

## CONNECTION CARD

November 22, 2009

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: 8:15 9:30 11:00

First Time Guest

Return Guest

Member  Regular Visitor

### I would like information on:

How to begin a relationship with Jesus

How to join this church

How to join a small group Bible study

### I would like information about these ministry opportunities:

Family  Preschool/Children

Adult  Music/Choir

Youth  Young Adults

Men  Women

### Special Requests:

I would like to speak with a pastor

Prayer request (on reverse side)

Wednesday Night Dinners  
will be suspended  
next week due to  
the Thanksgiving Holiday.  
All classes and activities will  
resume on December 2.

## PARENTS, NEED A SATURDAY WITHOUT THE KIDS?

The FPC Youth and some of their advisors will be offering babysitting services on December 12th, 9am-1pm. Reservations are required by December 6th and may be made via email to Tonya at [tonya@fpcdouglasville.org](mailto:tonya@fpcdouglasville.org). Please include your child's name and age. Parents are asked to provide a sack lunch for their child. The youth's services are offered in exchange for donations that will go towards the FPC Benevolence Fund. Thank you for your support!

**DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY** class will be offered again Wednesday nights beginning in January. There are thirteen weekly topics to help you develop a life style to manage your finances. A 20 minute preview video will be shown in the Conference Room at 10:30 on Sunday, Dec. 6 and at 10:30 and 12:15 on Sunday, Dec. 13. Registration sheets are available at the Information Desk in the Narthex. The course/membership is \$99.50 and the deadline to register is Sunday, December 20. This is be a GREAT Christmas gift idea that would be valued many times over. Call Ed Ireland, 770-949-3454 for more information.

### AN ACCOUNTING OF OUR GIVING AND ATTENDANCE

Budgeted Pledges and Anticipated Income Each Week	23,891.00
Actual Pledges and Income Last Sunday	25,474.00
Budgeted Pledges and Anticipated Income to Date	1,074,822.00
Actual Pledges and Income Received to Date	1,049,900.00
Sunday School Attendance Last Sunday	341
Worship Attendance Last Sunday	439

**FAMILIES OR PERSONS WHO MAY NEED SUPPORT DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL OR WORSHIP FOR AN ADULT OR CHILD WITH SPECIAL NEEDS MAY CONTACT:** Co-Chairs of the Special Needs Ministry, Kirsten Lee: 404-422-0435 or email [kirstenblee@yahoo.com](mailto:kirstenblee@yahoo.com); or Anna Hook: 770-949-976, [annavhook@yahoo.com](mailto:annavhook@yahoo.com)

**8:15 USHERS FOR NOVEMBER:** Dave and Ann Medlock.

**9:30 USHERS FOR NOVEMBER:** Wilbur Blackman (captain), Bob & Topsy Suber, Mindy Ploeg, Troy Crumpton, Neal Blackman, Jack & Nancy Hague.

**11:00 USHERS FOR NOVEMBER:** Mindy McDonald (captain), April & Chad Benton, Eric Engel, Bob Baird, Matt McDonald, Morris & Phoebe Taylor.

**SERVING IN THE 11:00 NURSERIES TODAY:** Kellie Showalter, Kristi Turner, Kathy Patman and Amy Libby.

**SERVING ON THE WELCOME CENTER TODAY:** Lucie Morris, Keith & Laurie Rowell, and Catherine Vaughn.

SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 22, 2009

# Mini-mouse

First Presbyterian Church *This is a Stephen Ministry Church*

9190 Campbellton St, Douglasville GA • 770-942-0710 • Fax 770-949-3481

<http://www.fpcdouglasville.org> • e-mail: [office@fpcdouglasville.org](mailto:office@fpcdouglasville.org)

Pastor-on-call 678-292-5020

## THE GIFT OF GRATITUDE

**WHAT A DELIGHT TO HEAR MY SON JOSHUA PRAY,** "Dear God, Thank you for this day. It was ju-u-u-st beautiful!" Besides the "cute factor" in how he said those words, I was delighted that he was expressing gratitude.

**GRATITUDE MEANS RECOGNIZING GRACE.** Grace is God's blessing on us, regardless of whether we deserve it. Gratitude means being thankful for something given. We feel gratitude when we recognize God's grace—the two words have the same root (in both English and biblical Greek) because gratitude is the appropriate response to grace.

**GRATITUDE OVERCOMES NEED.** We often focus on our needs, on the "half-empty" part of the glass. But when you focus on the full half, the glass seems fuller. When we appreciate God's grace, we begin to realize just how gracious God is – and our contentedness grows as our own needs seem smaller. So our response to grace becomes a means of grace.

**GRATITUDE OVERCOMES GREED.** It's hard to be greedy when you don't feel as needy! When we are grateful for grace, we realize that we have all we need because God is all we need, now and forever. Gratitude thus builds abundance in our lives.

**GRATITUDE IS A SKILL;** we can grow in gratitude with practice. Pray your thanks to God regularly (see 1 Chron. 23:30). Make a habit of genuinely thanking people: checkout clerks, waiters, and others who serve. Appreciate people (and God) both for what they do and for who they are. How often has someone thanked you simply for being you? But how thankful we can be that God has created us for community.

