

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



## 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.



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
of GLEN ELLYN

# TIDINGS

November 2011

Volume 16, Issue 11

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It's STAR TREE Time!  
An Adventure for Christ  
RIDE AMAGARA: AFRICA

Please send articles for Tidings  
to [bcipriano@firstpresge.org](mailto:bcipriano@firstpresge.org),  
by the 15th of each month.

### Worship Schedule Sunday

9:00 am Contemporary  
11:15 am Traditional

**Office hours**  
Monday - Friday 9 - 5

Check our website for monthly  
events [www.firstpresge.org](http://www.firstpresge.org)

First Presbyterian  
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Dear Friends,

I enjoy the changing seasons; they offer differing glimpses of beauty in the world and they remind us that life is about adjusting to the changes that come our way. I am sad to see the 70 degree days disappear, to be replaced for now with rain, wind and cooler temperatures, but I am reminded that this is the way the world works. As we move closer to the "Holiday Season," I think the same dynamic applies.

Thanksgiving allows us to pause for no other reason than to be grateful. For farmers, the season of harvest is a time of joyously thanking God for His provision after months of hard work. For those of us who do not have quite as obvious an event as gathering crops in, it is nevertheless just as important for us to pause to be thankful. When was the last time you made a "thank-you list?" I think it's a great thing to do because the exercise requires us to slow down, think deeply and broadly, and write it down for all to see.

Christmas, of course, causes us to reflect upon our God who entered into our world for us. I love the Christmas story because I get to reflect upon the wonder and majesty of God planning in heaven how to reach His people. But, I also get to reflect upon the vulnerability and sacrifice that God made in Jesus Christ to redeem us from our sins. I think this requires another thank-you list!

The Brief Statement of Faith in our Book of Confessions begins by saying, "In life or in death we belong to God." I love that statement, but I also want to "fill it in:" there is a lot of life between birth and death, many changing seasons, several really big events in our lives, and scores of people who are important to us. The late pastor Harry Emerson Fosdick titled his autobiography *The Living of These Days*. He recognized in that title that while life is often counted in years, or in seasons, life is lived out in days.

So as we live through and trust God in seasonal changes, may we live each day in such a way that God's loving presence is recognized, God's graciousness moves us to thanksgiving, and God's love for us moves us to worship. For all the changes we live with, there is one thing that never changes, and that is God's great love for us.

*Alleluia!*

*Dave Bianchin*

**COWBOYS,  
COOKIN'  
& CASH**  
Yee Haw!  
Saturday  
Nov. 12, 2011  
6:00-10:00pm

**Cowpoke duds optional.  
Leave Trigger and the  
young'uns at home.**

**Purchase tickets after services in the  
Gathering Place. \$10 in advance,  
\$15 at the door.**

**Just think! You could be the winner of  
this year's CHILI COOK-OFF!**

Be one of the first to enter this event. The first ten individuals to sign up to bring chili will be entered. Please plan on bringing enough to serve 20 people. A knowledgeable, unbiased panel of judges will choose the winning recipes! FUN PRIZES will be presented. Sign up between services at the ticket table located in the gathering area.

If not participating in the contest, please bring a side dish: green salad, bread, or dessert to share. For more information, contact Kathy Miller at (630) 516-3626 or [retiredbsm@aol.com](mailto:retiredbsm@aol.com).

Auction items are still being accepted. Please contact Judy Fitzgerald at (630) 303-1521 or [jnj570@comcast.net](mailto:jnj570@comcast.net)

**Thanksgiving Eve  
Worship Service  
Wednesday  
November 23  
7:30pm in  
the Chapel**

**Join us for  
"Pie-in-the-Parlor"  
following the  
service.**

**The Deacons’ Appreciation Committee** give “An Amazing Thank You” and recognized Kerri and Don Andersen , Ron Blauwkamp, Paul Drennan, Maurine Hoepfner, and Sally Schumann. They were nominated for their contributions to the church.

-Kerri and Don for their many years of church participation and guidance.

-Ron for his contributions to the Earthlings group.

-Paul for his music leadership.

-Maurine for her participation and leadership with the senior groups.

-Sally for her participation in the Village and VBS.

If you would like to nominate a group or individual and recognize their contributions to the Church, complete a form and place it in the box on the shelf next to the coat area.

### **ESSE Adult Day Services 15th Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser**

Nov. 5, 2011, 7:30am-11:00am  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
515 S. Wheaton Ave., Wheaton.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance 630-260-3773  
Silent Auction and Raffle two round trip tickets on Southwest Airlines, A seven night stay at a Marriott Resort in Az., Golf at Arrowhead, and many more!

