

Worship & Study Opportunities

Sunday School Opening
9:15 a.m.

Sunday School Classes
9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service
10:30 a.m.

*LOGOS Program
for Children & Youth*
Wednesdays
at 5:00 p.m.

Junior High Youth
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Senior High Youth
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Men's Study Group Lunch
Thursdays at Noon



**First
Presbyterian
Church**
109 W. College
Brownsville, TN
38012

Dr. John W. Larson
Interim Pastor

Dr. David Dennis
Director of Music



Media Ministry

A group of church officers and members have recently met to consider improvements to our Media Ministry to church members and others. Based on the Church's 2005-2010 Long Range Plan, this group plans to recommend to the Session improvements in our overall media, video-sound system.

As we have studied different options, we have come to realize major changes are needed to update our total media system. Speakers are inadequate, microphones do not work well, and reproducing our worship services for shut-ins is inefficient. There are locations in our sanctuary, where people can not hear. With our proposed system, worshippers will be

able to hear the minister, liturgists, and musicians, as well as, recording them on disks for shut-ins and others wishing copies of worship services.

One major problem now is reproducing our services on DVDs. It takes over an hour of church office staff time to make a master copy of a service, and several more hours to duplicate that for those needing copies. New equipment will allow recording the master during the service and copies made quickly thereafter. With this new system, we also hope to be able to create an active internet ministry for persons interested in knowing about First Presbyterian.

Anyone interested in helping with our Media Ministry contact Elder Peter Mascolo or Deacon Dale Green.

October
2009

First Presbyterian News

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Inside This Issue

- Fall Fest
- Memorials & Gifts to the Church
- Mexico Mission Update
- October Birthdays



Share Your Vision

From Your Interim Pastor

By Dr. John W. Larson

Hard to believe that by the time you read this note, I will have been here at First Presbyterian for two months. I think things have gone well. I know this is a good church with dedicated leaders and energetic members. I am confident that you are moving ahead toward the goal God has for you.

Now is the time to focus on that goal. Over the coming weeks, you will elect a Pulpit Nominating Committee to seek your new pastor. Be praying for that selection process and those so chosen. However, don't stop there. Those people will need input from you to prepare to seek a new installed pastor. Share with them your perception of what this congregation needs to be about to be the best you can be in the future.

God is sharing with you a vision for First Presbyterian. Each of you has a part of that picture. Add your part, so that it becomes a recognizable picture of the future. Without your input, there will be gaps in that picture. Hopefully, there will be times and events to allow you to contribute your insight and hear that of others, too.

In any case, pass on what you believe God is asking of you and of your church for the next few years. Share it with your elders, whether or not you are able to attend any of those events, when others will meet to pass on their views of the future. And may God bless us all.

JOHN

I pray that out of his glorious riches God may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephes. 3:16-19 NIV

Making Disciples for Christ in Brownsville, Tennessee

A PALL OVER YOU!



Curious how such words in this title can seem so harsh, when the idea can be so very different! Recently, a generous church member donated a Funeral Pall to First Presbyterian Church. We give thanks for this gift. Many churches use Palls at funerals, but for any unfamiliar with this custom, here are some important facts.

The pall is a way to show our common faith in God. It is the color of early baptismal gowns, and reflects the seamless cloth tunic that Jesus wore. A modern pall is a simple off white cloth drape with a gold cross on it to remind us of our Savior's victory over death.

A Funeral Pall covers a casket *during* a worship service in honor of a deceased person. As death is an equalizer of us all, so also the pall is an equalizer. Since every believer redeemed by Christ is the same before God in death; so the simple Funeral Pall in a funeral service, by covering the differences in caskets, reminds us that each person in a casket is the same to God.

If a family *chooses to use* a Funeral Pall, it is placed over the casket upon entering

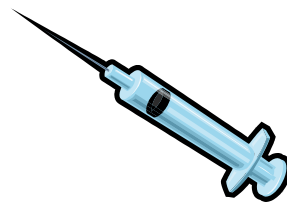
the place of worship and remains until the casket is removed. It is not used before the service with an open casket during visitation, nor is it used later at the grave side committal service.

You may view the Funeral Pall in the church office and are invited to use it in future funerals. However, no one is required to do so. Remember the Pall is only a symbol of our oneness in Christ used during a worship service.

Flu Shot

Flu Shots will be available immediately following morning worship Sunday, **October 18**. Cost is \$15.

