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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

March 23, 2008

Ushers

8:30

Denise Bennett - Head Usher
Jerry Dressler Henry Kaplan
Roger Samuels Marshall Romine

11:00

Ronda Scott - Head Usher
Jerry Jones
Les Olson J. P. Marshall

Parking Lot Greeters

8:30 - Eric Schwartz & Pat Hebert
11:00 - Dave Petty & Zack Saucier

Please remember in prayer

Betty Aubert
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
Diana Lossasso, friend of Diane Marshall
Cheryl Lydick
Cheryl Martin
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
The family of Leroy Moore, friends of the Rumbecks
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni
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 . . .

As mentioned in this column at the beginning of Lent, Easter this year is very early. Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon that falls on or after the spring equinox which is March 20. This year is the earliest Easter any of us will ever see the rest of our lives. The next time Easter will be this early (March 23) will be in the year 2228 (220 years from now). The last time it was this early was 1913, so only those 95 or older are the ones who were alive then.

But no matter what date Easter is, it is the foremost day of the Christian year, a day on which every Christian should want to worship and give thanks for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This Sunday will be a glorious, inspiring day at church. Let us each be sure to praise God in his house this Easter.

I encourage you to invite a friend to come with you on Easter. There are people who would like to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. And they can hear it at First Presbyterian Church this Sunday if you will invite them. Indeed, this is a good place to be. Remember that the first service will be at 8:30, not at 8:45. Both services will be identical.

I look forward to sharing the joy of worship with you this Sunday. May God grant to you and all whom you love an Easter of blessing and joy.

Tom Wilbanks



This Sunday

We are looking forward to wonderful Easter services this Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir, Jubilate Ringers, and brass ensemble will provide special music, including the *Hallelujah Chorus* from *Handel's Messiah*, and Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "Who Do You Trust?"

Holy Week Services



MAUNDY THURSDAY

During this Holy Week we are having two special services. The first is our Maundy Thursday candlelight communion service this Thursday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. Many people have felt this service around tables in the form of a cross in our fellowship hall is one of our most meaningful

services.

Then on Good Friday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m., we will observe a service of "Tenebrae" or "darkness" in the sanctuary. As Scripture is read, candles are extinguished one by one symbolizing the coming death of Jesus Christ. The Chancel Choir will sing during this simple yet profound service of reflection upon the events leading Christ to the cross.



Service of Darkness

Easter is most meaningful for those who have been with our Lord on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and we encourage you to attend these services. Child care will be provided for both services.

Welcome New Members!!



We want to welcome the members of this year's confirmation class who joined our church last Sunday. They are from left to right: Jason Okafor, Jared Thompson, Jack Nystrom, Shelby Lee, Blake Sexton, Morgan Garver, and Laci Singleton. Also pictured in the back row, center, is Phil Johnson, who led the class this year.

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. 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.**

Additional Parking for Easter

Remember that additional parking will be available for Easter at the Seventh Day Adventist Church adjacent to our church on Paza Drive.

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.

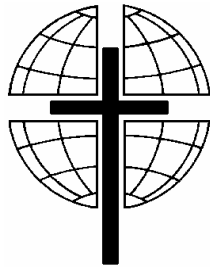


Camps fill up quickly, so don't delay in making plans for your children this summer. There is an early registration discount if fees are paid by April 1. Pick up one of the registration brochures on the table under the clock in the hall and register your child for a great time this summer. Scholarships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

Mesquite Symphony Program

On March 29, the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra will present "Not Just for Kids" at 7:00 p.m. at the Mesquite Arts Center. Music from "Star Wars," "Star Trek," And "E.T." will be played. B.J. Mauldin, Dan Woroby, and Nickie Wilbanks of our church are members of the orchestra.

