



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

January 15, 2009  
Volume IX, N<sup>o</sup> 2

While Associate Pastor for Children's Faith Formation Amy Pagliarella is on family leave this winter,

families can rest assured that our Sunday School and related children's activities will be in the experienced hands of Elder Liz Gescheidle. Liz will serve as Acting Director of Children's Faith Formation from late January until Amy returns on Palm Sunday.

Liz will lead all Sunday School programs, coordinating teachers and volunteers every

Sunday morning.

She will also oversee the nursery, liase with the

preschool, and assist with the Moms' Bible Study.

Liz is the current moderator of the Children's Faith Formation Committee, as well as a seasoned Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School leader, former chair of the Preschool Board and active member of Session.

She and her husband John have two children, Will and Grace, who sing in the children's choirs and regularly participate in Sunday School. You are encouraged to call Liz at the church or e-mail her at lgescheidle@firstchurchlf.org if you have questions or would like to get involved.



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

## WELCOME NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS

The individuals pictured here were commissioned as Stephen Ministers on December 21, 2008. They are available immediately to walk with anyone experiencing a life crisis, change, job loss, financial concern, death, divorce or other grief.

If you would like a Stephen Minister to meet, pray and be with you, contact Reverend Kent Kinney.

### Laura Carothers:

"Stephen Ministry has helped center me, reminding me that it isn't about me, it's about God."



### Carol Dorge:

"Stephen Ministry has provided a Christian education and approach to care giving, reminding me of the Christian foundation for what we are about."



### Pat Ensing:

"Stephen Ministry is a calling that God placed on my heart to follow Christ, caring for those in need of Christian care giving."



### Carrie Ford:

"Stephen Ministry is a wonderful program that brings people who are going through difficult times closer to Christ, by knowing that someone from church cares about them, is willing to listen without judgment, does not offer or expect an immediate solution & is praying for them and offering God's love to them."



### Jerry Ligon:

"I have learned that a Stephen Minister is not a Mr. Fix-It but instead is a care giver to people who want to receive care."



### Jim Seymour:

"Stephen Ministry teaches you how to give yourself to someone in need with no pre-conditions."



### Jean Smith:

"Stephen Ministry has made me feel closer to God and more caring toward others."



### Marj Swansen:

"The clear and central focus of my energies as a Stephen Minister is on Jesus."





Pastor/Head of Staff... **Reverend Christine Chakoian** ...cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org  
 Associate Pastor for Mission... **Reverend Corey Nelson** ...cnelson@firstchurchlf.org  
 Associate Pastor for Children's Faith Formation... **Rev. Amy Pagliarella** ...apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org  
 Parish Associate... **Reverend Kent Kinney** ...kkinney@firstchurchlf.org  
 Executive Director... **Lynnette Hinch** ...lhinch@firstchurchlf.org  
 Director of Youth Faith Formation... **Kristie Finley** ...kfinley@firstchurchlf.org  
 Director of Music/Organist... **Jill Hunt** ...jhunt@firstchurchlf.org  
 Director of Sanctuary Choir... **Tom Tropp** ...ttropp@firstchurchlf.org  
 Director of Youth Music Ministry... **Lesley Byers** ...lbyers@firstchurchlf.org  
 Preschool Director... **Ruth Luke** ...preschool@firstchurchlf.org  
 Director of Communications... **Donna Birney** ...dbirney@firstchurchlf.org  
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 First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest 700 N. Sheridan Rd, Lake Forest, IL 60045 847-234-6250



Dear friends,

Although the new year always brings fresh hope and possibility, our current economy is difficult for everyone. Our church cares – and we are seeking ways to make that compassion concrete, tangible and helpful.

At an open meeting on January 4, the needs, fears and resources of our community were shared. In response to what we heard, the planning team is organizing a **Community Symposium: the Impact of the Economy Close to Home** on **Saturday, February 14, 8:30 AM– noon** at the church.

I will open the Symposium with a brief keynote followed by workshops from which participants may choose. Workshops may include:

- Leading your family through seasons of stress
- Finding new employment in a tough market
- History helps: perspective from the last Depression
- When bankruptcy or foreclosure looms: help for yourself or those you love
- Spiritual strength in times of trouble
- Staying emotionally healthy
- The good news in the bad: discovering what really matters
- You are not your job/your income: discovering new sources of identity
- Real work between jobs: volunteering that matters

Whether you're working or unemployed, see need in your own family or in others around you, I hope you will join us for this important day. This is not the end of what the church has to offer, but the beginning. There will be an opportunity at the conference to sign up for ongoing support groups and express your interest in other educational opportunities. Let us know if you have further ideas. We're in it for the long haul – and we're in it together.

