

The Bulletin Board

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

January 2004

Congregation approves 2004 budget



At its meeting following worship on December 28, the congregation accepted the recommendation of the diaconate and session by approving a budget for this calendar year in the amount of \$633,500.

Worship	\$9,650
<i>Music, Instrument maintenance, Bulletins, These Days, Substitute leaders</i>	
Witness and Service	61,000
<i>Support of the worldwide ministry of our denomination, Mooresville Christian Mission, Bible teacher in Mooresville Schools, Russian church planter, Mwandu missionaries</i>	
Evangelism	3,500
<i>Material, Special services, Advertising</i>	
Commitment	2,850
<i>Confirmation class, Officer training, Stewardship emphasis and Offering envelopes</i>	
Staff and Office	444,267
<i>Salaries and benefits for staff, Office expenses</i>	
Christian Education	31,350
<i>Christian nurture programs, including Church School, Logos/Middle School Ministry, PYF, and summer activities</i>	
Board of Deacons	80,883
<i>Ministry to the needy, Maintenance and operation of church facilities</i>	
Total	\$633,500

Offering envelopes for 2004 are on the table at the rear of the sanctuary. If you cannot find yours, please contact the church office.

Members will receive this month a record of their contributions for last year. If you have questions about your contributions and/or the report, please direct them to treasurer LuAnne Sledge at 704-664-5665.

Thank you for your generous support of our church's ministry!



Holiday offerings benefit many

Gifts have worldwide impact

From Thanksgiving through Christmas, our congregation had the opportunity to express faith and generosity through a variety of special offerings. Appreciation is expressed to all those who supported the following ministries:

Our Thanksgiving offering for Barium Springs Home for Children was \$616.

Angel Tree Christmas gifts to children of prisoners (see article below).

About 75 shoe boxes were delivered to Operation Christmas Child.

Five different ministries received Alternative Christmas Gifts:

Mwandu Communications	\$770
Camp Joy	\$250
Habitat for Humanity	\$100
Fifth Street Ministries	\$210
Heifer Project	\$195

Our Christmas Joy Offering totaled \$2961.



Angel Tree thank you

A hearty thanks to all who participated in the Angel Tree Ministry this year. Your generosity is much appreciated. With over 150 gifts you helped brighten the Christmas joy for 51 deserving children this year, a third more than we supported last year. I especially want to thank those of you who helped with the delivery of gifts to individual homes. I'm sure that you were additionally blessed as was I, having the opportunity to interact directly with a parent or especially a recipient child. What a wonderful way to share Christ's love at this time of year! Thanks again to all.

Fred Thomas

Logos / MSM

Welcome to the second semester of Logos and MSM. We welcome all new participants and are glad to see everyone from the fall returning. We hope that the Christmas break was a wonderful and relaxing time for all, because we are ready to get back into the Wednesday evening routine.

Logos and MSM begins the second semester on January 7 with Italian Night! Pasta anyone? On the next cold Wednesday in January (the 14th), we will stretch our imaginations with the theme of Beach Blow Out. January 21 we will roar with the lions for Jungle Night, followed with the Superbowl theme for the last Wednesday on January 28.

With the new semester, comes new table assignments for the children. We would like to thank all of our table parents this year for being so dedicated to the children. We have seen many one-on-one relationships established between the table parents and the children. While it may seem that eating dinner with these children doesn't require a lot of effort, let us assure you that these people are busy from the time they come to the dinner hour until they stagger out the door. Our table parents for the 2003-04 year are:

Steve and Jane Abernathy, Paul and Marilyn Beaver, Allen and Connie Brawley, C. P. and Beverly Chappell, Diane Crymes and Ed Lewis, Fred and Jean Coates, Bedo and Pat Culberson, Al and Sharon Culp, Larry and Vicki Eddleman, Mark and Victoria Garland, Bill and Sandra Harris, Sparky and Cindy Hitchcock, Scott and Valerie Mauney, Frank and Liz Rader, and Harry and Lucinda Weyer. And our always ready and available substitutes: Sheryl Davis, Shirley Crowley, Jan Hampton and Brad Chappell.

