

Faith CONNECTIONS



ELDERS

CLASS OF 2008:

Tim Christie
 Alex Coffin
 Chris Edwards
 Kay Friedberg
 Liz Gescheidle
 Dick Mentzinger
 Tom Mullen
 Dawn Neal
 Missy Romanoff
 Lauren Whalley

CLASS OF 2009:

Jacque Berkshire
 Diane Fondriest
 Rick Jones
 Peter Keller
 Dan O'Neil
 Beth Mynhier
 Doug Valassis
 Carla Wyckoff

CLASS OF 2010:

David Cain
 Joe Hickey
 Bill Lay
 Rich Levin
 Linda Martinat
 Jim Mayhall
 Susan Milanak
 Anne Warnke



DEACONS

CLASS OF 2008:

Kim Glennon
 Nancy Hensel
 Stewart Kerr
 Laura Sibley
 Lydon Neumann
 Tom Ritter
 Barbara Schulz
 Gretchen Seymour
 Ann Shustitzky
 Gale Wayne

CLASS OF 2009:

Jonathan Clair
 Pat Cummings
 Joel Ferrin
 Todd Harris
 Amy O'Keane
 Maureen Olsen
 Tracy Tolmie
 Bert Tucker

CLASS OF 2010:

Sue Barkhausen
 Paul Bergmann
 Bevan Duncan
 Vandy Janson
 Cesilie Price
 Bill Shriver
 Carl Stevens
 Duane Wise

Ask any current church officer listed above for details on what it means to be a part of the elected leadership of First Church.

AN INVITATION TO THE CONGREGATION

God saved us and called us with a holy calling not according to our own words but according to His purpose and grace.

2 Timothy 1: 9

THE ALL-CHURCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE (ACNC) HAS BEGUN THE PROCESS OF GATHERING NAMES OF SERVANT LEADERS FOR OUR CHURCH:

**Elder
 Deacon
 Member-at-Large of the ACNC**



The congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest is encouraged to offer suggestions for consideration.

We invite you to study the position descriptions and submit your confidential suggestions of someone else or yourself on the forms provided inside this newsletter.

Self-nominations are welcome. After thoughtful study and prayer, we will bring to the congregation a list of names for these offices in April.

We have listed those members who currently serve in these roles; you may wish to ask them about the service and work they have volunteered to undertake.

Any current member of the congregation may be nominated to serve in these positions. Self-nominations are encouraged. The ACNC will consider all nominations and propose a slate of candidates for congregational vote.

Completed forms may be left in the church office or in the offertory plate.

In addition, names may be emailed to Dick Mentzinger, moderator.

Please return nomination forms by: **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2008.**

WE SINCERELY THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP AND PARTICIPATION.

MEMBERS OF THE ACNC

- Paul Bergmann 847-295-7957.....Paul.bergmann@comcast.net
- Dorothy Chantler 847-295-1268.....adchantler@comcast.net
- Mark Gunderson 847-535-9806.....gunds@comcast.net
- Bill Lay 847-234-0787.....westminsterlf@hotmail.com
- Dick Mentzinger 847-234-2139.....dickmentzinger@comcast.net
- Gretchen Seymour 847-735-1366.....seymour96@comcast.net
- Harry Short 847-295-6347.....harryshort@aol.com
- Dave Tolmie 847-234-7801.....dtolmie@aol.com
- Anne Winebrenner 847-615-1676.....annewinebrenner5@yahoo.com

Nomination forms on insert page



Happy New Year!

As we begin a New Year small groups also begin anew during the week of January 13. This fall approximately 150 of us participated in weekly small groups; we grew in our knowledge and understanding of "Stories We Can't Live Without" from the Old Testament. As we studied and opened ourselves up to God's word and to each other, we grew in our knowledge of the Old Testament, we formed new relationships, and made new friends.

At least 14 different small groups are currently being formed and each will meet weekly through the middle of March. Our study this winter promises to deepen our faith as we focus on individual stories and passages from the gospel of Luke. Once again each participant will have the opportunity to study God's word, to grow spiritually, to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, and to share in the joy of being with one another.

