

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

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220 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No. 624

RALLY DAY

September 12th

10:15 AM Worship

10:15 AM Sunday School



Rally Day brings the church year into full swing, worship and Sunday School beginning at 10:15 AM, with Sunday School expanding to classes based on age. It's a time of excitement for the whole church family, a time to experience spiritual fulfillment, a time to put "vacation" time behind us and make each Sunday a day of worship. Children will start out worship time in the sanctuary with their families, moving on to classes that will include a variety of ways for Christian experiences and learning.

Active participation gives deeper meaning to the worship experience: join the choir or one of the other musical groups; volunteer to help with the rotation process that leads children through learning by cooking, crafts, story telling and other programs; offer to be a part of the Coffee Hour team, ushers, greeters, Parish Life team. The church office is prepared to accept volunteers for any of the programs that strengthen the life of First Church.

A GIFT OF LIFE

Anyone who forgot to sign up to volunteer to donate blood through the Heartland Mobile Coach today may still donate until noon at the coach in the parking lot. Anyone weighing at least 110 pounds, is at least 17 years old (16 with written parental permission), is in good health, and hasn't given blood in the last 8 weeks is encouraged to participate.. The need for blood peaks in summer due to accidents, often requiring up to 90 pints for an accident victim and 15-20 pints for surgery.

Please stop in the Mobile Coach, knowing that each pint may save 3 lives.

FAMILY RETREAT

There is still limited space for participation in the Family Retreat September 24-26 at Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer, Michigan. What an opportunity for the whole family to enjoy the private beach, shared only by seagulls and gentle waves. Activities will include times for children to be with other children as well as times for the whole family to play games, walk through the woods, and come to know First Church Family better. And family can be parents with children, a couple, or 1 person, 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 experience. 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 FOR KIDS

Sharing time with children is rewarding, and there is a need for some additional volunteers to participate in the "rotation workshops" that bring unique experiences for the kids through crafts, cooking, story-telling, and

other programs that augment the biblical stories told each week to our children. Could you spare a month (or more) of Sundays to help with this program, helping the kids enjoy the various "stations" each week? September is already filled, but there is need for help October through December, and Becky Kirsh, Director of Educational Ministries, will be happy to answer questions and help with assignments. Please contact her at 630-629-2630, ext. 15 or bkirsh@firstchurchoflombard.org.

PASSPORT TO GOOD HEALTH

Save the Date...while getting "on board to good health" this fall as Wellness Ministry once again offers the Congregational Health Screening and Influenza and Pneumonia Clinic on Sunday, October 3rd. If you are in need of an upcoming physical, and want to make a significant savings in your medical costs, this event is for YOU! Comprehensive blood and laboratory testing begins at only \$40.00/person. Mark your calendars now Watch for more information to come!

LIFE LINE SCREENING

On Friday, October 22nd, at First Church of Lombard there will be a Life Line Screening preventative health event to scan for the risk of stroke and other vascular conditions. Mark your calendars now. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT

Women young and not-so-young, "Save the Date" for this year's Annual Women's Spiritual Retreat scheduled for November 19 -21, at Tower Hill in Sawyer, MI. This year's retreat theme is "Purpose FULL Living" with a special focus on life transitions and growth at any age or stage. We are most excited about this fall's event as we will be welcoming Storyteller, Retreat and Workshop presenter, Margaret Burk who will facilitate wonderful activities and programming for the full day on Saturday, including sharing QiGong meditation and exercise. So mark your calendars now and join us as we begin registrations in early September. See Debbie Haugen, Parish Nurse, for additional information.

WHAT IS EQUAL EXCHANGE?

It's a vision of fairness to farmers, created by 3 men who started a program in 1986 that created

- ✓ a social change organization that would help farmers and their families gain more control over their economic futures.
- ✓ a group that would educate consumers about trade issues affecting farmers.
- ✓ a provider of high-quality foods that would nourish the body and soul.
- ✓ a company that would be controlled by the people who did the actual work.
- ✓ a community of dedicated individuals who believed that honesty, respect, and mutual benefit are integral to any worthwhile endeavor.

In the 24 years since these 3 had a dream, Equal Exchange has produced high quality coffee, tea, cocoa, and chocolate that provides a fair living for the farmers who raise the products, without going through a middle man that drains off much of the profit.

Starting today, these products will be available during Coffee Hour every Sunday. The exception will be chocolate, due to the problems with shipping it during hot weather.

INVITATION TO ADULTS TO SHARE TALENTS

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.

YOUTH CHOIR

Beverly Chatfield, Director of Music Ministries, welcomes students in grades 7 through 12 to the first rehearsal for Youth Choir on Sunday afternoon, September 12th, from 5-6 PM. Young men and young women

are invited to share their voices and instruments creating music for the coming year. Questions? Contact Beverly at bchatfield@firstchurchoflombard.org, or 630.629.2630 x 20, or catch her after worship on Sunday.

COMMUNITY TABLE

Wednesday, September 8th, will find Fellowship Hall filled with people enjoying good food from 5:30-7 PM as the Community Table starts up again. First Church family is invited to come and share a welcoming presence with community members who gather for this no-charge meal each week.

Outreach Coordinator Sandra Hill is asking for hands to help prepare the meal, serve it, and clean up afterward, so please contact her at shill@theoutreachhouse.org or at 630-693-1087.

MOBILE FOOD TRUCK

The next visit from the Northern Illinois Food Bank Mobile Food Truck will be Saturday, September 18th, starting at 9:15 AM. Please sign up on the bulletin board to indicate that you're willing to be a part of the volunteer crew to help unload the 10,000 pounds of product, sort it, and help disburse it to those people who rely on this truck to help stretch home budgets in stress.

