

At Semi-Annual Meeting –

## Jeff Zimmerman LSC's co-moderator

### Will serve with Michelle Brewer

LSC members met in MacLeish Hall on June 13 following the worship service to participate in the semi-annual meeting. New officers were elected, the bylaws were revised, and committee reports were presented.

Jeff Zimmerman was elected co-moderator for the years 2010-12, Larry Christensen will be treasurer, and Paul Deane is recording secretary. In response to his election, Jeff wrote the following:

“Thank you to Michelle Brewer and Richard Barnes for their superb leadership as co-moderators this past year. Thank you to the members of LSC for your trust in electing those nominated to serve within our congregation in the coming year(s).

“I am honored to be nominated and elected as the new co-moderator of LSC, following the completion of Richard’s 2-year term. This is not a position I enter lightly or with undue consideration, for ultimately the LSC buck stops with Michelle and me. My gifts fit this situation and my heart indicates it is a good place for me.

“Even in the best of times, considerable effort is necessary for the role of co-moderator. In a matter of months, we will be in uncharted territory for most of us as we say goodbye to our senior minister Bob Thompson. This journey can be difficult and demanding as we intentionally explore who we are as a congregation and where we are called to be. There will likely be false starts and some confusion as we find our way, but I firmly believe we will discover compelling ways to further embody and enliven the good news, the life giving and sustaining news that we experience in the LSC community.

“My own journey has many strands. Integrity and compassion are two deep-seated traits of mine. I listen well and am a keen observer.

“After growing up in Iowa and going to school in Kentucky and North Carolina, I have lived in three additional states. My partner, Jayne, has been a significant part of my life for more than 20 years. She is a research chemist in the pharmaceutical industry.

“I was ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) over 15 years ago and currently maintain stand-

#### Blood Drive nets 26 pints

OUR July 27 blood drive for Lifesource with First Presbyterian Church resulted in 26 pints of blood between the two churches – a pretty good haul for our first time.— Chris Walker. ◇

ing/credentials with the Illinois-Wisconsin Region of this denomination. This tradition is strongly congregational and non-dogmatic, like the Baptist tradition. In the past 15 years, my primary role has been as a house husband and at-home dad for two terrific daughters. I have volunteered in significant capacities in two other congregations and a not-for profit organization.

“This particular leadership role excites and awes me. I look forward to working with Michelle, the LSC General Board, the staff, the various committees, and – well – everyone in the LSC community. We are great folks with lots of heart, sharp minds, laughter, and compassion. Feel free to call or E-mail me with your concerns, questions, and thoughts during these next two years. We have a lot of hard work ahead of us, but it is worth while and meaningful work as we discern new opportunities together.

“I have my overalls ready. Do you?” ◇

Building on Bob –

### Fund established at LSC to support church community through 2016

THE BOB fund has been established at LSC to build on Bob Thompson’s spiritual vision of radical inclusion. It is designed to strengthen the congregation’s internal roots through new programs that promote the health and well being of the LSC community, deepen new and existing connections to the larger community by funding outreach endeavors that raise LSC’s visibility in the wider community, and transform our community by meeting the emergent spiritual and communal needs within the congregation through programs that make new connections to the larger community through 2016.

Complete details on the BOB Fund can be obtained on one of the information tables or by calling the church office at 847/864-2181.—RRJ. ◇

Selected by church staff –

## 2010 Oil Can Award presented at semi-annual business meeting

AT THE June 13 semi-annual business meeting, Chris Ellicott, church administrator, spoke, saying:

“Today it is my honor to present the Oil Can Award, and although *one* person will receive it – we want to thank each and everyone who has contributed and will contribute to our community – it is all of you who are represented here.

“What is the Oil Can Award? The LSC Oil Can Award goes to volunteers chosen by the professional staff. It recognizes people who grease the wheels, create bridges over troubled waters, and keep the sautéed onions from burning. A church cannot run without these kinds of people. So we are in deep debt to each winner over the years, and to all who contribute the kind of time, effort, energy, and spirit that the winners symbolize.

