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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**  
**December 24, 2006**  
*(one service only)*

**USHERS**

11:00

Jennifer Gardner - Head Usher  
Joel Sexton Cenia Bowen  
Penny Palumbo Meredith Miller

**PARKING LOT GREETERS**

Darby Washeck Breck Bennett

**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  
Bud Derrick  
Karen Dixon  
Richard Edwards, brother of Philip Edwards  
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  
Tom Kidd, brother of Beverlee Witty  
Lesia Koday, friend of Susan Mathews  
Virginia Ledbetter, friend of Hope Sheppard  
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  
Clifford Moon  
Michelle Nall, sister of Karen Carboni  
Frank Ruiz, friend of Jim & Hope Sheppard  
Don Sheppard, brother of Jim Sheppard  
Jim Sheppard  
Velia Sheppard, 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](http://www.fpcmesquite.org)

## *From the Pastor . . .*

This Sunday morning we will have a glorious worship service at 11:00, and then that evening we will have two beautiful Candlelight Christmas Eve services at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. May none of us be so busy with our Christmas that we leave Christ out. I encourage you to be here and to invite a friend to worship with you.

This is our last newsletter for this year, and I want to thank the congregation for your friendship, service, support, and for the gift given to me Sunday night. In the providence of God, many good things have happened in our church and in people's lives this year. I continue to be grateful to be able to serve as pastor of this good church. My family and I wish for you a joyous and blessed Christmas.

In addition to our services this Sunday, other special services are before us. On December 31, we will observe Christian Student Sunday by recognizing our college students and will ordain and install new church officers. On January 7, we will resume having two worship services at 8:45 and 11:00 and will observe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. I can't think of a better way to begin a New Year than at the Lord's Table.

In the meantime, I look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday in the beauty of our sanctuary. In the words of the glorious Christmas carol we will open our service with this Sunday morning:

*Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing  
Come, adore, on bended knee  
Christ, the newborn King.*

*Tom Wilbanks*

## **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**



Christmas  
Eve  
Service

Plan to attend one of our beautiful Christmas Eve Candlelight services this Sunday evening at 5:30 or 7:30. The Chancel Choir and Jubilate Ringers will provide music, there will be congregational singing of carols, and Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "On the Road to Christmas." This year we are providing battery operated "candles" for children.

## **Congregational Meeting**

The Session has called a brief Congregational Meeting to be held during the 11:00 o'clock worship service this Sunday, December 24, to elect a new Trustee to fill a vacancy on the Board of Trustees. Ellen Mallum will be nominated by the Nominating Committee chaired this year by Pete Allen.

## **This Sunday**

This Sunday we will have ONE morning worship service at 11:00. The Chancel Choir will sing, and Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "Repeat the Sounding Joy." Sunday School will be held as usual at 9:45. That evening we will have two Christmas Eve services at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. The Jubilate Ringers and Chancel Choir will provide music, and Dr. Wilbanks will give the sermon "On the Road to Christmas." These will be great and glorious services. Invite a friend to worship with you, and come and worship Christ!

## Welcome New Members!

We are happy to welcome the following new members who joined our church on December 17.



TISH LEAKE



ELAINE PRESBY

## 2007 Daily Devotional Guides Available

*A Year with the Bible*, featuring suggested Bible readings for each day of the year, is available in the literature racks for 50¢. These booklets also have prayers which can be used for family or personal use. *These Days*, our church's daily devotional guide for January-February, is also available in the literature racks for 25¢.

## College Students

On Sunday, December 31, we will recognize our college students at the 11 o'clock service. There is only ONE service that day. Two of our college students will assist in leading the worship service. As you can tell from the following list, we have many in college, and it is a little hard to keep track of all of them. If there are changes or additions to this list, please let us know.

Matthew Almas	UT San Antonio
Brittany Bealmear	Texas A & M Commerce
Keight Bettis	Kansas State
Tim Black	McMurry College
Whitney Bright	University of Arkansas
Greg Carboni	Richland College
Jaime Collins	Austin College
Jonathan Dixon	UT Austin
Maggie Ellis	Sam Houston State
Cort Farmer	Baylor
Drew Farmer	UT Austin
Brady Grubbs	Eastfield College
Jessica Hartsell	UNT
Tyler Hebert	Midwestern State
Carrie Jenkins	Texas A & M Commerce
Dan Lindberg	UNT
Will Lindberg	TCU
Chelsea Martin	UNT
Kelli McBain	Indiana University
Dane Patterson	University of Nebraska
David Saams	University of the Ozarks
Lauren Saams	UNT
Angela Sather	Richland College
Aaron Scott	UNT
Brian Scott	UT Austin
Emily Singleton	Richland College
Megan Smith	UTD
Sally Windle	UNT
Stephen Wright	El Centro College

### · FLOWER CHART ·



The flower chart for 2007 has been posted near the church office. If you would like to provide flowers for a particular Sunday, please sign your name by the date you choose.

