

# Faith CONNECTIONS

700 North Sheridan Road • Lake Forest, Illinois 60045 • 847-234-6250 fax 847-234-6283 • www.firstchurchlf.org

## THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

This Advent season, on **December 17** at 7:00PM, you are invited to participate in **The Longest Night Service**, a Taizé-style communion service led by Reverend Corey Nelson.

The Longest Night Service recognizes that for many, Christmas is a difficult time. Some have recently lost a loved one, some have lost a job, some are lonely, and some are suffering from illness or the pain of a broken relationship. Past memories, financial stress are just some of the triggers that can seem even more painful when the dominant messages are signaling, "Be of good cheer." During this darkest time of the year, we remember that Jesus said, "Come unto me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." In response, we will gather together for a time to acknowledge the darkness within our lives and look toward the light of the Christ child that is coming amongst us.

There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one or, as a sign of hope. You may know someone who would like to attend this service. Invite them to come with you. Fellowship and light refreshment will be offered in South Parlor following the service though some find more peace in leaving quietly.



TAIZÉ IS CHARACTERIZED BY CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES INCLUDING SINGING, PRAYING, READING SCRIPTURE, LISTENING IN SILENCE AND SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP BY INTINCTION. BY INTENTIONALLY SETTING ASIDE TIME FOR GOD TO SPEAK TO US WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR **THE TRUE MEANING OF ADVENT - THE EXPECTANCY AND PRAYER INHERENT IN ANTICIPATING CHRIST.**



Sunday, **December 20** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Worship 9:00 & 11:00AM **Lessons and Carols**  
led by Sanctuary Choir

Brass Band Plays before and after morning services

Sunday School Special Event 9:15 in Fellowship Hall West

first@five 5:00 PM

Thursday, **December 24** Christmas Eve

3:00PM Worship; Reverend Christine Chakoian  
with communion; celebratory, upbeat music; child care offered

5:00PM Family Worship; Reverends Amy Pagliarella,  
Erik Dailey and Director Kristie Finley;  
Children's Choirs; child care offered

8:00PM Worship; Reverend Christine Chakoian;  
Sanctuary Choir and Strings

11:00PM Worship; Reverend Christine Chakoian;  
Soloists and Strings

Friday, **December 25** Christmas Day

Rejoice in the birth of our Savior! Church is Closed

Saturday, **December 26**

150<sup>th</sup> Work Trip Alumni Reunion

5:00PM at The Lake Forest Club

Sunday, **December 27** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

Worship at 10:00AM in sanctuary  
Congregational Carol Sing

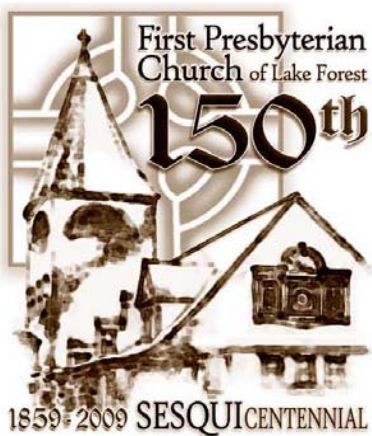
Thursday, **December 31** New Year's Eve

Church closed at noon

Friday, **January 1** New Year's Day

Church closed





Pastor/Head of Staff...**Reverend Christine Chakoian**...[cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Associate Pastor for Mission...**Reverend Corey Nelson**...[cnelson@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cnelson@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Associate Pastor for Faith Formation, Youth & Young Adults...**Rev. Erik Dailey**...[edailey@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:edailey@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Associate Pastor for Faith Formation, Children's...**Rev. Amy Pagliarella**...[apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Parish Associate...**Reverend Kent Kinney**...[kkinney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kkinney@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Executive Director...**Lynnette Hinch**...[lhinch@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:lhinch@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Director of Faith Formation, Youth and Parent...**Kristie Finley**...[kfinley@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kfinley@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Director of Music/Organist...**Jill Hunt**...[jhunt@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:jhunt@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Director of Sanctuary Choir...**Tom Tropp**...[ttropp@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:ttropp@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Director of Youth Music Ministry...**Lesley Byers**...[LesleyPByers@aol.com](mailto:LesleyPByers@aol.com)  
 Preschool Director...**Ruth Luke**...[rluke@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:rluke@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Director of Communications...**Donna Birney**...[dbirney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:dbirney@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Church Business Manager...**Herb Smyers**...[hsmyers@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:hsmyers@firstchurchlf.org)  
 Church website...[www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org) ... fax 847-234-6283... phone 847-234-6250  
 First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest 700 N. Sheridan Rd, Lake Forest, IL 60045 847-234-6250



Dear Friends,

This year as Christmas approaches, it is a subdued experience in many households. As your pastor I'm keenly aware of how different this season is from many Christmases past.

