



Faith

November 1, 2006
Volume VI, N°20

CONNECTIONS



We remember those who have gone before us in the family of faith here at First Church on the first Sunday of November.

All Saints' Day

This act of remembering brings our loved ones back into our consciousness. The names of church members who died between November 1, 2005 and November 1, 2006 are read aloud in worship during the singing of "For All the Saints."

Single flowers, available from the ushers as you enter the sanctuary, are provided to anyone who would like to honor a loved one who died this past year. You are invited to walk up to the front of the sanctuary at any time during the singing of the last hymn and place your flower in the vase. You are welcome to honor someone close to you that is not a member of our church.

All Saints Day has been celebrated as a Christian tradition for over 1000 years.

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OUR FAMILY OF FAITH:
Telling the Story, Following the Way

2007 STEWARDSHIP

Pledge Dedication Sunday

*"Whenever we have an opportunity,
let us work for the good of all . . ."*

(Galatians 6: 10)

Each of us has the opportunity that Paul writes of in Galatians when we act as good stewards of God's gifts and make a pledge of our financial support for the upcoming year. On **Sunday, November 12**, we will dedicate our pledges as part of our morning worship. If you have not returned your pledge cards before that date, please place them in the offering plate.

As a congregation, we have much to be thankful for in the leadership of our dedicated pastors, the spirit of generosity which reaches out to so many through our many mission activities, the beauty of our place of worship and the undertaking of our new family life ministry, to name a few. Let us all take Pledge Dedication Sunday as an opportunity to thank God.

Your Stewardship Committee wishes to thank you for your past generosity and for your participation in this year's stewardship effort.

Dear friends,

They say religion and politics don't mix – but I beg to differ. Jesus said, “Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's, and to God that which is God's” – and, of course, everything belongs to God. One of the hallmarks of our Reformed tradition is the belief that the Lord is sovereign. There is nothing outside of the purview of God's care. Our political choices express our faith as surely as our prayer life and our personal morality.



As we approach Election Day November 7, candidates urge us to consider who will best represent our personal interest, which is the hallmark of democratic process. But as Christians, we also need to ask ourselves a different question: Who will best represent God's interests? Who will best provide for the common good? Who will best promote God's justice?

In his first inaugural address as second President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson reminded us that the good end and purpose of free debate and fair elections was not only to protect our individual liberties, but also to promote our public well-being: that all may “unite in common efforts for the common good.”

This is not a recommendation to vote for a particular candidate or party; rather it is an invitation to give prayerful consideration to our choices. Voting is an extraordinary civic privilege. But it is much more than that: it is also an expression of faith, a stewardship of political will, and an extraordinary sacred trust.

Every blessing, *Christine Chakoian*

During **Mission and Outreach in Sunday School** this fall, the children gathered books for the Reading Power tutoring program in North Chicago. Each week a tutor (Bob and Karol Karlblom are pictured) came to the class to talk to the children about

READING POWER
 and how helpful it has been to the children who are being tutored. Our youth learned to proclaim the love of God through the sharing of books!



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
9:00 and 11:00AM Worship
Reverend Christine Chakoian
Communion
9:00 & 11:00 Sanctuary Choir

Lectionary: Ruth 1: 1-18
 Psalm 146
 Hebrews 11 and 12
 Mark 12: 28-34

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12
32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 and 11:00AM Worship
The Reverend Christine Chakoian
Pledge Dedication Sunday
Sanctuary Choir 9:00

Lectionary: Ruth 3: 1-5, 4: 13-17
 Psalm 127
 Mark 12: 38-44
 Romans 12: 1-2

IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

- Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Christine Chakoian
 cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org
- Executive Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey [Interim]
 ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org
- Associate Pastor **Rev. Patrick Day**
 pday@firstchurchlf.org
- Parish Associate **Rev. Kent Kinney**
 kkinney@firstchurchlf.org
- Children's Ministry **Donna Birney**
 dbirney@firstchurchlf.org
- Director of Youth Ministries **Kristie Finley**
 kfinley@firstchurchlf.org
- 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**
 eweismehl@firstchurchlf.org
- Director of Youth Music Ministry **Lesley Byers**
 lbyers@firstchurchlf.org
- Preschool Director **Ruth Luke**
 preschool@firstchurchlf.org
- Church Business Manager **Herb Smyers**
 hsmyers@firstchurchlf.org
- 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**

INSPIRED BY OUR HERITAGE

Stephen Ministry

"Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on soda, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart."

Proverbs 25: 20

STEPHEN MINISTRY

CONTINUING EDUCATION

This proverb describes a problem each of us faces from time to time. A friend, neighbor, coworker, relative, or someone else we know is suffering. We want to help, but we don't know the words to say or what actions to take to ease the person's pain.

Built on a solid biblical foundation and brimming with God's grace, this book over-flows with practical examples and specific suggestions about what to say or do - and what not to say or do.

