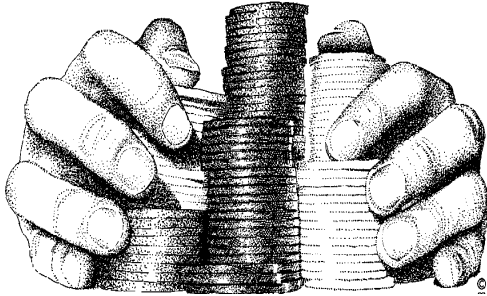


NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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NO LIMIT TEXAS HOLD 'EM NIGHT Saturday, August 28th

Another night of fun, a repeat of the October night that filled the MultiPurpose Room with First Church Family, friends, and community members who enjoyed a night of playing popular No Limit Texas Hold 'Em. Yes, it's poker. BUT, the whole evening costs just \$25, so "gambling" isn't costly. And the winner goes home with \$250. "No limit" means that players aren't restricted to the number of chips they can play on each hand.

There is a 100-person limit for seats for the evening, so it would be advisable to sign up NOW (check the bulletin board, or sign up after worship today during Coffee Hour) to ensure having a seat at the tables. Registration begins at 5 PM, and "Shuffle Up and Deal" starts at 6 PM. Sharp! Pop, beer, and wine will be available for purchase during the evening. Count on snacks, too.

Don't know how to play Texas Hold 'Em? Kathy and Bob Palm, coordinators of the event, have arranged for a 7 PM training session on Wednesday, August 25th, for those who want to learn more about the game, and the evening will also be a training time for dealers. Since there is a need for 16 dealers, the Palms would appreciate being alerted to anyone's desire to be a part of the "team".

This is a fundraiser for the church, so invite friends and neighbors to join you for an evening of enjoyment that will also benefit the church budget. Giving is good. Having fun giving is even better.

AN INVITATION TO A PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER

Kids age 3-5 can be counted on to provide some interesting times, and ours need to have a leader who will appreciate their spirit and energy, someone who will enjoy the experience as much as Lisa Stahulak did for all the years that she led that age children. Suzanne Sichz will continue as a second presence in the classroom, but there is a need for another person or a "tag team" of 2 who can alternate months or Sundays. Starting our children out early in their Christian Education experience is important, and it's rewarding for the adult who is willing to take on this sharing time. Please contact Becky Kirsh at 630-629-2630, ext. 15, or bkirsh@firstchurchoflombard.org to volunteer some time for our kids.

A GIFT OF LIFE, SUNDAY AUGUST 29

First Church is again responding to the need for blood, sponsoring the Heartland Mobile Coach in our parking lot on Sunday, August 29th, from 8:45 AM until noon.

The need for blood is rising, but only about 5% of eligible donors are meeting the need. In our own community, Heartland Blood Centers must collect nearly 600 pints of blood *every day* all year to ensure that patients in our hospitals have access to needed blood, often up to 15-20 pints for surgery and up to 90 pints for an accident victim.

Too often, individuals wait until they have a need for blood before they realize the importance of having it available. Heartland works daily to encourage volunteer donations...including on August 29th at First Church. Anyone weighing at least 110 pounds, is at least 17 years old (16 years with written parental permission), is in good health, and hasn't donated in 8 weeks is urged to sign up during Coffee Hour after worship today and next week or call Debbie Haugen, Parish Nurse, at 630-629-2630, ext. 12. This would be a good time to invite neighbors and friends to take part in this program which requires at least 21 participants to guarantee the mobile coach. Each donor could be saving up to 3 lives, so this is truly a gift of life.

FAMILY RETREAT

September 24-26 is a time for taking the family to Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer, Michigan and enjoying the activities that will be arranged for all ages as well as the opportunity to walk through woods, on the beach, and play indoors and out. There are still a few spaces available, so check for registration forms in the wire rack in the foyer or in the church office. The weekend will feature special times of fellowship, time for kids and adults to be separate, and much time for them to be together. Gammon Hall provides comfortable sleeping accommodations, so this is definitely not a "campout" experience. The weekend cost is \$80 (children age 4 and under, only \$55), and includes all meals except for Friday night which is an on-your-own time. Questions and further information may be had from Retreat Chairs Andi Cooper (630-730-6660), Linda Wilson (630-916-1868) or Becky Kirsh, Educational Ministries Coordinator, at 630-629-2630, ext. 15 or bkirsh@firstchurchoflombard.org.

A TIME TO SHARE WITH OUR CHILDREN

Rally Day, September 12th, signals the beginning of the fall program for children of all ages, and there is a need for adults to help in the successful "rotation workshops" that provide the classes with unique experiences. Can you help for a month (better yet, 2 or more!) cooking, guiding the kids through interesting crafts, storytelling, and other programs as they rotate through the various stations that lead them through Christian learning in new and exciting ways? Please check out the flyer that lists the different talents needed and the months through December that your help will be invaluable.

