



First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest  
www.firstchurchlf.org

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

# Faith CONNECTIONS



WEDNESDAY MORNING COMMUNION SERVICES

Led by Lay and Clergy

SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL FROM 7:00-7:30<sup>AM</sup>  
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FROM 7:30-8:00<sup>AM</sup>

March 5:

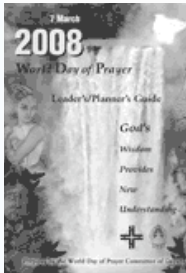
Reverend Christine Chakoian & Chris Coffin

March 12:

Reverend Dr. Don Dempsey & Prue Beidler

THANKS TO MARTY FINGERFOR ORGANIZING COMMUNION & DIANE FONDRIEST FOR ORGANIZING THE BREAKFASTS

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



hosted by St. James Lutheran Church

Friday, March 7 at 10:00<sup>AM</sup>

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many Christian faith

traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Throughout the day, women collectively pray all over the world, beginning with the first sunrise and ending at the last sunset. The prayers follow the sun's path around the globe and the motto is "Informed prayer leads to prayerful action." The services this year benefit women and children of Guyana. All are welcome to this worship service of affirmation of faith in Jesus Christ and sharing with women all over the world.

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

## HOLY WEEK at First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest

### Palm Sunday WORSHIP

"As we begin Holy Week, we set aside our normal routine to follow in the way of Jesus," Christine Chakoian reminded us in 2006. The story of Jesus' final week from his arrival in Jerusalem through his betrayal and abandonment in the garden will be told in a powerful drama that engages the entire congregation.

Worship at both 9:00 & 11:00<sup>AM</sup> is appropriate for families.

The service begins with a joyous and boisterous parade with the congregation waving palm branches.

The procession will include handbells, Sanctuary Choir, children, parents, pastors, Pharisees & a crowd of people.

We encourage children to help lead the palm processional at either service & welcome parents to walk with their children.

We move to the temple where Jesus taught the disciples, the Chief Priest, the scribes, Pharisees, and other religious leaders and teachers.

The Passover meal is prepared in the upper room for Jesus and his disciples  
Jesus prays alone in the garden.



### Maundy Thursday Thursday, March 20 7:30<sup>PM</sup>

Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples is celebrated followed by a service of tenebrae (shadows) and the stripping of the altar in a service led by clergy and lay including the Sanctuary Choir. All depart in silence.

### Good Friday Friday, March 21 Noon - 8:00<sup>PM</sup>

The stations of the cross will be open for personal devotions.

### Easter Festival Sunday, March 23

7:00<sup>AM</sup> followed by continental breakfast. Reverend Corey Nelson will lead a joy-filled early worship.

9:00 & 11:00<sup>AM</sup>

Come to celebrate the festival of Easter and meet our risen Lord.

Reverend Christine Chakoian preaching. Sanctuary Choir and brass lead musically.

The Sunday morning parking shuttle will make church arrival easier from the city parking lot at the corner of Deerpath and McKinley. Nursery care in *The Ark* will be available throughout Sunday mornings.



Dear friends,



Perhaps you were here February 21 when FOXNews journalist and political commentator Fred Barnes spoke in our sanctuary. His lecture, "A Closer Look at the 2008 Election" was sponsored by Lake Forest College Republicans, Young America's Foundation and the Oppenheimer Family Foundation but held at our church.

You may also have seen advertisements for Bay Buchanan, Jon Waterman and Lt. Col. Scott Ritter who will speak in our sanctuary in future weeks. That series is also sponsored by the college under the auspices of Lake Forest College Center for Leadership and Personal Growth and the Student General Assembly.

And you may well be asking what politics is doing in our sanctuary.

First, let me be clear that First Presbyterian Church is not co-sponsoring these events. Nor are we in any way endorsing the content of their presentations. Nevertheless, we recognize that the mere fact of opening our doors to politics implies our support of these endeavors. I want to make the case that indeed we should.

From our colonial beginnings, American churches have had an historic role as "meeting houses" for political discourse. As Protestants, we do not believe that a sanctuary is consecrated space set apart for strictly sacred use. Indeed, since the whole world is touched by the hand of God, all space is sacred.

Moreover, our Presbyterian forbears were particularly inclined to bring political matters into the tent of theological discourse. When our founding fathers spoke of "the separation of church and state," they were fighting the historic practice of endorsing one state religion at the expense of the freedom of the individual to choose one's faith. Having lived through the bloody wars of post-Reformation Europe, they proposed the radical idea that our nation should welcome the free exercise of religion. Politics, they believed, should stay out of religion.

