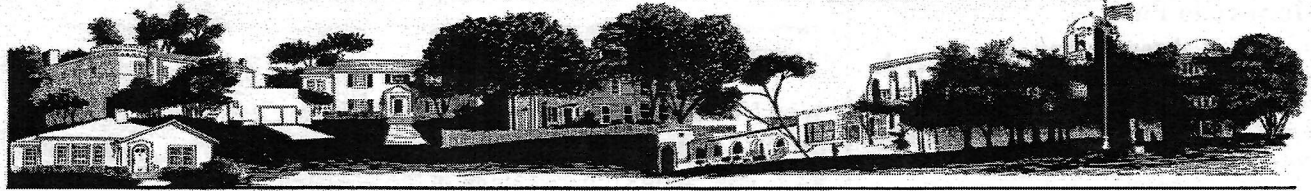


*Monticello Park*  
**NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**



March—April 2012

*Reaching 730 Homes in the Monticello Park Neighborhood*

**NEXT MEETING**

**MONDAY**  
**March 26, 2012**

**7:00 PM**

Grace Presbyterian Church  
950 Donaldson Avenue

**Monday's meeting  
will feature**

An update on the  
historic issues  
surrounding properties  
of the SAISD

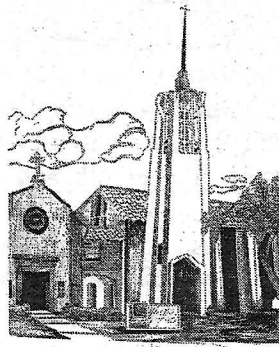
Crime update

Fellowship and  
friendship in abundant  
supply!!

**MEET THE NEIGHBORS**

By  
**Jan Peranteau**

Remember the finger play—here is the church, here is the steeple. Open the doors and here are the people. That is the version where all the fingers twined together make the people. It is the second version of the finger play that comes to mind. Fingers lock two hands together with fingers showing—Here is the church. Here is the steeple. Open the doors and where are the people? As one passes by on a Sunday morning, few cars line up on Donaldson Avenue to attend Jefferson United Methodist Church. In fact, for a few months, no cars arrived and the church moved its Sunday service to a retirement center on Babcock. Dorothy Milligan, the secretary, said, "There was no heating and cooling system working and plumbing problems. We had to move."



*Jefferson United Methodist Church*

On Sunday, March 4, the church celebrated its 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary with 200 people in attendance. The first service occurred March 10, 1946 in the offices of Fite and Company at 1001 Donaldson Ave. There were 66 persons who joined the church that day. In April 1946, two war tents were purchased and were set up for the first Easter Services at 758 Donaldson.

From a special program brochure published on March 4, 2012, the words of the minister, Malford Hierholzer, "There are major challenges ahead of us, but we are not broken. We have love and strengths and continued blessings from God to serve here in our neighborhood."

The minister continues, "Among the plans we will see in the near future are a service led by Arnold Benitez, whose ministry is to preach the Word of God and see people become passionate in their service to Christ."

My sister-in-law, Linda Hardberger, remembers sending her daughter to day care at the Methodist Church. There was a dance recital and Amy Hardberger and Sarah Scoggins were "Blue Birds of Happiness." "Then, there were no places for summer programs and the church hosted many."

.....Continued on page 5

2012  
Monticello Park Neighborhood  
Association

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Wow! What a storm! If you were like me, your house (and maybe your car) had some roof damage. I'm sure you have noticed, but we have had a lot of contractors out and about in the neighborhood trying to get business fixing roofs. Many are legitimate, but please be wary. Remember to get approval from the City's Historic Staff for any exterior improvements. If you are replacing the roof with the same type and color, it is just a 5 minute process

Jefferson High School is still a high priority for the neighborhood. The Board recently met with the design team to see the latest plan. I felt that some progress was shown, but I am afraid I was in the minority. We again expressed the need for proper drainage as there is a portion of the campus within the 100-year flood plain. They are still trying to solve this tricky item, and I noted that I did not believe their proposed solution (flood the baseball and softball fields during a storm) would be acceptable to the athletic coaches. Our argument has always been very simple - if you pave over or raise the land in a flood plain, that water has to go somewhere, and that somewhere is our homes. We also talked about the proposed sports lighting at the football field. They showed us a picture of the large poles recently put up at Edison High. We brought up the fact that Edison's field is adjacent to a commercial road and that neither Northside ISD nor North East ISD light their school athletic fields. They agreed to reduce the size and scope of them to be "pedestrian-scaled safety lighting" vs. the large poles with bright lights. Of course, we will remain diligent and make sure that they follow through on their promises. It is anticipated that they will be showing the final master plan to the City's Historic Design and Review Commission on April 4th, and we will be there in attendance.

