

# Faith CONNECTIONS



First Presbyterian  
Church of Lake Forest  
www.firstchurchlf.org

700 N. Sheridan Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045  
847.234.6250 fax 847.234.6283

## SUNDAY MORNING

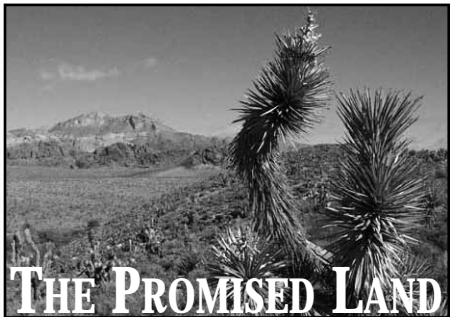


**BIBLE STUDY**  
WITH ELLEN HYNDMAN

resumes  
**September 9**

between services  
at 10:10AM in the Parish House

*This year-long study of Joshua, with parts of Genesis, Deuteronomy & Numbers included, will be all about...*



### THE PROMISED LAND: From The Beginning

*Where was it, where is it?*

*What was it, what is it?*

*What was its meaning for the people of God in Abraham's time.*

*What is its meaning for us now?*

**Join** an insightful study with Ellen Hyndman and enjoy a small group experience as we begin to explore the Promised Land and it's importance to our faith traditions.

RECOGNIZING  
**THE POWER OF CHRIST**  
TO TRANSFORM LIVES,  
THE CORE MISSION OF FIRST CHURCH  
PROMOTE CHRIST'S MESSAGE  
PROVIDE A COMMUNITY OF SPIRITUAL NURTURE  
& PROMOTE GOD'S VISION OF JUSTICE

## Reconnect on Rally Day

**Worship 9:00 & 11:00 AM** beginning September 9

Join us as we delve into **Stories We Can't Live Without**, exploring the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

**Sunday School** at 9:15AM beginning September 9



**Don't miss out!** Small Groups are forming NOW to begin the week of September 16

Within the structure of small groups, every participant has the opportunity to explore God's Word in community, to grow spiritually, to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, and to share in the joy of knowing each other.

**WHO** ✦ Everyone is encouraged to participate in a small group

**WHAT** ✦ A typical small group meeting lasts 1½ hours.  
✦ That time includes fellowship, study, sharing, and serving.  
✦ Every group will be given a curriculum that is in sync with the **Bible Stories We Can't Live Without**.

**WHEN & WHERE** ✦ Small groups of 8 to 12 people meet once a week and determine when & where they meet  
✦ The first session begins the week of September 16 and ends at the beginning of Advent, right after Thanksgiving.

**HOW** ✦ Sign up on the registration form in this newsletter, on the web at [www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org) or at the church office.



Dear friends,

I like to think of this *Faith Connections* as our annual "Back-to-School" issue. In it you'll find a wealth of opportunities for spiritual growth and enrichment:

- Worship is immensely exciting. On September 9 we begin "*Stories We Can't Live Without*," as we unfold Scripture's riveting stories and timeless, life-shaping messages. The sermon, prayers, music, and occasionally liturgical art combine to help us not just understand the Bible, but experience the transforming power of Christ's presence.



Worship is also our offering to God. There have never been more opportunities to give of yourself in worship: as an acolyte, artist, Bible-bearer, communion server, flower supplier, parking minister, greeter, liturgist, usher, or in music through the Sanctuary Choir, Bell Choirs, Youth Bands, Jr. High Choir, and Children's Choirs. Notice that worship isn't just an adult response to God's goodness –our whole family of faith has an important place in God's house.

- Our little ones and older children have a marvelous Sunday School year ahead of them. Recently, friends of mine that I knew back at Fourth Church came to worship with us – they live in the North Shore now – and their two boys said they couldn't wait to come back here to Sunday School ... and that was just our summer program! Our new Children's Ministries Director, Amy Pagliarella, is officially on board now, and I know great things are happening for our children.

- Our youth are in for terrific experiences in Confirmation and Senior High Small Groups – both meeting on Sunday nights this year. Deep, lasting faith is formed in these groups – where high school kids not only learn about the Bible and beliefs, but reinforce their experience of the love of Christ through the safe, honest surroundings of their small group. They also have the added bonus of getting to know their group's adult leader – someone not their parent who isn't afraid to express and even wrestle with their own faith.