These small group discussions not only deepen our understanding of the stories of the Bible, but they prepare us for further interpretation the following Sunday as we gather together for worship.

Whether you participated in the fall or are new to small groups, please sign up for a group in the coming week. Small group ministry is not something we are "trying out" but something we are committed to as we seek to fulfill the great ends of the church to: 1) proclaim Christ's message, 2) provide a community of spiritual nurture and 3) promote God's vision of justice.

As we begin the New Year together at First Church I am reminded of the quote from Rev. Dr. Peter Gomes, a professor at Harvard Divinity School from his book, *Strength for the Journey*:

"The world will not change until and unless we change; the spirit of Christmas cannot be borne out in the cold January air unless we are borne out by it and indeed born again by it."

Gathering in small groups to study God's word and to support each other in our shared mission and ministry is a powerful way to recognize the power of Christ to transform our life and the lives of others, in other words to be "born again by it."

God's blessing to you as we seek to be in ministry together in this time and place.

Peace and love, *Don Dempsey*

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Session has called the annual meeting, **Part 1 for Sunday, January 27** immediately following the 9:00 service. The congregation will review and vote to receive the 2008 budget, approve the terms of call for called pastors and receive the annual report. Part 2 of the meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 6 and will include the report of the All Church Nominating Committee and the election of new elders, deacons and members of the All Church Nominating Committee.

Work Trip Bake Sale SUNDAY, JANUARY 27 9:00AM TO NOON
YOUTH BAKE AND SELL HOME MADE GOODIES IN SUPPORT OF THE ANNUAL MISSION TRIP. DON'T MISS THIS DELICIOUS EVENT.

SCOUT SUNDAY

All Scouts and their families are invited to join us for **Scout Sunday February 3** to celebrate the many contributions of young people and adults to the community through Scouting. All Boy, Cub, Tiger, Venture, Girl and Brownie Scouts are asked to meet, in uniform, at 8:45 a.m. in the South Parlor. Scout Sunday patches will be provided to participants in Scout Sunday by the Family Life Committee.



First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest
847-234-6250

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Patrick Day

Renewal of Baptism Vows

Sanctuary Choir and

Lakeminster Ringers at 9:00 & 11:00

Jesus is Baptized

Luke 3: 1-22

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian

Children's Choirs at 9:00

Sanctuary Choir at 11:00

Annual Meeting 10:00

Jesus in the Wilderness

Luke 4: 1-13

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

PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE

Sign Up Now! for La Trattoria



First Church's
annual dinner
sponsored by
the Membership
committee.

This fun event will be held on
Saturday, February 9, 2008

from 6:30-9:00 PM

at the Lake Forest Club.

\$36 per person

Reservations to Kerry Spera (847) 234-6250 or
kspera@firstchurchlf.org

Contact Jacquie Berkshire at
sunnyberk@aol.com for more information.

STAFF NEWS

The McCormick Theological Seminary annual report included word that **Amy Pagliarella**, Director of Children's Ministries and a 2007 graduate of McCormick, received three awards determined by the faculty in each department. The Nettie F. McCormick Award in Old Testament was for a paper Amy wrote on the story of Jael in the book of Judges. The Martin D. Kneeland Award for Sermon Delivery was for a sermon she preached on Job. The Bernadine Orme Smith Fellowship was given to support Amy's future studies. It is given to the Masters of Divinity student who the faculty believes has achieved the highest academic performance as well as demonstrated leadership, integrity, and commitment to ministry. Congratulations, Amy!



Associate Executive pastor Dr. Don Dempsey announced that **Yehuda Jacobi** has become a full-time member of the staff, joining the finance team on January 1. Yehuda has been working as a temp since July, helping out where needed. His focus is payroll, maintaining the general ledger, monitoring and reporting pledges during stewardship and purchasing. He will take on the additional responsibilities of the staff IT person after some training. When asked what he liked about working at First Church, Yehuda replied, "I am glad to be working here because of the spirit that exists among the staff, church members, and their children. That spirit says there is life and movement. I look forward to being of service here as 2008 begins so that new growth at the church can continue."



