

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



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
of GLEN ELLYN

# TIDINGS

October 2011

Volume 16, Issue 10

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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)

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Dear Friends,

We have had a great start to the Fall, and I look forward to seeing continued enthusiasm in our church in the last quarter of 2011. From my perch as your Interim Pastor, I believe this is more than the beginning of another program year.

Times of transition are "turning points," and the truth is that times of transition can become either positive or less-than-positive times. It is important for a church to heal if there has been woundedness, but that's not the end of the process. It is equally important for the church to move through the time of healing into a time of expectancy. We need to begin to anticipate what our loving Lord is creating in the future we are about to enter into. I believe that there are some important disciplines we need to be sure we focus on in this season.

One important discipline is prayer for the future God is leading us into. It is important not only that we pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), but that we also pray for the next Pastor God is preparing to bring to us. It is important that we continue to pray for healing and excitement in our church life. And since we are led by Ruling Elders as well as Teaching Elders, it is important that we pray for them as well.

A second important discipline is financial giving. We are building the budget for 2012, and it is a whole lot more than numbers. Our finances represent many important ministries, persons serving in those ministries, and a great facility in which to hold those ministries. Our finances also affect our ability to support Christ's work beyond the walls and programs of our church. It will be a great encouragement to our next pastor to see us enthusiastically, even sacrificially, supporting the financial work of the church.

A third important discipline is to continue to forge strong relational ties with one another. While we have made many programmatic efforts at this, in the end it is up to each of us to follow up and get to know one another better. It is important that the Body of Christ be connected not only by affiliation but also by affection for one another.

I hope that you'll follow up with these disciplines as best you can. Remember that the Lord says: "Behold, I am making all things new!" May we prepare for this new season that God is leading us to.

*Alleluia!*

*Dave Bianchin*  
Interim Pastor

## Greetings from your PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee)

After receiving 144 PIFs (Pastor Information Forms = resumes) in our search for our new pastor, each member of the PNC has:

- read over 1,152 pages of PIFs
- listened to close to 660 minutes of sermons
- participated in about 450 minutes of phone interviews (including prep)
- met to plan, review and discuss candidates for over 6,300 minutes

That work, and God's provision, has led us to an exciting milestone: in-person interviews. We've already begun meeting with candidates face-to-face and look forward to additional interviews, sharing meals and conversation and listening to sermons in-person at neutral pulpits. All of these activities are part of the process that will lead us to the new Senior Pastor who God has planned for our church.

As a PNC, our hope is to have our new Senior Pastor identified by the end of this year and starting with us very early in 2012. What we do not know is whether this is also God's timing. So, we continue to do our work and pray for his leading.

You can support our efforts by continuing to pray for us and our candidates as we move through the final stages of the search process. You can also assist us in our efforts to be good stewards of our financial resources by contributing airline and hotel miles so that we can bring candidates and their spouses here. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact Duska Pearson at [duskapearson@mac.com](mailto:duskapearson@mac.com)

*Thank you,*

*Mark Birchler*  
*Em Griffin*  
*Kevin Minkus*  
*Gordon Murphy*  
*Debbie Page*  
*Duska Pearson*  
*Peggy Peterson*



# TIDINGS

October 2011 Volume 16, Issue 10

## 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.

## What is Stewardship?

I was asked recently, “What is Stewardship?” We’ve thought of Stewardship as Time, Talent and Treasure, and how we use these three gifts for God’s kingdom. Our church history also provides excellent examples of Stewardship.

I have a book titled *First Presbyterian Church Of Glen Ellyn: Its History 1926-1995* by John Craddock. It is available in the church library and office. John captured everyone’s heart with his enthusiasm. From John’s bio we learn he, “...joined the church in 1942. Much of his time was dedicated to the church. He taught boys’ Sunday School class for a year, served as Sunday School Superintendent for two years, as a Deacon for three years, and as Administrator for twelve years.” John lived STEWARDSHIP.

John’s book is actually the third historical account of First Pres. The first was written by Mrs. William N. Graves covering 1926 - 1951. She closed her work with the statement, “... I think it is most interesting to know just how determined these first organizers were....” The second record was

written by Bob Goldsborough and Bob O’Brien to mark our 50th anniversary in 1976. To read our church history is to read about STEWARDSHIP.

Pastor Jerry Andrews wrote. “Church history is primarily the story of God’s dealings with God’s people. The history of First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn beginning in 1926 is no different... look past the words and see what God has been doing...It should be clear that God has brought many, many people together. From small beginnings, a large and well established congregation continues to bear witness to God’s calling and God’s faithfulness....” This is brought about by STEWARDSHIP.

