



March 1, 2010

Volume X, N°5

# Faith CONNECTIONS

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

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

*Let everything that has breath praise God*

**March 5, 2010**

**World Day of Prayer** is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together each year on the first Friday in March. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the 10:00AM prayer service on Friday, March 5, 2010. World Day of Prayer will be celebrated this year at St. Patrick Church, Lake Forest. The main church is located on Everett Road, east of Waukegan Road on the north side of the street. Coffee and refreshments will be served after the one hour service. The church is handicapped accessible and child care will be available by reservation in advance by calling (847) 615-9439.



Let Everything That Has Breath Praise God



THE ADULT FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE AND THE 150<sup>TH</sup> COMMITTEE PRESENT

THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS

CELEBRATING THE 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST

## Contemporary Presbyterianism Within the Context of World Christianity

By Dr. David Daniels III

David Daniels III is Professor of Church History at McCormick Theological Seminary, where he has been on the faculty since 1987. David received the Bachelor of Arts from Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, in 1976, majoring in religion and economics. In 1979 he obtained the Master of Divinity from Yale University. David earned a Ph.D. in Church History from Union Theological Seminary in New York in May, 1992.

David has been a member of the American Academy of Religion since 1989, the Society for the Study of Black Religion since 1993 and the Society for Pentecostal Studies since 1979. He is a member of the steering committee of the Evangelical Theology Group and Afro-American History Group of the American Academy of Religion. He is a member of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and Pentecostal International Dialogue. He has served as commissioner for the Faith and Order Commission of the National Council of Churches U.S.A. for the 1988-91 quadrennium and has participated on consultations sponsored by the National Council of Churches in the United States and the World Council of Churches in United States and Costa Rica.

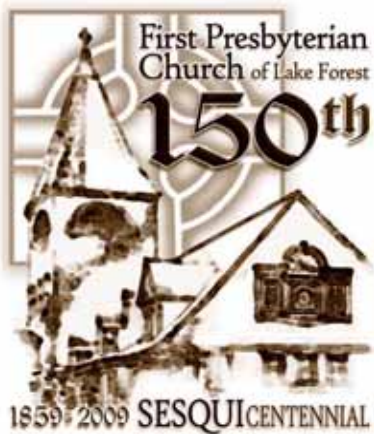
He is author of various articles on the history of Christianity and book reviews published in *Theological Education in Pneuma*, *Christian Century*, *Encyclopedia of African American Religions*, and *A Sourcebook for the Community of Religions*. David has lectured at various colleges and seminaries in the United States, including Northern Illinois University, Alma College, Adrian College, North Park University, Butler University, Lewis University, and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. He has also lectured at the Bossey Institute in Switzerland, the Spiritan International School of Theology in Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria, the Cheikh A. Diop University of Dakar, Dakar, Senegal, and Emmanuel College of Victoria University at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

David has been an ordained minister in the Church of God in Christ since 1980.

Please join us for the presentation on **March 21, 2010 at 7:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall

Following the first@five worship service & fellowship dinner





Pastor/Head of Staff...**Reverend Christine Chakoian**...[cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org)  
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Dear friends,

As I write this, Pastor Corey Nelson is on his way to Tanzania, East Africa. He and his wife Melissa Early are traveling with Dave Tolmie, his father Don, and others to the Faraja Primary School, a school for developmentally disabled children founded by the Tolmies. They will also visit a micro-finance project funded by Opportunity International. Along with HANDS in Egypt, these form our key partners in our congregation's newly launched Nile River Basin Initiative.

Just after Corey returns, I will be heading to Beirut for a meeting of the Lebanese American University board on which I represent the Presbyterian Church (USA). Our relationship with the school traces back to 1830 when missionaries founded it as one of the first girls' schools in the Ottoman Empire.

It is hardly just your pastoral staff involved in mission. In recent history, Jon and Sharon Bayer have been extraordinarily effective advocates for international outreach. They kept us connected to numerous mission workers that we supported in Egypt, Peru, Bosnia, and others. I encourage you to look at the mission page on our church's website, [www.firstchurchlf.org/mission](http://www.firstchurchlf.org/mission), for a directory of our many endeavors.

