



First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest
www.firstchurchlf.org

700 N. Sheridan Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045

847.234.6250 fax 847.234.6283

July 15, 2007
Volume VII, N^o 14

Faith CONNECTIONS

Summer Sabbath Series

Family friendly worship
occurs every Sunday
at 10:00AM

We are all together at one service

Parents and children
get to worship together...
(Sunday school through 4th grade)...

Casual dress code

SPECIAL SUNDAYS COMING:

July 15

Sabbath in Hymn

Reverend Chakoian & the Stephen Singers

July 22

Sabbath in Family

Reverend Day and Soloist

July 29

Sabbath in Spiritual Disciplines

Reverend Christine Chakoian and
Lesley Byers & the Jazz Cats

August 5

Sabbath in Sacrament

Reverend Karen Chakoian
(Christine's sister) & the Arden family

Sabbath Series TO FEATURE Jazz

Reverend Christine Chakoian and ur own Director of Youth Music Ministry, Lesley Byers and her band, will be leading worship with our first jazz service on **Sunday, July 29** at 10:00AM.



The musical tradition is about the task of giving voice to the hopes, dreams, frustrations and pain that expresses human experience. Jazz is the musical incense that collects and carries the prayers of a people. Byers and her group hope to bring this alive by blending traditional hymns and contemporary songs with the flare and emotion of jazz.

Jazz music in the church is not new. Duke Ellington arranged Psalm 150 for a jazz orchestra in his Second Sacred Concert at New York's Church of St. John. Dave Brubeck, Wynton Marsalis, and Pat Metheny are among this decade's proponents of religious music within a jazz context. And churches across the country are experiencing jazz services through the music of the Jazz Vespers.

Chicago native Lesley Byers has been singing professionally for over 25 years and has been a part of the national jazz scene for twelve years, playing top venues and receiving high acclaim from critics, musicians and fans. Her music has been called, 'Rosemary Clooney meets Bette Midler,' with a repertoire including smooth and swingin' jazz classics and standards sprinkled with a little hometown blues.

All About Jazz wrote, "...a more straight-ahead brand of jazz that's as well-crafted as it is pleasurable." Cadence Magazine wrote, "...Byers has a timeless vocal sound, alternately seductive and innocent. She could easily be slotted next to Chris Connor, June Christy or Rosemary Clooney. Her energy and coolness are impeccable. Class and hipness work in equal measure here with marvelous results."

Byers performs regularly throughout the city and suburbs at clubs, festivals and special events. Byers' sound reflects the old school style of delivering standards. She is deeply rooted in the ways of the masters and always true to the melody as written.

Holy Outrageous Goals

RECOGNIZING THE POWER OF CHRIST TO TRANSFORM LIVES



THE CORE MISSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE... *Double worship attendance by June 2009*
PROVIDE A COMMUNITY OF SPIRITUAL NURTURE... *Double participation in small groups*
PROMOTE GOD'S VISION OF JUSTICE... *Development with new Associate Pastor for Mission*

Dear friends,

If you've ever tried to find your way in the dead of night without the lights on, you know the consequences. Toes can get stubbed, curses may fly, obstacles in the way may get broken. Most of us quickly learn the habit of turning on the light.



"*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path,*" the Psalmist writes about Scripture. But the fact is that few of us ever turn on the light: maybe we've forgotten where the switch is ... or we don't think we need to see ... or we don't know how to use the lamp. So we stumble through life in the dark, unnecessarily tripping over things we could have seen coming.

I aim to change that. Beginning September 9 our worship for the next year will walk us through the stories of Scripture, how they fit together, and – most important – what they mean for us today. For now, "*Stories We Can't Live Without: Proclaiming Christ's Message Today*" is my working title for the series as a whole. We will start with Genesis 1 and work our way through to Revelation.

How will we tackle this much? First, this sweep will be broken into smaller, manageable segments. Second, much of the Bible – especially the Old Testament – will be looked at in a large overview. We won't attempt to read every last word. Third, we won't try to tackle everything in an hour on Sunday morning. Patrick Day is developing resources for personal study – in small groups, private devotions, Web-downloads, even family-dinner-table tools – so that everyone has a chance to connect with the stories on a deeper level.

