



First Presbyterian  
Church of Lake Forest  
www.firstchurchlf.org

700 N. Sheridan Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045  
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# Faith CONNECTIONS

## Different Drummers features Youth in Mission

Director of Youth Faith Formation, Kristie Finley with students and advisors who have attended Work Trips through their high school and post college career will be interviewed for the

Different Drummers program that airs **Sunday, May 18** at 5:00 AM on Channel 2, WBBM-TV (CBS) to three million viewers. Taped every Saturday at CBS with a live audience of local youth groups, featuring talented guest hosts who represent Chicago's diverse communities, Different Drummers is Chicago's longest running weekly series and the only platform for teenagers and young adults to discuss their everyday life experiences in the context of faith and values.



As **Work Trip 2008** to Wonderland Camp in Missouri nears, this timely program will feature one of the many ways that First Church **Promote's God's Vision of Justice.**

For those who are not awake at 5:00 AM the program planners at Different Drummers are looking into having the show available on their website [www.gcbm.org](http://www.gcbm.org)

As part of the core mission and third great end Promoting God's Vision of Justice Adult Faith Formation is pleased to sponsor

## The Reverend Alexander Sharp Executive Director of Protestants For The Common Good

Speaking On

### "Faith & America's Position in the World"



Sunday Evening, **May 18** at 7:00 PM

Since its beginning,

**Protestants for the Common Good** has focused politically on issues of social justice within the United States and Illinois—issues of civil rights, poverty, affordable housing, health care, abuse within the criminal justice system, and the environment.

As the nation anticipates its next presidential election, our country's presence in the larger world has become an issue of public concern and political debate.

Prior to earning the Master of Divinity degree from the University of Chicago in 1996, Al Sharp served as the Vice President of Business and Finance at the University of Chicago from 1982 to 1994. Al was Commissioner of Welfare for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from 1975 to 1978. Before this, he headed the Office of University and Professional Schools in the New Jersey Department of Higher Education and holds a Master of Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University. Al served as President of the Board of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless from 1994 to 1999. He is married, lives in Hyde Park, and has two daughters. He is a member of Hyde Park Union Church.

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



Dear friends,

The world is never static, but sometimes it seems that it spins faster than usual. This month feels like one of those times, as we mark milestones, welcome new leaders, and say farewell to trusted friends.

On May 18 alone we mark three major events:

At 9:00 a.m. worship, the confirmation of our young adults, who take on full adult membership in our church;

At 11:00 a.m. worship, the ordination and installation of our new elders and deacons, who begin their service as spiritual leaders of our congregation.

At a 4:00 p.m. reception, the celebration of Don Dempsey's ministry, as he leaves to become Interim Pastor of the Winnetka Presbyterian Church.

Each of these transitions is much more than a moment of celebration. Each one is a significant turning point in the lives of individuals and the future of our church.

Confirmation signifies not only the completion of a year of study, but marks the culmination of years of Sunday School and training at home – and opens a new chapter of growth in faith as young adults.

Ordination and Installation signifies not only the election of officers by the congregation, but reflects a lifetime of faithfulness – and a new calling to serve Christ's church "with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love," as the ordination vow says.

Don Dempsey's departure signifies not only his movement from one church to the next, but reminds us of the healing we've experienced in his five years of ministry here – and the opportunities that await us all in the future God is unfolding.

Every turning point marks an end and a beginning. And it is so fitting that we do not mark any of our transitions alone. We call ourselves a "family of faith" for a reason: we are all in this together, stepping out in faith the best way we know how.