It will guide you in bringing Christ's loving care to hurting people when they need it most.

-Stephen Ministries St. Louis

A Discussion led by

Kathleen Barnett, M.Div and Vandy Janson, MA

SATURDAY MORNING **November 4, 2006**

at **9:30** AM in the Parish House

Fellowship at 9:30

Program at 10:00

**OPEN TO THE ENTIRE FIRST CHURCH FAMILY
ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!**

Copies of the book are available for purchase at the church office and at the door, while supplies last. Advance reading in preparation for this discussion is recommended, but not required. For more information, call the church office at (847) 234-6250.

IN MEMORIAM

William Lawrence Wingader died on October 12, 2006.

Mr. Wingader's daughter Lisa was married to Michael Richter at First Church on October 7. He will be missed by his family.

A memorial service will be held in the sanctuary on November 3, 2006 at 1:00 PM, Reverend Christine Chakoian officiating.

Dorothy Easter Cascarano died October 15, 2006. Mrs. Cascarano was a dear friend of Mona Strenger and will be sorely missed. A memorial will be held in the sanctuary on November 4, 2006 at 11:00 AM, Reverend Kent Kinney officiating.



WHO ARE WE?

Our Christian calling takes many forms.

Here is one example with personal thoughts from

Bert Tucker

regarding his experience on the Long Range Planning Council (LRPC):



The LRPC has been charged by the Session with focusing on long-term, big-picture, inter-disciplinary issues, challenges and opportunities facing First Church.

What has this process been like for you?

The process has been a refreshing renewal of my faith priorities. A long range plan must begin with recognizing and accepting God's priorities in our private life as well as in the life of our church.

Have you had any personal revelations?

Long Range Planning is much more than a "simple" analysis of how we use our buildings and parking lot spaces.

Our painstaking study of the "Great Ends" and selecting three as our core mission has helped us bring our Christian priorities into focus.

What part of the outcome are you most excited about?

A new spirit of God's love is building throughout our church membership. We at First Church are once again making "a joyful noise unto the Lord." It is becoming evident that we are more willing to "serve the Lord with gladness." And this is only the beginning of great things to come!

What has surprised you?

Although it took a whole year for the LRPC to come to grips with a core mission built around the "Great Ends," this priceless effort has helped us forge a strong foundation for long term relevance, purpose and direction.

The Christian Ideas group is exploring fundamental concepts of morality through reading and discussing classic works of Christian thought. This month's works include the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew, chapters 5-7) and Aquinas' Treatise on Law. The group meets Tuesday evenings at 7:00 in the Parish House. Newcomers and visitors are welcome. See the adult education web site for more details at www.firstchurchlf.org/adult.

Growing in Faith Journey to Bethlehem

Sunday School Late Fall 2006 Schedule

	Art Room 011	Mission & Outreach Room 012	Science & God's World Room 212	Bible Discovery Room 213	Games Fellowship Hall	Theatre & Drama Room 216
October 29	2nd grade	4th grade	3rd grade	5th grade	1st grade	6th grade
November 5	1st grade	6th grade	4th grade	3rd grade	5th grade	2nd grade
November 12	5th grade	2nd grade	6th grade	4th grade	3rd grade	1st grade
November 19	3rd grade	1st grade	2nd grade	6th grade	4th grade	5th grade

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED ON OCTOBER 15, 2006



**BARBARA WANG
KYLE AND RYAN**

Barbara enjoys spending time with family and friends, gardening, playing with her golden retrievers and volunteering in her son's school. She is a freelance business writer. First Church's warm community of faith and fellowship and the opportunities for service and spiritual growth drew Barbara into membership.



**CHRIS AND LORI FITZGERALD,
WILLIAM AND KATHRYN**

Lori and Chris enjoy spending time with their children Kathryn (7 months) and William (2). They want to raise their children in a Christian home. It is important to them to take time from their busy lives to reflect on the spiritual aspects of life.



CRAIG EARNEST

Craig has worked as a consultant to nursing homes and as a psychotherapist at a community mental health center. He enjoys scuba diving, reading, exercise and working on his new condo. He looks forward to becoming part of the community of First Church.



CHRISTINE DOBIES

Christine is a college student studying French and Spanish. Her life's work is following Christ and helping those in need. She enjoys children, volunteering, reading, listening, praying, walking and learning. The beauty of worship, the vibrancy of members and the opportunities available through small group study and worship have drawn her to First Church.



DAN AND LEIGH BRUHN, ANNA

Dan and Leigh Ann Bruhn are enjoying parenthood with 6 month old Anna. Leigh Ann is in marketing at Abbott and Dan is a consultant for Cisco Systems. They look forward to growing in their faith at First Church.



JOHN AND FRANCES SWAINE

John and Frances Swaine transferred to the area from Dallas. John is a banker with ABN AMRO in Chicago. They were active in their church in University Park in Texas and Frances is looking forward to Bible study, Presbyterian Women and helping with rummage.



