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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 S BELT LINE RD
MESQUITE TX 75149

Return Service Requested

SERVING THIS SUNDAY
November 22, 2009

Ushers
8:45

Darby Washeck - Head Usher
Brenda Evans Bruce Buswell
Anne Buswell

11:00

Liz Ramsey - Head Usher
Gayle Rumbeck Kirk Dixon
Bernie DeRoo Emily Ramsey

Parking Lot Greeter
Denise Bennett

Please remember in prayer

Philip Arroyo, cousin of Robbie Lee
Betty Aubert
Don Black
Esther Boatman, Kathy Uzzle's mom
Jim Brewster
Eve Brice
Pam Combs, friend of Sheila Hammer
Lynette Copeland, friend of Julia Walker
Bob D'Amato, friend of the DeRoos
Carol Dwinnell, friend of Hope Sheppard
Steve Fischer, brother of Susan Mathews
Adam Fort
Wayland Gordon, father of Gwenda Aber
Margaret Green, friend of Susan Mathews
Frances Hair, mother of Phil Johnson
Judy Johnson
Don Jones, father-in-law of Justin Rich
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard
Cheryl Martin
Wanda & V.W. Martin, Joel Martin's parents
Sylvia Martinez, friend of Gayle Rumbeck
Ken McClure
Wanda McDougale, Ronda Scott's mother
Margie McGee, Mary McBain's mother
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni
Dennis Patterson, father of Jerry Patterson
Leslie Reynolds, friend of Paula Kusewitt
Dave Rumbeck
Don Sheppard, Jim Sheppard's brother
Henry & Beth Skidmore, Cindy Jenkins' parents
Clay Smith, son of Bob and Beth Smith
Cole John Stone, friend of the Rumbecks
Fernita Swalin, friend of Hope Sheppard
Justin Taylor, nephew of Jerry & Harriet Jones
Ted Turner, brother of Terry Turner
Joyce Welch, great aunt of Ronnie & Amanda Aynes



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 other things which 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. Some years our attendance on Thanksgiving Sunday has not been what it should have been. But we have much to be thankful for, and I encourage you to make it a priority to be here. It will be a wonderful service of praise and thanksgiving.

As we count our blessings this Thanksgiving, we are grateful for the response by many of our people for our stewardship commitment effort 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.

This Sunday is also the occasion of our annual Thanksgiving dinner provided by our Men's Council. We are pleased that Rose Mary Rumbley will make a return visit as our speaker.

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.

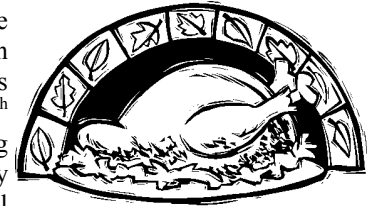
Tom Wilbanks

This Sunday

This Sunday is Thanksgiving Sunday which is always a memorable and great day in our church. An octet will sing at 8:45, and the Chancel Choir and Jubilate Ringers will provide music at 11:00. Dr Wilbanks will give the sermon "Postmark - Plymouth."

Thanksgiving Dinner

Tickets will be on sale after both worship services this Sunday for the 85th annual Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by our Men's Council



to be held this Sunday, November 22, at 6:00 p.m. We are glad that the inimitable Rose Mary Rumbley will make a return as our speaker. If you have ever heard her before, you will want to hear her again!

The tickets are \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children ages 12 and under, with no household paying more than \$18. Childcare will be provided for preschool children. Come join others in our church family for a good thanksgiving dinner and delightful program.

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting to be held during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on November 29, to fill a vacancy on the Board of Deacons.

Come Decorate for Christmas



We will decorate the church for Christmas on Wednesday, December 2, 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. Our church is always beautiful at Christmas, but we need your help. Thanks!

Chancel Choir Advent Celebration Service

The season of Thanksgiving is nearly here, and another significant season in the life of our church is just around the corner. The season of Advent begins the Sunday immediately following Thanksgiving day, November 29, and we will observe the season by lighting the wreath with its five candles and with special offerings of music. One of these musical offerings will be presented by the Chancel Choir in both worship services on Sunday, December 6 – the second Sunday of Advent. On that day the Chancel Choir, along with a professional string quintet, will present a selection of inspirational choral music telling the story of the coming of Christ to redeem his people. Central to the morning will be the piece entitled “The Little New Born Jesus Child,” by Deitrich Buxtehude a one time teacher of Johann Sebastian Bach. The choir will present this musical offering for both the 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. services providing an excellent opportunity for you to invite friends and family to our church.

Advent is a season of joyful anticipation as we look forward to the celebration of Christ’s birth on Christmas day and prepare our hearts and homes for the festivities. Advent is also a season of expectation as we are reminded of the purpose and significance of Christ’s coming and eagerly await his victorious return. May His name be praised by us all during this joyous season of the year.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Verlyn Smoker

Community Thanksgiving Service

The annual Community Thanksgiving Service sponsored by the Mesquite Ministers’ Association will be held this Tuesday, November 24, at 7:30 p.m. at Shiloh Terrace Baptist Church, 9810 La Prada, just over the Mesquite border in Dallas.

