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Mesquite, TX  
Permit No. 324

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**1028 S BELT LINE RD**  
**MESQUITE TX 75149**

**Return Service Requested**

**SERVING THIS SUNDAY**

**March 29, 2009**

**Ushers**

**8:45**

Lenny Pollard –Head Usher  
Clark Windle Breck Bennett  
Jerry Dressler

**11:00**

Shannon Crelia - Head Usher  
Harriet Jones Jerry Jones  
Heather Mayfield

**Parking Lot Greeters**

Lenny Pollard Gayle Rumbeck

**Please remember in prayer . . . .**

Betty Aubert  
Gary and Nancy Black  
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle’s mom  
Jim Brewster  
Eve Brice  
The family of Jennie Childress, friends of Paula Kusewitt  
Pam Combs, friend of Sheila Hammer  
Lynette Copeland, friend of Julia Walker  
Debbie Duncan, niece of Minnie Mathews  
Carol Dwinnell, friend of Hope Sheppard  
Jack Fields, friend of Don Black  
Adam Fort, son of Doug and Jan Fort  
Wayland & Mary Gordon, parents of Gwenda Aber  
Frances Hair, mother of Phil Johnson  
Becky Hernandez, friend of Gayle Rumbeck  
Debbie Justice, friend of the Leakes and Hoffmans  
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard  
Olivia Madrid, friend of Chelsea Martin  
Cheryl Martin  
Wanda & V.W. Martin, Joel Martin’s parents  
Sylvia Martinez, friend of Gayle Rumbeck  
Wanda McDougle, Ronda Scott’s mother  
Acton Michael Merritt, newborn grandson of Bernie & Lois Deroo  
Linda Miller, mother of Jan Fort  
The family of Leroy Moore, friends of the Rumbecks  
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni  
Dennis Patterson, father of Jerry Patterson  
Dave Rumbeck  
The Sheppard family  
Henry & Beth Skidmore, Cindy Jenkins’ parents  
Clay Smith, son of Bob and Beth Smith  
Fernita Swalin, friend of Hope Sheppard  
Justin Taylor, nephew of Jerry & Harriet Jones  
Laura Virgil  
Mildred Warner, sister-in-law of Joann Cheek  
Brian Weller, cousin of Shannon Crelia



# First Presbyterian Church

**Mesquite, Texas**

(972) 285-5602

[www.fpcmesquite.org](http://www.fpcmesquite.org)

## *From the Pastor . . .*

If you were at church last Sunday, you heard me mention that this Friday, March 27, marks the 128th anniversary of our church. On March 27, 1881, fifteen charter members organized this church. One of those charter members was J.C. Rugel, for whom Rugel Elementary School in Mesquite is named. He came to Mesquite from Tennessee to teach school, and interestingly enough, that school was on the north end of our church property. He was greatly loved by children and adults. He later became president of the First National Bank (now Wells Fargo) and also served as Mayor. But my favorite story about him has to do with when he owned a hardware store on the town square. There was a man in town who owed him some money, and J.C. Rugel wrote across the ledger: “Paid for by good deeds.” That ledger is at the Mesquite Library.

As I read the book published in 1981 that chronicles our church’s first 100 years I was struck by the efforts of those in the early days to keep the church alive. As most are aware, a new book is in the works which will record the history of our church from 1981 to the present. Charlene Orr is Chair of the committee. Ferne Porter will do the writing, and she has been assisted in the research by Cora Dugan and Ann Kyle. A nice historical plaque from the State Historical Commission will be installed at our church this year.

We today are writing the history of this good church. I want you to know that I am grateful for your faithfulness.

*Tom Wilbanks*

## **This Sunday**

On this fifth Sunday of Lent, the Chancel Ensemble will sing at 8:45, and the Chancel Choir will sing at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will conclude the Lenten series of sermons on the Beatitudes, and the sermon will be “Blessed Are the Persecuted,” based on Matthew 5:12.

## **Holy Week Services**

Each spring, for nearly two thousand years, the church of Jesus Christ has revered the days of Holy Week retelling the story of the pivotal event in all of human history. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the week with shouts of “Hossanna, ” Maundy Thursday focuses on Jesus’ teachings at the Last Supper, Good Friday emphasizes His atoning sacrifice on the cross, and Easter Sunday triumphantly celebrates His glorious resurrection and victory over sin and death. Each year we join churches around the globe proclaiming His death and resurrection.

Between the celebrations of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday we hold two additional services. On Thursday, April 9, we will observe Maundy Thursday 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.” We commemorate Jesus’ teachings with a candlelight communion service, and gather around tables set up in the shape of a cross, centering our attention upon the story of the Last Supper, and Christ’s commands to His disciples.

The following day is Good Friday, April 10, and at 7:30 p.m. we will hold a Service of Darkness or “Tenebrae” in the Sanctuary. The passion of our Lord will be read along with responses of music by congregation and choir as the candles are gradually extinguished. This profound service of reflection upon the great cost of our salvation makes the wonder and excitement of the resurrection all the more joyous!

