

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 6, 2008

Epiphany Sunday

11:00 A.M.

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor
Invocation

Prelude "Three Kings of Orient" Linker
Dr. Steven Mowery, Organist

*The Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 34
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*Opening Sentences

*Hymn "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" No. 87

Children's Sermon

New Testament Reading Matthew 2:1-12 Pew Bible, p. 2
Dot Campbell, Reader

*Hymn "We Three Kings" No. 233

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers Insert

Prayers of Confession, Thanksgiving, and Intercession

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "When Jesus Came to Jordan" Green
Chancel Choir

*Response "We Give Thee but Thine Own" (Verse 1) No. 688
*We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be: all that we have is thine
alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

*Prayer of Dedication

Sermon Scripture Reading Mark 6:7-29 Insert
Sermon "A Case of Mistaken Identity" Dr. Brown

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

If you trust Jesus Christ as Savior and follow him as Lord, you are invited to participate regardless of your church membership or denominational affiliation. Please commune as you receive the elements.

*Invitation and Benediction

*Response "The Lord's Prayer" No. 740
*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

*Postlude "One Bread, One Body" Schmoltze

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* Those who are able will please stand.

If you are our guest today, welcome! We're so glad you're here. For more information, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad and pick up a "Welcome Home" folder in the Parlor.

You can become a member of First Presbyterian TODAY by your profession of faith, transfer of church membership, or reaffirmation of faith. Please speak with a pastor during the time of refreshments following today's service.

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. Assisted listening devices are available from the sound console at the back of the sanctuary. Recordings of the 11:00 a.m. service are available at the sound console at the back of the sanctuary.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Sisters in Christ.

Today is Epiphany Sunday in the Christian calendar. This day observes God's self-disclosure to all people throughout the world, as illustrated by the Wise Men in Matthew's Gospel. We celebrate Epiphany Sunday with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Congregational Meeting Today: As prescribed in the PCUSA Book of Order, the Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, January 6, 2008, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, to receive information about the 2008 church budget and to approve related changes in the pastors' terms of call.

This morning at 11:00, Dr. Fred Coates, our Associate Pastor is preaching and presiding over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at our sister congregation, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church, Mooresville.

OFFICERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Clay Brown, Moderator

Class of 2008

C.P. Chappell
Roger Hyatt
Bill Lackey
Scott Mauney
Eddie Nelson
Trent Newell
Steve Robinson

2008 SESSION

Dr. Frederick A. Coates

Class of 2009

Christine B. Ahearn
Karen O. Brawley
F. Michael Campbell, MD
Philip L. Heilman
Weldon M. Hitchcock
Thermond E. Thompson
J. Scott Vaughan

CP Chappell, Clerk

Class of 2010

David W. Brooks, II
Diane M. Harrington
Donald F. Howie
Joyce S. Johnson
Thomas R. Kirkland, Jr.
W. Smith Kirk
Mark E. McNeely