Mesquite Symphony

This Saturday, November 21, at 7:30 p.m. the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra will present “Asian Journey.” Three of our members are part of the orchestra.

“Mighty Acts of God” Adult Wednesday Night Live Workshop

This book is one that has captured imagination and has been read for years and years. Beverlee Witty began teaching a workshop on this book and is back again for a few weeks on Wednesday nights to cover the subject matter and lead discussion. Come prepared to be enlivened and challenged. This workshop will be at 6:45 on Wednesday evenings from November 18, through December 9. We’ll look forward to seeing you there.

A Word of Thanks . . .

The Mission Committee would like express thanks to all those who gave blood here on October 18. There were 21 donations at this most recent blood drive, and a representative of Carter Blood Care informed us that our donations over the past 2 years have saved about 110 lives. Your donations are appreciated - and needed.

Presbyterian Women Circles

The Morning Circle will meet Tuesday, December 1, at 10:00 a.m.. Cora Dugan will lead the Bible study which will be followed by a covered dish luncheon with Marilyn Saams and Carol Evans serving as hostesses. The devotional will be given by Roxanne Martin. Please bring unwrapped toys and canned goods for Sharing Life Community Outreach .

The Night Circle will meet the same day at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Brenda Adams for their annual Christmas party. Please bring a dish for a pot luck dinner (Brenda will provide the meat) and a gift for exchange (\$10 limit).

Sunday Night Alive

A *Sunday Night Alive* service will be held Sunday evening, November 29, at 5:00 in the fellowship hall. This contemporary worship service will include a band, a variety of music, prayer, scripture, and a brief meditation by Tim Smith for the first Sunday of Advent. “Come as you are” and plan to stay for refreshments and fellowship after the service.

Our Church Family . . .

Last Sunday was a special day in our church as we dedicated the historical marker presented to our church by the Texas State Historical Commission. Three representatives from the Dallas County Historical Commission were here for the dedication. The dedication service was followed by a delightful Lemonade on the Lawn hosted by the Christian Fellowship Sunday School class on a beautiful fall day, and a large crowd attended. There was a nice article about the marker dedication in the *Mesquite News* last Thursday, November 12, and in the *Neighbors* section of *The Dallas Morning News* this past Saturday, November 14. Both articles are on the bulletin board near the church office.

It has been good to see LONNIE LEE back at church following a heart attack. And we are pleased that KAY ALVAREZ, CORA DUGAN, and CHERYL LYDICK have been able to be back following recent hospitalizations.

Our sympathy is extended to GREG FARR whose mother, Sylvia Farr, died October 30, in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina.

At their meeting on October 25, the Men’s Council elected new officers. STAN JEFFUS is the new President; LARRY THOMAS is Vice-President, and ROGER FOLTZ will serve as treasurer.

Our best wishes are extended to MATT UZZLE and AUGUST TROY who were married at our church on November 7.

Congratulations to RICK and GWENDA ABER on the birth of grandson Joshua Evan on October 29. Parents are Scot and Robyn Trantham.

Please note that the communion service usually held at the 8:45 service on the first Sunday of each month will be held on the second Sunday of December because of a special choir program at both services on December 6.

Our thanks to a wonderful group of people who helped with a work day at the church on October 31. Those who helped were: Lenny Pollard, Ron Bettis, Dale Pollard, Wade Marshall, Toni and Anna Wilson, Jan Hull, Paula Kusewitt, Linda Fricke, Mike Lee, Brenda Evans, Rich and Barbara Follansbee, Clark Windle, Sarina and Amanda Mayfield, Denise Bennett, Nick Scholl, Victor Carboni, and Roger Samuels.

We wish for all the members and friends of our church a blessed Thanksgiving. The church office will be closed November 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving.

First Presbyterian Church HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Saturday, December 5 - Noon-5:00 p.m.



Come support our church family and friends with their businesses and get some holiday shopping done too! We will have a variety of vendors with a wide range of products and services, crafts and food items for sale. Proceeds from vendor and sponsor registration fees will go to the Deacons’ Fund. If you are interested in being a vendor or sponsor, visit www.fpcbazaar.org or contact Kathy Cummings at info@fpcbazaar.org. You may also download and fill out the registration form from the site to fill out and submit with your \$30 vendor/sponsor fee. Forms will also be available in the church office.

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 16, we have 135 pledges for \$406,362 toward next year’s budget of \$515,695, and 78.65% of the budget is pledged. Thankfully, we are running ahead of last year when at this time we had 132 pledges for \$384,232.

The stewardship theme this year is from a passage in the book of Colossians that says: “Keep your roots deep in (Christ) and be filled with thanksgiving.” The display carrying out this theme is on the wall near the church office with names of members who have pledged, and we thank you for having a heart “filled with thanksgiving” as reflected in your financial pledge in support of our church.

Watch out for flamingos!

