

The Bulletin Board

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

November 2007

Operation Christmas Child

November church night supper

Everyone is encouraged to attend the church night supper on Sunday, November 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The supper, under the leadership of church hostess Jerilyn Fair with assistance from Circle 2 (Sisters in Christ) and members of the Property Committee, is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children (no charge for children under 4).



After supper, a representative from Operation Christmas Child will present a brief program on the organization's shoe box project, followed by an opportunity for participants to pack shoe boxes for needy children around the world. What a great opportunity to participate in a "hands-on" mission project of love and compassion that will benefit so many children.

Please bring some of the following items to the November church supper:

Regular-size shoe boxes

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, slinky, legos, small puzzles

School supplies: pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons, markers, stamps and ink pad sets, paper, coloring books, solar calculators, etc.

Hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb, washcloths, etc.

Other: hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights and batteries, ball caps, socks, t-shirts, toy jewelry, hair clips, watches. **Please wrap candy in ziploc baggies.**

Please do not include the following items:

Used items; war-related items, including toy guns, knives, and military items; **perishable items,** such as chocolate, crackers, canned foods; **medicines,** such as vitamins, cough drops; **breakable items,** such as mirrors, china dolls, snow globes.

Shoebboxes should be turned in to the church by Sunday, November 18.

Nov. 4th Congregational Meeting

for Election of Elders and Deacons

In fulfillment of the Presbyterian *Book of Order* and the bylaws of First Presbyterian Church, a congregational meeting is called for Sunday, November 4, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of receiving and acting on a report from the Church Officer Nominating Committee. This report will place into nomination a slate of potential members of the Session and the Diaconate, Class of 2010. All church members are to receive in the mail, in a separate mailing from this newsletter, important information on each nominee. (If you do not receive this mailing, please let us know so we may get this information to you.) During the meeting, qualified persons may also be nominated from the floor, with the prior consent of the person being nominated. The election will take place immediately once nominations are closed. Training for the elders/deacons elect will take place on November 16-17.



The Church Officer Nominating Committee annually consists of representatives from the Session and the Diaconate completing their terms of service, along with representatives from the Church School leadership, Presbyterian Men, Presbyterian Women, and Presbyterian Youth Fellowship, and the pastor/head of staff as an *ex officio* member. For 2007, the members are Paul Trimble (chair), Lynelle Owen, Will McIntyre, Mike Toma, Gretchen Little, Gene Vaughan, Debbie Hyatt, Rebecca Auten, and Clay Brown.



From the Pastor

A Few Things for Which I'm Thankful...

November is the traditional time for giving thanks and expressing gratitude. I have a lot for which to be thankful—and not just because the Dallas Cowboys are playing well. I'm thankful to be part of a church family that takes seriously the mission Jesus gives us:

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

Here are a few things for which I'm thankful:

- ***Leadership Banquet on September 30th***. During this time of enjoying one another's company, your Session and Diaconate members and their spouses, when given the opportunity, celebrated our ministry together and committed to Christ's mission for our church for 2008. **Your leaders have stepped up to the plate by pledging \$192,000 toward our 2008 budget.** You have wonderful elders and deacons who share a vision and an excitement about FPC.
- ***Stewardship Fair and Dinner on October 14th***. This was a first-rate, well-done experience for the entire church family. **Approximately 200 people attended the event at the Charles Mack Citizen Center, filling up the banquet room with Presbyterians talking about Christ's mission for us!** We ate together, laughed together, and toured a number of displays provided by our committees and ministry groups within FPC over the varied ministries conducted by this congregation. A large number of volunteers helped to make this event come together, including the Stewardship Subcommittee, the Budget and Finance Committee, and all of our other committees and groups that took part. Their leadership and vision helped to make this night a glorious time of fun and growth for us all.
- ***Pledge Sunday on October 21st***. It was a moving experience to see hundreds of people walking to the Lord's Supper table to place their 2008 financial pledges and their "Time and Talent" forms in the plates as offerings of themselves. **To support our mission for 2008, we're expecting a 2008 budget of \$936,000—so we need everyone's participation.** You are a generous people, and your generosity will help make ministry happen in 2008 as God multiplies your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. (As of press time, we do not have a report on the pledge totals. As soon as this information is available, we'll get it to you.)
- ***Missions Pancake Breakfast and Yard Sale on October 20th***. It was great to see so many people sitting together and eating their pancakes, peaches, and sausage in our Fellowship Hall—not just church members, either, but many from the greater Mooresville community as well. Also, it was inspiring to see the variety of goods available for sale. **All proceeds support our ongoing endeavors with the Mwandi Mission, Zambia, Africa—part of Christ's mission for us.** Again, you are a generous, giving people. Your support of this and other missions efforts speak well of your commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ. I applaud the leadership shown to us through the Missions Committee as well as the many others who assisted with this event.