**Earthlings**, a creation-care group at First Presbyterian, meets the second Sunday night of every month from 6-8 p.m. in the parlor. Everyone is welcome. Next meeting: November 13.

Bring your mug to coffee hour at church each Sunday! Help First Presbyterian save money and care for creation.

### **Outreach Community Center Christmas Store December 10**

Have you ever experienced the Outreach Community Center (OCC) Christmas store? It is a phenomenal experience and one you will want to be a part of year after year. What is the Christmas store? The OCC sends out invitations to the families living within the Community Center’s district to shop for Christmas presents on December 10th. This event, the Christmas Store, gives low income families an opportunity to shop for gifts for their children at 25% of the retail cost. Last year 427 families shopped for 1,159 children. The parents or grandparents can purchase two gifts per child.

First Pres is one of 48 churches, businesses, organizations, and schools that support the OCC Christmas store. Over 400 volunteers work to make the Christmas store happen.

How can you help?

1) Volunteer your time on December 10th as a shopper’s helper, gift wrapper, van driver, table host, childcare helper, or one of several other jobs.

2) Purchase a gift or gifts for the Store. Over 4000 gifts are needed for ages infant through 18 years. You can even purchase gifts through Amazon.com and send directly to OCC. Our Spark children will set up the star Tree in the Gathering Place. Take an ornament and bring your unwrapped gift to the church before Dec. 7.

3) Help underwrite the expenses: postage, table rentals, promotional materials, etc. Often the Center has to purchase gifts for the older children.

To volunteer on Dec. 10, contact Kathy Christensen at KChristensen@outreachcommmin.org or 630.682.1910 or Marti Thompson at thompson2127@comcast.net or 630.752.9181. You will be happy you did.

### **Welcome New Members!**

On Oct 16th, nine new members were welcomed in worship.

**Curt Cohoon** – You will recognize Curt as a member of the Praise Team. A Bible verse he lives by is Matt. 28:19 – Curt is gifted in building relationships, and seeks to draw others to know Christ as their Lord and Savior. Curt plans to get involved with Membership Ministry team. Curt works in sales and in his spare time, he enjoys sports.

**Jeanne Edwards** – Jeanne was first invited to First Pres by her son Isaac – she came and she stayed! She moved from Florida last year just as the first of many snowstorms arrived. Jeanne manages the allergy department for an ENT practice. She helps her daughter-in-law Courtney teach the 4&5 year old Sunday School class and hopes to get involved in a Bible study.

**Lance and Shana Frederick** – They are the busy parents of Benjamin (3yrs) and Susannah (7 months). Shana and Lance first heard of First Pres through friends. The children’s programs/preschool, the preaching on Sunday mornings and small groups were important factors in their decision to join the church. Shana plans to meet other moms of young children through involvement with Circle of Grace.

**Marc and Molly Giovingo** – They are busy with their children Isabella (2 yrs) and Gabriel (4 months). In addition, Marc teaches at Hadley Jr. High and Molly works in marketing at Baxter Healthcare. They both enjoy sports – Marc, baseball and Molly, tennis. At First Pres, Molly would like to get involved with event planning and Marc would enjoy working with children of all ages.

**Bryan and Margaret** – Bryan serves at First Pres as Director of Worship Arts. Margaret uses her musical gifts as a vocalist on the Praise Team and choir. In addition, Margaret works as a professional singer and voice teacher. They both enjoy spending family time with their young adult children, Madi and Rob.

**Heather Kramer** – Heather and her husband George DeHesus are the parents of Reece (almost 2 yrs). Heather is an attorney/commercial litigator with a Chicago firm. Heather keeps active playing tennis and softball and she is an ardent fan of the Iowa Hawkeyes and Chicago Cubs. She is interested in getting involved with an adult Bible class, music programs and assisting with children’s programs.

The November **Film Club** selection is “The Ides of March,” directed by and starring George Clooney, and currently in theaters.

Our next meeting is Sunday, November 20, 5:00pm, in the Gathering Place.

If you plan to donate items to the Film Club gift basket for the November auction, please be sure to give me those items by October 31. The committee has asked for all items to be to them by November 1. Thanks again for your support and donations for the church’s auction event. Dawn Koyzis 708-341-2745, dekoz4@sbcglobal.net

### **Glen Ellyn Food Pantry**

“There are hungry people in every neighborhood” stated the Chicago Tribune in an October 10th article. The article went on to report that 1.8 million of Illinois’ 12.9 million residents live at or below the poverty line. When children aren’t well-fed they perform poorly in school. Stressed-out parents miss more days of work, become sick more easily, and struggle to keep their jobs.

