

The Bulletin Board

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

January 2007

Jonah: Big Fish... Bigger God **Our Next Sermon Series Starts January 7**

Think the story of Jonah is simply about a whale swallowing a man? Think again! This wonderful, short book of the Old Testament has much more to say to us than simply to pose the question, "Can a big fish really swallow a man whole, and the man live to tell the tale?"

The book of Jonah is about the prophet Jonah and his struggles and successes in following God's will. The book of Jonah is about opening our eyes to see the world the way God sees it, with the love God has for people regardless of race, color, or nationality. The book of Jonah is about our response—with our struggles and successes—to God's calling in our lives.

Seven sermons from January 7-February 18 in both 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services will take us through this remarkable Old Testament witness to the acts of a loving, gracious God and the responses God desires from us.

Preaching Schedule for *Big Fish... Bigger God:*

1. 1/7/07, Jonah 1:1-3,
"Anything But That"
2. 1/14/07, Jonah 1:4-16,
"You Can Run..."
3. 1/21/07, Jonah 1:17—2:10,
"Getting Our Attention"
4. 1/28/07, Jonah 3:1-3a,
"A God-Sized Task"
5. 2/4/07, Jonah 3:3b-10,
"Drastic Times and Drastic Measures"
6. 2/11/07, Jonah 4:1-4,
"And This Is a Bad Thing?"
7. 2/18/07, Jonah 4:5-11,
"Looking at Life Through a God-Shaped Lens"



A wonderful way for you to prepare for each sermon in this life-changing series is to read the Scripture passage for Sunday before you come to the worship service. Sermon notes will be available each Sunday in the bulletin.

Come to worship ready to hear God's Word shared, explained, and applied to our lives through the incredible and inspiring story of Jonah.

Beginning January 7: Prayer List in Sunday Bulletin

After deliberation and investigation into the meaning of HIPAA (the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) for churches, concerns about privacy issues, and the desire to pray for church members and others in need, the Session authorized the publication of a prayer list in the Sunday worship bulletins beginning the first Sunday of January.

"But what about HIPAA? Won't our church get in trouble?" No, because HIPAA regulates what information health care providers and their employees may release, not churches who aren't health care providers. Congregations are legally free from HIPAA restraints, although we are still obliged to respect privacy concerns.

"Why can't hospitals call the church like they used to? Why can't the pastors find out from the hospital?" HIPAA prevents hospitals from calling churches or anyone else with medical information. Also, hospitals in our area, in an effort to be safe rather than sorry, will not allow a pastor access to the hospital registration list. Pastors can find out information only by the same means anyone may—by giving a name to the hospital receptionist and receiving a room or telephone number.

"How does the church find out about people in the hospital or in other situations of care and concern?" The only way we will find out is if you call the church office or speak with a pastor or a staff member, especially if you or a family member is going to be hospitalized or is otherwise in need of pastoral care. Please do not assume the pastors, staff, or church office knows. We would much rather receive 10 notifications and know of a need than to receive no notification and thus not know of a need. To emphasize this, we will run the following disclaimer in the bulletin and newsletter on regular intervals:

A new federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals. As a result, the pastors and church office may not know that a member of the church has been admitted to the

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From the Pastor

On the Power of Expository Preaching...

If you have been attending worship services at First Presbyterian since June, I hope you have discerned that I am an expository preacher of Scripture.

What does that mean? One way to define expository preaching is first to describe what it isn't. Expository preaching isn't the same thing as "topical" or "textual" preaching. "Topical" preaching finds its topic somewhere in the Biblical passage for the day, but then the sermon is usually developed according to the nature of the topic rather than according to the text. Sometimes the text is merely a jumping-off point for the preacher's thoughts and opinions. "Textual" preaching gets its main points from the Biblical passage for the day, but then the preacher may develop the "meat" of the sermon from other sources. In other words, while the textual preacher may develop the framework of the sermon from the Scripture passage for the day, the flesh and bones of the sermon may come from a variety of different sources outside the text itself.

