men.

Established in 1974, SCHI was founded as a transitional education center for people who are



Students from the Southwest Center for Higher Independence and volunteers spend the weekend fellowshiping during the 14th Annual Walk with Jesus retreat.

deaf and hard of hearing. Today, SCHI has expanded to serve more diverse disabilities including cerebral palsy and autism. For more than 30 years, SCHI has assisted hundreds of young adults with disabilities to learn the vocational and life skills they need to achieve their personal level of independence.

Twenty students participated in this year's Walk with Jesus retreat. On the first day, Williams said the students learned about their new friend Jesus and participated in an exercise where they carried a rock symbolizing "burden" to the cross at the outdoor chapel.

"The exercise taught the students that they don't have to be weighed down by bad things in their lives," Williams said. "Jesus is there for them. He is knocking at their door. It's up to us to open it for him."

See Retreat...Page 2



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Chaplain

HELEN HUFF
Adoption Services Director

DENNIS TUCKER
SCHI Director

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Development Director

KIKO MARTINEZ
Marketing Director

SAREN SPICER
Development & Planned Giving Officer

ELIZABETH SULLIVAN
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FROM MY HEART

Memory is a way of holding onto the things you love, the things you are, the things you never want to lose. - From the television show "The Wonder Years"



The splendor of wildflowers and green pastures this spring will be remembered fondly by many Texans. Yet there are memories each of us hold near and dear in our hearts – forever.

People often enter the doors of Methodist Mission Home with caution and care. People who may feel lost, isolated and have nowhere else to turn. The pregnant teen facing an unexpected pregnancy. The anxious couple eager to bring a child into their family. The lonely and confused young adult striving to overcome the challenges of a disability.

These people find our Home a place where they receive compassionate support and professional guidance, so they may realize their dreams.

The people who enter our home create memories that sustain them for a lifetime - finding a good home for their baby, adopting a child, or achieving a personal level of independence.

People like you help make these life-changing moments an enduring memory.

The fulfillment of our mission is measured by the people whose lives are touched by our ministry – loving memories of our vision for Giving God's Children a Faith, a Family, a Future.

Thank you for the memories,

Jennifer Sample
Executive Director



SCHI student Dani Bullard makes a presentation at the Walk with Jesus retreat.

Retreat brings SCHI students closer to God

In fellowship, students and volunteers continued the retreat by having group discussions, performing plays, designing posters and writing poetry.

For SCHI student Oiram Alaniz, Walk with Jesus was something he had never experienced before. Originally from McAllen, Texas, Alaniz was born with cerebral palsy.

"It helps you think about a lot of things," Alaniz said. "You learn a lot about Jesus, but you also learn a lot about yourself."

Blue Skies is the official newsletter of Methodist Mission Home. Your comments, suggestions and ideas for future issues are most welcome!

Please write:

Kiko Martinez
Methodist Mission Home
6487 Whitby Road
San Antonio, Texas 78240

Call:

(210) 696-2410 ext. 177

E-mail

kiko@mmhome.org

Or visit us on the Web at:

www.mmhome.org

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ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

