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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

March 9, 2008

Ushers

8:45

Jerry Dressler - Head Usher
Zack Saucier Rick Aber
Gwenda Aber

11:00

Teresa Farr - Head Usher
Ronda Scott Andy Leake
Chris Orr Rachel Petty

Parking Lot Greeters

Jerry Patterson Sheila Hammer

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
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 McDougale, mother of Ronda Scott
Geraldine McDonald, friend of Laura Virgil
Shana Meredith, Mary McBain's cousin
Linda Miller, mother of Jan Fort
The family of Leroy Moore, friends of the Rumbecks
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 . . .

Meredith Willson was the author-composer of the delightful musical "The Music Man." He grew up in a church in his home town of Mason City, Iowa, but after he moved to California he never really got settled in a church. According to his biographer, John Skipper, Willson and his wife were driving on a Sunday morning when they saw a small church, thought it looked friendly, and decided to stop for worship. During the sermon, the minister started talking about people he would like to meet, and amazingly he quoted from one of Willson's books and said he would especially like to meet Willson. This brought tears to the eyes of Willson, and after the service, he introduced himself to the minister – which was a shock to the pastor.

Willson later became a member of the church and even directed the choir. One of the great blessings of church attendance is that you never know when God might have a word just for you – or what a blessing you might miss if you are not at worship. We are moving toward one of the most important times of the church year – toward Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. I encourage your attendance on this fifth Sunday of Lent. Who knows what blessing might come to your life.

Tom Wilbanks

This Sunday

On this fifth Sunday of Lent the Chancel Choir will sing at 8:45, and the Children's Choir, Youth Choir, and Alleluia Chimes will provide music at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will conclude this year's series of Lenten sermons on "Biblical Faces" and the sermon will be on "The Man Who Asked the Supreme Question," based on Acts 16:30-31.

Holy Week Services

Each spring, for nearly two thousand years, the church has revered the days of holy week setting them aside to retell the story of THE pivotal event in human history. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the week with shouts of "Hosanna," Maundy Thursday focuses on Jesus' teachings and the Last Supper, Good Friday emphasizes His atoning sacrifice on the cross, and Easter Sunday triumphantly celebrates the resurrection of Christ, Jesus and his victory over death

To emphasize the importance of this most holy week, we hold two additional mid-week services.. On Thursday, March 20, Maundy Thursday will be observed at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The term "Maundy" means "commandment" referring to Jesus' new commandment given to the disciples, "Love one another as I have loved you." The Thursday night prior to Jesus' crucifixion He and the disciples observed the Passover meal and during that feast Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper as we celebrate it today. We commemorate that event with a candlelight communion service around tables in the form of a cross.

The following day is Good Friday, March 21, and the Chancel Choir and congregation will observe a Service of Darkness or "Tenebrae" at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The passion of our Lord according to Matthew will be read interspersed by anthems and hymns as the lights are gradually extinguished. This simple, yet profound service of reflection upon the great cost of our salvation makes the wonder and excitement of the resurrection all the more joyous!

We encourage you to participate in these services and pray they will complete your Holy Week serving as clear reminders, throughout the year, of the most consequential week in history, culminating in the celebration of the most important day in history, Easter Sunday!

*Soli Deo Gloria,
Verlyn Smoker*

Easter Egg Hunts Saturday, March 15



For 2nd grade and younger
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Youth Hall

For JAMmers (3rd-6th grade)
Easter Egg Hunt in the Dark!
7:30-9:30 p.m.
Youth Hall

Parents, please drop off plastic eggs stuffed with goodies anytime before March 14.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 12, to the church office at 972-285-5602.

Did you order pizza?

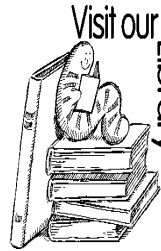
If your ordered pizza, cookie dough, etc. from the youth music ministry fund-raising project, you can pick it up Monday, March 10, after 10:00 a.m.

Work Day



A work day will be held Saturday, March 15, starting at 9:00 a.m. This annual work day is held before Palm Sunday and Easter to do some helpful work inside and outside. We will be raking leaves, trimming bushes and doing some other things and will be grateful for men and women who will come and help. We will be through by noon. Eric Schwartz is Chairman of the Property Committee of the Board of Deacons.