The Logos choir will sing at our 8:30 a.m. worship service on January 25. MSM will ring handbells at our February 1, 11:00 a.m. worship service. Please make every effort to have your child in the choir room by 10:40 a.m. If they attend Sunday School, the teachers will get them to the choir room.

A reminder that 2nd semester tuition (\$40 per child) is due now. You may give a check to either one of us or put it in the Logos/MSM box in the church office.

Please encourage your child to attend Logos or MSM every Wednesday. We understand that at times it is difficult to make it on Wednesdays, but we are certain the joy of learning about our Lord is worth it!

Serving the Lord,
**Christina McElroy and
Jennifer Boger**

New officers assume leadership

New elders and deacons were ordained and installed to office on December 28. After being elected by the congregation last October, they received instruction in the doctrine and government of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the duties of their office. While they committed themselves to faithful leadership, we as a congregation promised "to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church."

Those elected to their respective office for the first time were both ordained and installed, while those who have served their office previously were only installed. Our new officers are listed below, with the asterisks indicating those both ordained and installed:

Class of 2006

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>
Mark Auten	Ben Beaver
Allen Brawley	*Carole Crews
Dick Fortanbary	*Dave Culler
Chong Lieu	*Jill Herring
Gary Roach	*Valerie Mauney
Eleanor Templeton	Bruce Telford
Gene Vaughan	Harry Weyer



With the installation of the new officers on December 28, the elders and deacons in the Class of 2003 rotated off the Session and Board of Deacons. While deacons Ben Beaver and Bruce Telford concluded serving a one-year unexpired term, they were re-elected and installed to the Diaconate Class of 2006. We express appreciation to all these officers for their dedication to Christ and their faithful service to our congregation.

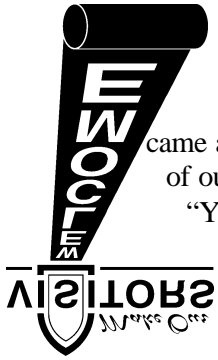
While the officers listed below are officially "inactive members" of the Session and Board of Deacons, we trust they will continue to be very supportive of the total ministry of our church. Thanks for a job well done to the retiring officers!

Class of 2003

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>
Al Culp	Warren Boger
Bill Harris	Don Fair
Marshall Horsman	Lucy Hastings
Eddie Nelson	Martha McDonnell
Rick Omohundro	Will McIntyre
Liz Rader	
Steve Robinson	

A welcoming church

In scanning the December 13th issue of *The Christian Century*, the editor of which is a former moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), I came across a little squib which is apropos of our new visitor plan. It was titled: "Youth Program." It read:



Jerome Berryman was a theologian in residence in a Quaker Church in Portland, Oregon, where a university student

came in one Sunday with long hair and tattered pants. The student looked around to find a seat, and seeing none he sat in the aisle. A Quaker with white hair and a three-piece suit slowly made his way down the aisle and with great difficulty got down on the floor with the young man. It so impressed the student that it changes his life. Berryman proposes that every time adults see an adolescent in church, they should walk up and, with no strings attached, say: "I'm glad to see you." It doesn't cost anything and you don't even have to have a committee meeting.

It is absolutely critical when we are gathered for a church meeting to make sure that everyone feels welcome regardless of whether that person may be the bank president or the homeless street person. Jesus welcomed the stranger; can we do anything less?

Dr. Tom Miller,
Parish Associate

Soundboard help needed!

Do you want to be involved with the church? Do you want to be behind the scenes and fill a very important need? Soundboard operator may be your calling! I need your help. Anyone interested in operating the soundboard for our Sunday services (8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.), please contact Scott Vaughn at 704-201-8666 or jsvaughn@att.net. I am currently working on the 2004 schedule and I need your help. Training will be provided to anyone interested (9th grade and up).

Thanks and God bless,
Scott Vaughn

Name Tags

If you would like to order a magnetic name tag to wear at church (cost of \$4), request on on the friendship pad or call the church office at 704-664-5275.

Weekday Preschool

What fun we had at the Christmas programs and parties, and thank you to all the parents and grandparents for coming to hear your child sing. We were all so very pleased with the terrific performances that the children gave during the programs, and we appreciate your enthusiasm for your child's accomplishments. Sadly many of our little ones were sick, but we pray that everyone is healthy now and ready for a New Year!