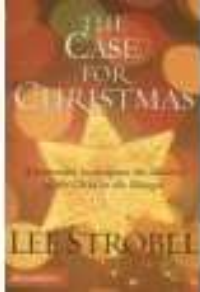
Can you see why I'm so optimistic about the future of FPC? God has given us a compelling mission for our congregation, committed lay leaders who use their gifts, and a huge number of resources—financial and otherwise—to minister in Christ's name. **Remember this: God has a wonderful plan for us, and he's doing something great in our midst. We have the tremendous opportunity to see what he's doing and to join him in his work.**

We are so blessed! Let us give thanks.

Grace and peace,
The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown

Share Christ with Christmas Book You Can Give Away!

Christmas is perhaps the best time of year for evangelism. Last year, we gave away more than 1000 CDs of Christmas carols performed by First Presbyterian Church's music ministry to friends, family members, and neighbors near and far. What a wonderful witness to the Mooresville community!



This Christmas, we will have another low-stress, high-touch, non-threatening way to share with your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family members the wonderful message of Christmas and the ministry of First Presbyterian Church!

Lee Strobel, former atheist and newspaper reporter turned Christian minister, has written a wonderful book, *The Gift of Christmas*. This book, in the same vein as Strobel's *The Case for Christ*, *The Case for Faith*, and *The Case for a Creator*, helps to share the miracle of Christmas in a clear, insightful way.

On Sunday, December 2, you will have the opportunity to take with you copies of this book along with information about the Advent and Christmas activities of FPC. These books are free. As you give them away, please invite the recipients to attend our congregation's Advent and Christmas events as a witness of your faith in Christ.

We believe the Lord will provide both the people to whom you should give a book and the funds to cover the costs—approximately \$2 per book—yet the books are meant for you to pass out as a free outreach of FPC without passing on any costs. Your kind donations will be gratefully accepted.

Catechism Club

Catechism Club is off to a great start this year, with all six participants successfully reciting the first 48 questions.



They are one-third of the way through the memorization of the 150 questions. Great job! This year's participants include Kathryn Carson, Davis DeCastro, Grayson Chappell, Madeline Robinson, Sydney Weir, and Matthew Windsor.

Thanks to the adult mentors who are meeting with their Catechism friend once a month. Mentors include Beverly Chappell, Leeann DeCastro, Phil Heilman, Martha McDonnell, Judith McLean, and Liz Rader. And thanks also to Carole Crews and Tony Woodring, our faithful and dedicated kitchen crew.

We're having a great time at Catechism Club each week, and are looking forward to a great year of learning and growing!



Sunday evening schedule for November

Alphas: Middle school students (7th & 8th)
4:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Omeegas: High school students (9th - 12th)
5:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The Sunday program incorporates a staggered start time for the two groups. This provides an opportunity for separate Bible studies and recreation, as well as a combined time for the meal and music.

* **November 4** combined meeting @ 5:15 p.m.

