



# First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest

847-234-6250 fax 847-234-6283



# Faith CONNECTIONS

700 N. Sheridan Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045  
www.firstchurchlf.org

Volume XII, N<sup>o</sup>. 2 January 15, 2012

## Promises, Promises

### Sermon Series

January 8 - February 12, 2012

As many of us make New Year's resolutions – which we often break as soon as they're made – we're reminded that God's promises to us are sure.

In worship & in small group study, this series will explore the covenantal promises God has made with us, as well as our promises to God in response.

January 8  
*Renewing the Covenant of Baptism*  
(Matthew 3: 1-6, 11-17)

January 15  
*God's Covenant with Abraham*  
(Genesis 12: 1-3 & 17:1-7, 10-11)

January 22  
*God's Covenant with the People at Sinai*  
(Guest preacher: Rabbi Evan Moffic)

January 29  
*God's Covenant through Christ*  
(Matthew 16:13-23,  
Acts 2:1-21, selected verses)

February 5  
*God's Covenant Constantly Renewed*  
(Luke 22:1-34)

February 12  
*God's Covenant with the World*  
(The Technicolor Promise - Children's Choirs)

Sunday Worship is at 9:00, 11:00AM and 5:00PM in the sanctuary



You are invited to a **PULPIT EXCHANGE**  
Friday, January 20 and Sunday, January 22

Reverend **Christine Chakoian** will preach at the Shabbat service at Congregation Solel on Friday, January 20 at 7:30pm

**Rabbi Evan Moffic** of Congregation Solel will preach at First Presbyterian on Sunday, January 22 at 9:00 & 11:00am services on

## God's Covenant with the People at Sinai

This exchange is an outgrowth of our congregation's shared experiences of Passover in 2010 at First Pres and of Seder in 2011 at Congregation Solel.





Dear friends,

I don't know how it is for you, but I approach the beginning of the new year with just a little dread. I'm always making New Year's resolutions ... but I'm keenly aware that my bad habits are stubborn, and my best intentions weak. How do we keep these promises?

This year, instead of starting with our promises, we're starting out with God's promises.

As the Sunday School classes are learning, "the long-ago people in the Bible knew that God had promised to be with them always. So they promised to remember God's love." We started January 8 with the story of Jesus' baptism in the wilderness and the renewal of our own baptismal vows. Next we moved to God's covenant with Abraham, and the new identity and purpose that came to Abraham's life.

This Sunday, January 22, we have the special opportunity of exploring God's covenant through the eyes of Rabbi Evan Moffic, leader of Congregation Sol El in Northbrook. Rabbi Moffic will preach that morning, while I have the privilege of speaking to his congregation at Shabbat service on Friday evening.

Then, on January 29, we will consider what it means to be a covenant people here in our church: for in addition to our individual covenant with God, we covenant together as the Body of Christ. It is an appropriate theme for morning worship, since our Annual Meeting will take place that day between services in the sanctuary.

In the news we're always hearing about leaders' broken promises. Isn't it refreshing to hear about the unbroken promises of God?

Every Blessing,

*Christine Chakoian*

Reverend Christine Chakoian

## NEW MEMBER CLASS

**Sunday, February 5, 12, 26** 10:00 – Noon, in the Parlor

If you are interested in confirming your relationship with First Pres through active membership or are just curious about what it means to be part of a church, please come. Contact Donna Birney if you are planning to attend or have questions at [dbirney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:dbirney@firstchurchlf.org) or 847.234.6250.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff ... Rev. Christine Chakoian ... [cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org)  
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 Assistant Pastor for Pastoral Care ... Rev. Kent Kinney ... [kkinney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kkinney@firstchurchlf.org)  
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 Dir. of Youth Music ... Lesley Byers ... [LesleyPByers@aol.com](mailto:LesleyPByers@aol.com)  
 Dir. of Children's Choirs ... Susan Noble ... [sbnoble@comcast.net](mailto:sbnoble@comcast.net)  
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 Dir. of Congregational Care ... Donna Birney ... [dbirney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:dbirney@firstchurchlf.org)  
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 Mario Albert Espot ... Custodian

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### Sunday Worship

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**  
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian  
Genesis 12:1-3 & 17:1-7, 10-11  
God's covenant with Abraham

**first@five** at 5:00PM with dinner  
Reverend Corey Nelson with  
music by Leslie Byers and Owen Marks

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 22**  
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

#### Pulpit Exchange

Guest Preacher: Rabbi Moffic  
God's covenant with the people at Sinai

**first@five** at 5:00PM with dinner  
Reverend Corey Nelson with  
music by Leslie Byers and Owen Marks

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29**  
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

Reverend Christine Chakoian  
Mt 16:13-23,  
Acts 2:1-21 selected verses

**Annual Meeting of the  
Congregation at 10:00**

**Faith Connections**  
is published bimonthly  
for members & 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.

**CHURCH OFFICE** 847-234-6250  
**HOURS:** Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00PM

# RUMMAGE FURNITURE SALE

Sunday February 5

10:00<sup>AM</sup> – 1:00<sup>PM</sup>

IN THE RUMMAGE STORAGE AREA UNDER  
THE SANCTUARY  
(OUTSIDE OF FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Our donations are overflowing and we need your help to relieve our storage needs! Congregation members, friends and family are encouraged to stop in after or before worship. There will be sofas, bedroom sets, occasional chairs, and much more. Credit cards will be accepted. Come to find that perfect piece to complete your room! For further information contact Liz Bradner at ebradner4@gmail.com

## LUNCH BUNCH 10

offers a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, learning and a delicious lunch

on **Friday, January 27**  
at **noon** in the Parlor.

