

# The Bulletin Board

✝ A Monthly Publication of First Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC

## November 2003

### November supper features food and service

The congregation is invited to a fellowship supper on Sunday, November 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Prepared by hostess Jennifer Jordan and volunteers from Circle of Faith (No. 4) and the Commitment Committee, the meal will cost \$3 for youth and adults, \$2 for children.

Following supper, we will have the opportunity to be a part of Operation Christmas



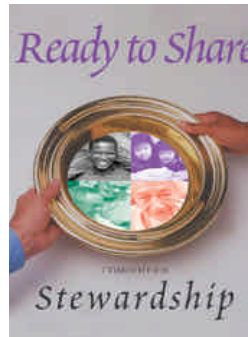
Child by packing shoe boxes for needy children throughout the world, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Members are encouraged to bring empty shoe boxes as well as items which can be packed in the boxes.

A reminder card has been mailed to members suggesting items which are appropriate for the shoe boxes. A nursery will be available for preschoolers during the program.

Come enjoy a delicious supper (chicken sandwiches and all the fixin's, baked potato soup, etc.), a chance to do international missions, and a fantastic opportunity to get to know members of our church family. See you on November 2!

### Give thanks at community service

Our congregation is invited to attend the Community Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 26, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Therese Catholic Church, 219 Brawley School Road. Joanne Hull, pastor of Prospect Presbyterian Church, will deliver the message, and special music will be provided by Testify, a community youth choir under the direction of Susan O'Keefe. Ashlin and Kenley Streetman and Jared Parnell of our congregation are members of the choir. An offering will be received at the service for Mooresville Christian Mission.



### Commitment Sunday

November 9, 2003

"Ready to Share" is this year's theme for the Stewardship Campaign. Stewardship is the wise, faithful management and use of all God's gifts to us. It

involves pledging the use of time, talents and financial resources to further the kingdom of God.

The Bible encourages us in 1 Timothy 6:18 to be "generous and ready to share." Let us remember this as we prepare for Commitment Day.

Stewardship packets are in the mail. Please complete the forms and bring them to the church on November 9, when we will present our pledges to our Lord. If you can't be present on that Sunday, please mail them to the church office prior to November 9.

Commitment Committee

### New officers elected

At the annual meeting of the congregation held on October 12 and 19, seven persons were elected as elders and seven as deacons, all to the Class of 2006.

They will receive training the weekend of November 7-9 concerning the faith and polity of the Presbyterian Church as well as their responsibilities as officers. After being examined and approved by the Session on November 23, tentative plans call for their ordination and installation to office on December 28. The officers-elect are:

#### Elders

Mark Auten  
Allen Brawley  
Dick Fortanbary  
Chong Lieu  
Gary Roach  
Eleanor Templeton  
Gene Vaughan

#### Deacons

Ben Beaver  
Carole Crews  
Dave Culler  
Jill Herring  
Valerie Mauney  
Bruce Telford  
Harry Weyer

## New Members



Sue Garwood was received by transfer from Vanderburg United Methodist Church of Mooresville. She is an infectious disease physician at Northeast Medical Center in Concord. Her hobbies include biking, tennis, fishing and hanging out with her kids. She has three children—Malcolm, a freshman at Mooresville High School who united with our congregation last May on the occasion of his confirmation; Winston, a 4th grader at Mooresville Intermediate School and a member of Cub Pack 262, who likes to play football; and Madison, a 2nd grader at South School who enjoys soccer and playing the piano. Both Winston and Madison are members of our Logos Program. This family lives at 620 Woodberry Drive; telephone 663-7110.



Mike and Missy Hinton were received—Mike by profession of faith and baptism, and Missy by transfer from Walnut Hill United Methodist Church, Dallas, TX. During the week Mike builds chassis for the Robert Yates No. 38 M & M race car, and on race days he's a front tire changer as a member of the pit crew. Missy currently is a homemaker who takes good care of their two Lab puppies. She also enjoys exercising, reading and NFL football. They are expecting their first child in May. They live at 1740 Landis Highway; telephone 704-799-8126.



Thurston McNeely and his son Cy McNeely united by transfer from Outer Banks Presbyterian Church, Kill Devil Hills, NC. Thurston grew up in our church, the son of Thurston and the late Mary Frances McNeely. He is retired from the North Carolina Department of Revenue, working the last 16 years in Nags Head on the Outer Banks. He enjoys fishing, hunting, woodworking and working in his yard. He has three sons, the oldest two in graduate school. Cy, the youngest, is a senior at Mooresville High School. A member of our PYF, Cy enjoys playing the guitar, lifting weights and running. They live at 362 Cedar Street; telephone 704-664-4261.



