



First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest
www.firstchurchlf.org

700 N. Sheridan Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045
847.234.6250 fax 847.234.6283

April 1, 2008
Volume VIII, No. 7

Faith CONNECTIONS



Vacation Bible School

Save the Date

June 10-13

(Tuesday through Friday)

Kids age 4 (who have completed one year of pre-school) **through grade 4** are invited to "discover Jesus' miraculous power" in VBS - Power Lab. We will meet in the mornings of June 10-13 for songs, games, crafts, story-telling, videos, treats and more.

We are also **looking for a few good volunteers.** Youth who have completed fifth grade (or older) **are needed to serve as helpers** and numerous parents are required to put things together.

On Wednesday, April 2 at **9:15AM** we are holding the first **meeting for interested volunteers**

- get involved now or at any point in the future.

Please look for **registration** materials on the church website

www.firstchurchlf.org
or contact

apagliarella@firstchurch.org
for more information.

RECOGNIZING
THE POWER OF CHRIST
TO TRANSFORM LIVES,
THE CORE MISSION OF FIRST CHURCH
PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE
PROVIDE A COMMUNITY OF SPIRITUAL NURTURE
& PROMOTE GOD'S VISION OF JUSTICE

DISCOVERING OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

CHRISTINE VOGEL ANNUAL LECTURE

sponsored by Stephen Ministry and Adult Faith Formation

FEATURED SPEAKER

The Reverend Dr. Virginia B. Smith

Associate Executive Presbyter for Ministry
Presbytery of Chicago

Saturday, April 12

9:00AM - 2:30PM

THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY IS INVITED...

Register with Kerry Spera kspera@firstchurchlf.org
or (847) 234-6250

Each Christian has received certain gifts to be used to build up the body of Christ. The promise is there in the Bible: "We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us" (Romans:12:7). "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (1 Corinthians 12:7). No one has received all the spiritual gifts, but God has given at least one gift, and often several, to each individual. Christians are called to use their gifts in service, to meet the needs of their congregations and communities. In this way they act as Jesus' hands, feet, eyes, and ears in the world, serving others in following Christ's example.

As we explore our spiritual gifts, we will be addressing the following:

1. What is a Spiritual Gift?
2. Who has Spiritual Gifts?
3. How are Spiritual Gifts given?
4. Why are Spiritual Gifts given?
5. Are all gifts equal?
6. Do Spiritual Gifts differ from natural talents?
7. Are Spiritual Gifts different from the fruit of the Spirit?
8. Do we keep the same Spiritual Gifts all our lives?
9. Why has there been so little emphasis on Spiritual Gifts?
10. Why do I need to know my Spiritual Gifts?
11. Is it possible to make too much of Spiritual Gifts?
12. How do I discover a Spiritual Gift?
13. What should I do with my Spiritual Gifts once I know what they are?



Dear friends,

At last, Spring has arrived and with it, signs of new life.

New life comes in many forms for different people. For some, there is a spiritual renewal – that sense of joy or peace that emerges out of long-buried seeds of hope.

But like a seedling that thrives best with sunlight and water, our souls thrive best in the consistent presence of the heart of God in worship and prayer. If this is what new life looks like for you this Spring, I encourage you to make an effort to worship every Sunday.

For others, new life arrives in an openness to friendship and mutual care. The hibernating soul finds its solitude in dark times, but sooner or later the warmth draws us out of our shell, into authentic connection with others. If this is what new life looks like for you this season, I encourage you to sign up for a new small group – a group that offers the spiritual nurture that we all need.

For others, new life arrives in the desire to give to others. Shedding our preoccupation with our concerns, we find ourselves drawn to reach out in service. If this is what new life looks like for you right now, I encourage you to engage in mission opportunities. Countless people in financial or emotional need are helped through the Mission Auction sponsored by the Deacons, or the Rummage Sale organized by Presbyterian Women; sign up now to help in any way you can.

Though Easter is behind us now – so early this year – the promise of new life has barely begun. Like the buds on flowering bushes, and the translucent green emerging in the trees, there is much glory still to come. New life is always tender, and a bit fragile. Let us help it flourish and thrive.

Every blessing,

In Appreciation

In early February, we asked you for your prayers as I was about to undergo surgery to remove a brain tumor. I am now well on the road to recovery, and we are thankful for God's grace! We are so very thankful to you, our church family. Words cannot express how much we appreciated your prayers, your emails, your cards, and your countless acts of kindness! God has been with us throughout this journey and so have all of you. You truly are our sisters and brothers in Christ!