- Our adults (of all ages!) will be diving into "*Stories We Can't Live Without*" – not just in worship but in our own **Small Groups** during the week. This user-friendly study is designed for novices and experts alike. Our goal is to learn more about the Bible – but it's far more than that. We'll also be encouraged by the questions, struggles, and wisdom of the other members of our small group. (It's also crucial modeling for our children and youth, to see us continue to work on our faith as adults.) I can't wait for this ministry to get started.

There's not much that's more important than our spiritual vitality. We are embarking on a great adventure in our shared life, and I have never been more energized to be in ministry with you.

Blessings,

*Christine Chakoian*



**First Presbyterian Church** of Lake Forest  
847-234-6250

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**10:00AM Worship**

*Reverend Patrick Day*

**Lectionary:** Jeremiah 2: 4-13

Psalm 81: 1-10

Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**RALLY DAY!**

**9:00 & 11:00AM Worship**

*Reverend Christine Chakoian*

*Brass quintet and Sanctuary Choir*

**Genesis 1-2**

**Genesis 1: 27-28, 31**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**9:00 & 11:00AM Worship**

*Reverend Christine Chakoian*

*Teacher Commissioning at 9:00*

**Genesis 3-9**

**Genesis 4: 6-7, 9**

**IN MINISTRY TOGETHER**

Pastor/Head of Staff

**Rev. Christine Chakoian**

[cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cchakoian@firstchurchlf.org)

Associate Executive Pastor

**Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey**

[ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org)

Associate Pastor **Rev. Patrick Day**

[pday@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:pday@firstchurchlf.org)

Associate Pastor **Rev. Corey Nelson**

[cnelson@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:cnelson@firstchurchlf.org)

Parish Associate **Rev. Kent Kinney**

[kkinney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kkinney@firstchurchlf.org)

Director of Youth Ministries **Kristie Finley**

[kfinley@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kfinley@firstchurchlf.org)

Director of Children's Ministries **Amy Pagliarella**

[apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:apagliarella@firstchurchlf.org)

Director of Music/Organist **Jill Hunt**

[jhunt@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:jhunt@firstchurchlf.org)

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

[ttropp@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:ttropp@firstchurchlf.org)

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

[eweismehl@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:eweismehl@firstchurchlf.org)

Director of Youth Music Ministry **Lesley Byers**

[lbyers@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:lbyers@firstchurchlf.org)

Preschool Director **Ruth Luke**

[preschool@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:preschool@firstchurchlf.org)

Dir. of Communications **Donna Birney**

[dbirney@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:dbirney@firstchurchlf.org)

Church Business Manager **Herb Smyers**

[hsmyers@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:hsmyers@firstchurchlf.org)

Church website [www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org)

# PROCLAIM CHRIST'S MESSAGE



**Sunday, September 23** at First Church  
**4:30 to 6:00<sup>PM</sup>**  
**Bring the whole family**  
 for a casual **barbecue dinner**  
 prepared by Tom Gescheidle's "*Smokin' T's*".  
 Come for a night of fun church wide activities for everyone.  
 A Treasure Hunt, Climb the Bell Tower, Work Trip Dunk Tank, Historic  
 Walking Tour Around the Block, Mission Activity,  
 Boy Scout Troop 46 demo and more!  
 \$5.<sup>00</sup> per person or \$20.<sup>00</sup> per family of 4 or more.  
 Call or email Kerry Spera in the church office  
 for your reservations! 234-6250 or kspera@firstchurchlf.org

It's back-to-school time and on Rally Sunday, September 9, we also go back to Sunday School.

We encourage you to register your children now for the many Sunday morning opportunities. Your youngest children (36 month and younger) are welcome in the church's nursery, *The Ark*, on Sunday mornings from 8:15-12:15. Following the Word for Children at 9:00 worship, children age 3 through 8th grade will leave for Sunday School from 9:15-10:15. Children in grades 1-5 will "**Dig into the Bible**" as they learn what makes the Bible so holy and relevant to their lives through song, art, storytelling, and even by becoming amateur "archeologists." Younger children and sixth graders will study the same Bible stories that their parents are hearing in worship. Children in 7th & 8th grades will study the stories of the Bible and their messages to them. Register your children on-line at [http://www.firstchurchlf.org/children\\_youth](http://www.firstchurchlf.org/children_youth) or pick up a registration form at the church.

