

The Bulletin Board

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

October 2008

Blessed to Bless Others

Stewardship Emphasis 2008

The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others..." (Genesis 12:1-2)

When God called, Abram moved out in faith from Ur to Haran and finally to Canaan. God established a covenant with Abram, telling him that he would found a "great Nation that would be **blessed**." God also said other nations of the earth would be blessed thru Abram's descendants. Through Abram's family tree, Jesus Christ was born to save humanity. Through Christ we are blessed beyond measure.

Like many people we live in two worlds. Much of the time, we live in the competitive world of work and commerce, eating, working and paying bills. It is a world that honors people for being attractive and productive. It reveres winners and scorns losers. As in most contests, there are many more losers than winners, so most of the citizens of the world spend a lot of time worrying they don't measure up and believing their blessings are not enough.

But, fortunately there is another world. As committed Christians, we live in a world of faith, the world of the Holy Spirit. Our heroes are models of compassion rather than competition. In this world we win through sacrifice and self restraint. We win by helping our neighbors and sharing with them rather than by finding their weakness. In the world of the Holy Spirit there are many more winners than losers. We value and respect people for their wisdom and experience. People are described as beautiful because they exude compassion and generosity rather than wealth and glamour. Blessings and success have a very different meaning here. As we enter the time of the season where we are asked to share our many blessings with our church family thru our tithes and offerings, we challenge you to think about which world is more attractive to you. What do you value most on a daily basis? How can you share the gifts and blessings God has shared with you?



This month you will receive information about how you can support First Presbyterian for 2009, with a pledge card for you to return to the church on Sunday, October 19. As you pray about your tithing responsibility and your involvement in FPC's ministry, we ask that you read the following Bible verses:

- 1) Hebrews 7:7 (The less is blessed by the better)
- 2) 2 Corinthians 8:8 (Christ as our pattern)
- 3) 2 Corinthians 9:7 (The cheerful giver)

Prayer Pearl: "Every time I come to God in prayer, my approach must be with praise and thanksgiving. It is a rude imposition to come to God asking for anything without saying thanks for past blessings." (Lehman Strauss)

Blessed to Bless Others Luncheon

Sunday, Oct. 12 ♦ Following 11:00 A.M. Worship ♦ Fellowship Hall
Catered Meal ♦ Guest Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Dave McKechnie

Plan now to attend!



From the Pastor

A Financial Check-up

Below is some information from our Treasurer and the Budget and Finance Committee that I would like to share with you:

FPC Financial Check-up	
Contributions <i>needed</i> through August	\$ 527,494
Contributions <i>received</i> through August	\$ 438,118
CURRENT 2008 DEFICIT	\$ (89,376)

It's not unheard of for congregational giving to decline a little in the summer (how's that for an understatement!). In fact, we often take a summer decline in giving as the way things always happen. But this summer's shortfall in income versus expenses is more than the usual. In fact, if we continue to move in this direction, we will have a serious shortfall of more than \$100,000 for the church at year's end.

You are a generous, giving people. Your track record is one of faithfulness, support, and response when you discover needs. So let me encourage you to give as God leads you to the ministry of First Presbyterian Church with your ongoing tithes and offerings. Let me also ask you to consider a one-time additional gift to help us make up this shortfall.

God is blessing our church with opportunities for ministry and service that abound. Please respond to God's blessing as he leads you.

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

NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN "TEN PRAYERS GOD ALWAYS SAYS YES TO"

It is not too late for you to take part in this six-part Bible study led by our senior pastor, Dr. Clay Brown, on prayer. Prayer is vital to our life, growth, and health as individuals and as a congregation. Yet prayer also is one of the most misunderstood and least consistently practiced of all the Christian spiritual disciplines.

"Why should I sign up for this course?" Because prayer, properly perceived and practiced, is life-changing. Because through prayer, the transformational power of the gospel comes alive in you and through you. Because your prayer life is not anywhere near where it needs to be, and you know it but you're not sure what to do about it.

We meet on the Thursdays of October, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and conclude on November 6. The times are 7:00-8:15 p.m. The location is the Parlor.

Please register in advance. You can register by contacting the church office by phone (704-664-5275) or email (nellie@moorevillefirstpres.org). Every participant (or at least every couple) will need a copy of the book. You can purchase one for \$14, with checks made out to First Presbyterian Church.



