



Here we are at **Advent**—waiting for **Christmas!!!** The children are glued to the avalanche of catalogs that are arriving in the mail. Meanwhile, the adults watch the economic trends and wonder how they'll manage. We're reading "Reduce, reuse and recycle" or "Simplify, simplify simplify"! This all at a time when the news proclaims that the average family spends well over \$1500 on Christmas presents each year. Suze Orman tells us, "we're buying things we don't need to impress people we don't know".

So as you're planning your gift list, you might consider:

- The Gift of **Serenity**: Encourage the recipient to make time for themselves;
- The Gift of **Time**: Help out a stressed-out recipient by doing some task/s that seem to be weighing them down;
- The Gift of **Knowledge**: Share one of your skills or talents with someone who wants to learn it;
- The Gift of a **Brighter Future**: Do volunteer work or give to a charity in the recipient's name; or give to a child's college-education fund.

These are all Gifts that we, as Christians, receive anew every Christmas; it's our opportunity to share them with our loved ones as God shares with us.

#### TAX FREE OPPORTUNITY

**Time is running out!**

For a limited time the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA), provides a gift-planning opportunity for owners of Traditional & Roth IRA's. IRA owners can instruct custodians to make charitable gifts directly to a local church, the Presbyterian Foundation or most public charities. This new law eliminates many impediments with respect to direct charitable transfers of up to \$100,000.

#### To qualify:

- You must be 70 ½ years of age or older;
- The gift must be 100% charitable;
- Your gifts cannot exceed a total of \$100,000 per year;
- Your IRA administrator must send the check directly to the church or charitable organization to qualify;
- The gift can satisfy minimum required distributions, reducing reportable income;
- The opportunity benefits non-itemizers, too;
- This opportunity is available until the end of 2007, and the gift does not qualify for a charitable tax deduction on your income tax return.

It is advised you check with your tax advisor or attorney about the applicability of the legal principles as they apply to your own situation.

*Stewardship Committee*

#### FPC Makes History on The Internet

The 100 year history of First Presbyterian Church in Duncan, exactly as it appears in our Centennial Celebration Book, has now been posted on the church web site:

[www.fpcduncan.com](http://www.fpcduncan.com)

Interested web site visitors who may not have received a Centennial Book, are now able to print, share and enjoy the story of our church.

Around Oklahoma, the nation and the world, be sure to tell all your friends and family about this *History Making Event!*

Your Poinsettia plants may be picked up anytime after the Christmas Eve church service. On December 24th.



*Thank You*

Dear Friends,  
Thank You for your prayers and support. As we all enjoy meals together this Thanksgiving Season. Let us be particularly mindful of the opportunities to share gods love. Blessings,  
Bobbie & John and McGarey family.



## Happy December Birthday!

*Let's Pray Prayers of Joy for These People on Their Special Days!*

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 12/04 Nancy Grantham  | 12/20 Diana Cunningham |
| 12/06 Corey Helms     | 12/20 James Livingston |
| 12/09 Ted Legg        | 12/25 JESUS            |
| 12/12 Donna Marks     | 12/27 Johnny McGarey   |
| 12/13 Lonnie Helms    | 12/29 Bennie Drake     |
| 12/15 Rosella McQuain | 12/30 Fallis Beall     |
|                       | 12/30 George Copland   |



*We sometimes miss a birthday. Please let us know.*



*A lunch honoring December Birthdays will be held at El Palacio at noon on Wednesday, December 19th. Please call in your reservation to the church office.*

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT FAW ENTRY IS DECEMBER 22ND**

### CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT First Presbyterian Church - 2007

#### OUR PROMISE TO GOD

We Promise to affirm our belief in You, pray for Your guidance and live in faith, thanking You.

#### OUR PROMISE TO OUR GOVERNING BOARDS

We promise to pray daily for our pastor, all church officers and church staff. We agree to encourage them, respect their decisions, and follow as they guide us.

#### OUR PROMISE TO EACH OTHER

We promise to show our commitment through a positive and respectful attitude, open communications and support of the church to the best of our ability.

We promise to reflect to all we meet the light of Christ and the love of God.

We promise to work in joy with others to affirm the grace and power of Christ for the benefit of all – church, community and the world.

*To the best of our ability, we promise to remember:*

1. That respecting others opinions, does not mean being untrue to our own; and
2. That in response to hurt or anger we promise to respond with prayer and love, instead of negative unhealthy responses.