Lunch Bunch

Come to Lunch Bunch on Friday, **January 25** to hear our Cathy and Bert Tucker talk about their recent "African Adventure in Kenya and Tanzania," with slides and video. Lunch is at noon in South Parlor. Cost is \$5.00 at the door. Please call the church (847) 234-6250 for reservations by Tuesday, January 21. Don't miss this fun event.



Volunteers needed for Habitat for Humanity

Volunteers of all skill levels, age 16 and older, are needed to build a Habitat for Humanity house in Waukegan. First Church along with five other local Presbyterian Churches is sponsoring a house in at the Carter Crossing Site in Waukegan. Groundbreaking was in November and the foundation is now in. Volunteers from First Church are needed on the following Saturdays: Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 8, Mar 22, and April 26. To volunteer please contact Carl Stevens, cell (224) 522-5506. We will meet at the Carter Crossing site in Waukegan at 8:00am and work until 4:00pm.

Directions: Carter Crossing is at Washington Park Ave and 12th Street in Waukegan. North on Green Bay Rd to Route 137. Right (east) on 137. Left (north) on Lewis Ave. Right (east) on 14th street. Left (north) on Washington Park to 12th Street.

BIRTHS

We welcome **Grace Marie Ritter**, born on January 1, 2008 to Andrew and Kate Ritter. Happy grandparents are Tom and Mary Ritter.

New Member Class

First Presbyterian Church is offering a two-session new membership class in January. If you are interested in joining the church community please plan on attending the following classes.

- The first class is Saturday, January 26 from 8:30AM to 12:00PM (Breakfast is served)
- The second class is Thursday, January 31 from 7:00PM to 9:00PM
- On Sunday February 3 new members will be received at the 11:00AM service. (Child care is provided both Thursday & Saturday)

Please plan to be a part of this new membership opportunity in January. To sign up or for more information please call or email the church office and ask for Dr. Don Dempsey (ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org) or Beth Gillies (egillies@firstchurchlf.org.)



TEAR-OUT & RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Small Groups begin the week of **January 13** and will continue through the week of **March 16**.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

____ Leader: Jeff Hinch
Meets: Sun. at 7:00PM at the church
For: Men

____ Leader: Ron and Cynthia Arden
Meets: Sun. evenings in people's homes.
Time to be determined.
For: Couples

____ Leader: To be determined.
Meets: Mon. at 9:00AM at the church
For: All who are interested.

____ Leader: Paul Bergmann
Meets: Mon. at 7:00PM in people's homes
For: All who are interested

____ Leader: Patty Kreischer
Meets: Tues. at 7:00PM in people's homes
For: Working &/or single women

____ Leader: Stan Eaton
Meets: Wed. at 7:00PM in people's homes
For: All who are interested

____ Leaders: Jacquie Berkshire and Cynthia Hessemer
Meets: Wed. at 7:00PM in people's homes
For: Working/Retired women

____ Leader: Kristie Finley
Meets: Wed. at 7:30PM at the church
For: Parents of Teenagers

____ Leader: Amy Pagliarella
Meets: Thurs. from 9:15-10:45AM at church;
does not meet second Thurs.
For: Primarily Moms but all are welcome.

____ Leaders: David Barkhausen and Doug Valassis
Meets: Thurs. at 5:30PM at the church
For: All who are interested

____ Leaders: Bill Lay & John Gescheidle
Meets: Thurs. at 7:00PM at the church
For: All who are interested

____ Leader: Patrick Day
Meets: Thurs. at 7:30PM at the church
For: Fathers with young children

____ Leader: Duane Wise
Meets: Thurs. at 7:30PM in homes
For: All who are interested

____ Leader: Joe Dye
Meets: Thurs. at 7:30PM at the church
For: All who are interested

While the ACNC is charged with final responsibility, the congregation is invited to help by offering suggestions for consideration. Below is a general list of expectations. Please submit your confidential suggestions on this form at church and submit by February 3.