But they did not propose the corollary, that religion stay out of politics. Jesus challenged us to "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's" ... pressing us to acknowledge that all things belong to God, including taxation, finances, and politics. Faith is never simply a personal spiritual matter; it seeks truth and justice in all manner of civic matters.

50 years ago, Lake Forest College, our city and First Church were founded concurrently by the very same individuals. Their dream for these institutions was to provide a place of education, discourse, and the worship of God. I am pleased to see that dream alive and well in the conversations ahead of us this season.

Yours in Christ,

## Your Blood Makes a Difference - Give Blood on April 13!

Sign-up tables in March and April before and after services.  
Contact Paul Bergmann at 847 295 7957 or paul.bergmann@comcast.net



Time Change  
March 9, 2008



First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest  
847-234-6250

### SUNDAY, MARCH 2

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian

Communion

Sanctuary Choir at 9:00 & 11:00

Inviting Everyone to the Table

Luke 14: 1, 15: 10

### SUNDAY, MARCH 9

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian

Quartet at 9:00

Sanctuary Choir and

Quartet at 11:00

Calling for Righteousness

Luke 17: 1 - 19: 10

## IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Christine Chakoian

cchakoian@firstchurchlhf.org

Associate Executive Pastor

Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey

ddempsey@firstchurchlhf.org

Associate Pastor Rev. Patrick Day

pday@firstchurchlhf.org

Associate Pastor Rev. Corey Nelson

cnelson@firstchurchlhf.org

Parish Associate Rev. Kent Kinney

kkinney@firstchurchlhf.org

Director of Youth Ministries Kristie Finley

kfinley@firstchurchlhf.org

Director of Children's Ministries Amy Pagliarella

apagliarella@firstchurchlhf.org

Director of Music/Organist Jill Hunt

jhunt@firstchurchlhf.org

Director of Sanctuary Choir Thomas Tropp Jr.

ttropp@firstchurchlhf.org

Director of Children's Choirs Elizabeth Weismehl

eweismehl@firstchurchlhf.org

Director of Youth Music Ministry Lesley Byers

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Preschool Director Ruth Luke

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Dir. of Communications Donna Birney

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Church Business Manager Herb Smyers

hsmyers@firstchurchlhf.org

Church website [www.firstchurchlhf.org](http://www.firstchurchlhf.org)

# PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE

## FIRST CHURCH LOOKS TO 150<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION

Plans for the celebration of our 150th birthday are underway!

The Sesquicentennial Committee is aiming for a fall 2009 start-up for our celebration, but certainly will point out some important anniversaries along the way to that date. The committee is trying to balance a look at our historic roots with a commitment to establishing a fitting and lasting commemoration of this significant milestone in the life of our church.

The committee welcomes your input. A 150<sup>th</sup> mailbox is available in the church office.

Or contact any committee member: Paul Bergmann; Christine Chakoian; Dorothy Chantler; Annaliese and Bob Crawford; Jan Gibson; Karol Karlblom; Doris Knox; Sally McDonald; Susan Milanak; Art Miller; Dick Miller; Shirley Paddock. The moderator is Tim Christie (847) 234-1325.

## Dedicate Flowers at Easter

**Honor a special beloved person with a dedication that will be listed in the church bulletin on Easter Sunday, March 23.** Contributions can be made using the Easter Flower envelope found in the pew rack. It may be placed in the offering plate during worship or returned in person or by mail to the church office **no later than Wednesday, March 19.** Be sure to print names clearly on the envelope so they can be spelled correctly in the bulletin. The donation may also be given to the Glory of God, in celebration of a special occasion, in honor of our brave soldiers, or for any reason you may want to share with our congregation. Please make your tax deductible donation payable to *First Presbyterian Church Flower Ministry.*

## Bid for Better Lives All-Church Auction '08

sponsored by the Board of Deacons

# April 19

 Knollwood Country Club

We rely on your generous donations to the All Church Auction to continue to make meaningful contributions to each of the Lake County agencies First Church supports.

**AUCTION DONATIONS** are needed in many different areas...

- o Airline Miles
- o Vacation Homes: both near and far (Chicago, Florida, California)
- o Event Tickets ( Cubs, White Sox, Bears, Theatre, Music, etc...)
- o Cooking, Food Underwriting (to support donations of parties & other special events)
- o Specialty Lessons (sports, art, crafts)

Please contact any Deacon or Auction chairperson Cesilie Price at (847) 615-8806 or [cprice4@aol.com](mailto:cprice4@aol.com) if you have an item or an idea for donation!

