



First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest
www.firstchurchlf.org

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

August 15, 2008
Volume VIII, N^o. 15

Faith CONNECTIONS

SmallGroups RETURNING CHRISTIAN LIVING IN A GLOBAL AGE

This year we have an exciting theme for worship and small groups. We will examine what it means to be a Christian in this global age. We will discover how globalization is not an event, but a process that has been unfolding for thousands of years. With that, however, where do we fit in? How does one affirm one's faith in this world? What are the practices we need to have in place in order to live in the way Christ would intend?

Will we provide all the answers to these questions? No. However, together, in worship and in small groups we will have the opportunity to explore these issues together.

Register for a small group. (The form is in this newsletter, or you can do it on-line.) Be a part of this exciting journey in the life of this church and this world.

Is God calling you to lead a group? We will train leaders September 11& 12. (The sessions are the same. You need to attend one.) The first session is scheduled to run from week of September 15 - December 8. We will train leaders for the Spring Session on January 8 & 9. The Spring Session is scheduled to run from the week of January 12 - May 18. If you are interested in leading a group, contact Reverend Christine Chakoian at cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org.

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



Front page news?

Well... it's fun summer goings-on in town for the 100th Lake Forest Days celebration. Rummage leaders and others put together an awesome parade entry! Plans are already starting for next years parade for our 150th anniversary.

**Coming
this Fall!**

FIRST SUNDAY @ First Church Sunday Evening Supper & Worship

Beginning on October 5, 2008 a new worship and fellowship opportunity will be offered at First Church. Everyone is invited on the **first Sunday of each month to 6:00PM supper in Fellowship Hall followed by 7:00PM worship in the sanctuary.** On October 5, November 2, December 7, January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5 and May 3, casual meal fellowship and worship including communion served by intinction will be offered. Varying members of the pastoral staff will preach at the Sunday evening services and a variety of music styles will enhance the worship experience. Families, singles, couples, empty nesters, Lake Forest college students and youth group participants - all are welcome!

The additional service will be characterized by:

- Sermons by all ministers including the Senior Pastor
- Communion by intinction
- An intentionally invitational stance toward Lake Forest College students
- Worship time intentionally chosen to be enticing to Youth Group and their families
- Meal fellowship
- Relaxed attire in worship, greeters/ushers
- Music that reflects a variety of musical styles and instruments
- Worship planning conducted by the Worship Planning Team so that the sermonic theme, message, content, style and experience are consistent with, though not identical to, Sunday morning worship.



Dear friends,

Last year around this time, our church was busy planning an ambitious series: "Bible Stories We Can't Live Without." Our year-long series took us from Genesis 1 all the way through the Scripture. This ambitiously aimed to re-familiarize us with the sweep of God's Biblical salvation ... to place some of our best-loved Bible stories in their larger context ... and, through small groups, to study the Scripture as we grow together in Christ.

Highlights of the year included Patrick Day's fall sermon on "kings," a Christmas-time that placed Jesus' birth in the context of the Jewish longing for the Messiah, and the Ardens' recent musical interpretation of John's gospel. (My least favorite Sunday was the painful recitation of the prophets and kings in mid-November!) In retrospect, I think the series was too long for many (and next year's series will be shorter). But I love the Scripture, and I never tire of it. Many of you have responded to our survey evaluating the past year - thank you! I would love to hear from the rest of you about what this series accomplished for your faith - especially what was most beneficial in worship and/or small groups, and what you'd like to see more of.

Now that we've rehearsed the Bible story, it's time to dive even deeper into how we live God's salvation in our own lives. To that end, this year's series will explore "Christian Living in a Global Age." Through a number of short segments we will seek to equip and encourage worshipers for the challenges of faithful life. Christians have always sought to do that, of course; the additional challenge our generation faces is our context of a rapidly changing, interconnected world.

I am reminded of our interconnectedness constantly, not only through the news but also through the travels of our own congregation. Our "small world" will be especially on my mind as our series begins on September 7. On September 5 I will have just returned from a week in Beirut, Lebanon, where I will have attended a meeting of the Lebanese American University Board, on which I sit. The "LAU" was founded in 1835 by Presbyterian missionaries as a girls' school in the Ottoman Empire. It has since blossomed into a co-educational university with students of many religions and backgrounds. I am proud to represent our denomination - and our congregation - as I strive to live out my own faith in our global age.