Now that the holidays are behind us, we will look ahead to the cold and snowy days of January. We hope to only talk, sing and do art projects about the snow, but should we experience the real thing (!), please refer to your handbook for our policy on closings and delayed openings. Remember, we follow the Mooresville city schools.

In addition to our study of winter, the teachers have some fun units planned for a trip to Mexico, Nursery Rhymes, The Rainforest, Arctic Blast, Princes & Princesses and I am a Scientist. Please note that the Preschool will be **closed on Monday, January 19th**. We are in the process of registration for the 2004-2005 school year, so please tell your friends and neighbors to register their child. If you have not already indicated your preference for next year, please do so now. Church members not already enrolled are welcome and encouraged to call me and reserve a spot.

We will continue to exit cautiously out the alley way and onto McLelland Avenue in order to expedite the unloading and loading process. The city has assured me that they are recalibrating the light at Broad Street and McLelland Avenue, but in the meantime I will stand at the top of the loading area and help direct traffic. Thanks for your patience and understanding.



January Bible verse: "Jesus said, 'Love one another.'" (John 15:17)

With Love,
Mrs. Nancy



Courtney Crouch baptized

Courtney Lee Crouch, daughter of Chuck and Emily Crouch, 190 Hazelton Loop, was baptized at the 11:00 a.m. service on December 21. J. D. and Kathryn Donelson are serving as her sponsors.

New members



Everett and Martha Andrews were received by transfer from St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Huntersville, NC. Everett was in the construction industry all his working life. He was employed as a building inspector for Charlotte Mecklenburg for 18 years, serving as assistant to the chief building code inspector when he retired in 1991. He is a veteran of the U. S. Marines, and his hobbies include building things. Martha is a homemaker. Between them, they have five children, eight grandchildren (including Christina McElroy of our congregation) and ten great grandchildren. They live at 100 Kipling Lane, Mooresville, NC 28115; telephone 704-663-0107.



David and Lynn Brooks were received from North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church of North Wilkesboro, NC. A banker, David is in treasury management with Wachovia Bank, working out of the downtown Charlotte office. Having served the North Wilkesboro Church as an elder, church school teacher and chair of several committees, he already is a member of our choir. Lynn is a second grade teacher at Millers Creek Elementary School, located on Highway 16 north of Walkesboro. She is a new member of our Weekday Preschool Committee. While they both enjoy water sports, David also likes to hike, shoot skeet and bird hunt, and Lynn enjoys reading and watching Carolina basketball. They have a son, Tyler, a freshman at UNC at Chapel Hill, who also enjoys water sports. The Brooks live at 117 Cromdale Lane, Troutman, NC 28166; telephone 704-582-4198.



Yvonne Miller united by transfer from North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church of North Wilkesboro, NC. A graduate of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA, she has served the church as an educator, secretary and elder (including clerk of session). She also worked as personnel coordinator for a Charlotte business. Her hobbies include arts and crafts (especially quilling), reading, traveling and collecting shells. She is married to Tom Miller, who serves our church as parish associate. A Presbyterian minister for nearly 44 years, he has served as a campus pastor, director of programming at the Montreat Conference Center, and as an installed and interim pastor. They have two adult children and two grandchildren. Officially retired, the Millers live at 143 Picwyck Drive, Mooresville, NC 28115; telephone 704-799-1412.

Presbyterian Men elect new officers

At their December meeting, our men elected new officers for 2004. They are:

President	Dave Culler
Vice-President	Dave Jordan
Secretary-Treasurer	Paul Beaver

Their next monthly breakfast meeting will be on Sunday, January 11, at 8:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All our men are invited and are encouraged to bring their teenage or older sons and/or daughters. Terry Stevens of our congregation will give the program on "The Power of Witnessing, the Power of Sharing, and High-Powered Car Suspensions." We can all use *more power!* Please join the men for a high-powered program and fellowship, and help get 2004 off to a great start.



While the men's program is at the same time as the early worship service, persons who attend the breakfast meeting are able to participate in the 11:00 a.m. service.