Our church history is interesting and it tells us where we have been and encourages us to wisely move ahead. I will be including short quotations from these history books in future articles as a foundation for stronger STEWARDSHIP. I hope you find them interesting.

*Jim Drasal, Elder Stewardship Ministry Team*

## Juna Amagara Means “Saving Life” Ride Amagara: Africa 2011

Cape Town to Jerusalem by Motorcycle- An Adventure for Christ: 2 Men, 2 Motorcycles, 12 Countries, 4 Months Going the distance for over 500 AIDS orphans in Uganda.

September – December 2011 Stephen Brown and Nolan Gallagher will embark on an adventure of a lifetime as they travel from Cape Town South Africa to Jerusalem by motorcycle to help raise \$200,000 for the construction of a primary school at Kishanje Village in Uganda.

Juna Amagara Ministries will provide dormitories and classrooms for more than 500 children, many of whom are AIDS orphans,

giving them love, hope and future for themselves and generations to come. For more information please go to Ride4Amagara.com.

Juna Amagara Ministries was founded in 2004 to bring hope and provide a future rooted in the love of Christ to the thousands of AIDS orphans in Uganda. Our VISION: The mission of this ministry is to raise up and equip children in Uganda with the tools they need to become leaders within their community. It is our vision to empower their personal and spiritual growth by providing children with safe shelter, quality education, balanced nutrition, health education and vocational training.

For more information please contact Lee Mulder, (630)474-9719 leechicago54@comcast.net.

## Enjoy a Date Night Out While Donating to a Good Cause!

In order to raise money for an upcoming missions trip, Addie Curphey would like to babysit for your family! She is an experienced childcare provider and studying to be an elementary school teacher. All money will go towards her six month long trip to Worcester, South Africa. Starting in January, Addie will be training at the missionary Discipleship Training School then doing outreach in Africa. This program is through Youth With A Mission whose motto is: “to know God and make Him known.” For more information please see YWAM’s website <http://ywamworcester.org.za/index.html> or ask Addie! Please contact her at [ajcurphey@gmail.com](mailto:ajcurphey@gmail.com).

## Seeking Djembe Drummer

We currently seek someone in our church who plays the djembe drum!! We would like to start incorporating some additional percussion elements into our contemporary service. If you are interested, or know someone who would enjoy serving in the area of music, please contact Bryan Harden at 630-469-2007 or [bharden@firstpresge.org](mailto:bharden@firstpresge.org).

## Car Needed

Can you help? Kerri Andersen’s niece has an immediate need for a car to get to work. Do you have one your college student left behind that you’d consider loaning/leasing? A trade-in you could sell? Jaffrine, 22, is a single mom with a clean driving record who works in an eye doctor’s office in Oakbrook. She’s currently staying with a family in Streamwood, but hopes to find childcare and affordable housing in DuPage County very soon. Please contact Kerri at 630-858-6675 or [kerridon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kerridon@sbcglobal.net). Thanks!

## An Invitation from Earthlings

Is the thought going through your mind right now, “Who in the world are these ‘Earthlings’ and what are they inviting me to join?” Earthlings broadly defined includes everyone since it simply means, “One who lives on planet Earth.” Earthlings as defined by First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn refers to the group of people who gather on the second Sunday evening of each month in our parlor at 6:00pm for the express purpose of helping each other more fully live out God’s initial command to “take care of my creation.” We are commanded to be in the Creation Care business. But, what are we to do and how can we best do it? How does it match up with the primary duty in the catechism, “Love God and enjoy him forever.”

Our world is beautiful, fascinating, challenging and exciting. God says, “Explore what I have made. Learn what I have done and how I’ve done it. Play your part in taking care of it. Enjoy it. Take care of it and each other. This I command you.”

Earthlings at First Pres invites you to join us as we do our small part in following God’s command. Remember: The Parlor – 6:00pm – Second Sunday each month. First meeting – October 9.

## “Jeans and Jammies”

Global Connections Family Worship Saturday, October 15 6:00pm-7:30pm, Chapel

Join in a unique SNaL praise and worship service which includes a live skype video with our mission partners in the Dominican Republic and the assembly of vitamin care packages. Bring gently used jeans or summer pajamas and a bottle of children’s vitamins to donate to our international and local missions. Led by Jos Smolik, Mickie O’Donnell, and The Pearson Family.

## Men’s Retreat

DeKovan Center, Racine Wisconsin Fri. to Sat., October 21- October 22, 2011

**Theme:** A Day in the Life of a Disciple  
**Speaker:** David Zimmerman - Inter-Varsity Press. Author of *Deliver Us from Me-Ville*.