Blessings, Lynnette Hinch



First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest 847-234-6250

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Patrick Day Communion Sanctuary Choir at 9:00 & 11:00 The Beatitudes Luke 6: 20-26

ANNUAL MEETING - Part 2 Sunday, April 6 - 10:00 in the sanctuary to elect elders, deacons and members of the All Church Nominating Committee

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian Baptism at 11:00 Blood Drive Love your Enemies Luke 6:27-42

IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

- Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Christine Chakoian cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org Associate Executive Pastor Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org Associate Pastor Rev. Patrick Day pday@firstchurchlf.org Associate Pastor Rev. Corey Nelson cnelson@firstchurchlf.org Parish Associate Rev. Kent Kinney kkinney@firstchurchlf.org Director of Youth Ministries Kristie Finley kfinley@firstchurchlf.org Director of Children's Ministries Amy Pagliarella apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org Director of Music/Organist Jill Hunt jhunt@firstchurchlf.org Director of Sanctuary Choir Thomas Tropp Jr. ttropp@firstchurchlf.org Director of Children's Choirs Elizabeth Weismehl eweismehl@firstchurchlf.org Director of Youth Music Ministry Lesley Byers lbyers@firstchurchlf.org Preschool Director Ruth Luke preschool@firstchurchlf.org Dir. of Communications Donna Birney dbirney@firstchurchlf.org Church Business Manager Herb Smyers hsmyers@firstchurchlf.org Church website www.firstchurchlf.org

PROVIDE SPIRITUAL NURTURE

ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES APPROVED

A special meeting of the congregation was held on Sunday, March 6 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary to hear the recommendation of the Session to form an ordained position titled Associate Pastor for Children's Ministries. The congregation unanimously approved the motion.

The process for forming a new pastor position and calling a Minister of Word and Sacrament to fill the position is defined by the governance of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Chicago guides us through the process.

The Presbytery of Chicago must approve the position at their April meeting before we can take any further action. Once we receive their approval, First Church's All Church Nominating Committee will form a slate for the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). Another meeting of the congregation will be called to approve the APNC so it can begin its work of seeking resumes, interviewing candidates and recommending a pastor to fill the position.

Formulation of this position is part of the larger vision of the church to Proclaim Christ's Message, Provide a Community of Spiritual Nurture and to Promote God's Vision of Justice. The minister elected to this position will focus on the children of First Church and their families. The responsibilities of the Associate Pastor for Children's Ministries will be those currently fulfilled by the Director of Children's Ministries. We anticipate that our current Director, Amy Pagliarella, will be considered as a candidate for this position, since she is eligible for ordination. However, we will be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit as we consider other candidates as well.

If you have any questions or concerns about this position or our process, please do not hesitate to be in touch with Rev. Chakoian.

Can the church help me teach my children the meaning of communion?...Will my family be able to take communion together soon?..And are children welcome to participate at the Lord's Supper?.....

Yes, yes and Yes!

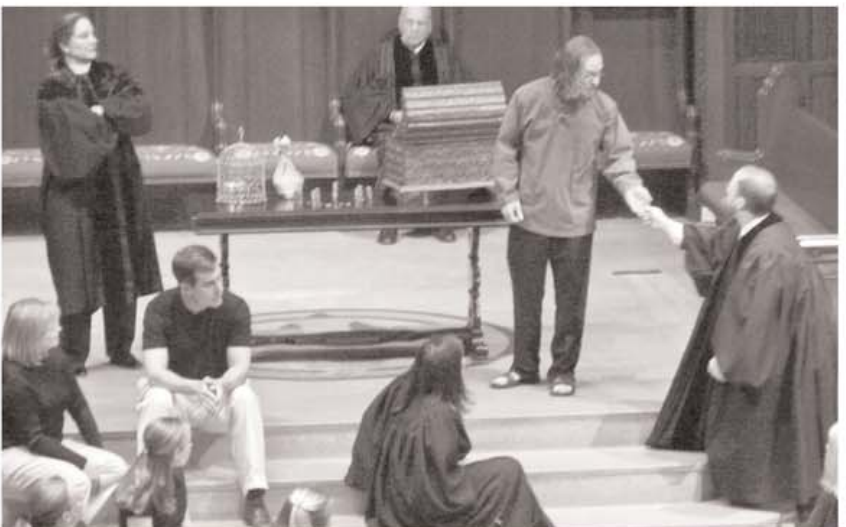
On Sunday, April 13, the children complete their study of the Last Supper. For the final 15 minutes of Sunday School, they will meet in Fellowship Hall West to learn about communion. Parents are encouraged to join us as soon as the 9:00 worship service ends.

