



First Press

A Monthly Publication of First Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC

NOVEMBER 2008

Operation Christmas Child

November 2 Church Supper

Everyone is encouraged to attend the church supper on Sunday, November 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The supper, under the leadership of church hostess Jerilyn Fair with assistance from Circle 5 and members of the Property Committee, is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children (no charge for children under 4), with a maximum cost of \$12 per family.

After our meal, we will enjoy "after dinner music" from the Logos choir (grades 1-6) and the PYF Praise Band (grades 7-12). Following the musical selections, we will have an opportunity to pack shoe boxes for hurting and needy children around the world through the Operation Christmas Child shoe box project, which is part of Samaritans Purse in Boone, NC. It is a wonderful opportunity to participate in a "hands-on" mission project of love and compassion that will benefit so many children.

Once the boxes are packed, they will be delivered to the Charlotte Processing Center, where volunteers will prepare them for shipment overseas. Caring volunteers will then distribute them to children who live in poverty-stricken and war-torn areas of the world. Often this is the only gift they receive, so be generous as you shop and pack, thinking of the joy this will bring to a child, perhaps thousands of miles away. In addition to the tangible gift the children receive, Operation Christmas Child is ultimately about sharing the life-changing message of God's greatest gift - His Son, Jesus Christ.

Shoebboxes should be turned in to the church by Sunday, November 16.

Walk Thru Bethlehem 2008

Friday, December 5 and 12 6-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 6 and 13 4-9:00 p.m.

Join us in this great multi-church event at Camp Wesley, 3090 Deal Road, Mooresville! We expect more than 3000 visitors this year. Here's a tremendous opportunity to use your gifts and talents. Help



others find their way to Bethlehem...and to Christ! Plan to attend... plan to help! There are plenty of opportunities to serve starting **right now**, as well as during the event! For more information, or to volunteer, contact Liz Rader (704-664-1772), Jill Herring (704-664-2704), Jean Coates (704-663-2114) or Holly Horsman (704-664-9765). Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

- Promotion
- Construction
- Costumes
- Acting
- Greeters
- Props
- Prayer
- Evangelism
- Parking
- Food Preparation
- Donations of funds or materials

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

Regular-size shoe boxes

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, slinkies, 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 (no chocolate) 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, liquids, such as shampoo or lotions.



From the Pastor

A Wonderful Thing to Watch

On Sunday, October 19, we baptized little six-month-old Abigail Grace Malinovsky, daughter of Raegan and Tim. It was a special time. Let me share some of it with you.

We began by speaking of the meaning of baptism according to Scripture and the Reformed tradition: while Abigail is not making a profession of faith, God is acting in her life by his grace just the same, and this baptism with water is a visible sign of this invisible reality. We stated that just as circumcision and the Passover were signs of God's covenant of grace in the Old Testament, baptism and the Lord's Supper are signs of this covenant in the New Testament. Furthermore, we emphasized that Christ commands us to baptize, that what the Word of God proclaims, baptism seals, and the Lord's Supper sustains, and that we are looking forward in faith to the time when Abigail will be able to affirm this baptism as her own and accept the Christian faith for herself.

In response, Raegan and Tim affirmed their own faith in Christ and vowed to raise Abigail in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. We walked down the aisles of the sanctuary with Abigail, so everyone could see this beautiful child. Next we all pledged to be the support system, the godparents, for Abigail and her family and prayed for them then and there. Then she was baptized as a daughter of the covenant, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. She was welcomed into the covenant community.

This was a holy moment for us. God was at work.

On this same Sunday, we observed "Pledge Sunday." You're probably familiar with the procedure. Our tradition at First Presbyterian is that during the offering on this particular Sunday, we go forward to the Lord's Table and place our pledge cards and our Time and Talent brochures in the plates. This act represents our commitment to Christ and to First Presbyterian for 2009.

Every time I participate in this and have the opportunity to observe your participation from the chancel platform, I am moved. You came willingly to give of yourselves in service and support. You put feet to your faith. You answered the call of God regarding your time, your talents, and your treasure for the coming year.

This also was a holy moment. God was at work here too.

This sort of commitment and trust is part and parcel of the Christian faith as a whole, isn't it? Every Christian has taken vows of obedience and service, not just the ordained officers. Every Christian is set apart for ministry. As we are baptized, as we profess Christ as Lord and Savior, and as we join a community of faith, we vow to serve the Lord however we're able to do so. We serve by our attendance at worship, our study of God's Word with others, our service in the church, community, and world, our sharing the Good News of Christ in word and deed, and our support of God's work.

