



First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest
www.firstchurchlf.org

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

October 1, 2008

Volume VIII, N^o. 18


Faith

CONNECTIONS

2008
Peacemaking
Offering

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Sunday,
October 5



*Break the Bread
of New Creation*

Break the Bread of New Creation

Then they told what had happened on the road to Emmaus, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, **"Peace be with you."** (Luke 24: 35-36)

On World Communion Sunday, October 5, we receive the Peacemaking Offering. This offering helps us to carry the reality of Christ's peace to people and places in pain in the world through Presbyterian churches, presbyteries, synods and the General Assembly.

This offering has been used to support PC(USA) AIDS work in Africa, support a free community medical clinic for those unable to pay for medical services, provide scholarships for high school seniors involved in peacemaking activities in school, contribute to local shelters that house and provide services for women and children facing violence in the home.

Let us open ourselves to receive the peace God offers us, a peace that heals all divisions. Let us pray that God will use our prayers and efforts to bring peace to the peoples of the earth. **Give to the Peacemaking Offering as a tangible prayer for peace.**

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

Top Ten Reasons to Worship on Sunday Nights

FIRST SUNDAY @ First Church
Sunday Evening Supper & Worship

FIRST TIME: **October 5, 2008**
6:00 supper 7:00 worship

10 As a Sunday School teacher, sharing my time with children on Sunday mornings means not being free to attend worship.

Now there's a chance for me to engage in a worship service too.

9 As 'Empty Nesters' we finally have the freedom and time to travel!

But we miss worshipping on Sunday morning;
this new service opens up a whole new time slot for us.

8 Formality and 'dressing up' was never my style.

A casual worship service that's not content-light appeals to me.

7 For years, our home was full of kids but now that they're all in college or graduated - Sunday nights can be pretty 'quiet'.

Having dinner and fellowship with friends and worshipping is a terrific option.

6 As a college student, I attended church in my home-town but, let's face it, I'm pretty busy with my courses.

If I can multi-task both dinner and worship, I'm in!

5 I loved the style of the 'Celebration Service' our church once offered.

Worship that's diverse, relaxed and informal resonates with me.

4 Now that I'm in high school, my life is filled with activities and

I can't always make it here on Sunday mornings.

It's great to be able to worship on a Sunday evening with my friends & church family

3 I confess that 'worship as usual' can find me on auto-pilot in the pews at times.

I'd be refreshed by a different format, time and mode of worship. I'll try it!

2 My life has changed and the routine that once anchored me has changed as well.

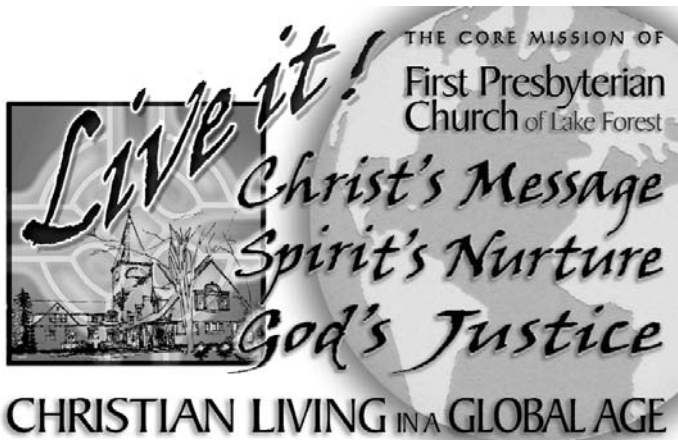
A Sunday night format sounds like just what I've been looking for.

1 Did someone say supper...?

I'm touched that volunteers in our congregation have stepped forward to cook, serve and offer supper for us on Sunday nights!

We all need more time to connect and reflect.

I know I do.



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Dear friends,

September is always a busy month at the church, with ministries and services gearing up after the summer. For families with children at home, September means the start of school and sports. And this year, for all of us, we've endured a frenetic financial market. "Intense" is the word that comes to mind for these past weeks.

October invites us to take a deep breath, find our routine, and get back to basics.

Like the "3 Rs" at school, we have our three basics too: **the Three Great Ends of faith:**

1. Proclaiming Christ's Message in worship: It's not your imagination: Sunday morning worship has been more crowded lately. It's a wonderful problem to have. Our series "Christian Living in a Global Age" is hitting a nerve. We all want to live our faith every day – and we're discovering why it's so tricky in our modern age. How can you be part of it? **Make a commitment** to worship as many weeks as you can. And check out "First Sundays at First Church" – an additional, alternative evening worship service on the first Sunday each month beginning October 5 at 7:00PM for World Communion Sunday.

