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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

January 28, 2007

USHERS

8:45

Andy Cummings - Head Usher
Donna Barron Rick Aber Gwenda Aber

11:00

Linda Fricke - Head Usher
Teresa Farr Penny Palumbo
Cheryl Mason Ben Robinson

PARKING LOT GREETERS

Donna Barron Jennifer Gardner

Please remember in prayer

Johnny Adams, brother of Ron Adams
Kevin Alford, cousin of Craig Alford
Gary and Nancy Black
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle's mom
Jennie Childress, friend of Paula Kusewitt
Charla Corder, friend of Shannon Crelia
Karen Dixon
Richard Edwards, brother of Philip Edwards
Frank Fischer, Susan Mathews' father
Adam Fort, son of Doug and Jan Fort
Judy Gant, niece of Ken & Judy Johnson
Dorothy Graham, friend of Ken & Judy Johnson
Joe Hammer, father-in-law of Sheila Hammer
Carla Haynes and son Caleb, friends of Dave Rumbeck
Taylor Howry, friend of Diane Marshall
Jerry & Sharon Jones, friends of Dave & Gayle Rumbeck
Lesia Koday, friend of Susan Mathews
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard
Cheryl Lydick
Karen McCardell, friend of Laura Virgil
Ken McClure
Joanie McCoy, Michael Johnson's sister-in-law
Geraldine McDonald, friend of Laura Virgil
Clara and Raymond McLaughlin, sister & nephew of Wayne Thompson
Malcolm Marsden, friend of Laura Virgil
Linda Miller, mother of Jan Fort
Jimmy Dan Montgomery, Len McCurdy's brother
Clifford Moon
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni
Frank Ruiz, friend of Jim & Hope Sheppard
Don Sheppard, brother of Jim Sheppard
Mark Sheppard and family
Velia Sheppard, mother of Neill Sheppard
Gary Shields, brother of Ray Shields
Art Sikes, brother of Marilyn Saams
Clay Smith, son of Bob and Beth Smith
Steve Tyler, friend of Bob & Maurine Robinson
Laura Virgil
Garret Whitaker, grandson of friend of Melba Jeffus
The Whitlow family, friends of Chris and Paula Nelms
Ben Wynn, friend of Bernie & Lois DeRoo



First Presbyterian Church

Mesquite, Texas

(972) 285-5602

www.fpcmesquite.org

From the Pastor . . .

As noted in another column, this Sunday at 6:00 p.m. is our annual congregational dinner meeting. At first glance, an annual meeting doesn't sound very exciting, but as various reports are given, I am always impressed by the many good things which take place here and the wide variety of service rendered by our church through things such as Meals on Wheels and other types of mission. We will also have a brief memorial service at the end of the meeting for our members who died during the past year. This past year we lost nine members who died. These are people we knew and loved. I hope you will be with us Sunday evening. It will be a good meeting as we recount our 125th anniversary year and look toward the future.

I had occasion recently to look again at a book in my library entitled *Sermons in Candles* by a great preacher of the late 1800's, Charles Spurgeon. Using the candle imagery as a springboard, he shows how much candle light there is in the Bible and shares lessons for life which revolve around candles in lanterns, candles that sputter, candles that burn at both ends, and candles that light other candles. As I thought about those candles that light other candles, I thought about our Candlelight Christmas Eve services last month. It is always interesting to notice how much light those candles give in the sanctuary. But in many ways, that is a parable in itself. One less person means one light. All of us are needed in the church. And working together, we can help produce that "great light" that the Bible speaks of which is so needed in a world that is often dark.

Thank you for being part of that light.

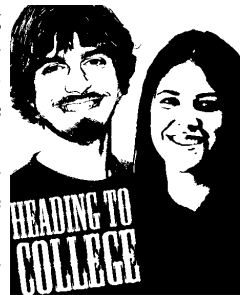
Tom Wilbanks

Men's Breakfast

Our first Men's Breakfast of this New Year will be held this Sunday, January 28, at 7:30 a.m. Our new President, Daniel Alvarez, has arranged for Clarence Greer to be our speaker, and the cooks will be Patrick Garver, Daniel Alvarez, and Greg Farr. Come join us for a nice breakfast and good fellowship this Sunday!

College Scholarships

Our church will be offering scholarship help for the 2007-2008 school year to active members of our church who will be enrolled full time in a college, university or trade school. Applications are available in the church office.



If you are interested in helping with the education of members of your church family, the scholarship fund would be a good place to make a contribution. Gifts may be given in memory or in honor of someone to this fund. Donations may be given at any time, and marked "scholarship fund."

This Sunday

This Sunday the Chancel Ensemble will sing at 8:45, and the Chancel Choir will sing at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "A High Calling," based on Ephesians 4:1-15

Session Highlights

The January 10 meeting of the Session began with sharing prayer concerns.

Marilyn Saams was elected as the new Clerk of Session.

The church treasurer, Pete Allen, gave the year end financial report and said that because of the faithful giving of our members, we finished the year well.