Session elects Al Culp as clerk

Approves budget, ordains and installs officers

Highlights of the Session's work during

December included the following:

- Received Everett and Martha Andrews, David and Lynn Brooks, and Yvonne Miller into the membership of the congregation.
- In consultation with the board of deacons, approved a 2004 budget in the amount of \$633,500 (excluding the Weekday Preschool), a 7% increase over the 2003 budget, and recommended its approval to the congregation.
- Elected Al Culp as clerk of session for a two-year term; elected Dick Fortanbary as assistant clerk and LuAnne Sledge as church treasurer for 2004. Also, elected two elders to serve this year on the congregational committee to nominate persons to serve as elders and deacons: Christine Davidson, chair, and Charlie Bittinger.
- Named persons to serve on sessional committees during 2004, and scheduled an orientation meeting for all committees on January 11 at 7:00 p.m.
- Gave monetary Christmas gifts to all staff members.
- Ordained and installed new elders and deacons on December 28.
- Named additional leadership for church school classes.
- Prayed for church activities as well as members and friends with special needs.



Boy Scout Troop 166

The Boy Scouts are having many activities for the month of January 2004. Listed below are the schedule of events:

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|---|
| January 5 | 7:00-8:30 | Regular meeting at Boy Scout Hut |
| January 12 | 7:00-8:30 | Regular meeting at Boy Scout Hut - Board of Review |
| January 16-18 | | Scout overnight trip |
| January 19 | 7:00-8:30 | Regular meeting at Boy Scout Hut - Eagle Board Review |
| January 26 | 6:00-7:00 | Patrol Leader Council |
| | 7:00-8:30 | Regular meeting at Boy Scout Hut |

If you are interested, please contact Adam McElroy, Charlie Heilman, Jay Trimble, Ryan Trimble or Neil Trimble.

Recycle your old Christmas cards

The elementary age church school classes are again sponsoring a used Christmas card recycling project in connection with St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Boulder City, Nevada. The Ranch provides housing and counseling for abused, abandoned, and neglected children.



If you are interested in contributing cards to this project, please bundle your cards and place them in the designated box inside the church office during the month of January. The church school classes will separate the cards and send the fronts only to St. Jude's Ranch. These card fronts are used in creating new cards as a fund raising project for the Ranch.

Thank you for your contribution to this project!



Martha and I want to thank the officers and members of our congregation for the gracious greetings and generous gifts given us at Christmas. The celebrations and traditions of Christmas in our church are very special to our family.

As I look forward to serving our Lord with you during this new year, I encourage your faithful support of our church and its ministry. Invite your neighbors and friends to attend church with you and to become part of our church family. Share the gift of friendliness and hospitality with guests and members. We have the opportunity to reach out to those moving into our community as well as those already living here who are unchurched.

I am grateful for you and the opportunity to serve as your pastor. May God bestow his richest blessings on you throughout the new year. If I can be of service in any way, please call on me.

Congratulations, Katie

Congratulations are extended to Katie McDonnell who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of South Carolina in December with a major in music and a minor in history.

2004

<p>2nd Sunday after Christmas 4</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Congregational supper 7:00pm Concert by Cantamos</p> <p>Logos/MSM Registration Deadline</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1:00pm Library Committee 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 939 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00pm Small group with Liz Price 7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Cracker Barrel 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 619</p>
<p>Baptism of the Lord 11</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 8:30am Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 3:00pm Handmaidens of the Lord Circle (6) 5:13pm PYF - Salteens 5:30pm Catechism Club 7:00pm Sessional committees in the fellowship hall</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast 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 7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00am Circle of Faith (No. 4) 5:30pm PYF Supper Club at What-A-Burger 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 619</p>
<p>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship PYF Ski Excursion to Winterplace 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 5:30pm Catechism Club 7:00pm Diaconate meeting</p>	<p>No Preschool 19</p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00pm Presbyterian Women Council 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00pm Small group with Liz Price 7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:30pm Saints Alive luncheon 5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Pueblo Grande 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers</p>
<p>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 25</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship - Logos sings 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 2:30pm Confirmation Class meets with Session 5:13pm PYF - Salteens 5:30pm Catechism Club 6:30pm Catechism Club Mentors 7:00pm Session</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:30pm Daisy Troop 591 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00pm Small group with Liz Price 7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Bellacino's 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 619 7:00pm Boy Scout Cub Pack 166</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>8:00am Promise Keepers at Buttery and Beanery</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>n Logos/MSM n Logos/MSM Parent meeting in the Library n Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>9:15am Through the Bible Study in the Library 10:00am Through the Bible study at the home of Peggy Rogers 6:30pm Fun & Fellowship at Captain's Galley</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>m Logos/MSM m Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p>9:15am Through the Bible Study in the Library 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)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>m Logos/MSM m Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>9:15am Through the Bible Study in the Library 10:00am Through the Bible study at the home of Peggy Rogers 5:30pm Girl Scout Junior Troop 939</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library 9:00am Parenting Seminar in the fellowship hall</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>m Logos/MSM m Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p>9:15am Through the Bible Study in the Library 9:30am Saints Alive to Reynolda House 10:00am Through the Bible study at the home of Peggy Rogers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 150px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library</p>