The Northern Illinois Food Bank which assists the Glen Ellyn Food pantry providing food at lower costs has seen a 168 % increase in the number of people needing help since 2006. As these dire economic conditions continue, supplies cannot meet the increased demand.

The Glen Ellyn Food Pantry appreciates the great support First Pres continues to provide. Our members give generously through 53rd Sunday contributions, our October Food Drive, and through contributions to the Thanksgiving dinners program. Please continue to pray for the Pantry that it can continue to meet the needs of our community.

If you have any questions regarding the Pantry or would like to volunteer, please contact Marti Thompson at Thompson2127@comcast.net or 630-752-9181.

### **THE CENTRALITY OF CHRIST**

*By Barbara Gosselar*

Hebrews 10:19-25

*Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another. . . vs. 23-25a*

With our new Session structure, I no longer write for the Spiritual Formation Ministry Team. But I wanted to share some thoughts from a new devotional I’m using – “Songs For Renewal” by Janet Lindeblad Janzen with Richard J. Foster. The devotional entries are based on hymns, contemporary songs, Taize worship music, etc. As a lover of all kinds of music, each one has spoken to my heart.

This weekend I arrived “In the Name of Christ We Gather”, a good old hymn of the faith. The lyrics of the three verses are as follows:

<b>1</b> In the name of Christ we gather, out of love we seek His will. As disciples, through His grace may we our covenant fulfill. Now, encouraging one another, on His Spirit we depend: . . .	<b>2</b> Let us live a life of prayer and holiness before the Lord; Walk, rejoicing in the Spirit and obedience to God’s Word, Serving others with compassion, to the world this message send: . . .	<b>3</b> Though the path ahead be narrow, Jesus makes our burden light; Gives us joy and peace in trial, final vict’ry in the fight. Giving glory unto God, may we be faithful to the end: . . .
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Each verse then ends with “Jesus Christ, our ever-living Savior, Teacher, Lord, and Friend.”

Christians through the ages have gathered in the name of Christ. We are purified by His blood, His sacrifice. In His name, we have a responsibility to each other – to encourage one another, to serve each other, to hold each other accountable to live lives of prayer and holiness, to be empowered by the Spirit, to be compassionate, and to share the message of Christ’s love. It all centers on Christ, the Word, who is ever faithful. Jesus Christ is our ever living “Savior to forgive us, our Teacher to instruct us, our Lord to rule us, and our Friend to come alongside us.” Songs for Renewal, p. 15.

Our community of faith at First Pres also gathers in the name of Christ. He is the center of everything we do. He is the cornerstone of our commitment to each other. As we are nearing a time to welcome a new pastor to lead us, what a wonderful reminder that, with all our diversity, the centrality of Christ binds us, **always**.

*Christ Jesus, help us to worship and adore you in Spirit and in Truth. Help us to be united around you as our Savior, Teacher, Lord and Friend. Make us accountable to each other as we gather in your name. Above all, we long for you to fill us with your presence as the very Center and core of who we are as individuals and as a church. Amen.*

### **Wondering with Mickie**

We are having a ‘wonder’ful Fall Season in Children Ministries. During our 9am worship hour, our Church School “Village” teaching team has been teaching Old Testament Stories and The Basics of God Word. At 10am our Sunday School “Village” teaching team has been helping our Village Kids learn songs, act out plays, make bricks, build walls, play games and tell the story of Nehemiah. Pre-school children in “Wonderland” are learning Old Testament stories through songs, stories and crafts.

A special new Music time has been initiated and our thanks go to Karen Felker, Sheila North and Curt Cohoon for their time and energy with the kids. Wasn’t it fun to hear them sing at church?

November 20 we will celebrate the Festival of the Sukkot during the 10am hour. Come join us. Then beginning November 27 we will be looking for movie, game, craft and storytelling people to work on the ADVENT Lessons! Come and join the fun.

Contents of Worship Bags and Folders keep kids engaged during the worship experience and are meant to take home to reinforce

what the kids learn from week to week. Special thanks to Nancy Reagan for putting together these bags and folders each week. Thanks to the Sewing Circle for making new bags and thanks to the LuJan family for donating supplies to keep these bags filled with fun things to do for children.

Then, there is SPARK. Wow, talk about ‘wonder’ful! Almost 150 grade school children come to our building to experience first-hand the wonders of God’s word through electives and small group studies. Thanks to all these ‘wonder’ful people who devote their time to this ministry.

## Thanksgiving Eve Offering

The Mission Ministry Team has identified Jubilee Village, a ministry of Outreach Community Ministries, as the recipient of our Thanksgiving Eve Offering this year.