Global mission has always been a priority of our congregation. In our Sesquicentennial year, I have been reminded again and again of the passion and generosity of First Church toward the world. In 1873 Sarah Rhea, a widowed missionary to Persia was called here to establish the Presbyterian Women's Northwest Board of Foreign Missions. Her own daughter, Annie Rhea Wilson, followed her parents' footsteps back to Persia. Other "children of the church" also heard the call: Harriet Stroh served at the Nanking Language School, and Alfred Holt at the Canton Christian College. In addition to educational mission, for forty years our congregation sponsored Dr. and Mrs. Roy K. Smith as medical missionaries to Korea. Their son, the late Albert "Mac" Smith, returned to attend Lake Forest College and stayed as a beloved member of our community. Others contributed privately to mission causes. Nettie Fowler McCormick single-handedly funded the language school in Nanking, a building for a campus in Tehran, hospitals in Siam and Persia, a seminary in Korea. She also underwrote John R. Mott's Student Volunteer Movement, the catalyst for Alfred Holt's calling. Furloughed missionaries were such frequent visitors to her Chicago home that her children called it "a Christian half-way house between the Orient and the West."

In the midst of this season of Lent, it is good to be reminded that Christ died and rose not only for us, but because "God so loved the world." If we can be part of that love, the privilege is ours.

Blessings,

Reverend Christine Chakoian

## Sunday Worship

**SUNDAY, MARCH 7**  
**9:00 & 11:00AM Worship**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**

**SABBATH KEEPING**  
 Isaiah 55: 1-9

Reverend Christine Chakoian  
 Communion  
 Sanctuary Choir at 9:00 & 11:00

**first @ five**  
 @ 5:00 in the sanctuary  
 fellowship & dinner @ 6:00

Reverend Corey Nelson

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14**  
**9:00 & 11:00AM Worship**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**COMPASSION & JUSTICE**  
 Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

Reverend Christine Chakoian  
 Baptism  
 Eggs Benediction at 9:00 & 11:00

**first @ five**  
 @ 5:00 in the sanctuary  
 fellowship & dinner @ 6:00

Reverend Corey Nelson

## 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



MAKING  
SPACE  
TO  
EXPERIENCE  
GOD'S  
PRESENCE  
IN OUR  
DAILY LIVES

This year for **Lent**, the leadership of the church is encouraging members to **make space to experience God's presence in our lives.**

To help with this, you are encouraged to take a "spiritual inventory," a close look at the strengths and deficits of your personal spiritual practices. **But what are some spiritual practices or spiritual disciplines?**

**What practices help make space for experiencing God?**

The Office of Spiritual Formation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) says *"we cooperate with the work of the Spirit through certain practices that make us more open and responsive to the Spirit's touch, disciplines such as hospitality, prayer and contemplative silence, discernment, works of compassion & justice, sabbath keeping and worship."*

Using these categories, think through and write down what you currently practice and what you would like to begin practicing. Be generous and thorough, as we each live out our relationship with God in myriad ways.

**Hospitality**-the act of showing friendship

**Prayer and contemplative silence**- carving out a specific time to be silent and alone with God

**Discernment**- deliberately trying to figure out what God wants with your life

**Works of Compassion and Justice**- any act that opposes forces that hurt, oppress or alienate human life

**Sabbath Keeping**- deliberately resting as God has commanded

**Worship**- the attitude and acts of reverence to God

**WORSHIP AT 7:00AM FOLLOWED BY BREAKFAST AT 7:30. PLEASE JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY IN LENT.**

DATE	CLERGY	LAY	SPIRITUAL PRACTICE	BREAKFAST
March 3	Rev. Erik Dailey	Joe Burger	Discernment	Mary Farwell
March 10	Rev. Kent Kinney	Laura Carothers	Compassion	Carolyn Kinney
March 17	Dir. Kristie Finley	Anneliese Crawford	Sabbath Keeping	Carol Bubala
March 24	Rev. Corey Nelson	David McKee	Worship	Mia Spooner



**FAITH CONNECTIONS UPDATE**

*Faith Connections*, our bi-monthly newsletter, is an important communication tool between church and home. Recognizing the technical nature of our culture and in an effort to save costs and to be environmentally friendly, the church has distributed the newsletter by email for the last year. It is also available on name tag tables around the building and on the church website so you may view, read or print them out.