Many - too many - in our own congregation are hurting financially, their jobs cut or businesses shrinking. Others are dealing with painful

health issues, their own or their loved ones' bodies failing. Others are overwhelmed by things to do, the lists getting longer faster than work is getting done.

Yet Christmas reminds us that Jesus was born into circumstances that were also difficult. God could have chosen to be incarnate as a powerful monarch, world ruler, or rich merchant. Instead God came in the form of a vulnerable child born to ordinary people living under foreign rule.

This year, maybe we're not celebrating with the pomp and flourish we might normally bring to the holidays. Maybe that's not all bad. Let's celebrate the tender mercies that we share with each other in Christ's name, the humble gifts of compassion we are extended, the priceless hope of belonging - not because of our job or our wealth or our strength, but because we are loved by God so very much.

Every blessing,

*Christine Chakoian*



*To my dear Lake Forest Friends,  
 I do so appreciate the lovely cards and notes sent to me each year.  
 You are all in my warmest thoughts and memories.  
 May your Christmas be filled with the peace and joy of Christ.*

*With my love, Lorraine Bellingham*



**first @ five**, an informal, upbeat worship service with acoustic music held in the sanctuary at **5:00PM every Sunday [except Dec. 27]** This service offers an opportunity to explore the intersection of scripture and everyday life through the arts and creative participation. A simple supper follows the service. *See you in church!*

## Sunday Worship

**THURSDAY, DEC. 17**

LONGEST NIGHT

TAIZÉ SERVICE at 7:00PM

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

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

Luke 1: 39-45

Reverend Christine Chakoian  
 Lessons and Carols  
 Sanctuary Choir

**first @ five**

@ 5:00 in the sanctuary

fellowship & dinner @ 6:00

Reverend Corey Nelson

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27**

**10:00AM Worship**

Luke 2:41-56

Reverend Amy Pagliarella  
 Christmas Carol Sing

## Faith Connections

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



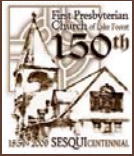
**First Presbyterian Church** of Lake Forest.

700 North Sheridan Road  
 Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Submission due dates are the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

Please send submissions to [kwolff@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kwolff@firstchurchlf.org) faxed to (847) 234-6283 or dropped off at the church office.

**CHURCH OFFICE** 847-234-6250  
**HOURS:** Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00PM  
 Saturdays [Sept - May] 8:00-noon



## What makes First Church *Special...*



Jane Jensen

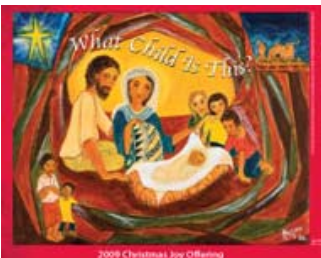
*My husband, Frank T. Jensen was baptized and confirmed at First Presbyterian. My in-laws, Agnes and Frank Jensen were members of the church. I joined the church, which was a Godsend, because I was raised Lutheran and there were no Lutheran churches in Lake Forest at the time. Therefore, I went to the Presbyterian Church due to my husband. Even before marriage, I graduated from LF College and commencement was in the sanctuary.*

### **CHRISTMAS CAROL BAND** *Do you play a band instrument?*

Reverend Corey Nelson is inviting you to join him and others for a little "sidewalk carol band" on December 20 before and after services. Sheet music will be provided. It would be wonderful to have people of all ages & abilities join us, whether you are a music student now or haven't played in 20 years! If you would like to play, please contact Corey.

## LUNCH BUNCH

On Friday, **December 18**, come celebrate the Christmas Season with Lunch Bunch. Talented soprano **Susan Noble** will share her beautiful voice as she sings a few Christmas selections. Then we'll add our voices to hers with some Christmas Carols. Come to South Parlor at noon. Cost is \$6.00 at the door. For reservations call Kerry at (847)234-6250, ext. 233 by Tuesday December 15. Hope to see many of you there.



### **CHRISTMAS OFFERING BRINGS JOY**

The Christmas Joy Offering dates back to the 1930's to supplement inadequate retirement income & provide supplemental medical insurance for former ministers, missionaries, church workers and their families. Through many iterations the Christmas Joy Offering now equally supports former servants of the church

through the Board of Pensions and racial ethnic education through Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges. Over \$2,200,000 was given to each in 2008.

This is one of four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need.

## IN MEMORIAM

*Edgar Francis "Ned" Heizer* died on December 3, 2009. Mr. Heizer joined the church in 1968. He was a man with forward thinking ideas and many friends. He will be missed by his wife Molly and son Skip and Lynn Heizer and their children Emma and Corbon. A memorial service was held in the sanctuary on December 9, 2009 Reverend Christine Chakoian officiating assisted by Rev. Erik Dailey.