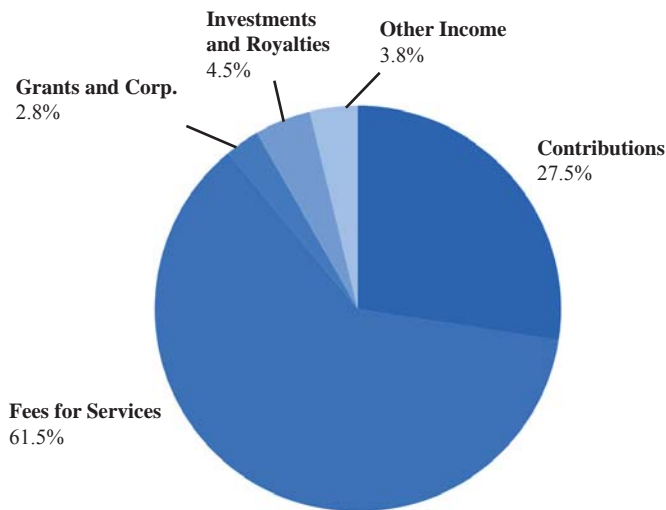


2009 ANNUAL REPORT

2009 Donations

Church donations by Conference*

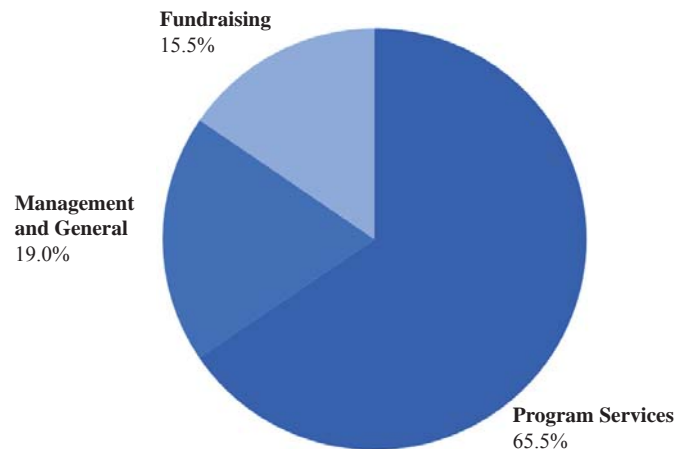
Texas	69,314
Southwest	60,438
Northwest Texas	46,465
North Texas	38,490
Central Texas	21,789
New Mexico	7,411
Rio Grande	1,242
Church Total	245,149
Indiv. Gifts/Board	612,411
Foundations/Corps.	86,411
Bequests	4,678
TOTAL DONATIONS	948,649



*MMH does not receive apportionments

Sources of Revenue

Contributions	862,238	27.5%
Fees for Services	1,930,701	61.5%
Grants & Corp.	86,411	2.8%
Investments & Royalties	140,396	4.5%
Other Income	119,542	3.8%
TOTAL REVENUES*	3,139,288	100.0%



Expenses

Program Services	1,870,866	65.5%
Management & General	542,980	19.0%
Fundraising	441,323	15.5%
TOTAL EXPENSES*	2,855,169	100.0%

*Includes 65,5921 Revenues and Expense for Capital Campaign

2009 YEAR IN REVIEW

■ Adoption Services served 175 pregnant teens and young women inquiring about adoption; 40 enrolled as birth mothers; 19 resided in our Maternity Center. Twenty babies and children were placed with loving adoptive families through Domestic Infant, International and Older Child adoptions. Three hundred thirty-eight adoptive families were served.

■ Post-adoption services were provided to 390 adult adoptees, adoptive parents, birth parents and other relatives.

■ Adoption Education and Outreach services provided more than 509 families, at-risk youth, healthcare professionals, teens and young women with information about adoption.

■ Southwest Center for Higher Independence (SCH) provided transitional education, including life and vocational skills to 74 young adults with disabilities. SCHI students work to overcome

barriers and achieve their personal level of independent living.

■ Generations of Promise, our campaign for the future, raised 3,742,805 toward our goal of 6,750,000 for campus renovations and endowment. Renovations began on the SCHI Dormitory in February, 2009. Our endowment fund raised 765,562 of our \$1 million goal.

■ The Genesis Cooperative, a self-supporting collaborative of five non-profits located on the MMH campus, hosted campus activities including Easter and Thanksgiving church services and a Christmas Celebration for women recovering from substance abuse and their children, adults who are deaf/ blind, SCHI students with disabilities and pregnant teens and young women.

■ In collaboration with San Antonio Food Bank, we provided basic culinary training to 10 SCHI students opening the door to a job in a commercial kitchen.