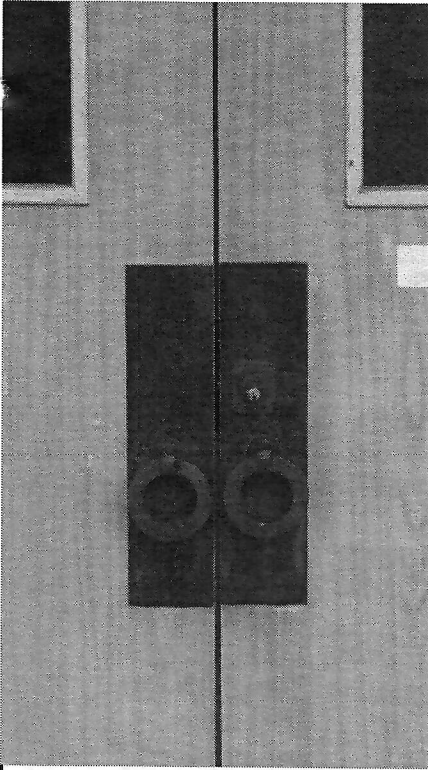
The other night I was up and thought to myself, "I never noticed I could hear train wheels clacking on the tracks," followed by, "wow, that is a long train." The next morning I realized that it was TxDot repaving Fredericksburg Road. Hopefully by the time you read this, they will be finished in our area, but that only means they will be up the street. We will get a short one and a half months of peace before VIA comes in at the end of May and starts construction on the new BRT shelters. They will do the southbound side first and then, after the 6-8 weeks necessary for completion, will begin on the northbound (HEB) side. All told, we will be having a lot of construction in the area through the end of the summer.

I hope to see you at this month's General Assembly Meeting. We will have updates as well as a brief overview of what the City's Bond means to us. Oh, and I promise it will be much shorter than last time.

Rob Sipes  
President, MPNA

# FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## WHERE AM I????



Attend the General Assembly meeting on March 26, correctly guess the location of the photo on the left, and if your correct entry is drawn from the hat; you will win a valuable prize!

The January meeting winner was **Earline Valdez**, who has guessed correctly before. She was correct in identifying the beautiful fountain feature on Furr Drive.

### MONTICELLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The Monticello Park Neighborhood Association is for everyone (owners and renters).

Yes, I want to invest in my neighborhood. Enclosed is my 2012 contribution.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would also like to help on the following committees:

#### Membership Dues

Finance	Social Activities	Park
Fundraising	Safety/Crime Prevention	Zoning
Membership	Historical Preservation	Home Tour
Directory	Scholarship	Newsletter

\$10 Senior Dues  
\$15 Member Dues  
\$\_\_ Additional for  
\_\_\_\_\_

Send to:  
MPNA P.O. Box 5851 • San Antonio, TX 78201



**WATCH FOR THE SIGNS.....**

**MAY 19, 2012 is the Semi-Annual Garage Sale for the MPNA**

We are planning to try to arrange a "tour" of garage sales throughout the neighborhood in addition to the usual sale at the park. Watch for notices.....we need your participation!!

All proceeds benefit the MPNA Scholarship Fund.

**HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

District 7 Council Office.....	207-7044
Code Compliance .....	311
Animal Control.....	311
SAWS.....	724-7097
CPS.....	353-2222
Officer Vidal.....	218-6546
SAPD — West Substation.....	207-7420
SAISD Police.....	271-3124
VIA Transit.....	362-2019
SAISD Truancy Office.....	223-2360

*Here's to Ruben and Caffe Tutti for hosting a most enjoyable Monticello Park Neighborhood Association Social!*

On behalf of the MPNA, thank you for the delectable desserts, delicious coffee and caring customer service Caffe Tutti provided to the MPNA residents. We're glad you're in the neighborhood!  
Warmly, The MPNA Board of Directors





.....continued from page 1

Linda also remembered the first black minister in the church. She did not remember his name but records indicate it was Rev. J.Garfield Owens. Historical documents also indicate, "This was the first black superintendent over a predominantly white district. "I think it was in the late 70's. It created quite a stir,"Hardberger remarked. The secretary at the church also heard that members left the church over that decision. Milligan said, " But this was before my time." She also added," I've served under nine ministers in twenty years."

The building of the church began in earnest in June of 1946 with the chapel being completed first. Wheeler Chapel, named after the first minister, Sterling Wheeler, held the first wedding on Feb.15, 1947. Dorothy Pichard and Mike Miles were united in holy matrimony and Mr. and Mrs. S.E. Knowlton gave a Hammond organ to the chapel.

After several years of meeting in the Jefferson High School auditorium with 1791 worshippers in attendance on Easter 1956, members were more than ready for the new sanctuary. In a congregational meeting held on October 13, 1956, the total indebtedness was increased from \$160,000 to \$250,000 to build the Sanctuary. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held on Dec. 9, 1956 for the new sanctuary.

In 1957 Mr. and Mrs. Howard Conwell gave the Memorial Tower and Carillon bells to the church in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Clemens and Mr. and Mrs. R.K. Conwell. The 2,140 pound Stainless Steel spire and cross was raised atop the tower, extending 135 feet in the air. Worship began in the sanctuary in March of 1958. There were 800 worshippers in the early service and 740 in the 10:55 service. Worshippers were treated to futuristic chandeliers and a beautiful mosaic depicting a space theme, popular at the time. Membership grew to over 2000 members who were accommodated with three Sunday worship services. The gift of the Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ, at an estimated cost of \$45,000, enhanced the sanctuary. Once again Mr. and Mrs. H.P. Connell made the purchase. Final debts were paid off in July of 1973. At a service, the mortgage was set on fire and the church began to channel its energy into the maintenance of the beautiful church structures.

Many programs have existed over the span of the church life including a day care program, a kindergarten, a youth program, Vacation Bible School and many church dinners with entertainment by local members, a thrift store, and a hostel for visiting missionaries. Today there are exercise classes, parenting classes, pre-natal classes, a nutrition café so one can see healthy meals prepared and even line dancing to stay in shape. There is also a quilting group that makes prayer quilts for those in need.

Today, worship service is conducted in the chapel. There are usually around 50 members in attendance. So why has so much changed? Where are the people? New minister, Rev. Malford Hierholzer, had some ideas. "In the early days the church was the social center of the neighborhood. It was not only a place of worship but also a place to be with friends. Now you have many activities on Sunday that take away such as soccer and other sports. A couple of years ago we lost Edgar Wyatt, our choir director and organist of 35 years. The neighborhood has changed and people moved away. When asked about the future, he is quick to mention Dr. Arnold H. Benitez, a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, who received his doctorate from The California Bible Institute. Hierholzer hopes to bring in people with youthful music and a different approach to worship. Benitez will focus on the youth. Hierholzer would like to see the sanctuary used for musical events and plays that the entire community could enjoy.

Hierholzer hopes to refurbish the church with the sale of the parsonage and the sale of some of the property to Jefferson High School.

A neighboring church, Grace Presbyterian, has reached out to The United Methodist Church during the Lent Season. The Rev. Anna Wise, recently got with The Rev. Hierholzer and together they planned an Ash Wednesday service. Wise said, "Mal called and said, "Would you like to have an Ash Wednesday service together?" Anna enthusiastically replied, "Yes" Mal said, "And could we have it at your Church?" Again Wise said, "Of course! And so the service was planned. Wise invited members of the JUMC to join Grace Presbyterian, for a potluck dinner before hand with the service to follow. Wise spoke of the event, "Our people really looked forward to it—being with old neighbors. We used to do this in the past." There is a twinkle in her eye and predictions are that more potlucks are in store for two Christian communities, sharing God's love. Hierholzer adds, "If you haven't found a church home, we would like to open our church to you with open hearts, open minds, and open doors."



