

First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn
550 North Main Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-4497



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
of GLEN ELLYN

TIDINGS

August 2011

Volume 16, Issue 8



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning
9:00am~Sanctuary
Contemporary
11:15am~Sanctuary
Traditional

Together LED BY THE WORD AND SPIRIT
we follow Christ's Call

LIVE IN LOVE | ENJOY GOD | BUILD COMMUNITY | TEACH THE FAITH
ANNOUNCE FORGIVENESS | TRANSFORM THE WORLD

Seeking justice, loving mercy, walking humbly with God.
COME WALK WITH US...COME WALK WITH GOD.

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Please send articles for Tidings
to bcipriano@firstpresge.org,
by the 15th of each month.

Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday

9:00 am Contemporary

11:15 am Traditional

Summer office hours

Monday - Thursday 9 - 4

Friday 9 - 12

Check our website for monthly
events www.firstpresge.org

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Dear Friends,

One of my favorite devotional resources is Dr. George Arthur Franz's Book of Mercies. I want to share with you this month one of his chapters called, "Pools and the Sea."

In the marshy ground by the sea's shore two kinds of pools are found. The one is full of stagnation and death. The other is clean with the salty tang of the ocean in it.

They are often found not far apart. After the rains they look much alike. But the sun beats down on them for a few days. The one slowly covers itself with a green scum. The other is perennially clean. What makes them so different? The secret is this: one lies near enough to the ocean to be washed clean by its daily tides. Into it sweeps twice a day the pure salt water from the middle seas. This pool is in reality a part of the great waters. The other pool stands alone and receives its waters only from the corrupt streams of our soiled earth.

Two persons live near together, on the same block. They work in the same building downtown. They have many friends in common. The sun of prosperity shines on them both. And a good friend who loves the two of them sees a subtle change come over the one. His face grows fevered and unwholesome. A scum forms over the once-fresh water. Some friends first feel a lack in him and then find excuse for absence.

The other man has the simple, wholesome tang of salt in him. Here the sun can breed no larvae of death. Death dies in these saline waters.

And you have run far ahead of me. You have long since finished the story for yourself. You have said: "Of course, of course, the one is swept by the tides of the life in God." Of course, of course.

Alleluia!

Dave Bianchin

53rd Sunday Gifts

Thank you to all who gave extra gifts to the missions through 53rd Sunday in May. 53rd Sunday is a long-standing tradition at our church, and represents an "extra" Sunday when we dedicate additional financial support to Christian missions and ministries which are close to your heart. This year, your generous gifts totaled \$53,966. The Mission Ministry Team was able to provide matching gifts of 25%. On behalf of all those receiving these extra gifts, thank you.

The Missions Ministry Team

Fall Back

Calling the entire First Pres Family, Saturday, August 27, 2011 for a special celebratory Feast Evening! What are we celebrating? Several things - but do you really need a reason? If you must know, we want to celebrate the new Fall Church year here at First Pres.

So come celebrate with us.

- POT LUCK will be our Food Feast.
- GAMES in and out of the building will help us discover the mysteries of our wonderful space. This will be our Fun Feast.
- PRAISE and WORSHIP will help us celebrate who we are as the Family of God here at the corner of Cottage and Main. This will be our Celebration Feast.

FALL BACK to your routine of worship, education, fellowship, mission, outreach and service at First Pres. Festivities begin at 5:02pm and ends at 7:12pm.

Wondering why these times? Just keep your wonder hat on - all will be revealed later! SEE YOU ON August 27!

Feed My Starving Children

Family Ministries next service project is at Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg Tuesday, September 27 6-7:30pm (20 spots available)

You can learn more about this organization and register your family online at: <http://volunteer.fmcs.org/Register/Group/JoinGroup.aspx?gid=151032>

Faith Builders New Fall Study

Women of all ages and stages of faith are invited to begin a new Beth Moore DVD study, “*David – Seeking a Heart Like His.*” David was certainly not a perfect man, rather he was a man who experienced doubts, temptations, inconsistencies, losses and anguish over family problems. Join Beth Moore on an exciting journey to know King David, a man after God’s own heart. You will relate to and learn from the challenges David experienced throughout his life. You will be encouraged as you see how God met David in all of the seasons of his life.

Women will meet together in large group and also in their small group for discussion, prayer and connection.

Start date: Thursday, Sept. 22. in the Gathering Place. Faith Builders will meet 9:15- 11:15 a.m. Childcare is provided.