WHAT IS EQUAL EXCHANGE?

We have been promoting Fair Trade products at First Church for some time, but just what is Equal Exchange? It is a worker-owned cooperative working with small farmers in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the U. S., building trading relationships based on trust, fair prices, affordable credit and environmental sustainability.

Equal Exchange's Interfaith Program partners with faith-based relief, development and human rights organizations and works with communities of faith as they learn about and promote Fair Trade. People of faith are living out their values through their consumer choices, and farming communities are providing for their families, greening our planet and building a better future.

Learn more about Equal Exchange in the next newsletter, and plan on being able to purchase Fair Trade coffee and tea *every* Sunday during Coffee Hour, starting on September 5th.

GIFTS AND TALENTS TO SHARE

First Church is looking for people who are interested in sharing gifts, interests or knowledge with our congregation as part of our Sunday morning adult education programming this year.

Do you have a hobby, a gift or a particular skill that you think would interest our church family? Perhaps you have an amazing photography collection, you have some yoga moves that might enhance all of our life quality, you are a life coach, a professional organizer, you have taken a trip and would like to share your experience or encourage others to follow along next time. Do you have a cause that you know needs to be communicated to others?

You might be surprised who comes to listen and who might benefit from your experience! Contact Becky Kirsh at bkirsh@firstchurchoflombard.org or 630-629-2630 x 15 to coordinate a time for sharing."

ATTENTION, KIDS WHO LIKE MUSIC

Today and next Sunday, August 22nd, Beverly Chatfield, Director of Music Ministries, invites children kindergarten through 2nd grade, to join her after church from 10:30-11:15 AM to sing, play some instruments, enjoy games, and have fun with music. Children are invited to both sessions but are welcome to either one if the family schedule prevents participation on both days.

YOUTH CHOIR

Students in grades 7 through 12 are invited to the first rehearsal for Youth Choir on Sunday afternoon, September 12th from 5-6 PM. Both girls and boys are encouraged to come and help get the program started for the coming year, and anyone who can play guitar, drums, or another instrument is encouraged to let Ms. Chatfield know that they can add some extra musical talent to the group.

P.A.D.S. RUN/WALK

First Church is forming a team to participate in the September 11th P.A.D.S. event, offering either the 5K (3.2 miles) run or the 3.6K Walk. Entry fee is \$30, but participants receive a t-shirt and goody bag. This is a fundraiser to help support the PADS program for the homeless of DuPage County which has been a part of First Church outreach for over 20 years. Please contact Kristi Carlson at mapgirl1997@yahoo.com for further information and to join the team.

ADULT EDUCATION EVENING

Wednesdays, from September 15th into October, Becky Kirsh, Educational Ministries Coordinator, will facilitate an opportunity for adults to participate in an educational experience from 6:30-8 PM. With the DVD “Questions of Faith” as the focal point, discussion will follow, with everyone taking part to whatever level is comfortable. This isn’t limited to First Church family, so invite other adults to join you for this evening of Christian experience.

ON THE GO AGAIN – ACTIVE WEDNESDAYS

...*Jubilee* – starting September 22nd, the after-school-drop-off program will convene in the Resource Center from 3:30-5:30 PM in the Resource Center for children age 5 through 5th grade. Becky Kirsh could use a couple more helpers to work with the children as they involve themselves in crafts, activities, homework, and fun.

...*Community Table* –commencing again on September 8th, dinner will be served between 5:30-7 PM in Fellowship Hall, offering a hearty meal for members of the community as well as First Church Family who are encouraged to come and eat and share the warm welcome that our membership stands for. It’s all free! Sandra Hill, Outreach Coordinator, is looking for willing hands to help with the preparations, serving, and cleanup. Please contact her at shill@theoutreachhouse.org or at 630-693-1087

OUTREACH HOUSE, A VERY SPECIAL PROGRAM

And it needs some special people who are willing to share some time Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday to “man” the desks that handle the Walk-In Ministry and *first things first* infant needs ministry. Men are invited to be a part of this outreach, too, so please consider checking your calendar and seeing if you can spare a couple of hours as a part of a regular schedule...1 day a week, 2 a month, or any time that would be welcome to make sure that we are staffed sufficiently to serve the needs of people in critical need. Nobody ever works alone. And nobody ever works without being adequately trained to make each volunteer comfortable with what is needed. Please contact Outreach Coordinator Sandra Hill at shill@theoutreachhouse.org or at 630-693-1087 to ask any questions or to sign up for this vital outreach.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK MOBILE TRUCK

Next truck...Saturday, August 21st. Hands are needed at 9:15 AM to help unload, sort, and prepare to serve the families that rely on this method of stretching budgets that are strained by need. Please check the bulletin board to sign up or call Sandra Hill at shill@theoutreachhouse.org or 630-693-0187. Come as individuals. Come as families. It’s a rewarding time of service that takes just a little time out of your weekend.

