

Chain of Lakes

CHURCH

A New Presbyterian Church forming in the North Metro

Worship Location:

1189 Main Street, Lino Lakes
(Lino Lakes Senior Center)

763-208-8049
www.colpres.org

Volume 3, Issue 2
February 2011

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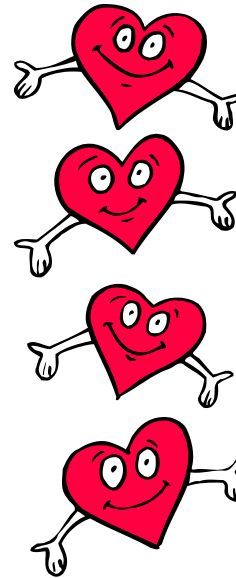
Valentines Party

You're Invited~
Friday, February 11th at 6:30 p.m. in our fellowship hall.

Come as a stranger and leave as a friend.

A special Valentine's dinner will be served and lots of fun family activities are planned—special music & dancing, guessing games & prizes, photo booth, and we'll be making valentine's for a local nursing home.

R.S.V.P. by February 8th by calling the office at 763-208-8049 or emailing info@colpres.org.



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Notes from Pastor Paul



Last fall during our congregational planning process many of you expressed a desire to have more small groups at Chain of Lakes. Over the next month, we will be announcing the formation of many new small groups. Many of you might ask, what is a small group? A small group is a gathering of people—ten or less—who gather on a consistent basis, preferably the group would meet twice a month. One important purpose

of the group is to build relationships with others. The group can do this by doing a Bible Study, reading a book, going out to eat, or something different. Hopefully through the group people will grow in their faith and have a deepened sense of relationships with other people.

I am leading a small group on Sunday mornings that meet from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. at the Senior Center. We are studying “Your Bible, the Study Begins”. It is a seven week group. We had a wonderful start last Sunday as nine people attended. If you would like to attend, come this Sunday.

John Ivers is leading this same group on Sunday evenings, starting Sunday, February 13. The group will meet at the Senior Center. Please contact John at 763-571-9726 to attend.

Val Owens will be leading a women’s group that will be starting late February or early March.

I encourage everyone at Chain of Lakes to be part of one group. Being in a group is different from participating in a team, like our Outreach Team, or Worship Team, or Education Team. Those teams have particular work to do. The purpose of a group is to deepen relationships with God and each other. Please don’t participate in more than one group—one should be enough.

I’m excited about these new opportunities.

Child Care Provider

At its January meeting the Steering Committee asked the Education at Chain of Lakes to start a hiring process for a Child Care provider. Having a permanent, paid Child Care provider will give continuity and a familiar face each time a family with children needs child care at worship. The person will work two hours on Sunday mornings and be paid \$10 a hour. Requirements include: experience in caring for infants and toddlers, training or a willingness to be trained in CPR and first aid, a high school diploma, and a commitment to the Purpose & Core Values of Chain of Lakes Church. Please spread the word. Interested candidates can contact the church office, 763-208-8049 or info@colpres.org.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with Ray Jones’ visit to Chain of Lakes!

We at Chain of Lakes had a wonderful time with Ray Jones on the weekend of January 15-16. Ray is the coordinator for Evangelism for the PC(USA). He led a Retreat on Evangelism on Saturday, January 15 and then preached for us at Chain of Lakes on Sunday, January 16. Both events went very well. We had over 30 people from many different churches along with folks from Chain of Lakes attend the Retreat. I can’t share everything that Ray said on Saturday, but let me share a few morsels. Ray shared a process for sharing the faith with someone outside the church. That process is:

Step 1) Be in an authentic relationship with someone outside the congregation. Share with the person that we care about them. We care about them not just to get them to do something. We care about them as a person. Cultivating this relationship can take time.

Step 2) Respond to their curiosity about who we are and what we do. While we are in a relationship with that person, ultimately that person will come to understand our own relationship to God. When that person becomes curious about our own faith life, gently share with them our own beliefs.