Stephen and LeDell Wingler were united by transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Mocksville, NC. Stephen works as line leader for assembly at Autec, Inc. in Statesville. LeDell works in Charlotte as a credit specialist for Wachovia. She also is a full-time student at Salem College in Winston-Salem, where she is a junior concentrating in English and business. Stephen enjoys television and working on old trucks, while LeDell's hobbies include computers, reading and shopping. Married for seven years, they now live at 140 Wing Haven Court, telephone 704-663-4140.

# Saints Alive on the go

## Saints enjoy trip to coast

Fifty-one participants headed to Sea Island Inn in Myrtle Beach, SC, for several days of relaxation and fellowship, along with sightseeing, shopping, eating, swimming, walking on the beach, fishing, shell hunting, show performances on Thursday evening, and the opportunity to visit with one another in a beautiful and relaxing setting. The group also enjoyed group devotions each evening, focusing on three Bible characters. Lynelle Owen introduced the group to Rahab, encouraging us to remember the wideness of God's love and grace toward us; Mark Auten shared insights about Simeon and his joy at holding the promised Messiah in his arms; and Sharon Culp introduced the group to the Shunammite woman, reminding us of her strong faith and her realization that no matter what happens, "it is well." Thanks to Lynelle for coordinating the devotions. We also enjoyed singing hymns during devotions, thanks to Fronnie Gardner's harmonica accompaniment!

This year's group included Mark and Ellen Auten, Nancy Baker, Larry and Kathleen Bates, Bill and Carolyn Brawley, Pressley and Eloise Brawley, Marshall and Rosie Crouch, Bedo and Pat Culberson, Al and Sharon Culp, Bob and Christine Davidson, Roy and Judith Dellinger, Gordon and Ellie DenBleyker, Bob and Mimi Dobbins, Jim and Elaine Drye, Bill, Carol and Kirsten Edwards, Christy Floyd (and friend, Louise Grooms from Columbia), Dick and Mary Fortanbary (and cousin Frankie Craig), Fronnie Gardner, Martha Gragg, Bill and Sandra Harris, Tom Johnston, Victor and Helen Johnston, Judy Jordan, Steve and Jane Kinney, Smith and Lois Kirk, Estelle Mott, Lynelle Owen, Lynn Pierce, Beverly Stowe, Eleanor Templeton, and Claude and Helen Voils.

## How Old Is Old?

An elephant outlives a monkey,  
A turtle, longer than man,  
a housefly will last but a summer,  
a tree has a long life span.  
A camel has humps when a baby,  
a deer slows down when fifteen,  
eight years is life's span for a squirrel,  
one older is seldom seen.  
You are young, my friend, not old but young  
if you find deep in your heart  
beautiful thoughts of deeds to be done  
or some kind words to impart.

- *More Holy Humor*

## October luncheon

The Saints Alive group gathered for their monthly luncheon on Tuesday, October 21, and enjoyed a delicious lunch of chicken casserole, glazed carrots, steamed broccoli, orange wedges, brownies topped with whipped cream, and iced tea. Thanks to Jennifer Jordan and her kitchen crew for a delicious meal! Miriam McNeely led our devotions and prayer, and Paul Thompson, from Charlotte, presented a most interesting program on some of his travels around the world. The group enjoyed seeing his slides and hearing his adventures. Thank you to Tom Johnston for arranging this interesting program. Thanks also to Lynelle Owen for the delightful pansy-filled pumpkins and beautiful fall napkins - they were a delightful and colorful addition to our tables.



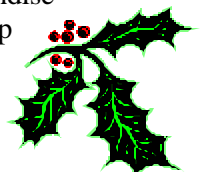
## November luncheon to feature Thanksgiving theme

Plan to join the Saints Alive group for their monthly luncheon on Tuesday, November 18, as the group meets for lunch, devotions, and a program. Cost of lunch is \$3. The November program will be presented by Ellen Hinson of our congregation, who will share thoughts on our nation's first Thanksgiving celebration, as well as her experiences as a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants. Please contact church hostess Jennifer Jordan (704-799-9422) if you are available for meal preparation or clean-up.