“Our Oil Can award winner for this year has been supporting LSC for many years. His tangible gifts include serving on many committees: nominating, deacons, finance, stewardship, youth, and more. He has been a teacher in our Sunday School, a Crystal Ringer with the tome chimes, a participant in Camp Grow, and a jammer.

“Whether he is a martha digging holes for trees or cleaning the sanctuary, he’s there for just about any project you can think of, including chaperoning the first youth group trip to New Orleans.

“But it’s not only about what he has done, but *how he does it*. This Oil Can is a perfect metaphor for how his presence and leadership reduces friction and helps us to work together in compassionate and loving ways. His humility, humor, open spirit, and caring for everyone is obvious to all who know him: A calm presence with a quiet Southern charm.

“Of course, this can be none other than our outgoing co-moderator, Richard Barnes!” ◊

From the Music Director –

## LSC Chancel Choir will have accompanist plus director

OUR music program is expanding! Since 1991, we’ve set about – with much help from choir members, staff, and you – establishing at LSC a fully functioning music program. We have rebuilt pianos, restored the organ, outfitted the choir room with risers, purchased choir robes, removed pews behind the organ, and opened up the front of the chancel by removing the front row of pews.

We have purchased a beautiful music stand for the sanctuary, a professional bench for the parlor piano, and a

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### Sunday Morning Attendance

#### June 2010

Sun. No.	Date in '10	Same Sunday			
		2010	2009	2008	2007
23	June 6	245	249	220	202
24	June 13	234	* 260	* 182	* 296
25	June 20	* 211	187	182	164
26	June 27	162	199	163	187
June totals		852	895	747	849
* Includes Camp Grow		39	31	40	37

moveable sign board for the sidewalk. We have hired the most talented section leaders and have encouraged members of the congregation to share their talents.

One last piece needed to be put in place and we are about to begin that process:

You may have noticed that I can’t be in two places at the same time, try as I might. A choral group of the skill level demonstrated by our choir needs and deserves both an accompanist and a director. Starting in September, Diana Schmück will be adding her talents as organist/pianist. I will, in turn, be able to focus on directing the choir and will be able to bring back many of the anthems we have had to shelve since we needed both accompanist and director. This is a very exciting and necessary step for us to take.

The choir is excited, Diana is excited, and I am thrilled beyond words. Starting in September, look for Diana behind the organ or keyboard and give her warm wishes. She also shares well, so you will see me behind the organ as well.

This is great time to join the choir. Look for rehearsal schedules or give me a ring. —Alice Lane. ◊

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# What's Going On?

A calendar of activities at Lake Street Church from July 24 through July September 9.

## Sundays:

9:30 a.m., Adult Sunday School,  
10:30 a.m., Worship Service, Children's  
Sunday School,  
11:30 a.m., Reception in MacLeish Hall

## Thursdays:

10:30 a.m., Beyond Belief  
7 p.m., Meditation Satsang

## July:

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> 3 p.m., Youth pool party  
Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m., TOT Lemonade  
Q&A \*  
Mon 26<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m., Light of the Moon  
meets at Loretta Line's home  
Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Deacons picnic

## August:

Thu 5<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m., Sust. Conn. dinner  
Thu 12<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m., General Board meets  
Sat 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m., Wailin' Mahalias \*  
Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Noon, Night Ministry sandwich  
making  
Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Noon, InsideOut meets for lunch  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m., Sust. Conn. dinner

Sat 21<sup>st</sup> 3 p.m., P&J planning party \*  
Tue 24<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m., Light of the Moon  
meets at Loretta Line's home  
Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Noon, Dinner on the Grounds at  
Lakefront \*

## September:

Thu 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:30 p.m., Sust. Conn. dinner  
Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Taizé/Communion service  
Sun 5<sup>th</sup> 5 p.m., Service of Silence  
Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Labor Day, office closed  
Wed 8<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m., Chancel Choir rehearsal  
Thu 9<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m., General Board meets

\* = Details elsewhere in this issue. <>

Summer update –

## Congregation elects new slate of officers to serve in coming year

By Michelle Brewer, co-moderator

THE program year came to an end on June 13 with our semi-annual business meeting. Richard Barnes and I would like to thank everyone who volunteered last year for all of their work. What an amazing community we have!