Every blessing, *Christine Chakoian*

MEMBERSHIP CLASS OFFERED

First Church is part of the household of God. If you are interested in becoming part of that household, please join us for new member classes to be held on **Saturday, September 13** from 8:30 a.m. to noon and **Thursday, September 18** from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Both sessions are important if you are interested in joining First Church and being welcomed into ministry during worship on Sunday, September 21.

Being part of a household means that each member responds to God through worship, to the household through spiritual nurture and to the broader world through mission. Being part of a household also means that each member shares the love, support, fun and nourishment of the household. First Church's pastors, officers and membership committee look forward to getting to know you! *Please join us!*

Contact Beth Gillies at egillies@firstchurchlf.org for further information or elder Jacquie Berkshire, moderator of the Membership Committee (847) 615-0676 or sunnyberk@aol.com.



First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest
847-234-6250

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17
20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Worship

*The Reverend Joe Dye
Summer Choir*

Jonah

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24
21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Worship

*The Reverend Christine Chakoian
Summer Choir*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31
22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Worship

*Amy Pagliarella
Soloist*

Rally Sunday September 7

Worship Services at 9:00 & 11:00
Sunday School at 9:15

IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Christine Chakoian

cchakoian@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 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



OPENING DOORS

WITH SPECIAL FRIENDS
SPECIAL NEEDS
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

A little girl enters the pre-school classroom for her first Sunday. This is a big step - facing 15 boisterous boys and girls is no easy task for a child who is overly sensitive to stimuli such as unfamiliar noises and places. But the little girl isn't alone - by her side is a "Special Friend," a high school junior who will accompany her to Sunday School for as many Sundays as it takes to make the transition. Her Special Friend helps her ease into the lesson, reassuring her that if things get to be too much, they can always find a quiet corner to read a book or an empty hallway for a walk.

A Special Friend is a youth, adult or senior volunteer who will provide one-on-one assistance, encouragement, and friendship to a child with special needs during Sunday school. Special Friends are part of "Opening Doors," a ministry that provides an inclusive and meaningful Sunday school experience for children with special needs who may need extra attention beyond a level generally required in their classrooms. We welcome children of all abilities and encourage them to attend Sunday school, to grow in their relationship with God and to feel comfortable, safe, loved and accepted here at First Presbyterian Church. We hope to create an awareness and understanding of the challenges of families with children with special needs. Beginning September 7 (Rally Sunday), we would like to provide Special Friends to accompany and assist these children on Sundays.

Special Friends are needed throughout the year and no experience is necessary because we provide training and support. The time commitment is minimal - only 1 hour on Sunday mornings as your schedule allows. Everyone who is involved in the program finds that it is a positive learning experience.

If you are a parent of a child with special needs or if you have an interest in assisting children with special needs, please contact Amy Pagliarella at (847) 234-6250 ext.229 or apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org. Any information shared will be kept confidential.

Work Trip for Iowa Flood Relief

Dig out your work gloves and join us for a work trip to Iowa to participate in the clean up after early summer floods!

We head to Cedar Rapids over *Columbus Day weekend, October 10 to 13*. Our tasks include assisting in the cleanup and repairing damage from the early summer floods. All skill levels are needed. Westminster Presbyterian Church has graciously opened their building to us for housing.

We leave on Friday October 10 with a second group leaving early Saturday October 11. Bring your air mattress and earplugs - we will all be sleeping on the floor together. The cost is \$100 per person (age 13 and up) for transportation and food. Registration forms, available at the front desk, are due by September 15.

We hope you will join us for this wonderful opportunity to share God's love and help our neighbors through this mission work. Please contact Kristie Finley at (847) 234-6250 or kfinley@firstchurchlf.org if you have any questions or to request registration forms.

Sunday School kicks off again on Rally Sunday, September 7

Register your children at the church website, firstchurchlf.org

Children and Mission Go Back to School

While you are picking up school supplies at bargain prices, why not pick up a few extras for a good cause?

There are a number of efforts underway to get back-to-school basics in the hands of the kids who need them.

Erie Neighborhood House in Chicago is looking to equip the children who participate in their educational programs with:

BACKPACKS PENS, PENCILS & ERASERS NOTEBOOKS BINDERS & LOOSE LEAF PAPER
CALCULATORS MARKERS COLORED PENCILS GLUE STICKS PROTRACTORS

Our friends at **Sidewalk Sunday School** in Waukegan are looking for
CRAYONS, PENCILS, NOTEBOOKS AND NOTEBOOK PAPER.

Lake Forest Hospital needs activity packets for children waiting with their families in the Emergency Room or Surgery Waiting area.