From our perspective, this first year has been a success. We would like to know if it has been successful for you. **Please share your thoughts and let us know if you have not been receiving the newsletter or do not have access to a computer.** Contact Donna Birney, Director of Congregational Care, at [dbirney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:dbirney@firstchurchlf.org) or (847) 234-6250. Thank you for helping us advance into the 21st century!

**NEWS FROM PRESBYTERY**

THE FOLLOWING REPORT COMES FROM RITA FOSSELL, FIRST CHURCH MEMBER AND CURRENT MODERATOR OF PRESBYTERY.

The December meeting of the Chicago Presbytery was at Second Presbyterian Church in Chicago which gave us some of our early members and the spotted stones in our building. It has a beautiful collection of art in need of restoration. It is a beautiful worship space. I preached at opening worship on angels who encourage us to "Fear not!"

Eleven recipients of Self-Development of People grants funded from One Great Hour of Sharing offered interesting insights. Four seminary students were examined about their call to ministry showing me that the future leadership of our church looks bright. The presbytery affirmed the union of two churches - First Presbyterian Church of Brookfield and North Riverside Community Presbyterian Church, merged into Christ Presbyterian Church of North Riverside. Another successful summer of camp ministry in Saugatuck, MI was celebrated.

A balanced budget was passed for 2010, with no increase in per capita. Authorization was given to sell the property housing offices. Camp Oversight and Development Work Group was particularly thanked for its efforts. Presbytery commissioners exited the meeting into a beautiful snowfall.



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

Nolan Foley, age 3, *"God gives me chocolate. My God. Special church. My church special for boys and mommies and daddies."*

# BLOOD DRIVE SPONSORED BY DEACONS

The spring blood drive, sponsored by the Board of Deacons and the American Red Cross will be held **Sunday, March 7**, beginning at 8:00AM until 1:00PM in Fellowship Hall. The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters (they sent 750 units of blood to Haiti earthquake victims as of February 3); supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families.

**The Red Cross depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission.**

Please sign up to donate blood by contacting Paul Bergmann at paul.bergmann@comcast.net or (847) 295-7957.

For more information about the need for blood, please visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

## Friendship Is Priceless

### The best prescription for loneliness is friendship.

For those who are homebound and have limited social contact, the perfect prescription can be a Friendly Visitor.

A new ministry opportunity, **the Friendly Visitor Program**, was initiated by the Board of Deacons this fall. Our Friendly Visitors make visits to older or shut-in members of our congregation in their homes or care centers, or to other residents in nursing care facilities.

The visits are social in nature. Friendly Visitors provide a friendly ear, just talk, play checkers, do crossword puzzles, read the newspaper, or reminisce. Visitation times are flexible. A mutually convenient time is set up between the senior and the visitor.

We have a growing number of congregational members who are homebound—those who cannot make it to worship or who would benefit from our support to let them know that they are remembered and loved. Do you have 30 minutes or an hour to share with a senior talking, listening, playing cards, reading a story, or writing a letter on a weekly or bi-monthly basis? Your smile can brighten a life.

Friendly Visitors receive a two-hour training session on listening, confidentiality, and other relevant topics. To participate in this ministry or to learn more, contact Carrie Ford at (847) 615-9166 or [bandcford@aol.com](mailto:bandcford@aol.com), Vandy Janson at (847) 234-1922 or [v.janson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:v.janson@sbcglobal.net) or Laura Sibley at (847) 615-9221 or [sibleylaura1948@yahoo.com](mailto:sibleylaura1948@yahoo.com).

## RUMMAGE TREASURE

Last fall several World War I uniforms belonging to Fayette Bronson were received in rummage. Recognizing the value of these uniforms (with Illinois National Guard emblems on the collars), rummage worker Steve MacFarlan sent the uniforms to the First Division Museum in Cantigny. The uniforms did not fit into their collection but were gratefully accepted by the National Guard Museum.