Can’t make it during the day? Join Evening Edition Faith Builders Wednesdays 7-9 PM in the Parlor. Register with Cinda at csiligmuller@firstpresge.org or 469-2007 ext 22.

Invite a friend or neighbor to join you for this transformative study!

PADS Run/Walk

DuPage PADS is a nonprofit organization working to end homelessness in DuPage County. On Saturday, September 10, 2011, we are hosting a 5K Run/Walk through Wheaton. On behalf of DuPage PADS, I ask that you please place the attached flier in your bulletin in support of the DuPage PADS Run/Walk. The Run/Walk supports programs that provide housing, job training and other critical services to assist men, women and children who are homeless. We invite you to help us end homelessness in DuPage County!

A Minute with Mickie – Wondering about Getting Specific

It’s AUGUST already! When I look at all that we need to accomplish to meet the variety of needs in our church community, I’m reminded of the people of Israel wandering in the desert.

I suppose you want to know why? Well, during their time of wandering, God gave Moses specific, and I mean specific, instructions on building the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle was the portable structure where God’s presence would dwell so God could be with them wherever they went. In Exodus 26-31 and then again in 33-40 God explained in detail exactly how everything was to be done. I love this because as Moses would be describing how the Tabernacle was to be built, the people listening were able to easily identify an area that they could help with. . . I can almost picture them standing and listening to Moses, then one by one poking each other or saying out loud: “Hey, I could do that!” There was something so specific about what God wanted and needed that everyone could find their own special job to do.

God knew what was needed. Let’s read the passages in Exodus as our example. There was something for everyone to do. So, I’m going to be as specific as I can for what is needed here at First Pres. Let me explain our main educational experiences for kids, and then I’ll list what we need.

1. “Light the Way Village” Sunday School 10:05-11:05am begins September 11. We will study the Prophet Nehemiah. Grade School children will learn through our various learning experience rotation rooms. Preschool children will have their own classes in the Preschool wing.

2. Worship and Church School 9:00am - this Fall we are increasing our Children’s Educational ministry during the Worship Hour. Children will start in the Sanctuary with their families to Praise, Worship, hear Words of Wonder and make use of the Worship Bags and Folders. Then children ages 2 thru 5th grade, if parents prefer them not to stay for Worship, have the option to leave for an age-appropriate experience during the sermon.

3. Spark is our after-school program for elementary-aged children that meets on Wednesdays, 3:45-5:30. It begins again in October and already our Spark Team is hard at work lining up the larger team.

How you can be involved.

We need people to:

- Show movies
- Play with puppets
- Build stuff
- Sing, dance
- Play games
- Tell stories
- Cook and eat.
- Shop
- Pray
- Paint
- Be with Kids
- Teach kids to sew
- Help with craft projects
- Write curriculum
- Data entry
- Attendance keeping
- Send out postcards
- Make phone calls

Anything you can do? There will be sign up boards around the church, charts and specific needs outlined throughout the Fall, Winter and Spring this year so that something will catch your eye and you then can be like an Israelite and say, “Hey I can do that!”

Praise Music and “The Village”

The Village Sunday School hour will begin at 10:05 with Rally Time for all the kids (just like we do at SPARK and VBS). We’ll sing fun songs and then at 10:25 move to the various rotation workshops to do special hands-on learning projects ending our Sunday School Hour at 11:05 (giving us a full hour in between services). Karen Felker and Sheila North will help with this and then move upstairs to do music with the Preschool classes. Bryan wants our kids to participate as Worship and Praise leaders occasionally too - so this could be inspiring for us all as we move forward. “The Village” experience takes place at the same time as Adult Education Classes. What a great way to spend the morning.

Parents of Third Graders

Don’t forget to turn in your child’s postcard to be sure we have a Bible reserved for them to give on September 11 at either 9am or 11:15 during Worship.

Love Thy Neighbor

Local Presbyterian Ecumenical and Inter-religious Relations Elders Zabrina Santiago Lindsay and Jan Chindlund were invited to attend the Islamic Society of North America’s annual conference on July 3, 2011 held in Rosemont, Illinois. As guests, they attended plenary sessions on the topic of “Love Thy Neighbor” representing the Presbytery of Chicago and First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn.

