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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY
February 24, 2008

Ushers
8:45

Zack Saucier - Head Usher
Denise Bennett Elaine Presby
Jerry McBain

11:00

Darby Washeck - Head Usher
Sheila Hammer Leslie Noble
Cenia Bowen Angela Washeck

Parking Lot Greeters

Kathy Brown Earlayne Martin

Please remember in prayer

Kevin Alford, cousin of Craig Alford
Gary and Nancy Black
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle's mom
Christofer Bohannon, nephew of Stephany Brown
William Burgan, son of a friend of Susan Leake
Jim Brewster
Jennie Childress, friend of Paula Kusewitt
Pam Combs, friend of Sheila Hammer
Troy & Kelli Connatser, friends of Gayle Rumbeck
Lois Dandridge, friend of Susan Mathews
Karen Dixon
Richard Edwards, brother of Philip Edwards
Odis Fagan, brother-in-law of Connie Wright
Margaret Green, friend of Susan Mathews
Adam Fort, son of Doug and Jan Fort
Frances Hair, mother of Phil Johnson
Billy Harp, friend of Ken Johnson
Carla Haynes and son Caleb, friends of Dave Rumbeck
Nancy Kelly, friend of Laura Virgil
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard
Cheryl Lydick
Ken McClure
Wanda McDougle, mother of Ronda Scott
Geraldine McDonald, friend of Laura Virgil
Shana Meredith, Mary McBain's cousin
Linda Miller, mother of Jan Fort
Leroy Moore, friend of Dave & Gayle Rumbeck
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni
Amy Reynolds, friend of Robbie Lee
Syble Roberts, sister-in-law of Grace Roberts
Mark Sheppard and family
Clay Smith, son of Bob and Beth Smith
Justin Taylor, nephew of Jerry & Harriet Jones
Steve Tyler, friend of Bob & Maurine Robinson
Laura Virgil
Garret Whitaker, grandson of friend of Melba Jeffus



First Presbyterian Church

Mesquite, Texas

(972) 285-5602

www.fpcmesquite.org

From the Pastor . . .

In my report at the Annual Congregational Dinner Meeting in January, I made the comment that this is a good church, and it has good people. I have been reminded of that again and again during this time of transition when we are without a Director of Christian Education as I have seen our members step up and help in so many ways. People are continuing faithfully to serve as Sunday School teachers and officers and to help with Wednesday Church Night. The Chairmen and members of the Christian Education Committee and DCE Search Committee are taking their work seriously. People are helping with Children's Church and with children's sermons. And this past Sunday afternoon, Phil Johnson did an excellent job as the Confirmation Class began which prepares young people for church membership.

Presbyterians have long had an interest in education. It might surprise some to know that there are 64 colleges and universities affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. These have a total of 143,000 students, and the largest, the Inter American University in Puerto Rico, has 44,000 students on multiple campuses. Our colleges are found in 31 states and Puerto Rico. Amazingly, nine are in North Carolina and six in Pennsylvania, reflecting the strong Presbyterian presence in those states. We have three here in Texas, Trinity in San Antonio, Austin College in Sherman, and Schreiner in Kerrville. We have one in Oklahoma, the University of Tulsa, and one in Arkansas, the University of the Ozarks at Clarksville. The Presbyterian Colleges range in age from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia, founded in 1775 to Eckerd College in Florida founded in 1958.

I am profoundly grateful to those who help in our church's Christian Education program and to those who help in many other areas, often in quiet ways in

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the background but doing needed and helpful work. I look forward to seeing you at Sunday School and church on this third Sunday of Lent.

Tom Wilbanks

Men's Breakfast



All the men are invited to attend the Men's Breakfast this Sunday, February 24, at 7:30 a.m. Our president, Patrick Garver, has arranged for Butch Mims to be the speaker. Plans will also be discussed for the annual Mo-Ranch Men's Conference May 2-4.

Note there will not be a men's breakfast in March since our regular meeting date on the fourth Sunday of the month falls on Easter.

This Sunday

On this third Sunday of Lent the Chancel Ensemble will sing at 8:45, and the Chancel Choir will sing at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will continue the Lenten series of sermons on "Biblical Faces." The sermon will be "The Needful Face - Bartimaeus," based on Mark 10:46-52

Session Highlights

The February 13 meeting of the Session began with sharing prayer concerns.

Duane Moon, Chairman of the Christian Education Committee, said that the youth and adults from our church had a good experience at the presbytery sponsored Senior High Youth Connection at Austin College February 1-3. The committee approved the Cokesbury VBS curriculum "Beach Party – Surfin' Through the Scriptures." Shannon Crelia will serve as Director of VBS with Erin Williams as Assistant Director.

Roger Foltz, Chairman of the Mission Committee, said that three blood drives are planned for coming months, the first one on Sunday, March 2.

Duane Moon reported for the DCE Search Committee and said that the committee had completed a list of the qualifications for the new DCE. The committee also approved Cheryl Lydick as the new Child Care Coordinator.

Johnny Graham, Chairman of the Worship Committee, said that Verlyn Smoker is concerned about the youth music ministry tour since the bus expenses have increased greatly because of the increase in fuel prices. Verlyn also expressed concern about how many youth would be able to be part of the group because of summer jobs, etc. The tour may be scheduled for within Texas instead of to the southeastern United States. Johnny expressed appreciation to our Administrative Assistant, Linda Fricke, who is doing scheduling for people to take care of Children's Church. As in past years, we will have a Maundy Thursday communion service and Good Friday service. At the request of Verlyn, the committee will provide light refreshments for the choir and instrumentalists between our two Easter services.