The note below was received recently:

*Dear Mr. MacFarlan,*

*I wanted to sincerely thank you for sending us Lieutenant Fayette Bronson's collection. It was a wonderful collection, and although it didn't fit into our collection at the First Division Museum, several other army museums were interested. The first to respond was Jonathan Bernstein, Director of the National Guard Museum. He was thrilled to accept the donation.*

*Thank you again for making sure the collection got to a good home!*

*Sincerely,*

*Carrie Gutierrez, Assistant Curator*

We are honored that the **First Presbyterian Church Preschool** has again chosen to host the **7th Annual Ryan Nyland Toy Drive** for its **2010 Outreach Project**.

Every year the toys are donated to the Children's Memorial Hospital (CMH) of Chicago.

It will be seven years June since the passing of our son Ryan and we feel blessed that the First Church Preschool gives us the opportunity to keep his memory alive by hosting the toy drive in his name. For Ryan, his 10 days at CMH was a lifetime, for many children at CMH, it is an essential daily or weekly visit or an indefinite stay. CMH continues to touch our lives and many other members of our community who have needed the services that CMH provides. Not a day goes by that we don't think of Ryan and CMH.

Beside the expert caregivers and staff, it is the children and families at CMH who continue to amaze us. Their hope is inspiring and their spirits just shine.

This year is a special year for our family as our son Nicholas is attending his first year of preschool at First Pres. Many of the teachers that were there for us seven years ago are his teachers now. We are privileged to have been a part of this preschool family for the past 10 years.

Please help us again in 2010 to continue to inspire hope for those that need it most. One of the most important gifts we can teach our children is the gift of giving. A small gesture, such as giving a toy to a child who is sick, can bring so much joy to both that child and our own children. It is in giving that we receive. God Bless!

Jay, Kim, Samantha, Katie & Nicholas Nyland

## IN MEMORIAM

*Anton R. "Tony" Hoffmann* died on February 15, 2010.

Mr. Hoffmann joined the church in 1951. He was a faithful member for over 58 years. He will be missed by his wife, Edna and his children Tonette Sazonoff and George Hoffmann. A graveside service was held in Chicago, IL on February 18, 2010, Reverend Kent Kinney officiating.

## BIRTHS

We welcome *Arlo Monroe Ritter*, born on January 9, 2010 to Todd Ritter and Kate Bandler of Sydney Australia. And we welcome *Adeline Mattea Ritter*, born on January 15, 2010 to Andrew and Katie Ritter of Chicago, IL. Proud grandparents are Tom and Mary Ritter.

We welcome *Levi Wesley Hunt*, born on February 2, 2010 to Brian and Rebecca Hunt in Colorado. He is joyfully welcomed by his grandmother, Jill Hunt.

## Encountering Jesus at the Cross - A Sunday School Journey for Lent

The Easter Story, more than any other, is the basis of the Christian faith - Jesus lived, suffered, and died for US, so that we might be forgiven and made right before God. We cannot shy away from sharing this central message with our children! The Easter message is not just "seasonal" but is the foundation for everything else we learn in Sunday School, church, and in Christian life.

On Sunday mornings in *Faith Adventure*, grade schoolers will explore in a variety of ways, hearing the story, watching excerpts from the Gospel of John, creating a cross to take home, and making "Pysanky" style eggs from Lithuania decorated with Christian symbols to remind us of the Easter message.

We also connect with others through our mission project, currently the "One Great Hour of Sharing." Children are invited to take home a fish bank and calendar - the calendar encourages your family to reflect on all the blessings we have in this country and to make donations to help people around the world with hunger relief and becoming self-sustaining. Return banks to the church on or near Palm Sunday.

Families can journey through Lent together by taking on a new spiritual discipline as a family. This can be something as simple as saying a new grace, bedtime prayers, reading a Bible story daily, sharing joys and concerns (or glads and sads) over the dinner table, participating in a service project, etc. If you are looking to make Easter more meaningful for your family, join us on Sunday, March 21 at 10:00AM for the next Family Faith Formation Gathering "*Taking Easter on the Road*," ideas for Easter celebrations that you can do at home, returning from Spring Break, or anywhere!

Contact [kfinley@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kfinley@firstchurchlf.org) or [apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org) for more information.

