



First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest
www.firstchurchlf.org

700 N. Sheridan Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045

847.234.6250 fax 847.234.6283

June 1, 2007
Volume VII, No. 11

Faith CONNECTIONS



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

May 6, 2007

The service of Blessing of the Animals took place on a beautiful, windy morning in one of the tents in the church parking lot that held rummage just the day before.

Over 175 people and their beloved pets felt blessed as they worshiped and remembered the sacredness of all God's creation.

Pastors Chakoian, Dempsey and church member Reverend Joe Dye celebrated communion as well as blessing the live and stuffed pets.



"Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land.

We ask you to bless our pets.

By the power of your love, enable our pets to live according to your plan.

May we always praise you for the beauty of your creation.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, as we experience your love in all your creatures!

Amen."



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

Dear friends,

To paraphrase a favorite saying of elder Tim Christie, "Dog's bark; churches worship." Worship is what the church does. But summer's almost here, and with it comes all kind of Sunday morning opportunities ... like golf, sleeping in, hanging out with your family and friends at the lake. May I propose one more? "Hang out" with your family and friends here at church, and while you're at it, "hang out" with God.

I love worship all year round, but I especially love worship in the summertime. So back by popular demand (with apologies to David Letterman, let me entice you again with my

TOP TEN REASONS TO WORSHIP THIS SUMMER:

- ⑩ We're all together at one service (10 a.m.) instead of split in two.
- ⑨ Parents and older children get to worship together (Sunday School is offered through 4th grade).
- ⑧ Dress-code is more casual.
- ⑦ There's plenty of time for golf before worship.
- ⑥ Special Sundays abound (... the Work Trip reports on their adventures... perhaps a new Associate Pastor will preach a "candidating" sermon).
- ⑤ Our Snow-Birds are finally back.
- ④ There's ample parking ... or you can ride your bike!
- ③ It's a lazy walk to the beach after church.
- ② Did I mention air conditioning?

And, oh yes:

- ① God will be here ... let's join him!

Blessings in this splendid season,

Christine Chakoian

SUMMER WORSHIP

First Church's summer schedule begins **Sunday, June 10** with one worship service at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary. There will be soloists and other special music throughout the summer.

Nursery care is available in *The Ark* for infants through 2 year olds.

Sunday School will be held for 3's, 4's and kindergarten together and grades 1-4 together. You can determine which class your child will attend by the school year they have just completed, NOT next year's school year. Summer offers a wonderful opportunity for children in 5th grade and up to fully participate in worship every week including communion, baptism and other special moments. There will be no Sunday School in August.

Come and worship with us as we praise God who gives us life!

New Member Classes

Have you been wanting to join the membership of First Church? Now is the time. Classes are Thursday, June 14 from 7:00-9:00 PM and Saturday, June 16 from 8:30AM-12:00PM. New Members will be received into membership on Sunday, June 17 at the 10:00 service. Please contact Dr. Dempsey or Beth Gilies at (847) 234-6250 for information.



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SUNDAY, JUNE 3

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 & 11:00AM Worship

*Graduating Seniors lead Worship
Communion*

*Eggs Benediction at 9:00 & 11:00
Sundae Sunday*

Lectionary: Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5: 1-5

John 16: 12-15

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

10TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Worship

*The Reverend Christine Chakoian
Work Trip Departs
Baptism*

Landscape Dedication at 11:00

Lectionary: 1 Kings 17: 8-16

Psalm 146

Galations 1: 11-24

Luke 7: 11-17

IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Christine Chakoian

cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org

Associate Executive Pastor

Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey

ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org

Associate Pastor **Rev. Patrick Day**

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Parish Associate **Rev. Kent Kinney**

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Children's Ministry **Donna Birney**

dbirney@firstchurchlf.org

Director of Youth Ministries **Kristie Finley**

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Director of Music/Organist **Jill Hunt**

jhunt@firstchurchlf.org

Director of Sanctuary Choir **Thomas Tropp Jr.**

ttropp@firstchurchlf.org

Director of Children's Choirs **Elizabeth Weismehl**

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Director of Youth Music Ministry **Lesley Byers**

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Church website www.firstchurchlf.org

Faith Connections is published bimonthly and

mailed to 1300 members and friends of

First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest

700 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045.

Submission due dates are the

1st and the 15th of every month.