2. Providing Spiritual Nurture in small groups: We are also enjoying a record number of participants in small group Bible studies, book groups, and ongoing study groups. New people join them every week. Why? Faith isn't a do-it-yourself job, and the church isn't called "the body of Christ" for nothing. We're better together. **Commit to trying a group on for size this month.** Information follows below.

3. Promoting God's Vision of Justice in mission: This year, our Mission Coordinating Committee is tackling our goal for this Great End. We'll have a "Holy, Outrageous Goal" up and running in time for our 150th Anniversary Celebration to launch a year from now. **Watch for more information** ... and if you have a special passion for justice, let Corey Nelson or the church office know and we will get you involved.

We are so blessed to be loved by God, and welcomed into the family of this great congregation. In the scheme of things, you can't get more basic than that.

Every blessing,

Christine Chakoian

Sunday Worship

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

World Communion Sunday

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian

Sanctuary Choir &

Lakeminsters Ringers

at 9:00 & 11:00AM

James 2

SUNDAY EVENING,

OCTOBER 5

DON'T FORGET...

FIRST @ First Church Sunday

Dinner @ 6:00 Worship @ 7:00PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian

Sanctuary Choir at 9:00AM

Baptism at 11:00AM

Matthew 5: 38-48

Fall 2008 Small Groups

Call the church office for more information on specific Small Group leaders and locations. New groups are still forming and new members are always welcome in existing Small Groups.

NEW Small Groups

Peg Bramhall, **Mondays 9:00AM** @ church
 Paul Bergmann, **Mondays 7:00PM** @ various homes
 Amy Pagliarella, **Thursdays 9:15AM** @ church
 David Barkhausen/Doug Valassis, **Thursdays 5:30PM** @ church
 Nick Burlew, **Thursdays 7:30PM** @ church
 Chuck & Lynda Kraemer, **Thursdays 7:30PM** @ various homes
 Cynthia Hessemer, **Sat. 8:30AM** @ various homes

On Going Small Groups

Christian Ideas, **Tuesdays 7:00PM** @ church
 Women's Wednesday Worship, **Wednesday 10:00AM** @ church
 Men's Fraternity, **every Thursday 6:00AM** @ church
 Christian Perspectives, **Thursday 1:00PM** @ church
 Adult Bible Study, **every Sunday 10:00AM** @ church
 Presbyterian Women Bible Study, **10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2 10:45AM** @ church
 Friday Men's Bible Study & Prayer Group, **Fridays 8:00AM** @ church
 Men's Discussion Group, **every other Sunday before worship**

PROMOTE GOD'S VISION

"Girl's first day of school never came: 10-year-old shot while tying sister's shoe" Chicago Tribune headline 9/3/08

In the past year, there have been over 30 children and young people shot to death in Chicago, many of them innocent by-standers caught in gang cross-fire. In Lake County, the numbers are lower but still significant: six children in 2005. One of our church's goals is to provide a community of spiritual nurture, but it seems obvious that these communities, our communities, are terribly broken. This two-part discussion series will explore the relationship of gangs to the communities in which they exist, how those communities, and the people that live in them, are affected, and what can be done to help change things for the better.



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST
ADULT FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

Gangs In Our Neighborhood: A Two-Part Panel Discussion

The Lake County Experience

Speakers will include: Two youth members of the Boys & Girls Club of Lake County
Errick Beverly, a staff member of the Boys & Girls Club of Lake County and
Police Chief William Biang of the Waukegan Police Department

Presented on Thursday evening **October 9**

South Parlor **7:00^{PM} - 9:00^{PM}**

The Chicago Experience

Reverend Leslie Sanders Hope Presbyterian Church
Mr. Ric Estrada Erie Neighborhood House
Mr. Wallace Gator Bradley Former "Gangster Disciples" Member

Presented on Thursday evening **October 30**

South Parlor **7:00^{PM} - 9:00^{PM}**

For more information contact the church office: (847) 234-6250 or moderator@firstchurchlf.org

CALLING ALL COOKS TO THE KITCHEN!