Step 3) Be honest about our own faith lives. Share with honesty what we believe; with what we struggle; how we view Jesus. We are not called to be perfect, but instead we are called to be honest.

Step 4) Invite the person to be in a group where the person can investigate God. At this point a person is curious; lead them to a group where they can have their questions answered.

This process is not a straight line process. Our task is to partner with the Spirit to encourage the person to take steps in the process.

Ray shared a very helpful power point presentation. If you weren’t able to attend the Retreat and would like to receive the power point, E-mail Pastor Paul at pastor@colpres.org.

If you would like to view Ray’s sermon on Sunday, go to our web site at colpres.org, click the blip TV link, and then find his sermon.

A special thanks to Kevin and Nancy Amundsen for organizing the lunch on Saturday. They did an outstanding job. Some people from outside of Chain of Lakes mentioned they wanted Kevin and Nancy to come organize a meal at their church!!

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Steering Committee Update

At the January Steering Committee the Steering Committee:

- Reviewed the responsibilities of the Steering Committee.
- Voted on the goal for Chain of Lakes Church for 2011. Our goal is to have 40 new visitors by the end of May while retaining 20 and have 40 additional visitors while retaining an additional 20 by the end of December.
- Appointed a Facilities Task Force and members of the Task Force.
- Received an Personnel evaluation of Pastor Paul.
- Voted to increase Jennifer Huehns' pay for 2011 and authorize \$200 to help send Joanne Shingledecker to APCE, a Christian Education conference.
- Authorized the hiring process for a Child Care provider.

Outreach Re-organization

In the month of January the Outreach Team has spent a lot of time re-organizing itself. The purpose of the re-organization came because the group realized that there is more work that needs to be done than can't be accomplished in one monthly meeting. Three sub-groups have been established. They are:

Strangers becoming Friends—this group is chaired by Carolynn Cuthill. They will oversee the small groups at Chain of Lakes and develop a retention system for new visitors.

New Homeowners/Welcome Baskets—this group is co-chaired by Val Owens & Paulette Zvorak. They will oversee the distribution of welcome baskets to new residents who move into our geographical area.

Communication—this group is chaired by Tiffany Godfrey. They will oversee signage, web site, video, social network, and print media.

Facilities Task Force

At its January meeting the Steering Committee appointed a Facilities Task Force.

The purpose of the Task Force is to:

- List the pros and cons of the Senior Center as our worship facility.
- Identify criteria to help decide whether a facility would work for worship at Chain of Lakes Church.
- Research other possible facilities in our geographical area.
- Share a three-year plan for where we could worship until we are ready to build a worship facility on our own property.
- Make a recommendation by the June 2011 Steering Committee meeting about where we should worship at Chain of Lakes.

The Steering Committee appointed Bob Cuthill, John Ivers, Ken Mc Cullen, and Angelica Van Iperen to serve on the Task Force. Pastor Paul will staff the group and convene the first meeting. The group will then elect a chairperson.

Property Task Force

A new Property Task Force was recently appointed by the Church Development Team and started their work. The charge of this group is to bring to the Presbytery in July a piece of property for approval. At their first meeting on January 20 the group elected Ward Sessing from Presbyterian Church of the Way as the chair, and decided to hire a realtor. People from Chain of Lakes serving on the group are: Bob Cuthill, John Ivers, Dave Nyberg, and Pastor Paul. People from the Presbytery serving on the group are Stephen Gritman, Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Rev. Susan Marvin, Ward Sessing, Presbyterian Church of the Way, Rev. Newell Krogmann, Jim Payne, First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, & James York, pastor of North Presbyterian Church.



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We're on the Web!

www.colpres.org

A large, decorative graphic consisting of two overlapping, wavy, horizontal bands. The top band is a dark teal color, and the bottom band is a lighter, muted teal color. Both bands have a soft, feathered edge and curve gently across the width of the page.

Chain of Lakes Church Purpose:

We are called to be an authentic, Christian community where:
Strangers become friends
Friends become disciples
Disciples impact the world.