TOP GIVING CHURCHES

TOP 30 CHURCHES WITH LESS THAN 500 MEMBERS

First UMC

Canadian
Rev. Danny Sanders
\$25,000.00

First UMC

Shamrock
Rev. Lewis A. Brooks
\$3,647.67

Fellowship UMC

Trophy Club
Rev. Daniel D. Humbert
\$2,003.50

First UMC

San Augustine
Rev. Sara V. Barberee
\$1,800.00

Spring Creek UMC

Fair Oaks
Rev. Stephen A. Sanders
\$1,780.00

Axe Memorial UMC

Garland
Rev. E. Ben Read
\$1,574.47

First UMC

Sterling City
Rev. Richard M. West
\$1,500.00

First UMC

Royse City
Rev. Ann Willet
\$1,435.22

First UMC

Bullard
Rev. Gary Fitzgerald
\$1,210.00

First UMC

Edna
4

Rev. Bernard P. Ritchea
\$1,046.62

Highland Lakes UMC

Buchanan Dam
Rev. W. Grady Roe
\$849.50

First UMC

Spearman
Rev. Neely C. Landrum
\$830.00

Crestview UMC

Austin
Rev. Suzanne S. Wells
\$812.05

Franklin UMC

Franklin
Rev. Lindsey T. Smith, Jr.
\$800.00

Forney UMC

Forney
Rev. Jeff Garrett
\$786.10

Texico-Farwell UMC

Farwell
Rev. Randall Partin
\$780.00

First UMC

Lockney
Rev. Richard S. Carstensen
\$770.00

Coldspring UMC

Coldspring
Rev. J. Larry Smith
\$763.00

Gaddis Memorial UMC

Comfort
Rev. Jason A. Teague
\$757.00

Chapel Hill UMC

San Antonio
Rev. Kenneth W. Kinard

\$733.87

Somerset UMC

Somerset
Rev. Vivian L. Brechin
\$714.00

First UMC

Kaufman
Rev. David M. Carr
\$676.00

Jourdanton UMC

Jourdanton
Rev. James R. Schendel
\$660.67

Chapel Hill UMC

Farmers Branch
Rev. JoNell Lindh
\$654.00

New Fountain UMC

Hondo
Rev. Charles L. Parker
\$649.03

First UMC

Buna
Rev. James B. Jones
\$627.00

Oakwood UMC

Lubbock
Rev. Edwin M. Marcum
\$600.00

First UMC

Throckmorton
Rev. Sandra Keith
\$596.23

First UMC

De Leon
Rev. Eddie E. Smart
\$588.00

Ovilla UMC

Red Oak
Rev. Cal Hoffman
\$575.00

TOP 30 CHURCHES WITH 500 OR MORE MEMBERS

Marvin UMC

Tyler
Dr. John C. Robbins
\$16,838.00

Alamo Heights UMC

San Antonio
Rev. David J. McNitzky
\$7,100.00

First UMC

Paris
Rev. Van L. Lazaroff
\$4,896.00

First UMC

Boerne
Rev. Fred E. Martin
\$4,756.65

John Wesley UMC

Houston
Rev. James W. Foster
\$4,570.00

Windcrest UMC

San Antonio
Rev. Lonnie B. Phillips
\$4,280.00

Coker UMC

San Antonio
Rev. Barbara R. Galloway
\$4,002.07

First UMC

Fort Worth
Dr. Timothy K. Bruster
\$4,000.00

Trietsch Memorial UMC

Flower Mound
Dr. John S. Allen
\$3,631.00

St. Paul UMC

Amarillo *Cont. on Page 5*

IN HONOR OF

Trace Cubley

Tommy Cubley

Louise Addison

Mr. and Mrs. Bloys Enloe

Douglas Hamilton Vaughn

Anonymous

Rev. Dr. John Tudor

The Jack Payne Family

Rev. Bill Smith

Louise Taylor

My two children

Mr. James Jackson

Anne P. Holmes

Anonymous

The Men of our Church for Father's Day

First United Methodist
Church

Pastor Lisa Neslony

Ms. Lynn Glasscock

Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Trotter

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Beadle

Jana D. Dorsett McDaniel

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Dorsett

Socorro Aguilera Garza

Jeff and Misty Garza

Meg Phillips

Rev. Tom McClung

My sister, Louise Taylor

Mr. Paul Addison

Drs. Alexis and Christopher Clement

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Clement

Charles and Tenoa Marsh

David and Janet Harvey

Baby Tyler Kalak

LeClair Reaves

Devon Wooley's 25th Birthday

Dale and Derexa Wooley

IN MEMORY OF

Louise Addison

George and Judith Kimbrough
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Vowan

Catherine Walker

Louise Taylor

Coy and Jo McGregor

Deborah Thomas

Karen and Gary Marsh

Billy and Vicki Trenado

Ron and Doreen Ruthart

Whitake Homes

Frances Addison

Ed and Carolann Greer

Highland Park UMC

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dewbre

Bill and Joyce Newmon

George and Bonita Struve

Carolyn Conyers

Rev. and Beverly Davis

Dane and Linda Lair

Alice and Ed Atkins

Sean Bogart's Mother

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Glenn

Tuck Focht

The Reverend and

Mrs. H. J. Rhodes, Jr.