The youth-led worship on Sunday, May 4 will include communion. In our tradition, children of all ages are welcome to join the feast; parents are encouraged to help determine when they are ready. Please join us on April 13 so that parents and pastors can join together in teaching our children. Additional information as well as materials from this event can be found on the church website at firschurchlf.org.

PALM SUNDAY



In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.
Luke 22: 44



He said to them, "Then give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

Luke 20: 25

We hope you can join us for...



Bid for Better Lives

All Church Auction '08

SPONSORED BY THE BOARD OF DEACONS

An evening of Fellowship, Dinner & Auction to support

Lake County Missions
Saturday, April 19
Knollwood Country Club

6:00^{PM} Fellowship & Silent Auction
8:00^{PM} Dinner & Live Auction

Yes, I want to be a part of the All Church Auction!



DINNER & FELLOWSHIP: *Please reserve...* Total
___ Fellowship Reservations @ \$30 / each = ___
___ Dinner Reservations @ \$80 / each = ___
___ Drink Tickets @ \$ 1 / each = ___

CARING CONTRIBUTIONS...
To further the work of our sponsored Lake County Missions Total
Please accept this donation of \$ _____
___ I would prefer my donation remain anonymous and not printed in the program.
___ Caring Contributions must be received by April 7 for acknowledgment in the program book.

Total Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Program booklets will not be mailed in advance; to see a preview of our auction items, include your email!

PAYMENT Check payable to *First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest*
or Credit Card ... Visa ___ ... MasterCard ___

CARD # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

DUE DATES

NEW! *Online reservation option* Please respond by April 7 by either...

Submitting Reservation & Secure Credit Card Payment via
or... www.firstchurchlf.org
Sending form and payment to:
First Presbyterian Church 700 N. Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045

SEATING PREFERENCE Circle One Option

1. Reserve a complete table of 10 people (to confirm this request, all payments for all guests must be received before table will be assigned)
2. Request to be seated with others (include requested names below)
3. Mix & Mingle - we'll seat you with others

SEATING REQUESTS List Names & Addresses of all to be seated together here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

While we try our best to honor all seating requests, we appreciate your willingness to be flexible if needed...

Questions? Please contact Nancy Hensel at (847) 295.2913

Whew! You're done! See you on April 19th!

Your "Menu" for Mission



Dinner Reservation (\$80 each)
"I'm in for the whole evening!"

Appetizers, Fellowship, Silent Auction, Dinner & Live Auction

Or...



Fellowship Reservation (\$30 each)
"I can't stay for dinner, but want to support our Missions!"

Appetizers, Fellowship & Silent Auction



Drink Tickets

Drinks are purchased at the event with the use of tickets.
1 Ticket = \$1

Average price of drinks as follows:
Soda = 3 Tickets, Beer = 7 Tickets,
Wine & Cocktails = 9 Tickets,
Premium Cocktails = 11 Tickets

Drink tickets also available for purchase at the event.

PROVIDE SPIRITUAL NURTURE



Small Group REGISTRATION FORM

Small groups will begin again in April! We will begin meeting the week of April 6 and will continue through the week of June 1. Complete the form below and return it to the main office. Contact Rev. Patrick Day with questions.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Leader: Peg Bramhall

Meets: Mondays at 9:00 am at the church

For: All who are interested

Leader: Paul Bergmann

Meets: Mondays at 7:00 pm in people's homes

For: All who are interested

Leader: Stan Eaton

Meets: Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in people's homes

For: All who are interested

Leaders: Patty Kreisler and Cynthia Hessemer

Meets: Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in people's homes

For: Working/Retired women

Leader: Kristie Finley

Meets: Thursdays at 11:30 am at the church

For: Parents of Teenagers

Leader: Amy Pagliarella

Meets: Thursdays from 9:15-10:45am at the church;
does not meet second Thursday

For: Primarily Moms but all are welcome

Leaders: David Barkhausen and Doug Valassis

Meets: Thursdays at 5:30 pm at the church

For: All who are interested

Leader: Patrick Day

Meets: Thursdays at 7:30 pm at the church

For: Fathers with young children

Leader: Duane Wise

Meets: Thursdays at 7:30 pm in people's homes

For: All who are interested

Leader: Joe Dye

Meets: Thursdays at 7:30 pm at the church

For: All who are interested

Comments: _____

New Member Class

The Membership Committee invites everyone – whether you are new to the community, a visitor, or have attended for some time – to join us for the new member class. First Church members are guided by three foundational principles: to proclaim Christ's message in worship, to provide a community of spiritual nurture through small groups, Sunday School and youth groups, and to promote God's vision of justice through our mission actions and giving.

