

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



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
of GLEN ELLYN

# TIDINGS

September 2011

Volume 16, Issue 9



## 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.

### In this issue...

Letter from Dave

The Widow's Mite

NEW Small Group Series!

New Member Class

Grief Support Group

Men's Retreat

Lunch Bunch Begins!

Women's Bible Study

Prayer Group

Feed My Starving Children

Hand Bell Choir

Attention Dancers

Mary Martha Circle

Beacon Circle

Faith Builders New Fall Study

CareNet Diaper Derby

Music Ministry Opportunity

Worship Arts Opportunities

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  
Church of Glen Ellyn  
550 N. Main St.,  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
630.469.2007  
fax 630.469.5025  
[firstpresge@firstpresge.org](mailto:firstpresge@firstpresge.org)  
[www.firstpresge.org](http://www.firstpresge.org)

Dear Friends,

*I have number of thoughts going through my mind as I write this to you as we enter the Fall program year. We have some really great things going on this Fall, some of which are changes for us:*

- Our Fall Back event on August 27th will be a great intergenerational, all-church time for a meal, fellowship, worship and some games: see you here at 5:02 pm!
- For our Fall preaching schedule we'll spend 10 weeks studying the Old Testament book of Nehemiah, with the overarching theme of: *Are You Living for Something Larger?*
- Our Sunday educational programming has some wonderful things in the works:
  - Expanded programming at the early service for children, along with a new curriculum for The Village
  - For Adult Education, another helpful series from Tim Keller called: *The Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything*
- Youth programming resumes the week of September 11th, with SPARK (beginning 9-28), TNT, LIVE, Small Groups, and Confirmation all kicking off
- I am so excited about what Bryan Harden, our Director of Music Ministries, is bringing to our worship experiences, both traditional and contemporary
- Our Pastor Nominating Committee is working hard and prayerfully to discern our next Senior Pastor

*Changes, even good ones, demand something new from us. What all this adds up to, in my mind, is the need to live in a "State of Readiness" for following the Lord in what Dr. Paul Tournier called, "The Adventure of Living." Life is usually full, typically complex, and often unpredictable. Sometimes changes happen slowly, and sometimes they happen quickly.*

*Jesus taught, on many occasions, about the need to be available to the Lord, sometimes on short notice. What I hear most clearly from Him is that living in a state of readiness means living in a state of dependency. Few of us are ever really ready for change, and so the person who navigates change best is the person who learns to depend upon God in the midst of change. I hope we are growing in this not only individually, but also together as a church.*

*I am looking forward to the new program year, and hope you are as well. May the Lord be in our activity and in our dependency.*

Alleluia!

Dave Bianchin  
Interim Pastor

### The Widow's Mite or My Least Coin

*"Once he was standing opposite the temple treasury, watching as people dropped their money into the chest. Many rich people were giving large sums. Presently there came a poor widow who dropped in two tiny coins, together worth a farthing. He called his disciples to him. 'I tell you this,' he said: 'this poor widow has given more than any of the others; for those others who have given had more than enough, but she, with less than enough, has given all that she had to live on.'" Mark 12:41-44*

A while back, when the congregation was being made aware of our church financial condition, Mickie mentioned that the children wanted to give their offering to the church. I was impressed and then inspired when I remembered the widow that gave her least mite. How could I, as a concerned member of First Pres. give my least coin? The thought hounded me. Even though I continued to meet my pledge, wasn't there something else I could do? Thinking of the widow, I decided that I could place an extra dollar bill in the offering plate each Sunday as my least coin.

Then I wondered how great it would be if everyone did that! When you think of how many attend worship each Sunday, if we all gave our least coin it might make a difference.

*A Concerned First Pres member*

### NEW Small Group Series!

Do you ever wonder if living out your Christian life has any impact in your relationships, in your community or even the world? Timothy Keller's *Gospel in Life* is a thought-provoking eight session DVD course on the gospel and how it is lived out in all of life- first in your heart, then in your community, and then out into the world. Session one opens the course with the theme of the city: your home now, the world that is. Session eight closes with the theme of the eternal city: your heavenly home, the world that is to come. In between, you will look at how the gospel changes your heart, changes your community and changes how you live in the world. *Gospel in Life* is written by Timothy Keller, senior pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church, Manhattan; and New York Times bestselling author of *The Reason for God* and also *Prodigal God*.

*Gospel in Life* Small Group Series begins Sunday Sept 11 at 10:15am in the Sanctuary. Register now for a Small Group with Cinda at csiligmuller@firstpresge.org or call 469-2007 ext 22. *Gospel in Life* study guides are \$7.