Don't hesitate to talk with Clay if you have any questions about the course. Please contact him at the church office or by email (clay@moorevillefirstpres.org).

Preschool News

September is always packed with fun activities as the children were studying *Cheers for Volunteers, Community Helpers, Making Friends, All About Me, Dinosaurs, Birthdays, Apples* and sharing pictures of their home and family. We are thrilled with how well the children have settled into their classroom routines and have bonded with their teachers and each other. We were able to be outside often and thoroughly enjoyed the glorious weather on our beautiful new playground turf.



A major event that we look forward to in September is a visit from our Firemen Friends, and we always enjoy the wonderful program from our Fire Marshall and all the firemen. As always, Sparky the Firedog made an appearance and received many hugs from the children.

As we gear up for our busy holiday season we are looking forward to all of our October activities and units on *Leaves, Nature & Camping, Farm & Farm Animals and Harvest Time*. Please note that our **conference day will**

be Oct. 13. Our **Farm Day** event will be on **Oct. 28 and 29**, and we will be having games and a real live Petting Zoo! Your child will be getting acquainted with a friendly group of farm animals and will even



have an opportunity to feed them. The Preschool will be **closed on Oct. 30-31.**

Please remember to keep your child buckled in their car seat in the loading area until you have come to a complete stop and a teacher is ready to unload them. Even a slight movement of a vehicle can injure a child not in their car seat. We would like to say thank you to all our parents and grandparents for getting this year off to such a great start and for sending your little ones to us. We truly feel blessed to have such a fun job!

*With love,
Mrs. Nancy*



From the Missions Committee

Calling all cooks!

Would you be interested in serving your local community? The Mooresville Soup Kitchen has asked if we could help with a team of cooks to serve meals. Cooking skills are preferred but not a requirement. Whether you burn water or are the defending Chili Cook-off Champion we need you. Please contact Trent Newell of the Missions Committee if you are interested. trent.newell@yahoo.com



Save the Date!

We will be having a Pancake Breakfast on **November 7 and 8.** All proceeds will go to benefit the Mooresville Christian Mission Angel Food Ministry.



The Presbyterian Women are excited about Fall and some ongoing activities. We will be collecting items for the Christian Mission every month. So, when you go to your circle meeting, take a few items with you for the Christian Mission. They need non-perishable items to stock their food shelves. Even baby food items are needed. They are constantly being called upon from the community for help. The PW feels this is just one of many ways we can reach out to our community.

The Annual Salem Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering was held Saturday, September 27 at First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro. The Rev. Dr. Catreli Hunter was the keynote speaker. She is the Moderator of Churchwide Presbyterian Women, and is the former moderator of the Salem Presbyterian Women.

New Circle Reminder

A new circle (Circle 6) is being formed that will meet on the second Tuesday of the month in the parlor at 2:00 p.m. Corky Simmons (704-658-1545) is the Moderator and the Bible Moderator is Catherine Vaughan (704-663-1733). You may contact either of these ladies for more information or just come to our meeting on October 14.

Elders for the Church

by Phil Newton
From *Tabletalk Magazine*

(Editor's Note: Our church is committed to calling both men and women to serve as church officers. The article below, written by Baptist minister Phil Newton, uses male language to describe the eldership. Despite this difference in perspective, this article from Tabletalk magazine, from Ligonier Ministries and R. C. Sproul, has several helpful insights for our reflection as we approach the time of electing elders and deacons at First Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Dr. Clay Brown, Pastor)

Over the past decade I've engaged a wide-range of Christians on the subject of elders. Some, in desperation, want to change dysfunctional church leadership structures. Others have grown tired of side-stepping the biblical teaching on elders. Some long to adopt elder leadership yet realize many of their congregants would resist change. A mission leader told me that elder plurality was a major issue in his region; nationals, unfamiliar with traditions and arguments against elder plurality, saw it in Scripture and wanted to obey.

Christ gave elder leadership to the church for its growth, development, and unity. Yet tradition often tugs stronger than biblical order for those refusing elder leadership. Others have elders but neglect applying biblical standards to them. Paul's letter to Titus offers great help for both cases (Titus 1:5-9).

First, plural leadership is the norm for every church: "appoint elders in every city as I directed you." "Elders" is plural and "in every town" is singular. It indicates multiple elders serving each church on Crete (1:5). Each reference to local church elders demonstrates plurality as the New Testament practice (see Acts 14:23; 15:22; 20:17 that show this same pattern of plurality). Paul's reason for plurality within even small congregations makes sense. It provides accountability, support, and encouragement, increased wisdom, and diversity of gifts to increase ministry effectiveness.