Every time we serve Christ, it is a holy moment in our lives. God is at work in you, through you, and with you. Never doubt this.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1 NKJV)

Grace and peace,

The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown

Still Time to Turn In Your Pledge Cards and Time and Talent Brochures...

If you have not yet been able to turn in your 2009 pledge card or your 2009 Time and Talent brochure, you're encouraged to do so as soon as you're able. Your pledges help our Budget and Finance Committee and the Session to determine the 2009 church budget. Your responses on the Time and Talent brochure help our ministries to put people in the right places and assist our committees in completing their rosters for the coming year. If you've lost your pledge card or Time and Talent brochure, please contact the church office for another one.

PYF November Calendar

Sunday, November 2

All PYF - Church Night Supper - 5:30-8:00

Tuesday, November 4

Election Day - If you are 18, VOTE!

Wednesday, November 5

Supper Club - Taco Bell - GAME NIGHT! (and someone's birthday...)

Saturday, November 8

Mission & a Movie - set up for *Walk Through Bethlehem* - Meet at the church at 9:00am, back by 3pm

Sunday, November 9

PYF-Alphas - 5:15-6:30; Omegas - 6:15-7:30

Wednesday, November 12

Supper Club - Tony's Pizza

Sunday, November 16

PYF-Alphas - 5:15-6:30; Omegas - 6:15-7:30

Wednesday, November 19

Supper Club - Showmars

Sunday, November 23

PYF-Alphas - 5:15-6:30; Omegas - 6:15-7:30

Wednesday, November 26

NO Supper Club - Thanksgiving

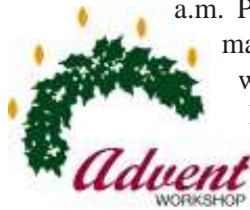
Sunday, November 30

NO PYF - Thanksgiving

Advent Workshop

Scheduled for November 30

All ages are invited and encouraged to attend the annual Advent Workshop in the fellowship hall on Sunday, November 30, during the church school hour, 10:00-10:45 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, crafts, and clean up. 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 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
- garden gloves
- greenery
- plastic candle holders (use 5 per wreath)

Session Highlights

At its September 28 stated meeting, the Session:



- Studied Rules 6 and 7 of its ongoing study of Hebrews 14, "The Red Sea Rules."
- Prayed for the needs of the congregation in small groups.
- Received reports for information by Sessional committees.
- Received a report from the Budget and Finance Committee on the 2008 budget, noting a shortfall of \$89,000.
- Voted to freeze all non-essential expenditures for the remainder of 2008 and to instruct committees and staff to review budgets and determine how spending may be reduced.
- Approved Preschool budget for 2009-2010.
- Discussed a recommendation from the Handicap Access and Long-Range Building Task Force.
- Talked about proposed amendments to the PCUSA constitution and proposed policies by Salem Presbytery to be discussed at the October 21 presbytery meeting in Blowing Rock.
- Approved dates for the Pancake Supper/Breakfast, November 7-8, to benefit Mooresville Christian Mission.
- Approved a process for forming a Counting Committee, with names to be presented at a called Session meeting in the future.







Electronic Version of the Newsletter

Available at Your Request

You can receive our monthly church newsletter electronically instead of having hard copies snail-mailed to you. Electronic copies will not only come to you faster, but they'll also save us the costs of printing and postage. This savings may be significant for the church as more of us choose this option. Simply let the church office know your desire for electronic copies by emailing our secretary, Nellie Goodman, at nellie@moorvillefirstpres.org, or by calling her at 704-664-5044. You also may note your preference for electronic newsletters on the Friendship Pad as you register on Sunday: just write "Electronic Newsletter" and your email address beside your name, and we'll do the rest. Please note that no one will be removed from the hard copy mailing list without his/her permission. The newsletter is always available for viewing on the church website: www.moorvillefirstpres.org.