Every blessing,

*Christine Chakoian*

The Session has called the **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** part one at 10:00AM on Sunday, **February 1, 2009** in the sanctuary. The congregation will receive a report on the budget, approve the terms of call for called pastors and receive the annual report. The annual meeting part two is scheduled for Sunday, April 19, 2009 and will include the report of the All Church Nominating Committee and the election of new elders, deacons and at-large members of the nominating committee.

### Coming February 10 to Our Church... Chicago Presbytery Meeting

Our own Rita Fossell will be installed as Moderator of the Chicago Presbytery at a regular meeting of the presbytery held here on Tuesday, February 10. This is a much deserved honor for Rita and First Church. This day will involve moving 200 people in and around our church for meetings, worship and dinner. We need many volunteers to make this possible. Please contact Beth Mynhier at ehmy@aol.com or (847) 615-2660 or Lee Gantz at lgglf@aol.com or (847) 295-9684 if you are willing to volunteer your time during any portion of this special day – Tuesday, February 10. Thank you very much.

## Sunday Worship

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Guest Preacher,  
 Reverend Andrew Rosencrans,  
 Chaplain at Lake Forest Place  
 Sanctuary Choir at 11:00AM

**1 Corinthians 7: 29-31**

**The Church will be closed**

**Monday, January 19** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Reverend Corey Nelson  
 Children's Choirs at 9:00 AM

Eggs Benediction at 9:00 & 11:00AM

**2 Corinthians 9: 6-15**

**SUNDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 1**

**FIRST @ First Church Sunday**

Dinner @ 6:00 Worship @ 7:00PM

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

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

**CHURCH OFFICE** 847-234-6250

**HOURS: Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00PM**

**Saturdays [Sept - May] 8:00-noon**

# PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE

## COLLEGE WORK TRIP

There are few adults, let alone young people who will get up and be ready for a day's work at 7:30 AM during a holiday, but that is just what 14 college students and five adults did December 29 and 30. The group did not travel far for this year's annual College Mission Trip, going north to Neal School in North Chicago where they painted the upper cafeteria, a hallway and stairwell.



The job took 2 days and 235 people hours using ten gallons of white paint, five gallons of primer and five gallons of blue paint. The transformation they achieved was incredible while sharing in the service Christ calls us to and the joy of catching up with each other.



On Monday after starting the morning off taping, Brian Short, Jonny Morgans and Donna Short tackled the hallway creating a bright connection between the upper and lower cafeterias (the lower was painted by First Church during the fall). The crew of Lauren, Connor, Bob Reaumont and David Blowers tackled the front and back stairwells leading into the space with vivid blue paint.

Inside the cafeteria Matt O'Neill, Mimi Jahp, Kim Glennon and Diane Fondriest transformed a brown brick wall into a bright white backdrop for more bright blue trim. Zach Stilts, Anna Shustitzky and Nelle McNicholas primed and painted the cafeteria trim while Matt Engel and Nick Glennon scaled the scaffolding to paint the beams and soffits.

The group hit the ground running on Tuesday to finish the job with the addition of Brooke Ousterhout. The toughest job was painting a metal grid along one wall that was eight feet in the air. Everyone worked on this throughout the project. Mitch Engel was phenomenal getting all the materials and logistics at the school organized so that the group was able to get right to work. Jim Mayhall provided great leadership and camaraderie as well as perfect painting tunes and Kristie Finley made sure the forms were filled out and everyone was fed and happy.

## Senior High Community Youth Group Progressive Dinner January 25

This wonderful opportunity brings the youth groups in the community together for food, fellowship and service. The evening will take place at First Church with **dinner at 7:00** after which we will make valentines and valentine bags for students in North Chicago & lunches for PADS. We will finish the evening with music & worship in the Sanctuary.