Food For Friends is seeking cooks, drivers & monthly coordinators to provide meals to our congregation members who are experiencing a family illness or hospitalization, a death in the family or are celebrating a birth. **FOOD FOR FRIENDS IS A RECENTLY REINSTATED DEACONS MINISTRY THAT HELPS SERVE THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED OF A MEAL OR SEVERAL MEALS**, depending on the circumstance. It's a wonderful opportunity to showcase your culinary talents and reach out to congregational members in need!

For those interested, an informal workshop will be held between church services (at 10:05) on Sunday, **October 19** in the South Parlor. We are hoping to form 12 teams to cover the entire calendar year. This is an ideal program for those of you who are unable to commit to a full year or multiple month service project!

Please contact Sarah Secombe at the church office (847) 234-6250 to RSVP for this important congregational outreach meeting!
Any questions? Please contact Julie Stevenson at (847) 615-8027 or Laura Flynn at (847) 295-4608.



Love one another with mutual affection; out do one another in showing honor. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Romans 12:10 &

Morgan Luttig is participating in the *Kanakuk Ministries-Christmas in Haiti* project.

Kanakuk Ministries was established to provide the children of Haiti with a solid education, a growing personal knowledge of Jesus Christ and a daily nutritious meal. There are 17 schools & 1 orphanage. At Christmas the children receive a goodie-bag. **If you would like to participate in this ministry, please bring any of these items to church by October 3.** The shipping cost is \$5 per bag so contributions are welcomed as well. Morgan is committed to donating 90 bags and is grateful for the support of the congregation. filled with these items:

- (2) bars of soap size 4.5 to 5.5 oz.
- (2) packages of sugarless gum
- (2) packages of Lifesavers
- (2) Tootsie roll pops
- (1) toothbrush
- (1) tube (4 oz.) toothpaste
- a washcloth
- and a teaspoon to eat their rice and beans



A SMALL GROUP MINISTRY DEVOTED TO
READING & DISCUSSING CLASSIC WORKS
ADDRESSING BASIC ISSUES OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

The Christian Ideas group is examining the topic of social justice through reading and discussions. It meets on Tuesday evenings at the church, room 215. This month's readings **focus on concepts of social justice** in the Old & New Testament (Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Acts & 1 Timothy). New participants and guests are always welcome.



2008-2009 BOARD OF DEACONS

THE BOARD OF DEACONS, FIRST OF ALL, MINISTER TO THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED.

DEACONS MINISTER TO THE SICK, TO THE FRIENDLESS, AND TO ANY WHO MAY BE IN DISTRESS.
DEACONS ARE OUR HANDS OF OUTREACH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF OUR CONGREGATION.



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PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE

Liz Bradner Home From Costa Rica

Faith in Action

"Every individual can make a difference," commented Liz Bradner, fresh from a mission experience this summer in Costa Rica. "Living abroad was on my bucket list," she joked.

A former CPA and retired Great Lakes Comptroller, Bradner spent 8 weeks in the capital city of San Jose. She volunteered as an accountant in the office of a consortium of 19 Presbyterian churches. (The Costa Rican Evangelical Presbyterian Church) While there, she created a leader database, researched revenues/expenses for a sponsor church as well as developed a report for feeding programs. Putting faith in action was just part of the experience.

"They first sent me to Spanish language school," she said. "It greatly helped me to work in the office." Bradner also took side trips to favorite sites like rainforests and Tobacon hot springs.

Working on Missions Committee for 8 years at First Church led Liz to understand the need to serve. Recently widowed, Bradner was ready to find new direction.



Reverend Corey Nelson put Liz in touch with the Latin American desk in Louisville. Her resume caught the eye of Stacey Steck who knew of corresponding needs in Costa Rica. From there Bradner began a rewarding personal spiritual journey.

Bradner describes Costa Rica as a lovely country, with warm, friendly people who share a high literacy rate. Yet, 14 percent inflation and poverty plague the country. One out of four people can only afford one meal a day. Despite the challenges, Liz Bradner says she will "remember it always."

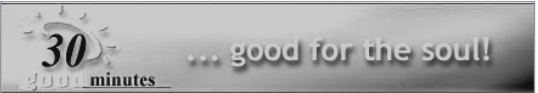
"I recommend everyone decide what their mission is to make the world a better place."

Worship & Study Series 2008 - 2009 CHRISTIAN LIVING IN A GLOBAL AGE

- GOALS:
- to explore the 3rd Great End - Promoting God's Vision of Justice
 - to equip and encourage people in daily Christian ethical, moral living
 - to offer a balance of action and reflection
 - to promote the formation of distinctly Christian identity

September 28 - October 26: What Does it Mean to Be Good?

