

**“WHEN GAS WAS 30¢ A GALLON”  
JANUARY 2009**

One of the hot topics of conversation today is the price of gasoline. As we drive around, we notice the prices that are posted at each gas station. For some reason, certain stations seem to always be a few cents lower than their competitors. If you are like me, you have a mental list of stations where gas is a “bargain.” Recently, this has meant gas for under \$2.00 a gallon. Remember when you could put gas into the tank of your car for only 30¢ a gallon? You could purchase 20 gallons of gas for \$6.00. Although it’s hard to believe now, that was considered normal in January of 1964.

Today I looked at the calendar page of that month. My attention was drawn to Sunday, January 19. I’m sure for many people in the Seminole area, that Sunday seemed to be ordinary. That afternoon, football fans watched the West beat the East 27-24 in the AFL Pro Bowl game. There was no Super Bowl back then. On the night of January 19<sup>th</sup>, millions watched The Ed Sullivan Show. In just three weeks, he would introduce The Beatles to America.

There was, however, something very special about that third Sunday in January. A group of men and women had been praying about starting a church in this community. They saw real progress when the first public worship service was held on January 19, 1964 at the Seminole Elementary School. That first service helped launch Lake Seminole Presbyterian Church. How exciting it was for those first pioneers to see God answering their prayers.

In a few weeks, we will celebrate the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that first worship service. The session has designated Sunday, January 18, 2009 as Homecoming Sunday. We will honor the vision and faith of those who began our church. They committed themselves to build a church that was Christ-centered and that opened its doors to the community. Today we stand on the shoulders of those pioneers.

Plans are being made to make Homecoming Sunday a special event. Please invite anyone you know who has had some connection with our church. God has used our church to touch countless lives. Let’s celebrate that on January 18<sup>th</sup> of the New Year.

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