Every blessing,

*An invitation to the congregation  
to give thanks to  
The Reverend Dr. Don Dempsey  
for his ministry at  
First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest  
Sunday, May 18 at 4:00  
in Fellowship Hall*



**First Presbyterian  
Church** of Lake Forest  
847-234-6250

**SUNDAY, MAY 18**

TRINITY SUNDAY

**9:00 & 11:00AM Worship**

*Reverend Christine Chakoian*

*Affirmation/Confirmation,  
Sanctuary Choir and  
Lakeminsters Ringers at 9:00*

*Ordination/Installation,  
Lakeminsters Ringers at 11:00*

**Leaders for the church  
Acts 6: 1-7, I Corinthians**

**SUNDAY, MAY 25**

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**9:00 & 11:00AM Worship**

*Reverend Corey Nelson  
Sanctuary Choir at 11:00*

**Paul's Conversion  
Acts 9: 1-19  
Paul's Letters**

**The church is closed  
for Memorial Day on  
Monday, May 26**

## IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

Pastor/Head of Staff

**Rev. Christine Chakoian**

[cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org)

Associate Executive Pastor

**Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey**

[ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org)

Associate Pastor **Rev. Patrick Day**

[pday@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:pday@firstchurchlf.org)

Associate Pastor **Rev. Corey Nelson**

[cnelson@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cnelson@firstchurchlf.org)

Parish Associate **Rev. Kent Kinney**

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Director of Youth Ministries **Kristie Finley**

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Director of Children's Ministries **Amy Pagliarella**

[apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org)

Director of Music/Organist **Jill Hunt**

[jhunt@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:jhunt@firstchurchlf.org)

Director of Sanctuary Choir **Thomas Tropp Jr.**

[ttropp@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:ttropp@firstchurchlf.org)

Director of Youth Music Ministry **Lesley Byers**

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Preschool Director **Ruth Luke**

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

# PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE

...anticipating warm weather  
and dirty cars on  
Saturday May 17

Please come out and support the youth at our annual  
**WORK TRIP CAR WASH FUNDRAISER.**

We will be ready at 9:00 am and will be washing cars until 1:00 pm. The youth are raising funds for the annual mission trip. This year we are going to the Wonderland Camp in Missouri, June 8 to June 14. Please join us for a fun and free car wash. Contact Youth Faith Formation Director Kristie Finley for information.

## WANNA TO BE A ROCK STAR?

Are you tired of being a responsible adult? Do you want to get the band back together, even though you may never have been in a band? We want you...singers, pianists, drummer, bassist, horn players, violins, it doesn't matter. Come unleash your inner rock star and join in the fun of the **First Church Adult Worship Band.**

Our first rehearsal will be **Sunday, May 18 at 5:00 PM** in the choir room. At that time we will discuss an alternate rehearsal time, if needed. Bring your instruments. We will be preparing music to lead worship on Sunday, June 29 at 10:00AM. For more information and questions, please contact Lesley Byers at [LesleyPByers@aol.com](mailto:LesleyPByers@aol.com) or (847) 736-1621.

## Lunch Bunch on Friday, May 23

will be a presentation on the St John's Bible, an illuminated Bible for the 21st century, commissioned by the monks at St. John's Abbey and University, Collegeville, MN. This DVD documentary, recommended by the MacFarlans and the Murrays, concerns the first handwritten and illuminated Bible since the invention of the printing press!..and was produced using ancient methods, materials and tools with modern themes and text. Come and be fascinated by this beautiful new Bible rendition. Lunch is at noon in the South Parlor. Call the church for a reservation by Tuesday, May 20 at (847) 234-6250, ext 233 Kerry. Cost is \$5.00 at the door.

## BIRTHS

We welcome *Jackson Wilder Sorensen*, born on April 25, 2008 to Chris and Jody Sorensen in California. Proud grandmother is church member Marilyn Sorensen.

Thank you to everyone  
who helped make the  
**58th Annual Rummage Sale**  
a great success for Mission!

Grand total - \$137,746, up about 3.2% !!!  
Full report in June 1 *Faith Connections.*



## Contribute to First Church using the Web

What if First Church earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Well, now it can!



**GoodSearch.com** is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the organizations its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

Just go to **[www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)** and be sure to enter First Presbyterian Church Lake Forest as the group you want to support.