To insure that enough shots are available, please contact Lisa Mulherin, or the church office, if you wish to receive one.



Bring-A-Dish

Our monthly Bring-A-Dish Fellowship Luncheon will be

October 18.

Please bring a dish and join us for this time of fellowship immediately following the morning worship.

Recent Gifts to the Church

In Memory of Jane Law

By

Mr. & Mrs. Ed McClanahan & Family

In Memory of Ron Shearon

By

Mr. & Mrs. Ed McClanahan & Family
Mrs. Eleanor Rooks

Update From Page 6

feel the best gift we can give is the gift of helping others. We truly appreciate your being part of our special day. LJ and Patti Wagner."

Thank you so much LJ and Patti for making us a part of your very special day.

For Those Keeping Score at Home . . .

Twenty-four cisterns have been built so far in 2009.

Wedding Bells

On August 29, Pastor Isaias of Xpujil married Maria Cecilia—a member of the Presbyterian Church in Xpujil. For the first time, my matchmaking efforts actually resulted in marriage!

Fall 2009 Xpujil Schedule

Date	People Present
September 17-30	Andy Combs, "newlywed" couple from Baton Rouge, and I

November 16-25 Andy Combs and I

Luke Family News

Leydi is a freshman at Oakton Community College. Marco started his sophomore year, and plays with the varsity soccer team.

George is a second grader and plays with a local soccer club. Maria continues to cook in the kitchen of Sunset Foods. As for me, I continue to manage mission activity from Northbrook, conduct Internet research regarding agriculture and sheep questions, search for new mission partners, work to strengthen existing relationships, and apply for grants in the hope of securing more funds for our cistern project in 2010 and beyond.

Thank You Very Much

All this work is a result of your continued support. Maria and I give thanks for your faithful and steadfast participation in this unique ministry. Please continue to pray for all those involved, especially our very good friends at The Outreach Foundation. They have played an essential role in this ministry for over a decade, and counting. For those of you who don't know much about The Outreach Foundation, I encourage you to visit their website at www.theoutreachfoundation.org to learn about their vision and mission for the world. Cool stuff.

Yours in Xpujil,
Todd Luke



Mexico Mission Update

September 2, 2009

Dear Friends:

We had a busy summer in Xpujil. As you read, see if you can figure out why I call this “the wedding letter.”

Todd Luke

My daughter Leydi and I traveled to Xpujil on June 30. Maria, Marco and George joined us on July 17. We all returned to Chicago on August 3. The manse, the parsonage, the community center, and the mission center—are in use and in good shape. They could all use a coat of paint, but that could be said about almost every building in town.

Felipe Torres, Our Guy in Xpujil

Felipe is doing a great job managing our facilities and equipment, recording data for over 250 sheep, and caring for our experimental field five kilometers south of Xpujil.

Summer Intern

Our summer intern, Jennifer Arnspong was with us from July 5-July 27. Jen, now a freshman at St. Olaf (Minnesota), is from Northbrook, IL. She cleared debris (lots of stacking and burning), fertilized, and cut weeds in the field. She was also a *big* help during a four day VBS in Castilla Brito. Her peppy personality, Spanish skills, and work ethic made her a great addition to our summer work team.

Summer Mission Teams

A group of five women from Alamance Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, NC, led a monster VBS in Castilla Brito that ran for three hours in the morning and two hours in the late afternoon. Attendance increased every day. On Day One, about 80 kids showed up. By the last day, around 130 children participated.

At the same time that VBS was in session, a group

of women from the First Presbyterian Church of Brownsville, TN led their eighth annual sewing workshop. Each day, six different Ch’ol women chose from a variety of donated fabric and had the opportunity to sew clothes with the highly skilled Brownsville ladies.

That Girl Can Cook!

Leydi, took her mom’s place as the head chef and hostess for our visiting mission teams from Greensboro and Brownsville. Using food consumption as the metric, she did a very good job.

Seven Cistern Surprise in June

June was looking to be a light month for our cistern ministry. Due to the poor economy and the H1N1 virus scare, no mission teams were scheduled. Into that void stepped the Mexican government. Two different government entities contracted our cistern guys to build seven cisterns for families living in three villages.

