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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

November 12, 2006

USHERS
8:45

Donna Barron - Head Usher
Don Black Daniel Alvarez Roger Samuels

11:00

Ronda Scott - Head Usher
Larry Thomas Clark Windle
Glynis Durham Bennett Miller

PARKING LOT GREETERS

Mary McBain Jerry Dressler

Please remember in prayer

Johnny Adams, brother of Ron Adams
Gary and Nancy Black
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle's mom
Edward Buechele, cousin of Kathy Uzzle
Jennie Childress, friend of Paula Kusewitt
Charla Corder, friend of Shannon Crelia
Brent Crelia
Bud Derrick
Karen Dixon
Frank Fischer, Susan Mathews' father
Adam Fort, son of Doug and Jan Fort
Dorothy Graham, friend of Ken & Judy Johnson
Joe Hammer, father-in-law of Sheila Hammer
Michael Haninger
Carla Haynes and son Caleb, friends of Dave Rumbeck
Taylor Howry, friend of Diane Marshall
Brandon Izzarelli, nephew of Robbie & Janice Robinson
Lesia Koday, friend of Susan Mathews
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard
Pam Lee, mother of Lauren Martin
Cheryl Lydick
Karen McCardell, friend of Laura Virgil
Ken McClure
Geraldine McDonald, friend of Laura Virgil
Clara and Raymond McLaughlin, sister & nephew of Wayne Thompson
Malcolm Marsden, friend of Laura Virgil
Linda Miller, mother of Jan Fort
Jimmy Dan Montgomery, Len McCurdy's brother
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni
Frank Ruiz, friend of Jim & Hope Sheppard
Don Sheppard, brother of Jim Sheppard
Jim Sheppard
Velia Sheppard and baby "Dallas", mother of Neill Sheppard
Gary Shields, brother of Ray Shields
Art Sikes, brother of Marilyn Saams
Clay Smith, son of Bob and Beth Smith
Steve Tyler, friend of Bob & Maurine Robinson
Laura Virgil
Garret Whitaker, grandson of friend of Melba Jeffus
The Whitlow family, friends of Chris and Paula Nelms
Ben Wynk, friend of Bernie & Lois DeRoo
Linda and John Young, cousins of Jimmy Gray



First Presbyterian Church

Mesquite, Texas

(972) 285-5602
www.fpcmesquite.org

From the Pastor . . .

Many will remember that earlier this month, on October 8, Shannon Crelia, gave a brief talk as part of our stewardship emphasis and spoke about how much our church had meant to her as a new member. As she spoke that Sunday, her husband, Brent, stood with her. Last week Brent was diagnosed with a brain tumor and is at Baylor Hospital. As I have visited with both of them, I have been reminded again of the importance of having a church home, not only when things are going well for us but in times when things are difficult. In the years I have been here, we have more of our members dealing with difficult medical problems now than I can ever recall before. But in every case, even in the midst of the difficulty, they have been grateful to be part of the church, part of a fellowship where we love and care and pray for one another.

And that brings us to some thoughts about this Sunday which is an important one since what happens this Sunday helps determine the vitality and mission and programs of our church for the coming year. This Sunday is Stewardship and Pledge Sunday. The Apostle Paul gave us two important principles for giving as Christians. He said that our giving should be in proportion to our income. And secondly, it should be regular, faithful, not haphazard. This is one reason a pledge is helpful and important.

There are many reasons why people give to God through His church. But the best reason is that we give because God first gave to us. He gave his Son to die on the cross so that we could be forgiven of our sins, be saved, and have new life. That forgiveness, that grace, should fill the hearts of all of us with gratitude.

We give to God – not to a church budget. But I have always felt that a church has a responsibility to use every dollar received as wisely and efficiently as possible, and a church budget helps to do that. And a

(continued)

lot of things are included in that budget – Christian education – music ministry, the electric bill, water bill, church bulletins, and the cost of mailing the newsletter you are reading at this moment. There is mission locally – and globally – mission within our own church and in the lives of people in this community and state and through Presbyterian missionaries in the far corners of the earth sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

I want to express my deep appreciation for the faithful, generous giving of so many of our people. This is a good church, and it has good people. This Sunday when we bring our pledge cards we can each help ensure that good things will continue to happen for the cause of Christ in this church and throughout the world.

Tom Wilbanks

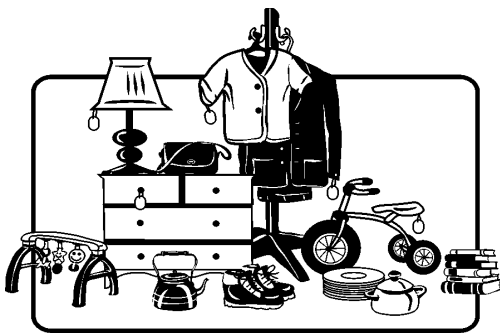
Flu Shots

Flu shots will be given at our church by members of the staff of Dr. Jesse Doyal's office this Sunday, November 12, after the 11:00 o'clock worship service in the classroom across from the choir room. The cost is \$25 cash (no checks, please).