### Sunday School Class in Progress.

Join us in the parlor at 9:30 am each Sunday morning to study The Psalms. This class will continue through January.

Teaching the class is Rosella McQuain.



Centennial Celebration Books are still available at the Church Office. There is no charge to FPC Church members for the first copy. Additional copies may be purchased for the regular non-member price of \$10.00.

You can pick up books at the church office Monday through Thursday, 9AM-5PM & from 9AM till Noon on Friday.

Books may also be ordered by mail. Send your check to the Church Office. Add \$5.00 each for Priority Mail postage.

## Part D – Review Before You Renew

If you're currently insured through a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan you probably have already received your annual renewal notice in the mail. Please read it carefully. It is probable that your costs are scheduled to rise considerably in 2008. At the same time, your benefits may decrease and your 'donut hole' might just get a bit deeper.

It's a good idea to 'Review Before You Renew'.

It's time once again to go over your current plan and compare it to all other available plans. Remember, there is only one 'Best Plan' for you. The plan that you're with now may have been the right choice for 2007. But – things can and do change.

When you're ready to renew your Part D coverage, or - if you're a new enrollee in 2008, the place to check for your 'Best Plan' is at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov), the Internet site where all your Part D questions can be answered and where enrollment and/or plan change can be easily accomplished. At First Presbyterian Church your Parish Nurse, Jo Flanders, is available to go over your options with you. You can contact Jo through the church office to schedule a confidential on line review of your needs and available Part D plans.

The time to review is now. Online enrollment for 2008 begins on November 15 and Medicare usually requires two months for your new monthly premium payments to catch up with your changed Part D coverage.

### NEUROBICS

A free Program of  
Spiritual Meditation,  
Discussion, Mental  
Stimulation and  
Movement to give your  
brain some exercise.

First Presbyterian Church

704 W. Ash

Duncan, OK

Thursday mornings

9:30 – 10:30 am

Come Join Us!

"ADVENT is a season of longing and anticipation, during which we prepare for the coming of Jesus. The church year begins with Advent, as life begins with birth, starting four Sundays before Christmas. The liturgical color of Advent is blue, which symbolizes waiting and hope."

*From The Presbyterian Handbook*

Communion Service December 24th



### Copies of Sermons?

Copies of Sunday sermons can be found on a table in the Narthex each Sunday morning. They are free, and available as you enter for worship, and as you leave. Ask an usher if you can't find one. An archive of previous sermons is also available online at our website. Just enter the link below in the address bar of your web browser, and scroll down on the page to sermons.

[www.fpcduncan.com/our\\_pastor.asp](http://www.fpcduncan.com/our_pastor.asp)

**Youth Food Harvest:** The December "Food of the Month" is **Tea Bags** (each month will have a new food). Please bring your food to the church on the **third Sunday** of each month & the youth will take it to the Christians Concerned Food Pantry.

### LET US REMEMBER

#### Heartland

415 N. Chisholm Trail Pkwy.

Joe Griffith

Duncan Care Center 700 Palm

Estella Trapp

Alterra Sterling House

915 W. Plato

Wylla Leonard

Chisholm Trail Retirement Ctr.

625 N. Chisholm Trail Pkwy

Lavina Hofmann Ted Legg

Country Club Care

1904 Hwy 81

Mildred Holtmyer

Carroll McClellan

Wilkins Nursing Center

1205 S. 4th

Ben Hill



### CHRISTMAS JOY LUNCHEON

Friday, December 7 at 12:00 noon, in fellowship hall, the Presbyterian Women will celebrate their annual Christmas Joy luncheon. All Presbyterian women and guests (spouses and significant others) are cordially invited to attend. Sue Beall has arranged for Sharon Schick to review a book about a minister who realizes life gets complicated when you try to surprise your

wife with a Christmas gift. The lunch will be catered and directed by Vickie Zimmerman.

#### Christmas Joy Menu

Lasagna  
Green Garden Salad  
Bread  
Tea & Coffee  
Homemade Dessert  
The Cost of the lunch  
will be \$5.00

An offering will be taken, which will stay within our congregation, and will be added to the congregational gift, that will be received on December 23. This offering will be sent to the Board of Pensions, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). 50% of this offering will go for retired church workers by providing funds to help them through difficult times; and 50% to support Presbyterian racial ethnic schools. One of the institutions, is Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL. This four year liberal arts school prepares students for careers in medicine; business; law education and Christian Ministry. Their motto is "enter to learn and depart to serve".



Candlelight service will be held on Christmas Eve at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

## Peace on Earth