Sunday School Fall Schedule	Art Room 011	Mission & Outreach Room 012	Science & God's World Room 212	Bible Discovery Room 213	Theatre & Drama Room 216
September 9	4th grade	3rd grade	2nd grade	1st grade	5th grade
September 16	5th grade	4th grade	3rd grade	2nd grade	1st grade
September 23	1st grade	5th grade	4th grade	3rd grade	2nd grade
September 30	2nd grade	1st grade	5th grade	4th grade	3rd grade
October 7	3rd grade	2nd grade	1st grade	5th grade	4th grade



**SING PRAISE TO THE LORD!** through our music opportunities.  
**EVERYONE** is invited to participate in worship as part of one of our choirs.

SANCTUARY CHOIR	LAKEMINSTER RINGERS	EGGS BENEDICTION	
high school - adult Wednesday 7:30-9:00PM start date: August 29 Tom Tropp director	adult Wednesday 5:30-7:00PM start date: September 5 Jill Hunt director	youth music ministry Sunday 5:30-6:30PM start date: September 9 Lesley Byers director	
CHERUB CHOIR	CAROL CHOIR	JR HIGH CHOIR	YOUTH & ADULT RINGERS
ages 4-kindergarten Tuesday 3:30-4:00PM start date: September 11 Elizabeth Weismehl director	grades 1-4 Tuesday 4:15-5:00PM start date: September 11 Elizabeth Weismehl director	grades 5-8 Tuesday 5:15-6:00PM start date: September 11 Elizabeth Weismehl director	grade 5- adult Tuesday 6:30-7:30PM start date: September 25 Jill Hunt director

# PROVIDE A COMMUNITY OF SPIRITUAL NURTURE

## Liturgical Arts Ministry



### WHO WE ARE: GOD'S PEOPLE

- Sept. 9 Original Blessings (Genesis 1-2)
- Sept. 16 Original Sin, Original Provision (Genesis 3-9)
- Sept. 23 Call & Promise: Abraham & Sarah (Genesis 12-22)
- Sept. 30 Blessing & Deception: the Story of Jacob (Genesis 24-35)
- Oct. 7 Betrayal & Redemption: Joseph (Genesis 37-50)

### WHO WE ARE: GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

- Oct. 14 Out of Slavery (Exodus 1-15)
- Oct. 21 The Wilderness & the Law (Exodus 16-40)
- Oct. 28 The Promised Land (Joshua, Judges & I Samuel 1-7)

### THE KINGDOM'S RISE AND FALL

- Nov. 4 The Making of a Kingdom (I Samuel 8 - II Samuel)
- Nov. 11 A House Divided Cannot Stand: The Fall of Israel (I-Kings 1 - II Kings 17 ; Amos, Hosea, I Isaiah, Micah)
- Nov. 18 When Reforms Aren't Enough: The Fall and Exile of Judah (II Kgs. 18-25; I Isaiah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Jeremiah, Habakkuk, Ezekiel)
- Nov. 25 Renewal and Commitment: The Covenant Restored (Ezra-Nehemiah; II Isaiah, Haggai, Zechariah 1-8)

Liturgical Arts Ministry will be an integral part of *Stories We Can't Live Without*. Artists, artisans and craftpersons are invited to generate a creative work that speaks to one of the stories presented in worship and studied more deeply in Small Groups.

You may participate individually or in partnership with others. If you feel God calling you to this opportunity to present your spiritual & inspired gifts in worship, contact Jeanne Lane, cestchoc@aol.com.

**FALL BLOOD DRIVE**

*save the date*

**Sunday, October 21**

**GIVE BLOOD**

Every Drop Counts



## "Steady Streams" Subject of History and Archives Display

The History and Archives display case in the hallway leading to the sanctuary tells the story of "Steady Streams," the missionary program for children in the First Presbyterian Church started on April 19, 1875. It was organized by Sarah Jane Rhea, a retired missionary who retained her zeal for helping the needy in foreign fields, in our nation and in our community.