* **November 25** No PYF for Thanksgiving

Special Events:

- Mission and a Movie @ Walk to Bethlehem Saturday **November 10**

Senior High SupperClub: Each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. Meet at the church and travel out for a meal (dutch treat.) We will return to the church for a Bible study time. **November 7** - Salsarita's
November 14 - Wendy's **November 28** - Shiki

5th Quarter: Middle school and High school gather in the youth room after MHS home football games for pizza & WBTV's Football Friday Night. Ends at 12 midnight. **November 2**

If you would like to receive the Youth Newsletter **PYF Happenings**, contact Alan Sledge, the church office or check it out on the web at:

www.moorsvillefirstpres.org/youth.htm

A page from the library

This month's featured author in our "Focus on Fiction" series is Gilbert Morris. Formerly a college English professor, he spends all of his waking hours writing fiction. He and his wife live in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

A Bright Tomorrow begins an epic series of the Stuart family at the turn of the twentieth century. Follow the family decade by decade and discover all the tragedy, hope, romance and adventure a century can hold. It is best to read them in series order:

A Bright Tomorrow
Hope Takes Flight
One Shining Moment
A Season of Dreams
Winds of Change




I hope you will enjoy this series as much as I have.

Ellie Den Bleyker

November 2007



<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 9:45am <i>Young Adult Class</i> begins 11:00am Worship 5:15pm Alpha & Omega PYF 5:00pm Catechism Club (<i>note time change</i>) 6:00pm Church Night Supper and Operation Christmas Child program</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>9:00 am Moms in Touch in the Session Room</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scout Den Meetings</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship with the Logos choir 8:30am Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:30pm Catechism Club 7:00pm Committee Meetings</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>2:00pm Circle No. 1 in the Parlor</p> <p>6:15pm Blessed in Christ (No. 3) in the Parlor</p> <p>7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>9:00 am Moms in Touch in the Session Room</p> <p>10:00am Circle of Faith (No. 4) in the Parlor</p> <p>12:00pm Women of the Word(No.5)</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:30pm Catechism Club 6:00pm Diaconate Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>7:00pm Executive Committee 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p>  <p>9:00 am Moms in Touch in the Session Room</p> <p>10:30am <i>Exploring Our Reformed Faith</i> group in the library</p> <p>12:30pm Saints Alive Luncheon</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scout Den Meetings</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship No PYF 6:00pm Session Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>9:00 am Moms in Touch in the Session Room</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p>6:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p> <p>7:00pm Sisters in Christ (No. 2) in the Library</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  PYF 5th 10:00pm Quarter </p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>7:30pm New Young Adult Class Fellowship at the manse</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  <small>Daylight Saving Time Ends</small> </p>
<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study with Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos <i>Veteran's Celebration</i></p> <p>6:15pm Logos/MSM dinner for Veteran guests</p> <p>6:15pm HS Supper Club at Salsarita's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p> <p>2:00pm Blood Drive at the Citizen Center until 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>6:00pm Fun & Fellowship at Golden Corral</p> <p>6:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>9:00am PYF Mission & a Movie until 2:00pm</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study with Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos <i>Thanksgiving Night</i></p> <p>6:15pm HS Supper Club at Wendy's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>9:30am Saints Alive to the Southern Christmas Show</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p>6:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p> <p>7:00pm PW Coordinating Team</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>
<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study with Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>No Logos/MSM or Supper Club</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thanksgiving Day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>4:00pm Logos <i>Hero Night</i></p> <p>6:15pm HS Supper Club at Shiki</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p>6:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p>	

Advent Workshop

Scheduled for December 2

All ages are invited and encouraged to attend the annual Advent Workshop in the fellowship hall on Sunday, December 2, during the church school hour, 9:45 - 10:40 a.m. Participants will have an opportunity to make Christmas crafts and Advent wreaths while enjoying wonderful holiday refreshments and fellowship with our church family. Young children need to be accompanied by their parent or an adult or teen helper to assist with the craft projects.



Volunteers are needed to help with refreshments and crafts. We need volunteers who are willing to make some homemade holiday goodies! Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) if you are available to help. Be sure to include this

date on your December calendar as we prepare our hearts and homes for Christmas.

Supplies needed for Advent Workshop

Please contact Ellen Auten if you can provide any of these items for the Advent Workshop:

- aluminum pie pans
- garden clippers and garden gloves
- plastic candle holders (use 5 per wreath)

Walk Thru Bethlehem

Walk Thru Bethlehem is a dramatic recreation of the times surrounding the birth of Christ. Visitors will experience Bethlehem's marketplace and encounter many of the memorable sights and sounds of that night, more than 2000 years ago, when Jesus was born.