A page from the library

Two new books are available in the church library, *Gifts from the Spirit*, by Kim Jocelyn Dickson, and *The Purpose Driven Life*, by Rick Warren. *Gifts from the Spirit* is a collection of reflections on the diaries and letters of Anne Morrow Lindbergh. In *The Purpose Driven Life*, the author encourages readers to commit to a forty day spiritual journey that will answer life's important questions, where readers will understand why they are alive and about God's amazing plan.



Ellie Den Bleyker

Operation Christmas Child

A group of dedicated and enthusiastic workers volunteered at Operation Christmas Child's Charlotte Processing Center on Thursday, December 11, to process shoe boxes for shipment overseas. The group included Judy Cole, Sharon and Ross Culp, Mimi Dobbins, Ellen Hinson, Pat and Jeep Hunter, Helen Johnston, Lucile McClure, and Nancy Steinmiller.

Begin saving items for next year, in hopes of having another "shoebbox packing party" in fall 2004. Shop all year for bargains on crayons, notebooks, stuffed animals, small toys, socks, etc. We will have a box at church where items can be stored until next fall, so start thinking about Christmas 2004 this month!

Thanks for the nursery help

Special thanks to Janice and Eric Pluer, along with son, Cody Brown, as well as DCE Ellen Auten, for volunteering to keep the preschool nursery on Christmas Eve. The nurseries were a lively place that evening, with much Christmas excitement and anticipation, and we express our appreciation to these volunteers for entertaining the preschoolers during the candlelight service. Thank you for your gift of time!

Twenty-something church school class

All young adults (20-ish) are encouraged to attend a new church school class, the "Twenty-something" class, held in Room 310 from 9:45-10:40 a.m. every Sunday. The class is being sponsored and led by members of the Friends and Family church school class, and is using the Serendipity series materials as their curriculum. Please contact Jennifer Boger (704-660-0715) or Christina McElroy (704-664-4369) if you have questions.

Christmas pageant thanks

I was so proud of all the participants in the Christmas pageant, and the part they played in telling the beautiful story of Jesus' birth.



Thank you to all the children who participated as one of the important characters in the story as Mary, Joseph, shepherds, sheep, cows, donkeys, angels, wise men, prophets, and narrators. You were wonderful, and you touched our hearts as we

were reminded again of the timeless story of Jesus coming to earth as a baby. Thank you also to the following adults who helped behind the scenes: Lisa Chambers, Sheryl Davis, Leeann DeCastro, Valerie Mauney, Sonya and Jerry Moskel, Becky Rader and Dana Skidmore. We couldn't have done it without you!

