

# NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING Sunday March 14th



One Great Hour of Sharing is a Lenten offering, March 14<sup>th</sup> being set as the ingathering here at First Church. The most recent call for help is the earthquake in Haiti that had OGHs responding quickly to the needs of the survivors of that disaster, but there is also followup work being done for the Katrina area, the tsunami victims, and other locations where nature has caused great devastation. Working with partners in the affected areas, OGHs provides homes for the homeless, food for the hungry, education for areas without schools, and spiritual and emotional support for victims of natural and human-caused disasters.

With the theme of "Feed My Sheep", OGHs reaches out to provide a better living for those in need both globally and nationally. Please plan on being a part of this essential outreach with a contribution on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **OUTREACH HOUSE VOLUNTEERS**

The strength of the Outreach House is its reaching out to members of the community through *first things first*, helping infants up to age 3, and the Walk-In Ministry, serving adults and families in crisis; and there is a need for additional volunteers to help in making good things happen. Not much time is involved. Twice a month (even more would be most welcome!) from 9:45 until noon Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, would help fill out the staff that serves those needing assistance. Training is provided to make the tasks easy and comfortable, and workers team as pairs. Please call Sandra Hill, Outreach Coordinator, at 630-693-0187 to become a part of the volunteer crew or if there are questions that need to be answered.

### **JUBILEE, A WEEKLY WEDNESDAY EVENT**

*Jubilee* has become a popular Wednesday event between 3:30-5:30 PM in the Resource Center where children, age 5 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, gather to do things that keep them active and are fun. Many of those who attend aren't from First Church families, so encourage your children to invite friends to join them for this after-school program. Parents are encouraged, also, to bring the kids to the Community Table so the family can eat together with members of the community and First Church for a healthy dinner.

### **MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> WITH AN IRISH CONNECTION**

The Luck O' the Irish Party may not fall exactly on St. Patrick's Day, but March 13<sup>th</sup> is close enough to provide the link for the traditional St. Pat's dinner of corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots, and dessert. For families with kids whose tastes haven't yet developed for this delicacy, there will be hot dogs to satisfy those palates.

Add the loaves of Irish soda bread that will be served after the chefs have chosen the winner of the "best loaf" contest, and it's a full meal. The invitation is still out for contestants for the Irish soda bread contest. Just let Jean Reneau, chair of the Parish Life Ministry, know at [jean@reneau.us](mailto:jean@reneau.us) or 630-627-4545 that you'd like to enter your loaf of your favorite recipe, and you'll be entered in the contest. There will be recognition for the winner and even a prize.

The evening will be authenticated even further with live music that will lift the spirits of anyone enjoying lively melodies. All this for just \$5 a person or \$20 for a whole immediate family. Please sign up on the poster on the bulletin board in the foyer so that the chefs will have an idea of how many to prepare for.

### **WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY TABLE**

The Community Table can be full of surprises when a celebrity chef appears to prepare the dinner, but *every* Wednesday brings a nutritious and palate-pleasing dinner from 5:30-7 PM. Where else can you move among tables and eat with people, some of whom you know, and some of whom you'll enjoy getting to know and welcome?

We could always use more hands to set up Fellowship Hall, prepare the food, serve it, and clean up. Willing? Please contact Sandra Hill at [shill@theoutreachhouse.org](mailto:shill@theoutreachhouse.org) or 630-693-0187 to let her know that you're available to help.

### **WEDNESDAY NOON STUDY**

"*Modern Parables*" the Wednesday Lenten study program will meet every week until Easter at noon to view a video of a contemporary translation of familiar parables that will stimulate thought and conversation. Bring a sack lunch and join others who enjoy coming to a greater understanding of portions of biblical history.

### **"TOUGH QUESTIONS"**

Everyone has tough questions to wrestle with at some time, and Sundays during Lent, there is an opportunity to share those issues with others from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the North Conference Room. Receiving some answers will be balanced with being able to help with others' tough question issues.

### **WELCOME TEDDY ROOSEVELT**

Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, the Maple Street Chapel will be open for a 7:30 PM program that brings Theodore Roosevelt to present day conversation. Terry Lynch has studied the life and times of the popular president long enough to feel comfortable "talking" for him. This would be a great program to bring young people to so that they get a touch of history in a really palatable manner. Cost is \$15 a person.

### **LILACTIME AUCTION**

Now is the time to start preparations for your participation in the May 15<sup>th</sup> Lilactime Auction.

- Are you willing to be a part of the crew that will aid in making phone calls as followup to the donor invitation letters or picking up the items donated by local businesses?
- Are you willing to help with publicity, dinner, or help with the physical setup of the auction area?
- Are you planning on making a craft...quilt...afghan...small woodcraft piece, etc?
- Have you invited friends to join you, asking now so that the date can be set on their calendars?
- Have you added your name to the theme basket sign-up sheet in the foyer?
- Is your calendar highlighted for May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM?

It's a night of fun and a time to get some great items for yourself or for gifts. And it's a night that provides one of the largest contributions to the First Church budget. Please make this night a priority.

