

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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220 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
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First Church “HANDS ON NEW ORLEANS”

On Sunday, April 6th, 23 dedicated people will head to New Orleans to continue in the reclamation and rebuilding of the areas still devastated by Hurricane Katrina. On Sunday, March 30th, these people will be commissioned to reach out in the name of First Church to continue work begun through previous trips.

Mary George	Pam Meyer	Jacquelyn Short
Bob Hatfield	Byron McGuire	Teri Solarz
Peggy Hatfield	Kevin McGuire	Ellen Steiskal
Rob Hatfield	Michael McGuire	Ellen Vician
Michael Hatfield	Marianne McGuire	Anne Wanicek
Sandra Hill	Mary Newman	Gerry Weiler
Charlie Kreichelt	Jason Nieves	Susan Wozniak
Patti Mandarino	Meryl Short	

A BEAUTIFUL YARD

...and it's all yours if you use the help of the Youth Community's Annual Plant Sale. Order forms are available in the wire rack in the foyer or on the church website www.firstchurchoflombard.org and the website even points the way with photos of the best plants for sun or shade. Order deadline is Sunday, March 30th, and all hanging baskets and flats of long-blooming annuals will be available for pickup on Mothers' Day weekend, the time that greenhouse specialists say is the best time for planting. Whether your choice is for window boxes, flower beds, hanging baskets, or planters, the choice is large, and the sturdiness of the plants a promise for beautiful bloom.

Payment with the order is requested, and pickup times are Friday, May 9th from 3-7:30 PM and Saturday, May 10th, from 8 AM until noon. Please share order forms with friends, neighbors, relatives, knowing that each order makes a difference. The supplier provides employment for disadvantaged adults, and the proceeds from the sale support the Youth Mission Trip 2008 to rural Maine.

18 AND GROWING!

Yes, this is the 18th Annual LilacTime Auction, and there is a chance on Sundays to have a sneak preview of some of the items that have already been contributed. Maybe some of them will remind you of something that you hadn't thought of adding to the auction tables. Maybe they'll titillate your interest to make sure that you come to the auction for a chance to bid on something special. Maybe there will be an antique piece that matches something you already have. Success will be guaranteed if everyone feels a part of the action by contributing something...items or time, or both.

There will be a dinner served again this year, prepared by the Hill and Geiger families, offering a chance for a night out for dinner and shopping. Think of friends to join you, and get them to reserve May 17th for a fun night at First Church.

PEACE CORPS INFORMATION

Anyone with a strong desire to serve others and have an experience out of the ordinary might want to consider learning more about the Peace Corps and the volunteer opportunities it presents. On Sunday, April 6th, at 2 PM,

representatives will be at Helen Plum Memorial Library, and they will give an evening presentation on Thursday, April 10th, at 6 PM at Triton College Robert M. Collins Center, 2000 N. Fifth Ave., River Grove. Reservations are required, the library phone being 630-627-0316, and the college number 708-456-0300, ext. 3835. Donna Braden, recruiter, will be joined by returned volunteers who will share their international service experience and answer questions. There is parking at both of these locations.

While the minimum age for participation is 18, there is no age limit above that, seniors being welcome as well as younger or mid-career people, the only requirement being U. S. citizenship.

WORKING YOUTH

A summer job of 8 weeks at First Church will be available for several of our young people through **Y**outh **C**ommunity **W**orking **G**roup again this year. This program has always been supported by generous members of our church family, because the funds aren't a part of the church budget. It's an opportunity for kids to do tasks that need to be done and to earn some college funds at the same time, a win-win situation.

Anyone interested in paying \$1,000 or any part of that, please write a check to First Church of Lombard, noting YCWG on the memo line and know that you are helping both the church and a youth member through the donation.

GUYS IN THE KITCHEN

Chefs, cooks, bakers...whatever the specialty, a number of them will be in the kitchen on Saturday, April 12th, for the annual Gourmet Guys dinner. While we have a number of the Guys returning again this year, it would be nice to have a couple of new members join the group with a favored recipe that could be enjoyed at this special feast. Wives of shy cooks may volunteer their husbands to be a part of this gourmet evening. Call Matt Kirsh or Barb Barta to get onto the menu list and be a part of the team that turns Fellowship Hall into a dining area of delicacies.

