

# The Carillon

## February, 2003

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BARRINGTON**  
**A welcoming, caring, family of faith**

### Adult International Mission Trip to Costa Rica, March 1 – 9, 2003

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**O**n March 1 of this year, our congregation will take a giant step in the life our Church. Five members, Vicki Engfer, Eric Enskat, Chip Kyle, Dan Spike and Karen Tobin will leave on the first “Adult International Mission Trip” to Costa Rica. The purpose of the trip is to meet and learn about Christians in another cultural setting and to investigate the possibility of a long-term mission partnership with a congregation in Costa Rica.

The Barrington team will meet its trip leader, Stan deVoogd, in San Jose. Stan is a part of the PCUSA’s Border Ministry in San Antonio, Texas. He was previously a mission worker in Costa Rica and has led three prior mission teams on trips there.

The team will visit and worship with various congregations and work on a mission project with a congregation in the town of Guapiles in the province of Limon. The churches the team will visit are members of the F.I.E.C. (Federacion de Iglesias Evangelistas Costariquenas) which is PCUSA’s mission partner in Costa Rica.



The mission team is this congregation’s hand stretched out in friendship to brothers and sisters in Christ. In a world made small by speed and technology we have an opportunity to become true neighbors with people beyond our borders.

“But you who were once far off have been brought near in the blood of Christ. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens and members of the household of God.” Ephesians 2:13, 17-19

## The Presbyterian Church of Barrington Vision Statement

*Created by God as a welcoming, caring family of faith, we...*

*...worship God joyfully, guided and challenged by Scripture and the proclamation of Christ's gospel;*

*...serve those in need, inspiring and equipping one another to respond to God's call;*

*...support each individual's journey of faith through lifelong learning, Christian fellowship and prayer; and*

*...share this spiritual home with all, drawing others to faith in Jesus Christ and reflecting the everlasting love of God.*

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I write this article, Lent is a little over 40 days away. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with our Confirmation class leading worship and culminates in Holy Week. During this liturgical season, the church, in joy and sorrow proclaims, remembers and responds to the atoning death of Jesus Christ. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to a period of self-examination. Our self-examination is a difficult spiritual task because

self-examination supposes our living without prejudice and sin. Most of the time, we aren't even aware how deeply our prejudices and sins are within us. We think that we relate to people who are different from us, but in reality our spontaneous thoughts, words and actions with others reveal that our prejudices and sins are alive and well.

During Lent, Dan, Melissa, David and I invite you to join us in a period of self-examination on Wednesdays, March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup>, and April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and April 9<sup>th</sup>. We will examine the themes of Forgiveness, Reconciliation, Grace and Salvation. Dan and Melissa will pursue these themes through an investigation using films and I will pursue these same themes through short stories. Our time of study will begin with prayer services based on the Taizé style of worship. In Taizé prayer services, people sing together, using phrases that are short but full of meaning and that are tirelessly repeated. Between the times of singing, there are reflections of the evening readings, and times for silent reflection. Worship will begin 7:00 p.m. and classes will begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m.

Dan, Melissa, David and I will be asking you to claim God's love fully in an unconditional way as you live with others. We will be asking you to discover that in the great variety of humanity is an expression of the immense richness of God's heart. In these opportunities for self-examination, we hope that we will be freed from the prejudices and sins that we all possess so that we may reach out to people through acts of compassion and justice.

Join Dan, Melissa, David and I in this exciting time of self-examination. Learn to live toward a nonjudgmental life. Accept the unconditional love of God. We look forward to seeing each of you at our Lenten programs as we journey toward Holy Week and Christ Jesus' victory over, prejudice, sin and death on Easter Day.

Pax,  
**Curt Baxter**

## Becoming a Church Member

We invite you to become a member of our congregation. People who have not made a decision about joining, but would like to know more about the church, are invited to come to services, participate in activities and discuss membership with **Rev. Dan Spike**. He can be reached at the Church Office at **847-381-0975**.

## Church Administration

### Session

Notes from the meeting on December 16, 2002.

#### Session committee assignments for 2003:

**Clerk of Session:** George Landes.

**Joint Business Affairs:** Session member of Mission, Personnel, Communications and Stewardship Committees, Clerk of Session, Board of Trustees President and Treasurer, Church Legal Counsel, Pastor as Staff Representative.