As we move into our new program year, Jeff Zimmerman and I encourage you to read through the packet from the June business meeting, which can be found in the church office if you don't already have a copy. It will put some perspective on where we are heading. Additionally, the TOT article, beginning on page 4 in this issue of the *Spire*, highlights the ministerial transition.

Recapping some other highlights from the June business meeting:

**Bylaws** – Liz Napier Martin brought forward one change in the bylaws for review and it will be voted on in the January business meeting. This change restores what was in the prior March 2001 Bylaws, corrects a mistake in the May 2009 Bylaws, and is in accordance with usual church practice. The old bylaws did not require that two thirds of the congregation must agree that a minister should be removed. The suggestion that a third of the LSC General Board or the congregation can keep a minister in place when nearly two thirds of the Board or the congregation believe the minister should be dismissed seems backwards. Reverting to the original language does not undo a precedent, nor does it fly in the face of the conventional bylaws adopted by other churches. Copies of the exact wording can be found in the church office. There are other bylaws issues the Board will begin to address this Fall as well.

**Seeds of Change Task Force** – They will continue

their work into next year. The scope of their work in regard to worship, service, and neighborhood groups is more fully described in their end-of-the-year report.

**Cooperative Ministries** – Last year they began the task of evaluating all that they do as a committee. We encourage you to read their end-of-the-year report to understand their thoughtful and thorough approach to this process. Last January, the congregation approved the budget allocation for Cooperative Ministries. This Fall Cooperative Ministries will ask the Board and the congregation for approval of their spending plan. More on that as we roll into Fall.

**2010-11 Slate Elected** – If we printed the slate in *The Spire*, it would take up the whole issue. A complete list can be found in the church office. We are blessed with so many volunteers. If you have further questions you are welcome to contact the co-moderators, Michelle Brewer and Jeff Zimmerman.

Jeff and I are meeting over the Summer with the committee chairs and the Board to map out the year ahead. It is an honor and a privilege for Jeff and me to serve as co-moderators during this historic time. Although we can't anticipate everything that will come along, we will do our best to stay a step ahead. With the help of everyone, we can do this. <>

## New Tax-exempt letter available

HAVE you used the LSC tax-exempt letter for purchases of things for the church? If so, you probably have noticed that it expires in August. A new letter is available now in the church office. Just E-mail Pat (lscadmin@lakestreet.org) and she will send you a .pdf (if you prefer, a paper copy can be mailed to you).—Chris Ellicott. <>

## LSC is handicapped accessible

LSC is accessible on all of the first floor with ramps in the courtyard, MacLeish Hall, and the kitchen. <>

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It starts with lemonade –

## TOT plans Q&A session, outlines interim minister search group

By Alice Blegen

THE Transition Oversight Team (TOT) continues to be busy with meetings, research, and further plans to reach out to the community. We invite you to join us at what we are calling a Lemonade Q&A Social in the Parlor after the worship service on July 25. And, yes, we will actually be serving lemonade! We will do our best to address your questions, concerns, and ideas relating to the transition here at LSC.

We also are working on a Change Workshop that we will present in the Fall to help us all get used to the idea of change and deal with it positively.

There's a lot going on with the Transition. TOT sadly acknowledges Glenn Hedman's resignation from the group due to his increased obligations at UIC where he is director of a clinic for adults with developmental disabilities. Glenn has made tremendous contributions to the TOT and will be sorely missed. On the bright side, Randy Huyck has agreed to join the committee and will step in immediately. We are honored to have Randy, who has wide experience in the workings of LSC, joining us in this mission.

