



700 N. Sheridan Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045  
[www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org)

January 1, 2012

## FAMILIES WELCOMED BACK

Families are welcomed back to worship and Sunday School early in the New Year, as children are welcomed into worship for the Renewal of Baptismal Vows on January 8, and a Sunday School special event on January 15. Our **Open House**



on **Sunday, January 22** is a chance for families to visit the Sunday School, see what their children are creating, and to get excited about a new year of Sunday School. We hope all families will join in worship at 9:00am and then enjoy visiting the classrooms with their children immediately following. Join us for this mini "Rally Sunday" in 2012.

## SERVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AT SOUP KITCHEN

This month's Soup Kitchen will be held on Friday, January 20 at Holy Family Church in Waukegan. Last month we served 117 meals. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the church office if you would be willing to donate food for January 20. If you would like to help serve the food, from 4:30 to 7:00pm, please indicate that on the sign-up sheet, or call Deacon Fred Block at 312.656.5682 or [FBlock@BlockRealty.net](mailto:FBlock@BlockRealty.net).



## FIRST PRES PRESCHOOL LOOKS FORWARD TO HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2012 is just beginning, and so it may seem premature to be thinking about next September - but parents of young children are already thinking ahead to pre school. Local schools are gearing up for next year's enrollment, and First Presbyterian's own preschool is accepting priority registrations for the 2012-13 school year, now through January 13.

The church introduced a variety of new options this past year, including a class for "almost 3s" so that two-year olds could enjoy the social skill-building and learning that a preschool environment offers. Pre School parent Emily Savage, whose older son "graduated" from First Pres last year, was excited to take advantage of this new program.

"We have been just thrilled with our son's participation in the Explorers program this year!" Emily says. "It has been such a great opportunity to slowly transition him into an educational and social setting with his peers. We just love the high teacher-student ratio, and the teachers are all so loving, caring and nurturing to their class. He is always excited to go!"

Classes for older children now include an optional extra day, offering parents greater flexibility to choose the number of days appropriate for their family.

The pre school will offer even greater options next year. While our Odyssey class has long been recognized as the ideal program for those who are nearly ready for kindergarten (children who turn 5 just a little too late to meet the cut-off), now our Expedition class will fill a similar role for those who intend to go to kindergarten the following year.



**EXPLORER**  
 2 day class  
 Children must be 3 by 12/31/12  
 Meets T/TH 9:00am - 11:30am

**DISCOVERY**  
 3 day class  
 Children must be 3 by 9/1/12  
 Meets M/W/F 9:00am - 11:30am

**EXPEDITION**  
 4 day class  
 Children must be 4 by 9/1/12  
 Meets M/T/W/TH 12:15pm - 2:45pm

**ADVENTURE**  
 3 day class with optional 4th day on Tuesday  
 Children must be 4 by 12/31/12  
 Meets M/W/TH or  
 M/T/W/TH 9:00am - 11:30am

**ODYSSEY**  
 4 day class with optional 5th day on Friday.  
 Meets M/T/W/TH or M/T/W/TH/F 12:15pm - 2:45pm M-TH, 9:00am - 11:30am Friday

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## COPING WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS

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.



Everyone is invited to come and join in the conversation about how to cope with chronic illness as presented by the Reverend Emily Rosencrans, Chaplain and Manager of Pastoral Care, Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital on Saturday, January 28. We meet in the South Parlor at 10AM for coffee and fellowship, with the discussion to follow from 10:30-11:30AM. Sponsored by Stephen Ministry.

## FIRST PRES PRESCHOOL LOOKS FORWARD TO HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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Pre school director Ruth Luke has a clear vision for the pre school - one that prepares the children for kindergarten and for a lifetime of learning, while also laying the foundation for faithful Christian living.

"The faith building is one of many things that sets our pre school apart," says Reverend Amy Pagliarella, Associate Pastor for Children's Faith Formation. The children look forward to faith building lessons with Mrs. Luke every week, where they hear about the Bible stories, sing Christian songs, and get comfortable in church. "Many times, a pre schooler's excitement about being in church leads the entire family to reconnect with us!"

The pre school is also recognized as a leader in early childhood education and as one of just a few local schools with NAYEC accreditation (National Association for the Education of Young Children). Amy reports that parents often tell her what a great foundation their children received here. "Teachers in the local grade schools say to them, 'you can always tell the children who come from First Pres Pre School - they're the ones best prepared for kindergarten.'"

We are excited that the pre school's flexible and exceptional programs will allow more local families to benefit from being a part of the community. Priority registration is available until January 13 for currently enrolled students, siblings of previous students and First Pres church members.

Registration for all interested families is open now, and forms are available at the church or on-line at: <http://firstchurchlf.org/preschool>. Please contact Lisa Cervieri at [lisacervieri@me.com](mailto:lisacervieri@me.com) for details.

Take Advantage of Early Bird Registration Fee of \$145.00! Fee will increase to \$195 on January 16, 2012.

## 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

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

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

Class meets from 10:10 - 11:00am 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).



## Scouts: Join God and Me at First Pres!

How do we talk with God? How does the Bible help us? These questions and more will be addressed in the upcoming *God and Me* program for Boy Scouts in grades 1-3. The class will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest, Sundays January 8-29, immediately following worship (10:15-11:15am).

Scouts participate alongside a parent, where possible. Scouting requires that each participant use a purchased curriculum (visit [praypub.org](http://praypub.org) to view); Scouts who meet all the requirements will receive their *God and Me* emblem on Scout Sunday (February 5) or can choose to be recognized in their home church.

With questions or to register, please contact Reverend Amy Pagliarella at [apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org) or 847-234-6250.

## GIVING TREE "GIFTS" 285 CHILDREN

On December 11, eight 5th graders spent the afternoon shopping for gifts for children from this year's Giving Tree that they helped set up in November. After sharing in a meal and conversation together at Portillo's, the group took the remaining cards from the tree and scoured the shelves of Target to find the right gift for each child.

"Is this the only gift they are going to get?" "Why do some kids not get any gifts?" "Don't they have someone in their lives who will be buying them gifts?" These were some of the questions the 5th graders thoughtfully asked as they struggled to imagine what it would be like to not have a plentiful Christmas. In the midst of these questions, the youth became excited as they realized the toys, clothes, dolls, and sporting equipment that they were purchasing would bring joy to many children.

In all, the 5th graders bought presents for 66 children in Lake County and Chicago.



Paige Speed and Andrew Fluri put up the tree.



Sam Schneider finds the toys



Mary and Cassie King with a full load!