#### Christian Education: Adult Education:

Karen Tobin. **Children & Family**

**Ministries:** Cackie Kyle. **Mid-Week**

**Education:** Cackie Kyle and Jane Zimmer.

**Youth/Young Adult Education:** Jane Zimmer.

**Communications:** Don Minner, Dennis McGurer, Jack Swenson.

**Congregational Life:** Scott Buchta, Flo Babos, Bob Florio.

**Membership & Outreach:** Angie Smith, Scott Buchta.

**Mission:** John Bosarge, Jim Wilson.

**Nominating & Leadership Development:** Chris Schiller, Mike Engfer.

**Personnel:** Peter Shaeffer, mark Garrette, Peter Brown.

**Stewardship:** Bob Kosobud, Greg Dowell, George Landes.

**Worship, Music & Arts:** Anna Armstrong, Leo Burkhart.

**Endowment:** Greg Dowell, Don Minner.

**Presbytery Commissioners:** Karen Tobin, Chris Schiller.

**Building Use Policy:** all requests for use of the building shall be presented to the Trustees first, with a report to Session on these uses which must fit in the building use policy.

The position of **Interim Director of Music and Organist** will be offered to J. David Stech for the month of January.

### Trustees

Notes from the meeting on January 13, 2003.

**Financial Report:** Kurt summarized the financial reports noting there was a decrease in both receipts and expenses from the previous year and both were less than budgeted. No major variances were noted.

**New Officers:** Paige Unangst, President; Kurt Anderson, Treasurer; John Mann, Assistant Treasurer; Linda Read, Secretary. A Vice President will be named at the next meeting.

**Stewardship:** Kurt reported that the 2003 campaign has wrapped up. There were 283 pledging units for a total of \$657,631 pledged

**Bulletin Board** The Membership and Outreach Committee has drawn up plans to build 10 bulletin boards and a cabinet for new member information to be placed in the hallway outside the parlor. The group plans to build the items themselves. The estimated cost is \$300 for the bulletin boards (\$30 each) and \$600 for the cabinet. The Communications Committee would set guidelines for the use of the boards and the Session would be responsible for the updating and maintenance of the boards.

**Van Rentals:** All rentals of motorized vehicles for church related activities must be submitted to the board of trustees beforehand for approval.

**Building Repair Campaign:** There is between \$80,000 and \$100,000 in needed repairs for the upcoming year. The project to fix/replace the emergency exit doors will take place as soon as possible and is budgeted to cost up to \$10,000. The other items on the list of repairs will be researched and bids obtained by members of the trustees building committee.



## Barrington Presbyterian Women

### February Meeting

All women of the church are invited to attend the February 6, meeting. Come at 9:15 a.m. for coffee, the meeting starts at 9:30 and we will be filling the Valentine Care Packs after the meeting. If you are not able to attend the meeting, feel free to join us at 10:45 to assemble the Care Packages.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

### Valentine Care Packages

It is time to send off those Valentine Care Packs to our kids away from home either in the military or in college. Sign up between services to make a contribution to this year's care packs, either bar cookies, candy, snacks or make a \$5.00 to send Valentine pencils, note pads, toys, etc.

Parents! If you wish a care pack to be sent to your child, you MUST give your child's complete, correct address to the office! You must provide the name and address in writing to Bonnie in the church office. You may **fax** it to **Bonnie at 847-381-6465**, drop it off in the office, or email the complete address to Bonnie. The deadline for all names to be in the office is Monday, February 3. We will pack the care packages after the BPW meeting on Please call Nancy Nadig at 847-381-3464 or Pam Schiewe at 847-382-4394 to make a contribution or with any questions you might have.

### Women With Aging Parents

The next meeting of Women With Aging Parents will be held on Friday, February 14, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of **Marge Slocum., 847-487-9424.**

### Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2003, at 1:00 p.m., at the home of **Elizabeth Farmer.** Please call Elizabeth if you plan to attend, **847-381-9195.** The book is "Weight of Water" by Anita Shreve.

### Bible Study

All women of the church are invited to join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor for fellowship on February 5<sup>th</sup>. From 10:00 – 11:00 we will be led by Dr. Curt Baxter and Mary Kerkhof using "Horizons" study *No Longer Strangers: A Study of the Letter to the Ephesians*, by Kay Huggins. We will be looking at lesson five covering Ephesians 3:1-21.

