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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**

**October 19, 2008**

**Ushers**

**8:45**

Clark Windle - Head Usher  
Jerry Patterson Daniel Alvarez  
Karen Hunt

**11:00**

Sheila Hammer - Head Usher  
Brenda Evans Linda Washeck  
Andy Leake Laci Singleton

**Parking Lot Greeters**

Eric Schwartz Gayle Rumbeck

**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 McDougale, 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  
Brian Weller, cousin of Shannon Crelia  
Garret Whitaker, grandson of friend of Melba Jeffus  
Jerry Williams, brother of Ben Williams



# First Presbyterian Church

**Mesquite, Texas**

(972) 285-5602

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

## *From the Pastor . . .*

I have long thought that we live in a world of ironies. And I thought of that last week when I heard that despite the difficult economic times many people are experiencing that some of these same people are expected to spend a near record six billion dollars on Halloween, on costumes, etc. Amazing!

What we do with our money says a lot about our priorities and about what means most to us. We are now in the time in the church year when we are thinking about our stewardship commitment effort for the coming year. As contrasted with what many people will spend on Halloween, the Bible tells us that what we do for the Lord, what we give to God, is never lost or in vain.

The theme of our stewardship emphasis this year is from Romans 12:11 "Serve the Lord with a heart full of devotion." Many of our people are doing that, and I want you to know of my deep gratitude. Good things happen when we give to God with hearts full of devotion. Yes, the Apostle Paul was right when he said: "Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

*Tom Wilbanks*

## **This Sunday**

This Sunday the Chancel Choir will sing at 8:45, and the Youth Choir will sing at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "The Life of Trust," based on Psalm 37:1-9

## **Congregational Meeting**

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting to be held during the 11 o'clock worship service on October 26, to hear the report of the Nominating Committee and to elect new church officers for the coming year.

Twenty-five names were suggested to the committee to serve as Deacons, and the committee nominated: Victor Carboni, Jan Hull, Harriet Jones, Andy Leake, Penny Palumbo, Lenny Pollard. In addition, Denise Bennett was suggested to fill an unexpired term.

Twenty names were suggested for the six places available for Elder, and the committee nominated Rick Aber, Diane Beal, Margie Pollard, Howard Saucier, Ronda Scott, and Eric Schwartz.

Seven names were suggested for Trustee, and the committee nominated Karen (Mrs. Dennis) Hunt.



Carter BloodCare will hold a blood drive in their mobile unit on our north parking lot this Sunday, October 19, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board near the church office. If you want to donate blood but have not yet signed up, please call the church office at 972-285-5602 and we can add your name to the list. This is an opportunity to give a gift that truly makes a difference.

## Session Highlights

This is a summary of the Session meeting on September 10 and October 8.

The report of the church treasurer, Pete Allen, indicated that the average weekly offering for August was \$8,716.84 and was under the amount needed to meet the church budget of \$9,791.33 but we did make the budget in September.

The Christian Education Committee report from Duane Moon noted that our new Director of Christian Education, Tim Smith, had set up a blog ([www.decorner.wordpress.com](http://www.decorner.wordpress.com)) as a resource for publicity, information, inspiration, outreach, and education. Tim said a new Youth Council had been formed to help decide on youth events and activities. He said the youth would like to have two youth Sundays, and the first will be November 16. Erin Williams and Lori Garver were approved as Co-directors of Wednesday Church Night. Howard Saucier submitted to the committee his final report as our interim youth coordinator which covered various youth activities and thanked the committee for their support, and the committee in turn expressed their appreciation for a job well done. Duane said that 3 members of the committee would meet with 3 members of the Worship Committee to go over the survey responses from the congregation and prepare a summary.

Roger Foltz, Chairman of the Mission Committee, said that the committee would begin soon on working on Thanksgiving baskets. He also said that next blood drive will be October 19.

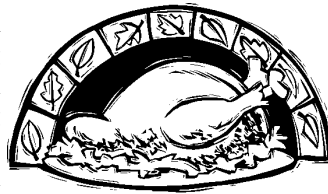
Johnny Graham, Chairman of the Worship Committee, gave an update on the plans for the video recording of our worship services and indicated the system would be in operation soon. Verlyn Smoker reported that after having to postpone the youth music tour last spring he had found an alternative possibility, an ecumenical youth choir organization which is having a weekend festival on the campus of Baylor University Feb. 23-24, and has made tentative arrangements for our youth choir to participate.

