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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

May 25, 2008

Ushers

8:45

Zack Saucier- Head Usher
Denise Bennett Elaine Presby
Marshall Romine

11:00

Darby Washeck - Head Usher
Sheila Hammer Leslie Noble
Andy Cummings Angela Washeck

Parking Lot Greeters

Denise Bennett Paula Kusewitt

Please remember in prayer

Cindy Allen, daughter of John and Janie Jameson
Betty Aubert
Gary and Nancy Black
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle's mom
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
Jeff Dixon, brother of Kirk Dixon
Karen Dixon
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
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard
Cheryl Martin
Jerry McBain
Ron & Wanda McDougale, parents of Ronda Scott
Linda Miller, mother of Jan Fort
The family of Leroy Moore, friends of the Rumbecks
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni
Les Olson
Syble Roberts, sister-in-law of Grace Roberts
Dave Rumbeck
The Sheppard 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 . . .

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow." We sing those majestic words of the Doxology every Sunday, often without thinking much about what we are singing. Those words were written by Thomas Ken, an English minister, and those four lines of the Doxology have been sung for more than 300 years. The Doxology is a Christian adaptation of the 100th Psalm. Still today, most English-speaking Protestant churches unite each Sunday in singing the glorious words of the Doxology. And it is especially appropriate that we would do so as our offerings are brought forward to be dedicated to God. The majestic tune was composed by Louis Bourgeois who was the music director for John Calvin in Geneva.

I was interested to read that when John Muir would see a beautiful landscape that suddenly burst into view or a shaft of light would break through the clouds and illuminate a mountain, that Muir's constant expression was "Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" Again and again he used that expression. Muir was a remarkable man who valued what he saw, rather than just walking past it. He became known as "The Father of our National Parks." His work led to the establishment of Yosemite, Grand Canyon, and Mount Rainier National Parks and he co-founded the Sierra Club. We can learn from his way of slowing down and appreciating nature for its beauty – and thanking God for it.

Summer will soon be upon us, and I encourage your faithfulness in attendance at Sunday School and church and in your offerings during the summer months. God never takes a vacation from us, and we certainly shouldn't take a vacation from him. Count your blessings – and join us each Sunday as we sing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"

Tom Wilbanks

Congregational Meeting



The Session has called a Congregational Meeting to be held during the 11 o'clock worship service on June 1, to elect a new Deacon to fill a vacancy now existing on the Board of Deacons. Shannon Crelia will be nominated by the Nominating Committee.

Church Night Supper



Plan to attend the Church Night Supper at 6:00, on Sunday, June 1. It will be our annual talent show, and there will also be an exhibit of crafts and hobbies. If you do crochet or needle work, painting, photography, etc., please bring some of your work to show to the rest of our church family. This will be our last Church Night Supper until fall.

This Sunday

This Sunday Susan Mathews will sing at 8:45, and the Chancel Choir will sing at 11:00. Dr Wilbanks will give the sermon "A New Way of Living," based on Galatians 5:16-26.

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. Pick up one of the registration brochures on the table in the hall and register your child for a great time this summer. Our church will pay half the camp fees for children of members of our church.

Blood Drive - June 8



Carter Blood Care will conduct a blood drive in their bus on our north parking lot on Sunday, June 8. A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board near the church office. Every day in our community, more than 800 patients depend on blood transfusions to survive. When you donate blood, you are saving lives.

Rummage Sale in Room Across from Choir Room

We've cleaned out closets, nook, crannies and corners in the church, and all the collected "stuff" has been placed in the room across from the choir room. This room needs to be emptied before Vacation Bible School starts next month, so we will be having an "honor system rummage sale." Drop by and look around and see if you can find a treasure there that you would like to have. A donation box will be on a table in the room, and you can pay what you think your item is worth – let your conscience be your guide! All items on and around the tables in the middle of the room are for sale, and items around the perimeter of the room are not for sale unless they are marked "for sale." If you have a question about what might or might not be for sale, contact Linda Fricke or Tom Wilbanks.

Welcome New Member!



