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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY
March 16, 2008

Ushers
8:45

Brenda Evans - Head Usher
Liz Ramsey Elaine Presby
Karen Hunt

11:00

Sheila Hammer - Head Usher
Linda Fricke Shannon Crelia
Michael Graves

Parking Lot Greeters

Eric Schwartz Jerry Dressler

Please remember in prayer

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
Glenn & Sherry Thurman, friends of Craig Alford
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 . . .

The week that begins this Sunday has been called the most momentous week in history, for it is Holy Week. Several special services are immediately before us – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

Our Palm Sunday and Easter services are always great occasions, but I also want to encourage your attendance at the Maundy Thursday service on March 20, and the Good Friday service the next evening. Both services are at 7:30 p.m. Easter is most meaningful for those who have been with our Lord on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. You will find further information about both of these services in another article.

I look forward to worshipping with you on Palm Sunday, to gathering at the Lord's Table with you on Maundy Thursday, to the Good Friday service and to the joy of our Easter services.

May peace and blessing be yours during Holy Week.

Tom Wilbanks

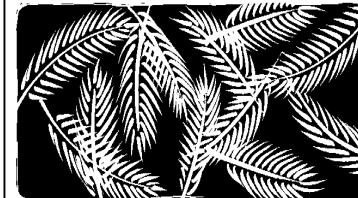
One Great Hour of Sharing



This Sunday, March 16, we will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. The offering banks given to children at the beginning of Lent are also to be returned. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is used around the world to help meet world relief and emergency needs caused by floods, earthquakes, and other disasters. Special envelopes will be in the bulletins this Sunday for those who did not use the offering boxes but would like to contribute to this special offering.

This Sunday

PALM SUNDAY



On this Palm Sunday Verlyn Smoker will sing at 8:45, and the Hope Choir and Chancel Choir will sing at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon, "The Pathway to Palm Sunday," based on Matthew 21:1-11. We will also have the joy of receiving the seven members of this year's Confirmation Class at the 11:00 o'clock service.

Easter Egg Hunts Saturday, March 15



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

We would appreciate donations of cookies or cupcakes for our party, but we have plenty of eggs.

For JAMmers (3rd-6th grade)
Easter Egg Hunt in the Dark!
6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Hall

Participants are asked to bring a dozen stuffed eggs by Wednesday, March 12, if possible. (If not, just bring them the night of the hunt.) We will have pizza and games before the hunt. Don't forget your flashlight! (Please note that the time is 6:30-8:30, not 7:30-9:30 as previously listed!)

Work Day



A work day will be held this Saturday, March 15, starting at 9:00 a.m. This annual work day is held before Palm 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

Children's Church

Following the children's sermon each Sunday at the 11:00 worship service, children through 2nd grade are invited to leave the sanctuary to attend either extended session (for preschoolers) or Children's Church/Godly Play (for children in kindergarten - 2nd grade.) Children in 3rd grade and older are encouraged to remain in the sanctuary for worship.

Preschoolers will experience stories, music, crafts, and play time in extended session, and will learn that church is a comforting and pleasant place to be.

Children in kindergarten - 2nd grade are escorted to the "Godly Play" room, where they will spend time in a worshipful, reverent atmosphere, with elements of a worship service incorporated into the time -- offering, Doxology, prayer, Bible story and Bible reading. They will also have an opportunity to learn about the liturgical seasons of the church, and respond to the Bible story with art.

Register Now for Summer Camp!

Camping opportunities are available in June and July for children and youth ranging in ages from 6-16 at Camp Gilmont in the piney woods of East Texas and Prairie Valley bordering the northern edge of the Texas Hill Country.



Camps fill up quickly, so don't delay in making plans for your children this summer. There is an early registration discount if fees are paid by April 1. Pick up one of the registration brochures on the table under the clock in the hall and register your child for a great time this summer. Scholarships are available.

Additional Parking for Palm Sunday and Easter

Additional parking will be available on Palm Sunday and Easter at the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Paza Drive adjacent to our church.

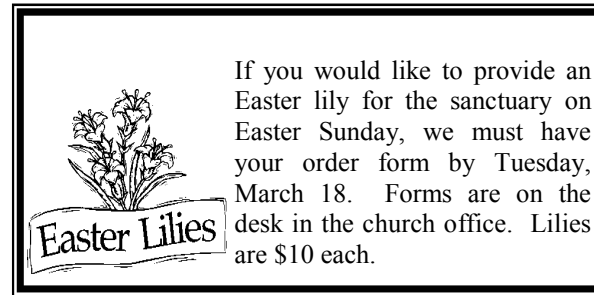
Our Church Family . . .

It was good to see JIM COLLINS back at church last Sunday following his recent surgery.

A nice heavy green Le Creuset casserole dish was left in the kitchen recently. If it belongs to you please pick it up in the fellowship hall kitchen.

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 **must be completed and returned by April 6.**



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.

Youth Remodeling Project!!

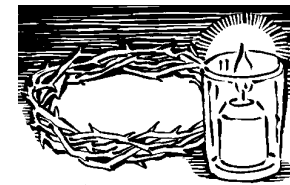


The youth are going to be remodeling their room near the kitchen in the youth hall, and will be working on it on Wednesday nights during their WCN class time. Adult help would be appreciated, and if you would like to help, drop by during that time and give them a hand. Contact Zack or Howard Saucier for more information.



Holy Week

Two special mid-week services will be held during Holy Week. The first is on Maundy Thursday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. This is our traditional candlelight communion service around tables in the form of a cross in the fellowship hall. The word "Maundy" relates to the word mandate, referring to commands which Jesus gave to his disciples on that last night of his earthly life, that they should "love one another" and that they should continue the observance of the Lord's Supper.



Service of Darkness

The next evening, March 21, we will have a Good Friday service. The Chancel Choir and congregation will observe a "Service of Darkness" or Tenebrae at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. This simple, yet profound service of remembrance of what Jesus did for us on the cross on Good Friday makes the wonder and glory of the resurrection all the more joyous. Childcare will be provided for both services.

Participating in these services will remind us all of the meaningful events in the most important week in history, culminating in the celebration of the most important day in history – Easter Sunday!

There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall, where the dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell, what pains He had to bear; but we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.

O dearly, dearly has He loved, and we must love Him too, and trust in His redeeming blood, and try His works to do.

– Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848