Second, elders are necessary for the proper ordering of the church. Titus was to "put what remained into order" (Titus 1:5). He would begin by appointing "elders in every town." Elders would engage in the work of ongoing church reformation. What needed reforming? Slick teachers whom Paul called "empty talkers and deceivers," undermined families "by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach" (vv. 10-11). Elders must correct the false teaching, remove the false teachers, and reiterate the sufficiency of the Gospel. Some Cretan Christians were acting like "Cretans," not Christians! "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons" (v. 12); elders must teach the right application of law and gospel to daily life, exemplify Christian living, and lead in discipline when necessary. Still others were turning away from the truth by "devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people," defiling themselves in mind and conscience (vv. 14-15). Again, the elders must be the means of putting what remained into the order of sound teaching and godly practice.

Third, elders set an example for the church at home, in personal conduct, and in relationships (vv. 6-8). An elder is to be "the husband of one wife," singularly devoted to his wife, seeking to love her as Christ does the church (Eph. 5:25). His children are to be "faithful" (NASB; *pistos* seems best translated as "faithful" or "trustworthy," see 1 Tim. 1:12, 15; 3:1; 4:9; 2 Tim. 2:11, 13; Titus 1:9; 3:8), "and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination."

In personal conduct, an elder is to be "above reproach" because he is "God's steward" or manager over God's flock. He is to be conscientious in conduct with no dangling areas discrediting Christ or the Gospel. Further, "he must not be arrogant or quick-tempered," so he guards against trampling others with attitude or outbursts. He must not be "a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain," so he exercises self-restraint in appetites, self-control in responses, and self-discipline in finances (v. 7).

The elder also sets an example in relationships by being "hospitable" through accepting and befriending others; "a lover of good" by affirming what's best; and "self-controlled" by keeping his head when life comes unraveled. In his dealings with others he is to be "upright," in his personal piety — "holy," and in his natural impulses — "disciplined" (v. 8). He keeps in mind that he is an "overseer," not an owner, a servant not a lord (v. 7). Just as Jesus Christ came not to be served but to serve (Mark 10:45), even so must God's steward be in the church.

Finally, the shepherding role of elders is distinguished from deacons by requiring elders to be able to teach (Titus 1:9; 1 Tim. 3:1-13). Elders must be steadfast in knowing and applying the Word personally: "he must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught." They live and breathe Gospel, delight in digging into Scripture, and test their grasp of doctrine by the Word. Elders must be committed to doctrinal teaching: "so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine." Doctrine matters to elders. They recognize "sound doctrine" as the heart of biblical understanding, essential to the vitality of the church. Neglect it, and the church might still have an outward form of Christianity but inwardly dies, breeding all manner of deceit and sin. Elders must be ready and willing to reprove those opposing sound doctrine: "also to rebuke those who contradict it." Anyone that enjoys confrontation has to be a little demented! Yet when the Gospel is at stake, when the health and unity of the church hangs in the balance, and when someone totters on the brink of spiritual or moral ruin, elders must rise to the challenge. Like a S.W.A.T. team, elders must remain doctrinally alert, ready to engage any that would threaten to divide or damage the body of Christ (Titus 1:9).

As Christ's gift to the church, elders value character as they focus on the church's maturity and unity. Whether by denial or misuse, neglecting Christ's design for elder leadership deprives the church of this priceless asset for its spiritual health. (Dr. Phil Newton is senior minister of South Woods Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, and is author of *Elders in Congregational Life*.)

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PYF News

Well, October is the month for changing leaves, cooler weather, and PYF fun and this October is a jam packed month for PYF! We have a full slate of Supper Clubs and Sunday gatherings, three 5th Quarters (open to ALL students, regardless of what school you attend!), and a bonfire with spooks!

On Sunday, October 26th, we will set out from the church at 7:15 p.m. to head to Carrigan Farms for a trip through the Forbidden Farms (gulp!) and conclude the evening with hot dogs and hot cocoa around a bonfire. We will return to the church by 9:30 p.m.. Tickets are \$15, which includes the hot dogs and coco. If the Forbidden Farms are a bit too foreboding for you, you can still come along and have fun by the fire while those who dare journey into the unknown! Bring your friends, your appetites, your courage (and your \$15) as we gather for some great fall fun!