*Donna K. (Klann) Mueller* died on December 7, 2009. Mrs. Mueller joined the church in 1961. She loved to travel and read and served on the Mission and Library committees. She will be missed by her family including her daughter Kathryn "Kam" (Jamie) Walters and grandchildren Cori, Jeff and John. A memorial service is pending.



calvin09

## CALVIN'S CORNER

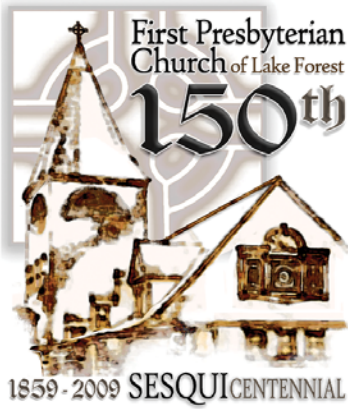
### **BASEL, OLIVETAN'S BIBLE, AND THE 'LITTLE BOOK'**

Calvin arrived in Basel in January 1535 wanting only to live the life of a scholar. "He had problems with the church . . . but thought that he could avoid conflict by simply ignoring the things that bothered him." This proved an impossible task for him and before long he was preaching and teaching the new religion and developing contacts with others in the reformed circles of Basel.

During his 14 months in Basel, Calvin produced two writings of note. The first was his preface to his cousin's Bible. The cousin, Pierre Robert, known as Olivetan, was, like Calvin, from Noyon and, having taken up the reformed mantle considerably earlier, had been forced to flee France in 1528. Olivetan's Bible was the first Protestant Bible in French and was based on the original Greek and Hebrew texts rather than being derived from the Latin Vulgate. Olivetan's Bible in its many revisions would survive for the next 200 years as the "Geneva Bible" of French-speaking Protestants. Calvin wrote an introduction to his cousin's Bible, laying out in only a few sentences a "systematic theology in miniature." It was Calvin's gift to be able to explain to the "common people" in the simplest, most straight-forward language possible the most complex of ideas, an ability that served him even better in his other project in Basel, the publication of the first edition of *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*, a work he called "a small booklet containing summarily the principal points." The work made him famous at age 26.

His purposes in writing this first edition of *The Institutes* were to give an overview of biblical doctrine for the French Reformed who knew little of the scriptures, and as a response to the persecutions they were suffering in France. The work was a catechism based on one of Luther's, following the classic discussions of Law, Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the sacraments of baptism and communion. It was preceded by a letter addressed to Francis I, "the most excellent king" and was written as a legal brief (Calvin the lawyer at work), arguing that the Reformed ought to be placed under the enlightened protection of the king, whose responsibility it was to administer justice; and that they were not, after all, revolutionaries but harmless Christian subjects who should be given a place in France. The plea fell on deaf ears.

## STEWARDSHIP 2010



2010 Stewardship  
COMMITMENTS OF TREASURE

**PLEDGE GOAL**  
for 2010

\$2,124,063

**TOTAL DOLLARS PLEDGED**  
\$1,695,039

**PLEDGES RECEIVED**  
419

**NEW PLEDGES\***  
39

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" Matthew 6 :11*

These are unprecedented times in our world. They are also unprecedented times in the life of First Presbyterian Church. *If you have not fulfilled your pledge commitment for 2009* and are able to do so, please pay the balance by December 31, 2009. *If you have completed your pledge* and can help those who cannot by continuing with weekly contributions, thank you and may God bless you and your gifts to support our church.

With gratitude, Your Stewardship Committee

## COMMITTING our hearts

Listening for God's guidance, consider how you can deepen your personal relationship with Christ and commit yourself to Proclaim Christ's Message, Provide a Community of Spiritual Nurture, and Promote God's Vision of Justice. These are some of the commitments that have been made by members and friends of our congregation:

- ◆ Continue to discover my spiritual gifts and how to offer them
- ◆ Bring our three children to church each week
- ◆ Help a person with common spiritual values win an election
- ◆ Live our faith ◆ Participate in worship services
- ◆ Involvement in Men's group and other special programs
- ◆ Volunteer for Neal School projects
- ◆ Begin each day with a prayer ◆ Knit for the Prayer Shawl ministry
- ◆ Serve on a Mission Committee

**ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE** In an ongoing effort to reduce costs, be technologically up-to-date and be environmentally conscious, First Church has implemented a web-based application which allows contributors to have secure access to financial records, providing a view of your pledge and gifts to date and allows you to pledge or give online. If you are interested in learning more about making payments online, please go to: [www.firstchurchlf.org/giving](http://www.firstchurchlf.org/giving)



### 2009 STEWARDSHIP

**PLEDGE BALANCES FOR 2009:** as of December 7, 2009, we have **\$234,815 in outstanding pledges** for 2009.

Our goal is to collect these pledges before Dec. 31 to balance our budget. We understand the difficult economic environment, so this message is intended for those members of our congregation who are able to pay the balance of their pledge by year end. If you have already fulfilled your 2009 pledge commitment, please consider helping those who cannot by continuing with weekly contributions. Thank you for your gifts in support of First Church!