YOUTH CAR WASH

Surely your car needs washing again since the last successful Youth Car Wash! And Saturday, September 19th is the next opportunity for having your car spiffed up inside and out between 1:30-4 PM. Tickets are being offered during Coffee Hour on Sundays, and the \$8 cost for exterior washing and \$16 for both inside and out guarantees a car that will make the owner proud to drive it. Remind neighbors of the date, too, for the kids really want to be kept busy!

Anyone still holding a ticket from the June carwash (remember how it rained!), can still use it on September 19th.

VBS

Vacation Bible School was a shining success...121 children enjoying a week of activities, learning about helping our planet, and ending the week by planting a magnolia tree (presently small, but it will GROW!)at the north end of the building. Becky Kirsh, Educational Ministries Coordinator, thanks all who participated as helpers, teachers, and support for this great event.

A NEW "BOUTIQUE"

The September 24-25 Rummage Sale will introduce a new opportunity for purchasing "special events" dresses. Anyone with prom dresses or bridesmaids attire is urged to bring them to create a Homecoming Dress Boutique that could grow to be as well-respected as the jewelry boutique that has come to draw so many regular customers...including dealers. Lorraine Hoffman will set up a dressing room setting for trying on the dance dresses, but it would be great if contributors would call her at 630-620-0252 to let her know that there will be dresses that she can do some special publicity on.

And don't forget to contribute the jewelry, scarves, shawls, handbags, tiaras that are such an attraction during the Rummage Sale.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

...Hospital time has claimed both **Ed** and **Eric Valgiusti** recently, and **Jamie Geiger** is restricted by shoulder damage done when she was a hit-and-run victim. Oops! July wedding anniversaries included **Barb** and **George LaChapelle**, their 58th on July 26th, and **June** and **Norm Newton** celebrated their 67th on July 31st. August has **Carol** and **Morgan Meyer** celebrating their 62nd on August 7th, **Stella** and **Del Schrag** their 64th on the 11th, **Marlyne** and **George Williams** their 54th, also on the 11th, and **Rosemary** and **Bill Davis** their 56th on August 14th.

AUGUST 15TH - 29TH AT FIRST CHURCH

Sun. 8/15	9:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Music Workshop	Tue. 8/24	9:00 AM Stephen Ministry
Mon. 8/16	9:00 PM Staff Meeting 9:15 AM Ladies Breakfast Bunch 9:00 AM Stephen Ministry Training	Wed. 8/25	7:00 PM PRC Class 7:00 PM Quilt Group 7:00 PM Poker Training
Wed. 8/18	10:30 AM Stephen Ministry Training 7:00 PM PRC Class	Thur. 8/26	9:00 AM Crafts Group 6:45 PM Parish Life Team 7:45 PM Chancel Choir
Thur. 8/19	9:00 AM Crafts Group	Sat. 8/28	9:30 AM PRC Class 5:00 PM Texas Hold 'em Night
Sat. 8/21	9:15 AM Mobile Food Truck 9:30 AM PRC Class	Sun. 8/29	8:45 AM Mobile Blood Bank 9:30 AM Worship- Sanctuary 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM <i>OJV & OGN</i> 11:00 AM <i>One Step Closer</i>
Sun. 8/22	9:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Music Workshop		
Mon. 8/23	9:30 AM Women's Fellowship Board		

SUNDAY AUGUST 22ND

GREETERS: Toni Frey, Mary Peters, Deb and Mike Rodak, Gail Vandon, Carol vonHolst.

USHERS: Harold Hoffman, Dan Pike, George Vandon, Jr., Terry Walsh. Eric Wilson.

COUNTERS: Mark Meyer, Ellen Vician, Barb Vogt.

COFFEE HOUR: The Hayley and Ivey Families.

NURSERY VOLUNTEER: Kathy and Lawrence Underwood.

SOUND TEAM: Kevin McGuire.

LITURGIST: Fritz Geiger.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29TH

GREETERS: Stacy Bouchard, Gina and Dave Gardner, Kris Heimdal, Marge Neely, Marlyne Williams.

USHERS: Bill Berends, Paul Crews, Dave Ivey, Rick Kelly, Tony Oakson, Anne Wanicek.

COUNTERS: Lou George, Margaret McCormick, Marianne McGuire.

COFFEE HOUR: The Geiger Family.

NURSERY VOLUNTEER: Emily and John Suarino.

SOUND TEAM: Charlie Peterson.

LITURGIST: Morgan Meyer.