### Purpose:

- Get to know First Pres men across generations
- Embrace important Christian themes for full and successful lives via talks, prayer, small groups, informal discussions
- Enjoy: golf, bon fire, basketball, and music
- Extended silent retreat for those interested

**Cost:** Basic retreat \$135.00 for one night-single room and four meals Fri. thru Sat evenings. Registration: \$35.00 down payment by October 1, full payment at the door. Need-based scholarships available.

**Golf:** Additional \$32.00 Friday afternoon 1:00 pm If you’re coming to the Retreat and would like to hit the links for a little fellowship and golf, we invite you to gather at the Johnson Park Golf Course. The course promises to have its fall finery on. It is a mature 18-hole facility opened in 1931. The challenging par 72, 6703-yard course takes advantage of the natural settings of the Root River and the surrounding groves of large trees. If you intend to golf, send an e-mail to Mike Perry at [mperry@abelson-taylor.com](mailto:mperry@abelson-taylor.com).

## ESSE Needs First Pres

Esse serves members of our congregation and other congregations throughout Glen Ellyn. It offers needed day care and stimulating activities for seniors in the community. First Pres has served on its board since inception of the program. We are currently in need of a new board member to replace a retiring board member. Won’t you help in this vital ministry to older persons in our community?

*Dear Friends,*

I want to thank your congregation for your support of DuPage PADS during this past year by providing an Interim Housing (overnight) site.

We know that hosting an Interim Housing site provides a reward for the congregation as well as for the clients. We appreciate and recognize your congregation’s dedication to ensuring that supplies were available, and for supporting the volunteer groups who came in to serve at your site. Your making this site available and keeping it running smoothly was invaluable to the increasing numbers of men, women, and children who are homeless in our community -- and appreciated by both the DuPage PADS staff and clients. Your efforts helped us to meet our goal of providing Interim Housing 365 days a year, the first time in our history!

We hope you and your congregation felt a personal reward in helping those who are so in need of our support. Thank you for being part of the solution to end homelessness.

Thank you for all your help.

*Alison S. Clark*  
DuPage PADS  
Interim Housing Coordinator

Beacon Circle will meet in the Gathering Place on Oct. 5th at 9:30. We will review the book

*The Help.*

## Save the Date!

The Women’s Special Event Team invites you to circle February 11, 2012 on your calendar for **Day Apart.**

## Senior High FALL RETREAT 2011

Friday, October 14 -Sunday, October 16  
Dickson Valley Camp and Retreat Center  
Cost: \$180 (scholarships always available)  
Retreat t-shirt included

The Gospel of John Taught by Pastor Dave!  
You can sign up by contacting Jos and filling out a permission form found on the website: [www.firstpresge.org](http://www.firstpresge.org). Sign-up deadline is October 6!

What are we gonna do? You mean besides an indoor climbing wall, softball, soccer, sand pit volleyball, a huge gymnasium, a challenge course, a rope bridge, frisbee golf, snowless snowball fights, glow-in-the-dark human foosball, hiking, bonfires, and hayrides, not to mention a pizza party, Spades, Catan, QBT, worship, s’mores, Bible study, and SWAMP WARS? If you need more than that, you might be a little demanding...

## COWBOYS, COOKIN’ & CASH

Deacons’ fundraiser Sat., Nov. 12, 2011

A time for COMMUNITY  
A time for GOOD FOOD  
A time for ENTERTAINMENT and DANCING  
A time for FUN AND SHOPPING  
A time for COMMITMENT

This social event will be filled with activities as the First Pres family and friends gather to raise money to support ministries and programs of the church.

What do I need to pack? Bring: clothes for a weekend (and swamp war clothes), sleeping bag and pillow, towel and toiletries, Bible and notebook, \$ for snacks, camera, Frisbees.

**Do not bring:** prank materials, things that hurt people, things that allow you to plug out of reality (i-pod, gameboy, etc.), no cell phones- leaders will have them if you need to make a call.

Questions? Contact Jos Smolik 630-469-2007x13 or [jsmolik@firstpresge.org](mailto:jsmolik@firstpresge.org)

**A Note to Parents:** We believe the retreat experience is an important part of a student’s spiritual development. We would love for you to consider sending your student even if they may have a conflict; students can certainly come late and leave early at your discretion—the camp is only about 45 minutes away! Want to join us on the trip? Give Jos a call – I LOVE when parents want to come along! (oh...and leaders always come free!...so, no excuses!)