

Non-Profit  
Organization  
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Paid  
Mesquite, TX  
Permit No. 324

**SERVING THIS SUNDAY**  
**October 5, 2008**

**Ushers**  
**8:45**

Jerry Patterson - Head Usher  
Eric SchwartzPenny Palumbo  
Joanne Boudreaux

**11:00**

Linda Fricke - Head Usher  
Liz Ramsey Leslie Noble  
Beth Bridges Emily Ramsey

**Parking Lot Greeters**

Shannon Crelia Kathy Brown



# First Presbyterian Church

**Mesquite, Texas**

(972) 285-5602

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

## *From the Pastor . . .*

For many, the fall of the year is a favorite time. The coolness after a hot summer is always a welcome relief. Fall is a season for the senses. I still remember years ago when I was in seminary in Pittsburgh that as I was preaching in various churches in western Pennsylvania, that as I traveled to some of those churches I would pass fields that were full of pumpkins. And then there is the light, the golden light of autumn when the earth has tilted on its axis and the sun is at a different angle. When that happens, the sun starts to shine in through the stained glass windows on the south side of our sanctuary, casting beautiful colors on the bricks and pews. And as many of you have heard me say, when I see that effect, I always think of the hymn we sang last Sunday that says: "O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace!" How that describes our beautiful sanctuary!

Another thing that takes place in the fall is World Communion Sunday which we will observe this Sunday. To me there are few things that so stir the imagination as the picture of Christians around the world gathering at the Lord's Table on the same day. Some churches and denominations do not participate in World Communion, but I am glad that for over 70 years Presbyterians have. In fact, this observance started in the Presbyterian Church.

This Sunday is also the beginning of the class I lead each fall on basic Christian and Presbyterian beliefs. Increasingly, some who have been in the church for a number of years who want a "refresher" have been in the class, and I am always glad to have those in the class along with visitors and new members.

I look forward to joining you at the Lord's Table on this special Sunday of the church year as we celebrate World Communion.

*Tom Wilbanks*

## **Presbyterian Beliefs Class**

The fall series of classes which Dr. Wilbanks leads on basic Christian and Presbyterian beliefs begins this Sunday, October 5, at 9:45, and will meet for six Sunday mornings in our "new" building in the fourth door on the right after you enter the building. The first class includes a visit to the sanctuary for a description of the symbolism of our beautiful stained glass windows. Other classes cover our Presbyterian heritage and form of government and a look at the sacraments – baptism and the Lord's Supper – and what it all means.

## **Mesquite Symphony**

On Saturday, October 11, at 7:30 p.m. the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra will present "The Wild, Wild West" at the Mesquite Arts Center. B.J. Mauldin, Nickie Wilbanks, and Dan Worobey of our church are members of the orchestra.

## **This Sunday**



This Sunday is one of the great days of the church year – World Communion Sunday, a day when we join hands with other Christians around the world around the Lord's Table. An octet will sing at 8:45, and the Chancel Choir will sing at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "One Great Fellowship" based on Romans 12:1-13.

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

**Return Service Requested**

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

Betty Aubert  
Barger family, friends of the Kusewitts  
Gary and Nancy Black  
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle's mom  
Jim Brewster  
Jennie Childress, friend of Paula Kusewitt  
Pam Combs, friend of Sheila Hammer  
Lynette Copeland, friend of Julia Walker  
Jason DeRoo, grandson of Bernie & Lois DeRoo  
Debbie Duncan, niece of Minnie Mathews  
Adam Fort, son of Doug and Jan Fort  
Frances Hair, mother of Phil Johnson  
Billy Harp, friend of Ken Johnson  
Debbie Justice, friend of the Leakes and Hoffmans  
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard  
Cheryl Martin  
Jerry McBain  
Wanda McDougle, Ronda Scott's mother  
Linda Miller, mother of Jan Fort  
The family of Leroy Moore, friends of the Rumbecks  
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni  
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  
Jerry Williams, brother of Ben Williams

## Lemonade on the Lawn September 28, 2008

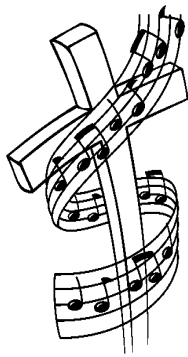


Warren, Amanda and Riley Nystrom, and  
Zoe, Tony and Kathy Brown

Our thanks to the Discipleship Sunday School Class for providing "Lemonade on the Lawn" for us last Sunday. It was a beautiful day for refreshment and fellowship following our 11:00 worship service!