Ellen Auten

Camp Grier hiring summer 2004 staff

Camp Grier is recruiting staff for the 2004 summer season - from June 4 through July 30 - for young adults with one year of college OR 18 years of age or older. The personnel committee is looking for responsible staff members who are committed to Jesus Christ and who love children and the outdoors. Salary is \$1500 plus room and board. For a complete list of qualifications and an application, call, write or e-mail:

Camp Grier
P. O. Box 490
Old Fort, NC 28762-0490
828-668-7793
cgrier@campgrier.org



Nursery

As we begin a new year, the nursery committee is updating nursery worker lists and is working to fill vacancies in those lists. Please contact Jennifer London at 704-947-8837, capehatt@bellsouth.net or Vivian Rogers-Cannon at 704-895-3226, dcvr@hotmai.net if you are interested in providing this important ministry in our congregation. The following workers are needed:



8:30 a.m. service: Toddler nursery – 5th Sunday
3, 4, & 5's – 2nd Sunday
11:00 a.m. service: Toddler nursery – 2nd, 4th, and
5th Sundays

“Making the Most of Your Marriage” Seminar

Building a lifetime relationship

The Christian Education committee is sponsoring a marriage seminar on Friday evening, February 20, and Saturday, February 21. Be sure to put these dates on your February calendar! The seminar will include the video series, “Making the Most of Marriage,” by Dr. Kevin Leman. Fred and Jean Coates will be facilitating the video series and leading discussions throughout the weekend. Topics include:

1. *Designed to be different* - Balancing the challenges and benefits of two distinctive personalities.
2. *Where have all the flowers gone?* Doing your best for the one you love the most.
3. *Striking the perfect match* - How birth order affects who you are and the marriage of your dreams.
4. *Looking for love in two special faces* - How kids grow and thrive through mom and dad’s relationship.
5. *Don’t rock the juke box!* Resolving conflicts by turning on and tuning in.
6. *Sex begins in the kitchen* - How to light the fire and keep the flame burning.
7. *Enjoying the journey* - Becoming one in a marriage that will last a lifetime.

There is no charge for the seminar; meals will be available for a minimal cost, and nursery care will be available. Please contact Ellen Auten in the church office (704-664-5275; dce@moorvillefirstpres.org) if you are interested in attending, or if you would like more information.

Catechism Club begins



After several months of planning, Catechism Club is scheduled to begin meeting on Sunday, January 11. At this time, there are twenty-nine children registered for the program, and all are paired with an adult mentor. We appreciate the wonderful response from both children and adult mentors, and we enthusiastically look forward to this endeavor. The January meetings are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Sunday, January 11 | 5:00 - Mentor meeting |
| | 5:30 - Supper with mentors, children and parents |
| Sunday, January 18 | 5:30 - Catechism Club |
| Sunday, January 25 | 5:30 - Catechism Club |
| | 6:30 - Mentors attend |

Mining for Gold parenting seminar

All parents, grandparents, and anyone who works with children are encouraged to attend a seminar on Saturday, January 24, in the fellowship hall. Led by Renee Swope, a speaker with Proverbs 31 ministry in Charlotte, the seminar is entitled *Mining for Gold in the Heart of Your Child: Shaping Your Child’s Character with God’s Treasure Box of Truths*. Renee’s message centers around helping



parents discover and develop the golden attributes and actions that reflect God’s character. The conference is a wonderful way to help parents teach their children how to live out God’s word and see how it applies to everyday relationships and choices. Renee has a very creative approach that helps parents focus on not just correcting for bad choices, but *teaching* children to make the right choices through encouraging words, inspiring input and nurtured character. She also brings insightful truths and practical application to the discipline and discipleship of parenting as she discusses the realities of “dealing with the dirt” that buries the gold.

Childcare will be provided during the seminar. A continental breakfast will be served, and a book table will be available to purchase materials.

Information about the conference is listed below, along with a registration form:

- Date: Saturday, January 24, 2004
- Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
- Location: Fellowship Hall
- Cost:
 - \$15 per person /\$20 per couple (pre-registered)
 - \$18 per person /\$23 per couple (at the door)
- Contact: Ellen Auten (704-664-5275); dce@moorvillefirstpres.org
- Financial assistance is available

Return registration form to Ellen Auten in the church office by Monday, January 19, 2004

I am interested in attending the *Mining for Gold* seminar on Saturday, January 24.

Name(s) _____

No. attending _____

Phone No. _____

I will need child care yes no

Names and ages of children:

Youth Page

Ski trip set for January 18

Let's hit the slopes!