LaVoy Connell

Ann Wallace

Bob Borchers

Martin and Pat Fiedler

My wife, Betty

James Jackson

My father, Glenn Countryman

Diane Countryman Naquin

Phillip Pool

Mr. and Mrs. Scotty Bates

Bill and Margie Giesa

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Oates

Verna Tullos

Beverly and F. E. Pryor, Jr.

Myrna Hammonds

J.T. Hammonds

My mother, Eileen Henson

Ms. Sonya Willis

Helena Szczepanski

Connie and David Brakebill

William M. Mann

Mrs. Margaret Mann

Ruth Ellen Chumbley

William A. Chumbley

Elizabeth Stone

Betty and Harland Doyle, Jr.,
& children

Bonnie Slider Meador

Marva Bliss Lanier

MATCHING GIFTS

Many companies have matching gift programs where they match employee donations to charitable organizations. This is a simple way for you to increase the impact of your gift to Methodist Mission Home. These matches are often dollar for dollar, which doubles your charitable-donation power. What you'll need to do:

- Check with Human Resources/or Payroll Department to find out if they have a matching gift program and for the policy and guidelines of the program.
- Your employer should have a form or online application you will need to fill out and enclose with your gift to Methodist Mission Home.
- After we receive your form and contribution we will verify the amount and date and return it to your employer to receive the matching amount. It is that simple!

Watch for matching opportunities through community or Internet fundraising efforts if your company doesn't offer a matching gift program.

Pamela Harvey

Thomas and Mary Harvey

C.T. Chappell

Mrs. Marian Parrish

2010 GOLF TOURNAMENT

On April 9, Methodist Mission Home held its 2nd Annual "Drive 1 Home" Charity Golf Tournament at the Silverhorn Golf Club.

The tournament was the vision of adoptive father Landon Kane. Landon and his wife Kelly adopted their little girl Harper from MMH in 2008. Last year Landon volunteered to coordinate a golf tournament and his company, First American Commercial Property Group, served as the title Sponsor.

This year, tournament raised over \$6,000 for MMH to directly benefit Adoption Services and SCHI and also created increased community awareness.

Nineteen teams came together for a fun filled day of golf, camaraderie, prizes, and a \$10,000 Hole-in-one putting contest. The event commenced with a Fiesta-themed buffet dinner and silent auction.



(Top Left) Methodist Mission Home Board of Trustees member Kenner Coon (second from left) poses with his birth mother Susie Henning (left) and birth father William Hendryx and his wife Serena at the Silverhorn Golf Club. (Above) Landon Kane talks about his experience at MMH while holding his daughter Harper. Landon and his wife Kelly adopted Harper from MMH in 2008. (Left) MMH Case Manager Sam Odewumi signs with SCHI student Ryan Zivick at the golf tournament.

TOP GIVING CHURCHES (cont.)