## Saints to attend Southern Christmas Show

Saints Alive is planning to attend the Southern Christmas Show at the Charlotte Merchandise Mart on Friday, November 14. The group plans to leave at 9:30 a.m. and return in late afternoon; cost is \$7. This year's theme is "Twelve Days of Christmas," and features crafts, gifts, holiday decorating, Christmas cooking demonstrations, model trains, miniature houses, and much more! Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) by Wednesday, November 12, if you are interested in attending.



## Session schedules marriage seminar and catechism study

### Reviewed financial records

Highlights of the Session's work since the last newsletter include the following:

- Continued its study of the book *The Purpose Driven Church* by Rick Warren.
- Made plans for conducting the annual stewardship campaign during November.
- Recruited persons to talk and/or pray with worshipers following our Sunday morning services.
- Designated November 12 as "Bring a Friend Night" for Logos/Middle School Ministry, and approved additional table parents.
- Recruited additional persons to provide leadership for Church School.
- Scheduled a Catechism Club for children in grades 1-6 from January 11-April 25, using as curriculum *First Catechism* by Great Commission Publications.
- Scheduled a marriage enrichment seminar—"Making the Most of Marriage" by Kevin Leman—here at the church on February 20-21, hosted by the Christian Education and Evangelism Committees.
- Adopted the report of the Financial Review Committee, which reviewed all the church's financial records of the church for the year 2002. The books and records were found to be in order, and the treasurers were commended for their work. Appreciation was expressed to Bob Campbell and Jim Drye for serving on the review committee.
- Heard a report from Phil Heilman and Smith Kirk on their attendance to the meeting of Salem Presbytery at Starmount Church of Greensboro on October 21, and commended them for their diligence.
- Prayed for church activities, as well as members and friends with special needs.

## Advent Workshop

All ages are invited to attend the Advent Workshop in the fellowship hall on Sunday, November 30, during the church school hour (9:45 – 10:40 a.m.). Activities include refreshments, Christmas crafts, Advent wreath-making, singing, and a Christmas story. Children will need to be accompanied by their parent or an adult helper to assist with the craft projects. Volunteers are needed with refreshments and crafts – please contact Ellen Auten if you are available to help.



## Thanksgiving offering to support Barium Springs

A special offering will be received on November 23, the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day, to support the special ministry that Presbyterians do at Barium Springs Home for Children, which is located about ten miles north of Mooresville. The loose offering that Sunday, as well as designated gifts, will help make possible this important ministry to troubled youth and their families.

The special offering received on October 19 for the work of the Gideons totaled \$896. Appreciation is expressed to those who gave to help make possible the printing and distribution of the Scriptures through the Gideon organization.

## Lost and Found



With the return of cooler temperatures, you may find yourself looking for jackets and coats. Please check in the coat closet beside the fellowship hall to see if you left one at church last winter, as we have a fairly significant collection of "lost" jackets and coats.

## All Saints' Eve Fall Festival Thanks for the help!

Thanks to everyone who helped with the All Saints' Eve Fall Festival on Friday, October 31, especially to Marti Estes, Jan Hampton, and Jackie Justice for their leadership. Thanks to everyone who helped decorate the fellowship hall, staffed the games, helped in the kitchen, cleaned up afterwards, and to all who donated candy, baked goods, prizes, and money. The children looked adorable in their costumes – we loved seeing you and sharing this fun evening with you and your families!



## Christmas Party

The Friends and Family Sunday School Class will host a Christmas Party on Friday, December 5, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Scott and Christina McElroy. We invite all adults from the congregation to attend. Please bring your favorite appetizer or dessert to share.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Boger (704-660-0715) or Christina McElroy (704-664-4369).

# Presbytery approves parish associate relationship

## Adopts budget for next year

Salem Presbytery held its 60th stated meeting on October 21 at Greensboro's Starmount Presbyterian Church with elders Phil Heilman and Smith Kirk, pastor Ed Lewis, and parish associate Tom Miller attending from our congregation. Highlights from the meeting included:

- Received three ministers by transfer: Rev. Steve D. Braswell to Graham Church; Rev. Tempe E. Fussell to Cross Roads Church, Mebane; and Rev. James T. Stephenson, who is honorably retired.
- Approved two persons for ordination: Ms. Jennie L. Hemrick as interim pastor at Pine Ridge and Hills Churches of Pilot Mountain; and Ms. Ann W. Brinson as interim pastor at Christ Church, High Point.
- Received two persons as Candidates for Ministry: Ms. Stephanie I. Arnold and Mr. Justin S. Gung, both members of Winston-Salem First Church and graduates of Princeton Seminary.
- Expressed appreciation to retiring stated clerk Mr. Fred Ward, and elected Rev. Caroline Gourley Grisette to a renewable three-year term as stated clerk.
- Approved Rev. Ike Kennerly to another three-year term as General Presbyter.
- Elected commissioners to the General Assembly meeting in Richmond, VA, June 26-July 3, 2004, and to the meeting of Mid-Atlantic Synod at Barber Scotia College, Concord, NC, on July 15-16, 2004.
- Appointed Rev. Lou East as part-time organizing pastor for the Epiphany New Church Development in Greensboro.
- Adopted a 2004 budget in the amount of \$1,870,000.
- Approved stated supply and interim pastor, as well as commissioned lay pastor relationships.
- Elected persons to serve on Presbytery's clusters and committees.
- Approved Rev. Tom Miller serving as parish associate in our church.
- Merged the members and other assets of Peak Creek Church, Laurel Springs, with the Mt. Jefferson Church of West Jefferson
- Approved the sale of five acres of property across the road from the entrance to Camp Grier for \$5,000.
- Heard a report on the Presbytery-sponsored mission trips to Mexico last year, and volunteers were invited to sign on for one of the three trips to southern Mexico in 2004: May 30-June 7 (medical); July 27-July 5; and July 4-12. Information and application blanks are in the church office.
- Received as information a policy proposal on sexual misconduct, which will be considered at the next meeting.
- Seven persons were recognized as "outstanding older

adults," and 14 grants were given for domestic hunger relief.

-Adjourned to meet next on February 7, 2004, at Church of the Covenant, Greensboro.

## Harrington receiving CLP training

Elder Diane Harrington of our congregation is a member of the current group of elders receiving training to become commissioned lay pastors. The classes for the training will be held on Saturdays over the next year. After being endorsed by our Session last August, Diane attended her first day of classes on October 25. Let's pray for her and all the members of Salem Presbytery who are receiving training to serve Christ and his church as commissioned lay pastors.



As the body of Christ, we share one another's burdens...and joys. Several persons in our congregation have formed a prayer chain to lift one another before God's throne of grace in prayer.

If you have prayer requests and/or if you want to be a part of on the chain as a pray-er (one who prays), please call Sondra Pettus at 704-896-7963 or the church office at 704-664-5275.

Please indicate if your requests involve confidences (which will be honored), and please provide periodic updates on your requests so the group can pray more specifically.

## Thanks to office volunteers

Appreciation is expressed to all the volunteers who help us in the church office, especially the following who serve on a regular schedule:

- Tuesday morning: Pat Culberson
- Tuesday afternoon: Jean McKenry
- Thursday morning: Marilyn Beaver
- Thursday afternoon: Carolyn Holshouser
- Friday morning: Eleanor Templeton
- Friday afternoon: Carole Donelson