Won't you join us for our spring new member class?

The dates are:

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 12, 8:30 A.M. – NOON

THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 17, 7:00 – 9:00

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, WELCOME AT THE 11:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE

To register or for further information please contact Beth Gillies egillies@firstchurchlf.org or the Reverend Dr. Don Dempsey at ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org (847) 234-6250.

VOLUNTEERS still needed for Habitat for Humanity

Volunteers of all skill ages above age 16

are needed to work on the latest Habitat home
in Waukegan at Carter Crossing.

Help is needed on **April 26** from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

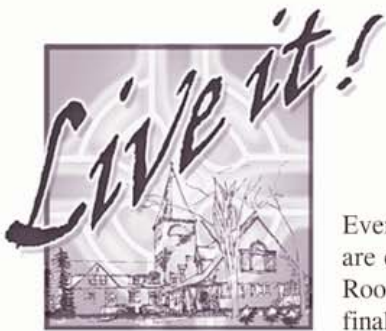
To contribute to this ministry,
contact deacon **Carl Stevens** (224) 522-5506
who will provide directions to Carter Crossing.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Calling all knitters and crocheters!

The Prayer Shawl Ministry keeps getting those presents of care and comfort out but our arms are getting tired. We lost count of how many shawls, scarves, and lap robes have been created-somewhere over 300! Margrit Hammar has knitted at least twenty exquisite shawls herself and is going to be our master knitter for the All Church Auction this year.

Please come join us at 1:00PM each Tuesday in the South Parlor for creative fun and conversation. Call Pat Johnson (847) 234-1116 or Peggy Koschmann (847) 235-2523 and we will set you up with supplies. All levels of talent are welcome or no talent at all, for we can teach you. You need not be at meetings to give your talented blessings, but we all love the camaraderie, so come join us when you can. Be proud of your talents and help us make others feel loving warmth.

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The Core Mission of
First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest

•
PROCLAIM
CHRIST'S
MESSAGE

•
PROVIDE A
COMMUNITY
OF SPIRITUAL
NURTURE

•
PROMOTE
GOD'S VISION
OF JUSTICE

THE 58th ANNUAL SPRING RUMMAGE SALE IS SATURDAY, MAY 3

Even though the snow continues to swirl, the signs of spring are everywhere for our Rummage Mission. The Rummage Room is starting to fill up. The tents are ordered and the final details are currently being settled.

We can use your help in the following ways:

We need plastic milk crates for building shelving and displaying sale items. If you have any at home please drop them off at church. Don's had been our source for many years.

Join us for a Saturday morning sort. We will open the Rummage Room on Saturday, April 5 from 9:00am until 12:00 noon for an Expert Sorting morning.

We are inviting church members with expertise in artwork, golf equipment, men's clothing, trend clothing and more to help us identify and price upscale goods.

We hope department chairmen might also spend a morning sorting with us to see how their department merchandise is handled during the year.

We can always use furniture donations and now is a very good time to contact us for a pick-up. Leave a message for us on the Rummage Sorting Room phone and we will call to arrange the pick-up of your furniture donations (847) 234-6250 ext. 235.

APRIL 1, 2008
FAITH CONNECTIONS
IS PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY.
SEND SUBMISSIONS TO
publish@firstchurchlfo.org
SUBMISSION DUE DATES
ARE THE 1ST & 15TH
OF EACH MONTH.
SUNDAY WORSHIP AT
9:00 & 11:00 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL AT
9:15 AM

847-234-6250 fax 847-234-6283
Lake Forest, IL 60045
700 N. Sheridan Road
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Your Blood
Makes a Difference -
Give Blood on
Sunday, April 13!

8:00^{AM} - 1:00^{PM}

We all expect blood to be there for us, but barely a fraction of those who can give do. Yet sooner or later, virtually all of us will face a time of great vulnerability in which we need blood. And that time is all too often unexpected. If you are healthy, at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and have not donated blood in the last 8 weeks (56 days) you are eligible. Please sign up on Sundays beginning March 30 outside the hospitality office.

SPONSORED BY THE BOARD OF DEACONS