Expository preaching, however, attempts to say what the Biblical passage for the day says. It seeks to do this not only by deriving the sermon's main points from the Biblical text itself, but also by deriving the rest of the sermon's development from the passage as well. In short, expository preaching attempts to say what God is saying through the Scripture before us, most often by working through a book of the Bible, verse by verse and paragraph by paragraph, in what our forebears called *lectio continua* preaching.

Brian Chappell, author of one of the more renowned recent books on expository preaching, *Christ-Centered Sermons* and expository preacher himself, puts it this way in a recent interview: "An expositor is solemnly bound to say what God says. In an expository message we relate precisely what a text of Scripture says... In expository preaching, I'm saying what the Holy Spirit has said, explaining it so it makes sense to you; at the same time, I'm being clear about what this text says, and you can see it developing even as I explain it to you."¹

Expository preaching has been central to many seasons of renewal and growth within the Christian Church. Famous early leaders of Christianity, such as St. Augustine and John Chrysostom, preached expository sermons. John Calvin and many other founders of the Presbyterian way preached this way too.

Today stir the beginnings of an expository preaching renaissance within the Presbyterian Church. There is a Yahoo discussion group, for example, of PCUSA pastors committed to preaching expository sermons through books of the Bible, "lectio continua preaching," who share insights and encouragement with each other.

I'm pleased to say that I'm a part of this group. Why? ***Because I firmly believe the primary way—not the only way, but the primary way—toward the PCUSA's renewal and revitalization is through consistent, faithful, and passionate expository preaching.*** It will be only as we systematically explain God's Word week by week that God will work within us and through us to transform his people.

So I am committed to preaching expository sermons through books of the Bible. Over the course of the next few months, you will see this commitment displayed regularly. Of course, there are always needs for short series of different types, such as during Lent and Advent, and we will not abandon those. But for the most part, your associate pastor Fred Coates and I will seek to lead the congregation through Biblical books from beginning to end, so that we may follow the Apostle Paul's example and preach the "whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27) to you.

In this column in successive issues of the newsletter, I will unpack more of what expository preaching through books of the Bible means for our church and its significance for our lives.

It is my continuing joy to be your pastor and to expound the Word of God for you.

Grace and peace,

Clay

1. www.preachingtodaysermons.com/trutabexprea.html, 5/18/2006.



**Budget & Finance
Forum**

As we approach the end of the year, our income numbers change day to day as our members are completing their giving to the church for 2006. If you have not done so, we want to encourage you to fulfill your commitment for 2006 and any extra that you can give to help pay for the "faith line" in our budget.

The pledges for 2007 continue to come in and our "faith line" for next year has dropped to \$26,000. If you have not made your pledge for 2007, we want to encourage you to do so. We are looking for the year 2007 to be very exciting as we serve our

Lord and help carry on His work.

We should have a complete year-end report next month.

Congregational Meeting on January 7 for Associate Pastor/Director Search

Last fall, it was announced the Session had approved the addition of a new staff position at First Presbyterian, an Associate Pastor or Director for Youth Ministries, the revising of Fred Coates' job description as associate pastor from a focus on youth ministries to a focus on missions, community ministry, and congregational care, and the calling of our current music director Alan Sledge as interim youth director.

After Session's approval of the position, we needed to receive permission from Salem Presbytery's Committee on Ministry to proceed with a search and for the Session's Executive Committee to propose a slate of nominees for an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). These two steps have been accomplished.

The Presbyterian Book of Order (G.7.0304) calls for a congregational meeting for only five reasons and for these five reasons only:

1. Matters related to the election of elders and deacons.
2. Matters related to the calling of a pastor.
3. Matters related to a pastor's relationship with his/her congregation.
4. Matters related to buying, selling, or mortgaging property.
5. Matters related to the "permissive powers of a congregation," such as a request to the presbytery for exemption from certain requirement due to limited size.

So in accordance with the Presbyterian *Book of Order*, a congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, January 7, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, for the purposes of:

- Receiving a report from the Executive Committee of the Session that will place into nomination a slate of seven people for an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (Reason #2 above).
- Approving Fred's revised job description and a new job description for an Associate Pastor/Director of Youth Ministries (Reason #3 above).

During the congregational meeting, qualified persons may be nominated from the floor with the prior consent of the person being nominated. The election will take place immediately once nominations are closed.