Sept. 28: Luke 7: 36 -50	What It Means to Be Good: What is Pure?
Oct. 5: James 2	What It Means to Be Good: What is Fair?
Oct. 12: Matthew 5: 38-48	What It Means to Be Good: What is Harmful?
Oct. 19: Matthew 22: 15-22	What It Means to Be Good: Who Has Authority?
Oct. 26: Luke 10: 25-37	What It Means to Be Good: Who is My Community?



Reverend Chakoian joins 30 Good Minutes again this year, offering a short reflection on a spiritual topic presented by one of America's finest



religious thinkers. The show is broadcast on Channel 11 at 5:00PM on Sundays.

Reverend Chakoian offers reflections on **Love on Sunday, October 5** and on **Goodness on November 2**.

This program provides hope-filled messages to deepen your faith, enrich your life, and transform the world.

More information available at http://www.thirtygoodminutes.net/tv_schedule_5100.htm

Festival Choir may be for you!

We know there are many people in our congregation and community who love to sing but can't make the every-week commitment to the Sanctuary Choir.

Here is your opportunity for a wonderful singing experience that only lasts a few weeks—our first Festival Choir.

Come join our Wednesday evening Sanctuary Choir rehearsal from 7:30-8:15 p.m. on **October 1, 8, 15, and 22.**

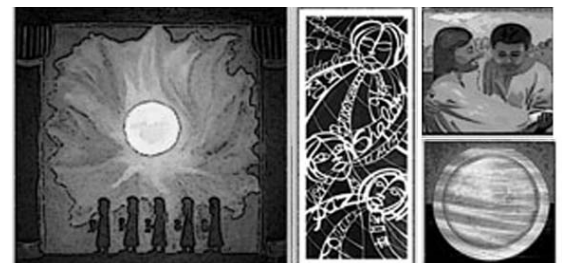
We will then sing J. S. Bach's *Cantata No. 192* based on the hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God" in both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services on October 26 which is Reformation Sunday.

This is a wonderful piece of music and you will definitely have a wonderful time singing it! **No auditions--just come, bring your friends and sing!** Questions? Contact Tom Tropp at the church, (847) 234-6250, or email ttropp@firstchurchlf.org



The Liturgical Arts Ministry has gotten underway for the 2008-2009 sermon series - CHRISTIAN LIVING IN A GLOBAL AGE

Contact Mary Beidler (847) 615-1221, Lee Gantz (847) 295-9684 or Julie Holdsworth (847) 615-8982



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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 FALL SALE IS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
8:00AM TO 4:00PM

Invite your friends, family, neighbors,
and everyone on your email list to come
to this fabulous sale that will be full of
furniture, holiday & winter clothing items.

The fall rummage sale workers need additional help for set up of the sale on Thursday, October 2 from 8:00AM to 4:00PM. Four hours of work in preparation for the sale makes you eligible to shop at the Worker Sale on Friday, October 3 from 1:00-4:00PM. This sale features furniture (lots of it), sporting equipment, winter clothing, holiday items and much, much more. **All proceeds from this sale are given to missions this church supports.** Items left over after the sale are donated to agencies and other churches for their use and distribution. Rummage leaders Chris Denniston and Deb Dintruff have a wonderful crew of workers every Monday and Thursday morning who will be on hand to guide new workers. Come and live your faith in this unique opportunity!

**THE RUMMAGE ROOM WILL BE
CLOSED UNTIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18**

OCTOBER 1, 2008
SEND SUBMISSIONS TO
publish@firstchurchlf.org
SUBMISSION DUE DATES
ARE THE 1ST & 15TH
OF EACH MONTH.
SUNDAY WORSHIP AT
9:00 & 11:00 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL AT
9:00 AM

847-234-6250 fax 847-234-6283
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**FIRST
SUNDAY @ First Church**
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6:00 supper 7:00 worship

Faith Connections

is published bi-monthly and mailed
to 1300 members and friends of



**First Presbyterian
Church** of Lake Forest.

Submission due dates are the
1st and the 15th of every month.
Please send submissions to
kwolff@firstchurchlf.org
faxed to (847) 234-6283 or
dropped off at the church office.

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Saturdays [Sept - May] 8:00-noon