Rev. Steven T. Chappell
\$2,901.00

First UMC

Gonzales
Rev. William A. Smith
\$2,630.00

Memorial Drive UMC

Houston
Rev. Charles B. Simmons
\$2,500.00

First UMC

Lake Jackson
Rev. Charles G. Geller
\$2,422.33

First UMC

Rockwall
Rev. Joe C. Pool
\$2,064.00

First UMC

Georgetown

Dr. James R. Porter
\$2,000.00

First UMC

Dayton
Rev. Jon G. Stouffer
\$1,853.00

First UMC

Marble Falls
Rev. Ralph D. Mann
\$1,834.00

Tomball UMC

Tomball
Dr. Richard L. White
\$1,775.00

Plymouth Park UMC

Irving
Dr. William E. LaBarr
\$1,677.00

Tarrytown UMC

Austin

Rev. Robert E. Hall
\$1,675.00

First UMC

Jasper
Rev. Richard P. White, Jr.
\$1,587.55

Custer Road UMC

Plano
Dr. Ronald D. Henderson
\$1,500.00

St. Paul UMC

Abilene
Rev. Greg Kennedy
\$1,464.43

First UMC

Huntsville
Rev. Scott Dornbush
\$1,376.67

Bracken UMC

San Antonio
Rev. Mickey T. McCandless

\$1,300.00

First UMC

San Angelo
Dr. Ricky L. Burk
\$1,298.23

St. John's UMC

Lubbock
Rev. Archie E. Echols
\$1,246.70

Cedar Bayou UMC

Baytown
Rev. Thomas E. Lyles, Jr.
\$1,222.55

First UMC

Pasadena
Rev. Stephen D. Woody
\$1,188.49

First UMC

Duncanville
Dr. James B. Bowden
\$1,159.00

Cherish the Journey

The Turturros were blessed with a baby through adoption at Methodist Mission Home

Adoption was always something Philip and Samantha Turturro hoped to do in their lives. When they were referred to Methodist Mission Home (MMH) in 2008, they were thankful to receive accurate expectations right from the start.

“[MMH] told us it could take up to two years to adopt a baby and it took up to two years,” Philip said. “We communicated closely with the agency and the expectations were set at the beginning, so it went very smoothly.”

The adoption journey was an exciting one, says Samantha. They were able to meet a number of birthmothers throughout the process and waited until they found the perfect match. When the Turturros were matched with a birthmother in the summer of 2009, they felt confident it would work out.

“There was excitement and nervousness and all of that,” Samantha said. “[The birthmother] was so certain she was going to place [her baby] for adoption and that we were the family she wanted him to go to. From the beginning I just had a peace about it. It was nice to feel it was going to happen.”

When the Turturros met the birthmother, she was three months pregnant. Over the next six months, they developed a bond with her. Working with the birth mother to develop a cooperative plan, the Turturros shared their thoughts about how they wanted to raise this child.

“There was a really good connection,” Samantha said. “We talked to her on a regular basis and went to all her doctor’s appointments and were there to find out she was going to have a little boy.”

When baby Tommy was born on Dec. 22, 2009, the Turturros were in the delivery room and were the first ones to hold him.

“The first time I got to hold him, which was just minutes after he was born, I just knew that was my son,” Samantha said. “I had an immediate connection with him.”

The idea that a child is a gift from God could not have been any more fitting for the Turturros. They brought Tommy home on Christmas Eve.

“I believe if people seek God and his will when parenting they will make good decisions,” Philip said. “We are believers. We follow God’s word. We know that one of the blessings he has given people is the ability to have children and we wanted



Samantha and Philip Turturro came to Methodist Mission Home in 2008 to start their adoption journey. Their journey ended in December 2009 when they adopted baby Tommy.

to take part in that blessing and be a part of his plan for families.”

The Turturros are grateful that Tommy’s birthmother made the decision she made. With that decision, Samantha says, come more opportunities for Tommy.

“We realize there are so many blessings to come from bringing a baby into our home through adoption,” Samantha said. “This is a story we will be proud to tell him.”

Philip’s advice to other parents hoping to adopt is to cherish the journey.

“The end result is wonderful, but the journey is what you remember most,” Philip said. “It made us experience and enjoy Tommy more when he got here.”



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Giving God's Children a Faith, a Family, a Future

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AROUND CAMPUS



SCHI student Aaron Vann receives a certificate for completing the San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB) culinary program from SAFB Executive Director Eric Cooper and Chef Robert Logan. SAFB is a Genesis Cooperative collaborating partner.



Cima Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Virgina McCaleb (second from left) thanks SCHI students Marissa Gray, Tara Foster, and Lindsey Williams for their volunteer work.



SCHI students Charlene DaCambra, Jermal Dickey, and Quentin Rico pose in camouflage gear before playing paintball on campus.



SCHI students and MMH staff have fun breaking cascarones on each other during the Easter celebration on campus.