## Youth Choir News

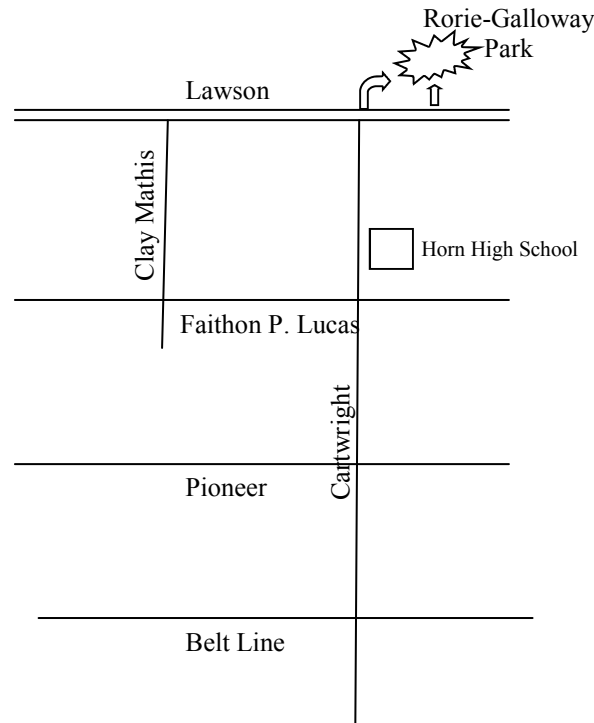
The Youth Choir has already started up for the fall but more young singers are needed. It's not too late to join us on Wednesday afternoons from 5:05 to 5:55 and add your voice to the ensemble. This year, in addition to our regular leadership in the 11:00 a.m. worship services, we are planning to attend a Youth Choir Festival at Baylor University from February 22-24, to join with over 200 youth singers from various parts of the southwest for a great time of fun and music making. Simply ask me about it or just show up this Wednesday at 5:05 and I'll tell you more. The Youth Choir is open to all youth from the 6th to 12th grades.



Soli Deo Gloria,  
Verlyn Smoker

## Church Picnic

Plan to attend our church picnic this Sunday, October 5, at Rorie-Galloway Park in Mesquite. The church will furnish hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. Please bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert. The activities will begin at 5:00, with the supper at 6:00, and a hymn sing and brief worship service will be held at 7:00 p.m. A map is below:



## Addressing Mesquite October 11, 2008



Larry Thomas will be available at a table in the hallway near the sanctuary this Sunday to preregister those who plan to participate in Addressing Mesquite on October 11. There are permission and release forms which are required for volunteers, along with t-shirt orders, and the process can be expedited if forms are completed before the day of the event.

## Our Church Family . . .

It was good to see KATHY GILLISPIE back at church last Sunday following her recent surgery.

We have had an unusually large number of our members move away this year, and the latest are LES and DEL OLSON who have moved to May, near Brownwood. They have been faithful members of our church and the Geneva Fellowship Sunday School class, and we are really going to miss them. Les' son-in-in law is camp director at Buffalo Gap, a Presbyterian encampment near Abilene, and Les will be assisting in maintenance at the camp.

Our Director of Christian Education, Tim Smith, has been asked to serve on the Youth Ministry Committee of Grace Presbytery.