All church members are to receive in the mail, in a separate mailing from this newsletter, important information on Fred's revised job description, on the job description for the new Associate Pastor/Director for Youth Ministries, and on each nominee for the APNC for your consideration.

Thursdays with Clay Begin January 25

Three "Understanding and Answering..." Short Courses in January and February

The popular study series "Thursdays with Clay" starts again on Thursday, January 25, with the first of a series of three "Understanding and Answering..." short courses on differing topics of interest. The theme that unites all three courses is the topic of "apologetics"—the reasoned and loving defense of Christian faith and practice.

Each course is concentrated and self-contained in a two-hour time period, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and from 7:00-9:00 p.m., to help you use your time wisely and to provide the optimal introduction to the topic at hand. The material presented from 1:00-3:00 p.m. is repeated at 7:00-9:00 p.m., so you may choose whichever time period fits your schedule best. There are no fees for any of the three courses.

Your teacher for all three courses is our pastor/head of staff, Clay Brown. Clay earned his Ph.D. in philosophy and apologetics from Trinity Theological Seminary (with endorsement from the University of Liverpool) and has successfully taught courses on all three topics listed below.

Course #1, January 25, "Understanding and Answering Islam," seeks to provide an introduction to the major tenets of Islam as well as responding to Islamic challenges to Christianity.

Course #2, February 15, "Understanding and Answering the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints," attempts to offer a basic understanding of what Mormons believe and how these beliefs compare with traditional Christianity.

Course #3, February, 22, "Understanding and Answering Common Objections to Christianity," addresses the most common objections non-Christians have to the Christian faith and to propose helpful responses to them.

Textbooks are not required for these courses, although helpful resources will be suggested for further reading and study.

Registration is strongly encouraged so we can prepare enough handouts for participants. You can contact the church office by calling 704-664-5275, or by emailing us at secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org. Free child care will be provided upon advance notice given to the church office at registration.



A Letter to *The Layman*

(Editor's Note: The following letter by our pastor/head of staff, Clay Brown, was first published as a letter to the editor of *The Layman* website of the Presbyterian Lay Committee, a renewal group within the Presbyterian Church USA. Shortly thereafter it was added to the website of the Constitutional Presbyterians, a group of Presbyterians committed to the constitution of the PCUSA, to the renewal of the denomination, and to the classic, traditional and confessional understandings of Presbyterian faith and practice. It is offered here as one expression of how we may respond to the current crisis within the larger church.)



Dear Editor:

Some attendees of the recently held Constitutional Presbyterians gathering [held November 3-4, 2006, at First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC] have written of their displeasure with what transpired there. They perceive that the gathering was another “all talk and no action” event similar to others convened over the years, with no clear strategy offered as a way forward.

I respectfully disagree. I heard a coherent and active strategy expounded as follows:

- 1. Fear not as you strive against the current direction of the PCUSA. Truth, as in Scripture, our confessional and constitutional witness, and the classic Reformed tradition as a whole, is on your side.*
- 2. Know that the issue of the ordination of self-affirming, practicing gays and lesbians has not yet been decided. There is disagreement even on whether or not ordination standards indeed have been changed. You will not know for sure until a case makes it to the PJC. Until then, it is too early to talk of leaving.*
- 3. In the meantime: a) Make sure your theology grounds your polity and ethics. Know what you believe, why you believe it, and how your belief should direct your practice – then make sure it does. b) Articulate and contend for the authority of Scripture, the consensual creeds of the Church, and the orthodox constitutional ordination standards in your congregations, sessions and presbyteries. Get involved. Ask tough questions fairly and forthrightly. Serve when, where, and how you can. Band together with like-minded people for support and encouragement. c) Evaluate your stewardship regarding funds sent to higher judicatories. d) Investigate your congregation's property issues in your state sooner rather than later. e) Use the resources provided to help you with a) through d).*
- 4. Remember that the PCUSA is but a small part of the Church universal. If push comes to shove, there are sound Reformed criteria for distinguishing between the depravity always found in the church and the apostasy that necessitates a decision to leave. For now, though, there is much work to be done, and you are part of God's “can-do army” for doing it.*

That seems a pretty clear strategy to me. It may not be the strategy some want to hear, but it is a viable strategy nevertheless. Furthermore, it is a strategy I believe is the most appropriate one at this time. I recognize something could happen tomorrow that might change things (was it Ron Scates [pastor of Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Dallas, TX] who said, in his address to the Constitutional Presbyterians, that every day he wakes up and wonders what shame the PCUSA will bring on the gospel today?), but as of now this is where I stand.