**TAX PLANNING UPDATE** Enacted on October 3, 2008, PL 110-343 (the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act 2008, Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008, and Tax Extenders and Minimum Tax Relief Act of 2008) extends expired charitable contribution provisions for both individual and business taxpayers. Individual taxpayers who have reached age 70 ½ can roll over money in individual retirement accounts (IRAs) to qualified charities such as your church on a tax-free basis through 2009. As much as \$100,000 may be donated annually. Please consult with your tax advisor on how your IRA rollover can support First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest while saving you tax dollars.

Set forth below is summary financial information for November, 2009 and the year-to-date period through the end of that month. The \$31,454 positive result for the month is the result of higher weekly contributions. The year-to-date loss of \$47,363 is negative to the budgeted \$12,868 by \$34,494, primarily due to year-to-date contributions and revenue being \$201,035 behind budgeted revenue. The good news is that our expenses are held well within budget, in fact below budget by \$166,541 demonstrating administrative control.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST FINANCIAL REPORT For period ending Nov 30, 2009	CURRENT MONTH	Year To Date CURRENT	Year To Date BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET 2009	Year To Date DIFFERENCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 190,947	\$2,126,343	\$2,327,378	\$2,526,883	\$ (201,035)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 159,493	\$2,173,705	\$2,340,246	\$2,526,883	\$ 166,541
NET INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 31,454	\$ (47,362)	\$ (12,868)	\$ -	\$ (34,494)
MATCHED FISHERMEN'S FUND	\$ -	\$ 35,874			
NET INCOME	\$ 31,454	\$ (11,488)	\$ (12,868)	\$ -	\$ 1,380

### END OF YEAR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The church building and Business Office will be closed all day on Friday, December 25 & January 1. **To credit contributions in the year 2009, they must be received by noon on Thursday, December 31.** Any contributions received after noon on December 31, 2009 will be credited to the 2010 statement.



**We are grateful to everyone listed here who, as of Friday, December 11, are supporting First Presbyterian Church through their 2010 pledge. Thank you for your generous support!** If you did not receive a pledge card, you may pick one up in the office or you may pledge online at [www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org) **Every gift makes a difference!**