As most of you know, the Interim Minister Search Committee (IMSC) – Betsy Wilson, chair, Mike Graham, Marcia Heeter, and Katie Smith – now is up and running. They are meeting regularly and working with TOT, Larry Greenfield (ABC/MC), and others.

The interim minister job posting now is up on the TOT website (linked with the LSC homepage at <http://www.lakestreet.org>) and has been posted in *The Christian Century* magazine and in several other forums, including Facebook. All are invited to share the posting with their own networks to get the word out about this opening. The committee already has begun receiving applications which they are reviewing. They hope to begin interviewing candidates in August.

On Sunday, June 13, the LSC General Board's nominees for the Senior Minister Search Committee (SMSC) were confirmed by a vote at the semi-annual business meeting. The committee met with TOT July 12 and will meet in August to form their plans for the new senior minister search. Names of members of this important committee and a little about each of them follow:

**Richard Barnes** joined Lake Street Church (then First Baptist Church of Evanston) with his girlfriend (now wife) Carla Shute in early 1986. He and Carla married in 1987, bought and sold houses and cars, and had three children, Paul, Sarah, and Nate, all of whom have been raised in this church. He has served on various

committees over the years, including finance, pledge campaign, and youth group, and was co-moderator 2008-10. He tries to be as helpful as he can. One cannot be born a Baptist, but if one could, Richard would have been. He comes from a long line of Southern Baptists, both Primitive and Missionary, and was taught the fundamental, yet very radical, Baptist principles. Professionally, he is a marketing consultant specializing in business to business markets. For recreation he is (in his words) an avid but declining golfer and an earnest but fumbling guitarist.

**Donna Techau** (*tee-shaw*) has been a member of LSC for five years. She is the daughter of Nazarene missionaries (Papua, New Guinea) and has been theologically trained by Methodists and currently serves as an adjunct professor of theology at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. She teaches feminist, post-colonial, queer, and traditional theologies and is published in these fields. She has participated in Baptist-Catholic dialogues and is a member of the National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion. For her day job, she manages the classroom educational technologies for Kaplan University and has an office in the Loop.

**Liz Napier Martin** joined LSC 13 years ago. In addition to being a member of the choir (front row, because she's short), she is a past co-moderator of the church, nominating committee chair, bylaws revision committee chair, and a member of the finance and stewardship committees. She was raised Roman Catholic and very much appreciates the freedom at LSC to believe what one wants to. She worked at Random House for five years after college and then as a corporate attorney for ten years with IBM after law school, but is not practicing now. She likes to garden and this year is creating a mini-prairie area in a very sunny spot in her back yard so she and her husband, Charlie, can watch the birds and butterflies.

**Gordon (Gordie) Hazen** has been a member of LSC for 27 years, and has just completed a 3-year term of service on the LSC General Board. He served as church treasurer from 1997 to 2008. He is a professor in the McCormick School of Engineering at Northwestern, and has been an Evanston resident for 30 years.

**Paula Fitzgibbons** began attending Lake Street Church with her family almost six years ago while living in Round Lake, IL. After two years of commuting, the family moved to Evanston to live closer to both Lake Street Church and the lake. Paula has served on the Christian education committee, taught Sunday School, served on the Art Fair committee and is completing her third year as co-chair of the interfaith committee. Paula grew up in an ex-communicated-Catholic-cum-agnostic household, but somehow managed to attend Pacific Lu-

(Please turn to SMSC on page 5)

## SMSC (continued from page 4)

theran Theological Seminary in Berkeley and become a Lutheran pastor. Paula served a Lutheran parish in California before entering parenthood. She home-schools her three children, Odeline, 10; Sevvvy, 8; and Isa, almost 6; and knits, writes, and plays at the beach in her free time.