<p align="center"><b>31st Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>      <b>2</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Holy Communion</b></p> <p>8:30am Early Worship            9:45am Church School            11:00am Worship            5:00pm Executive Committee            6:00pm Church Night Supper - Operation Christmas Child Program            7:30pm Evangelism Committee</p>	<p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast      <b>3</b></p> <p>1:00pm Library Committee            7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166            7:00pm Small group with Liz Price            7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="center"><b>Election Day</b>      <b>4</b></p> <p>5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Shiki Japanese            6:15pm Exaltation Ringers</p>
<p align="center"><b>32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>      <b>9</b></p> <p>8:30am Early Worship, Presbyterian Men Breakfast            9:45am Church School            11:00am Worship - Logos Choir sings            2:00pm Officer Training            3:00pm Handmaidens of the Lord Circle (No. 6)            5:13pm PYF - Salteens            6:30pm Finance, Personnel and Weekday Preschool Committees            7:00pm Christian Education Committee            7:30pm Worship and Witness and Service Committees</p>	<p align="center"><b>Columbus Day</b>      <b>10</b></p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Break.            3:00pm Circle No. 1            5:30pm Daisy Troop 591            6:15pm Blessed in Christ Circle (No. 3)            6:30pm Brownie Troop 794            7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166            7:00pm Small group with Liz Price            7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="center"><b>Veterans Day</b>      <b>11</b></p> <p>Weekday Preschool Closed</p> <p>10:00am Circle of Faith (No. 4)            5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Art's Jug            6:15pm Exaltation Ringers            6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 61'</p>
<p align="center"><b>33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>      <b>16</b></p> <p>7:15am Diaconate Meeting            8:30am Early Worship            9:45am Church School            11:00am Worship - MSM Handbells ring            4:00pm New Member Class            5:13pm PYF - Salteens</p>	<p align="center"><b>17</b></p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Break.            5:30pm Daisy Troop 591            7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166            7:00pm Small group with Liz Price            7:00pm Presbyterian Women Council            7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="center"><b>18</b></p> <p>12:30pm Saints Alive luncheon            5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Atlanta Bread Co.            6:15pm Exaltation Ringers            7:30pm Women of the Word Circle (No. 5)</p>
<p align="center"><b>Christ the King/Reign of Christ</b>      <b>23</b></p> <p>8:30am Early Worship            9:45am Church School            11:00am Worship            5:13pm PYF - Salteens            7:00pm Session meeting</p>	<p align="center"><b>24</b></p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast            6:30pm Brownie Troop 794            7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166            7:00pm Small group with Liz Price            7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="center"><b>25</b></p> <p>6:15pm Exaltation Ringers            7:00pm Boy Scout Cub Pack 166</p>
<p align="center"><b>1st Sunday of Advent</b>      <b>30</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Holy Communion</b></p> <p>8:30am Early Worship            9:45am Church School            Advent Workshop in the fellowship hall            11:00am Worship</p>	<h1 style="font-size: 4em; margin: 0;">Novem</h1>	

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>All Saints' Day 1</b> 8:00am Promise Keepers at Buttery and Beanery
<b>5</b> m Logos/MSM m Chancel Choir	<b>6</b> 10:00am Through the Bible study at the home of Peggy Rogers 5:30pm Girl Scout Junior Troop 939	<b>World Community Day 7</b> 6:30pm Officer Training	<b>8</b> 8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library 9:00am Officer Training
<b>12</b> n Logos/MSM - Invite A Friend Night m Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 10:00am Through the Bible study at the home of Peggy Rogers 2:00pm Bloodmobile at the Mooresville Citizens Center 6:30pm Fun & Fellowship at Captain's Galley	<b>14</b> 9:30am Saints Alive trip to Southern Christmas Show	<b>15</b> 8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library
<b>19</b> m Logos/MSM m Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> 10:00am Through the Bible study at the home of Peggy Rogers 5:30pm Girl Scout Junior Troop 939 7:00pm Sisters-in-Christ Circle (No. 2)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library
<b>26</b> m Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Therese Catholic Church  newsletter deadline	<b>27</b>  <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library

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<b>December 2003</b>			

# Music Notes by Alan Sledge

Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

Isaiah 12:5

## Bells Anyone?

### Looking for a few good ding-a-lings

The **Genesis Ringers** are the youth beginning handbell ensemble. This group is for 4th through 6th graders with no ringing experience. Transportation to the church from Mooresville Intermediate School is provided. The Genesis Ringers rehearse after school. The rehearsal day is TBA.



The **Chapel Ringers** are the intermediate handbell ensemble for 5th grade through middle school age youth. Prior ringing experience is required. Transportation to the church from Mooresville Intermediate and Middle School is provided. The Chapel Ringers rehearse after school. The rehearsal day is TBA.

## A time to be thankful

### great hymns of the faith

The great thanksgiving hymn “Now Thank We All Our God,” was written in the 1630’s during the Thirty Years War. Martin Rinkart was the only pastor in the walled city of Eilenberg, Germany. During the war thousands of refugees fled to Eilenberg, seeking protection from inside the city walls. This led to crowded conditions in which hunger and plague were chronic problems. In 1637, Rinkart conducted funerals for five thousand residents, including his wife. When he wrote the lines, “guide us when perplexed,” Pastor Rinkart was not talking about small inconveniences.