PYF will be leaving on *Sunday* morning, January 18, at 8:30 a.m. to travel to Winterplace Ski Resort in Flat Top, West Virginia for an evening of skiing. As we did last year, we will stop to worship along the way in Hillsville, Virginia (part of the fun of travelling is the opportunity to experience different worship services). After church and a quick lunch, we'll complete our trek to West Virginia and check in at the slopes around 4:00 p.m. for the 5-10 p.m. ski session.



We'll pack up for home at 10:00 p.m. and, of course, stop along the way for a "snack" to hold us over while we journey home. We anticipate returning to Mooresville at 2:00 a.m. on Monday.

But wait! There's more! Once again, in order to keep our parents from having to pick up folks in the wee hours of Monday, we will "lock in" at the church for the night (those who need to return home may, of course, but it's optional). We will dismiss everyone at 7:00 a.m. on Monday morning to go home and sleep off the trip (it's a school holiday).

A couple of spots for the trip are open as of this writing (but they are going quickly). It's going to be a lot of fun!



Special hunger relief offering set for February 1

Rumor has it that there's going to be some kind of big "Bowl" this coming month (something to do with football...?), but the really BIG ONE is the one PYF is sponsoring. For several years now, PYF has sponsored a special hunger relief offering that coincides with football's Super Bowl Sunday. The idea originated with the Senior High Fellowship of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC. Since its inception in 1990, this unique ecumenical effort has grown to include more than 10,000 churches representing all 50 states and Canada. Last year alone,

more than \$3,500,000 was raised for hunger relief!

We want to make this year's "Souper Sunday" total even bigger. The proceeds from the local offering will be used to help the Christian Mission and the Mooresville Soup Kitchen meet the needs of the hungry in our community. Let's talk it up and encourage everyone to be prepared to "tackle hunger" on "Souper Bowl" Sunday, February 1! All we ask is \$2.00 (or more!) and one canned food item from every person at worship on February 1. Let's team up and score big against hunger!

Souper/Super Bowl Party

Everyone is invited!

PYF will be hosting a "souper" party on Sunday, February 1, in the Youth Room. As has been our custom for several years, we will gather to watch the football Super Bowl on the big screen television and then report in with our Souper Bowl of Caring offering total. Everyone is invited to enjoy the festivities starting at 5:00 p.m. "Admission" is one (or more) family-sized pantry item to be taken to the Mooresville Christian Mission). Bring a friend!



A Look Ahead: January

It's the start of a year, so resolve to start it off by joining us on Sundays at PYF. It's a great way to spend your time... and to consider some of God's Timeless Truths! Here's this month's schedule:



Jan 1 - Happy New Year!

4 - Church Night Supper & concert by *Cantamos*

6 - Supper Club, 5:30 p.m. (Carcker Barrell)

11 - PYF SALTeens, 5:13 p.m.

13 - Supper Club, 5:30 p.m. (What-A-Burger)

18 - **Ski Trip to Winterplace, 8:30 a.m.**

20 - Supper Club, 5:30 p.m. (Pueblo Grande)

25 - PYF SALTeens, 5:13 p.m.

27 - Supper Club, 5:30 p.m. (Bellacino's)

Feb 1 - Super "Souper Bowl" Party, 5:00 p.m. until

Music Notes by Alan Sledge

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Psalm 95:1

Why Do We Sing Hymns?

In the Judeo-Christian tradition, hymn singing is at the heart of worship practice. Early on, Christians were specifically identified as “those people who sang hymns.”

To understand why **Christians** sing hymns, a good place to start is to look at the biblical record for documentation of hymn singing. Here are but a few examples:



NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 26:29-31

And when they had sung a **hymn**, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Acts 16:24-26 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing **hymns** to God, and the prisoners were listening to them,

Ephesians 5:19 Addressing one another in psalms and **hymns** and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and **hymns** and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your heart.

SING(ING) TO THE LORD

Exodus 15:21 And Miriam sang to them: “**Sing to the LORD**, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

1 Chronicles 16:23 **Sing to the Lord**, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.

Instances of singing in the Bible in general and hymn singing in particular can be summarized:

☪ as a “group activity” (individuals did not sing a hymn by themselves)

☪ to cheer each other up (Paul and Silas in prison)

☪ for edification (for moral & spiritual instruction) See Cor., 14: 25-27; Col., 3:16

“It is the voice of the church that is heard in singing together. It is not you that sings, it is the church that is singing, and you, as a member of the church, may share its song.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

If you’re looking to add something new to your music collection, try some recordings of great hymns. Here are a few suggestions.