### GTIF

GTIF Bible Study, Growing Together in Faith, is to be held the third Tuesday of the month, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm. We don't have a volunteer to host it yet so location is TBD. Please contact **Becky Bosarge, 847-304-1178** if you can host the group, or for more information on GTIF. This is will be the last session in the series "Growing in Prayer". A new study will begin March 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Women's Retreat 2003

Make sure to reserve April 4-6 for the BPW Women's Retreat in Williams Bay, WI. All women of the congregation are encouraged to attend and guests are most welcome. This year's retreat promises to be another wonderful opportunity for personal and spiritual growth. Rev. Christine Chakoian, Pastor of the Community Presbyterian Church, Clarendon Hills, IL, will be the Retreat Leader. She will be presenting the program "Mother Teresa, Martha Stewart and Me". The week-end, Friday evening through Sunday noon, promises to be an unforgettable experience. Brochures will soon be available. For more information, call **Judy Carlson, 847-304-6707.**

### WHITE BREAKFAST

Please save the date of April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM for our annual White Breakfast. Everyone is welcome to share in this special morning at our church. More information will be available in the next Carillon, just be sure that for now you reserve the date!

## Stephen Ministry

### A New Year for Stephen Ministry

We joyously begin the New Year with another class of Stephen Ministers Trainees! The 50 hours of training for our second class began on January 14<sup>th</sup> and will continue into the summer. We are so delighted with the compassionate hearts of our five new trainees: Kathy Martin, Pat Mitchell, Linda Neton, Dan Paxton and Susan Raaths.



When the Disciples were going forth trying to meet the needs of the injured, orphaned and widowed, they were overwhelmed by the number of those around them in need of help. Stephen was the first to step forward when the Disciples asked for caregivers. Our new trainees are willing to learn the skills to help them offer the comfort of Christ to those who worship here who are facing the challenges of life. We are so blessed to have so many passionate hearts among us in this new class, those currently working as Stephen Ministers and the many people who have told us they would like to become Stephen Ministers in the future.

Most people are much more open to giving care than to receiving it. When a person is giving care, he or she is in a position of strength and stability. When a person is receiving care, he or she is acknowledging vulnerability.

As a result, there are countless people today who, though they really could benefit from a Christian friend who would listen and care for them, instead tough it out on their own. They remain the strong silent type, or wear a smile across a face that is holding back a flood of tears. Society encourages this. To ask for help is to admit weakness.

But God did not create us to be independent. We were created to be interdependent. God's Word is clear on this all the way back to Genesis: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him" (Genesis 2:18). The New Testament underscores this theme with more than 50 verses that contain the words "one another." These verses include admonitions such as "love one another," "encourage one another," "build up one another," and "pray for one another."

These verses don't say only to love, encourage, build up, and pray for other people. The "one another" wording gives them a reciprocal meaning. It also tells us that we are to allow other people to love, encourage, build up, and pray for us!

It is most difficult for people to ask for help. Whether it is because of pride, guilt, shame, inadequacy, or fear of rejection, many would much prefer to suffer alone than ask for help.

But suffering alone is not God's intent for us. Jesus promises, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). We can receive this promised rest when we turn to one another for comfort and help.

Our Stephen Ministers know all about receiving care. Many of them have been on the receiving end of care at an earlier point in their lives-something that has motivated them to give care now. They know how difficult it is to ask for help, but they also know the great personal and spiritual growth and healing that follows. They know how to respond in a loving, caring, and nonjudgmental manner.

If you find yourself now or in the future facing difficulties in life, don't succumb to society's norm of suffering alone. Take the courageous step of seeking help. Open your heart to receiving God's love and grace through another person. Our Stephen Ministry offers the opportunity of a very confidential relationship with someone who will listen to you and provide you with the care and encouragement you need, while Christ works inside to bring rest to your weary, burdened heart.

If you would like a Stephen Minister, contact **Curt Baxter** or **Dan Spike** at the church: **847-381-0975**, or contact our Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator, **Linda McGurer**, **847-304-4980**.

