

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



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
of GLEN ELLYN

TIDINGS

July 2011

Volume 16, Issue 7



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.

In this issue...

Letter from Dave

Welcome Bryan

Family Camp 2011

Men's Fall Retreat

Summer BBQs!

Summer PADS

Wonder with Mickie

An Evening of Conversation

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

First Presbyterian
Church of Glen Ellyn
550 N. Main St.,
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
630.469.2007
fax 630.469.5025
firstpresge@firstpresge.org
www.firstpresge.org

Dear Friends,

Summer is kind of a funny time around the church. Programs take a break, worship attendance usually goes down, Ministry Teams meet on a reduced schedule, Staff members take vacations, and it just seems like not a lot is going on.

But a lot actually is going on behind the scenes: we are planning the Fall program schedule; Staff members and Elders are reading books and going to conferences to "tool up" for the Fall; rooms are getting reorganized and repairs are being done; new music is being researched; people are off on summer mission trips; and, in my case, among other things, the Fall preaching plan is in the works.

There are some very good things that happen in the summer as well. We have our summer barbeques, which are great fellowship events. This summer will also be a time when the Pastor Nominating Committee is continuing to work very hard toward identifying and calling a new Senior Pastor:

My own search process is in the beginning stages for where God might be directing me next. I was interested in one particular church's Mission Statement, which reads: To Make Disciples who Make Disciples. I am intrigued by their vision of every member being involved in the process of not only growing in their discipleship, but also preparing to grow more disciples.

Summer time is a great time to get some rest and read and spend some time with people. It is also a good time to consider what sort of impact God is calling us to make in the lives of others. I'd like to ask you, as I am challenging myself, to view the summer months as a time to explore and "tool up" for whatever next steps in discipleship God intends for you, me and "us." And please pray for Staff, Session and the PNC as we work behind the scenes in preparation for our Fall programs.

Alleluia!

Dave Bianchin
Interim Pastor

Welcome Bryan Harden, Director of Music Ministries

Mr. Bryan Harden has been selected as our new full time Director of Music Ministries.



At the May Session meeting, the Session approved the candidate selected by both the Traditional and Contemporary music search teams. Bryan has begun his service with us leading all aspects of music ministry for First Pres.

Bryan has extensive worship leadership experience including eight years with First Presbyterian Church of Orlando where he served as Director of Music and the Arts. Bryan is a singer and musician with over thirty years in the professional music business. Throughout his years of involvement in professional music, Bryan has always had a deep love of church music, and has served ministry for a variety of local and para-church ministries.

Please take time to welcome Bryan to our church family.

Family Ministries Invites You to Family Camp 2011, Labor Day Weekend!

Friday, September 2- Monday, September 5

Registration is now open for “Family Camp 2011,” our church family’s annual Labor Day weekend camp held at Presbyterian Camps, Saugatuck, Michigan. www.prescamps.org.

Members and non-members of First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn are warmly invited to participate in this multi-generational camp situated on the dunes of Lake Michigan.

To download Family Camp 2011 information and registration forms, go to <http://www.firstpresge.org/#/ministries/family>. Also, be sure to check out our FaceBook fan page, “Family Camp 2011- First Presbyterian Church of Glen-Ellyn”.

Camp pricing: 3 night and 7 meal stay
 \$196.00 per adult (18+)
 \$163.00 per youth (12-17)
 \$97.00 per child (3-11)
 \$15.00 per infant (0-2).
 (Saturday breakfast through Monday breakfast)

New this year, a two-night stay option!
 Saturday, September 3-
 Monday, September 5

Family Camp Talent show 2010 ▼

Camp pricing: 2 night and 5 meal stay
 \$142.00 per adult (18+),
 \$118 per youth (12-17)
 \$70.00 per child (3-11)
 \$15.00 per infant (0-2)
 (Saturday dinner through Monday breakfast)

Deposit of \$75 per family is due by June 30 to confirm your family’s participation at this year’s camp. Full payment is due by August 1. Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn. (“Family Camp” in the memo.)

Registration forms and checks are due June 30, send to:

Lisa Chay
 770 Highland
 Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

For more information, contact our 2011 Family Camp Directors, Lisa Chay (630) 545-2434 or Zabrina Lindsay (773)320-1827.



Marveling at God’s Creation ▲



Men’s Fall Retreat

Mark your calendars early on for the men’s fall retreat to be held at the Dekovan Center in Racine Wisconsin.

We will gather for golf on Friday afternoon, October 21 at a nearby golf course. (Racine has several good inexpensive courses.) We will meet for dinner and hear our first topic addressed in large group. There will be a bon fire on Friday night. On Saturday we will gather for brief worship, short talks, witnesses and small groups. In the afternoon there will be opportunity to mix it up through sports and other activities.

Saturday evening the large group retreat will come to a close so that men can return home that evening if they need to do that. On Sunday morning, those who are able to stay for an extended retreat will gather for silence, worship, and sharing out of the silence. Check out the Dekovan Center on the web. The buildings are old and unique. There is a fine historic chapel and a great gym.