CHRISTIAN LIVING & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- ♦ Willingness to serve God and the ministry of Jesus Christ with energy, intelligence, imagination and love
- ♦ Be a friend among colleagues in ministry and service
- ♦ Evidence of grace and compassion in daily life
- ♦ Openness to new ideas and willingness to learn
- ♦ Maturity of judgment
- ♦ Ability to follow through on assignments

CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

- ♦ Regular attendance at worship services
- ♦ Active participation in church activities
- ♦ Leadership of some aspect of ministry or service
- ♦ Evidence of commitment to the church & its mission
- ♦ Willingness & ability to attend regularly scheduled meetings



Elder Term: June 2008- May 2011

Book of Order, G-6.0300

TOGETHER WITH THE MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT, ELDERS EXERCISE LEADERSHIP, GOVERNMENT, AND DISCIPLINE AND HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR CHURCH AS WELL AS THE CHURCH-AT-LARGE, INCLUDING ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS.

We are looking for adult members to serve as Elders for a three-year term and two youth Elders to serve a one-year term.

IN ADDITION TO THE PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND CHURCH INVOLVEMENT LISTED, AN ELDER WILL:

- ♦ demonstrate leadership
- ♦ be able to attend a monthly Session meeting
- ♦ serve actively on a Session committee

FOR ELDER, I RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING MEMBER: _____

COMMENTS TO OFFER: _____

YOUR NAME & PHONE (OPTIONAL) _____



Deacon Term: June 2008- May 2011

Book of Order, G-6.0400

IT IS THE DUTY OF DEACONS, FIRST OF ALL TO MINISTER TO THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED, TO THE SICK, TO THE FRIENDLESS, AND TO ANY WHO MAY BE IN DISTRESS.

We are looking for adult members to serve as Deacon for a three-year term and two youth Deacons to serve a one-year term.

IN ADDITION TO THE PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND CHURCH INVOLVEMENT LISTED, A DEACON WILL:

- ♦ have current volunteer leadership experience
- ♦ be able to attend a monthly Board of Deacons meeting
- ♦ devote time to work with a Lake County agency supported by our church and/or congregational outreach programs.

FOR DEACON, I RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING MEMBER: _____

COMMENTS TO OFFER: _____

YOUR NAME & PHONE (OPTIONAL) _____



All -Church Nominating Committee

Term: June 2008- May 2010

This committee nominates new Elders, new Deacons, new members of the All-Church Nominating Committee and special committees as needed by the congregation.

There are 9 members: 5 at-large from the Congregation, 2 current Elders and 2 current Deacons.

There are three at-large openings to serve a two-year term.

FOR ALL-CHURCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBER-AT-LARGE,

I RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING MEMBER: _____

COMMENTS TO OFFER: _____

YOUR NAME & PHONE (OPTIONAL) _____

PROVIDE SPIRITUAL NURTURE

As part of First Presbyterian's Year-Long Series
"Stories You Can't Live Without: Proclaiming Christ's Message Today"

The Adult Education Committee

presents

Dr. Richard Mallette

Speaking on

Hamlet and the Scriptures

"It hath the primal eldest curse upon it," says Claudius of his killing of old king Hamlet: "a brother's murder." The curse of Cain hangs over this villain, as do other prohibitions from the Old Testament. Both Deuteronomy and Leviticus forbid a man's marrying his dead brother's wife, for example, a ban taken seriously by Shakespeare's original audience. The laws of retaliation in the Hebrew scriptures echo throughout the play ("revenge," says Hamlet, "should have no bounds"). This talk will embed Hamlet in seminal texts of the Old Testament privileged by Elizabethan religious culture. We will then look at ways in which the play also dramatizes extensions of literal Mosaic law, some of which we may hear reverberating in the Christian scriptures.