We too can thank God, with heart and hands and voices. As we approach the thanksgiving season, don’t overlook our own stewardship emphasis this fall. Let’s be thankful for what we have, and also for what we can give. Let’s also remember Martin Rinkart, and the great words he wrote three hundred and seventy years ago. We can thank God even during our most unsettling times. Rinkart concludes the second verse:

*“And free us from all ills,  
in this world and the next.”*

## Concert Series for Christmas

Looking ahead to December, mark your calendars for Sunday, December 7, 2003. We will celebrate the Advent/Christmas season with a concert by the brass quintet “Brass Act” from Charlotte. The quintet consists of Jon Thornton and Steve Hollahan, trumpet; Julie Shrom, french horn; Ken Davis, trombone; and David Mills, tuba. They will perform traditional festive seasonal music as well as favorite carols for congregational singing. The free concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. following the church night supper at 6:00 p.m.



### November worship calendar

Sunday, November 9, 11:00 a.m. Logos Choir

Sunday, November 16, 11:00 a.m. MSM handbells

Sunday, November 23, 11:00 a.m. Exaltation Ringers

## Doing What I Can



“... to one he gave five talents,  
to another two, to another one,  
each according to his ability.  
Then he went away.”

*Matthew 25: 15*

# YOUTH PAGE



## What's for supper?

One eats alone, but "dines" with others

In addition to everything else, Tuesday nights are PYF nights. Each week we meet at the church to travel to a different local restaurant for supper ("Dutch treat"). In addition to "dining," we have the chance to "catch up" on what's happening with the other members of our group and enjoy a special fellowship around the tables. It's food for our bodies and our souls.

Each evening's meal is finally "topped off" with a special devotional time and closing prayer. Now, how's that for a complete meal?! So, ...how about bringing a friend and joining us on Tuesdays? We're saving a place at the table just for you!

## Hey! Hey! Hey! It's a hayride!

### PYF reschedules for November 16

"The best laid plans of mice and men..."



Robert Burns reminds us well. It was the inclement weather that foiled us last month and kept us from loading the hay wagons on October 26. But be not dismayed! We've rescheduled our hayride for Sunday, November 16.

Rearrange your plans, invite a friend and let's all get "on the wagon" together. We will meet at our regular time of 5:13 p.m. at the church and then head out to the Harris Farm (at the edge of town on NC Highway 3).

There will be no cost for the event which will include a hot dog cookout and s'mores around the campfire, but please call Fred Coates at the church and "reserve" a spot... or you can send an email to [associate@moorevillefirstpres.org](mailto:associate@moorevillefirstpres.org). Hey! It's going to be a great time... so join us!

## 50-4-5

### The formula for hair reduction

The offer still stands... 50 youth attending for five consecutive scheduled Sunday meetings means that Fred Coates and Harry Weyer will "defoliate." Are you up to it? Let's see what you're made of!

## Fall retreat is postponed

Camp Grier will have to wait until spring

The fall is so busy! Schedules are too hectic and way too crowded... so we've had to reschedule our retreat at Camp Grier. Originally slated for November 7-9, we will move the weekend into March 2004 (the date will be announced later). Be on the lookout for more information soon!



## Stewardship thoughts

### A tales of two seas

The Jordan River feeds the Sea of Galilee. Spring waters and melted snow flow into the lake, providing a constant source of fresh, life-giving sustenance. At the southern end of this bountiful body the Jordan continues its journey, feeding thousands of acres of highly productive farmland from Galilee's waters. The Sea of Galilee takes in water and then gives it back in a continuous cycle of life.

Nearly fifty miles to the south is the Dead Sea. Here the Jordan ends its journey. This body of mineral-laden water is sunk over thirteen hundred feet below sea level. It's the lowest place on Earth. And one of the most desolate. There are no birds overhead - no fish in its briny depths. The desert surrounding it begs for moisture. The Dead Sea only takes water in. It never gives out.

What kind of "sea" are you? God's love is designed to flow through... not just to!



## November Notes



Don't be a turkey! Join us at PYF this month.

Here's a look at what's ahead:

- Nov 2 - Church Night Supper (program: Operation: Christmas Child), 6:00 p.m.
- 4 - Supper Club (Shiki Japanese), 5:30 p.m.
- 9 - PYF, 5:13 p.m.
- 11 - Supper Club (Art's Jug), 5:30 p.m.
- 16 - PYF hayride (weather permitting) 5:13 p.m.
- 18 - Supper Club (Atlanta Bread Co.), 5:30 p.m.
- 23 - PYF, 5:13 p.m.
- 25 - NO Supper Club *Mooreville Parade Day*,
- 27 - **Happy Thanksgiving!**
- 30 - No PYF (Thanksgiving Sunday)

## Weekday Preschool

Another glorious month of outdoor weather at Preschool and our October units and activities were naturally centered around pumpkins, farm animals, acorns, harvesting, and the colors of orange and brown.