Mark your calendars for October 21-22(23), Men’s Retreat, DeKovan Center, Racine, Wisconsin.

Tidings

Are you still receiving *Tidings* in the mail? Do you use email regularly? May we add your name to the *Tidings* email list? If so, please send an email note to Cathy at ccolten@firstpresge.org so we have your correct address.

Please let the church office know if your contact information changes (email address, phone number, etc.)

Come to Summer BBQs!

Ready for some juicy hamburgers, cool summer salads and pie? BBQs are scheduled for Wednesdays, June 22 through August 3 in the Upper Gallery at 6:00pm. Join us for a casual meal and conversation. No need to RSVP. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share. We’ll provide meat, chips and beverages for \$3 per person (\$12 maximum per family).

Thanks to the following groups who agreed to host a BBQ: Deacons, Care Council, Bell Choir, Family Ministries and the Sanctuary Choir.

We need one more host group/family for July 6. Call the church office at 630-469-2007 to volunteer.

Volunteers Needed for Summer PADS

Summer PADS has begun. First Pres hosts PADS the first Thursday of every month. Summer cooks and volunteers are greatly needed on July 7, Aug. 4 and Sept. 1. If you are available please contact Alyssa Matula, 630-495-9565 or a.k.matula@gmail.com

Wonder with Mickie about. . . .

You know I love to wonder, so now that we are really into summer, is it too soon to wonder about “FALL?” The Children’s Ministry Team can’t slack off for a minute during the summer because the FALL is just around the corner. So here is what I need your help wondering about:

1. “Light the Way Village” beginning September 11th – The Village will have experiences of learning in four or five environments. We will study the Prophet Nehemiah.

Children will get the chance to:

- a. watch movies
- b. produce puppet plays
- c. create a model of Jerusalem (rebuild the walls just like Nehemiah)
- d. sing and dance to Jewish music
- e. hear the story and eat the food of Israel

Sounds exciting right? We do this to connect with the sermon series for the FALL. But who among you wants to help? That’s what I’m wondering about. We need folks to be Lamplighters (those who travel with a specific age group) and Workshop Leaders (those who work one month at a time in a specific room). Will you take a turn? Watch the sign up boards in the Gathering Place or email me modonnell@firstpresge.org

2. 9:00am Worship and Education – this FALL we are going to increase 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, but also have the option to leave for an age appropriate experience during the sermon (just like we’ve always done).

a. Dr. Yuhas and Mrs. Zelenka will provide “Children’s Worship/ Word and Worship” with story, songs, activities and wonder for children ages 4yrs-1st grade.

b. This Fall, 2nd through 4th graders will have their own educational time if we have dedicated teachers that will rotate bi-weekly to provide a special experience for this age group throughout the year.

So naturally, I’m wondering who is going to do this? Will you step out of Worship to teach these children? You are needed. Contact me, modonnell@firstpresge.org

3. SPARK! - Yes, Spark begins in October and already our Spark Team is hard at work lining up the larger team. Here’s what we are wondering about:

- a. Elective Leaders – do you have a gift to share for five weeks with a group of kids?
- b. Small Group Leaders – do you want to build relationships with kids and help them grow in their relationship with Jesus?
- c. Floaters and shoppers – can you help in various ways on Wednesday?

There is LOTS to wonder about this summer, so put on your Wonder Hat and your work boots and jump in and serve!

An Evening of Conversation

“Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God’s love and God’s judgement: Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this “good news?”” (Excerpted from Rob Bell’s book, *Love Wins – A Book About Heaven, Hell and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived*.)

First Pres member Bob Fryling led a discussion about Bell’s book on a recent summer evening. Over 35 people, most of whom had read the book, gathered in the Parlor to discuss the book. Bob began with three reasoning points for the evenings discussion:

- The discussion would not be to promote the book or pan the book or to change our theology.
- The discussion would help those gathered to understand why what Bell is saying is so compelling and also so controversial.

• The discussion would help those gathered to grow in their understanding of God and his purposes in their lives and in the world.

Bob went on to outline the significance of the universalism debate which has been one of the main points of vigorous discussion surrounding the book. He then laid out a theological continuum on heaven and hell and eternal destiny – ranging from double predestination (all people are predestined to either hell or heaven) to pluralism (all will be saved regardless of religious beliefs, no uniqueness in Christ.) The discussion concluded with folks voicing their response to what Bell had written.

Bob noted at the end of the evening that although the book has been very controversial, there was a wonderful spirit of open and thoughtful discussion about the issues raised in the book.



The last choir rehearsal lead by Mark Peterson. ▲

Thank you Steve and Mark!

The choir and praise team have had an amazing season of spiritual growth and community, and we thank God for providing interim leadership from Steve Slagg and Mark Peterson. God is good and He is at work in our midst!