KATIE DAY

Katie Day and her family were called to First Church by her husband's Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. She enjoys family activities with her husband Patrick and children, Galvin, Quinn and Cora as well as preparing and participating in triathlons. Katie strives to raise their children to become happy, healthy, spiritual adults.

**SALLY McDONALD AND RICH LEVIN
GRANT, KYLE AND ANDREW**

Sally and Rich are called to raising their sons Grant (9), Kyle (7) and Andrew (4) and contributing to the community.

Rich is a banker with Citigroup and Sally is a partner with the law firm DLA Piper.

Rich enjoys his work as chair of the Greater Chicago Food Depository and Sally enjoys teaching Sunday School and working with the Chicago Bar Foundation.

The desire for their family to be part of a community of faith has called them to First Church.



COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Child Care Giver Needed

The nursery for our First Church children, infants through 36 months, *The Ark*, is a vital part of our Children's Ministries. In fact, it is one of the most important jobs in our church's ministry! Our care givers help to lay a foundation of faith in the lives of the babies and toddlers they care for as they hold, cuddle, change, feed, talk to and play with them.

We are blessed to have wonderful Lake Forest College students to assist us in this ministry, but are looking to supplement with a permanent year round care giver. The person needs to be friendly, dependable, and knowledgeable about infant/toddlers and most importantly offer God's love to our children and parents.

Please contact Donna Birney, Acting Director of Children's Ministries if you are interested in the position or can recommend someone you know who might be interested at dbirney@firstchurchlf.org or

Our service to P.A.D.S. (Public Action to Deliver Shelter)

has been ongoing for many years. The shelters have opened for the winter season and there is an acute need now for new underwear, socks and t-shirts for men, women and children. A box is outside the church office to accept your gifts. The deacons thank you for your generous support!

We're bringing our
Christmas Tea 2006
HOME! *to Fellowship Hall*
Monday, December 4

In lieu of an admission fee,
 we ask you to consider a gift of

Christmas Joy!

for one of the following First Church Missions:

A Safe Place
 Hope Church

North Chicago Reading Power

Additional details on suggested gifts for each of the groups will be available when you place your reservation.

Reservations will begin Sunday, November 5
 between services outside the church office.

reaching out... gathering together... working for Christ...



OUR FAMILY OF FAITH:
Telling the Story, Following the Way

Set forth below is summary financial information for September 2006 and the year-to-date period through the end of that month. The \$107,728 loss for the month is the result of lower than anticipated summer contributions. Year-to-date loss of \$258,084 is within (\$19,487) of budgeted income/loss with most of budgeted mission and Deacon moneys for the year paid out.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
 CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST**
FINANCIAL REPORT
 For the period ending Sept. 30, 2006

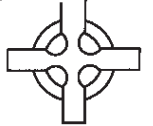
	Current MONTH	Year To Date CURRENT	Year To Date BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET 2005	YTD DIFFERENCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
TOTAL INCOME	\$105,368	\$1,481,017	\$1,521,095	\$2,314,150	\$ (40,078)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$213,096	\$1,739,102	\$1,759,693	\$2,314,150	\$ 20,591
NET INCOME	\$ (107,728)	\$ (258,085)	\$ (238,598)	\$ 0	\$ (19,487)

Please send submissions to publish@firstchurchfl.org

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twice monthly.
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due dates
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Centered in Christ, Growing in Faith
**First Presbyterian
Church of Lake Forest**



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FIRST CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Called together and centered in Christ's service, we are a fellowship growing in faith.

Relying on God's grace, we commit to fulfilling God's purpose for us by creating a welcoming, inclusive environment that inspires spiritual growth and celebration.

We journey together, caring for each other as we make deeper connections through prayer, worship, education and mission outreach.

We embrace the challenge to be faithful stewards of our God-given gifts and talents.

Inspired by our heritage of service and leadership, we are disciples of Christ, committed to making a positive difference in our families, community and beyond.

We call others to join with us as we journey into the future, strengthened by God's guidance and love.

The **138th** group of students to receive a Bible from **First Church** are pictured below. This long tradition reminds us of the importance of the Bible to our spiritual focus and direction. **We give grateful thanks to the family of Betsy and Carl Kitzerow** for the memorial funds to purchase these Bibles. Students receiving a Bible: *Grant Barbour, Lucy Barnhart, Paige Bourne, Kristen Clair, Parker Clair, Austin Fletcher, Stratton Fletcher, Ryan Flynn, Peter Hill, Anna Kreiling, Grant Levin, Harry Larson, Spencer Milanak,*

*Christopher
Murphy,
Mark Myers,
Jacqueline
Norkus,
Ashlynn
O'Keane,
David
Parsons,
John Powell
and
Tucker
Strang*