OCTOBER SCHEDULE

<i>October 1</i>	<i>Supper Club @ Sonic</i>
<i>October 3</i>	<i>5th Quarter (post game to midnight)</i>
<i>October 5</i>	<i>PYF</i>
<i>October 8</i>	<i>Supper Club @ Wendy's</i>
<i>October 12</i>	<i>PYF</i>
<i>October 15</i>	<i>Supper Club @ Cookout</i>
<i>October 17</i>	<i>5th Quarter (post game to midnight)</i>
<i>October 19</i>	<i>PYF</i>
<i>October 22</i>	<i>Supper Club @ Shiki</i>
<i>October 26</i>	<i>PYF Trip to Carrigan Farms' Forbidden Farms 7:15-9:30 p.m.</i>
<i>October 29</i>	<i>Supper Club @ Whataburger</i>
<i>October 31</i>	<i>5th Quarter (post game to midnight)</i>



Thank You

Dear Members of First Presbyterian,
Thank you so much for the flowers and cards - signs of your love and support during our time of loss. May God continue to bless your all.

Clay, Cathy, Collin, Blake and Taylor Brown

Churchmouse News

The information and questionnaires have been sent out to the students for which we have addresses. As soon as they have returned their questionnaire in the stamped, addressed envelope we will assign them a churchmouse. So far, we have very few addresses. Parents, please call the church office, Eleanor Templeton, or Carolyn Poteat to give us your student's address, even if it is the same as last year. We really need this information.



If you are interested in being a churchmouse this year, call Eleanor (704-987-1309) or Carolyn (704-663-2992). It is truly a great gift to our church. The college student is placed with a SECRET friend, the CHURCHMOUSE, who will remember their student monthly with a card, letter, gift, or goodie treat!! It is so much fun and the students do appreciate hearing from someone....even though it is a mouse...that belongs to their church...First Presbyterian Church. Give us a ring...we would love to have you join the pack of rats...excuse me....mice!! We look forward to hearing from you. Thanks!

Carolyn and Eleanor

From Lois & Smith Kirk

Francis Schaeffer once wrote;* "Through the centuries men have displayed many different symbols to show that they are Christians. They have worn marks in the lapels of their coats, hung chains about their necks, even had special haircuts...But there is a much better sign...It is a universal mark that is to last through all the ages of the church until Jesus comes back." "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." In the past three weeks, Lois and I have been beneficiaries of the most astounding love and grace that words can describe. We give heartfelt thanks to the many members of this precious covenant family. God is gracious, He is good. We thank you all.

*Francis A. Schaeffer, *The Mark of the Christians*, in *The Complete Works of Francis A. Schaeffer* (e, IL: Crossway, 1982), 4:183.

October

<p style="text-align: center;">Communion 5</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship with MSM Handbells</p> <p>3:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry in the library 4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:15pm Catechism Club with mentors</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Stewardship Luncheon in the FH  4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:30pm Catechism Club 6:00pm Diaconate 7:00pm Committee Meetings</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <p>2:00pm Circle # 1 in the parlor 6:15pm Circle # 3 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p>10:00am Circle #4 in the parlor 11:30am Logos Council in the Session room 12:00pm Circle #5 at the home of Sandra Harris 2:00pm Circle #6 in the parlor 6:00pm Circle #2 in the parlor</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Pledge Sunday 19</p> <p>8:00am Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship with Logos Choir  4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:30pm Catechism Club 5:30pm Discover First Pres 7:00pm Handicap Planning Task Force in library</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home 7:30pm Executive Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Communion 26</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship 4:15pm Alpha PYF 5:15pm Omega PYF 5:15pm Catechism Club with mentors 7:00pm Session 7:15pm PYF to Carrigan Farms "Forbidden Farms"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study at the Coates' home</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Saints Alive 12:30pm Saints Alive luncheon</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>10:30am Prayer Group in the library 1</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>Horrible Hair</i> Night</p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at Sonic</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home 2</p>  <p>7:00pm Bible Study in the Parlor</p> <p>7:30pm Mooresville User's Group in room 310</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>10:00pm PYF 5th Quarter</p>	<p>8:00am to 4:30am 4</p> <p>Logos Encounter</p> 
<p>8</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>Circus Parade</i> Night</p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at Wendy's</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home 9</p>  <p>6:00pm Fun & Fellowship at Golden Corral</p> <p>7:00pm Bible Study in the Parlor</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>15</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>Sports Mania</i> Night</p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at Cookout</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p>7:00pm Bible Study in the Parlor</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>10:00pm PYF 5th Quarter</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>22</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>Bible Character</i> Night</p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at Shiki</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p>7:00pm Bible Study in the Parlor</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
Saints Alive Beach Trip			
<p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 29</p> <p>4:00pm Logos/MSM <i>Masquerade Madness</i> Night</p> <p>6:15pm HS SupperClub at What-a-burger</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p>7:00pm Bible Study in the Parlor</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>6:00pm All Saints Eve Celebration in FH</p> <p>10:00pm PYF 5th Quarter</p>	