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday |
|---|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: right;">Eastern Standard Time resumes 2</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship with MSM Handbells 3:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry in the library 5:30pm Alpha & Omega PYF 5:00pm Catechism Club 6:00pm Church Night Supper and Operation Christmas Child event</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">Election Day 4</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Be sure to vote!</p> </div> <p>7:00pm Cub Scouts</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>8:00am Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship</p> <p>4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:30pm Catechism Club 6:00pm Deacon's Meeting 7:00pm Committee Meetings</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>2:00pm Circle # 1 in the parlor 6:15pm Circle # 3 at the home of Kim Streb 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">Veteran's Day 11 Preschool Closed</p> <p>10:00am Circle #4 in the parlor 12:00pm Circle #5 at the home of Sue Kopecek 2:00pm Circle #6 in the parlor 6:00pm Circle #2 in the parlor</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship with the Logos choir 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship</p> <p>4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:15pm Catechism Club with mentors 7:00pm Handicap Planning Task Force</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Executive Committee 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>12:30pm Saints Alive Luncheon 7:00pm Cub Scouts</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship</p> <p>4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 7:00pm Session Meeting</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">25</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">Communion 30</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 10:00am Advent Workshop 11:00am Worship</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> | <p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p> | |

| Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>10:30am Prayer Group in the library 5</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>God Bless America</i> Night</p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at Taco Bell</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> | <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home 6</p> <p>6:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p> <p>7:00pm Bible Study in the Parlor</p> <p>7:30pm Mooresville User's Group</p> | <p>7</p> <p></p> <p>5:00pm Pancake Supper</p> | <p>1</p> <p></p> <p>7:00am Pancake Breakfast</p> <p>9:00am PYF Mission & a Movie</p> |
| <p>12</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>Veteran's Celebration</i></p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at Tony's Pizza</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> | <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home 13</p> <p></p> <p>Fun & Fellowship</p> <p>6:00pm Fun & Fellowship at Golden Corral</p> <p>6:00pm Exaltation Ringers</p> | <p>14</p> | <p>15</p> |
| <p>19</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>Thanksgiving</i> Night</p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at Showmars</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> | <p>9:15am Saints Alive to Southern Christmas Show 20</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p></p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22</p> <p></p> <p>Sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 166</p> |
| <p>26</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm No Logos/MSM or SupperClub</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> | <p>Thanksgiving Day 27</p> <p>Church Office closed</p> <p></p> | <p>28</p> <p>Church Office closed</p> | <p>29</p> |

November 2008



Saints Alive

November luncheon

The monthly Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held Tuesday, November 18, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The November program will feature a video presentation which focuses on the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving. Come and bring a friend to this early-Thanksgiving holiday luncheon. We are so blessed to enjoy the warmth of friendship and fellowship at Saints Alive luncheons. So much to be thankful for!

Saints plan trip to "Windows of Christmas"

Saints Alive is planning a trip to the Southern Christmas Show at the Charlotte Merchandise Mart (now The Park) on Thursday, November 20. This year's show theme is "Windows of Christmas," where visitors will discover a bustling village with dozens of festive shops, six acres of holiday crafts, gifts, decorations, holiday ideas, and festive foods. The group plans to leave at 9:15 a.m. and return in the late afternoon. Cost is \$7.50 for advance ticket purchases. Contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in this trip.

Holiday Visit to Gingerbread Display

The Saints Alive group is planning a trip to the National Gingerbread Display at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville on Tuesday, December 2. Information on their website relates: "Contestants from across the country will bring their architectural masterpieces to The Grove Park Inn. Delight in the imagination shown in these sugar and spice creations. Strolling through the competition is a sure way to be swept up in the holiday spirit." Our group plans to leave at 8:15 a.m., tour the festive exhibit, have lunch at the Inn, and return to Mooresville in the late afternoon.

Please contact Ellen Auten, as reservations are essential. Information about the display may be found at www.groveparkinn.com.



Circle No. 2, Sisters in Christ, have ordered 100 more of the First Presbyterian Cookbooks (done in memory of Marti Estes) that will be here by the Christmas season. The circle will let everyone know as soon as they arrive. Call Angie Copeland (704-799-1509) with questions.

Logos/MSM

November Dates

Sunday, November 2- MSM Handbells at 11:00 a.m. worship service
Logos choir sings at church supper - 6:00 p.m.
Bring items to pack into shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child project

Wednesday, November 5 - *God Bless America* Night

Wednesday, November 12 - *Veterans' Celebration*

Sunday, November 16 - Logos choir sings at 9:00 a.m. worship service

Wednesday, November 19 - *Thanksgiving*

Wednesday, November 26 - No Logos/MSM

Calling all veterans!

Join Logos for dinner on November 12

All veterans of any branch of the military are invited to be special guests at the Logos/MSM dinner hour on Wednesday, November 12, at 6:15 p. 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 10, to make a reservation.