Constance Addington	Carolyn Dean	Cynthia Hessemer	David MacKenzie	Jim & Julia Parker	Bill & Sara Snyder
David Aho	Dan & Anne Delozier	Joe Hickey	Richard & Ruth Mandahl	Jane Partridge	Rodd & Sarah Specketer
Bill & Diane Allen	Margaret Dempsey	Michael & Jeniece Higgins	Dan & Ann Marinic	Gordon & Elaine Paul	Donald & Mia Spooner
Linda Alpert	Bill & Chris Denniston	Jeff & Lynnette Hinch	Brian & Linda Martinat	Joe & Lynette Paulsen	William Springer
James & Audrey Altounian	James Deters	Reed & Julie Hoekstra	David Mattoon	Fay Peck	Frederick Stanton
Richard Anderson	Wes & Sue Dixon	Cynthia Holck	Jeanette Mattoon	Susan Peet	C. Bennett Stephens
Lawrence & Frances Anderson	Ann Dixon	Dick & Marilyn Holmes	Alan & Hope May	Barbara Peltz	Jim & Julie Stevenson
Ed Anderson	John Donald	Lloyd & Sue Hood	Jim & Susie Mayhall	Jim Perkins & Jenny Zinser	John & Judy Stone
John & Megan Anderson	Robert & Lorraine Doran	Hildo & Dora Hoogcarspel	Elliott McCoy	James & Harriet Perrin	Mona Strenger
Carolyn Address	Carol Dorge	Jeff Howard	Chuck & Mary McDermand	Mary Grace Peterson	John & Frances Swaine
Ed & Karen Angelbeck	Martha Doyle	Connie Howes	Joe & Cathy McGowan	Susan Peterson	Marjorie Swansen
Paul & Michelle Astolfi	Ed & Nancy Dudley	Shirley Hunt	David McKee	Ray & Ruth Pierobon	Bob & Elizabeth Swartz
Luben & Astrid Atzeff	Jim & Bevan Duncan	Ellen Hyndman	Betsy McKiel	John & Bonney Pope	Lois Switzer
Carol Bagan	Lee Duyckinck	Maralyn Jahp	Ken & Janet McPheeters	Tom & Susan Powell	Kent Taubensee
Joe & Ann Barbour	Joe & Sue Dye	Ken & Alice James	Milt & Joann Meigs	Bob & Cesilie Price	Bruce & Patty Taubensee
Caryl Barclay	Craig Earnest	Ken and Vandy Janson	Wilbur & Pat Meinen	Fred & Mary Lou Price	John & Kim Taylor
David & Sue Barkhausen	Stanley Eaton	Bob & Emily Jennings	Richard Mentzinger	Herbert & Lucia Prochnow	John & Diana Terlato
Elaine Barner	Jack & Chris Edwards	Ginny Jensen	Eric & Aimee Messner	Carolyn Protz	Steve & Meg Ther
Bob Barnett	Jay & Dawn Edwards	Jane Jensen	Phyllis Metcalf	Todd & Christine Puch	Wayne & Barbara Thomas
Steven & Margaret Barnhart	T'S & Stephanie Elliott	Gladys Johnsen	Leroy & Lois Meyer	Bob & Linda Quigley	Tom & Nancy Thomson
Jon & Sharon Bayer	Mitch & Kris Engel	Jane Johnson	Susan Milanak	Shelley Quillin	Betsy Thurman
Pearl Bean	Janice Engle	Pat Johnson	Rosealice Miller	Tom & Diane Quinn	Dave & Tracy Tolmie
Frank & Prue Beidler	Bill & Pat Ensing	John & Nancy Johnson	Dick & Beth Miller	David & Beatrice Radcliffe	Tom & Betty Toser
Lorraine Bellingham	Marvin & Mary Farwell	David & Donna Johnson	Art & Janet Miller	Scott & Laurie Rahn	Richard & Nadyne Tracy
Bruce & Patty Bennett	Frank Farwell	Chuck & Laura Johnson	Frank & Jean Mohr	Joe & Beverly Raudabaugh	Carl & Darcy Traynor
Tim & Carolyn Bennett	John & Abigail Fassnacht	Dick & Ann Johnson	Fred & Michele Montgomery	Bob & Julie Reaumont	Bob & Mary Lou Troyer
Peter & Judith Bensinger	Libby Faulks	Bill & Cindy Johnson	Andrew & Jill Moot	Bill & Judy Redding	Bert & Cathy Tucker
James & Kimberly Benson	Daniel & Leah Fietsam	Gregory Jones	Dick & Cindy Morehead	Tom & Dawn Reed	Mike & Patti Tucker
Paul Bergmann	Gaylord & Susan Fill	Phillip & Rebecca Jones	Harold Morrison	Corrine Reichert	Brian & Karen Uihlein
Jacque Berkshire	Sherm & Marty Finger	Rick & Beth Jones	Lew & Verna Muldrow	Jeanne Remaley	Paul & Heather Upchurch
Jim & Mary Lynn Bertram	Paul & Kristie Finley	Tom & Margie Juedes	J. Thomas Mullen	Larry & Linda Remensnyder	E Scott Vaile
Ed & Ruth Bindi	Bob & Patty Fitzgerald	Bob & Karol Karblom	Terry & Susan Mulligan	John & Nancy Remington	Doug & Laurie Valassis
Robert & Carol Binkley	Archie & Kathy Fletcher	Tom & Susan Kearney	Vicki Murphy	Dellora Ridgway	Audrey Vanderaa
Wy Bischoff	James & Katherine Fluri	Bruce & Celia Keith	Norma Murphy	Thomas & Mary Ritter	Bill Vernon
Fred & Nikki Block	Michael & Laura Flynn	Jim & Sharon Kellock	Ray & Cindy Murphy	Ann Roberts	Karen Vratimos