In other business, Larry Thomas was chosen as Chairman of the Committee on Committees, which enlists people to serve on various church committees, and Ferne Porter will serve as the second elder.

Paula Kusewitt, chair of the Church Budget & Stewardship Committee presented the 2009 church budget, and this was approved.

## Thanksgiving Baskets

The Mission Committee is asking for your help again this year in providing Thanksgiving meals to needy families in Mesquite through Sharing Life Community Outreach. The cost of each Thanksgiving basket this year is approximately \$35. We will be providing the money to Sharing Life rather than assembling the baskets ourselves since they are able to get quantity discounts through various sources. This is a way that individuals, or Sunday School classes, etc. can express gratitude for our many blessings - by sharing with those who are less fortunate. Please mark your contribution "Thanksgiving Basket" and place it in the offering plate on a Sunday in October.



## Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

The Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held at Eastminster Presbyterian Church Saturday, October 18. The keynote speaker will be Catreilia Hunter, Moderator of Churchwide PW, and Roberta Dodds Ingersoll will lead the worship service. Reservations are required. A group from our church will meet on the north parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and car-pool to this event.

## Goldenaires

The Goldenaires will meet at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, October 23, for a continuation of their study on *The Making of the New Testament Canon*. This group of senior citizens is always glad to welcome new participants for study, fellowship and light refreshments. If you haven't attended a Goldenaires meeting in the past, this would be a good month to begin. The meeting will be held in the youth hall.

Please contact the church office for Martha Whithurst's correct new address.

## Our Church Family . . .

Our sympathy is extended to GAIL THOMPSON and EDIE BRUNSON whose mother, Murline Brunson, died recently.

During our worship service on World Communion Sunday on October 5, we were pleased to have Guilder Rodriquez from Norte Presbytery in Guatemala with us. The Greater East Dallas Cluster of Presbyterian Churches has had a special relationship with that presbytery, and some of our members have done mission work there. Guilder presented our church with a beautiful table runner which was used on the communion table. Nine members of Norte Presbytery were in the Dallas area for a week, and one of them was at each of the cluster churches on World Communion Sunday. All nine of them were with us for our church picnic that Sunday evening. Kathy Brown, Chair of the Program Committee for the Church Night Suppers gave the blessing at the picnic - in Spanish and English!

We are glad that BEN ROBINSON is recovering from knee surgery.

There was an attempted burglary at the church at 4:30 in the morning on Friday, October 3. Fortunately the alarm system worked as it should and the damage was confined to two broken windows where the burglar tried to gain access to the building.

As most of our members know, our church has had a good relationship with Mike and Nancy Hanger who are Presbyterian medical missionaries in the Congo where Mike serves as a doctor and Nancy as a nurse. We are supporting their work financially and are pleased that they are going to be in the States doing mission interpretation next year and will be at our church Sunday, January 25. They will speak to the children's, youth, and adult classes in the fellowship hall that morning during Sunday School, will give a Moment for Mission during the worship services, and will be with us that evening for our annual Congregational Dinner meeting. We will want to continue to keep them in our prayers as they serve our Lord in an area of extreme poverty.

A large number of members from our church helped with Addressing Mesquite Day last Saturday and accomplished some helpful things for residents who otherwise would be unable to fix up their homes or yards or do needed repairs. Our thanks to all who participated.

## Church Picnic

A large crowd attended the church picnic on a nice fall evening on October 5. The evening concluded with a hymn sing and brief worship service. Our thanks to the Fellowship Committee for their help with the picnic and to Dave and Gayle Rumbeck who purchased all the supplies, and to Mark and Sharon Egan who grilled the hamburgers and hot dogs.



Pictured left to right: Dave & Deborah Edling, Lonnie & Sharon Lee, and Michael & Robbie Lee

## Men's Breakfast



All the men are invited to the Men's Breakfast on Sunday, October 26, at 7:30 a.m. We will have an outstanding program which will feature a video and presentation by Alex Priakos, the new Executive Director of Mesquite Social Services. Plans will also be discussed for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner to be hosted by the Men's Council. This will be the last Men's Breakfast for this year so plan to be with us for an interesting and informative program and a good breakfast.

## Relay for Life

The Relay for Life "Weez B Buds" team is starting their fundraising for the American Cancer Society with a garage sale on our north parking lot on October 25. Contact Gracy Thomas or Brenda Evans if you have items to donate.