This Sunday

This Sunday the Alleluia Choir will sing at 8:45, and the Cherub Choir, Presbyterians, and Chancel Choir will provide music at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "Walk in His Ways," based on Deuteronomy 30:16.

Pathfinders Garage Sale Saturday, November 11



This Saturday, November 11, PATHFINDERS will be holding a garage sale to raise funds for our mission trip next summer. The sale will be from 8 a.m. until noon. You may donate items by bringing priced items to the church this week.

Grace Presbytery's Annual Youth Celebration

The annual Grace Presbytery Youth Celebration will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Grapevine, Sunday, November 19. There is no cost for this extraordinary event, though an offering will be collected. This youth planned and led worship service is always special. We will have pizza here at 1:00 p.m. before driving to Grapevine, and should return in time for the Men's Council Thanksgiving Dinner. If you are interested in going, please let Cynthia know ASAP.

Third Quarter Contribution Reports

Third quarter contribution reports, reflecting your giving through September 30, 2006 are on the table in the hallway near the office. Please pick up yours Sunday. Thanks for your faithful giving.

Presbyterian Youth Triennium July 17-22, 2007

Presbyterian Youth Triennium is an international gathering where youth and their adult advisors experience first-hand the worldwide church. This event, held every three years at Purdue University, is a delegated event and students must be recommended by the Session of their congregation.

Eligible senior high students who will be between the ages of 15-19 by July, 2007, who are actively involved in the life of the congregation, and who meet qualifications in leadership and conduct, and who faithfully live out their Christian faith may be considered as delegates.

If you are interested, see Cynthia for an application. **Deadline for all applications to be turned in is NOVEMBER 15.**

The First Annual Undies Sunday!!



Pathfinders are collecting clothing for the MISD Clothes Closet, and on Sunday, November 26, we are asking for donations of new socks and underwear for boys and girls ages 5 through teens. Please place your donation in the box in the hall marked "MISD Clothes Closet."

Tom Thumb Reward Card



The next time you're at Tom Thumb, pick up a Reward Card application at the courtesy booth to fill out and link your card to our account. Tom Thumb will pay us a percentage of our account total, so be sure to use your card every time you shop. Our account number is 8752. All proceeds will be used to benefit our Wednesday Church Night activities.

Our Church Family . . .

BRENT CRELIA is at Baylor Hospital with a treatable brain tumor, and we will want to keep him and his wife Shannon and their family in our prayers. Things continue to be very difficult for BUD DER-RICK, and we will also want to continue to keep him and Frances in our prayers.

An excellent Church Night Supper was held last Sunday evening. The speaker was Jami Russell, Executive Director of Mesquite Social Services, a crisis relief agency serving Mesquite, Sunnyvale, Seagoville, and Balch Springs. Our church has had a long relationship with MSS. One of our members the late Haynes Hanby (Maurine Robinson's father), helped to establish Mesquite Social Services and was its first president. We support them through our mission giving and also through donations of food. During her talk Jami said they are seeing an increase in the poverty level in our area and also an increase in the requests they receive for assistance – electric bills, food, etc. She said they try to give a "hand up" rather than a "hand out" and help people with budgeting and other things that will help break the cycle of poverty.

During our worship service last Sunday, GRACE ELAINE NELMS and NOEL CATHERINE NELMS, daughters of CHRIS and PAULA NELMS, were baptized.

HENRY and SASHA KAPLAN have moved.

Child Care Workers Needed

We are taking applications for child care workers to care for the youngest members of our congregation. Applicants must be at least 16 years old. These are paid positions. If you are interested, contact Cynthia Petty at 972-285-5602.

Thanksgiving Baskets



The Mission Committee hopes to deliver 200 Thanksgiving baskets to Sharing Life Community Outreach on November 19, to be distributed to needy families in our community. If you have the desire to share your good fortune with others, this is a good opportunity to help. A basket costs \$30. The committee will accept monetary donations and will do the shopping for you with volume discounts that have been donated by Albertson's.

If you want to help with this project, please place your donation in the offering this Sunday and mark your check or pew envelope "Thanksgiving Basket."



Thanksgiving Dinner

Tickets will be on sale after both services this Sunday for the 82nd annual Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by our Men's Council to be held Sunday, November 19, at 6:00. The speaker this year will be *Dallas Morning News* columnist Steve Blow.

The tickets are \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children ages 12 and under, with no household paying more than \$18.00. Please note that tickets will NOT be sold the night of the dinner. Childcare will be provided for preschool children.