SCRIP ORDER RE- SCHEDULE

Due to SCRIP'S being closed for their spring break, the April order will be the third Tuesday, **April 15th**. Orders will be due in the office on Monday April 14th. Plan ahead and buy gift cards for Mothers' Day, for Confirmation gifts, graduation, and more. Buy SCRIP cards and save having to carry cash around when you shop at grocery stores, department stores, restaurants, and other favorite shopping areas. It doesn't cost anything additional, and you're helping the Outreach House and Youth Mission Trip through your purchases.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK

Helping at the NIFB distribution next Saturday, March 29th, doesn't cost anything except time, serving from 9:30 AM-12:30 PM in unloading the 10,000 pounds of food from the delivery truck and arranging it so that it may be handed out to ready recipients in an orderly manner. There is no age limit for helpers, either young or older, and the 3 hours of preparing and disbursing the food makes a huge difference in the lives of those who count on help like this to stretch the limited dollars that have to be split so many ways in their household.

Please sign up on the bulletin board under Volunteer Opportunities.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE TIME

Did you know that Women's Fellowship jewelry booth at the Rummage Sale has become noted for its offerings and is the first place buyers head for when they enter? True. It's also true that it takes a lot of time to prepare these tiny offerings, often involving polishing or cleaning, and tagging, so the request is made that any jewelry be brought in quickly so that preparations can be finished before the last minute.

For the rest of the clothing, toys, books, white elephants, appliances, etc., please bring them to church on Wednesday, April 16th, from 7-8 PM or Thursday, April 17th, from 9 AM until afternoon. The sale begins at noon on Friday, lasting until 8 PM, continuing on Saturday from 9 AM until noon.

Any amount of time that can be donated by willing hands will be very welcome.

MUSIC IN THE CHAPEL

At 3 PM next Sunday, March 30th, the Maple Street Chapel will ring with the sounds of swing, jazz, and ragtime as the American Heritage Concert returns. In addition to favorites from Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Scott Joplin, David Rose, and Irving Berlin, there will be a salute to honor astronaut Dan Tani, and an armed forces salute recognizing the various branches of the military.

Tickets for the concerts in the Maple Street Chapel may be obtained by calling the Chapel at 630-627-0171, on the website www.MapleStreetChapel.Org, or at Mr. Z's Supermarket.

HAVE YOU WONDERED...

...why there is a grocery cart in the foyer?

We are using it as a reminder for our monthly collection for the Lombard/Villa Park Food Pantry. The FIRST Sunday of each month will be our time to bring canned and dry goods for L/VP, replacing the collection box that has previously been there.

Wider Church Ministry hopes that we can "Fill the Cart" with goods so desperately needed for our neighbors in need.

PROFILE RECORD

In answer to some requests for copies of First Church Member Profiles, there is a book that has all of the profiles available for making copies. Please just contact Barb Barta to ask for copies of any listings that you missed during the past couple of years.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to **Susanne** and **Jim Cassell** who celebrate their 63rd anniversary on March 29th, and to **Barb** and **Jack Livermore** who were married on March 31st, 1956.

REMEMBER

The church office will be closed all day tomorrow, March 24th.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 30th

GREETERS: Judy Andersen, Ruth Asmussen, Sandra Bittner, Chris Brown, Kris Heimdal, Sue Meadows.

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

COUNTERS: Nanette Anderson, Dave or Gina Gardner, Mark Meyer, Charlie Peterson.

NURSERY VOLUNTEER: Kim Lucas.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Pam Meyer, Sharon Cox.

SOUND BOARD: Rick Miller.

LITURGIST: Dawn Zatt.

REACH OUT: Stacy Bouchard.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sun. 3/23	7:30 AM Early Easter Worship Maple Street Chapel 10:15 AM Easter Worship-Main Street Sanctuary	Thur. 3/27	9:00 AM Crafts Group 10:00 AM Walk-In Ministry 10:00 AM <i>first things first</i> 6:00 PM Heritage Rehearsal 6:20 PM <i>Josiah Reade Ringers</i> 6:30 PM Search Committee 7:45 PM Chancel Choir
Mon. 3/24	OFFICE CLOSED ALL DAY 7:00 PM Concert Rehearsal 7:00 PM New Orleans Meeting	Sat. 3/29	9:30 AM PRC Class 9:30 AM Northern Illinois Food Bank
Tue. 3/25	10:00 AM Walk-In Ministry 10:00 AM <i>first things first</i> 6:30 PM Search Committee 6:30 PM P.A.D.S. 7:00 PM Quilt Group	Sun. 3/30	9:00 AM Explorers/Confirmation 10:15 AM Worship-Main Sanctuary 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:30 AM <i>OJV & OGN</i> 3:00 PM American Heritage Concert 4:00 PM <i>One Step Closer</i> 5:00 PM Youth Choir
Wed. 3/26	10:00 AM Walk-In Ministry 6:30 PM Teen/Parent Connection 7:00 PM PRC Class 7:00 PM 2 nd Year Confirmation 7:00 PM Auction Committee		