On Sunday **February 1** our Senior High Youth Group will be collecting donations of money and food after the 9:00 & 11:00 worship services. **The Souper Bowl of Caring** is a simple effort to "love the Lord our God ...and love our neighbors" by encouraging people to give one dollar each as they leave worship on Super Bowl Sunday. All funds and goods collected are designated to an agency that our Senior High Youth Group selects. The "Souper Bowl" not only began in a Senior High Youth Fellowship in South Carolina, it also enables young people to see that, by God's grace, they can make a difference in the world. So that our young people might learn, they are involved in the collection of funds and in the decision making as to where the funds are sent. Last year we shopped in small groups for a family using the experience to understand the difficulty a parent has in feeding their family on a limited budget. We then donated the food to the Shields Township Food Pantry. On Souper Bowl Sunday, ask the young person at the door with the large pot, how we are using our collection this year.

**Men's Fraternity** will meet for its second semester at 6:00 AM on **Thursday mornings** from January 15 – March 19 (ten weeks). Even if you did not attend the fall semester, it is never too late to join this great men's ministry. We finish by 7:00 am. for those who need to commute. For more information, contact Rev. Corey Nelson.

*Reserve Your Spot*

## LA TRATTORIA

COME  
AND  
ENJOY  
FOOD,  
FUN  
AND  
FELLOWSHIP WITH  
YOUR CHURCH  
COMMUNITY



SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 7, 2009

FROM 6:30-9:00 PM  
AT THE LAKE FOREST CLUB

**\$40 per person**

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

## Work Trip 2009 Chili Fundraiser!

This year the Senior High Work Trip Fundraiser will be tasty and warm for all. **We are selling Paul Finley's famous chili for Super Bowl Sunday consumption.** During the month of January the youth will be **taking chili orders between Sunday services.** The students will be cooking Saturday January 31 and pick up is at church after services on **Super Bowl Sunday February 1.** Four servings (48 ounces) is \$25. Enjoy the game by letting us make dinner! If you have questions or orders please contact Kristie at (847) 234-6250 or kfinley@firstchurchlf.org. **ALL PROCEEDS WILL HELP FUND WORK TRIP 2009.**

# PROMOTE GOD'S VISION

## Update on 750 N. Sheridan Road Property

At the October meeting of Session, an ad hoc committee was appointed to resolve the future of the 750 N. Sheridan Road property. Their task is to recommend a plan of action and accountability for the property to Session for approval. The scope of this task includes the residence, the garage, and the bath house. The scope does not include the cottage or carriage house, although impact to overall campus plans is to be considered. The committee is composed of representatives from relevant Session committees & staff members: the Long Range Planning & Governance committee (Beth Mynhier), Finance (Skip Heizer), Buildings & Grounds (Peter Keller), Personnel (Doug Valassis), the Treasurer (John Johnson), the Business Manager (Herb Smyers), and the Executive Director (Lynnette Hinch).

The committee has met several times and has reviewed all documents and analyses available from all committees since the purchase of the property in 2005. A number of committees - including Buildings & Grounds, Finance, and Long Range Planning & Governance - had done extensive work assessing the buildings and their usage.

Based on these reviews, the committee considered four options for use of the property: the residence to be used as a manse, the residence to be leased, the residence to be sold, or the residence to be demolished & property to be used as a parking lot. The committee has concluded that the best option to provide the church with maximum flexibility while maintaining fiscal responsibility is to use the property as the manse for the Pastor/Head of Staff.

At its December meeting, the Session approved a motion from the 750 N. Sheridan Road Ad Hoc Committee to take the necessary steps to explore the feasibility of using the property as a manse. The Committee is moving forward with the goal of finalizing this resolution by the end of the first quarter, 2009. Questions regarding this process may be addressed to any of the committee members via Lynnette Hinch at LHinch@firstchurchlf.org .

## HIGHLIGHTS of the December meeting of Session:

First Church will host the February Presbytery meeting at which Rita Fossell will be installed as moderator. **Volunteers are needed** to greet, check in, prepare treats, set the tables for supper, help with parking, guide visitors. Please contact Beth Mynhier ehmyn@aol.com or Lee Gantz lgglf@aol.com to let them know how you can volunteer on Tuesday, **February 10** between 2:00 & 7:00 PM!

Reverend Chakoian and Art Miller are coauthoring the book commemorating the 150th Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest. Christine is finding this exploration of First Church history fascinating.

An unrestricted bequest to First Church from beloved member Howard A. Stotler was gratefully received.

A motion was approved from the 750 North Sheridan Road Ad Hoc Committee to take needed steps to explore the feasibility of using the property as a manse.