### New Member Class

Interested in membership at First Pres? Plan to attend New Member classes on Sunday evening, Sept. 18 and Oct 2, 6:30 – 8:00pm in the Parlor. The classes focus on the basics of Christianity, history of the Presbyterian Church USA and the people and ministries of First Pres Glen Ellyn. Pastor John Curphey will facilitate the class. Register with Cinda at csiligmuller@firstpresge.org or 469-2007

**Thank you** to all the Summer BBQ hosts; Deacons, Care Council, Bell Choir, Family Ministries, and Sanctuary Choir; and thank you to all who participated. What a joy to share fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ. This was our 19th Summer of Wednesday BBQs! How shall we celebrate our 20th?!

### Grief Support Group

#### *A Hand Stretched Out*

She was carrying her young niece. They had been grocery shopping, gone through check-out and were in the process of wheeling the grocery cart out to the car. The child had been rather quiet that morning. Suddenly though, she made a murmuring sound and reached out her hand. Her aunt followed the child's gaze and outstretched hand. Then she understood. There in the distance was a young woman who looked so very much like the child's mother. It had only been a month since her mother had died suddenly. Being just over a year old, how could she possibly understand what had happened.... she simply continued to look for her mother...all of the time.

*"I have no peace, no quietness; I have no rest, but only turmoil."* These are the word of Job (3:26), a grown man who experienced many losses - physical and relational. Yet, these words of Job would accurately describe what the young child was experiencing.

When a person, young or old, experiences the loss of a loved one, their first reaction is one of

shock and denial. It is like they are having a bad dream – they want to wake up and have everything be all right. God knows the reality is almost too much to bear, so a cocoon of disbelief forms a protective shelter.

The fall session of the Grief Support Group will meet Tuesdays, Sept 27 – Oct 18, at 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., on the upper level of the Ministry Center in room 225. Each week the group will focus on stages in the grief process: Denial; Anger; Guilt and Regret; Depression; Acceptance and Hope. The hour will consist of an ice-breaker, a discussion of the week's topic, a Bible passage that applies to the topic and prayer. Participants are welcome to participate in the discussion as much as they want to – coming to listen is fine.

To RSVP or for more information, contact facilitators Marty Dome at 858-7365 or Cinda Siligmuller at 469-2007 ext 22.

God's promise: *"I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow."* Jeremiah 31:13

### Men's Retreat

October 21 - 22  
The Dekovan Center in Racine, Wisconsin

David Zimmerman, InterVarstiy Press author and editor will speak on the theme, of "A Day in the Life of a Disciple." Dave Zimmerman will present three talks : The Interior Life, The Intimate Fellowship, and The Shared Mission. We will have time for golf, bon fire, good discussions, worship and reflection, and a relaxing time away from it all. The cost is \$135.00 for the retreat. Green fees are additional. Come for good connections with men in the church. Bring friends as well. Book this time for yourself and for the Christian community of men in the church.

### Lunch Bunch Begins!

Are you ready for another great year of delicious catered lunches and outstanding programs? Plan on attending the first Lunch Bunch on Wednesday, Sept 21 at Noon in the Gathering Place. The special program will feature Steve Askins – Singer, Guitarist and Entertainer. Steve "combines a passion for the great music of yesteryear with his modern sensibilities to present shows that are upbeat and energetic."

Invite a friend to join you for an enjoyable and fun afternoon. RSVP by Monday Sept 19 to the church office 469-2007. Donation for catered lunch is \$6.

### Women's Bible Study

On Wednesday, September 7th at 6:30 a.m. in the Parlor, the Wednesday morning women's Bible Study will begin a study of the book of Ephesians, using Bible commentaries of our individual choice. On September 7th, we will be listening to the beginning chapters on audio tape, and our group study of Ephesians, chapter 1 will begin on September 14th.

Our primary purpose is to engage in in-depth study of the Bible using Biblical commentaries and other resources, through a self-lead discussion format, but we also fellowship, laugh, share, and pray together in a friendly, relaxed setting. Our group is varied in age and life circumstances, and the members added last year have quickly become a part of us!

We would love to welcome new members this year! Please prayerfully consider whether God is leading you to take a step toward new spiritual growth in your life in an informal atmosphere with other women, and contact Marty Dome (630-858-7365) or Barb Gosselar (630-370-1467) for further information if needed.

### Bamford/Moser Women's Bible Study

Ruth Bamford and Janet Moser will offer an in-depth Bible study on the Old Testament book of Exodus. The study will be on Thursday mornings beginning Sept. 29, 9:15-11:15 a.m. in the Conference Room. In this study you will learn much about the character of God and his faithful love for his people. This study will erase any doubt you might have about God's presence and care for you. Indeed, He hears and sees the condition of his people...and He acts. Contact Ruth at 404-1373 or Janet at 790-1438 to register. Study materials will be available for purchase at first meeting. Childcare is provided.

### Faith Builders New

#### Fall Study

Women of all ages and stages of faith are invited to begin a new Beth Moore DVD study, "David – Seeking a Heart Like His." David was certainly not a perfect man, rather he was a man who experienced doubts, temptations, inconsistencies, losses and anguish over family problems. Join Beth Moore on an exciting journey to know King David, a man after God's own heart. You will relate to and learn from the challenges David experienced throughout his life. You will be encouraged as you see how God met David in all of the seasons of his life. Women will meet together in large group and also in their small group for discussion, prayer and connection.