2008 DIACONATE

Jim McDonnell, Moderator

Class of 2008

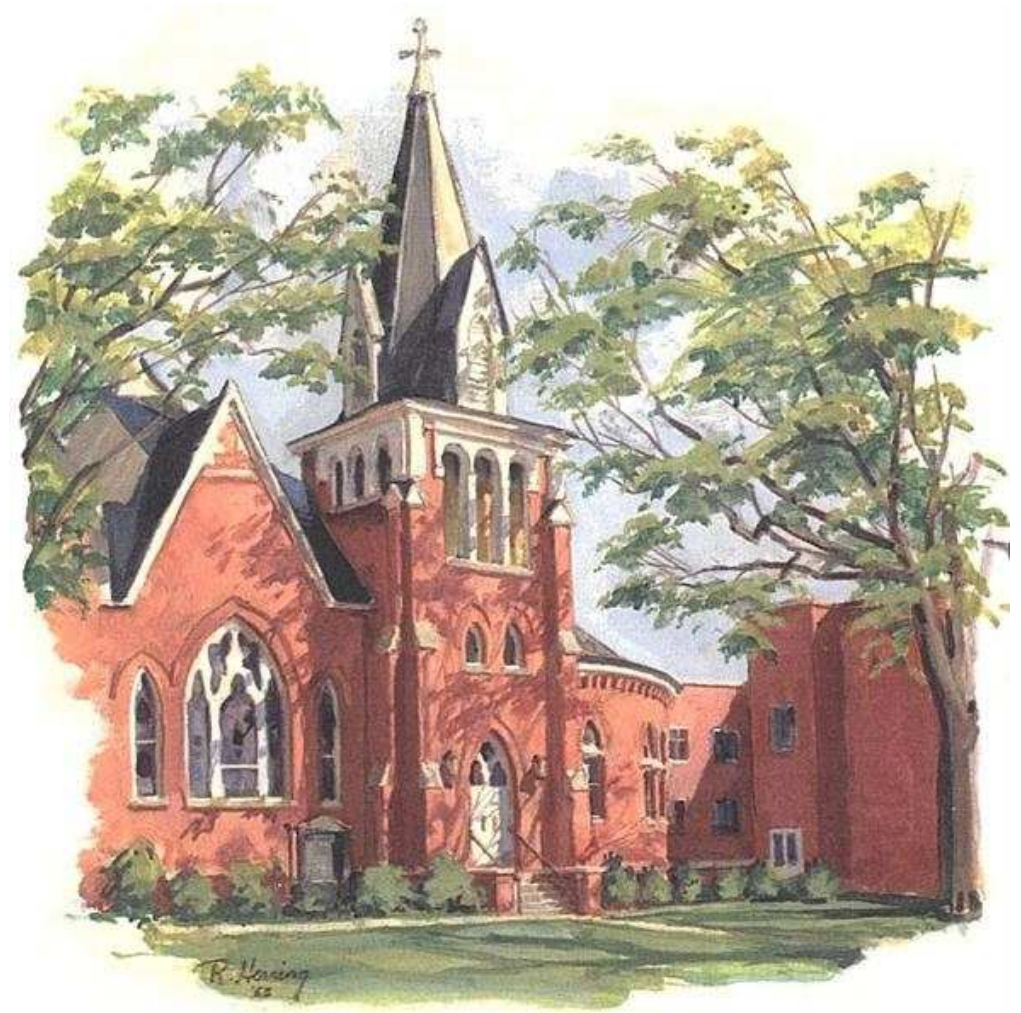
Don Copeland
Neil Faulkenberry
Gretchen Little
Carol McClure
Jim McDonnell
Scott Ray
Susan Williams

Class of 2009

Dale W. Brawley
John G. Donelson
Judy L. Cole
Eric H. Estes
C. Marshall Horsman, Jr.
Kathleen H. Irwin
Julie R. Morrow

Class of 2010

Kathy B. Ballard
Laura E. Bates
Lynn T. Brooks
Rebecca B. Deal
Janice S. Puer
J. Patrick Stutts
Anthony M. Woodring



Loving God... Loving People... Making Disciples

**January 6, 2008
11:00 A.M. Worship**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina 28115
(704) 664-5275 ♦ www.mooresvillefirstpres.org

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PASTORS

*The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor/Head of Staff..... clay@mooresvillefirstpres.org
The Rev. Dr. Fred A.H. Coates, Associate Pastor.....associate@mooresvillefirstpres.org
Associate Pastor for Youth/Youth Director (Vacant—Search in Progress)*

PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF

*Alan Sledge, Director of Music/Interim Youth..... musicdirector@mooresvillefirstpres.org
Ellen Auten, Director of Christian Education..... dce@mooresvillefirstpres.org
Nancy Kortright, Director of Preschool.....preschool@mooresvillefirstpres.org
LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer.....treasurer@mooresvillefirstpres.org
Nellie Goodman, Secretary.....secretary@mooresvillefirstpres.org
Billy Black, Sexton Jerilyn Fair, Hostess Dr. Steven Mowery, Organist*

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

Class of 2010 ♦ January 6, 2008

Duties of Elders in the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Elders are charged with leading the congregation spiritually and providing oversight for its ministry. The Scriptural qualifications are summarized by our Book of Order:

“Together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament, they [elders] exercise leadership, government, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a particular church as well as the church at large... Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world... It is the duty of elders, individually and jointly, to strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation committed to their charge” (G-6.0302, 6.0303 and 6.0304).

Duties of Deacons in the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Deacons are not “elders in training.” Instead they are charged with leading the congregation in its ministries of compassion and care. The Scriptural qualifications are summarized by our Book of Order:

“The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office... It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith” (G-6.0401, 6.0402).

Constitutional Questions to Church Officers

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of

Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church’s polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God’s Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

(For Elders Only) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

(For Deacons Only) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people’s help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Constitutional Questions to the Congregation

Leader: Do we, the members of the church, accept as elders David Brooks, Diane Harrington, Don Howie, Joyce Johnson, Tom Kirkland, Smith Kirk, and Mark McNeely, and accept as deacons Kathy Ballard, Laura Bates, Lynn Brooks, Becky Deal, Janice Pluer, Patrick Stutts, and Tony Woodring, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

People: We do.