SECOND SUNDAY SENIORS

The Patio in Yorktown will be the location of Second Sunday Seniors on Sunday, September 12 at noon.

P.A.D.S. RUN/WALK

September 11th is a time when walking or running can produce funds for P.A.D.S. the program for supporting the homeless of DuPage County. P.A.D.S. has had a home at First Church for over 20 years, being one of the special outreach programs that makes such a difference to those in need. Entry fee is \$30, but participants go home with a t-shirt and goodie bag after the 5K (3.2 miles) run or the 3.6K walk. Please contact Kristi Carlson at mapgirl1997@yahoo.com for further information and to join the First Church team.

ADULT EDUCATION EVENING

"Questions of Faith" will be the focal point of the adult educational experience from 6:30-8 PM on Wednesdays, starting September 15th. Becky Kirsh, Educational Ministries Coordinator, will lead the program, using a DVD as basis for discussion. Bring friends, relatives, or neighbors to join you for this time of Christian experience.

JUBILEE

The after-school drop-off program will be in full swing, starting on Wednesday, September 22nd, from 3:30-5:30 PM. Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to gather in the Resource Center for games and activities, and even some homework time. This program isn't limited to First Church Family, so encourage your children to invite friends to join them, and count on taking the whole family to the Community Table at 5:30 PM.

OUTREACH HOUSE

There is a serious need for volunteers for the Outreach House to provide help for a couple of hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings. Volunteers work in teams so that no one is ever alone, and everyone is given training so that they can feel comfortable with what each shift requires. First Church has earned a reputation of being great in outreach for those in need. Those who volunteer feel the satisfaction of knowing that their time makes a difference. Please contact Sandra Hill, Outreach Coordinator, at shill@theoutreachhouse.org or at 630-693-1087 to let her know that you'd be willing to take on a day a week or a couple a month. Your contribution of just a few hours will mean so much to those who count on us for help.

YOUTH COMMUNITY CAR WASH, SEPTEMBER 19th

Plan on bringing your car to the parking lot on Saturday, September 19th, from 1:30-4 PM when the Youth Community holds its fall car wash. Anyone with a ticket from the rain-washed June event can use it on the 19th, and anyone without a ticket can have the outside of their car cleaned for \$8 or both outside and inside done for \$16. Remind neighbors of the date, too, just to keep the kids really busy...and to raise funds for their Mission Trip.

IT WAS A GREAT DAY

August 13th was a hot day for the Neal Omi Mission Classic, but the golfers enjoyed 18 holes at Glendale Lakes Golf Club, and were joined by more than 50 non-golfers for a wonderful dinner. Steve Wilk was the winner of the 37 inch flat screen TV, and many others took home prizes large and small. Nearly \$8,000 was raised to help support the outreach efforts of First Church's Youth Community. Thanks to all who helped make the day a great success.

RUMMAGE SALE

As time comes around to pack up summer clothes and unpack heavier items, think about the Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale on September 24-25. Clothing, toys, household items, and books are welcome. In addition, Lorraine Hoffman is asking for special occasion dresses that will be available for Homecoming events. A "fitting room" will be set up for trying dresses on, adding a new touch to the jewelry boutique that has become so popular. Lorraine would appreciate knowing (630-620-0252) that dresses will be contributed so that she can do some publicity to draw in interested parties.

CRAFTERS INVITED

Every Thursday morning, from 9-11 AM, a group of women gathers to create handcrafted items that will be offered at the Mistletoe Mart in November. Anyone who feels that they aren't "crafty" is still invited to come and receive tips on how they can contribute some time for the projects being worked on. And, if Thursday morning isn't a time that fits in your schedule, please consider working at home on items that can be used for Christmas gifts, decorations, ornaments, package trims, etc. Sewing, quilting, painting, are all welcome for this event that has become an annual affair. If there are questions, please contact Barb LaChapelle at 630-871-0013 or Ruth Ann Engstrom at 630-629-7072.

LABOR DAY

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 6th, in observance of Labor Day.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

...Our thoughts and prayers are with **Carol Chambers** and her family following the death of Carol's brother...**Emma Noble** is enjoying a week in Tokyo with a friend before starting back to college in New York...**Barb Barta** thanks everyone for the cards, prayers, and caring outreach during her recent hospital stay and recovery. She is looking forward to being back in circulation as soon as her treatments are completed.

AUGUST 29TH – SEPTEMBER 5TH AT FIRST CHURCH

Sun. 8/29	8:45 AM Mobile Blood Bank		6:20 PM <i>Josiah Reade</i> Ringers
	9:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary		7:00 PM Teen Parent Connection
	9:30 AM Sunday School		7:45 PM Chancel Choir
	10:30 AM <i>OJV & OGN</i>	Sat. 9/4	9:30 AM PRC Class
	11:00 AM <i>One Step Closer</i>	Sun. 9/5	9:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary
Tue. 8/31	9:00 AM Stephen Ministry Training		9:30 AM Sunday School
Wed. 9/1	7:00 PM PRC Class		10:30 AM <i>OJV & OGN</i>
	7:00 PM Christian Formation		11:00 AM <i>One Step Closer</i>
Thur. 9/2	9:00 AM Crafts Group		

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

GREETERS: Laurel Christopherson, Andi and Jason Cooper, Bev Hans, Betty LaPearl, Sam Pike.

USHERS: Ray Chesi, Susan Grote, Tom Hammerschmidt, Matt Kirsh, Gerry Weiler, Clay White, Scott Zatt.

COUNTERS: Stacy Bouchard, Carol Chambers, Ruth Ann Engstrom, Jake Peters.

COFFEE HOUR: The Wareham Family.

NURSERY VOLUNTEER: Andi and Jason Cooper.

SOUND TEAM: Rob Rodak.

LITURGIST: Shirley Scott.