### **GOURMET GUYS**

It's not summer and outdoor grilling time for men to shine as BBQ specialists. It **is** the time for Gourmet Guys, the annual April event when men get to show their expertise in the kitchen with a favorite entrée, side dish, or dessert. Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, is this year's event date, and we now need to know who is going to be contributors to this popular gastronomical extravaganza. Wives, if your husband has a special dish that he likes to prepare, urge him to be a part of the kitchen crew for April 10<sup>th</sup>. Men, if you'd like to join other men who enjoy cooking, volunteer by contacting Jean Reneau, chair of the Parish Life Ministry, at 630-627-4545 or [jean@reneau.us](mailto:jean@reneau.us).

For everyone else, plan on bringing the family and friends to enjoy a full menu of great food on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **"THREE CUPS OF TEA" SPEAKER**

Greg Mortenson, noted for his best-selling book, Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time, will be the featured speaker on Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the O'Hare Hyatt Regency following a dinner of Pakistani foods and accompanying music. Mortenson is the driving force of Central Asia

Institute(CAI), a 501(c)3 agency. The current program teams with local communities that initiate, implement and manage projects while CAI provides the funds to build schools (131 at last count) serving 58,000 children.

Costs for tickets begin at \$150 (\$150 provides annual school supplies for a dozen children), and includes the dinner, program, and a copy of Mortenson's latest book Stones into Schools: Promoting Peace with Books, not Bombs. Tickets are tax deductible and may be ordered at [www.ikat.org/cai-annual-fundraiser](http://www.ikat.org/cai-annual-fundraiser). Kristi Carlson is available at [mapgirl1997@yahoo.com](mailto:mapgirl1997@yahoo.com) or 630-416-7127 to answer any questions.

### **HEADS UP FOR RUMMAGE SALE**

The April calendar includes the Women's Fellowship Annual Spring Rummage Sale on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, the 24<sup>th</sup>. Please plan for these dates as you approach the time to switch out wardrobes to accommodate changing seasons.

### **IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

...Congratulations to **Doris and Dave Schertz** who celebrate their 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> – MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup> AT FIRST CHURCH**

|                  |  |                                    |  |
|------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Sun. 2/28</b> | 9:00 AM Explorers/Confirmation<br>10:15 AM Worship-<br>Main Sanctuary<br>10:15 AM Sunday School<br>11:30 AM <i>OJV &amp; OGN</i><br>11:30 AM "Tough Questions"<br>3:00 PM Folk Concert<br>4:00 PM <i>One Step Closer</i><br>4:00 PM Middle School Mania<br>6:00 PM Youth Community |                                    | 3:30 PM Jubilee<br>5:30 PM Community Table<br>7:00 PM PRC Class<br>7:00 PM Children's Ministry<br>7:00 PM 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation<br>9:00 AM Crafts Group<br>10:00 AM Walk-In Ministry<br>10:00 AM <i>first things first</i><br>6:20 PM <i>Josiah Reade Ringers</i><br>6:45 PM Parish Life Ministry<br>7:45 PM Chancel Choir |
| <b>Mon. 3/1</b>  | 9:30 AM Women's Fellowship<br>Board<br>12:30 PM Staff Meeting<br>5:30 PM Heart Smart Class   | <b>Thur. 3/4</b>                   | 6:00 PM Youth Mystery Weekend<br>9:30 AM PRC Class<br>7:30 PM Chapel Show  |
| <b>Tue. 3/2</b>  | 8:00 AM Retired Men's Breakfast<br>10:00 AM Walk-In Ministry<br>10:00 AM <i>first things first</i><br>12:30 PM Sarah Circle<br>1:30 PM Maple Street Chapel<br>Anniversary Committee<br>6:30 PM P.A.D.S.<br>7:00 PM Esther Circle   | <b>Fri. 3/5</b><br><b>Sat. 3/6</b> | 9:00 AM Explorers/Confirmation<br>9:45 AM Blood Pressure Screening<br>10:15 AM Worship-Main Sanctuary<br>10:15 AM Sunday School<br>11:30 AM <i>OJV &amp; OGN</i><br>11:30 AM "Tough Questions"<br>11:30 AM Auction Committee<br>4:00 PM <i>One Step Closer</i><br>4:00 PM Middle School Mania  |
| <b>Wed. 3/3</b>  | 10:00 AM Walk-In Ministry<br>10:00 AM <i>first things first</i><br>12:00 PM "Modern Parables" Study  | <b>Sun. 3/7</b>                    |  |

### **SUNDAY MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**GREETERS:** Judy Andersen, Stacy Bouchard, Cindy Cloud, Jamie Geiger, Jeri Shaw.

**USHERS:** Chris Brown, Ray Chesi, Jake Peters, Mike Rodak, Scott Zatt.

**COUNTERS:** Ruth Ann Engstrom, Jamie Geiger, Charlie Peterson.

**COFFEE HOUR:** Paul and Vicki Green and the Wilson Family.

**NURSERY VOLUNTEER:** Andi and Jason Cooper.

**SOUND TEAM:** Kevin McGuire.

**LITURGIST:** Shirley Scott.