Session agreed with a Personnel Committee recommendation to maintain two additional Associate Pastor positions, filling one as soon as possible (while keeping our financial situation in mind regarding the timing of the second). The Personnel Committee was given the decision-making responsibility for which position to fill first; the positions are Associate Pastor for Adult Faith Formation and Associate Pastor for Youth Faith Formation.

## Lunch Bunch

On Friday, **January 23**, Lunch Bunch will welcome member **Liz Bradner**, who spent last summer on a volunteer mission adventure to Costa Rica. Through a visual presentation, Liz will tell us of her work with the Presbyterian Church of Costa Rica at the Management Headquarters, while living with a host family. She still had time, however, to learn Spanish and do a lot of sightseeing! Come hear of this unique experience of service at noon in the South Parlor. Call Kerry at (847) 234-6250, ext 233 by Tuesday, January 20. Cost is \$5.00 at the door.



The annual Children's Choirs play entitled

### "It's O.K. to Be Different"

to be presented in worship on **February 22**, 2009.

Wednesday rehearsals for Cherub Choir (K & 1st grade) and Carol Choir (grades 2-6) began Wednesday, January 7, 4:00-4:45 p.m.

We will also offer a Sunday morning rehearsal from 10:15-10:45 a.m. beginning January 4 for all children in grades K - 6 who would like to participate in the play. Children who wish to have speaking parts or solos must attend the Wednesday rehearsals.

For more information contact Susan Noble or Jill Hunt.

## SCOUT SUNDAY

All boy and girl Scouts and their families are invited to worship on Sunday, **February 8** at the 9:00 service to celebrate the many contributions of young people and adults to Scouting in our community. The service will begin with a Scout processional. All Boy, Cub, Tiger, Venture, Girl, Daisy and Brownie Scouts and Leaders are asked to meet, in uniform, at 8:45 a.m. in the South Parlor. Scout Sunday patches will be given to participants by the church. Contact Beth Jones at bethfjones@comcast.net for more information.

## NEW TO FIRST CHURCH?

"Why should I join the First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest?"

"How do I join?"

"How does being a member change my spiritual experience in this community?"

These are good questions and deserve thoughtful response. Accepting the privilege and responsibility of membership in the church is first and foremost a commitment to Jesus Christ. Eligibility for membership is based on faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and acceptance of his Lordship in life.

One's baptism and public profession of faith in Jesus as Lord are the visible signs of entrance into active membership in his church. The congregation welcomes all persons who respond in trust and obedience to God's grace and desire to become part of the membership and ministry of the Church.

First Church will hold its next series of new member classes on **February 7** (8:30 a.m. to noon), **12** (7:00 to 9:00 p.m.) and **15** (10:30 a.m. to noon). If you would like more information on how you can express your faith through membership, contact any of the pastors. If you are interested in new member classes, contact Beth Gillies at egillies@firstchurchlf.org or (847) 234-6250.

We are grateful to each of the individuals and families listed here who, as of Tuesday, January 6, 2009 have expressed their support for the mission and ministries of First Presbyterian Church through their pledge for 2009. 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/stewardship](http://www.firstchurchlf.org/stewardship). Every gift makes a difference!

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Bill and Diane Allen, Jr  
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Edward Anderson  
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Bradford and Ailyn Tan  
Bruce and Patty Taubensee  
Kent and Christine Taubensee  
Shirley Taubensee  
John and Kim Taylor  
David Templin  
Wayne & Barbara Thomas, Jr  
Steve and Jane Thompson  
Tom and Nancy Thomson  
David and Tracy Tolmie  
Tom and Betty Toser  
Dick and Nadyne Tracy  
Carl and Darcy Traynor  
Bob and Mary Lou Troyer  
Mike and Patti Tucker  
Bert and Cathy Tucker, Jr  
Brian and Karen Uihlein  
Scott Vaile  
Doug and Laurie Vallasis  
Audrey Vanderaa  
Bill Vernon  
Doris Volpe  
Karen Vratimos  
Harris and Ann Walker  
Bob and Sharon Waller  
Barb Wang  
Jon and Margo Ward  
Kevin and Anne Warnke  
Gwen Wasmuth  
Mary Watanabe  
Tom and Wendy Watkins, III  
Gale Wayne  
Hank and Jolly Weil  
Mark and Carla Westcott  
Frank and Barb Westover  
Henry and Florence Wheeler  
Bill and Anne Whipple  
Mike and Sue Widner  
Guy Wilbor  
Jamie and Kristin Wildman  
Dick and Barbara Williams  
Sarah Wimmer  
Dewey and Anne Winebrenner  
Ralph and Elinor Winters  
Duane and Janet Wise  
Paul and Corinne Wood  
Art and Peggy Wood, Jr  
Gene and A.J. Woroch  
Jack and Mary Ellen Wright  
Bill Wright  
Susan Wright  
Carla Wyckoff  
Ann Young  
Bob and Vivian Zahniser  
Grey and Martha Zeeman  
Jan Zilka