### The need:

- There are 18 apartment units in a building, located in Carol Stream, owned by Jubilee Village.

- Windows in the units are 40 years old and in very poor condition.

- Seals around the windows are broken and during the winter, the wind whips through.

- Every winter, they tape the windows to attempt to stop the leakage of heat and income of wind.

- All the windows in each unit need to be replaced.

- The cost of replacing windows in each apartment unit (living room and bedroom) is \$5000, but Jubilee Village is very willing to replace individual windows as funds are available.

### Those who will benefit:

Jubilee Village is a “safe building” for young women and their babies. The young women enter between the ages of 18 - 20 and stay for 2 years. The girls all work and most are attending college. All have one child. The goal is for them to become contributing members of society by the time they leave.

The focus of Jubilee Village is homeless girls in DuPage County. All are not sleeping on the streets. Some are at home with their parents, where the addition of a baby has caused an over-occupancy situation. Others are in volatile home situations. Others still go from friend to friend, staying at their homes...which is called “couch-surfing”.

www.outreachcommunityministries.com

## November Special Music at First Pres

October 30

Reformation Sunday, Bagpipes

November 6

9:00am

Worship Band and Vocals

11:15am

Sanctuary Choir

November 13

9:00am

Worship Band and Vocals

11:15am

Sanctuary Choir and Handbells

November 20

9:00am

Worship Band and Praise Choir

11:15am

Sanctuary Choir and Full Orchestra

November 23, 7:30pm

Thanksgiving Eve Service in

Chapel

November 27

(First Sunday of Advent)

9:00am

Worship Band and Vocals

11:15am

Sanctuary Choir

## It's STAR TREE Time!

SPARK kids are preparing special ornaments for the STAR TREES that will be set up in the Gathering Place and by Westminster School. Take an ornament home and purchase a gift for a needy child. Do not wrap it. Bring it back to the church with the ornament attached. These gifts will be delivered to the Outreach Community Center's Christmas Store on Dec. 7.

The Christmas Store is a special one-day event where they invite those who have received services from the Outreach Center to affordably shop for Christmas gifts for their children. This year they anticipate over 400 families to shop for over 1,000 children. You can also volunteer to help at the store. Just visit [www.outreachcommunityministries.org](http://www.outreachcommunityministries.org) for even more information.

## A Dan and Carolyn Buck Update ...

Many of you support Dan and Carolyn financially and through prayer. We thought you would like to know how the LORD blessed them in a big way in September. Living in a village of about 300 people (without even a grocery store) in Switzerland for the next 2 years, they have felt the need for a small used car. In addition to making the grocery shopping easier, they would be able to do more local outreach. They had been praying and looking at advertisements. Dan wrote that they heard God saying: stop looking, I am going to give you a car. They kept praying, and within a few days, some people GAVE them a car AND paid the insurance for a year. These people had been given money for a new car and donated their old one to Dan and Carolyn. We are reminded of the early church in Acts 2 and 4, where they shared their possessions and gave to those who had need. Wow. Our God continues to be amazing and powerful! How wonderful to see evidence in the here and now. Praise the LORD!

If you want to read about their work and lives at the YWAM base in Switzerland, their blog is [www.dan-carolyn.blogspot.com](http://www.dan-carolyn.blogspot.com)

Sign Steve and my name if you want/think appropriate. I hope the focus is clearly on praising the LORD. Change it as needed.

Thanks

Susan Buck 630-790-3649

*Women's Ministry presents Day Apart 2012:*

*'She Lives Her Life as a Gift' Retreat Speaker: Sandy Alcorn*

*Women are invited to a special retreat day, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012. Save the Date!*

You are cordially invited.....

## 2011 YMEN Auction & Dinner

Friday, Nov. 4, 2011

A splendid night of music, delicious food, great people, and fabulous options to give to a worthy cause. The young men of North Lawndale and the great folks at YMEN would love to see you there. So let us eat, drink, and be merry!

Le Jardin

Cantigny Park Visitor's Center

1S151 Winfield Rd

Wheaton, IL 60187

Arrival time: 5:45pm

Silent Auction begins at 6:00pm

Dinner will be served at 6:30pm

Silent auction closes at 7:30pm

Live Auction begins at 8pm

The Night Shall Include.....

The amazing talent of the

French Gypsy Jazz band, Le

Percolateur

All proceeds benefit the Young Men's Educational Network. YMEN is a certified 501(c)3 organization, all donations are tax-deductible.

Tickets are \$50 each, or a table of 10 is available for \$500.

Please call Xavier Ramey at

312-523-3705 or Mike Trout at

773-852-9830.