Richard Mallette is Professor of English at Lake Forest College, where he has taught Shakespeare for many years. He has written extensively on the role of religion in early modern English literature, particularly in Shakespeare, Spenser, and Milton.

February 10, 2008

At **7:30** P.M.

First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest
South Parlor

Please RSVP to Kerry Spera at 847-234-6250 ext. 233
(email: kspera@firstchurchlf.org) by February 4 as
Dr. Mallette will hand out written materials for the attendees.

Wish you could extend the warm First Church greeting YOU receive on Sunday mornings to others? Looking for an easy, flexible way to welcome others to First Church?

The Greeter Ministry could be the outreach opportunity you're looking for. All that's needed is a warm smile, an outreached hand and a willingness to welcome old friends and new to First Church one Sunday each month. If you require flexibility given your busy schedule, we can accommodate! To learn more, come to our informational/training meeting on February 10 at 10:15 in South Parlor or call Don Dempsey at 847-234-6250.

Presbyterian Women Valentine Outreach

All women of the church are invited to the South Parlor on Wednesday, **January 30, 2008** at 11:30 a.m. to share a meal and make valentines for our shut-in members and friends. A delicious soup and salad lunch will be served. Materials will be provided to inspire your enjoyment in making valentines that bring joy to so many. Contact Kerry Spera at the church (847) 234-6250 or kspera@firstchurchlf.org to reserve your seat. Jesus shared his love with us; come and share your love with others!

Lent

 begins
February 6

WEDNESDAY MORNING
COMMUNION SERVICES

Ash Wednesday, February 6 in the chapel at 7:00a.m.
February 13, 20, 27 and March 5, 12

ASH WEDNESDAY SUPPER,
FAITH JOURNEY AND WORSHIP
February 6, 2008

6:00 P.M. Supper in Fellowship Hall
6:30 P.M. Faith Journey – Reverend Corey Nelson
7:00 P.M. Worship – Sanctuary for communion
and imposition of ashes

**REV. COREY NELSON AND THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
WILL BE CO-HOSTING A SERIES OF MEALS DURING LENT
FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO GATHER, BREAK BREAD,
& GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER.
SIGN-UP BEGINS SUNDAY, JANUARY 20 AT CHURCH OR MAKE
RESERVATIONS WITH KERRY IN THE CHURCH OFFICE DURING
THE WEEK. EACH PARTICIPANT WILL BE INVITED TO BRING
A PORTION OF OUR COMMUNITY MEAL.**

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 65
LAKE FOREST, IL

JANUARY 15, 2008
FAITH CONNECTIONS
IS PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY.
SEND SUBMISSIONS TO
publish@firstchurchil.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

First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest
www.firstchurchil.org
700 N. Sheridan Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045
847-234-6250 fax 847-234-6283



REVEREND COREY NELSON WILL BE OFFERING
A FIVE WEEK FORUM ENTITLED

Visions of Justice: Mission in the 21st Century



IN FEBRUARY & MARCH

PARTICIPANTS CAN CHOOSE TO ATTEND THIS DYNAMIC, INTERACTIVE
FIVE-WEEK COURSE ON EITHER SUNDAY OR WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
AT 7:00P.M. BEGINNING FEBRUARY 17 AND 20 RESPECTIVELY.

CO-SPONSORED BY THE ADULT EDUCATION & MISSION COORDINATING COMMITTEES

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



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING February 3, 2008

Senior High Youth Group will be collecting donations after the 9:00 and 11:00 morning worship services.

The youth encourage us to "love the Lord our God...and love our neighbors" by giving one dollar each on Super Bowl Sunday. All funds collected are designated to an agency that our Senior High Youth Group selects. This outreach began in a senior high youth group in South Carolina and enables young people to see that by God's grace, they can make a difference in the world. The 2007 collection, interrupted by the unexpected evacuation of the building due to a sprinkler bursting, was given to the Shields Township Food Pantry. Thank you for your support of this giving and educational mission ministry.