Volunteer Opportunities

As you prayed and thought about your gifts and how best to use them, did you consider volunteering for Logos/MSM? We have many volunteer needs throughout the year that were included on the time and talents survey. You do not need to have a child or grandchild in the program to volunteer. In fact, we love to have people without kids in the program come and build relationships with our children. Logos/MSM is such a great ministry to our kids. Come be a part of it. If playing with the kids, eating dinner with them, or teaching them about the Bible doesn't fall within your area of giftedness we have other ways that you can help. There are many 'behind the scenes' things that need to happen to make Logos/MSM successful. Tables need to be set and decorated, dinner needs to be prepared and cleaned up, photographs of the children need to be taken and organized and scholarships need to be provided. We have 80 children in Logos/MSM this year and would love to have your involvement.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for your prayers, visits, calls,
cards and food shared during my
recent illness. Your continued
prayers are requested as my
treatment will continue into 2009.

Lottie Massey



Churchmice Needed!

We have placed twelve students with churchmice for this year. We have some others on the list but do not have enough churchmice yet. If you would like to be a churchmouse this year please call Carolyn Poteat at 704-663-2992 or Eleanor Templeton at 704-987-1309. Also, addresses change sometimes from year to year and we really need the college addresses for this year. We know that the churchmice have already gotten things ready to send to students over the Halloween holidays. We wish all students could be included. Thanks!

Eleanor and Carolyn

Catechism Club

Catechism Club is off to a great start this year, with seven participants. They have successfully memorized 48 questions and are one-third of the way through the memorization of the 150 questions. Great job! This year's participants include Dominic Corolla, Harrison Deaton, Philip Heilman, Van Herring, Adrian Holbrook, Emory McNeely, and Alex Teeter.

Thanks to the adult mentors who are meeting with their Catechism friend once a month. Mentors include Beverly and C.P. Chappell, Brad Chappell, Linda Ervin, Bea Lieu, Judith McLean, Miriam McNeely, and Stacy Windsor.

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

..... From the Fellowship Committee

Reminder that the **Young Adult** Sunday School Class is responsible for refreshments in November and the **Discovery** Class is responsible in December. Please call Lynn Brooks at 704-528-4198 for more details.



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. A heartfelt thank you to Frank Rader for returning to Preschool on those days and giving the children hayrides on his tractor. What a treat! Thank you to all the parents who took the time to come to conference with us. 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. 24 and 25** we will celebrate with a feast. Our Thanksgiving break will be **November 26 - 28**. We will also be closed on **Tuesday, November 11 for Veteran's Day**.



I hope you are hearing Christmas melodies from your little one as we have already begun to prepare for our annual Christmas programs. These will be held on **Tuesday and Wednesday, December 16 and 17 at 9:30 a.m.** in the sanctuary. Please encourage relatives and special people in your child's life to attend as we really 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 preference forms for the 2009-2010 enrollment for your child. 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

**Blood donors
are in it for life.**

First Presbyterian Church

BLOOD DRIVE

@ the

Charles Mack Citizen Center

215 N. Main Street

Wednesday, Nov. 5th

2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Presenting donors can enter a drawing for a \$1000 Gift Card

GIVE BLOOD. GIVE LIFE.

American Red Cross

1-800-GIVE LIFE



***Canned & Dry Food Drive for:
 Mooresville Christian Mission
 Bring Cans or Dry Food with you to:
 Pancake Dinner & Breakfast
 In The Fellowship Hall***



***Friday November 7, 2008 5pm - 8pm
 Saturday November 8, 2008 7am - 11am***

Adults \$5 Children ages 4-12 \$3, under age 3 FREE

***Sponsored by The Missions Committee
 Proceeds to benefit Angel Food Project
 at Mooresville Christian Mission***



**Mooresville Christian Mission
 Most Needed Items**



Food Items:

- Canned Fruits
- Canned Meats
- Canned Spaghetti
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Pasta
- Flour
- Sugar
- Powdered Milk
- Peanut Butter
- Mac and Cheese
- Dried Beans

Personal Items:

- Toothpaste
- Feminine Items
- Razors
- Diapers
- Shampoo
- Toothbrushes
- Razor Blades
- Deodorant
- Toilet Paper

First Presbyterian Church
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Web: www.mooresvillefirstpres.org

*To be added to or subtracted from our mailing list, email:
secretary@mooresvillefirstpres.org or phone: 704-664-5275.*

Sunday Services

- 9:00 a.m.** Early Worship
- 10:00 a.m.** Church School
- 11:00 a.m.** Morning Worship

NOVEMBER 2008

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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