Roger Foltz gave a report on the January 16 called meeting that he, Marilyn Saams, and Dr. Wilbanks attended.

Under New Business, Duane Moon showed a sketch of the proposed stained glass window in memory of his father, Clifford Moon. This memorial gift had been previously approved, and the Session approved the sketch. The window will be placed in the first section of windows on the south

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side of the sanctuary near the pulpit and will be installed after Easter.

Mary McBain and Roger Foltz were elected as our commissioners to the meeting of Grace Presbytery on Saturday, March 1, at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church.



SUNDAY, MARCH 2

On Sunday, March 2, Carter BloodCare will conduct a blood drive in their bus on our north parking lot from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board near the church office. Your help is needed!! Give the gift of life.

Presbyterian Women Circles



The Morning Circle will meet Tuesday, March 4, with Cora Dugan serving as Bible study leader and Sarah Kitchens serving as hostess. The Night Circle will meet the same day at 7:00 p.m. in the youth hall.

Presbyterians Today

Presbyterians Today is the national magazine of the Presbyterian Church. Copies are available in our church library or you can subscribe for ten issues for \$19.95 by calling 1-800-558-1669 or visiting www.pcusa.org/today.

Our Church Family . . .

Our sympathy is extended to LARRY THOMAS whose father, Roy Thomas, died last week in Dallas. The funeral was held February 13, in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

It has been good to see CAROL STEPHENSON back at church following surgery on her hand on February 8. We are glad that JIM COLLINS is at home and recovering well from his surgery on February 12. MEL WITTY has been at Baylor Hospital for several days with a bad case of pneumonia. CHERYL (Aubert) MARTIN is scheduled for surgery February 22, and VICTOR CARBONI is to have surgery at Baylor on February 25.

Last Call for Women's Retreat Registration

A couple of spots remain open, so if you are interested in attending this year's Women's Retreat, please contact the office for a registration form. The Retreat is April 4-6, and the cost is \$100. If you need further information, please call Brenda Adams, Brenda Evans, Sarina Mayfield, Sheryl Miller, Bryany Newland, Ronda Scott, or Gracy Thomas.

If you still owe a balance on the cost of the retreat you will be receiving a letter. Please send your money to Sheryl Miller or leave it in the church office.

New or Gently Used Toys Needed

Our littlest Presbyterians have worn out some of the toys in the nursery and preschool classrooms, and we need to restock and update our supply. If you have any new or gently used clean toys that you can donate, we would be glad to have them. Any toys donated to be used in these rooms should be things that will withstand regular washing and cleaning, and which meet current standards for safety. Please leave donated toys in the church office.

Pizza Kit Youth Fundraiser

This summer, during the week of June 14-21, the youth musicians of our congregation will be sharing the gift of music with churches and care centers within our great state of Texas. It is our privilege, as a congregation, to send them out to share the message of God's grace and to support them in this mission.

To continue to raise the needed funds for this trip the youth will be offering "Little Caesars" pizza kits, cookie dough, and pie kits, during the next few weeks which will be delivered just in time for spring break. The kits contain all the ingredients to bake delicious pizza, bread, cookies and pies at home in minutes. Items range in price from \$14.00 to \$19.00, and the youth will earn \$5.00 for each item sold. There are several pizza varieties to choose from: pepperoni, cheese, deep dish, whole wheat, thin crust, Italian sausage, and each kit contains all the ingredients needed to make three pizzas or bread products and are stored in your freezer until you are ready to use them. In addition, there are four varieties of cookie dough and two kinds of pie.

If you would like to support our youth music program by purchasing one of the Little Caesars products, look for the youth at tables in the hallways over the next two weeks, or speak to any young person in the music ministry. Orders must be placed by Wednesday, March 5, and may be picked up at the church on Monday, March 10. Thank you for supporting our youth music ministry.

Verlyn Smoker

Year-End Contribution Reports

The contribution reports for 2007 are in a box on the table beneath the clock in the hallway. If you need your report mailed to you, please call the church office at 972-285-5602. Thanks for your faithful giving!

Offering envelopes are also on the same table. All who would like to have envelopes are invited to take a box.

Happy Birthday!

3/1 Brent Crelia
Mary Ruth Mandel
3/4 Ron Adams
3/5 Craig Alford
Jerry McBain
Robbie Robinson
3/6 Betsy Litchfield
3/7 Paula Kusewitt
Cheryl Mason
3/8 Victor Carboni
3/9 Anna Saucier
Phil Wright
3/10 Jeff Saams
3/12 Duane Moon
Tracy Okafor
Jim Sheppard
3/13 Joyce Ballenger
Camryn Crelia
David Litchfield
Madison Orr

3/15 Judy Johnson
Leslie Noble
Mark Smoker
3/17 Brenda Evans
Connie Wright
3/19 Ron Smith
3/20 Rachel Petty
3/22 Cheryl Lydick
Carley Patterson
3/23 Sarah (Petty) Hankins
McKenna White
3/24 Emma Smoker
3/25 Ann Okafor
3/28 Ken Sheppard-Mahaffey
3/29 Brian Bridges
Amy Bright
3/30 Alex Lindberg
Chandler Smith
3/31 Nathan Edling
Johathan Graham

Wednesday Church Night Schedule

6:00-6:35 p.m. Dinner
6:40-7:25 p.m. Classes for everyone

Wednesday Choir Schedule

4:30 - 5:00 Alleluia Chimes (Bell Room)
5:00 - 5:50 Children's Choir (Choir Room)
5:00 - 5:50 Youth Choir (Sanctuary)
6:40 - 7:00 Hope Choir (Room TBA)
7:30 - 9:00 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)