Donna Barron, Chair of the Church Budget and Stewardship Committee, made recommendations for our mission giving for 2007.

Margie Pollard, Chair of the Communion Committee, said that the next quarterly communion would ordinarily be April 1. However, since that is Palm Sunday when we receive the Confirmation Class which adds to the length of the service, the Session agreed to have communion instead on the Sunday after Easter, April 15, which is what we have done in the past.

Roger Foltz, Chairman of the Mission Committee, reported that Leith and Carol Fujii, Presbyterian missionaries to Thailand who are related to our church, are currently here in the States on home assignment and might be able to visit our church on Sunday, April 22, and tell about their work. Further details will be worked out.

The Session accepted with regret the resignation of Charles Schandelmeier as a Deacon since he and his family are moving to Melissa, and voted to have the election for his replacement at the Annual Congregational Meeting January 28.

Have Trouble Hearing?

If you have hearing impairment, we can provide a helpful "personal receiver" that can be used during our Sunday worship services. If you would like to use one of these, it would be helpful if you would contact Dr. Wilbanks in advance so that we can have it ready for you.

Presbyterian Women Circles



The Morning Circle will meet Tuesday, February 6, at 9:30 with Cora Dugan leading the Bible study. The Night Circle will meet the same day at 7:00 in the youth hall with Martha Sheppard-Mahaffey leading the Bible study.

All women are invited to attend Circle meetings. Please call the church office by noon Monday, February 5, for child care reservations.

Goldenaires Meeting This Week

The Goldenaires will meet this Thursday, January 25, at 10:30 a.m. in the Youth Hall. The program will be the continuation of the film *The Gospel of John*, Chapters 12-16. Henry Ian Cusick's dramatic portrayal of Jesus in this film is sensitively and masterfully done. The narration by Christopher Plummer is easily understood and highly effective.

Please join us for this excellent program and great fellowship. Light refreshments will be served.

2006 Contribution Reports

2006 Contribution Reports are on the table in the hallway. If you need your report mailed to you, please call the church office at 972-285-5602.



Flower Chart

The flower chart for 2007 has been posted near the church office. If you would like to provide flowers for a particular Sunday, please sign your name by the date you choose.

Our Church Family . . .

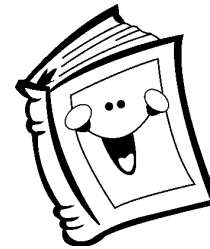
AMY BRIGHT is home from Doctors Hospital and recovering from her surgery on January 19. BETTYE LEAKE has been at Mesquite Community Hospital for several days. DAVID BAYS is now at Christian Care Center in Mesquite. AMANDA SALING is scheduled for surgery at Baylor Hospital in Plano this Thursday, January 25.

Our sympathy is extended to MARY McWILLIAMS whose son-in-law was killed in an accident recently. Her son-in-law was also the step-father of Darin Hobson.

Our Director of Christian Education, CYNTHIA PETTY, was at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary January 8-11, for a class on "Religious Education, Theory and Practice," as part of her Educator Certification, a rigorous process which demands academic preparation as well as practical application.

We were glad to receive an email from MIKE and NANCY HANINGER that Mike had recovered from lymphoma and that they were able to go back to the Congo on January 10, as medical missionaries. We are supporting the Haningers through our mission giving, and we rejoice with them in Mike's recovery.

Check Out Our Church Library



Did you know that a member of our library committee is available to assist you during the Sunday School hour and after the 11:00 o'clock service? There are many interesting books and videos in the library. One of the new books is *Then Sings My Soul* by Robert J. Morgan. The book contains devotional-style stories behind the favorite and most-loved hymns. The stories show the emotion and drama behind the hymns of faith that have changed many lives throughout history – and the people whose faith led them to write these hymns. The stories will add depth and meaning as you worship God through song. Joyce Morris is Chair of the Library Committee.

Congregational Meeting

The annual Congregational Dinner Meeting will be held this Sunday, January 28, at 6:00 p.m. For the supper please bring a meat, vegetable, salad, or dessert dish. At the meeting, the church budget for 2007 will be adopted, and reports from various organizations and staff members will review the past year. There will also be an election to fill a vacancy on the Board of Deacons caused by the resignation of Charles Schandelmeier who moved to Melissa. The Nominating Committee will nominate Kathy Brown as the replacement.

The meeting will conclude with a brief memorial service for our members who died during 2006. Child care will be provided for preschool children. This is a significant meeting in the life of the church, and you are encouraged to attend.



Reservations will be taken this Sunday after both services and before the 11:00 service at the table in the hall to have your picture taken for our new pictorial church directory. In addition, you can make your appointment online without even having to wait in line if you will go to our church's web site at www.fpcmesquite.org, and click on the link on the home page.

There is no charge to have your picture in the directory, and you will receive a free 8x10 portrait and a free directory for participating.

We will be able to list only one phone number and one email address for each family in our directory. When you have your photo taken, there will be a list of the email addresses that we have, and you will have the opportunity then to verify that we have the correct email address, and to indicate which email address and which phone number to print in the directory for your family.