If you have any questions about Stephen Ministry, or if you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister in the future, please call one of the Stephen Leaders: **Nancy Dolan**, **847-382-9418**, **Linda McGurer**, **847-304-4980**, **Nancy Nadig**, **847-381-3464**

## Deacons

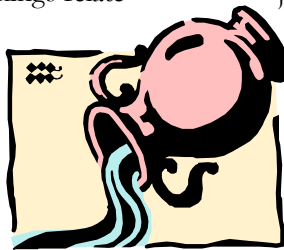
### Deacon's Corner

The Deacon's Corner is an article each month for the Deacons to help explain some of the ministry work that we do. We as Deacons are often so busy working on the tasks that we complete each month that we will sometimes miss the chance to consider exactly what our focus should be. It's a treat when Dr. Baxter has the opportunity at our meetings to help us understand more about our true mission as Deacons as well as information from scripture and how these things relate to our churches vision. We had such an opportunity at the last meeting of the Board of Deacons and I would like to share with you some of this Information.

The job of Deacon was described to me before I was ordained as that of the workers, the ones who find ushers, coffee hosts, and distribute flowers, etc. This description seemed accurate to me as I first started this job. It has since changed drastically. I thought that I would do this work and learn about helping people. I was correct about that, but had no idea what I would learn and what an impact it would have in my life and the lives of others. I would like to share with you some of these things.

We as Deacons are to minister to the congregation. Work on the cares and maintenance of the lives in the congregation. To Minister is described in the dictionary as "to give care or aid. To contribute, as to comfort or happiness." This is the "who and what" part of the question when it comes to our job as Deacons. Seems simple enough to get us started focusing. The "where and when" are questions we settle at our monthly meetings, such as which individual job we will handle - visiting families of new babies, or being the representative at one of the committees we are to participate in. We also designate when these activities may take place and be careful to cover them. The "why and how" are the parts of the mission that seem to have lost focus for me over the most recent past and our meeting January 6<sup>th</sup> helped clear things up for me.

I thought that "Why" seemed easy to answer until I heard our pastor explain it. Curt said that there is one sentence that gives Christianity it's own unique quality apart from other aspects of our cultural life and that is that "Jesus Christ is Lord and he provides us with a



life saving message of love." I put that together with the message that I am here to do God's work and realized that it is our job to help spread that message by loving and helping people.

"How" to perform the job of a Deacon could be done several ways. The way the Board of Deacons is moving forward is clear and in big bold letters near the back of fellowship hall. . By WELCOMING people we are to help them feel at ease. By SUPPORTING we are joining our staff and fellow members in mission.

By SERVING we are helping to facilitate the doing of God's work and by SHARING we are offering our time and our good fortune to the people of a broken world.

Thank you to all for helping teach me these things. I have learned what a Deacon is supposed to do and why, but now I find myself thinking "Isn't this how I should behave all of the time, weather I'm a Deacon or not?"

Michael Goodman

### Hospitality Changes in January

In collaboration with the Worship, Fellowship, Membership and Outreach and all Christian Education Committees, the Deacons are modifying the between and after service fellowship hours.

Beginning in January, the first and last Sundays will be Fellowship Sundays, with coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall from 10:00 – 10:50 am. Hosts will be representatives of the various governance and ministry groups within our congregation. This time will offer opportunities for each of us to learn more about the ministries supported by our congregation as well as how we can participate in that support.

The second and third Sundays will be devoted to Adult Christian Education programs in Fellowship Hall. Coffee and refreshments will be served in the Parlor. Activities and refreshments for children are planned in the lower level in order to allow parents to attend the Christian Education programs.

Months with 5 Sundays will feature special programming or coffee and conversation. Watch the weekly bulletin and the calendar in the Carillon for up-to-date information.

## Adult Christian Education

### *DISCIPLE* IS Coming

If you are reading about *DISCIPLE* for the first time, we want you to realize that it is an extensive thirty four-week Bible study program. It is new to our church, but a well-established program developed in Flower Mound, Texas in 1986. The Adult Christian Education Committee has chosen to introduce *DISCIPLE* to you as a means of fulfilling our congregation's vision. One of the outcomes from the 2002 Vision Quest was for the people of our church to support lifelong learning and to equip one another to respond to God's call..

Originally, a group of eighteen pastors, theologians, laypersons, Christian educators, Bible scholars, publishers and editors shaped the dream of fellowship through Bible study into the reality that is *DISCIPLE*. In the last ten years the program has trained over 28,000 people to facilitate these classes that represent over 10,000 churches. These numbers bear witness to God's work among us since scripture is key to Presbyterian life. The Adult Christian Education Committee wants to offer you this in your personal faith journey.