Child care will be provided for both services.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in these additional services and our prayer is that they will serve as reminders, throughout the year, of the life of our risen Lord, and lead us to deeper devotion and greater praise of His holy name.

To God be the glory!  
*Verlyn*

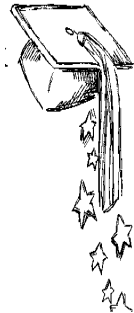
## College Scholarships

Our church is offering scholarship help for the 2009-2010 school year to active members of our church who will be enrolled full time in a college, university or trade school. In addition, 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. The deadline for turning in completed scholarship applications is Sunday, April 5.

## Are You a High School Senior?

On Youth Sunday, April 19, we will recognize our graduating high school seniors. According to records in the church office, the following are graduating:

Jared Armstrong  
K.D. Harris  
Jordan Hartsell  
Cassie Lydick  
J.P. Marshall  
Lindsey Martin  
Amanda Mayfield  
Jacob Portillo  
Lala Rich  
Hope Sheppard-Mahaffey  
Angela Washeck



If there are any corrections or additions to this list, please call the church office at 972-285-5602.

## Have Difficulty Hearing?

If you have difficulty hearing, the church can provide a helpful receiver that will help you to hear our worship services better. Contact Dr. Wilbanks if you would like to try one of the receivers.

## Family Portrait Session at the church!!

### Sign-up and support the Youth!

On April 18, Tim Smith will be bringing his photography studio equipment to the church and with the help of the youth will be offering family portrait sittings for the families of the church. This is being offered as a fundraiser to help the youth with their financial costs for the June mission trip to Denver, Colorado. The suggested donation for each family is \$20. A couple weeks following the portrait sittings each family will receive a CD/DVD of their pictures. This is a great opportunity to come and support the youth of the church and to celebrate what it means to be a larger church family. Sign-up sheets are available in the church office and will be outside of the sanctuary following worship services. Sign-up quickly as spots are going fast!

## Third Saturday Service



The Mission Committee will be sponsoring a group of volunteers to help out some of our members with repair/fix-ups that they are not able to do for themselves. If you have any need for our services, please contact the church office (972-285-5602) with your requests. As the name says, we will plan to work on the third Saturday of each month. If you would like to participate we welcome young and old. If you have ever worked at "Addressing Mesquite" you have all the training necessary. We will plan to be finished with the work day by noon. If you would like to participate, contact Ron Bettis or Howard Saucier.

## Our Church Family . . .

Our church lost a good and faithful member in the death of NORMA HAGETHORN last week. Her funeral was held at our church March 19.

It has been good to see TOM ELLIS, ELLEN MALLUM, and SARA GRAHAM back at church following recent surgeries. Sara, however, may have to undergo further surgery. DENNIS HUNT is recovering from knee replacement surgery. SARAH GRAHAM, the daughter of Rod and Carol Graham, is also recovering from recent surgery. We were sorry to hear that LANEY FREEMAN was injured in a car accident. We will want to keep MARTHA WHITEHURST in our prayers as she makes a slow recovery from her hospitalization.

Our sympathy is extended to DIANE BEAL whose father died, and to BILLIE STONE whose husband died.

## Men's Breakfast



All the men are invited to the Men's Breakfast this Sunday, March 29, at 7:30 a.m. Our Boy Scout Troop will provide the breakfast and program. Plans will also be discussed for the annual state-wide Men's Conference to be held at Mo-Ranch May 1-3.

## Work Day

A work day will be held at the church Saturday, April 4, starting at 9:00 a.m. This annual work day is held before Palm Sunday and Easter to do some helpful work since we did not get to have the previously scheduled work day because of wet weather, one of the main projects of this one will be to gather up the leaves on the north side of the church by the educational wing. We will be through before noon and will be grateful for men and women who will come and help. Lenny Pollard, the Chairman of the Property Committee of the Board of Deacons, will be in charge.



## Presbyterian Women Spring Workshops



Presbyterian Women Spring Workshops, gatherings of Presbyterian Women in Grace Prsbytery, are scheduled for the following dates:

Friday, April 17	Mt. Pleasant
Saturday, April 18	Oak Cliff
Friday, April 24	Granbury
Saturday, April 25	Fairfiled-Harmony

The Theme is "Joshua: A Journey of Faith." Registration forms and directions for your desired location are available from Gini Gray or Joy Samuels.

## Goldenaires Field Trip Thursday, March 26

The Goldenaires have planned a field trip to the Waterford in Mesquite on Thursday, March 26, for a tour of that facility and a complimentary lunch. Meet on the south parking lot at 10:30 if you want to car-pool, or meet at the Waterford at 10:45. Join us for an interesting and informative tour, good lunch, and fellowship.

## Mesquite Symphony

The Mesquite Symphony Orchestra will present "Not Just for Kids," with music from video games this Saturday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. at the Mesquite Arts Center. B.J. Mauldin and Nickie Wilbanks of our church are members of the orchestra.