Nine Cisterns built in July and August

Nine cisterns have been built this summer: four in Ley de Fomento, two in Castilla Brito, two in 11 de Mayo, and one behind the manse in Xpujil. Funding for these cisterns came from four churches and three individuals. Two of the individuals, LJ and Patti Wagner made our cistern ministry part of their wedding. At the reception, each table centerpiece had a card with the following text:

“We’ve chosen a special way to say thank you for sharing our wedding day. A donation has been made in your honor to the cistern building project of The Yucatan Mission. We

Continued on Page 7



Fall Fest



Wednesday, October 28

Fish Fry & Trick or Trunk

First United Methodist Church

Proceeds will benefit FPC and FUMC Youth Programs

LOGOS SCHEDULE

DATE	THEME
Sept. 9	FUN ZONE Kick-Off
Sept. 16	Tomcat Night
Sept. 23	Beach Night
Sept. 30	Hippie Night
Oct. 7	Camping Night
Oct. 14	NO LOGOS Fall Break
Oct. 21	Fiesta Night
Oct. 28	Halloween
Nov. 4	Farm Night
Nov. 11	Pajama Night
Nov. 18	Thanksgiving
Dec. 2	Jungle Night
Dec. 9	Christmas

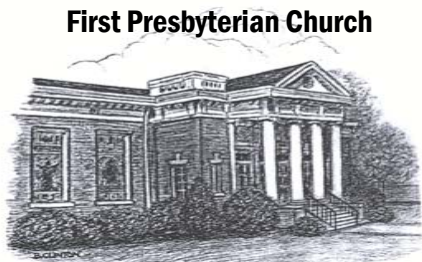
Deacon Report:

The Deacons met in August and planned out the next six months in a way that will focus primarily on a “shut-in” ministry and local missions. Each month there will be a moment for mission focusing on local and foreign missions and how the congregation can get involved. Cards addressed to our shut-ins will be placed on the tables at our monthly bring-a-dish lunch for members of the congregation to sign and send a positive word to those members who are unable to be at church with us on Sunday mornings.

The deacons have designated a day each month to visit our members in the nursing homes or at home and so far, that has been a great success!

Deacons:

Van Williams, Dale Green, Elise Clinton, Hayden Hooper, Larry Hill, and Nick Nichols



First Presbyterian Church

Making Disciples for Christ in Brownsville, Tennessee

October 2009

Birthdays

Please pray for each person on their birthday.

- 1 – Hooper Stoots
- 2 – Hayden Hooper
- 3 – Madison Martin
- 4 – Jeannette W. Swiatnicki
- 6 – Gray Morris
- 6 – Pam Martin
- 8 – Marilyn Kipley
- 12 – Lois Morrison
- 12 – David Pope
- 14 – Madeleine Timbes
- 14 – Becky Sadowski
- 15 – Charles Sullivan
- 16 – Grace Jones
- 18 – Thomas Callery
- 21 – Boyd Richards
- 21 – Bob Sadowski
- 25 – Jonathan Schwartz
- 26 – Charles Ammons
- 26 – Tommy Timbes
- 27 – Betty Boyd
- 27 – Tom Bridgewater
- 30 – Al McRae
- 31 – Myriah Schwartz

SUN

MON

TUE


WED

THU

FRI

SAT

To have events or birthday listed on the calendar,
please contact Sonia at 772-2893 or e-mail: presbychurch@bellsouth.net.

					1 Men's Study Lunch 12 p.m.	2	3
4 <i>Communion Sunday</i> Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	5	6	7 LOGOS 5 p.m. Theme: Camping Night P.Y.C. KICK-OFF Jr. & Sr. High 6 p.m. Choir Practice 7:15 p.m.	8 Men's Study Lunch 12 p.m.	9	10	
				Women's Great Banquet Weekend at Pinecrest Oct. 8-11			
11 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	12	13	14 FALL BREAK No LOGOS or PYC Choir Practice 7:15 p.m.	15 Men's Study Lunch 12 p.m.	16 Church Office Closed	17 Hatchie Fall Fest All Day on the Square	
							
18 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. <i>Bring-A-Dish</i>	19	20 Session Meeting 7 p.m.	21 LOGOS 5 p.m. Theme: Fiesta Night P.Y.C. Jr. High: 6 p.m. P. Y. C. Sr. High: 7 p.m. Choir Practice 7:15 p.m.	22 Men's Study Lunch 12 p.m.	23	24	
25 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Deacon's Meeting Immediately following worship	26	27 Great Day for Seniors @ Pinecrest 10 a.m.—1:30 p.m.	28 Fall Fest Fish Fry & Trick or Trunk First Methodist Church Choir Practice 7:15 p.m.	29 Men's Study Lunch 12 p.m.	30	31 Halloween	