Operation Christmas Child

Everyone in our church family is invited to participate in Operation Christmas Child, sponsored by Samaritan's Purse, by packing shoe boxes for needy children around the world. In order to help in this hands-on project, we will pack boxes together following the November 2 church supper.



Between now and then, you can help by shopping for the following items:

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, slinky, etc.

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

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

Other: hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights and batteries, ball caps, socks, toy jewelry, watches, etc.

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Used items, war-related items, perishable items, liquids, medicines, or breakable items.

Donation boxes will be available in the church office, parlor, and fellowship hall.

Please be generous as you shop for these children around the world. Even the smallest toy or new coloring book can make a difference to children in war-torn areas, or to children whose lives have been devastated by natural disasters.



Following the November 2 church supper, the Logos choir and PYF Band will entertain us with some "after-dinner music" prior to our packing project.

You may find more information about Operation Christmas Child at www.samaritanspurse.org.

Nursery workers needed

We need some nursery workers for the following 11:00 a.m. worship service nurseries:

1st Sunday - Toddlers (need 1)
2's & 3's (need 2)
4's & 5's (need 2)

2nd Sunday - 4's & 5's (need 1)
4th Sunday - Toddlers (need 1)

5th Sunday - Infants (need 1)

Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) if you are interested in helping.



All Saints' Eve Fall Festival

Make plans to attend our congregation's annual All Saints' Eve Fall Festival on Wednesday, October 31, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. **Note the earlier time, due to a MHS home football game.**

This year we are having a "Down on the Farm" theme, so come prepared to have some down-on-the-farm FUN!

There will be a hot dog supper, games, popcorn, prizes, candy, cake walk, moonwalk in the courtyard, and costumes galore.

Please dress in non-scary costumes. There will be a costume parade for all ages.

We need LOTS of help with the activities. Contact the church office (704-664-5275) or event coordinator Susan Kendall (704-660-0458) if you can help in any of these areas:

Donating:

Individually wrapped candy (place in box in church office)

Funds to offset costs

Cupcakes or cookies for cake walk

Helping:

Decorate fellowship hall

Help in kitchen for hot dog supper

Supervising games

Clean up

While all activities are free of charge (including the hot dog supper), *donations are appreciated* to help offset costs.



Blood Drive

Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church

Our church is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive and we need donors and volunteers! Anyone who is interested in helping, please call Trent Newell at 704-658-1052.

Date: November 5, 2008

Time: 1:00-7:00 p.m.

Place: Citizen Center

Saints Alive

October Luncheon

The monthly Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held Tuesday, October 28, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. **Please note the change in the regular luncheon date to the 4th Tuesday in October, due to the beach trip.** Come join church friends for a delicious lunch, enjoyable conversation and fellowship, and an interesting program.

This month's program will be presented by Gail and Buddy Ervin, volunteers with Operation Christmas Child. The Ervins personally delivered shoe boxes to children in Peru, and will tell the group about that experience, as well as give the group details on how they can be involved in the life-changing ministry of Operation Christmas Child. Come and bring a friend!

Saints to travel to Myrtle Beach

Nineteen Saints are registered for the annual Saints Alive beach trip to Island Vista in Myrtle Beach, SC, on Tuesday, October 21 through Friday, October 24. Final payments for show tickets and room reservations should be made prior to leaving for the trip; checks should be earmarked "Saints Alive Beach Trip."



Saints Alive plan trip to Southern Christmas Show

The Saints Alive group 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.



Saints - save the dates!