## Faith & Grief Luncheons

Faith Hospice and Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church are hosting luncheons where men and women who are mourning the death of a loved one (spouse, child, parent, sibling, friend) can gather together and be strengthened by food, Scripture, prayers, and reflection. The luncheons are held on the third Wednesday of each month except July. The next luncheon will be October 15, from noon until 1:00 at 9800 Preston Road at Walnut Hill in Jubilee Hall. There is no charge for the lunch, but you are asked to call 214-413-1597 to make a reservation. For additional information, see [www.faithhospice.org](http://www.faithhospice.org).

## Presbyterian Women Circles

The Morning Circle will meet this Tuesday, October 7, at 9:30. Marilyn Saams will serve as hostess, and the Bible study will be led by Cora Dugan.



The Evening Circle will meet the same day at 7:00 with Beverlee Witty leading the Bible study.

Come join other women in the church for Bible study and fellowship this fall.

## The Story of the Worshipping Trolls

On the morning of Sunday, September 28, a small and committed group of people left First Presbyterian Church in Mesquite on a quest to feed and befriend the hungry and the poor in Waco, TX under the I-35 bridge that extends over 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets. With over a hundred pounds of the Marshalls' gumbo, over 200 sandwiches, fresh fruit, juice boxes, soda, crackers, apple sauce, cookies and chips (the list is too long to go on here), we caravanned to this bridge an hour and a half away motivated by the opportunity to serve God and God's people faithfully and fruitfully. As honorary trolls for a Sunday we knew that God's presence even existed under bridges with semi-trucks noisily speeding overhead and the smell of exhaust blowing in little dust cyclones beneath. While the world went on as usual above and around, we honorary trolls from First Presbyterian of Mesquite (and yes it was an honor to be a troll) stopped with other trolls under a bridge to recognize our common bond of humanity in Christ. There were smiles and conversing; playing and eating; young and old; rich and poor; all spreading of the gospel – what a vision of the kingdom of God on earth! In becoming trolls under a bridge for one day out of the week we gained more insight into our humanity. Christ does not only reside in the walls of church buildings, but exists and works in the margins of the world that others merely pass by. As trolls we stopped to meet the needs of others and to worship with them.

In a matter of 45 minutes all the food we brought had disappeared into bellies and into pant and shirt pockets and socks. While adults drove to the event and offered their service, it was the younger ones that took charge, eager to serve in ways they could – chatting with others, serving with smiles and good cheer, praying and worshipping. By 12:00pm we were packing up our supplies, saying goodbyes, and in a matter of a few moments the church transformed into a dusty underpass again awaiting the faith, hope and love brought by future trolls in the weeks to come. But as for us, we will always have a little troll in us that reminds us of the God that surrounds us and blesses us and uses us for the betterment of the world. A big thank you to all of those who donated time and gifts.

Tim Smith

# Happy Birthday!

10/3 Emily Singleton  
10/4 Jordan Hartsell  
10/6 Lisa Gale  
10/8 Ben Williams  
Greg Collins  
Jessica McBain  
10/9 Lauren Dixon  
10/10 Frances Smith  
10/13 Brooks Wilson  
10/14 Lauren Saams  
10/15 Hunter White  
10/17 David Hodgson  
Mary McBain  
10/18 Shannon Crelia  
Joshua Edling  
Bill Mathews

10/20 Ronda Scott  
10/23 Kay Allen  
Jim Collins  
Charlie Hammer  
Ronnie Lott  
Darby Washeck  
10/24 Sheila Hammer  
Alberto Villafana  
10/25 Cassie Lydick  
Laci Singleton  
10/27 Pat Brewster  
Frances Derrick  
Cort Farmer  
John Scholl  
10/31 Lindsey Mitchell

## Wednesday Church Night Schedule

6:00-6:35 p.m. Dinner  
6:40-7:25 p.m. Classes for everyone

## Wednesday Choir Schedule

4:30 - 5:00 Alleluia Chimes (Bell Room)  
5:00 - 5:50 Children's Choir (Choir Room)  
5:00 - 5:50 Youth Choir (Sanctuary)  
7:30 - 9:00 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)