Dorothy Milligan and The Rev. Malford Hierholzer in front of the church

## CALENDAR REMINDERS

**March 26**                      **General Assembly, MPNA**  
**March 30-31**                      **Plant Sale**  
     **San Antonio Garden Center**  
**March 31**                      **4E Run and Health Festival**  
     **SAISD**  
     **Brackenridge High School**  
**March 31**                      **Cesar Chavez March**  
     **Avenida Guadalupe Center**  
**March 31**                      **Treasures at Twilight Gala**  
     **Assistance League of San Antonio**  
     **Omni Colonnade**  
**April 6**                              **First Friday**  
     **Southtown**  
**April 7—8**                      **Starving Artist Show**  
     **Little Church at La Villita**  
**April 13-15**                      **Poteet Strawberry Festival**  
**April 16-22**                      **Valero Texas Open**  
**April 19—29**                      **Fiesta San Antonio**  
**April 19—20**                      **Fiesta Flower Show**  
     **The Woman's Club of San Antonio**  
**April 20**                              **Alamo Heights Night**  
     **U of the Incarnate Word**  
**April 21**                              **Ford Children's Festival**  
     **Rivercenter Mall Lagoon**  
**April 25**                              **Fiesta Hat Contest**  
     **and Luncheon**  
     **Marriott Rivercenter**

**April 27—29**    **Fiesta Arts and Crafts Show**  
     **Riverwalk**

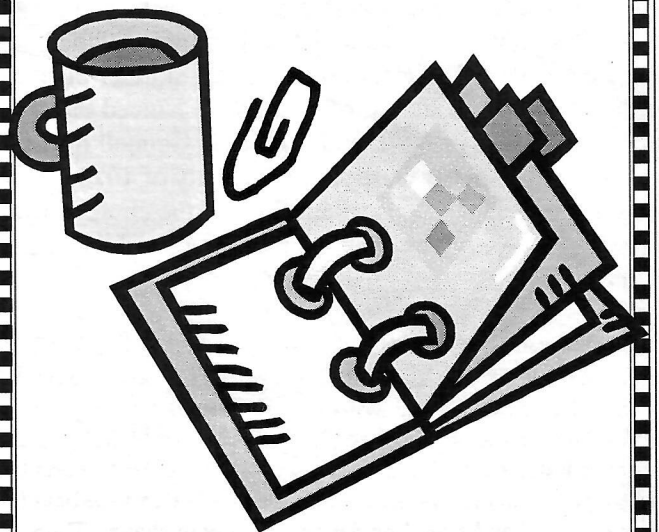
**May 3—6**                              **Cornyval/Helotes**

**May 5**    **MPNA Garage Sale**

**May 7**    **Golf Fore Excellence Tournament**  
     **SAISD Foundation**  
     **Hyatt Hill Country Resort**

**May 12**                              **Stamp Out Hunger**  
     **Throughout San Antonio**

**May 11 through August 11**  
     **Fiesta Noche del Rio**  
     **Arneson River Theater**  
     **Friday and Saturday nights**



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# GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

950 DONALDSON AVENUE

*IN THE HEART OF JEFFERSON VILLAGE*

## PLEASE JOIN US DURING THE EASTER SEASON

**PALM SUNDAY, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Choir Cantata**

On Palm Sunday, as we observe Christ's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, the Grace Presbyterian Choir will present their musical offering of

*"You Are the Christ"*

Peter's reflection on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus with music by Lloyd Larson and narrative by David Burke.

**Maundy Thursday, April 5**

**Worship and Communion Service**

**7:00 p.m.**

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8**

**RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

We'll joyfully celebrate our Lord's Resurrection on Easter Sunday morning.

There will be a Sunrise Service at 8:00 a.m.

Breakfast in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m.

Our 10:30 service Easter Morning will be a joy-filled opportunity to join believers throughout the world in worshiping the Risen Christ in song, prayer, scripture and hearing God's Word.

We'll continue the tradition of the Living Cross, covering the cross with cut flowers as a reminder of Christ's sacrifice for us.

Following our Easter Worship Service there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on the Church lawn.