Sing, Ye Heavens (21 familiar hymns, most arranged by John Rutter) Cambridge Singers: Collegium Records, COLCD 126

Christ Triumphant (Great hymn tunes of the 20th century,) Well Cathedral Choir: Hyperion CDP12101

Holy, Holy, Holy (Favorite hymns,) King’s College Choir: Music Heritage Society, 513403z

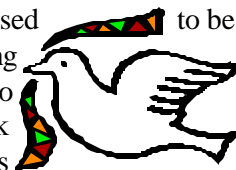
Fill the World with Loudest Praise (11 Concertatos,) St. Paul’s Chamber Choir, Houston, Texas: Selah Publishing, 520425

Amazing Grace (American hymns and spirituals,) Robert Shaw Festival Singers: Telarch, CD80325

Great Hymns of Faith, The St. Olaf Choir: St. Olaf Records E-2294



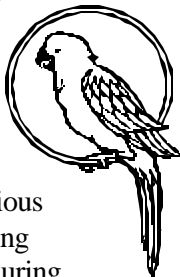
This past year has been a wonderful time spent in the life of this church. LuAnne and I are truly blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring church, and look forward to the coming year. Thank you so much for your prayers and kind words throughout this Christmas season.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

January Saints Alive program to feature “feathered friends”

The Saints Alive January luncheon meeting will be held Tuesday, January 20, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall; cost of lunch is \$3. The program will be presented by Jerilyn Fair, and is entitled, “Jerilyn Fair’s Feathered Friends,” featuring some of her pet birds, including parakeets, lovebirds, cockatiels, and Quaker parrots. Plan to come and enjoy a delicious meal, an interesting program, encouraging devotions, and some warm fellowship during these cold winter days. Please contact church hostess Jennifer Jordan (704-799-9422) if you are available to help with meal preparation or clean up.



David Brantley enters Church Triumphant

David Brantley died at his home on December 6, just four days short of his 80th birthday. During his working years, he worked for the telephone company and for companies that install telephone cables and lines. He and his wife Edith had been members of our congregation since 1998. We express our Christian condolences to Edith and other members of his family.



In addition, Christian sympathy is extended to others who have recently been bereaved, including:

Anne Telford and family in the death of her father in South Africa on December 8.

Scott Swing and family in his brother’s death on December 9.

Anne Fryar and family in the death of her father on January 5.

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Saints Alive

The Saints Alive December luncheon was a festive holiday event, with beautiful table decorations, a delicious holiday meal, and a holiday-themed program. The lunch included chicken alfredo with broccoli, sugar snap peas and peppers, orange wedges, rolls, and baked apples with whipped cream, with hot spiced cider and coffee. Thanks to Lynelle Owen for providing the beautiful table decorations of dolls in Christmas dresses, candy canes, and festive napkins, and for presenting an inspiring devotional, the Christmas story told from the perspective of the Christmas star. Thanks also to Ann Manning for arranging our program. Mary Morrow presented an



interesting program on antique toys

featured at the DAR Museum in Washington, DC. As part of our program, participants

brought their oldest toy, and we

enjoyed reliving some childhood memories as we saw one of Helen Johnston’s dolls, Gordon Den Bleyker’s metal ambulance and airplane, Claude Voils’ basket of blocks, Ann Manning and Shirley Crowley’s childhood china tea sets, to name a few. Thank you for sharing your memories!

Saints to tour Reynolda House in Winston-Salem

Join the Saints Alive group on a trip to Winston-Salem to tour historic Reynolda House. The trip is planned for Thursday, January 29, and the group will leave at 9:30 a.m. Cost of the tour is \$7. We will eat lunch (dutch treat) in Winston-Salem, and return to Mooresville in the late afternoon.

Reynolda House is the magnificent home of Katherine and Richard Joshua Reynolds, founder of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, and was built between 1912 and 1917. The 64-room country house now houses an American art collection, and is a National Historic Property.

Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) to sign up for the trip.