One of the earliest works was sending money and supplies to newly freed slaves in the South just after the Civil War. With great help from our Women's Missionary Society, barrels of clothing were sent to San Francisco after the earthquake and aid to veterans after World Wars I and II.

The children sang a song that begins, "Give said the little stream, give and give...." as they gave their pennies. The theme being "There is a river the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God."

**"How do I become a member of First Presbyterian Church?"**

**"What does it mean to be part of this church & its mission?"**

You are invited to explore the answers to these questions at the next **New Member's Class** on

**Saturday, September 15, 8:30 – noon, and Thursday, September 20, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.**

The Membership committee's goal is for everyone – visitor, new member or long-time member – to feel a sense of community and to experience spiritual growth through worship, faith formation and mission.

First Church equips us through a supportive community of learning, worshiping, and growing together in faith that follows the way of Jesus Christ. Opportunities to express faith through mission and in our daily lives are abundant.

We look forward to greeting you as you get to know us, worship with us, fellowship with us and explore our ministries.

Please contact Beth Gillies to register for the New Member's Class at [egillies@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:egillies@firstchurchlf.org). Rev. Don Dempsey is pleased to discuss membership further and may be reached at [ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:ddempsey@firstchurchlf.org) if you have any questions.

## MEMORIALS

**Julian L. Anderson** died on August 11, 2007. Mr. Anderson joined the church when he and his wife moved to Lake Forest in 2003. Mr. Anderson will be missed by his family, John and Megan Anderson and their children Kristen and Erik. A memorial service was held at Lake Forest Place on August 25, 2007, Pastor Kent Kinney officiating.

**James H. Bradner** died on August 16, 2007. Jim joined the church in 1977 and served as an ordained elder and deacon. He gave his time so generously to the membership census recently, patiently inputting data. He will be missed by his wife Liz and children, Jay, Carolyn and Alexandra and their families. A memorial service was held in the sanctuary on August 25, 2007, Reverend Christine Chakoian officiating.

**Michael C. Celarec** died on August 17, 2007. Mr. Celarec joined the church in 1971. He enjoyed sports, assisting in youth sports in the community. He will be missed by his wife Barbara, son Brad and his daughter and granddaughter, Heidi and Liesl Stritar. A memorial service was held in the sanctuary on August 27, 2007, Reverend Christine Chakoian officiating.

# PROMOTE GOD'S JUSTICE

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

STEPHEN MINISTRY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THREE NEW STEPHEN LEADERS HAVE JOINED THE FIRST CHURCH STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADER TEAM.

*Nan Patterson, Nancy Orbison and Richard Schulz* have each attended a full week of training conducted by the parent organization, Stephen Ministries St. Louis. Among other gifts designed to equip leaders for the distinctively Christian caregiving system known as the Stephen Series, they have returned to our congregation from a series of ten-hour training days with fresh knowledge essential to the life of First Church's Stephen Ministry:

- Equipping People for Life-Giving Ministry
- Training Your Stephen Ministers for Effective Caring Ministry
- Connecting Care Receivers with Caregivers
- Identifying Those Who Need Care from Stephen Ministers
- Listening Skills for Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers
- Confidentiality: Essential Issues
- Spiritual Growth for Stephen Leaders, Stephen Ministers, and Care Receivers
- Christian Caregiving: A Process versus Results Approach

Nan, Nancy and Richard have returned to Lake Forest to join the leadership team consisting of previously trained Stephen Leaders: Donna Birney, Rev. Kent Kinney, Joel Ferrin (Deacon, class of 2009), Vandy Janson (Deacon, class of 2010), Chuck Kraemer (Ordained Elder and Deacon), Lynda Kraemer, and Mary Schlott (Deacon). Other trained Stephen Leaders active in the First Church family include Rev. Christine Chakoian, and Rev. Patrick Day. In the twenty years since commissioning of the first class of Stephen Ministers, the leadership team has trained more than ninety people in the First Church family as Stephen Ministers.

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, call Rev. Kent Kinney, at (847) 234-6250.

## Christine Vogel named Dean of Students



The Reverend Dr. Christine Vogel has been named McCormick Theological Seminary's Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs. She will address student needs for a more intentionally pastoral presence. Her responsibilities include coordinating worship and spiritual life, coordinating seminary hospitality and developing a program of vocational planning.