(Signed)

The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, pastor
First Presbyterian Church
Mooresville, N.C.



Christian sympathy is expressed to Maria Heilman and family in the death of her brother, Fernando “Pito” de Anders Loste, on December 12. Pito lived in Spain with the rest of Maria's family.



We are pleased to announce an addition to the Scott Burton family. Melanie gave birth to a son, Sawyer James Burton, on December 13. Sawyer joins siblings, Rourke, Meredith and Kate and is the grandson of our Pastor Emeritus Ed Lewis and his wife, Martha. We extend our sincere congratulations to all of you.

Lent in the Living Room— A New Small Group Ministry for FPC

Groups Start the First Week of Lent; Registration Starts February 4

You will have the opportunity to participate in something new and exciting for First Presbyterian Church this Lent—a small group ministry called “Lent in the Living Room.”



What happens during “Lent in the Living Room”? Small groups of between 8-14 people will meet once a week for six

sessions in a host family’s home in locations throughout Mooresville and the surrounding area during Lent. When they meet, they do the following:

- Study the Scriptures together, using the sermon passage preached the previous Sunday as the text. A trained small group facilitator will guide the discussion through questions provided for this purpose.
- Share with one another and get to know each other.
- Pray together.
- Reflect on their Lenten journeys and growth in Christian discipleship together.

Groups will begin to meet the week of the First Sunday in Lent, February 28, and will end the week of the Sixth Sunday in Lent, April 1. Groups will be offered in different locations and on most days and nights of the week, so you will be able to find a group on the day, at the time, and in the location best for you. Group meetings usually take approximately 70-90 minutes. Most groups will meet in homes, but some groups may meet at the church. If groups choose to continue meeting after “Lent in the Living Room,” they will be provided resources for doing so.

You will be able to register for the group of your choice beginning Sunday, February 4, in the parlor, as well as by contacting the church office through phone or email or through the church website.

We are actively seeking facilitators to lead discussions and hosts to open their homes to groups. Training will be provided. If you are interested in serving as either a facilitator, a host, or both, or simply want more information, please contact pastor Clay Brown at 704-664-5275, clay@moorevillefirstpres.org.

Keegan Kortright, daughter of Mark and Nancy Kortright, graduated from UNCW on Dec.16, 2006 majoring in Communications and Spanish. She will be living and working in Wilmington.

Prayer List in Sunday Bulletin...

(Continued from front page)

hospital. If you are hospitalized, and would like to notify the pastors, it is important that you or a family member inform the church office as soon as possible.

Call us at 704-664-5275, or email us at secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org. Remember, hospitals can no longer provide information to us.







“What kind of information will be on this prayer list?” Names and, on occasion, general information about the person’s need. If someone is hospitalized, we will list the name of the hospital. But this prayer list is not merely for those hospitalized. Other needs, such as bereavement, other illness, and other life situations are all occasions for prayer. Please know we will not mention detailed medical information or other detailed personal information that would be inappropriate to share with others. If there is any doubt, we will not distribute the information. We will do our very best to verify information by contacting the person directly involved or a family member.



“Can I call the church office to find out about someone in the hospital or in another situation of concern?” We will be happy to give you whatever information we can release. Please remember, though, that most of the time that information will be limited to basic information. We will not give out detailed medical information or other personal information out of respect for that person’s privacy.

“What if I don’t want my name on a prayer list or want the church office to give out any information?” We will operate on the basis of “implied consent.” In other words, if you are a member of FPC, we will include you in our prayer concerns as situations arise as a part of your church membership. However, if you do not want to be on a prayer list or for the church office to distribute any information, please let us know ASAP. We will put you on a “Do Not Distribute” list and withhold information accordingly. We also will run this information in the bulletin and newsletter regularly.