*DISCIPLE* will offer small groups of twelve classmates many challenges. Within your group you will read large volumes of scripture. You'll come to understand it from the different authors' point of view as human beings like us, but in their unique cultural settings inspired by God. You will hear God speaking to us. These studies invite classmates to bring their own struggles to scripture and discuss them. You will learn to apply scripture to your own life!

Each participant will have a study manual and should plan on devoting 3-4 hours each week to study and preparation. Videos with biblical scholars will be viewed to enhance your learning. Each group (we hope to start with three groups of twelve) should agree on time and place for classes as well as daily and weekly time commitments for preparation and attendance. There should be two scheduled breaks during the thirty-four weeks. The study groups will travel through the biblical story from Creation to the New Jerusalem chronologically. Here is an outline of the course presentation:

#### OLD TESTAMENT

1. The Biblical Word
2. The Creating God
3. The Rebel People
4. The Called People
5. God Hears the Cry
6. God sends the Law
7. When God Draws Near
8. The People Without a King
9. The People With a King
10. God Warns the People
11. God Punishes the People
12. God Restores the People
13. Songs of the Heart
14. The Righteous Are Like a Tree
15. When Trouble Comes
16. People Hope for a Savior
17. The Time of Transition

#### NEW TESTAMENT

18. Radical Discipleship
19. Mounting Controversy
20. The Hidden Messiah
21. God Seeks the Least, Last, Lost
22. Lifegiver
23. Advocate
24. The Explosive Power of the Spirit
25. The Gospel Penetrates the Word
26. Put Right With God Through Faith
27. A Congregation in Ferment
28. The Son Shall Set Us Free
29. A Pastor Gives Guidance
30. Our Great High Priest
31. A People Set Apart
32. We never Lose Hope
33. Gifts of Each Disciple
34. A Last Supper Together

During your last class together you will receive a certificate of completion and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion together!

Keep your eyes and ears open for future orientation meetings to be held in March and April this year on Sunday mornings. Bring your bibles, hearts, and devotion to God.

## Adult Education Schedule 2003

Adult Education will present the following speakers at 10:15. Mark your calendars and plan to stay after the 9:00 service or come early if you are an 11:00 attendee.

**February 9** - Professor Ogbu Kalu of McCormick Seminary will present an overview of the development of the Christian Church in Africa.

**February 16**- Lorrie Baldwin, an ordained minister and recently returned missionary, will discuss her experiences in the Congo.

**March 9** – Professor Ken Sawyer of McCormick Seminary will discuss the history and current status of Reformed worship.

**March 16** - “Disciple” informational program. Learn about the specifics of this exciting new ministry beginning at our Church in the Autumn of 2003. “Disciple” is a 34 week intensive study program that will cover all the books of the Bible.

**April 13** – If you missed the program on March 16, this will be another opportunity to investigate the Disciple program. Signup will begin in May.

## AGING – A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

On Saturday, April 5, Dr. James Ellor will conduct a seminar from 9:00am to Noon. Dr. Ellor is a Minister and Professor at National Louis University. He has written and lectured extensively on the topic of aging and spirituality. This presentation will be informative and thought-provoking for seniors, almost seniors and anyone who has a close relationship with a senior.

Dr. Ellor will be discussing the value of a spiritual foundation; facing the problems and fears associated with aging; and how we, as people of faith, can help ourselves and our loved ones maintain a positive attitude towards aging as a part of life’s journey.

The presentation will be open to the community. Tickets should be purchased in advance and the cost is \$5.00 per person. Coffee and Rolls will be served mid-morning. Tickets are available in the Church Office.

## Children and Youth Christian Education

### Bible Story Time

On Wednesdays, February 12 and 26, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, Miss Melissa will conduct Bible Story Time for children ages 2-4. This interactive program features games, songs and crafts to teach our youngest members the wonderful story of Jesus and the Bible. Please call the office to sign up.

### WNL

Wednesdays, from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., children from Kindergarten age through High School may participate in Wednesday Night Live. Miss Melissa, along with a dedicated group of volunteer teachers, use art, games, plays, and songs to teach our school age children the tenets of our faith and prepare them for full membership in The Presbyterian Church of Barrington. This session we will be focusing on Mission. The children and youth will explore God’s call to us to share the riches that we have – those of time, materials and talents. Lessons, music and games will revolve around this theme as we use the 2003 Children’s Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study, developed by the Presbyterian denomination.