**AS WE GROW IN GRATITUDE,** we grow in the abundance of life Jesus came to offer us.

Happy Thanksgiving,  
Barnabas

**WELCOME VISITORS!** We hope that you find this a great place to connect with God and others. Your presence adds even more life to this body! Please visit the Welcome Center outside the Sanctuary to receive a free gift & have your questions answered. Members and visitors, please fill out the tear-off Connection Card and place it in the Offering Plate. Visitors, if you wish to receive our newsletter, please provide your address. Members, you may use this space to let us know if your address or contact information has changed.

**LECTIO DIVINA** will not meet tomorrow night. The next meeting will be Monday, December 14.

**THE WOMEN’S FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** has completed the fall session. The class will resume in January with a new study.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN “SISTERS-IN-SPIRIT”** study of “A Woman’s Heart, God’s Dwelling Place” continues to meet on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Books are \$15 and are available in the church office.

**THE THANKSGIVING PANCAKE BREAKFAST** will be hosted by all Youth, Nov. 26 at 8:30 a.m., in the Jeffords Center. Donations benefit youth missions. At **10:00 a.m.** please join us, also in the Jeffords Center, for a special **service of “GIVING THANKS”**. Bring your visiting friends and relatives with you, and let’s give praise and thanks to God!

**A FEW SMILING FACES** are needed as “Greeters” for December. Sign up in the Narthex and choose a Sunday to greet people at the door with a smile and a warm “hello.”

**LITURGISTS ARE NEEDED** for the 8:15 and 11:00 services. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to serve on an occasional basis with the readings given to you. Training for new Liturgists will be held on Wednesday, December 2, at 6:30 pm, in the Sanctuary. Please prayerfully consider serving in this way. If you wish to serve in this ministry please contact Linda Culver at [linda@fpcdouglasville.org](mailto:linda@fpcdouglasville.org).

**GREENING OF THE CHURCH** will take place Saturday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 28th from 9-12 noon. We still need volunteers, particularly to help with the outside decorations. Contact Angie ([stanfieldca@comcast.net](mailto:stanfieldca@comcast.net)) or Jane ([jane@fpcdouglasville.org](mailto:jane@fpcdouglasville.org)).

**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL** books will be available in the Narthex, for use during the season of Advent starting the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 29. Children in Sunday School will receive their own advent tools for use at home with family, while a limited number of booklets for teens/youth will also be available.



**ORDER YOUR LIVE POINSETTIAS** to be placed in the Sanctuary Dec. 20 and 24 in honor or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$8.25 for each potted plant. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church at the time of your order. The deadline is Sunday, Dec. 6!  
I WISH TO ORDER . . .

\_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia(s) in honor of

\_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia(s) in memory of

By \_\_\_\_\_



**THE THORNWELL OFFERING** will be received Sunday, November 29, with special offering envelopes provided in the bulletins. Please remember the children at Thornwell and be generous with your donations. Thornwell provides more than 400 children with food, clothes, health care, educational support, training in the faith and values of the Christian community, and someone to care for them in a healthy family setting.

**Thornwell Turkeys** were sent home with elementary children attending Sunday School on November 15. Please encourage your child to help with special chores around home to fill the turkey with coins. Turkeys may be returned to Sunday School teachers or placed in the offering plate on November 29.

**WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL TOY COLLECTION through Nov. 29.** Boy and girl toys are needed for ages 0-14 years. The gifts will be distributed by *A Gift of Love* to local children. Place your unwrapped toys and gifts in the baskets located throughout the church.

**THE SANTA CLAUS EXPRESS** is underway to collect small gifts for residents of Presbyterian Village. A list of acceptable items will be posted in the Narthex with a collection box. Bring your donations in a clean zip-lock bag. **DO NOT WRAP YOUR GIFTS!**  
**The deadline for donations is Dec. 6.**

This year **all Youth are hosting the Christmas card exchange** with the proceeds going towards our **BRINGIN’ IT HOME** efforts... You may “mail” Christmas cards to FPC members in the Narthex, for 25¢ each, Nov. 22-Dec. 6. Because the cards will be organized and bundled by family groups **we CANNOT accept cards after Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>**. Please include the family’s **FIRST AND LAST** names. **Members may pick up their cards December 13-27th.**



**THIS CHRISTMAS, WHEN YOU REMEMBER FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS, TEACHERS AND OTHERS on YOUR LIST, WHY NOT ALSO BLESS THOSE IN NEED?** The Local Mission Committee will be offering “Gifts of the Magi” Christmas cards, which include a donation to a local or global ministry of your choice. The custom-made cards range in price from \$2 to \$30. For example, you may choose to donate \$5 to provide a needy child with school supplies through **A Gift of Love**, or \$15 to provide a Christmas dinner for a family through **The Pantry**, or \$25 to sponsor a woman in the **HOPE project** life skills course. Cards will be available in the Narthex each Sunday from November 8 through December 13. The cards will inform the recipient of the organization and specific gift given in their name (but not the dollar amount). Most important, 100% of the purchase price of each card goes to the charity you choose!



### **Prayer Request**

*Are you or someone you know in need of prayer, a personal visit, or a word of encouragement? If so, please share that information in the space below. Provide an address if you want this person notified that we prayed for him/her.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Please keep this request confidential within the ministry staff.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Concern:**  
**(please print for legibility. Thanks!)**

**STEPHEN MINISTERS** are available for prayer in the Parlor today 10:30-11:00 AM.

**ATTENTION “GEN”**  
**I know of an employment opportunity.**

**Type of job:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of company & contact information:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_