## Our Church Family . . .

BUD DERRICK is now at VITAS Inpatient Hospice Unit, at 2425 Texas Drive in Irving. DAVID BAYS is at Zale Lipshy Hospital in Dallas. BILL WHITHURST is home following his surgery on December 11.

MARTY and DIANNA McCALMONT have moved back to Mesquite to help take care of Dianna's mother, Doris Hicks.

Our children's and youth choirs provided a nice program for our annual Lessons and Carols last Sunday evening. We appreciate the parents who get their children here for rehearsals.

Many thanks to SARAH (Mrs. Johnny) GRAHAM for creating the striking "star" banners being used to illustrate the children's sermons and wreath lighting ceremonies during Advent. A special thanks to Ronda Scott for creating stars to match for the tree in the sanctuary.

Congratulations to SARAH PETTY who received an associate's degree in medical assisting from Westwood College on December 16.

The Board of Deacons elected new officers at their December meeting. LARRY THOMAS will continue as Moderator; JENNIFER GARDNER is Vice-Moderator; and RONDA SCOTT is Secretary. DONNA BARRON is the new Chair of the Church Budget and Stewardship Committee, and PATRICK GARVER is the new Chairman of the Property Committee.

There were pictures of several of our members in the Mesquite Neighbors section of *The Dallas Morning News* last Saturday. There was a picture of HOPE LAWRENCE SHEPPARD at the Dinner Under the Cedars at the Opal Lawrence Historical Park, and CHARLENE ORR and her granddaughter, MADISON, at the same event in November. There was also a nice picture of CASSIE LYDICK at the Christmas in the Park event on December 7. All of these pictures are on the bulletin board by the church office.

Please note that we will have ONE worship this Sunday morning at 11:00. Sunday School will be held as usual at 9:45. There will also be one worship service on December 31. We will resume two services on January 7, when we will observe the Sacrament of the

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Lord's Supper. The church office will be closed Tuesday, December 26. The Christmas decorations at the church will be taken down Wednesday, January 3, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and we will be grateful to men and women who will come lend a helping hand. We wish for all our church family a joyous and blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with good health and happiness.

## !!Attention Pathfinders!!

### Movie Madness!!

Join us at the church at 7 p.m. on Wednesday nights, December 20 and 27, for movie madness. Admission is a non-perishable food item for Sharing Life Community Outreach.

### And don't forget . . .

The Covenant of Conduct and notarized medical release forms have been distributed and need to be returned to the office.

## Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings



The Morning Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 2, with Cora Dugan leading the Bible study and Gini Gray serving as hostess for refreshments. The Night Circle will meet the same day at 7:00 p.m. in the youth hall with Brenda Evans and Susan Scholl leading the Bible study. Begin the New Year by joining other women of the church for Bible study and fellowship.

# Happy Birthday!

1/3	Roxanne Martin	1/16	Zachary Krajca
1/4	Michael H. Lee	1/17	Martha Sheppard-Mahaffey
	Adretra Reynolds	1/18	Patrick Garver
	Mitchell Smith		David Saams
1/6	Tony Brown		Chris Uzzle
	Bud Derrick	1/19	John Smoker
	Aaron Scott		Kelli Smoker
	Beverlee Witty	1/21	Kelli McBain
1/8	Monica Mitchell	1/23	Byron Collins
1/9	Emily Ramsey	1/25	Marshall Alford
1/10	Bart Mitchell	1/26	Lori Garver
1/11	Stephen Wright		Susan Leake
1/12	Jenny Burkhalter		Kathy Uzzle
	Elaine Hoffman	1/27	Harper Cummings
	Ed Hudson	1/28	Gini Gray
1/15	Kim Beal	1/31	Travis Windle
	Taylor Hammer		

## Wednesday Church Night Schedule

6:00 - 6:25	Dinner
6:30 - 7:30	Classes for everyone

## Wednesday Choir Schedule

4:45 - 5:15	Alleluia Chimes (grades 3 - 6) Bell Room
5:00 - 6:00	Youth Choir (grades 7- 12) Sanctuary
5:15 - 6:00	Cherub Choir (age 5 - grade 2) Genesis Classroom
5:15 - 6:00	Alleluia Choir (grades 3-6) Choir Room
6:30 - 7:00	Hope Choir (ages 3 - 4) Enquiry Classroom
7:30 - 9:00	Chancel Choir (grades 9 - adult) Choir Room