I am so excited about this, I can't begin to tell you. I hope you'll be enlightened by it too!

Every blessing, *Christine Chakoian*



Small Group Opportunities

These are our stories, stories from the Bible that we may have heard 1,000 times, may have heard once a long time ago, or may have never heard before. But they are ours! They are stories that inform our faith, give us greater understanding of who God is, and how God has worked in this world and in our lives.

They are God's stories but they are also our stories. Each of us comes with our own stories, stories that have informed our faith, given us greater understanding of who God is, or maybe even led us to ask more questions about how God works in this world.

Regardless of where you are in your journey, I want to encourage you to join a **small group** this fall. It will be an opportunity to discover things about God that you may have never known. It will also be a chance for you to discover things about yourself that you may have never known. You will have a chance to build relationships with others in this congregation on a deeper level. Does that sound scary? Well, maybe that means you should try it!

Small group leaders are currently being invited into this new ministry. Training for leaders will occur in late August. A small group kick-off event will take place early September, with group meetings beginning mid-September. If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Day, pday@firstchurchlf.org, or 847/234-6250 x 224. Official registration will begin later this summer.



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SUNDAY, JULY 15

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Worship

Sabbath in Hymn Singing
Reverend Christine Chakoian

Lectionary: Amos 7: 7-17

Psalm 82

Colossians 1: 1-4

Luke 10: 25-378

SUNDAY, JULY 22

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Worship

Sabbath in Family
Reverend Patrick Day

Lectionary: Amos 8: 1-12

Psalm 52

Colossians 1: 15- 28

Luke 10: 38-42

SUNDAY, JULY 29

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Worship

Sabbath in Spiritual Disciplines
Reverend Christine Chakoian

Lectionary: Hosea 1: 2-10

Psalm 85

Colossians 2: 6-15

Luke 11: 1-13

IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Christine Chakoian

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Associate Executive Pastor

Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey

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Associate Pastor Rev. Patrick Day

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Children's Ministry Donna Birney

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Director of Music/Organist Jill Hunt

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Director of Sanctuary Choir Thomas Tropp Jr.

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Director of Children's Choirs Elizabeth Weismehl

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Director of Youth Music Ministry Lesley Byers

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Church Business Manager Herb Smyers

hsmyers@firstchurchlf.org

Church website www.firstchurchlf.org

PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE

MISSION OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILIES

First Church welcomes seven members of the **Jiangsu Provincial Christian Council** (Nanjing area, Jiangsu Province) for a three-day stay here in Lake Forest in August.

We are in need of mission partners who are bilingual in Chinese/English, as well as people who could help out with transportation needs, meals and housing.

The group will be interested in seeing some Chicago sites (museum, baseball game, etc.) but will also love to experience the simpler pleasures of an American summer: a backyard BBQ or a trip to the beach.

The Chinese delegation will be here from the evening of August 8 through the morning of August 11. If you are intrigued by this opportunity to share Christ's love, contact Jon Bayer at (847) 735-0615.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Ann Roberts,
Stephen Minister
on
Ann Roberts,
Care Receiver



A few weeks ago, I attended the ordination of our Chaplain at Lake Forest Place as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church in a two hour service at St. James Cathedral. I had ample time to reflect on Stephen, that old faith warrior, first Deacon and first Martyr, for whom we Stephen ministers are named. His is the ancient and honorable role to which we have been called, that of caring for those who are in emotional pain.

I really enjoy being a Stephen Minister. I have been meeting with my care receiver once a week for about a year. She has lost a loved one. What do we talk about? We talk some about her loss and then, we just talk - about what she is doing, about what I am doing. At first I was concerned that I wasn't "helping" her restart her life, but I finally realized that it is not the content of our meetings that matters, but rather the friendship we have developed. She seems very much at peace. We pray together.

I have also been on the receiving end of Stephen Ministry care. When my husband died last November, I asked for a Stephen Minister and was matched to receive the care of a loving and insightful woman with whom I could talk about my own sadness and bewilderment. In her wisdom, she always met my needs. She was always available to meet, even at odd times and in weird places. I thank her for that.