Submissions may be emailed (preferred method) to

publish@firstchurchlf.org

PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE



Stephen Ministry



"It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ." Ephesians 4:11-15

SPRING SALE DELIVERS

Well we did IT! Our 57th Annual Spring Rummage Sale grossed over \$133,000. Many kudos go out to all the of our rummage volunteers. They did a fantastic job. We know it takes the efforts of many to fuel our Many Hands for Mission and we couldn't have done it without you. The year-long effort requires a lot of effort by many to get everything sorted, organized and ready to go...but all was ready on time. During Set up Monday, our chairmen hosted a reporter from the News Sun and on Wednesday, we got a wonderful two-page spread...featuring some one of a kind items as well as our own Millicent Kreischer.

On Saturday, Rummage veterans started lining up before 4:00AM! The honor for first in line was awarded to Joy Smith from North Chicago who has been shopping our rummage sales for years. People from Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana, and all over the Chicagoland area lined up before the doors opened at 7:00AM. One Fort Wayne, IN family made our Rummage sale the "reason" for their family reunion. Mother Nature even decided to give us break and held back her "tears" after somewhat damp start to the day. We sold through a lot of "Rummage" and what remained was bundled and sent to various agencies including 2nd Presbyterian Church in Chicago.

This Spring we tried some new things. We featured some new departments and offered payment by credit card. We also kept track of sales by department so our general Chairs can evaluate this information to better serve our time and efforts for our next sale

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who helped from the workers café, sorters, set up and clean up crews, cashiers, baggers, security and First Church staff, especially our custodians Elmer and Victor. A special note of thanks goes to Jim Mayhall, Carl Stevens, Steve MacFarlan, Rolly Ford and Don Spooner - these men were there from the planning stages through the clean up efforts. Additional thanks go the LFHS football team, Boy Scout troop #46, the youth of our church plus additional clean up crews from the high school and Lake forest College. Without the helping hands of many we could not deliver such wonderful results. Rummage Rocks! **Mark your calendar for Saturday October 13** and join us for our annual Fall Mini Sale. It's another wonderful event - where we do make a difference.

Who's kidding who? We have all felt like that child being tossed about. Maybe it was something painful, a loss of a loved one, loss of a job, or maybe it was something to celebrate, a job change, new baby, new home. Any transition can get the better of us at some point. Try to navigate these changes alone and it can seem like a huge challenge. Seek out support from someone else, and these waters around you can begin to calm.

Stephen Ministers can serve that role for many people. **Stephen Ministers listen, support, and "speak the truth in love," to "build up the body of Christ."**

Maybe that's you.


Maybe you can serve in that role. Is God calling you into ministry in this way, to be that support for someone else? A new class of Stephen Ministers will begin training this fall. It's a big commitment, but then again, the most meaningful commitments always are.

Rev. Patrick Day
Associate Pastor for Family Life

A new training class begins September 6. To find out more, attend an informal informational meeting in the Fellowship Hall Lobby after either service on **Sunday June 3.** OR, call Donna Birney at (847) 234-6250 to request an application.

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is published twice monthly.
Submission due dates
are the 1st and the 15th
of the month.
Worship Sundays
at 9:00 & 11:00

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 65
LAKE FOREST, IL


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*Sanctuary Choir &
Lakeminster Ringers
Pre-Tour Concert*
Sunday, June 17, 4:00^{pm}

On June 28, 2007 the Sanctuary Choir, Lakeminster Ringers, directors Tom Tropp and Jill Hunt, spouses, and friends will depart for Rome for ten days of touring, singing, and ringing. In those ten days they will sing in two masses and present four concerts.

The tour starts in Rome where the Sanctuary Choir will sing in a Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. The next day the Sanctuary Choir and Lakeminster Ringers will present a full concert at S.S. XII Apostoli church in Rome. On Monday, July 2, the Sanctuary Choir will again sing in a mass at St. Francis Basilica in Assisi. Moving to Florence, the choir and bells will present a full concert in S. Maria de Ricci in Florence. They next perform outside of Venice in the small town of Treviso at Chiesa di San Nicolo. The final stop is Como with a concert at the San Fedele Church. In between the concerts will be lots of sight-seeing, fellowship, and fun!

To help prepare for the trip and to give our congregation and friends a chance to share in the tour, the Sanctuary Choir and Lakeminster Ringers will present their full tour concert in our sanctuary on Sunday, June 17, at 4:00 p.m. Plan to come share in the joy of their music and give them a big First Church send-off!



June 3, in Fellowship Hall

Sundae Sunday celebrates
the beginning of summer and the wonderful
year of Sunday School,
confirmation and adult education.

Join the Family Life Committee
in Fellowship Hall after the 9:00 service and
visit with friends, meet some new people
and enjoy building your own sundae.

There will be chocolate and butterscotch sauce,
m&m's, nuts, strawberries and colored sprinkles
so you can be as creative as you want!

This event is for the whole church family.