## WORK TRIP TALENT SHOW

Sunday, March 14 - 7:00PM  
in Fellowship Hall. Join us for our annual Work Trip Talent Show to **SUPPORT OUR 2010 WORK TRIP** to Lebanon Junction, KY.

The past few years have been filled with Talent! Come see our own Eggs Benediction perform and the ever popular advisors act. A love offering will be taken to help support the youth missionaries. **SEE YOU THERE!**



## Confirmation Retreat March 12-14

Our Confirmation Class is headed to Saugatuck, Michigan for the Presbytery of Chicago Confirmation Retreat. They will meet up with Confirmands from all over the Prebytery to learn and explore faith together. John Vest of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago will be the keynote speaker and our own Erik Dailey will be leading music. It will be a fun and formative time for all!

## Work Trip 2010 Lebanon Junction, Kentucky

Planning for Work Trip 2010 is upon us! We will be traveling to Lebanon Junction, Kentucky this year to work in the surrounding community. We are staying at **Camp Crescendo**, a Lion's Music Camp and will be traveling by van, so we need to get an accurate count in order to work out the details for transportation and accommodations. Please send an email to Erik if you plan to come ([edailey@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:edailey@firstchurchlf.org)). **There are 10 remaining opportunities to meet your Work Trip commitment** (which is 10). We also have our upcoming fundraisers: *Talent Show March 14, Set Up Sunday for Rummage on April 25 &/or clean up after the sale on May 1 as well as the Car Wash on May 22* (everyone needs to participate in these). We anticipate that if you sign up for work trip you will meet your attendance commitment. We will have an **informational meeting for parents on May 12 at 7:00PM** to provide the complete details.

**DEPARTURE: SUNDAY, JUNE 6**

**RETURN: SATURDAY, JUNE 12**

**COST: \$350.00**

Limited scholarships are available. Please contact ErikDailey.

(And Jesus said), "It is written that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations!"

Luke 24: 46-47

## MISSION PROJECT

This Lent, our children join the rest of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the One Great Hour of Sharing.

The money collected joins money from other churches and denominations to fund hunger programs, disaster assistance, and



programs that enable people around the world become self-sufficient.

Pick up a fish bank and a calendar & encourage your children to contribute daily!



## Journey #5 Meeting Jesus at the Cross

	Garden of Eden Room 212	Tent Tales Room 213	Thou Art Room 215	Holy-wood Room 216
Feb. 21	2nd grade	1st grade	3rd grade	4th grade
Mar. 7	3rd grade	2nd grade	4th grade	1st grade
Mar. 14	4th grade	3rd grade	1st grade	2nd grade
Mar. 21	1st grade	4th grade	2nd grade	3rd grade
Preschool Explorers...Rm 207		Kindergarten Explorers..Rm 219		
5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> gd worship ⇨ Youth Chapel		⇨ 5 <sup>th</sup> gd..Rm 011		
Confirmation ... worship ⇨ Rm 012		⇨ 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> gd..Youth Lounge		



**Exmoor Country Club April 17**

First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest has a strong history of raising funds for mission since its founding almost 150 years ago. This annual auction raises funds to support agencies that work energetically to promote social justice through local mission activities. The proceeds from this event benefit Lake County missions, including PADS, Soup Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity, Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake County, A Safe Place, The Haven and many others. During these challenging economic times, these organizations need our support more than ever.

**Get Involved.** You can contribute to this event not only by attending the auction and encouraging others to attend, but also by donating auction items and helping the Auction committee that is already busy organizing the event. The success of this event depends upon our church family.

*We hope you will consider your talents and treasures and help make the auction a success with your contribution.*

**DO YOU PAINT? SEW? GARDEN?**

**COOK? OR CREATE IN OTHER WAYS?**

*Your personal one of a kind gifts or services make ideal auction items*

**DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO HARD TO GET SPORTS TICKETS?**

*Blackhawks, Bears, Cubs, Sox, Bulls*

**DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE RESTAURANT THAT WILL DONATE A GIFT CERTIFICATE?**

**WILL YOU, & A FRIEND OR TWO, CREATE & SPONSOR A THEMED PARTY?**

**WILL YOU OFFER THE USE OF YOUR VACATION HOME?**

Please call or e-mail Carrie Ford (847) 615-9166 Bandcford@aol.com or Laura Sibley (847) 615-9221 Sibleylaura48@hotmail.com