*Mary Martha Circle will meet at the home of Ann Ward on Wednesday, November 2, at noon. We will study a deeper meaning of the Beatitudes. You are welcome to join us.*

Dear Members of First Pres,

*We thank you for the prayers, kind expressions of sympathy, meals, flowers, well-wishes, love...that you showered upon our family as we honored and celebrated the life of my wife, Bobbye Holmes, who passed away on September 11.*

*We are truly blessed to have such wonderful, caring friends here at First Pres, and we are grateful for the outpouring of love and care you have shown.*

*Bobbye is now in a place where she has no more pain, no more chemotherapy infusions, no more suffering. As we grieve, we rejoice that she is now healed.*

*We can't thank you enough for all that you do and have done to lovingly give us comfort in this time of sorrow.*

*With love and gratitude, Cleveland Holmes and family*

## Work Day

The Office of Christian Outreach at Wheaton College is offering a Community Work Day on Saturday, November 5, 2011. Hire students to do your cleaning, outside yard work, or any other jobs that you may need some willing and able college students to handle. Any donation above Illinois minimum wage per person (\$8.25) will be tax-deductible. All donations will help support the ministries of the Office of Christian Outreach. To request workers for a full day, a half day, or to receive more information, please call 630-752-5076 between the hours of 8am-5pm, M-F.

# better together plus 1

## Better Together-Plus 1

What does this have to do with stewardship? This fall, the Stewardship Mission team has adopted the theme **BETTER TOGETHER!**

One could reasonably ask “What does this theme have to do with stewardship?” The answer: everything!

*Don't miss it this year! Annual Sewing Circle Sale Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011 9:00am-12:00pm Gathering Place*

*What's for sale? Great Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers. Gifts and prices for everyone. All items handmade by church members. Sale benefits missions.*

An Adventure for Christ **RIDE AMAGARA: AFRICA 2011** Cape Town to Jerusalem by Motorcycle.

An Adventure for Christ: 2 Men, 2 Motorcycles, 12 Countries, 4 Months.

Going the distance for over 500 AIDS orphans in Uganda.

September – December 2011 Stephen Brown and Nolan Gallagher are on an adventure of a lifetime as they travel from Cape Town South Africa to Jerusalem by motorcycle to help raise \$200,000 for the construction of a primary school at Kishanje Village in Uganda.

For more information please go to [Ride4Amagara.com](http://Ride4Amagara.com).

Stewardship is much more than a Fall call for financial support for our church's needs for the following year. The Bible describes stewardship as God's call for our **TIME, TALENTS, and TREASURE**. God gives us all of these and he wishes that we use them for our own spiritual enhancement and the betterment of others.

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace. - 1 Peter 4:10*

## Anonymous Question Night 2011

Every year, we give our high school students the opportunity to ask any questions they want, that will be answered by Jocelyn and the other leaders. We affectionately refer to this as anonymous question night. This night is always a perennial favorite for the students because they can ask very personal questions that may be embarrassing to talk about. Also, they get to see the leaders blush when certain questions are asked. The questions range from humorous, “Do you wish you were an Oscar Meyer Weiner”, to earnestly asking for advice “What is the best way to ask a girl out on a date”, to the theological, “Can God make or create a being larger than himself”. To streamline the process this year, we organized boxes to categorize the questions. The categories were “Dating and Relationships,” “Politics, society and culture,” “The Bible and Theology,” “Personal,” and “Miscellaneous”. Here is a sample of some of the questions asked in each category:

### Dating and Relationships

- Is being a creeper a sin?
- I'm not a virgin, what do I do now?
- When should you actually have a real relationship (after high-school, during high school)?
- **Politics, Society and Culture**
- Explain how/why Obama has racked up so much debt.
- Christian organizations try to outlaw homosexuality but not anger or lust, which Jesus says are also sins. If all sins are equal, why is homosexuality singled out like this/ do you think this is a reasonable approach?
- Can war ever be just?

## November 13th is

Stewardship Sunday at First Pres. Each of us will be asked to make a commitment of our TIME, TALENT, and TREASURE for 2011. Pledge cards will be distributed to members by mail and will be available in the Gathering Area. Pledges can also be made on our church's website [www.firstpresge.org](http://www.firstpresge.org). Each of our individual commitments will help us, in many ways, be BETTER TOGETHER!

*Respectfully yours, The Stewardship Ministry Team*

### Bible and Theology

- Sermon on the mount...meant to screw us over?
- Who created God? Was he just always there?
- If you know God will forgive you, does that make everything you do ok?
- **Miscellaneous**
- If you could spend a day with 3 people (dead, alive or fictional) who would it be?
- Is Charlie Sheen still winning?
- Beatles or Rolling Stones?