Glenn & Marilyn Blackmon	Kathleen Flynn-Barnett	Paul & Fran Kent	Don & Jo Murray	Elisabeth Roberts	Harris & Ann Walker
Darrell & Paula Bloom	Jim & Diane Fondriest	Stewart & Marcy Kerr	Jim & Beth Mynhier	Larry & Cindy Rogna	Rheda Walton
Phil & Julie Boersma	Bryan & Carrie Ford	Bill & Cheryl Killam	Blair & Becky Nagel	Ted & Lynn Rojahn	Barbara Wang
Ron & Judy Boggs	Thomas & Heidi Ford	Ken & Carolyn Kinney	Karl & Barbara Nagel	Missy Romanoff	Kevin & Anne Warnke
Jack & Alice Bohlen	Roland & Gerry Ford	Betty Klingenberg	David Nash	Bill & Betty Sample	Gwen Wasmuth
Robert & Susan Bouma	George & Rita Fossell	Mary Knight	Dawn Neal	Mark & Sue Sanborn	Mary Watanabe
Malcolm & Mindy Bourne	Jerry & Joyce Fox	Doris Knox	Erma Nehls	David & Miriam Sanders	Tom & Wendy Watkins
Liz Bradner	John & Kathy Fox	Helen Kohr	Corey Nelson & Melissa Earley	Roger & Jean Santschi	Gale Wayne
Peg & Bob Bramhall	Kathryn Friedberg	Charles & Lynda Kraemer	Lydon Neumann	Steve Sawle	Henri & Jolly Weil
Robie & Susan Briggs	Bill Friedeman	Harold & Bev Kramer	Dan & Beth Nicholson	Lynn & Gabrielle Schade	Mark & Carla Westcott
Paul & Carol Bubala	David & Jacqueline Frye	Norma Kraus	Carole Niemeyer	Fred & Ruth Schneider	Henry & Florence Wheeler
Joe Burger	Norma Garrett	Patricia Kreischer	John & Robin Norkus	Richard & Barbara Schulz	David & Dawn Wheldon
Roger Burgis	Van & Hildy Gathany	Bert & Judy Krueger	Ted & Tiffany Notz	Stan & Sherry Schupbach	Bill & Anne Whipple
Michael & Sally Burns	Dona Georgeson	Sarah Kuchar	Barry Nudel & Sharon Jorgensen	Polly Scott	Mike & Sue Widner
Jane Byman	John & Liz Gescheidle	Nancy Kunz	Carol Oakes	Richard & Carla Seidel	Sarah Wimmer
David & Wyn Cain	Barbara Giannasi	Tracy Kurasiewicz	Robert Ogden	Jim & Gretchen Seymour	Guy Wilbor
Elizabeth Calahan	Phyllis Gilboy	John & Nancy Laesch	Nancy O'Mara	Joan Shannahan	Jaime & Kristen Wildman
Charles & Laura Carothers	Mimi Gillespie	Jill Landry	Dan & Kristin O'Neil	Zadonna Sharp	Richard & Barbara Williams
Don Carter	John & Kathy Glennon	Ed & Jeanne Lane	Nancy Orbison	Bob & Mary Shaw	Duane & Janet Wise
Pat & Janet Cayce	Andy & Maria Gottschalk	Rob & Kitty Lansing	Vivian Orr	Harry & Donna Short	Paul & Corinne Wood
Catherine Cecchi	Carl & Bubs Gottwald	Lary & Cheryl Larsen	Amy Pagiarella	Bill Shriver	Gene & AJ Woroch
Henry Chakoian	Stephen Gray	John & Karen Larson	Delores Paley	Christine Chakoian &	Jack & Mary Ellen Wright
Kent Chandler	John & Jean Greene	Bill Lay	Jody Pappas	John Shustizky	Bill Wright
Nora Chandler	Will & Diane Gregg	Bernie & Susan Layton		Frank & Laura Sibley	Carla Wyckoff
Art & Dorothy Chantler	Gwendolyn Griffen	Sean & Cynthia Leahy		Jim & Betty Simmen	Ann T. Young
Jim & Joy Christensen	Bette Griffis	John & Peggy Lehman		Susan Skinner	Patricia Young
Tim Christie	Dave & Maureen Grinnell	Rich Levin & Sally McDonald		Richard & Donna Slayton	Jim & Tina Young
Russ & Nan Clark	David & Elizabeth Grob	Dick & Marilyn Lewis		Keith & Jean Smith	Bob & Robin Zacher
Jim & Jo Cochrane	Kurt & Peg Gronau	Jerry & Fay Ligon		Marion Smith	Janice Zilka
Chris & Donna Coffin	Grace Groner	David & Barbara Linville		Steve & Cheryl Smith	Sarah Zimmer
Emily Condo	Jean Grost	John Litchfield			
Mike & Diane Conklin	Lester & Margrit Hammar	Bill & Diane Lloyd			
Bob & Annaliese Crawford	Ed & Nancy Hamming	Jeff & Cindy Long			
Bob & Winnie Crawford	Margaret S. Hart	Bill & Helen Loving			
Phyllis Cretors	Hope Hart	Albert Lowe			
Larry Crone	Kathleen Harwood	Bill & Cristina Lowe			
Paul & Pat Cummings	Mark & Margaret Hausberg	Joe & Amy Lucas			
Michael & Karil Curran	Mary Anne Havey	Geoffrey & Laura Luce			
Erik & Millason Dailey	Michael & Jill Havey	Beth Lucy			
Paul & Wendy Darling	Skip & Lynn Heizer	Bob & Rita Lundeen			
Dennis & Michelle Davalle	Gig & Mary Jane Hender	Greg & Pam Lungmus			
Janet Davidson	Dave & Pam Henkel	Gean Lutz			
Allen & Eliza Davies	Dan & Elizabeth Hennessy	Jeff Lytle			
Carlisle Davis	Nancy Hensel	Mike & Jan MacDougal			
Gloria Davis	Carrol & Jim Herber	Steve & Susan MacFarlan			