We are happy to welcome CHESSIE HODGSON, who joined our church on May 11. Chessie's family attended our church when she was a child and we are glad to have her back.

Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Program

If you shop at Kroger, a portion of what you spend can be refunded back to our church if you will link your Kroger Plus Card to our account. If you want to participate, please take one of the letters inside the green folder on the table in the hallway, and the next time you shop at Kroger, ask the cashier to scan the barcode at the bottom of the letter to link our church to your Kroger Plus Card. (You only have to do this one time – your card will then be linked to our church until the current program ends in April, 2009.) A percentage of your purchases will then be refunded back to our church to benefit the Wednesday Church Night program. Thanks for your participation!

Our Church Family . . .

Our sympathy is extended to TOM MECASKEY whose mother died May 7, to MARJORIE BAYS and her family in the death of David Bays on May 12, and to FRAN TOLER and her family in the death of Rick Toler on May 15.

During our worship services on May 11, CORA DUGAN and CAROL EVANS received nice surprises when our Presbyterian Women's organization presented them with Honorary Life memberships in Presbyterian Women. This national honor is awarded to those who have rendered faithful service to Presbyterian Women.

Congratulations to CINDY JENKINS who is retiring this year from Hanby Elementary School after many years as a teacher in the MISD. A reception for Cindy was held May 21.

Nineteen men from our church attended the state-wide gathering of men at Presbyterian Mo-Ranch May 2-4. Our church continues to have one of the largest groups at the conference.

CAROL EVANS underwent extensive surgery on May 16. It has been good to see JOYCE MORRIS back following her surgery.

One of our members, JASON WEHRMAN, who is in the National Guard, left for Iraq last week, and we will want to keep him in our prayers.

The church office will be closed this Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day, and there will not be a church newsletter next week.

Vacation Bible School



Plan to be a part of our great Vacation Bible School which will be held each evening June 22-26. The theme this year is "Beach Party – Surfing Through the Scriptures." Classes will be held for children, youth and adults. Shannon Crelia is Director this year, and Erin Williams is Assistant Director.

PW 20th Anniversary!

The Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church of Mesquite was organized December 31, 1890. Dr. Wilbanks likes to tell the story that the women often had to pick cotton to fulfill their mission pledge. Over the years, the name of the group was changed to the Women's Association (or Association, as some of us still call it). It is interesting that the Night Circle was once called the Business Women's Circle.

This year, 2008, is the 20th anniversary of our being known simply as Presbyterian Women, or even more simply, PW.

PW was formed a few years after the reunion of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS) and the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. (UPCUSA). An elected committee of women from each group formulated the organizational structure of the joined women's groups. The committee's dream was to keep the best of the past. They wanted to preserve shared practices like Bible study, special offerings, and programs that encourage women to reach out to others in need. After much prayerful discussion the United Presbyterian Women and the Women of the Church, agreed on the basic current structure and mission of the merged organization.

While our organization may have undergone several name changes over the past 100-plus years, our focus remains grounded in the study of scripture, prayer, and being about the work of Christ's church. Happy Anniversary, Presbyterian Women!

Presbyterian Planning Calendars

The 18-month Presbyterian Planning Calendars for June 2008-December 2009 are available in the church office for \$8. The theme of the calendar is "I will sing to the Lord as long as I live," from Psalm 103:33. The calendar honors the lives and work of the church's older adults. Using the art of three older Presbyterians, the calendar invites you to see and hear the story of faith expressed by these three through their own art forms.

Happy Birthday!

6/4 Keylea Garver
6/5 Melanie Black
6/6 Rick Aber
6/10 Beth Bridges
Robert Mayfield
6/13 Eric McBarn
6/14 Ben Robinson
6/15 David Howard
Bob Robinson
6/16 Jana Knowles

6/17 Karen Carboni
Christina Knowles
6/18 John Kusewitt
6/20 Dave Edling
6/23 Dee Dressler
Elizabeth Tracey
6/25 Charles Wachendorfer
6/26 Ashley Porter
6/28 Gracy Thomas
6/30 Linda Fricke
Jeannette Sledge