Confess your faults one
to another, and pray one for another,
that ye may be healed. The effectual
fervent prayer of a righteous man
availeth much.

James 5:16

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Church Office Closed</i></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 2</p> <p>5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Village Pizza 6:00pm Brownies- rm.219 6:30pm Cub Scouts</p>
Weekday Preschool Closed		
<p style="text-align: center;">Baptism of the Lord Communion 7</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 3:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>9:30am Moms in Touch 2:00pm Circle No. 1 in parlor 6:15pm Circle No. 3 in the Session Room 7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>10:00am Circle No. 4 in the parlor 12:00pm Circle No. 5 at the home of Mary Fortanbary 5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Jack-in-the-Box 6:00pm Brownies - 219 7:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 14</p> <p>8:30am PYF Ski Trip and Lock-in 8:30am Early Worship 8:30am Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 7:00pm Committee Meetings</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Church Office and Weekday Preschool Closed 15</p>  <p>7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>10:30am <i>Exploring Our Reformed Faith</i> Study 12:30pm Saints Alive 5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Shiki 6:00pm Brownies - 219 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 21</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 3:00pm Handmaidens of the Lord (No. 6) 4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Weekday Preschool Closed</p> <p>9:30am Moms in Touch 7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Trackside 6:00pm Brownies - 219 7:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 28</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship with Logos choir 5:15pm Alpha & Omega PYF 6:00pm Chili Cook-off 7:00pm Session Meeting</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p>9:30am Moms in Touch 7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p>10:30am <i>Exploring Our Reformed Faith</i> Study 5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Bojangles 6:00pm Brownies - 219 7:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p>

Wednesday 3 <i>Weekday Preschool Reopens</i> 11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner Logos/MSM/Kairos Registration Deadline	Thursday 4 8:30am Saints Alive to Monet Exhibit 9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home 7:00pm Mooresville Users Group 7:00pm Sisters in Christ (No.2)	Friday 5	Saturday 6
10 11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 4:00pm Logos/MSM - <i>Sports Night</i> 5:00pm Kairos 6:45pm Logos/MSMKairos Parent Meeting for new participants 7:30pm Chancel Choir	11 9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home  Fun & Fellowship 6:00pm Fun & Fellowship at Golden Corral	12	13
17 11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 4:00pm Logos/MSM - <i>Favorite Cap Night</i> 5:00pm Kairos 7:30pm Chancel Choir	18 9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home	19 	20
24 11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 4:00pm Logos/MSM - <i>Space/Alien Night</i> 5:00pm Kairos 7:30pm Chancel Choir	25 9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home 	26	27
31 11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 4:00pm Logos/MSM - <i>Super Bowl Night</i> 5:00pm Kairos 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<h1 style="text-align: center;">January 2007</h1> 		

Mission Focus: The Mwandi Hospital Project



A brief history

The Mwandi Mission Hospital Project started back in 1989 when more than 30 churches, mostly Presbyterian, under the leadership of the Thyatira Presbyterian Church in Mill Bridge (Salisbury), worked together in an unprecedented effort to provide electricity for the Mwandi UCZ Mission Hospital in Mwandi, Zambia. In less than 3 months, more than \$275,000 was committed for the needed equipment and supplies and teams were committed to complete the work. First Presbyterian Church has been involved with the Mwandi Hospital Project from those early beginnings.

Over the past seventeen years, through the generosity of countless volunteers, and their supporting congregations, the hospital has been electrified, new buildings have been constructed, the hospital staff has been augmented, equipment and vehicles have been provided, and quality medical care for more than 30,000 people in the Sesheke District of Western Zambia has become a reality. It has been one of the bright lights of Presbyterian mission!

The project's scope

Since its inception, the Mwandi project has grown into a multi-faceted effort that includes:

- the **Mission Hospital** (inpatient and outpatient care, support for "bush" clinics and skilled medical staff)
- the **HIV/AIDS program** for prevention and treatment
- the local **UCZ (United Church of Zambia) church and its preschool program**
- the **Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Center (OVC)**
- the **Mwandi Basic School** (now being upgraded to a high school)
- the **Communications project** (computer and Internet infrastructure for the mission),
- the **Sewing Center and local Agricultural Project.**

All of this has been accomplished because of the "over and above" generosity of the many dedicated churches and individual donors who have been and are a part of the larger Mwandi Family. Without their continuing support, the work of the hospital simply could not continue!