**\*The Fisherman's Fund** is an endowment from generous church members available to match -- dollar for dollar-- all **new annual pledges** to the 2010 Operating Budget from individuals up to a grand total of \$100,000!

- ❖ Suggested minimum pledge: \$500 (or whatever your household feels is sacrificial)
- ❖ New pledges will be matched up to \$1,000
- ❖ New pledges: households who have never pledged or have not made a pledge since 2007 are considered new and are eligible to be matched
- ❖ Fisherman's Fund matching gift program will expire on March 31, 2010
- ❖ If you have already submitted a new pledge for 2010, it will be matched by the Fisherman's Fund

## A New First Church Advent Wreath Continues an Ancient Tradition

This, our Sesquicentennial year invites us to refresh, rethink, revise and reframe our church's traditions as we move into the next 150 years. In that vein, a new and more permanent display stand for the sanctuary Advent wreath has been generously donated by Jean Grost.

Advent season has special spiritual meaning in her family and she has chosen to share this significance through a donation that can be enjoyed by the entire congregation. For many years, Jean has generously donated the First Church Advent wreath that has been the centerpiece of family liturgy and candle-lighting during worship for the four weeks of preparation leading up to Christmas.

The new advent candle stand has an adjustable telescoping column that firmly supports a circular steel ring equipped with socket fittings that securely anchor the candle bobeches. The entire wreath can tilt for better viewing by the congregation while the candle holders themselves are designed to remain safely in the vertical position.

Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming." The tenor of the season is one of expectancy for the Messiah and a time to prepare hearts and minds for the celebration of his birth. The Advent wreath itself is replete with symbolism; the circular wreath signifies unity and eternal life and the candles speak of anticipation of Christ as the Light of the World.

At First Church blue is the liturgical color of Advent. Three candles are blue & one is pink. Blue is suggestive of both Mary and the color of the night sky as it lightens towards dawn; pink is the color for the third Sunday of Advent and signifies joy. The white Christ candle in the center is lit on Christmas Eve.

Jean's generosity enables First Church to experience the anticipatory joy of Advent with a state-of-the-art wreath stand that is significantly more visible, sturdy and safe. During this season of gratitude and giving, First Church is moving toward Advent, and the next 150 years, with confidence and joy in Christ.



## Faith Alive

Have you ever wondered if the values that First Presbyterian Church youth learn on Work Trip really stick? Consider Whitney Smith; nearly ten years after she went to college she has circled back to live and work in Chicago and is now serving as a volunteer social media chair for Fourth Presbyterian Church's *Chicago Lights Campaign*. The volunteer organization tutors more than 400 children - ranging from 1st through 12th grades - from low income families across the urban landscape. Chicago Tribune columnist, Mary Schmich, highlighted the effort in an October article which prompted this response from a grateful student now grown: *"I wanted to write to you to express to you how the Fourth Presbyterian Church gave me an opportunity to give back to the community, and has made me the person that I am today."*

To support the effort, Whitney, the Chicago Lights committee and program tutors announced the annual sale of student-designed holiday cards, a program that fund a majority of the program's financial needs. Proceeds pay for books, nutritional meals, safe transportation and other expenses of the tutoring program. *"If you're still looking for that perfect Christmas card this holiday season, the 2009 Chicago Lights series features four new designs, each with unique inscriptions written in the child's hand writing. It's a wonderful way to support the local community and future artists of Chicago,"* states Whitney. All packages are \$15.00 for 16 cards and envelopes and are available in individual packs or assorted packages. Orders placed online are shipped same-day and delivered via U.S. Mail 1-2 days later. To order online, visit <http://www.chicagolights.org>



## The Christmas Tea

echoed the holiness of the season as angels were reflected in the décor, the music, carol singing, Reverend Chakoian's reflection, male deacons serving, and in those attending the tea. This wonderful offering from the Board of Deacons was spearheaded by Maureen Olsen and her talented team of deacons.