The packets should either be specific to children ages 3-6 or 6-12 and include:

COLORING PAGES A FEW CRAYONS OR COLORED PENCILS PUZZLE PAGE STICKERS

Place all items in a zip lock bag with a small note telling the children who made the bag. This is a great project for children; you can photocopy puzzles or coloring pages from their books or the internet and invite children to assemble the bags and draw a personal card.

Last but not least, the Sunday School kids will be making totebags and collecting gently used books for Reading Power, the tutoring program in North Chicago.

We like to include a pack of crayons and a spiral bound notebook in each bag.

These are wonderful mission opportunities for children!

With crayons and notebooks going for a quarter, kids can purchase something with their own money and involve the whole family in making the purchases.

Throughout August, we will have a box in the church lobby for all your donations.

If you prefer to earmark your donation for one location, please do.

Otherwise, we will sort and deliver everything equally.

Thank you for your participation in this important mission effort!

SMALL GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

Small Groups



will begin again in September! We will begin meeting the week of September 15 and will continue through the week of December 8. Complete the form below and return it to the main office. Contact Sarah Seccombe with questions: sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org. New groups may be added.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

These groups use **Christian Living in a Global Age** which follows the sermon series

- _____ Leader: Peg Bramhall
Meets: Mondays at 9:00 AM at the church
For: All who are interested.
- _____ Leaders: David Barkhausen and Doug Valassis
Meets: Thursdays at 5:30 PM 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: Nick Burlew
Meets: Thursdays at 7:30 PM at the church
For: Fathers with young children
- _____ Leader: Cynthia Hessemer
Meets: Saturdays at 8:30 AM in people's homes
For: Working/Retired women
- _____ Leader: Chuck and Lynda Kraemer
Meets: Thursdays at 7:30 PM in people's homes
For: All who are interested
- _____ Leader: Amy Pagliarella
Meets: Thursdays from 9:15-10:45 AM at the church
For: Primarily Moms but all are welcome.

The following groups use curriculum that may not follow the sermon series

- _____ Men's Discussion Group
Leader: Lloyd Hood
Meets: every other Sunday before worship
For: Men who enjoy challenge
- _____ Men's Fraternity
Leader: Reverend Corey Nelson
Meets: Every Thursday at 6:00 AM at church
For: All men (\$20 pay at the door)
- _____ Adult Bible Study
Leader: Ellen Hyndman
Meets: every Sunday at 10:00 AM at church
For: All who are interested
- _____ Christian Perspectives
Leader: Jeanne Lane and Susan Peet
Meets: Thursdays at 1:00 PM at church
For: All who enjoy study and discussion
- _____ Presbyterian Women Bible Study
Leader: A. J. Woroch
Meets: Sep 16, Oct 7, 21, Nov 4, 18,
Dec 2 at 10:45 AM at church
For: Women who want to study the Bible
- _____ Friday Men's Bible Study and Prayer Group
Leader: Peter Keller
Meets: Every Friday at 8:00 AM at church
For: All men
- _____ Christian Ideas
Leader: Kevin Warnke
Meets: Tuesdays at 7:00 PM at church
For: All who are interested
- _____ Empty Nesters Group
Meets: TBD
Contact: Kristie Finley
- _____ Women's Wednesday Worship
Leader: Reverend Christine Chakoian
Meets: Every Wednesday at 10:00 AM at church
For: Women who want to study scripture for coming sermon
- _____ Sandwich Generation Group
Meets: TBD
Contact: Judy Krueger

New groups continue to form!

PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

FALL 2008



Wednesday, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Sanctuary Choir, begins August 27

High School thru Adults; all singers welcome-no audition necessary
Sings with varied schedule at both 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services

Wednesday, 7:30-8:15 p.m. **Festival Choir**

NEW! Those who would like to sing with the Sanctuary Choir
for short commitments:

Rehearse with the Sanctuary Choir for 3 or 4 Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15 p.m. &
sing for a special Sunday presentation. First rehearsals will be October 1, 8, 15, 22;
join in singing a Bach Cantata with string quartet on Sunday, October 26.

Wednesday, 5:30-7:00 p.m. **Lakeminster Ringers**, begins September 3

Handbell Choir for experienced ringers; plays in worship once a month.

Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 p.m. **Chancel Bells**, begins September 9

Jr. High thru adult; both new and experienced ringers are welcome.
Learn a new skill in a welcoming and fun environment.