## STAFF NEWS

On Saturday, April 19, First Church hosted a church music workshop sponsored by the North Shore Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Participants from a number of North Shore churches enjoyed the beauty and varied facilities of our church while experiencing four different sessions led by our own music staff. Elizabeth Weismehl conducted a session in the Chapel about directing children's choirs, using children from our very own children's choirs as the "guinea pigs." Royce Eckhardt who has been our substitute organist on many occasions led a session at the organ on hymn improvisation. Tom Tropp talked about the importance of warm-ups for choirs and demonstrated a number of effective exercises. Jill Hunt took the group to the bell room in the far corner of the basement and led a hands-on session on handbell techniques and ideas for using bell processions in worship. Everyone enjoyed bagels and coffee in the South Parlor throughout the morning and gained many new ideas for use in their own church music programs.



Elizabeth Weismehl led the children's choirs for two years teaching the children to sing with joy, gusto, clarity and quality. Her skill and technique in teaching and directing the children's choirs has been excellent. We are deeply grateful for all of the music that Elizabeth has shared with our congregation.

Elizabeth's contract expires on May 15, 2008 and she will not be returning next fall. She will be missed by the children who loved attending rehearsals and who have learned so much. "I think the quality of what the children have learned has shown in the beautiful music they sing to the congregation," stated Amy O'Keane. Soloist, Susan Noble added, "Our participation was a very rewarding experience. Susanna's interest has been sparked!" Thank you Elizabeth for giving so generously to the children of First Church.

# PROVIDE SPIRITUAL NURTURE



June 1

## in Fellowship Hall Sundae Sunday

celebrates the beginning of summer and the wonderful year of faith formation through Sunday School, confirmation and adult education.

Join the Family Life Committee in Fellowship Hall after the 9:00 service and visit with friends, meet some new people and enjoy building your own sundae.

There will be chocolate and butterscotch sauce, m&m's nuts, strawberries and colored sprinkles so you can be as creative as you want!  
**This event is for the whole church family.**

Do you have old cell phones lurking in drawers and closets? We are recycling cell phones; a collection basket is on the name tag table outside the hospitality office. To date we have recycled 62 cell phones! Thank you!

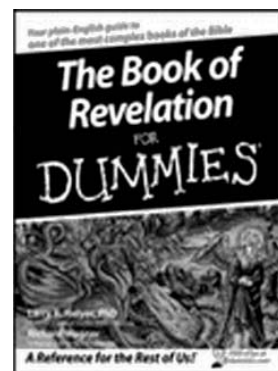
ANNOUNCING

## Summer Bible Study

Sunday Mornings *before* Worship Service  
Starting at 9:00 a.m.

Beginning June 8 and continuing through August 31  
Parish House

## THE BOOK OF REVELATION



Ellen Hyndman's Sunday Morning Bible Study Group will continue over the summer with a study of the book of Revelation. We will use the newly released "The Book of Revelation for Dummies" (now available at Amazon.com for \$14.95 plus shipping) as a study guide and class participants will divide up the individual chapters in the book to review and present to the class each week, with discussion to follow.

The first two weeks, beginning June 8, will cover the first five chapters of the book and will serve as an introduction to, and overview of, Revelation. Thereafter, each week will cover actual scripture using the "The Book of Revelation for Dummies" as the guide.

### WHY READ REVELATION ANYWAY?

- ❖ Some reasons may include
  - ❖ It grasps the nature of God and his relationship with us
  - ❖ It offers a rare glimpse into the new heaven and the new earth
- ❖ It offers a message of hope – the Biblical view of good triumphing over evil and suffering
  - ❖ Because it is there

Please join us for the **kick-off** of this study at a **pot-luck supper** at the home of Cynthia Hessemer, 865 Greenview Place, Lake Forest on **Saturday, June 7 at 6:30 p.m.**

After dinner we will show The History Channel's dvd entitled "Apocalypse: The Puzzle of Revelation" as an introduction to the study and pastor Patrick Day will be on hand to make a few general comments about Revelation. We will also have a class leader sign up list available at the dinner.

### Interested in attending the pot-luck supper on June 7?

RSVP "Yes" to Spike Paul at [fratedoc@comcast.net](mailto:fratedoc@comcast.net) or  
Cynthia Hessemer at [chessemer@hotmail.com](mailto:chessemer@hotmail.com)  
and let us know what you would like to bring

### Can't make the pot-luck supper but want to attend the study?

Then we will see you on June 8 at 9:00 a.m.  
The first four weeks of study already have class leaders but you can sign up for openings after that.