### Sunday Morning

Nursery and toddler care is offered from 8:45 a.m. – Noon on Sunday mornings to allow parents to fully participate in worship services and adult education programs. Classes for 3 and 4 years are held at 9:00 a.m. Using the nationally recognized Rotation Workshop program, classes for those in grades Kindergarten through 6 are held at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 A.M; classes for children and youth in Grades 1-12 are held at 10:15 a.m., including a Confirmation Class. Art, puppet theatre, plays, games, music and computer programs all contribute to the education of our young people.

## Chancel Guild

The Chancel Guild wishes to encourage the sponsorship of weekly flower arrangements by the members of our church family. We believe that beautiful floral arrangements contribute to our worship service each Sunday.

There is a calendar/poster in the narthex on which there is a space for you to sign up as donors of the flowers for Sunday worship. In the lower right-hand corner of the poster are forms to fill out or you may return this form, with your check, to Bonnie's attention at the church office, and we will place your name on the calendar. Your gift will be acknowledged in the bulletin with the tribute you desire.

After our Sunday worship service, the flower arrangements will be broken down into smaller bouquets and will be delivered by our Deacons to cheer the congregation's homebound or hospitalized members. If you would like to keep all or part of your floral donation, please notify the church office by Wednesday so that other arrangements can be made by the Chancel guild and the Deacons.

A donation of \$30 would be appropriate.

.....

Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ for flowers in the Sanctuary.

Please sign me up for Sunday, (date) \_\_\_\_\_

The tribute should read:

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

To celebrate the marriage of \_\_\_\_\_

To celebrate the birth of \_\_\_\_\_

To celebrate the birthday of \_\_\_\_\_

To celebrate the anniversary of \_\_\_\_\_

In loving memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Parish Life

### Interim Music Director

Session is pleased to introduce J. David Štech as our Interim Music Director and Organist. David brings extensive professional conducting, vocal and organ performance experiences to share with our congregation. He has had specific experience as Interim Music Director and Organist for several other Chicago-area churches. He received a B. A. degree in Organ Performance and Choral Conducting (Magna cum Laude) from California State University, Chico. He also holds a master of Music degree in Orchestral Conducting from Northwestern University and is currently associate conductor of the Sherwood Symphony Orchestra. A Presbyterian himself, David comes well prepared to work closely with the Ministry Team to help us develop and build The Presbyterian Church of Barrington's music ministry. He will guide the Search Committee to refine position descriptions, evaluate program opportunities and assess candidates for permanent positions. Please introduce yourselves and welcome him to our congregation during the Fellowship Hour.

### Lenten Devotional Booklets

"A Clean Heart Creates in Me", Daily Lenten Reflections from C. S. Lewis, will be available in the literature rack starting February 15 for anyone who would like one.

### Thank You

Thank you to all who helped to decorate the Mitten tree. We collected over 60 gloves, mittens, hats and scarves. These will be given to Home of the Sparrow and distributed to local children and youth in need of some warmth this winter.

Thanks For Your Help – Colin Schild, Bill Hansche and Liz Hansche for helping to assemble the January Carillon.

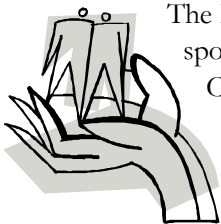
### Condolences to...

**Jeanne Palmer** and family on the death of her husband, Bert Palmer, on January 1, 2003. Bert had been a member of this congregation for almost 32 years.

To **Pat and Claire Ryan** on the death of Claire's mother, Louise Lindholm, a former member of our church, on December 23, 2002.

## Fellowship

### Card Party



The Fellowship Committee is proud to sponsor the annual Winter Fellowship Card Party at Hackney's Restaurant in Lake Zurich. Mark your calendar for an evening of fun and fellowship on Saturday, February 22nd at 6:30 pm. There are

wonderful prizes for the winning teams. Individuals, couples or tables may sign-up. Friends and family that are non-members of the church are also welcome. You don't need to be card shark to play – it is easier than the game of Hearts! Sign-up after services in Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$24 per person.

Questions? Contact **Katie or Kevin Kosobud, 847-304-9324** or email to Kevin.

### Baby Sitters Needed

Calling all baby sitters! Calling all baby sitters! Do you like children? Do you need some pocket money? Or are you looking for a surrogate grandparent fix? Fellowship committee needs you! We need a pool of fantastic people to mind our children during our monthly meetings and during our fellowship events. For our members and friends to participate in our events, we might need a dozen or more baby sitters at a time! We'll next need sitters for a committee meeting on Friday night, February 7, and for our Card Party event on Saturday night February 22. If you would like to be called, or can recommend friends for the call, please sign up at our fellowship table, or contact Mari Hoashi Franklin or **847-487-9850**.