## NEW SMALL GROUPS FORMING

Have you been away for the winter? New small groups will be forming to begin in early April, after spring break. This is the perfect time to jump in and find out what everyone is talking about, what you have been missing or to continue your faith journey.

*"The women in one small group feel like their group fills a need they didn't know they had. They started meeting twice a month but shortly voted to meet more frequently and for longer periods of time! Conversations are rich and lively as forgotten, never read or misunderstood Bible stories are discovered. "The level of support we provide for each other is the most powerful part of the group. We have a few members dealing with health issues and others who have lost parents during this year, and these are women who pray fervently for and with each other and then show up that evening to deliver dinner or babysit the children of someone who is hurting,"* stated facilitator Amy Pagliarella.

Look for details in next issue of Faith Connections.



## Stephen Ministry

invites the entire **First Church** family to attend Continuing Education **Where Is God In Our Pain & Suffering?**

Rev. Christine Chakoian  
**SATURDAY, March 8** at 10:00AM

IN THE PARISH HOUSE  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
(Coffee & Fellowship at 10:00, Program at 10:30)

To learn more about becoming a Stephen Minister at First Church by joining the Fall training class, call Donna Birney at (847) 234 6250.

To obtain care for yourself or someone you love from one of more than 60 trained Stephen Ministers already at work among the First Church Family, call Rev. Kent Kinney at (847) 234 6250 or lay Referral Coordinator, Mary Schlott at (847) 295-1348.

# NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who joined the First Church community on February 3, 2008.



**Tom and Martha Bernardin** worshiped at First Church for several years and recently felt the call to membership. They have 3 children: a son Thomas and daughter Marjorie who are married; and daughter Alexandra in college.



**John Dick** is an investments and special events consultant. He enjoys squash, sailing, biking and travel. John has felt called to return to church and reaffirmed his faith at joining.



**Amy and Alex Kerth** were married at First Church in 2006. Their son, William, has brought Amy back to membership as she wants to model church involvement for him and bring him into the life of the church. Amy enjoys walking, sports, exercise and baking; Alex is a tennis and travel enthusiast. Both educators, Alex teaches German at Libertyville High School and Amy is an Educational Therapist working with clients who have different styles of learning in a multi-sensory approach.



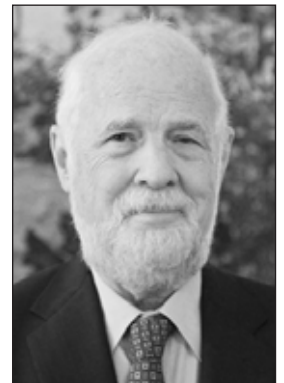
**Laura and Charles Carothers** visited various churches but have enjoyed the sermons and atmosphere of First Church. Charles is a Director of Financial Aid and Laura is a Physician of Internal Medicine working with adults. Charles enjoys being with children, running, bowling and exercise class. Laura enjoys running, gym workouts, golf, sports and music.



**Sarah Teskoski** is an artist and soon-to-be mother. She enjoys being outside in the woods and near Lake Michigan. Sarah feels called to be an active participant in a community of faith.



**Geoff and Lisa Murray** moved to Lake Forest from Highland Park and have found the First Church community warm and welcoming. They both enjoy spending time with family and friends. Geoff feels called to challenge those around him to bring out their best. Lisa is mother to Ryan (11) and Kylie (9) first and enjoys teaching the children to be respectful to the environment and each other.



**David McKee** is, first and foremost, a father and grandfather. He has lived abroad for many years and recently returned to the area.



# PROVIDE SPIRITUAL NURTURE

## Inviting **Faith** to be Front & Center

Dave Tolmie says, "I'm one of the lucky ones," and then amends, "One who has been richly blessed." Laughing, he adds, "That's it - the constant challenge of keeping faith at the forefront of our choices." In Virginia, he grew up in the Lutheran tradition in a family whose parents modeled strong Christian values. In college and business, he was active in church and motivational youth pastors influenced him and his wife to become youth leaders. In roles including president of the Lutheran Church Council, Dave found it increasingly easier to speak out on faith issues.

Dave reflects, "Faith that's always been woven into your life does not necessarily have dramatic epiphanies to challenge you." Rather for him it's increasing levels of awareness that he wants faith to be central in his life. This belief intensifies as a parent and Dave cites Luke's expression of the duality of gratitude and challenge that he'd like his children to absorb. "It's not easy!" Dave acknowledges, "Because frequently life gets in the way and you have demands on your time that can overwhelm the best intentions and that goes for me as much as my kids."