This year, our congregation will join with a number of other local congregations (Central Methodist, Lake Norman Fellowship, Faith Methodist, St. Paul Methodist, St. Therese Catholic and Redeemer's Light Methodist) in a wonderful opportunity to share the special joy of the Christmas season by participating in the annual *Walk Thru Bethlehem* to be held December 7, 8, and 9 at the Brawley Mansion (just off of Broad Street in Mooresville). The preparations have already begun and you are invited to be part of a construction crew, to be a cast member, a costumer, a financial benefactor, a publicist or to fill any of a number of others roles to help make this year's walk the best ever. Contact Jean Coates (704-663-2114) or Holly Horsman (704-664-9765) for more information. Help others find their way to Bethlehem...and to Christ!



Saints Alive

Southern Christmas Show

The Saints Alive group is making plans to attend the annual Southern Christmas Show at the Charlotte

Merchandise Mart on Thursday, November 15;



tickets are \$7.00. This year's show theme is "Magical Christmas,"

where participants will experience the enchanted land of Christmas complete with holiday aromas, yuletide tunes, shopping galore, Christmas Tree Lane, craftsmen, and all sorts of holiday delights. The group plans to leave at 9:15 a.m. and return to Mooresville around 4:00 p.m. Please contact Ellen Auten by Sunday, November 11, to make a reservation.

November luncheon features bluebirds

The November Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held Tuesday, November 20, at 12:30

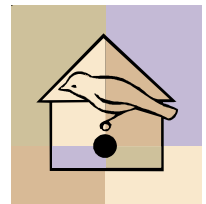
p.m. in the fellowship hall. Following

lunch and devotions, the program will

be presented by our own Rena Bishop, who will talk about "The Bluebird

Story." It promises to be a most

interesting and informative program, and will include lots of valuable information about the beautiful bluebird. All "older" adults are encouraged to attend - come and bring a friend!



Kitchen volunteers needed

We are blessed with such a faithful "kitchen crew" at Saints Alive, but they could use some help! If you would like to assist in the preparation of the meal, or in the clean-up afterwards, please give Jerilyn Fair a call (704-663-7512) to volunteer your time and talent in the kitchen! It will be greatly appreciated! The group meets at 12:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May.

Calling all veterans!

Join Logos for dinner on November 7

All veterans of any branch of the military are invited to be special guests at the Logos/MSM dinner hour on Wednesday, November 7, at 6:15 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The Logos/MSM program participants would like to take the opportunity at dinner to recognize and thank veterans for their dedicated service to our country, during both war and peace time. We salute you!

Veterans may want to wear (or bring) their uniforms and any related items that evening.

Please contact the church office (704-664-5275) by Monday, November 5, to make a reservation.



Weekday Preschool

Another action-packed month at Preschool and our October units and activities were naturally centered around apples, pumpkins, barnyard friends, acorns, harvesting, camping and the colors of orange and brown. The Preschool loves autumn, and what would the season be without Farm Day at Preschool. The most magical sound in the world is that of children laughing as they took a trip to the Petting Zoo.



Lots of fun was had playing games in the Fellowship Hall and then we enjoyed our short fall break. Our Bunny class was especially entertaining as they had their costume days this month. Lots of pirates, superheroes, princesses/fairies and brides were in attendance! Time seems to be racing along as it's now 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, Nov. 19 and 20** we will celebrate with a feast. Our Thanksgiving break will be **November 21- 23**.

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 **Thursday and Friday, December 13 and 14 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! As always we will have a punch and cookie party in the Fellowship Hall afterward and a famous guest will be waiting for the children.



We will be sending home forms in November for registering and paying for your child's **Spring Lunch Bunch**, and then in December you will receive the enrollment forms for the 2008-2009 school year for your child and of course, any younger siblings that will be eligible to come. 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



Logos/MSM

“Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.” Mark 10:14

October has been a busy month for both Logos and MSM. We are truly blessed with a wonderful group of children!