Recently, Zabrina was nominated to the Presbytery of Chicago’s Ecumenical and Inter-religious Work Group which seeks to build relationships and empower channels of communication within the Chicago-land area with individuals and organizations of different denominations, faiths and spiritual conviction. Its primary purpose is relationship-building, rather than advocacy for specific ideologies, parties, or causes. She is also now serving on the Presbyterian-Muslim Relations group. Pastor Jay Moses of First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton serves as the moderator of both groups.

Nominations are Open

The 2011 Nominating Committee seeks nominees from members for the offices of Elder and Deacon with service beginning with in Jan. 2012. Nominating Committee members are: Jim Drasal, Doug Rundell, Jane Day, David Eldersveld, Becky McFarland, Deborah Ritter, and Dale Siligmuller. If you have an interest in serving your congregation, questions about the office/process/obligation, or would like to recommend someone for service, please confer with those you would recommend and then contact a committee member with your suggestions.

Dear Friends,

This is the first scripture that comes to mind when I think of my nephew Silas! Many of you know that he was born in October of 2009, to my sister Sada and her husband Matt, with a birth defect called Spina Bifida. This is the same birth defect I was born with. It is truly humbling to be forever bonded to my nephew in this way! For the last year and a half, Silas has undergone about half a dozen surgeries for various aspects of the disability. A large number of surgeries is fairly typical for this condition. (I stopped counting at 20+ for myself.) He also had a trach placed in his throat to help him with respiratory issues. From my perspective, it has allowed me to see not only what it is like to deal with a disability yourself but also to see and feel what it is like for those who care for and love those affected by disability. The road has been difficult and treacherous as much of life is BUT.....

“The Joy of the Lord is my strength”
Nehemiah 8:10

I recently had the opportunity to attend the National Spina Bifida Conference in Anaheim, CA with my sister Sada, my brother-in-law Matt, and my nephew Silas. This is an annual conference that travels around the country that gathers professionals, educators, medical personnel, family members, and kids of ALL ages with Spina Bifida as well adults with Spina Bifida. This is a time of learning, sharing experiences, sharing emotion, net-

Household Goods Needed At Sharing Connections Furniture Bank

Sharing Connections Furniture Bank, a nonprofit organization in Downers Grove, provides furniture and household items to low-income families. They currently have a critical need for cleaning supplies and buckets in order to better serve needy families. Kitchenware such as glasses, cups and

working, advocating, and most of all (for me at least) just being ME! No one cares about what you look like, how you act, or what you say and do. Who you are is Who you are! Sounds a lot like a Biblical perspective to me!

The name Silas refers to a character in the Bible of the same name. In Acts 16, Paul and Silas are thrown into jail after proclaiming the Word of God. “About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God and the other prisoners were listening to them.” (Acts 16:25) Paul and Silas were in a jail cell yet they were STILL praising God. By God’s grace, Silas will praise God even though he may still be in “chains!”

As I watched my nephew during that week, I didn’t see someone who was affected by a disability or in “chains,” rather I saw someone who was alive and infectious. Infecting others with his smile, his red hair, his laughter, his ability to hear planes from miles away, his love of trucks and trains, and his ability to live life like nothing was wrong! I suppose I notice this last trait because this is how I have lived my life. There is more to Silas and I than our disability and it is places like this conference where those abilities are allowed to shine!

So, yes of course, there is a BUT ...” Weeping may endure for a night, BUT joy comes in the morning.” (Psalm 30:5) Many of you have prayed, rejoiced, inquired, and genuinely cared about our family over the last couple of years and I want to

silverware are also needed. When you are holding your summer garage sales, please remember to donate your gently used kitchenware and household goods. There is also a critical shortage of towels and unopened personal care items such as shampoo, deodorant, and conditioner. If you can donate any

thank you on behalf of my family, and I know they would agree, for the love that you have shown us and continue to show us! I have tried to keep you abreast of Silas’ condition but have undoubtedly left details out! Matt and Sada started an online blog even before Silas was born sharing their story and have continued to share their story as they have approached every moment over the last couple years with an attitude of sheer determination and honesty. This blog shares more than any words I could ever share. I invite you to read it and discover the beauty that lies within us all when we can all say, “The Joy of the Lord is my strength.” www.mattsada.blogspot.com

The most recent blog entry will appear first and scrolling backwards you will find all previous blogs!

Jason Holland



P.S. I am going to take an uncharacteristic moment for me by gloating (something I don’t usually do) and say that I have never been prouder to be a BIG BROTHER! Despite the fact that she beat up on me growing up!