Thursdays, beginning Sept. 22 in the Gathering Place at 9:15-11:15am. Childcare is provided.

Can't make it during the day? Join Evening Edition Faith Builders Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 21 7-9pm in the Parlor. Register with Cinda at csiligmuller@firstpresge.org or 469-2007 ext 22.

Invite a friend or neighbor to join you for this transformative study!

### 7th Annual CareNet Diaper Derby

One of the wonderful programs that CareNet Ministries provides is a program called "Bridges Parenting Program." This program provides support for men and women during pregnancy and the early parenting years. As they participate in the classes and Bible studies, they earn free material goods necessary for the care of their young children. The CareNet Diaper Derby is a fun way for our church to collect baby supplies to help this program. Between September 18 and October 16, in the Gathering Place we will collect diapers, formula and baby wipes, baby shampoo and baby wash. (Since babies are often allergic to generic supplies, moms request brand name products if possible). This is a friendly competition between churches. All churches participating will be recognized at CareNet's annual banquet on November 3.

### Prayer Group

Several year-round prayer groups are open to new members. Open Prayer in the Chapel for all adults meets on Mondays at 7pm. Men pray in the Chapel on Fridays at 7am. Women can add their name to the prayer chain list via Cinda (pray through the list on your own time).

### Feed My Starving Children

Family Ministries next service project is at Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg, Tuesday, September 27 6-7:30pm

You can learn more about this organization and register your family online at: <http://volunteer.fmssc.org/Register/Group/JoinGroup>.

### Hand Bell Choir

Bell choir rehearses on Thursdays at 6pm-7:30pm starting September 8. New and experienced ringers are welcome to join us! Contact Kerri Andersen at 858-6675.

### Attention Dancers

Grades: 4th-12th  
If you would like to be involved in liturgical dances presented in worship several times a year, please contact Melody Mathieu at 630-469-1622 or melody-mathieu@comcast.net. Rehearsal times will be flexible.

*Mary Martha Circle will begin its year September 7, noon at the home of Pat Binks. Our study will focus on David. New members are most welcome. Call Donna 630-871-6625*

*Beacon Circle will meet on Sept. 7th at 9:30 in the parlor. If you do not attend a circle, we would love to have you come to Beacon Circle.*

### Announcing A New Music Ministry Opportunity at First Pres

This fall, we are excited to present another opportunity for participation in worship for anyone who loves to make a joyful noise to the Lord in a contemporary setting. Our new First Pres "Praise Choir" will lead in worship every other month beginning in September in our 9am service. No audition is required to sing in this praise choir. Just come with a desire to worship the Lord, and offer your praises to Him! Please contact Bryan Harden at the church office for more information. bharden@firstpresge.org

### First Pres Praise Choir Schedule Sept-Dec 2011

SEPTEMBER 2011  
Tuesday, September 13  
Rehearsal: 7:00pm-8:00pm  
Location: Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 20  
Rehearsal: 7:00pm-8:00pm  
Location: Sanctuary

Sunday, September 25  
Call Time: 7:45am  
Worship Service: 9:00am  
Location: Sanctuary

OCTOBER 2011  
No Praise Choir in October

NOVEMBER 2011  
Tuesday, November 8  
Rehearsal: 7:00pm-8:00pm  
Location: Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 15  
Rehearsal: 7:00pm-8:00pm  
Location: Sanctuary

Sunday, November 20  
Call Time: 7:45am  
Worship Service: 9:00am  
Location: Sanctuary

DECEMBER 2011  
No Praise Choir in December

### Worship Arts Opportunities

#### Contemporary Worship Ministries

Worship Band (by audition)  
Rehearsal: Tuesdays  
7:00pm-9:00pm

Worship Vocals (by audition)  
Rehearsal: Tuesdays  
7:00pm-9:00pm (by audition)

Praise Choir  
(no audition required)  
Rehearsal: Tuesdays  
7:00pm-9:00pm  
every other month

"Fishband" Student Worship Team (some prior music training preferred)  
Rehearsals: As scheduled

#### Traditional Worship Ministries

Sanctuary Choir  
(no audition required)  
Rehearsals: Thursdays  
7:30pm-9:00pm

Sanctuary Handbells  
(no audition required)  
Rehearsals: Thursdays  
6:00pm-7:30pm

Sanctuary Orchestra (by audition)  
Rehearsals: Sundays  
4:00pm-6:00pm  
(every other month)

#### Additional Worship Arts Ministries

Childrens Music  
(no audition required)  
Rehearsals: Sundays  
10:05am-10:20am

Media (training provided)  
Worship Services:  
9:00am and 11:15am

Sound (training provided)  
Worship Services:  
9:00am and 11:15am

Visual Arts (seasonal artwork, banners, decorations)

Liturgical Dance (some prior dance instruction preferred)