New leadership in 2007

January, 2007, will bring a new chairman of the hospital Board of Directors as Elder Charles Newsome of the Thyatira Presbyterian Church "retires" and Elder **Mike Campbell, M.D.**, of our own congregation assumes his duties. Associate Pastor **Fred Coates** will be serving as the Board Secretary following the retirement of The Rev. Dr. Steve Moss from "active duty" on the Board.

Opportunities to serve in 2007:

(1) Prayer

The greatest tool of the church is prayer! There is much about which you can pray for the Mwandi Mission in 2007. These include (but are not limited to) the "settling in" of the new doctors and their families, the ministry of the local UCZ church as it seeks to lead others to Christ, the improving health of the local community, the move away from "traditional" and "risky" behaviors that endanger individuals and the community, the creation of good jobs for the local population, the improvement to the local school and its expansion into the higher grades, the health and safety of the missionaries (Keith and Ida Waddell and Fiona-Dixon-Thompson), the nurture of the children in the OVC program, the health and well being of the patients at the hospital and the morale of the hospital staff.

(2) Financial contributions

Financial gifts are always appreciated. We have committed to raise \$100,000 for the hospital's endowment fund (we have raised about half of it so far). FPC has also budgeted to help support the

Mission Focus:

(continued)

Waddells (the local missionary couple in Mwand) with \$3600 from the General Fund.

We have also planned to contribute additional funds, *provided the funds are given*, as follows: \$5000 for the work of the hospital, \$10,000 for the Communications project and \$5000 for the OVC Center. There are plenty of opportunities to give to these very worthwhile efforts!

(3) Mission trip

As has been our custom for the last several years, another mission trip to Mwand) is being planned for the summer of 2007 (around June 26- July 10). Anyone interested in participating in that trip can get more information from Fred Coates. We will be assisting with the school, the OVC, the UCZ church and the general work of the hospital. All areas of expertise can be employed, but the need for medical, educational, repair and construction teams is greatest. Is God calling you to a short-term mission in Mwand)?



MWANDI MISSION HOSPITAL BUDGET 2007

DIRECT MISSIONARY SUPPORT (Waddells)

a) Salary	9,000
b) Airfare home	6,500
c) School Fees for child in Zambia	4,500
d) Insurance	1,800
e) Education for children not in Zambia	3,000
f) Subsistence	2,400
g) Miscellaneous	800

MISSIONARY SUPPORT TOTAL \$28,000

HOSPITAL STAFF SALARY SUPPORT

a) Hospital Administrator	1,200
b) Doctors (2 @ \$7,200)	14,400
c) Clinical Officer	2,400

HOSPITAL STAFF SUPPORT TOTAL \$18,000

MISSION HOUSE EMPLOYEE SUPPORT

(change to annual contract status) \$3,500

HIV/AIDS PROGRAM SUPPLIES

(CD4 Testing Machine Reagents) \$4,500

COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

(Internet & e-mail system access) \$5,000

SUPPORT FOR UCZ EVANGELIST

(Harris Sileshebo) \$5,100

REPLACEMENT FOR DOCTORS' VEHICLE \$20,000

MISCELLANEOUS/EMERGENCIES \$4,900

TOTAL EXPENSES PROJECTED \$89,000



A word of thanks...

...to the officers and congregation

How rich a blessing it is to be associated with you all! We are deeply grateful for your many kind expressions of love and care during this Christmas season ...and all year long. May God continue to bless you as you have been such a blessing to us.

In Him,
Fred and Jean Coates



Fun & Fellowship Group

Everyone is invited to join us at Golden Corral restaurant on January 11 at 6:00 p.m. for an evening of great fellowship, good food and an evening of rich enjoyment with your church family. We meet the second Thursday at 6:00 p.m. every month. If you have questions, you may call Althea Nelson at 704-663-5998.

Youth Page

One, two, three: Let's go ski!!!

We're off to West Virginia

How about a little snow, man-made that is? Let's go to Winterplace for a great evening on the slopes. We will load up and leave the church by charter bus on Sunday, January 14, 2007 at 8:00 a.m.