*"For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."*  
Luke 12:48

A hands-on faith practice in Dave's family is through a foundation his parents created in Africa. "It's helps a whole lot when you have this kind of example set out for you," Dave credits, adding that it is inspirational because the Faraja School for Handicapped Children is dedicated to his grandmother who devoted her life to developmentally challenged youth. "So here's this fantastic vehicle that our entire family can rally around and it's been a touch point." "Faraja" means comfort and Dave emphasizes that comfort flows both ways; to the African children and from them as they inspire his family to visit, conduct fund raisers and "Spend a whole lot of time realizing our blessings." Daily practices he leans on include: personal prayer, talking and praying with his family and participating in men's groups and retreats.

The blessings of supporting his parent's foundation is not lost on Dave and he notes, "It doesn't let you off the hook either." The business world is a welter of choices that invite conflict and challenge priorities. Staying clear on doing what 'God would have us do' is the struggle of being a Christian. Dave reads Devotions for the *Man in the Mirror*, by Patrick Morley to lend focus to his faith development. This devotional depicts practical life challenges of men in their jobs and relationships and offers motivation to put Christ first. "Look, I 'get it' more than I used to," Dave concedes, "But you have to keep examining your life if you want faith to be front and center. It's not something that you are ever 'done with'; you keep working at it."

## IN MEMORIAM

**Vernon Ray Fryburger Jr.** died on January 28, 2008. Dr. Fryburger joined the church in 1963. He enjoyed teaching and serving the community. He will be missed by his daughter Candace (Matthew) Fuller as well as other family and friends. Funeral and interment were private.

**Cora Hanley** died February 15, 2008. Mrs. Hanley was an energetic, faith-filled woman who welcomed all who came into her life. She will be missed by her family including her daughter Katie (Patrick) Day and grandchildren Galvin, Quinn and Cora. A funeral mass was held at St. John of the Cross Church in Western Springs.

**Bryan Paynter** died February 11, 2008. Bryan fought a courageous battle against bone cancer. He will be missed by his wife, Jenny and his parents as well as aunt and uncle Megan and John Anderson. A funeral mass was held at St. Catherine Laboure Church in Glenview.

**Willard Danielson** died February 18, 2008. Mr. Danielson will be missed by his family and friends including his daughter Meg (Don) Dempsey and grandchildren Brian (Jenn) and Becky. Services were held in St. Paul, Minnesota.

## CHRISTOPHER MARTINAT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Christopher Martinat Memorial Scholarship has been established in loving memory of Christopher Martinat, a 1998 Lake Forest High School graduate. In recognition of Chris's love of nature and the outdoors, this scholarship will fully fund the tuition for a month-long NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) experience in the Rocky Mountains for one selected student. Rocky Mountain courses are typified by travel at relatively high altitude (8-12,000 ft.), spectacular scenery, wildlife viewing and opportunities for rock climbing and fishing.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MUST BE  
AT LEAST 16 YEARS OF AGE  
AND RESIDENTS OF LAKE FOREST,  
LAKE BLUFF OR KNOLLWOOD.

Application packets are available at First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest, The Guidance Department at Lake Forest High School, Lake Forest Academy and Woodlands Academy. Completed applications, which include an essay, should be **returned no later than Friday, March 14**. A selection panel will interview semi-finalists and a recipient will be announced no later than Friday April 4. For additional information contact Linda Martinat (847) 615-0820.

This fund was established by generous donations to the Christopher Martinat Memorial Scholarship and will provide a NOLS outdoor experience for a selected student every year into perpetuity. A very special thanks to all who made this memorial possible.

9:15 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT

9:00 & 11:00 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT

OF EACH MONTH.

SUBMISSION DUE DATES  
ARE THE 1ST & 15TH

publish@firstchurchll.org

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FAITH CONNECTIONS

MARCH 1, 2008

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Church of Lake Forest



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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

## PROGRESSIVE DINNER

On Sunday March 9 the Network for Youth's fourth annual Progressive Dinner will take place, announced Kristie Finley, Director of Youth Ministries. The high school youth of the Lake Forest, Lake Bluff and Knollwood communities come together for dinner, fellowship and worship. This dinner offers an opportunity for the high school students of our communities to see the faith-based youth groups in action. It helps break down barriers between the groups and provides a cooperative and enjoyable experience. Participating churches include Christ Church, St. James Lutheran, Church of the Holy Spirit, St. Patrick's and us. The youth gather at Church of the Holy Spirit for appetizers, walk to First Church for dinner then return to Holy Spirit for worship and singing. "So, if you see hordes of young people walking down Sheridan Road on that Sunday night, give us a wave!" declared Kristie.

## 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 **Saturday March 8,  
March 22 and 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.