My experience with Stephen Ministry is now two-fold. On the one-hand, I am a caregiver and on the other, I have been a care receiver. I am doubly blessed by the experience of Stephen Ministry.

Call Donna Birney now at (847) 234-6250 for an application to receive Stephen Ministry training this fall! To satisfy the diverse needs of our church family, Stephen Ministry needs men and women of diverse life experience and application of Christian faith. Stephen Ministry will show you how to use YOUR unique gifts to effectively walk with another through a painful life experience.

CALL FOR MEDICAL/UROLOGICAL ASSISTANCE

Koolyash Kashkinbaeva Fleming is a Presbyterian Church (USA) missionary in Kazakhstan who has asked for help for her sister who has one diseased kidney, and one kidney with a tumor. She desperately needs advanced treatment. Koolyash is unable to pay for her medical treatment. The family is searching for a doctor who would be willing to donate his/her services to treat Koolyash's sister. If you can offer medical assistance, please contact Jon Bayer at (847) 735-0615.

DEACON HEAT WAVE MINISTRY: Keepin' our friends cool when it Heats Up!

When it's hot outside, it can also be too hot inside for some of the elderly and homebound in our congregation who do not have air conditioning.

As part of its ministry, the board of Deacons will check in on those identified as being without air conditioning during unusually long or severe periods of heat. If you or someone you know would like to be added to the list of those to be looked after this summer, please contact the church office at (847) 234-6250. We may at times have a need to provide "cool rooms" for these friends. If you are willing to provide a cool room to someone in the congregation who may need it this summer, or have further questions on this ministry, please also contact the church office.

IN MEMORIAM Eugenia "Sissy" (Meier) Whitehead died on May 16, 2007. Mrs. Whitehead joined the church in 1999. She shared her passion for life and her humor with children at Vacation Bible School. Family was of utmost importance to Sissy; she will be missed by her daughter, Julie and Dave Holdsworth and her grandchildren Lauren and Kristen. A memorial service was held in the sanctuary on May 19, 2007, Reverend Christine Chakoian officiating and Reverend Kent Kinney assisting.

SUMMER WORSHIP
SUNDAYS AT 10:00AM
OF EACH MONTH.
ARE THE 1ST & 15TH
SUBMISSION DUE DATES
IS PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY.
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is the 3rd Friday
of Every Month
by 4:00pm
in Fellowship Hall kitchen

SOUP KITCHEN...AN ON-GOING MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

The Board of Deacons supports the *Soup Kitchen* program the third Friday of every month from January to December. We work with Ellen Tierney who is team leader from Church of St. Mary, Lake Forest. Together, we serve the men, women and children in the Waukegan neighborhood with a hot meal and camaraderie. Some of our members cook and bake, some purchase fruit, milk and other essentials, others set the tables, prepare the salads, serve the dinner and clean up.

Soup Kitchen is sponsored by Community Social Services which is part of the Holy Family parish. It is located on 8th Street in Waukegan in a building that used to house a Catholic church and school. The church serves as a clothing and food pantry. The lower level of the school is where soup kitchen is prepared and served four nights a week (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday). The upper two levels are used by the P.A.D.S. (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) program and houses 42 people without homes every night of the week, year-round. The infant through 5 year olds have a planned program each morning. School age children attend school and the adults return during the day to the P.A.D.S. site in North Chicago for supportive services.

Kitty Schumacher has served as the Coordinator of Soup Kitchen since its inception 23 years ago. She works 20+ hours per week, giving her time to the administration and financial needs of Community Social Services. Kitty explained that, "the goal of soup kitchen is to supply nutritionally balanced meals for their guests." She has seen an increase in guests at soup kitchen over the years and an increase of community support. Trader Joe's and Whole Foods are generous donors and the Northern Illinois Food Bank is a source for purchased and donated food for the 150 - 300 people served. Kitty also noted that more neighborhood children are enjoying soup kitchen in the summer and she has noted that people are attending more regularly than ever before.