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

**Do you have something unique or antique that could be part of the rummage auction?**

Please call.... Frances Swaine (847)735-1840  
 Laura Flynn (847) 295-4608  
 or Julie Stevenson (847) 615-8027

**All-Church Auction RESERVATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Auction Fellowship** (Hors d'oeuvres only) \$30 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**DINNER** Reservations are requested for \_\_\_\_\_ guest(s) at \$80 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Angel Package** \$100 Single/ \$200 Couple (Includes reservation and program recognition) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Archangel Package** \$250 Single/\$500 Couple (Includes reservation and program recognition) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friend of the Deacons** up to \$500 (donation only with program recognition) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Caring Partner** \$500+ Individual or Business Name (donation only with program recognition) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-purchase of DRINK tickets** ~ \$1/ea (tickets will be ready for you when you check in) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Approximate drink prices:  
 soda - \$3.00; beer - \$6.00; wine - \$9.00; mixed drink -\$10.00)

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check(s) payable to**  
 First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest  
 or **CREDIT CARD:** VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_\_\_

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder name/signature \_\_\_\_\_

(FOR PROGRAM RECOGNITION PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 1 THANK YOU )

**Seating will be pre-assigned;** (please circle one of the following):

- A) reserve a complete table (limit 10 people) to confirm this request, checks or charge for all guests must be received together
- B) request to be seated with others (less than a full table)
- C) "mix and mingle" and we'll seat you with others

We will do our best to accommodate all requests but seating limitations may require some flexibility Please provide the names, addresses and phone number for all guests in your group. Thank you!

NAME(S) & EMAIL (must be completed for all parties requested at same table) and PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH PAYMENT to Kerry Spera at kspera@firstchurchlf.org, (847) 234-6250

# What is an oratorio?

**An oratorio is an extended musical work of a sacred, non-liturgical, text.**

It is essentially an opera with no scenery, costumes, or staging; however, oratorios tend to have a stronger emphasis on the chorus than do operas. The genre originated in the informal meetings (called "spiritual exercises") of the Congregazione dell' Oratorio in Rome, which was founded by St. Filippo Neri in the 1550s. The musical dramas presented at the Oratorio usually reenacted specific Biblical scenes and dialogues in a musical settings.

From the mid-17th century through most of the 18th century, by far the most popular form of entertainment throughout Europe was the opera. This was true not only among the educated "elite," as has unfortunately become the case today, but rather, operas attracted huge audiences from all walks of life. Urban Italian culture and society at this time revolved around the opera houses, and the composers and singers of opera were the rock stars of the day (particularly the castrati, who, ironically enough, were truly considered sex symbols). However, under Papal Law, the opera houses were dark during Lent, as opera and other entertainments were prohibited. This situation is what led to the rise of the oratorio. Since these pieces were not staged, sacred in content, and performed in the church, they were acceptable during Lent, thus giving the public their opera fix during these forty days. The genre reached its peak in both style and popularity in England in the 18th century. During his lifetime, the master of this mature form of the genre was Handel, who turned to oratorio only after he simply couldn't get the Brits to buy into opera! Beginning with *Esther* in 1732, Handel would write no less than twenty five oratorios before his death in 1759. Of these, *Messiah* is the best known, though since this setting is purely biblical, non-dramatic text, it is a rather atypical example of Handel's oratorios.

After Handel, the only two significant composers of this genre were Franz Joseph Haydn, whose late oratorios *The Creation* and *The Seasons*, contributed to keeping the genre alive both in England and on the continent; and Felix Mendelssohn, whose three oratorios (including *Saint Paul* and *Elijah*; the third, *Christus*, was never completed) were also closely modeled after Handel's, but also pay tribute to the cantatas and the great passions of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Since Mendelssohn, the oratorio has remained a regularly performed genre, but only a handful of new works have been written. Several composers have each contributed one oratorio to the repertoire, including Berlioz, Liszt, Elgar, Schönberg, Honegger, Walton, Tippett, and even Paul McCartney. However, the vast majority of large-scale sacred choral works in the past 100 years have been on liturgical, rather than dramatic texts.