Other than our Bears and Bunnies taking a trip to Hawaii complete with grass skirts and leis, we were all about fall, and what would the season be without Farm Day at Preschool. A big thank you goes out to Frank Rader and Phifer Johnson for providing hayrides for the children and for all the enjoyment that took place. The most magical sound in the world is that of children laughing! Picking a pumpkin and a trip to the Petting Zoo rounded out our activities and now it's time to look ahead to November and Thanksgiving.

We will be talking with the children about Pilgrims, Indians and what they are thankful for and **on Monday and Tuesday, November 24 and 25** we will celebrate with a feast. Our Thanksgiving break will be **November 26 - 28**.

I hope you are hearing Christmas melodies from your little one as we have already begun to prepare for our annual Christmas programs. These will be held on **Tuesday and Wednesday, December 16 and 17 at 9:30 a.m.** in the sanctuary. Please encourage relatives and special people in your child's life to attend as we always get enthusiastic with a good crowd!



We will be sending home forms in November for registering and paying for your child's **Spring Lunch Bunch**, and then in December I will send the enrollment forms for the 2004-2005 school year. Registration fees will not be due until after the first of the year.

We love your children and are grateful that you have chosen to send them here. We ask for your prayers as we care for these precious little ones.

With love,

Mrs. Nancy

## Catechism Club

Children in grades one through six are encouraged to participate in Catechism Club beginning in January 2004. For those unfamiliar with catechism, it is a book giving a brief summary of the basic principles of Christianity in question and answer form. Children will learn basic theological vocabulary and gain an understanding of the Christian faith that will lay a foundation for their belief and trust in God through Jesus Christ. Children in Catechism Club will be encouraged to memorize the 150 questions of the *First Catechism*, and will have weekly instruction in basic Bible truths.

Catechism Club will meet on Sunday evenings, beginning January 11, through Sunday, April 25; meeting times are 5:30-6:45 p.m., and will include a snack supper (\$1 per person). Parental participation and attendance at Sunday meetings is essential; if parents are unable to attend, an adult sponsor will be matched with the child wanting to attend Catechism Club.

Adult mentors will also be an integral part of Catechism Club, and will "sponsor" a child through the process of catechism memorization and instruction, meeting with the child on at least a monthly basis. Please contact Beverly Chappell if you are interested in being an adult mentor for Catechism Club.

Following successful completion of catechism instruction and memorization, the children will be recognized in a worship service.

A letter will be sent to parents of children in grades one through six with information concerning registration and schedules. Please contact any of the members of the Catechism committee if you have questions: Ellen Auten (704-664-5275, church; 704-663-2494, home), Beverly Chappell (704-663-2750), Carole Crews (704-663-6953), or Susan Williams (704-799-1330).



After church on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided I'm going to be a minister when I grow up." "That's okay with us," the mother said, "but what made you decide to be a minister?" "Well," the boy said, "I'll have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell than to sit still and listen."

## Logos / MSM

The first semester of Logos/MSM is going very quickly! We will only meet three times in November and our themes are Old McDonald's Farm (11/5), Clowning Around (11/12) and Pilgrim Party (11/19).

We greatly appreciate all of the time our volunteers have invested in this program. The Bible teachers have done such a wonderful job with the children this year. We see them growing in their love for our Lord and their desire to serve Christ. This is evident in all aspects of the program, especially in recreation. It is very rewarding to see the children treating each other as a child of God.

Our table parents have enjoyed getting to know all of the children. We welcome Mark and Victoria Garland as our newest table parents. They are off to a great start, winning the table manners trophy and the game trophy their very first week! We do have confidence that table #7 will win the table manners trophy so that Sharon Culp can get the monkey off her back (literally – ask her about it!)

We also would like to thank Jennifer Jordan and Jerilyn Fair for their “tasty” work in the kitchen. It is quite a task to prepare food for such a large crowd every Wednesday and we are truly blessed to have such capable and willing people to lead this part of our program.

As we mentioned last month, November 12 will be a very special night at Logos/MSM. We are encouraging every child to “Bring a Friend”. We sent home information with the children on October 22. If you did not receive this form or still have questions, please let us know. We are very excited to welcome your child's friend to Logos. Our goal is to expose as many children as we can to this wonderful program. Please keep in mind that with an additional 82 children, we could use extra hands. If you are interested in helping with recreation, table parenting, the nursery, assisting in a Bible class or providing an extra hand in the kitchen, please contact us. We welcome your call!