Thursday, November 20 - Trip to "Windows of Christmas" Southern Christmas Show at Charlotte Merchandise Mart (now *The Park*)

Tuesday, December 2 - Trip to Grove Park Inn in Asheville to see the National Gingerbread Display

A page from the library

Now that you have found out all about "Hermie" and "Wormie" for your children, come and see what we now have in the library for the more mature mind:

First Born series, by Karen Kingsbury

Traveling Light, by Walt and Barb Larimore

When Crickets Cry, by Charles Morton

The Man Who Moved a Mountain, by Richard Davids

Experience the Peace of God and *Where Jesus Walked*, by Ken Duncan

Castaway Kid, by R.B. Mitchell

Deeper Water, by Robert Whitlow

A Taste of Heaven, by R.C. Sproul

Come... Read... Enjoy!

Ellie Den Bleyker



Logos/MSM

Logos is off to a great start and we appreciate all of the volunteers who have made that happen. This month we would like to recognize the many volunteers who make the dinner hour both successful and fun each week.

Thanks to all of the table parents for volunteering to eat dinner, sing silly blessings and thank yous, play games and build relationships with our kids this semester. Thank you also to the substitutes for being available at a moment's notice and to *Lynne Swing* for coordinating this group of people. They are:

Table parents - *Brad Chappell, Dawn Ottinger, Lucy Hastings, Elaine Drye, Jim and Martha McDonnell, Phil and Maria Heilman, Vivian Roger-Cannon, Stacey Faulkenberry, Angie Copeland, Alison Deaton, Jen McNeely, Lucile McClure, Sandy and Jerry Bickett, Liz Rader, Stacy Windsor, Lynne and Scott Swing, Ellen Auten, Lisa Pfeufer, Bryan and Hillary Cole, Scott and Valerie Mauney and Leeann and Patrick DeCastro.*
Subs – *Mark McNeely, Frank Rader, Clay Brown, Dennis and Pam Winters, Lorra Lee Holshouser, Jennifer Robinson, Rick and Judy McLean and Judy Cole.*

What would dinner hour be without a great meal? That meal would not be possible without help from every parent in the program. Thanks to each and every parent in the program for coming in and fulfilling your kitchen duty. Coordinating the parents of the 79 kids in the program is no small task. Seven to eight parent volunteers are required to help *Jerilyn Fair* with the dinner preparation and clean up each week. Coordinating that effort this year is *Nancy Omohundro*. Thank you Nancy for coordinating the parent kitchen volunteers, *Jerilyn* for our great meal and *Kathryn Donelson* and *Allyson Hill* for setting the tables each week.

The tables would not be complete without festive decorations that coordinate with the weekly theme. Thanks to Ruth Newell and to Debbie Sholar for coming in each week and decorating the fellowship hall. It is a pleasure to walk into Logos each week and see the festive fellowship hall.

Last but not least we would like to recognize and thank *Cindy and Sparky Hitchcock* for serving as dinner dean this year. They plan and lead games, keep our dinner hour on schedule and make sure we all use our very best manners each week.

October Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, October 1 - Horrible Hair Night
Sunday, October 5 - MSM Handbells at 11:00 a.m. service
Wednesday, October 8 - Circus Parade Night
Wednesday, October 15 - Sports Mania Night
Sunday, October 19 - Logos choir at 11:00 a.m. service
Wednesday, October 22 - Bible Character Night
Wednesday, October 29 - Masquerade Madness

Stewardship Events for Your Calendar

October 12—Guest Speaker Dave McKechnie and Stewardship Luncheon
October 19—Pledge Sunday during 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

As part of our stewardship theme, “Blessed to Bless Others,” we are having two special Sundays of events to focus on this great spiritual truth found in Genesis 12:1-2. This is Abraham before he’s Abraham, when his name is still Abram and he’s at the start of his faith walk:

The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others...” (Genesis 12:1-2)

Here’s the amazing Biblical truth: God blesses us abundantly, both spiritually and materially, so we may in turn bless the lives of others. This is true in terms of our homes, our friends, our jobs, our schools, and our other relationships. It is true in how we choose to share our time and energy, our abilities and gifts, and our financial and material resources for God’s work. Scripture teaches that you get in order to give. We are truly blessed to bless others!

Two key events for *Blessed to Bless Others* to mark on your calendars are:

1. Sunday, October 12, following 11:00 a.m. worship, in the Fellowship Hall: Our *Blessed to Bless Others* Luncheon with our guest speaker, the Rev. Dr. Dave McKechnie.