Our November themes will begin with “Veteran’s Celebration” (all veterans are invited!), followed by “Thanksgiving” and “Hero Night”. Get your costumes ready because dressing for theme is a **BIG** part of the **FUN!** We appreciate the time, effort and creativity parents and children put into these costumes.

The Logos choir served the Lord through song at the October 14th 11:00 am service and the MSM hand bell choir rang at the October 28th 8:30 am service. It is wonderful to see (and hear) them help lead our worship services in this way. We thank all of the parents who brought their children to these worship services. We hope that you enjoyed sharing the experience of your child glorifying the Lord. This month, the Logos choir will sing on November 11 at the 8:30 service.

We are, once again, very excited about our first Logos/MSM theme this month! On November 7, encourage all Logos and MSM participants to invite a veteran to sit with them during Family Time and eat dinner. This can be a family member, a congregation member, or any veteran that you know from the community. We would like to



use this evening of fellowship to allow the children an opportunity to break bread with and to offer appreciation and hospitality to the men and women who have served in our military. There is room for all and all are welcome! If you are a veteran who would like to join us, or if you are inviting a veteran visitor, please contact us so that we can plan accordingly.

Please continue to encourage your child to attend Logos or MSM every Wednesday, to attend church school and worship service on Sunday and to pray regularly with you. Happy fall and blessings on everyone who has contributed time and effort toward getting Logos/MSM off to such a great start!

Valerie Mauney
(704-663-7540)

Leeann DeCastro
(704-660-5248)

Dates to Remember:

Nov. 07- Veteran’s Celebration
Nov. 11- Logos choir at 8:30 service
Nov. 21- No Logos/MSM

PRESBYTERIAN MEN

The Presbyterian Men will indeed be treated to a very special presentation at our November 11, 2007 breakfast meeting. Considering the myriad of responsibilities and duties Dr. Clay Brown, our pastor, has in our church he still welcomed the opportunity to come and talk with us. I am extending a special invitation to all the men in the church, not just the regular attendees at the Men's Breakfast, to attend and listen to Clay talk with us about our roles and expectations in the church.

A sincere 'Thank You' is extended to Mr. Ken Manuel, a scientist at Duke Energy Corporation, for his presentation on Lake Norman Plants and Animals at the October breakfast. I also want to say how much we appreciate Mark Auten and his assistance with the PowerPoint presentations at nearly every meeting.

Good food, good fellowship (*especially if UNC football continues to flounder*), and a good program awaits you at the Men's Breakfast at 0830 on 11 November 2007.

I look forward to seeing you then and Clay does as well, although he said taking attendance is not necessary as he remembers names quite well...

Gene E. Vaughan
Presbyterian Men-President

Budget and Finance Forum

January through September 2007

Budgeted needs: \$539,609.00
Budgeted income: \$519,236.00
-\$20,373.00

The income dropped again in September when compared to budgeted needs. October, November and December normally are our strongest months for income. We ask that you prayerfully remember the financial needs of the church during this fourth quarter and make 2007 a very successful year in meeting our financial commitment.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women are very busy with all kinds of activities. Hopefully, by now you have settled into a circle and are enjoying wonderful fellowship and Bible study. Your Circle Moderator has many ideas on how to get involved.

We are still in need of someone to fill the position of Social Concerns. This is a very important role in our mission as Presbyterian Women. If you are interested, please contact any PW officer. We would also like to add another position to our team. This position would be more of a scrapbooking nature. We would like to document our activities with pictures and need someone to keep it organized. If you would be interested, please contact me.

Each year the Salem Presbyterian Women award scholarships to high school seniors and college (undergraduate) students. The deadline for submission is December 1. If you are interested in applying, you may get an application from a Circle Moderator or myself.

Karen Brawley
Moderator

FPC is sponsoring a



at the Citizen's Center on

Thursday, Nov. 8th

between 2 and 7pm.

*We don't get many chances to save
a life - this is one of them!*

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to the Lord