Wednesday, 4:00-4:45 p.m. beginning September 17

NEW! IT ALL HAPPENS AT THE SAME TIME:

Cherub Choir, children 5 yrs old by Dec. 1 thru 1st grade

Carol Choir, grades 2-6

Women's Choir For mothers of choir children and all women who would
enjoy the fun and fellowship of singing together. Child care for children under age 5.

Tuesday, 7:00-8:00 p.m. **Youth Choir**, grades 7-12

NEW! Meets for short term sessions. First rehearsals will be September 30,
October 7 & 14; lead worship on Sunday, October 19 at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Sunday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. **Eggs Benediction**, begins September 14

High School youth who sing or play an instrument: all are welcome!
Jr. High youth who would like to "learn the ropes" are invited to sit in
and be mentored by your high school friends.

NEW! **Adult Worship Band**

Lead music for Sunday evening services on October 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7,
and 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. All who sing or play instruments are
welcome. Join for one or all of the services.

Watch for announcement of rehearsals. Come join us!

For more details contact your Music Staff:

Jill Hunt: jhunt@firstchurchlf.org

Director of Music - Organist, Handbell Choirs, Cherub Choir

Tom Tropp - ttropp@firstchurchlf.org

Sanctuary Choir, Festival Choir, Youth Choir, Women's Choir

Susan Noble: Carol Choir

Lesley Byers: Eggs Benediction, Adult Worship Band

McKay Wyckoff: Coordinator for Sunday School Music

Senior High Youth Group

Senior High Youth Group launches the year with a pool party at the home of Norah Johnson on Sunday, September 7. We are looking forward to the opportunity to worship together on the first Sunday of each month at the new First Sunday at First Church worship service.

Our goal is to live Christ's message through worship and faith formation, to experience the Spirit's nurture by responding to the needs and interests of young people as they connect to each other, the church, community and world while building relationships between youth and adults, and to bring God's justice to life in the world through study and service including Work Trip and ministry projects. Join us in living the Spirit all year long. Contact Kristie Finley Director of Youth Faith Formation for more info at kfinley@firstchurchlf.org.

Confirmation at First Church

Confirmation will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10:15 for students in grades 8 and 9. Registration forms were sent to families in July; please return them by September 2. If you have a student and did not receive a confirmation packet contact Sarah at the church office, ssecombe@firstchurchlf.org.

Class begins on Rally Sunday, September 7. We will gather in the worship service at 9:00 and depart to the Youth Lounge when children leave the sanctuary for Sunday school. Class ends at 10:30.

BIRTHS

We welcome *Michael Richard Hadley*, born on July 30, 2008 to Mary Catherine and Alexander Hadley. He joins two siblings and proud grandparents Cindy and Dick Morehead.

IN MEMORIAM

Raymond Safforn (Ray) Johnson died Sunday, July 27. Mr. Johnson joined the church in 2006. He was a long time resident of Lake Bluff. He will be missed by his wife Vera and daughters Cindy and Nell. A service was not held.

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AUGUST 15, 2008

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO
publish@firstchurchlf.org

SUBMISSION DUE DATES
ARE THE 1ST & 15TH
OF EACH MONTH.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP AT
10:00 AM**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AT
10:15 AM**

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The Chapel

One of the most needed assets within our church building is adaptable space that can be used for groups of up to 50 people. Our beautiful chapel was identified as underutilized by the professional space planning team of Legat Architects who were employed by Session in 2007 to review use of the buildings. It is currently undergoing changes to open up such a space for use for junior high chapel every Sunday, for small weddings and memorial services, for Lenten early morning worship and other new uses.



The Core Mission of
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The chapel was built in the renovation of 1959-1961 at the same time that the porch was enclosed, the preschool and office wing, the choir room, South Parlor and kitchen were added. The chapel was designed by Lindsay Sutter and the windows were created by Archie Borass. The Schlichter organ was installed in 1963 and is still in use on a regular basis.

The unmovable pews, red carpeting and front riser have been removed. The pews in the chapel were a memorial gift and are in storage until an appropriate use is found. One pew will remain in the chapel honoring the family who donated them.

Sixty-five beautiful, oak chairs with rush seats have been carefully selected to replace the pews. The chairs offer flexibility in the use of the chapel for worship, music, meditation, weddings and memorial services, study, and prayer groups. Wall to wall blue carpeting will enhance the beautiful stained glass windows.

These changes to the chapel will ensure a continued blessed use of this space for our whole congregation. We respect our past, while we move into the future that God has in store for us.