## "Here I Am Lord"

Work Trip Reunion Party Invites  
All Past Work-Trippers to celebrate  
their legacy during the Church's  
Sesquicentennial **Work Trip**

## Reunion Party!

**Saturday December 26**

**5:00<sup>PM</sup>** at Lake Forest Club

*Did you participate in the first work trip in 1975 led by Jim Cochrane...or the one just last year in Cedar Rapids, Iowa led by Jim Cochrane and Kristie Finley? Then you and every other work tripper in all of the years in-between are invited to attend the **Work Trip Reunion Party on December 26 at 5:00<sup>PM</sup>** at The Lake Forest Club. Guests are invited to come for hors d'oeuvres and Kristie notes that spouses and significant-others are welcome too. Former leaders including Jim Cochrane and Reverends Tracy and Mark Hindman are invited. Kristie Finley has set up a FaceBook page titled First Presbyterian Church Lake Forest 1975-2009 Work Trip Reunion Party to get the word out to far-flung Work-Trippers that they are warmly invited to return for the celebration. Kristie is encouraging everyone to tell their friends, "I can't think of a better way to celebrate our church's 150th birthday than to assemble, in one room, the largest gathering of Work Trip participants ever. Kids and adults have told me for years how life-changing Work Trip has been to them and how much they miss the people with whom they shared that experience. I think it would be incredible to get the Work Trip Family all together during the Christmas season when so many come home to be with family and friends. Seeing people I have not seen in years, but who have a permanent place in my heart would be extraordinary!" For details contact: Kristie Finley (847) 234-6250 or email: kfinley@firstchurchlf.org*

## Annual First Church College Work Trip!

**When:** Monday and Tuesday, **December 28 and 29**, leaving from church 8:00 am, work all day, dinner at The Silo, home by 7:30 pm

**Where:** Neal Math and Science Academy in North Chicago (you will be amazed at the difference from last year)

**Why:** To deliver a quality education

**How:** Using our work trip skills to improve the environment for the students

**Register:** Contact Kristie Finley at kfinley@firstchurchlf.org or (847) 234-6250 as soon as possible if you will join or have questions.

No Senior High Youth Group Dec 20, 27 or Jan 3. We'll start up again January 10th, just in time to de-stress before finals!



MIDDLE SCHOOL  
YOUTH MINISTER  
TO CHILDREN OF  
CASA CENTRAL  
THROUGH *the*  
**Giving  
Tree**

## Junior High PRESBYTERY Winter Retreat January 29-30, 2010

We had a *great time* last year and this year is looking even better! Join us for a two-night retreat for 6-8 grade youth in the Chicago and Blackhawk Presbyteries at East Bay Camp Bloomington, IL Registration info can be picked up in the church office or on the website



## You're Invited to a Birthday Party!

For: Jesus Christ When: Sunday, December 20 9:00-10:15<sup>AM</sup>

Where: First Pres Church's Faith Adventure (Sunday School)

Join us for a **FAITH ADVENTURE SPECIAL EVENT** with worship, Christmas crafts, treats and a sing-a-long, during the normal Sunday School hour. (Preschool through grade 4, Middle Schoolers will participate as volunteers)

Your "presence" is the only gift requested. (Although Christmas Joy offerings will be gratefully received. Pick up your piggybank at the children's table.)



First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest  
150<sup>th</sup>  
1859-2009 SESQUICENTENNIAL

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

**TIDBITS FROM ARCHIVES** Session Minutes December 16, 1947 A request was made from Ridge Farm for permission to use a room in the Church House for schoolroom purposes as a recent fire at Ridge Farm destroyed their classroom. The room would be used 5 days a week, both morning and afternoon. Ridge Farm authorities will assume all responsibility and will provide portable desks...use the room on the second floor known as the Westminster Fellowship room. The motion carried.

**Legacy Endowment Funds Established for Planned Giving**  
**Reaching out and extending our blessings beyond our own lives is an intrinsic part of Christian stewardship.** If First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest has played a vital role in your life... in times of joy and difficulty...you can help to continue its vital ministry and mission. Your gifts to the Church, both now and after your lifetime, can make our church home stronger and more responsive to the needs of generations to come. An endowment is a wonderful way for the church to remember you or someone you love.

First Church recognizes that many of our members and friends desire to include First Church in their planned lifetime giving and estate planning programs. To support giving in this way, an Endowment Committee was established which, in turn, has created the Legacy Endowment: three special endowment funds to which planned gifts can be made. These funds within the Legacy Endowment include:

- ♦ **The Ministry Fund:** income earned on this fund is used to sustain the ministries of education, worship, and music; the nurture of children and youth; and faith formation for all ages.
- ♦ **The Mission Fund:** income earned on this fund is used to provide seed money for new mission and to support commitments to education, evangelism, relief and development in Lake County, Chicago, nationally, and internationally.
- ♦ **The Masonry Fund:** income earned on this fund is used to maintain the beautiful sanctuary and the various facilities at First Church, and enhance the campus for generations to come.

If you would like to learn more about the Legacy Endowment, detailed brochures and Gift Agreement forms are available at the Hospitality Desk in the church office. You may also find the information on our website, [www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org) and click on 'Giving'. Questions may also be directed to Herb Smyers, Business Manager at (847) 234-6250 ext. 243 or Lynnette Hinch, Executive Director at extension 240.