Dave McKechnie is uniquely gifted and qualified to speak with us on stewardship matters. He is the Pastor Emeritus of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, where he led that congregation into remarkable growth in membership (4,500 members at his retirement) and ministry during his 25+ year tenure there. Even in retirement, he continues his ministry of service and stewardship, helping as interim pastor for First Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX, to launch a \$10 million capital campaign for missions, ministry, and debt retirement for that congregation. He will preach both services and speak to us following the luncheon. You will enjoy the luncheon. It is catered and will be quite a treat for us. We are covering the cost of the luncheon with donations, so please give generously and cheerfully as the Lord leads.

2. Sunday, October 19, during 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services, is Pledge Sunday.

Continued on back page

**Marti Estes 5K
Mooresville Community Walk of Faith
Saturday, April 18, 2009**

April 19, 2008 proved to be a date that many of us will never forget. It was the date of the inaugural Marti Estes 5K race. The event was a huge success. We were able to raise over \$13,000 for the Mooresville Soup Kitchen as well as remember a beloved member of our church community wide.

It is time now to begin working on next year's race. The 2009 race will take place on Saturday, April 18. There are many ways for you to get involved.

Race sponsorships are now being solicited so if your family or business would like to become a sponsor, the levels are listed below.

Sponsorship Levels

ITEM	PRIMARY SPONSOR \$1500	GOLD SPONSOR \$500	SILVER SPONSOR \$250	BRONZE SPONSOR \$100
Company name on race literature	X	X	X	X
Literature in race packets	X	X	X	X
Company name on T-shirt	X	X	X	
Company Logo on T-shirt	X	X		
Recognition at award ceremony	X	X		
Banners at event	X			
Right to promote services	X			

(* Prominent logo placement)

In the near future the committee will need help in delivering information about the race to businesses and organizations around the community and generally getting the word out. There will also be many things to help with in the weeks leading up to the race.

For those of you who plan on participating in the run/walk you may want to begin your training now, but the main way for you to get involved immediately is with your prayers. Please keep this committee in your daily prayers as we prepare for next year's race. Our goal for the 2009 race is for it to be an even greater success than this year's race was so that will be a challenge.

Watch for regular updates in the monthly newsletters and Sunday bulletins as to the progress towards event day.

-The Marti Estes 5K Community Walk of Faith Committee

Mark Your Calendar

With the Holiday Season rapidly approaching, it's time to start making early preparations by setting aside important dates for events affecting the First Presbyterian Church family. This is an "early list" and we may be adding events to it as we get closer to the holidays, but it's a good place to start...



November 2	6:00 p.m.	Church Night Supper with entertainment by our Logos Choir and the PYF Prase Band. We will be packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. A great family event!
November 7-8	5:00 p.m. Fri. 7:00 a.m. Sat.	A Pancake Supper/Breakfast sponsored by the Missions Committee
November 27		Thanksgiving Day
November 30	10:00 a.m.	Advent Workshop
December 5-7		<i>Walk Through Bethlehem</i>
December 7	6:00 p.m.	Church Night Supper and Christmas Concert
December 11 - 14		<i>Walk Through Bethlehem</i>
December 14	9 & 11:00 a.m.	Christmas Cantata
	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Open House at the Manse
December 16	12:30 p.m.	Saints Alive Luncheon
December 16-17	9:30 a.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
December 21	10:00 a.m.	Church School Christmas Pageant
December 24	5:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Kid-friendly Christmas Eve Service Traditional "Candles & Carols" Christmas Eve Service
December 25		Christmas Day

As you can see, we have many enjoyable activities to look forward to that will lead us into the joyous Holiday Season!

Stewardship Events... (continued from page 10)

You are encouraged to commit your 2009 pledges for your financial gifts and for the gifts of your time and talent. It is always inspiring to see one another respond to the claims of Christ on our lives by walking down the aisles of the sanctuary and placing our pledge cards and Time and Talent forms in the offering plates on the Lord's Table. Why do we do this? Because pledging your time, talent, and treasure are meant to be spiritual decisions and experiences, not just material and financial ones. You will not want to miss this Sunday.

Please pray about your response. Then step out in a spiritual adventure of faith and bless others as you have been blessed. God will bless and encourage you as you do so.



First Presbyterian Church

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To be added to or subtracted from our mailing list, email:
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Sunday Services

9:00 a.m. Early Worship

10:00 a.m. Church School

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

OCTOBER 2008

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