After a brief breakfast stop, we'll make it to Hillsville, Va. for the 11:00 a.m. worship service at Hillsville Presbyterian Church. Back on the road again, we'll stop for lunch and then continue north on I-77 towards West Virginia. By 3:30 p.m. we should be making our way off the interstate and on to the slopes of Winterplace Ski Resort in Flat Top, WV. Night skiing is scheduled for 5:00–10:00 p.m. We plan on arriving back at church early Monday morning around 2:00 a.m. - school is out on the 15th. For those of you who don't enjoy getting out at that time of the morning, don't worry; we'll lock in (youth room and parlor) till 8:00 a.m. Permission forms are available in the youth room, church office and on the web at:



www.moorevillefirstpres.org/youth.htm

Special hunger relief offering set for February 4 "Souper" party also planned

Rumor has it that there's going to be some kind of big "Bowl" in February (something to do with football...?). Of course, the really BIG BOWL is the one PYF will be 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 15,000 churches representing all 50 states and Canada. **Since its beginning, more than \$28,000,000 has been raised for hunger relief!**



We want to make this year's "Souper Sunday" offering total even bigger. The proceeds from our local offering will be used to help the Mooresville Christian Mission and the Mooresville Soup Kitchen meet the needs of the hungry in our community.

So, let's talk it up and encourage everyone to be prepared to "tackle hunger" on "Souper Bowl" Sunday, February 4! We'll be asking a \$2.00 (or more!)

Supper Club

leave the church @ 5:30 p.m.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| January 2: | Village Pizza |
| January 9: | Jack-in-the-Box |
| January 16: | Shiki |
| January 23: | Trackside |
| January 30: | Bojangles |

First Presbyterian Church
249 West McLelland Ave.
Mooresville, NC 28115



Are you receiving the monthly PYF schedule of events in the mail? If not, contact the church office to update your postal information. There are also weekly email notices going out; let us know if you are not receiving them.

A page from the library

Our featured author for this month is Philip Yancey. He says, "My books are a process of exploration and investigation. So, I tend to tackle different problems with faith, things of concern to me, things I wonder about and worry about." Philip Yancey serves as editor-at-large for *Christianity Today*. His best-selling books have won multiple Gold Medallion awards and have been translated into twenty-five languages.

Some of his books you might consider reading are: *What's So Amazing About Grace*, where you may join him on a soul-searching pilgrimage into the meaning of grace. Or try *The Jesus I Never Knew*; you've known Him for years - or have you? Yancey helps you put aside preconceptions and discover a Master who is far more than you had ever imagined.

In his latest book, *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?* Yancey probes the most fundamental, challenging, perplexing and deeply rewarding aspect of your relationship with God - prayer, facing questions such as "Is He listening?" and "What's the point?"

Ellie Den Bleyker

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, donkey, angels, wise men, prophets, narrators, and star holders! 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: Janie Carpenter, Beverly Chappell, Judy Cole, Gretchen Little, Valerie Mauney, Jen and Sonya Moskel, Dawn Ottinger, Becky Rader, Liz Rader, and Nancy Smith. We couldn't have done it without you!

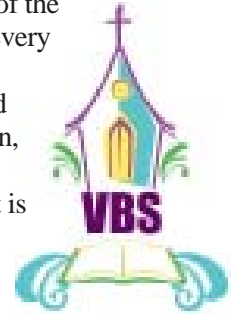
Saints to visit "Monet in Normandy" exhibit

Saints Alive is planning a day trip to Raleigh to see the "Monet in Normandy" exhibit at the North Carolina Art Museum on Thursday, January 4, leaving at 8:30 a.m. and returning around 6:00 p.m. Advance ticket reservations are required (**\$15 - please note this is a change from the December newsletter cost, due to online handling charges**); lunch is available at the museum. The exhibition features fifty paintings by one of the world's best-loved artists, French impressionist Claude Monet. Please contact Ellen Auten as soon as possible if you would like to make a reservation.