Leader: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

People: We do.

Prayer and Laying On of Hands

Statement of Ordination and Installation

Welcome to New Officers

Calendar (Week of January 6 - 13, 2008)

- Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Worship with Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. - New Year's Church School Social
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship with Holy Communion, Ordination and Installation of officers
12:00 noon - Congregational Meeting
3:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl ministry in the parlor
5:00 p.m. - Catechism Club in room 322
5:15 p.m. - Alpha & Omega PYF
5:30 p.m. - Logos/MSM parent meeting in the library
6:00 p.m. - Chili Cook-off and an evening with the Waddells of Mwandí
- Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts
7:30 p.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates
- Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - Moms in Touch
10:00 a.m. - Circle of Faith (No. 4) in the parlor
12:00 p.m. - Women of the Word (No. 5) at Mary Fortanbary's home
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner
4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM – Stuffed Animal/PJ Night
6:15 p.m. - HS Supper Club at Tony's Pizza
7:30 p.m. - Mwandí Mission Trip Information Meeting in Room 300
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home
6:00 p.m. - Fun & Fellowship at Golden Corral
6:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
- Friday: 10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study in the parlor
- Sunday 1/13 8:30 a.m. - Worship
8:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship
4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF
5:30 p.m. - Catechism Club in room 322
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF
6:30 p.m. - Committee Meetings
TBA - Diaconate Meeting

Recent Prayer Requests: The London Family; Janet Bittinger; Jan Stillwell's father; Anita Teeter; Terry Stevens; Curtis Blake, Cathy Brown's father; Martha Andrews; Charles Dixon; Sr. A Tim Irwin, USAF; and QM 3 SW Laban Thompson and shipmates on the USS Guardian.

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Announcements

The Chili Cook-Off is this evening! The Missions Committee will sponsor the annual Chili Cook-off at 6:00 p.m. tonight. Voting for the “best chili” will be done by contributing dollar bills (any denomination) to your favorite cook’s tally (advance commitments are strongly encouraged). Lake Norman Fellowship (our daughter church) has accepted a special cook-off challenge and intends to “win” our event (all proceeds will be used to meet our Mwandu Endowment pledge), so plenty of congregational support is a must. In addition, Keith and Ida Waddell, our missionaries serving in Mwandu, Zambia, will be joining us and sharing a special presentation about their work going on in Africa. You really don’t want to miss out on this!

Logos/MSM: There will be Logos/MSM parent meeting this evening at 5:30 p.m. in the church library. This meeting is for all new participants and any parent who did not attend a first semester parent meeting. Second semester begins this Wednesday, January 9; tuition payment of \$45 is due by this Wednesday. Call Valerie Mauney (704-663-7540) if you have questions about the Logos/MSM program.

Catechism Club: Catechism Club will meet tonight from 5:00-5:30 p.m. in Room 322.

Women’s Bible Study: A women’s Bible study, *Life Management for Busy Women: Living Out God’s Plan with Passion and Purpose*, will begin this Friday, January 11, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the church parlor. The study will be led by Ellen Auten; cost for materials is \$6. A nursery will be provided, with advance reservations. Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in attending.

Martí Estes 5K - Mooresville Community Walk of Faith, April 19, 2008: Registration forms for the race/walk are now available in the Church parlor or you can register online at www.activezach.com/events/eventDetails.cfm?pEventId=2312, or by clicking on the link on the Church website under Missions. Special thanks to the following contributing sponsors - Ladd McCall and Associates CPA, PA; LKN Capital; Leigh Madison Company; All Waterways Construction, Inc; Crouch Brothers, Inc. Gold, Silver, and Bronze level sponsorships are still available but you better act fast! Sponsorship info can be found in the Church parlor or contact Bob Campbell at 704-662-8286 or 704-491-2289 for more information.

Congratulations are expressed to Ben Peacock and Jennifer Barnette who were married in our sanctuary on December 28, 2007.

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SERMON SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 6:7-29

⁷And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— ⁹but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰And he said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

¹⁴King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. ¹⁸For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. ²²For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." ²³And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." ²⁴And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." ²⁵And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. ²⁷And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison ²⁸and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

SERMON OUTLINE

- I. Today's search for the real Jesus...
- II. Representing the real Jesus...
- III. Confusion and conflict over the real Jesus—and why...
- IV. What may happen when you follow the real Jesus...

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