The Christian Ideas reading and discussion group continues its exploration of **FAITH AND REASON** on **Tuesday evenings at 7:00** in the church room 212.



Readings include Scripture, Socrates' musings on the afterlife, Pascal's wager, an encyclical on **FAITH AND REASON**, and C.S. Lewis' 'Till We Have Faces.

Newcomers and visitors are always welcome. See the adult education web site for more details (and links to the readings) at [www.firstchurchlf.org/adult](http://www.firstchurchlf.org/adult).

# FIRST CHURCH WELCOMES OUR NEW MEMBERS



JEN NORRIS loves being a part of children's lives including her own three - Maddie, Lily and Ryan - and the children she teaches. She enjoys the outdoors, music, walking and spending time with family and friends. It is the amazing people who are First Church and her childhood memories of her church community that draw Jen here.

MARK AND JOY MCGREEVY have a son Austin and a daughter Bridget. Their joint focus is creating a life and home and nurturing their children and family. Mark enjoys outdoor activities like golf and tennis. Joy runs, hikes, does yoga, reads and likes to travel. The family came to First Church for a loving, spiritual home.



WY BISCHOFF is a daughter, wife, mother and a retired decorator who feels called to model healthy aging for her children, grandchildren and nieces. She feels God calling her to show her family that aging does not mean "a commanding physical and daily need of family presence." Friends from Lake Forest Place led Wy to First Church.



## MEMBERSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

*If you are looking for a church home and wish to join our community of faith, a warm welcome awaits you.*

We offer membership orientations 3-5 times per year to help you become acquainted with our congregation and its ministries. Pastors and lay leadership teach the sessions, which include the "basics" of the Reformed tradition and the Presbyterian denomination, and the local history of First Church.

The usual format is a three hour class on a Saturday morning and an additional two hour evening session the following week. Participants then join the church by meeting with Session members on Sunday morning before being received in worship.

After worship a reception in their honor is held in Fellowship Hall.

For more information please call the church office or email Beth Gillies at [egillies@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:egillies@firstchurchlf.org)

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT  
9:15 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT  
9:00 & 11:00 AM

FAITH CONNECTIONS  
IS PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY.  
SEND SUBMISSIONS TO  
publish@firstchurchllc.org

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

MAY 15, 2008



There are still openings for this year's **Vacation Bible School, Power Lab.**

Power Lab is fizzing with fun for kids ages 4 and up. They will have an exciting adventure, following Jesus as he heals, helps, and gives power to people who need him. As the kids experience amazing Bible adventures, they'll take part in Daily challenges that encourage them to apply Bible truths to everyday life. VBS will take place here at the church, Tuesday, June 10 - Friday, June 13 from 9:30am to 12:00pm. Registration forms are available at the church or on the church's website. For questions, please call Amy Pagliarella, Director of Children's Ministries at (847) 234-6250 or email Susan Powell, sep270@comcast.net.

Sunday Morning Bible Study  
Will Finish Its Year-Long Study of "The Promised Land"  
With Guest Speaker

# Ron Miller

William R. Bross Professorial Chair  
Department of Religion  
Lake Forest College



Dr. Miller will help wind up this year's Bible study series by discussing

## The Meaning of The Promised Land to the Region's Three Monotheistic Religions

Please join us in the South Parlor after the Nine O'clock service on May 25th. Coffee will be served.

Dr. Ron Miller, a native of St. Louis, earned degrees in philosophy and theology at St. Louis University. A scholarship from the German government enabled him to study at the University of Freiburg im Breisgau, after which he went to Northwestern University where he focused on Jewish-Christian relations for his doctoral work in Comparative Religions. He began his career at Lake Forest College in 1974, teaching in the religion department. He served as Dean of Students for several years and then returned to chair the religion department. His recent publications include "The Gospel of Thomas: A Guide for Spiritual Practice" (2004), "The Hidden Gospel of Matthew" (2004) and "The Spiritual Writings of Paul" (2007). Dr. Miller has been a frequent guest speaker at First Church for many years.