## Worship Committee

### The Story of the Worship Service

Sunday worship is truly a miraculous time for our community of faith. Singing, praying together, and reading the Word of God are all examples of what we do in the worship service. Our fourfold service, which comes from Isaiah, includes the Gathering, the Proclaiming, the Thanksgiving and the Sending. In the first of this series of articles, we looked at the first part of the worship service, the **Gathering**, which is the drawing together of the people of God through praise and confession to prepare for the hearing of God's Word. In this article, we will read about the Service of the Word, the **Proclaiming**.

#### Chapter 2: The Proclaiming

The Proclaiming brings God's glorious Word to us, connecting the Scriptures with our daily lives. The components in this part of the worship service include the Prayer for Illumination, the reading of Scripture, Time with the Children, the Anthem, the Sermon, and an Affirmation of Faith. These components include the two key elements of any Worship Service, the Reading of the Word, and the Proclaiming of the Word.

The Prayer for Illumination, which has a unique place in Reformed Worship, occurs before the reading of Scripture. We pray that the light of God will shine upon our spirits and that the Holy Spirit will be in the reading and hearing of the Word; thus changing the reading from a simple reading of words to an act of revelation. This prayer is where we openly recognize that the words of Scripture only become the Word of God when received with prayer.

Following the Prayer for Illumination are the readings from Scripture. A brief introduction to the reading, spoken by the lector, prepares us for what we will hear in the verses that follow. The readings are typically chosen from the lectionary readings for the day, but may also vary to reflect specific concerns in the life of our church or community. We are encouraged to use the pew Bibles to follow along with the readings in order to better understand the message through the context from which the scripture is taken. We recognize the authority of Scripture by responding with thanks and praise to God at the end of the readings. The readings can be interspersed with hymns or anthems that help us to comprehend what we heard in the passages.

In our church, we choose to include a Time with the Children. This children's lesson is tied either to the Scripture lessons or to the work of the church. It provides an age-appropriate message from God's word. By including this time in our worship service, we acknowledge children as members of our church community.

The Anthem, which may occur at different points in the worship service, helps us worship God through the power of music and meditation. It may tie to the worship service by reflecting the church season or by proclaiming themes found in the Scripture readings.



Following the Scripture readings, we hear the Sermon, which is an interpretation or application of one or more of the Scripture readings we have just heard. This provides insight and modern relevance as we struggle to live faithfully according to God's teaching. Every Sermon should speak to us about how we can apply God's Word to our

daily living.

After hearing the Word of God proclaimed, we sing a Hymn in response to what God has taught us, after which we make a public statement of what we believe, our Affirmation of Faith. This may be the Apostles' Creed or another affirmation which expresses the faith tradition of the church universal or of our Reformed heritage. Sometimes the Affirmation of Faith is drawn from Scripture. The Affirmation expresses the faith of the church which shapes our lives and expresses the hope and expectancy that are part of the Christian life.

We have now reverently proclaimed and acknowledged God's presence in our lives through the voice of the Scriptures, a shared lesson with our children (Time with the Children), a message that shows God's teaching for our lives (Sermon), a communal response in song as we praise God and sing to his glory (Hymn), and, finally, a declaration of the faith of the church (Affirmation of Faith).

The conclusion to our Worship Service is our response and commitment through the "Thanksgiving" and "Sending". These will be addressed in our next article in "The Story of our Worship Service."

## Worship Schedule

- Feb. 2** Dr. Baxter Preaching ..... 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
*Attitude is Everything*  
Readings: Proverbs 17:9-22; Psalm 7; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10.
- Feb. 9** Dr. Baxter Preaching ..... 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
*Longing For Apples*  
Readings: Song of Solomon 1:9-2:7; Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; Romans 8:26-39; Luke 13:18-21.
- Feb. 16** Dr. Baxter Preaching ..... 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
*Secrets Are Essential!*  
Readings: Proverbs 25:1-7; Psalm 112; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:1-4, 15-21.
- Feb. 23** Dr. Baxter Preaching ..... 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
*Renewing Our Minds*  
Readings: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Psalm 130; Ephesians 4:17-5:1; John 6:35, 41-51.



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