Our New Missionary



Donald and Laurie Marsden and their family are no longer serving in Russia, and our church has established a relationship with Rev. James and Dr. Carol Brees in Pakistan. Jim is the general superintendent of Memorial Christian Hospital in Sialkot, and Carol is an obstetrician. In addition to supporting them through our mission giving, we continue to also support Dr. Mike Haninger and his wife Nancy, a nurse, in the Congo; and Leith and Carol Fujii in Thailand, as well as supporting work in our own community, state, and nation.

Our Church Family . . .

Palm Sunday was a good day at our church. It was a beautiful Sunday morning, and we had the joy of receiving the seven members of this year's Confirmation Class. Our New Member Care Committee provided a lovely reception for the members of the confirmation class, their families, and the congregation after the 11:00 o'clock service, and we appreciate their work and how beautifully the tables were decorated.

During our 11:00 o'clock worship service last Sunday, REESE OLIVIA GARVER, daughter of Patrick and Lori Garver, was baptized.

BETTY AUBERT and her daughter CHERYL MARTIN were in the hospital at the same time recently. PAT ELLIOTT has been at Doctors Hospital since Saturday, March 15.

Our thanks to a wonderful group of volunteers who helped rake leaves and do other projects last Saturday at the work day. Ron Bettis planted flowers on the south side of the sanctuary, and others who came and helped for the work day were Eric Schwartz, Roger Samuels, Sheila Hammer, Daniel Alvarez, Clark Windle, Ben Williams, Darby Washeck, Breck and Denise Bennett, Mike and Robbie Lee and their grandchildren Shelby and Michael Lee, Larry Thomas, Brenda Evans, Andrew Newland, and Jerry Jones.

The church office will be closed this Monday, March 24, and there will not be a church newsletter next week. We wish for all members and friends of our church a joyous and blessed Easter.

Are You a High School Senior?

On Youth Sunday, April 27, we will recognize our graduating high school seniors. According to records in the church office, the following are graduating: Zack Krajca, Kevin Kutch, Meredith Miller, Janel Okafor, Ashley Patterson, Daniel Rich, Ben Robinson, Zack Saucier, Griffin Scholl, Ryan Schwartz, Aaron Sheppard-Mahaffey, Mitchell Smith, Brooks Wilson, and Travis Windle. If there are any corrections or additions to this list, please call the church office at 972-285-5602.



Session Highlights

The March 12 meeting of the Session began with sharing prayer concerns.

Duane Moon, Chairman of the Christian Education Committee, said that Anna Saucier gave a written report on the meeting of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators in San Diego. During this meeting there was a opportunity to speak with people seeking employment as a Director of Christian Education, and Anna spoke with several about our position here. Howard Saucier continues to oversee our youth ministry including a lock-in on April 4, and Youth Quake April 11-13.

Johnny Graham, Chairman of the Worship Committee, said that Verlyn Smoker had decided that the Youth Music Ministry choir tour would need to be postponed because so many youth will not be able to go at the time originally scheduled.

Duane Moon, Vice-Chairman of the DCE Search Committee, reported the committee had finalized a job application form that will be sent in a packet to those interested in the position. He also presented copies of a revised job description which was approved by the Session.

Roger Foltz, Mary McBain, and Dr. Wilbanks reported on the March 1 meeting of Grace Presbytery at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church.

Under New Business, Dr. Wilbanks said that the Board of Deacons is going to sponsor "Lemonade on the Lawn," April 13, after the 11:00 o'clock worship service. If weather does not permit on that date, the alternate date is April 20.

The center section of stained glass nearest the pulpit is to be removed the day after Easter in connection with the installation of the memorial window for Clifford Moon.

The air conditioning renovation of duct work is scheduled to start on the south side (pulpit side) of the sanctuary March 31.

Presbyterian Women Circles

The Morning Circle will meet Tuesday, April 1, at 9:30, with Cora Dugan leading the Bible study, and Carol Evans serving as hostess. The Night Circle will meet on the same date at 7:00 in the youth hall with Karen Hunt leading the Bible study.