Church members, *Karil Curran, William Curran, Rita Fossell, Corey Nelson*, who traveled to Tanzania in October, will share their pictures and stories of how the trip transformed them. This church sponsored trip was led by Reverends Corey Nelson and Amy Pagliarella. For all of us who are unable to make such a trip, this not-to-be-missed experience will bring the Faraja School, Medical Center and Opportunity International alive! Cost for lunch is \$6.00. Reservations are requested by calling Kerry Spera at the church, 847.234.6250 by Tuesday, January 24. See you there!



# Americans are living longer, and that is good news.



*The flip side of this blessing is that  
we are coping with more  
chronic illnesses that must be  
managed for longer periods of time.*

## Come join in the conversation about How to Cope with Chronic Illness

as presented by the **Reverend Emily Rosencrans**,



Chaplain & Manager of Pastoral Care,  
Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital  
at our **STEPHEN MINISTRY  
CONTINUING EDUCATION**  
program on

**Saturday, January 28**

in the Parlor at 10:00<sup>AM</sup> for coffee and fellowship,  
with the discussion to follow from 10:30-11:30<sup>AM</sup>

## Sunday Morning Bible Study with Ellen Hyndman

Ellen Hyndman's Bible Study Group announces a book study beginning in February on the Holy Spirit using *The Promise of the Spirit* by the Scottish theologian, William Barclay. Each week we will read and discuss a chapter from this short book. Class members will take turns leading discussion.

Date	Chapter
FEBRUARY 5	1: "MEN OF THE SPIRIT" – INTRODUCTION AND OT
FEBRUARY 12	2: "THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE FIRST THREE GOSPELS"
FEBRUARY 19	3: "THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE FOURTH GOSPEL"
FEBRUARY 26	4: "THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE EXPANDING CHURCH"
MARCH 4	5: "THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LETTERS OF PAUL" – PART I
MARCH 11	5: "THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LETTERS OF PAUL" - PART II
MARCH 18	6: "THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE AND THOUGHT OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH"
MARCH 25	7: "THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH TODAY"

Class meets 10:10 – 11:00<sup>AM</sup> every Sunday. *The Promise of the Spirit* by William Barclay, Westminster John Knox Press ([www.wjkbooks.com](http://www.wjkbooks.com)), 2001, is available from:

- Amazon.com ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)) on-line for \$15.00 (paperback, no Kindle)
- Barnes & Noble ([www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)) in-store (better check before you go) or on-line for \$15.00 (paperback, no Nook)
- Cokesbury ([www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com)) on-line for \$9.75 (paperback)
- Christian Book Distributors ([www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com)) on-line for \$3.69 (paperback)

The book can be reviewed by any interested on Amazon.com. Before ordering on your own, please let us know, however, as we may have already pre-ordered extra copies from the CBD at the lowest price above.

Send any questions to Spike and Elaine Paul at [fratedoc@comcast.net](mailto:fratedoc@comcast.net).

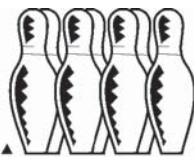


The Confirmation Class will be going on a retreat January 27-29 to Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva, WI. The two fold goal of this time together is to have fun and strengthen relationships among the youth and to explore, experience and articulate the emotional and spiritual sides of faith that we have been learning about each Sunday.

If you have an interest in walking alongside these students in their faith journey, we could use your help as a retreat chaperone! If interested, please contact Nick at [redmond@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:redmond@firstchurchlf.org) or 847-234-6250.



## Work Trip Bowl-A-Thon



The Senior High Youth are collecting pledges for this year's Bowl-a-Thon to raise needed funds for this year's work trip to Roscommon County, Michigan. On January 22 the Youth are headed to the Brunswick Zone in Vernon Hills to show off their skills, have some fun and raise money. Pledges are based on the averaged score (estimated at about 100) for all the bowlers participating. You can pledge a penny per pin or \$100 per pin. It's up to you. The better they bowl, the more money they raise. Pledge cards are in the Sunday bulletins and available on the table outside the front office; please return pledges to Sarah Seccombe. Youth will also be looking for individual pledgers who will support their personal score. Your support of the 2011 Bowl-a-thon for last year's Work Trip to Camp Wonderland, Missouri was a huge success! Thank you for your support of this youth mission opportunity!

## BIRTHS

We welcome *Grace Ann Vignocchi*, born on December 25, 2011 to Megan and Bill Vignocchi. She joins her sister Kate and brother William.