## Fostering a Healthy Home - Workplace - Community

CONNECTING WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY AND CO-WORKERS

Wednesday, March 24 6:00 - 8:30 PM

Fellowship Hall

Program Speaker: Nathan Eklund

Author and Senior Education Consultant with The Search Institute

Register for this **free workshop** by email:

[charmmd@charmmdfoundation.org](mailto:charmmd@charmmdfoundation.org)

Questions: Kristie Finley [kfinley@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kfinley@firstchurchlf.org)

## JUNIOR HIGH MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS NEEDED!

MUSICIANS NEEDED, OPEN TO GRADES 6, 7, AND 8, TO LEAD WORSHIP

FOR THE ANNUAL **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE** ON

**SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 9:00 AM.** AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING AND FIRST REHEARSAL WILL BE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 3:30 - 4:00 PM.

SUBSEQUENT REHEARSAL DAY/TIME WILL BE DECIDED AT THIS MEETING BUT WILL LIKELY BE WEEKLY ON MONDAYS OR TUESDAYS LATE AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING. FOR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT LESLEY BYERS, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MUSIC MINISTRIES, AT [lesleybyers@aol.com](mailto:lesleybyers@aol.com) OR (847) 736-1621.



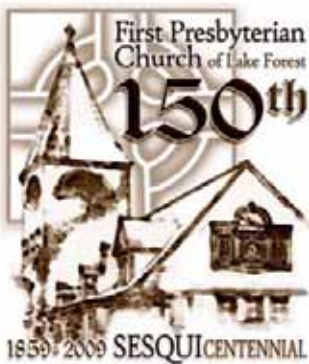
## Mountains beyond Mountains

Sermon available at

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

Reverend Corey Nelson  
Sermon February 14, 2010

Luke 9: 28-36



700 North Sheridan Road  
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045  
[www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org)

MARCH 1, 2010

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
AT  
9:00 & 11:00AM  
AND  
5:00PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
AT 9:00AM

## ENCOURAGE LEARNING FOR A LIFETIME

First Presbyterian Church

### PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

We are currently accepting applications for children ages 3-5 for the 2010-2011 school year.

Serving the area since 1963 with quality preschool programs at the First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest

700 N. Sheridan Road

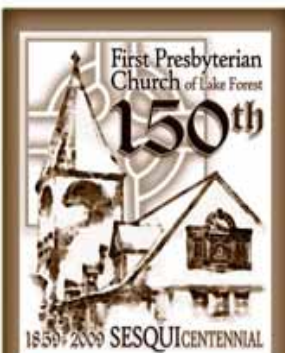
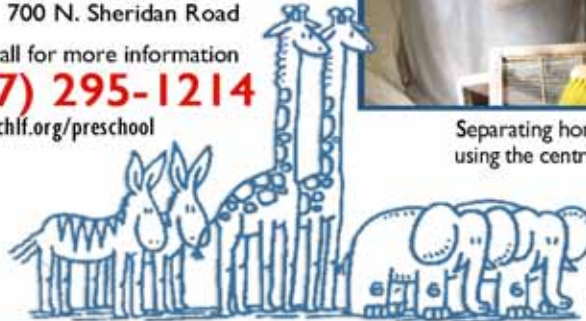
Please call for more information

**(847) 295-1214**

[firstchurchlf.org/preschool](http://firstchurchlf.org/preschool)



Separating honey from honeycomb using the centrifuge in the classroom



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

informal  
creative  
worship  
**first @ five**  
every Sunday @ 5:00PM  
**First Presbyterian  
Church of Lake Forest**  
700 N. Sheridan Rd  
upbeat  
acoustic  
music **847-234-6250**  
[www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org)

This service offers us an opportunity to worship together as a church family with a simple supper following.

*See you in church!*

## TIDBITS FROM ARCHIVES



From Bulletin of March 4, 1951 -  
On March 14 the Women's Association will hostess women of the Baptist and Episcopal churches. Members of these churches and near Eastern students from Lake Forest College will present a panorama of the Near East. The Pastor will speak on Islam. Special guests, students...will give first hand accounts of their life in Iran, Iraq and Egypt.