Vacation Bible School

Even though we're in the middle of winter and it's hard to imagine summer vacation, one of the big events we have to look forward to every summer is Vacation Bible School. Our congregation participates in a combined Bible School with Prospect Presbyterian, Mooresville AR Presbyterian, and Fieldstone Presbyterian, and this year it is our turn to host the activities, which means we will need a lot of help from our church family. We will begin to plan for Bible School in late January, so please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in being on the VBS Planning Committee.

Dates for this year's Bible School are June 24-27. Be sure to put those dates on your brand new 2007 calendars!



January Saints Alive

Luncheon will feature our "feathered friends"

The monthly Saints Alive luncheon will be held on Tuesday, January 16, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall; lunch cost is \$4. The program will be presented by Evelyn Weatherman, daughter of Bernice Melchor, who will present a program on "Birds in my Backyard." Evelyn will give us suggestions about feeding and enjoying wild birds in our own backyards. Wintertime is a wonderful time to cultivate an interest in the many species of birds common to our area, and to enjoy feeding some of God's beautiful creations! Come bring a friend and experience the warm fellowship we enjoy at Saints Alive, even in the long days of winter.



Saints enjoy author

The Saints Alive group enjoyed a festive holiday luncheon on Tuesday, December 19, with beautiful holiday table decorations, thanks to Lynelle Owen, and a delicious holiday meal. The luncheon was prepared by Ann Manning, who graciously stepped in at the very last minute, due to illness in hostess Jerilyn Fair's family. Many thanks to Ann for her willing and cheerful spirit, and for preparing a delicious lunch of homemade vegetable soup, deli ham sandwiches, chips, egg nog, and fruit cake. The program was presented by Charlotte Lundy Soutullo, who told the group about her experiences as the author of the children's book series, *Thank You, God*.

Many thanks to Charlotte for an interesting and informative program!

Presbyterian Men

The Presbyterian Men are kicking off their breakfasts (second Sunday of each month) with a presentation from the Mooresville librarian. Please join us at 8:30 a.m. on January 14, 2007 and hear about the library's 60,000+ books; 2,500+ audio materials, and over 5,000 videos.

Vice-President John Neely has already lined up a number of entertaining and educating programs throughout the new year; many with an outdoors bent. Already scheduled are presentations on lighthouses in NC; reptiles in and around Lake Norman; fishing for dinosaurs in the Snake River, Idaho; golfing in and around Mooresville; the Barium Springs ministry; angling for walleye and lake trout in Saskatchewan, Canada; and the plight of migratory birds in North America. As you can see the programs will be covering a lot of North America, with the exception of the second largest state in the union, as we will be concentrating only on geographical regions that have some redeeming social and societal value.



A very special thank you to Mark Vaughan who served as President of the Men of the Church in 2006. Mark stepped forward when we were short on volunteers for officers; we are in his debt for his service and dedication this past year. A special thank you as well to Jeff Stonestreet who tirelessly worked to line up programs which expanded our understanding and widened our insight.

Please come and join us on January 14 and have breakfast courtesy of Paul Beaver and his kitchen staff. Clemson folks are especially encouraged to attend as they will learn about a library that has more than one book and where the dots aren't already connected.

Gene Vaughan

President, Presbyterian Men

Weekday Preschool

We could **not** have had a more joyous Christmas program on our two days in December, 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. Thank you also, for all of your generous donations to the Preschool playground fund; what a wonderful way of giving to the Preschool!

We are looking ahead to the cold and snowy days of January, but as always we hope to only talk, sing and do art projects about the snow. If we experience the real thing (!), we have had some practice with closings and delays. Remember, we follow the Mooresville city schools for snow procedures.

We will reopen school on **Wed., Jan. 3rd** and Lunch Bunch will begin on that day. The teachers have some fun units planned on *Foreign Languages, The Rainforest, Arctic Blast, The Department Store, Princes & Princesses, Pirates, Snow Village* and *Year Round Weather*. Please note that the Preschool will be **closed on Monday, January 15th, and Mon. & Tue., Jan. 22nd & 23rd**. We are in the process of registration for the 2007-2008 school year, so please tell your friends and neighbors to register their child. Church members not already enrolled are welcome and encouraged to call me and reserve a spot.

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

With Love,
Mrs. Nancy



First Presbyterian Church
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