We welcome *Frank Angus Carris*, born on December 29, 2011 to Kimberly and Jim Carris. She joins her sisters Christina and Alexandra.

We welcome *Abigail Ray Wells*, born on January 5, 2012 to Amy and Andrew Wells. She joins her brother Thomas.

## IN MEMORIAM

*Bernard M. "Bub" Prais* died on December 26, 2011. Mr. Prais was a lifelong Lake Forester and was a police officer in Lake Forest for over 30 years. He will be missed by his children and their families Cheryl (Vincent) Piat, Cynthia (Stephen) Dietz and Robert Prais. A funeral service was held in the sanctuary on December 30, 2011, Reverend Kent Kinney officiating.

## ...Don't miss our February STEPHEN MINISTRY Continuing Education

presentation on **Saturday, February 4.**

In Stephen Ministry training we learn what "active listening" looks like: things like how to let go of assumptions and the desire to fix things; or how to keep our mouths closed & our hearts open.



*But how do we grow in empathic listening?*

**Reverend Christine Chakoian** will offer a

workshop on **"Listening 2.0: The Art of**

**Listening to What Isn't Said."**

Join us in the Parlor for coffee and fellowship at 10:00AM, workshop follows from 10:30- 11:30AM.

## College Ministries

Dr. Michael Emerson, co-author of *Divided by Faith and United by Faith* will speak on Ephesians 6:12 on the topic **"How Race Works, and Why it Matters for the Church"** on **February 2, 11:00AM** at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Jennifer Aycock, our college intern, has invited **all who are interested to this free and open public event.** For further details, contact Jennifer at 312.560.7454.

On December 3, 2011, First Presbyterian Church hosted its first **Leadership Workshop** for 14 members of **Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity at Lake Forest College.** Congregant, leadership consultant, and First Presbyterian Church Preschool Board President Allyson Wells facilitated the two hour interactive module while students nibbled away at a lunch provided through the Faith for Foresters College Ministry. Darcy Traynor, College Ministries Intern Jennifer Aycock, and Elmer Rosales provided a welcoming atmosphere for students in the Parish House and Rev. Corey Nelson assisted with technical support. APO President Leah Frenette commented on the success of the workshop saying, "On the walk back to campus, everyone was chattering about how great the workshop was and how much they enjoyed Allyson's facilitation. I definitely think this is something that we should continue in the future!" Two more workshops will be offered during the Spring 2012 semester!

# New Members picture below were welcomed into membership on October 30, 2011

They bring a commitment to our church community.  
We are grateful for the wide array of gifts they bring to the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

**Jim Kingsley** is following God's plan. He enjoys helping others and working to make the world a better place, having fun all along the way. Jim states, "I believe God pointed me in the direction (of this church) and then it was the great people and feeling of community at FPC that made it the obvious choice."

Alison enjoys the opportunity to encourage kindness, promote learning and celebrate individual differences in her life as a parent and a school psychologist. She believes she was called here by God to take the next step in her faith journey.

Molly enjoys helping people and making everyone feel welcome and secure that someone will always be there for them. She enjoys art and plays guitar and joined First Pres with her parent's encouragement. Sons Michael and Bryan are students at Deerpath Middle School.



**Mary DeBoer** considers nursing her life's work. She enjoys handicrafts, cooking and baking. A resident of Lake Forest, Mary has attended First Pres many times over the years. She is transferring her membership from Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago. Her friends and her proximity to First Church have drawn her to membership.

**Neil and Elizabeth Holland** and son Evan have been part of the life of First Pres for several years. Their life work is bringing life-saving medical technologies that diagnose and treat diseases earlier and more effectively into clinical practice, doing their part to help create a healthier, safer and more affordable health care system with access for all. The family enjoys outdoor activities especially hiking. "There is nothing quite like reaching the summit of a mountain together, enjoying the accomplishment and God's spectacular world before us." The family is pleased to be taking this next step in their commitment.



**Marguerite Marshall's** life work is relationships which she has lived out as a preschool teacher then a counselor and therapist in hospitals, working with all ages, the disenfranchised, alcoholic family systems in both inpatient and outpatient settings. She enjoys her grandchildren and watching them grow. Her need for community and love of God have drawn her to First Pres.

**Megan Vignocchi** enjoys being a stay-at-home mom to three children (third child, Grace Anne was born on December 25.) Family takes up most of her time and she enjoys her work as a Cub Scout leader and room mother. She started visiting First Pres earlier this year and immediately felt "at home." Megan's husband is Bill and her children are William (7) and Kate (4).





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

**First Presbyterian  
 Church of Lake Forest**  
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**Bid for  
 Better Lives**  
 All Church Auction

First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest has a strong history of raising funds for mission since its founding 151 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 others. During these challenging economic times, these organizations need our support more than ever.

Exmoor Country Club **April 21** WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

**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](mailto:Bandcford@aol.com)  
 or Laura Sibley (847) 615-9221 [Sibleylaura48@hotmail.com](mailto:Sibleylaura48@hotmail.com)

**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