"Students have been clear about the need for a staff member whose work is focused on personal and spiritual formation as well as preparation for vocation after seminary," says Seminary President Cynthia M. Campbell. "I can think of no one better suited for this position than the Rev. Dr. Christine Vogel."

Christine joined the McCormick faculty in the summer of 2005 as the Jean and Frank Mohr Professor of Ministry. She coordinated community worship as well as taught in the field of ministry and developing practice. Prior to McCormick, she served as Associate Pastor at First Church for adult education, spiritual formation, mission outreach and intergenerational worship services. In 2002, she was named chaplain at Alma College, where she facilitated community worship at the college and worked with a Lilly Endowment-funded program designed to assist students in discernment of vocational identity.

## Small Groups

THE POWER OF CHRIST TO TRANSFORM LIVES



THE CORE MISSION OF FIRST CHURCH

Christ's Message  
Spirit's Nurture  
God's Justice

### Small Groups

are forming and will begin the week of September 16. Groups will be formed by interest area. Please indicate your area of interest below. The list below is not complete so add any that you do not find!

My interest area is.....

- \_\_\_\_\_ EMPTY NESTERS
- \_\_\_\_\_ PRESCHOOL PARENTS
- \_\_\_\_\_ MEN IN THEIR 30'S
- \_\_\_\_\_ GRANDPARENTS
- \_\_\_\_\_ PARENTS OF TEENS
- \_\_\_\_\_ SINGLES
- \_\_\_\_\_ COUPLES WITHOUT CHILDREN
- \_\_\_\_\_ PARENTS OF SCHOOL AGE
- \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYED IN CHICAGO
- \_\_\_\_\_ SNOW BIRDS
- \_\_\_\_\_ ALL WOMEN
- \_\_\_\_\_ ALL MEN
- \_\_\_\_\_ ALL DIVERSE
- \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYED WOMEN
- \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYED MEN
- \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYED IN CHICAGO
- \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED MEN
- \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED WOMEN
- \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER (PLEASE LIST)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to host a group in my home

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in being a small group leader

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to help in any way

PLEASE RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE



SEPTEMBER 1, 2007  
 FAITH CONNECTIONS  
 IS PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY.  
 SEND SUBMISSIONS TO  
 publish@firstchurchlf.org  
 SUBMISSION DUE DATES  
 ARE THE 1ST & 15TH  
 OF EACH MONTH.  
 WORSHIP SUNDAYS  
 AT  
 9:00 & 11:00AM  
 SUNDAY SCHOOL  
 AT 9:15AM

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First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest



The First Presbyterian Church Preschool currently has openings in the Discovery and Odyssey classes for the 2007-2008 school year.

The Discovery class is held on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:00 to 11:30am. Children entering Discovery must be 3 years old by September 1, 2007.

The Odyssey class is held Monday through Thursday from 12:15 to 2:45pm. Children entering Odyssey must be 5 years old by January 1, 2008.

For more enrollment details please call Jennifer Strauss, Enrollment Chairperson, at (847) 735-7283.

### Sr. High Youth Group

Senior High Youth Group met August 26. If you missed out please join us on September 9. We are going to expand on the Small Groups which we started last year, with fellowship and fun spread throughout. A sign up for Small Groups was sent in July. If you did not receive one, please let us know. We are looking forward to a great year of living Christ's message through worship and faith formation, the Spirit's nurture by responding to the needs and interests of young people as they connect to each other, the church, community and world while building relationships between youth and adults, and living God's justice in the world through study and service including Work Trip and ministry projects. Contact Kristie with any questions at [kfinley@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kfinley@firstchurchlf.org).

### Confirmation at First Church

The annual **Pot Luck Supper for the Confirmation families** is on Sunday **September 9**. Confirmation begins on September 16 and will take place during our Small Group time on Sunday evenings at 7:00 to 8:15 PM. The Confirmation welcome for the students and their families is Sunday September 23 at the 9:00 worship service. Registration forms went out in July, if you did not receive one contact Kristie at [kfinley@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:kfinley@firstchurchlf.org).

The Core Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest

PROMOTE CHRIST'S MESSAGE

PROVIDE A COMMUNITY OF SPIRITUAL NURTURE

PROMOTE GOD'S VISION OF JUSTICE