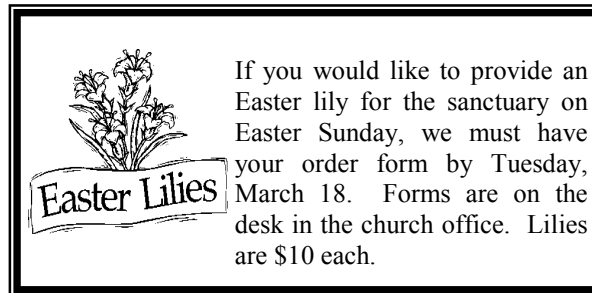
New In Our Church Library



Two new books for children about Easter are available in our church library. One is *The Story of Easter*. This retelling of the Easter story is explained in a way that helps young children understand the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. The story of Christ's last week is carefully told in a way that teaches children about the amazing gift Jesus gave us. Events include his triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through his appearances to the disciples and his ascension.

The other book is *The Sparrow's Easter Song*. Author Michelle Adams has created a delightful Easter story of Christ's resurrection as told by an eyewitness who happens to be a small sparrow.

These and other fine books for children are on display in a rack just to the left as you enter the library. Members of the library committee are usually in the library to assist you after the 11:00 o'clock service.



If you would like to provide an Easter lily for the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, we must have your order form by Tuesday, March 18. Forms are on the desk in the church office. Lilies are \$10 each.

Mo-Ranch Summer Employment Opportunities for College Students

College students, if you are looking for a meaningful summer employment opportunity, Mo-Ranch is hiring support positions for their summer staff. Training, housing, meals and a competitive salary will be provided.

If interested, contact the Mo-Ranch Human Resource office at 1-800-460-4401 x273 or 272, or visit their website, www.moranch.com.

Our Church Family . . .

JOYCE MORRIS is home and recovering from her recent hip replacement surgery. It was good to see VICTOR CARBONI back this past Sunday after his surgery and to have MARSHALL and SARA ALFORD back at Sunday School and church following medical problems. We were also glad to see MEL WITTY back following his recent hospitalization.

We are glad that VERLYN and KELLI SMOKER and their children were not injured in a bad car accident Sunday evening, March 24, in Dallas.

Congratulations to GERALD and CINDY JENKINS on the birth of their grandson, Clayton Patrick, on February 19. Parents are David and Misty Jenkins

Our sanctuary was filled with the sound of beautiful harp music at the 11:00 o'clock service as harpist Lauren McConkey accompanied the hymns and anthems.

An informative Church Night Supper was held last Sunday evening when Don Williams, the Crime Prevention Specialist for the Mesquite Police Department gave the program. He said that most crimes are crimes of opportunity and told about ways people can avoid giving that opportunity and gave tips for ensuring personal safety. He also stated that many crimes are drug related. Numerous questions were asked which indicated the high level of interest in the program. One of the questions had to do with gang activity and he gave an interesting answer as to how to tell the difference between those who are "taggers" and those in gangs. The next supper will be Sunday evening, April 13. Kathy Brown, Chair of the Program Committee for the Church Night Suppers, said the program will be presented by In-Sync Exotics, which is dedicated to the rescue of neglected, abused, and unwanted felines such as lions and tigers. It will be an interesting program for all ages, especially children.

Daylight Savings Time Begins This Sunday

Daylight Savings Time starts this Sunday, so remember to turn your clock ahead one hour when you go to bed Saturday night so that you won't be late for our worship services or Sunday School.



An Invitation from John and Paula Kusewitt

Please join us as we renew our wedding vows and celebrate ten years together.

Our relationship with you has strengthened and enriched our marriage.

We would be honored if you joined us

for this special occasion

March 14, 2008 at

6:30 p.m. at

First Presbyterian Church

(The Kusewitts kindly request no gifts. If you feel inclined to give, please provide a donation to the church.)

College Scholarships

Our church is offering scholarship help for the 2008-2009 school year to active members of our church who will be enrolled full time in a college, university or trade school. In addition, for the second year in a row a scholarship is being offered by our church's Presbyterian Women organization, and is another opportunity for students in our church family to receive help and support from their church. Applications received will be considered for both scholarships, so you need only complete one application. Applications are available in the church office, and **the deadline for turning them in is Sunday, April 6.** Applications turned in after that date will not be considered.

We are happy to be able to provide educational support and encouragement for our college students, and continue the Presbyterian tradition of emphasis on education. 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."