## New to 2009 Stewardship: Fisherman's Fund Announced to Support New Pledges

*As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea -*

*for they were fishermen.*

*And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people."*

*Immediately they left their nets and followed him.*

Matthew 4: 18-20

The Fisherman's Fund is an endowment from anonymous donors available to match -- dollar for dollar--all new annual pledges to the 2009 Operating Budget from individuals up to a grand total of \$150,000!

- 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 2006 are considered new and are eligible to be matched
- Fisherman's Fund matching gift program expires on March 31, 2009
- If you have already submitted a new pledge for 2009, it will be matched by the Fisherman's Fund

**To ALL who have already submitted a pledge for 2009, we thank you for your continued generosity!**

If you wish to support this opportunity, please fill out a pledge card or you may also pledge online at [www.firstchurchlf.org/stewardship](http://www.firstchurchlf.org/stewardship)



2009 STEWARDSHIP



First Presbyterian  
Church of Lake Forest  
www.firstchurchlf.org

700 N. Sheridan Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045  
847-234-6250 fax 847-234-6283

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JANUARY 15, 2009

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO  
publish@firstchurchlf.org

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT  
9:00 & 11:00<sub>AM</sub>

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT  
9:00<sub>AM</sub>

SUNDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 1  
FIRST @ First Church  
Dinner @ 6:00 Worship @ 7:00<sub>PM</sub>

MINI RUMMAGE SALE:  
FEBRUARY 7 FROM 8:00<sub>AM</sub> - 2:00<sub>PM</sub>



MINI RUMMAGE SALE:  
FEBRUARY 7 FROM 8:00<sub>AM</sub> - 2:00<sub>PM</sub>

The Core Mission of  
First Presbyterian  
Church of Lake Forest

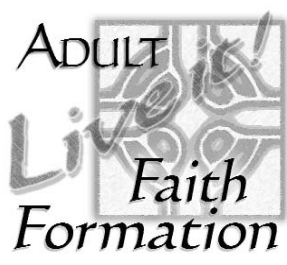
•  
PROCLAIM  
CHRIST'S  
MESSAGE

•  
PROVIDE A  
COMMUNITY  
OF SPIRITUAL  
NURTURE

•  
PROMOTE  
GOD'S VISION  
OF JUSTICE

### Presbyterian Women Valentine Outreach

All women of the church are invited to the South Parlor on Wednesday, **February 4, 2008** at 11:15 a.m. to share a meal and make valentines for our shut-in members and friends. A delicious soup and salad lunch will be served. Materials will be provided to inspire your enjoyment in making valentines that bring joy to so many. Contact Kerry Spera at the church (847) 234-6250 or kspera@firstchurchlf.org to reserve your seat.



### A Life of Faith: Spiritual Practices For The Journey The Annual Christine Vogel Lecture

The Stephen Ministry & the Adult Faith Formation Committee of First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest are pleased to announce a **Saturday workshop** given by Dr. Sue Hester, Ph.D. on **Spiritual Disciplines and Practices.**

*Please join us for this wonderful opportunity to learn about, and increase, our spiritual practices during the Lenten season.*  
**Suzanne J. Hester, Ph.D.** is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist who works with individuals of all ages. Sue holds a MA degree in Theology, a PhD in Clinical Psychology, both from Fuller Seminary, Pasadena CA, and is an adjunct instructor at Oakland Community College in Des Plaines. In addition to her clinical practice she also specializes in spiritual growth and enjoys presenting seminars and retreats.

- When:** Saturday, February 28, 2009, from 9:00-3:00<sub>PM</sub> (lunch included)
- Where:** First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest, Fellowship Hall
- Price:** \$7.00 per person, including morning coffee break and lunch.
- Registration:** Please pre-register for this event no later than Friday, February 20 by telephoning Kerry Spera at (847) 234-6250 or by email to kspera@firstchurchlf.org