Please mark your calendars – on November 9th, the Logos choir will sing at the 11:00 a.m. service and on November 16th the Middle School Ministry handbells will ring at the 11:00 service. Please support your children as they contribute to the leadership of the worship service.

As always, we thank you for sharing your child with us as we serve the Lord.

**Christina McElroy and  
Jennifer Boger**

## Thank you

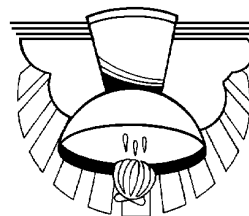
To Ed Lewis, Fred Coates, and members of the congregation:

Ann and Paul Manning want to acknowledge with heartfelt thanks the many, many prayers, cards, phone contacts, expressions of concern, and support received during my recent hospitalization.

Your continued contacts and good wishes lift our spirits, and remind us of truly how very fortunate we are to be among our church family.

With many thanks,  
**Ann Manning**

Because of an error in e-mail transmission, the thought and intent of the gratitude message printed in the October newsletter was not conveyed.



## Baptisms are celebrated

Baptisms have recently been held in our church, celebrating God's love to and claims upon three persons:

Mike Hinton, 1740 Landis Highway, Mooresville, NC 28115, on September 28, on the profession of his faith.

Joseph Jack Woodring, son of Tony and Stephanie Woodring; 534 Beaten Path, Mooresville, NC 28117, on October 26; Lucy Hastings will serve as his sponsor.

Trenton Lee Newell, son of Trent and Ruth Newell, 161 Colony Drive, Mooresville, NC 28115, on October 26; Neil and Stacey Faulkenberry will serve as sponsors.

## Moms In Touch

Could you give ONE HOUR each month to support Moms In Touch who meet to pray for their South Elementary children and staff on Tuesdays at First Presbyterian Church. We have a few preschool aged children that need care at the church while we pray for our older children for one hour from 9:00-10:00 a.m., each Tuesday. For more information, please contact Judy at 704-664-6493 or Leslie at 704-663-5648.

# Operation Christmas Child

## Think **INSIDE** the box!

Our congregation has enthusiastically supported the work of Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, for several years, thanks to the generous and loving contributions of many in our church family. Through your gifts, we have helped contribute to the joy of the more than twenty four million children in 115 countries worldwide, since this project began ten years ago. This year, you can continue to share this joy and hope with a needy child in a troubled country by packing a shoe box with toys and small gifts. Each child receives their hand-delivered shoe box, along with Christian literature in his or her own language, and learns about the greatest gift of all – God's Son, Jesus Christ. What a perfect gift to give in honor of Jesus' birth!

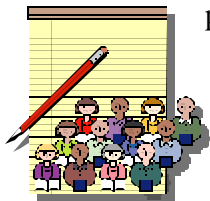
There are a variety of ways you can be involved in this exciting ministry:

1. Pray for the ministry of Operation Christian Child. Prayer guides are available at the rear of the sanctuary and outside the church office.
2. Attend the November 2 church night supper and participate in a "shoe box packing event."
3. Turn in shoe boxes to the church office by Sunday, November 23. A volunteer is also needed to take the shoe boxes to Broad Street Methodist Church by Monday, November 24.
4. Volunteer at the Charlotte Processing Center, located at 2345 Township Road, in Charlotte, on Thursday, December 11. Volunteers will have the opportunity to prepare shoe boxes for shipment overseas. The group plans to leave at 8:15 a.m., and should return by 2:00 p.m. If you cannot help on that day, the Processing Center welcomes volunteers Monday through Saturdays, from November 24 through December 20, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., except Thanksgiving Day. You should call the center at 704-583-1463 to confirm your time. Recommended volunteer hours are four hour shifts.

Please contact the church office (704-664-5275) if you have questions, or if you would like to volunteer to go to the Processing Center on December 11.

# Next New Member Class scheduled

Our next New Member Class will be held on Sunday, November 16, 4:00-6:30 p.m., in Room 300. If you are interested in becoming a member of our congregation or want to know more about what it means to be a Christian and/or a Presbyterian, you are invited to attend. No reservations are needed. Casual dress is recommended.



First Presbyterian Church  
249 West McLelland Avenue  
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