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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

November 19, 2006

USHERS

8:45

Jerry Dressler - Head Usher
Earlayne Martin Mac McDonald Cora Dugan

11:00

Eric Schwartz - Head Usher
Patrick Garver Daniel Alvarez
David Gardner Rebecca Smith

PARKING LOT GREETERS

Ronda Scott Billy Mark Gillispie

Please remember in prayer

Johnny Adams, brother of Ron Adams
Gary and Nancy Black
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle's mom
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 . . .

This Sunday is Thanksgiving Sunday, and it is one of my favorite Sundays of the year. I like the Thanksgiving hymns and anthems and others things which always make this such a special occasion. With all the catalogs and stores advertising Christmas merchandise, it is easy for a meaningful observance of Thanksgiving to get left out. But as Christians, we need to do better than that. God has blessed us and this nation in wonderful ways. May none of us be too busy or indifferent to worship this Sunday. Our services will truly be outstanding.

As we count our blessings this Thanksgiving, we are grateful for the good response by many of our people for our stewardship commitment effort for the coming year. It is significant that Thanksgiving and stewardship season occur at the same time. Because God has blessed us, we want to respond in gratitude. And one way we do this is through a pledge of support for the church. You will find information about the pledge total in another article.

I look forward to sharing the joy of worship with you on this Thanksgiving Sunday and giving thanks to God. May God grant to you a blessed Thanksgiving.

Tom Wilbanks

This Sunday



This Sunday is Thanksgiving Sunday which is always a memorable and great day in our church. The New Covenant Octet will sing at 8:45, and the Chancel Choir, Jubilate Ringers, and brass quartet will provide music at 11:00. Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "Rest and Be Thankful," based on Psalm 37:1-9.

Thanks for Your Pledge

We are grateful for those who have made pledges of support for our church for the coming year. As of Monday, November 13, we have 116 pledges for \$379,234 toward next year's budget of \$492,668, and 76.98% of the budget is pledged. This compares to 123 pledges for \$368,288 and 79.31% pledged at this time last year. While the number of pledges is slightly lower than last year on this date, the pledge total is about \$10,000 higher.

The stewardship theme this year is "Walk in His Ways," based on Deuteronomy 30:16. In carrying out this theme, a "walkway" is on the wall near the church office with names of members who have pledged. We thank you for walking in His ways through your pledge!



*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 this 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.

Session Highlights

The November 8 meeting of the Session began with sharing prayer concerns.

The church treasurer, Pete Allen, gave the monthly financial report which indicated that because of the faithful giving of our people, we met the church budget as we have so far each month this year.

Among communications received were several "thank you" letters from pastors and spouses who attended a regional Wee Kirk Conference sponsored by Presbyterians for Renewal. These conferences are held yearly for pastors and spouses who are serving small churches, and we have supported these through our mission giving.

Phil Johnson gave the report of the Christian Education Committee and said that in regard to the matter of teen driving policies referred to the committee at the last Session meeting, that the committee unanimously approved a Covenant to deal with this which both the youth and their parents will sign, and this was approved by the Session. The Session also approved a recommendation to change the minimum age of approved drivers for youth events to 25 instead of 21.

Roger Foltz gave the report of the Mission Committee and spoke about the Thanksgiving basket project for needy families.

Dr. Wilbanks said he and Marilyn Saams met with three companies in regard to our new pictorial church directory and recommended that we go with Life Touch Church Directories. Photography would be February 20-24 and March 16-17.

The Session approved the women's retreat to be held March 23-24.

The Session elected an additional commissioner, John Kusewitt, to attend the November meeting of Grace Presbytery at North Park Presbyterian along with Margie Pollard, elected at the last meeting, and Dr. Wilbanks

Dr. Wilbanks showed a sketch of the proposed stained glass window to be installed on the south side of the sanctuary in memory of Kathy Krajca. The Session had previously approved the window being installed from money received from memorial gifts and approved the sketch (also approved by the family) which was prepared by Kerble Stained Glass Studio in Dallas. The window will be installed after the first of the year.

(continued)

A member of the Session said she thought it would be good to remind those attending worship of the sign that asks that drinks, coffee, and food not be taken into the sanctuary, and the Session concurred in this.

Presbyterian Youth Triennium July 17-22, 2007

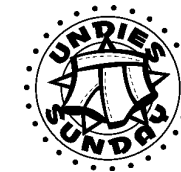
Presbyterian Youth Triennium is an international gathering where youth and their adult advisors experience first-hand the worldwide church. This event, held every three years at Purdue University, is a delegated event and students must be recommended by the Session of their congregation

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.**

Clothing Drive for the MISD Clothes Closet

Pathfinders are collecting clothes for the MISD Clothes Closet. Clothing should be in good shape and meet the requirements of the MISD standard dress code for junior and senior high students, or nice school clothing for elementary age students.



Also, as a part of this project on Sunday, November 26 (Undies Sunday), we are asking for donations of new socks and underwear for boys and girls ages 5 through teens. Please place your donations in the box in the hall marked "MISD Clothes Closet."

Our Church Family . . .

As of Monday, November 13, BRENT CRELIA was still at Baylor Hospital. BUD DERRICK is also now at Baylor Hospital. JIM SHEPPARD is scheduled for knee surgery Friday, November 17, at Baylor.

Congratulations to LAUREN DIXON who was crowned homecoming queen at Mesquite High School and to KRYS BUERCK who was chosen homecoming king.

There will not be a church newsletter next week, and the church office will be closed Thursday and Friday. We wish for all members and friends of our church a blessed Thanksgiving.

Come Decorate for Christmas



We will decorate the church for Christmas on the Wednesday after Thanksgiving, on November 29, starting at 9:00 a.m. We will be grateful for men and women who will come lend a helping hand. Ronda Scott will be in charge this year. Our church is always beautiful at Christmas, but we do need your help. Thanks!

Mesquite Symphony

The Mesquite Symphony Orchestra will celebrate the 250th anniversary of W.A. Mozart with a concert this Saturday, November 18, at the Mesquite Arts Center at 7:30 p.m.

Community Thanksgiving Service



The annual Community Thanksgiving Service sponsored by the Mesquite Ministers' Association will be held this Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00 at Creek Crossing Assembly of God, 2600 East Glen. To reach the church, you can go east on Davis Street which becomes East Glen. Dr. Wilbanks is President of the Mesquite Ministers' Association this year.

Youth Mission Trip 2007

Details for the youth mission trip to San Antonio next June were handed out Sunday to interested students and parents (info was mailed to those who could not attend). We will be participating in S.A.V.E. (San Antonio Volunteer Experience). Through SAVE we will stay at Travis Park United Methodist church and do a variety of projects in this urban area.

This trip for youth in the 8th grade and older, will be the last week in June, tentatively Sunday, June 24, through Friday, June 29, and the estimated cost is \$300 per person. A \$50 deposit is required by December 1, for those interested in going. Please know that financial assistance is available and confidential. Please see Cynthia if there are any questions.



Pathfinders Covenant of Conduct and notarized medical release forms have been distributed. We must have these forms completed and returned to the office prior to any activity taking us away from the property. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

Remember Pathfinders . . . our annual Progressive Dinner will be on December 9, so save that date. Stay tuned for details.

Grace Presbytery's Annual Youth Celebration will be held this Sunday, November 19. We will have pizza here before leaving to attend the service at 3:00 in Grapevine. We will return in time for the Men's Thanksgiving Dinner at 6:00. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Cynthia by November 15.