**Laura Beth Nielson** and her family joined Lake Street Church eight years ago. She was the stewardship committee chair for two years after being a member for one year, is completing two years of service on the General Board, and currently serves on the nominating committee. In addition to her cat, Paws, and her husband, Eric, Laura Beth's family includes Zach, 13; and Skyler, 10. Laura Beth is an associate professor of sociology and director of legal studies at Northwestern University where she teaches, studies, and writes about hate speech, hate crime, and civil rights in the workplace and in courts. Laura Beth loves Lake Street Church because it is a place where we can all be our own spiritual selves while we work collectively for peace and justice.

**Carol Lauhon** joined LSC at the end of 2004. She was WWW coordinator for three years. She has served on the 2010 Committee, the committee to launch Bob Thompson's book, the Seeds of Hope Task Force, and the nominating committee. She has just completed four years of service on the LSC General Board and currently sings in the Chancel Choir. Carol holds a PhD in English and teaches creative nonfiction for the University of Iowa department of English. While on campus, Carol also served as writing consultant to the MBA program in the School of Management. Her earlier career was in special education as program supervisor of pupil personnel services in the Ann Arbor public schools. Carol's prior non-profit experience includes two terms on the board of directors of Planned Parenthood in the Heartland, with a year as vice president and member of the finance committee. Carol grew up in the Methodist church, but finds LSC's tradition of open inquiry very welcoming. She loves our historic building because it is alive with programs in which people get together in a spirit of commitment and love.

**Susan Larson** has been attending Lake Street Church since 2005 and has found here a spiritual community that reflects the faith journey she has been on for the past 45 years. Susan participates regularly in the Blue Mountain Meditation satsang at LSC and volunteers for cooking at Hilda's Place. In the Fall of 2009, Susan headed up the LSC Arts Council that planned and produced the 2-day arts event at LSC, Art of Creation: Body, Mind, and Spirit. Susan is president and executive producer of Larson Productions, with more than 30 years of professional experience in business, media, communication, and the arts.

Susan has spent her career running successful entrepreneurial businesses concentrating on art and design, documentary film and radio and event production. Since 1999 the business has focused on working with not-for-profit organizations, producing events and consulting in areas of strategic planning, branding, and fundraising. For more than ten years, Larson Productions worked in China producing both TV and radio documentaries for the U.S. market.

**Jim Huffman**, who joined Lake Street Church a little over two years ago, has served on the peace & justice committee and the LSC General Board; he sings in the chancel choir, and is a co-facilitator for the Super South Evanston neighborhood group in addition to helping with meals for Hilda's Place. Prior to moving to Chicago in 2007, Jim was a member of First Baptist Church in Springfield, OH, where he chaired a pastoral search committee. He taught East Asian history at Wittenberg University for three decades, publishing several books on Japanese history. Jim, who has children in Chicago and Tokyo, says that his three grandchildren differ from other grandchildren in only one way: They really are the most outstanding. He decided to end his church search after his first visit to Lake Street Church in 2007 and has never been sorry, because LSC is so wonderfully inclusive, so open to varied faith journeys, so deeply committed to justice issues – and so alive.—(Alice Blegen for TOT, Ann Carra, Randy Huyck, Elizabeth Olson). <

On August 21 –

## LSC's Peace & Justice Committee will hold annual planning party

THE annual LSC Peace & Justice Committee planning party will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, August 21, at the home of Linda Dienberg, 1926 Seward, in Evanston.

This annual event is both a social celebration of the preceding year and our opportunity to plan the next one. All members of the LSC community are invited to join us, even those not officially members of the P&J committee. If you are interested in proposing a program or in taking on leadership of an already existing one, please send an E-mail to Shelby Hatch at [sl\\_hatch@yahoo.com](mailto:sl_hatch@yahoo.com) prior to August 21.

The event will be potluck, so plan to enjoy a delicious feast in Linda's backyard. <

## September *Spire* deadline will be August 29

THE deadline for copy to appear in the September issue of *The Spire* will be 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 29. Hand your material to Bob Jones or place it in the *Spire* folder in the cupboard on the south wall of the church office. Early copy is always appreciated. <

On Sunday, August 29 –

## Deacons will present 3rd annual Dinner on the Grounds at lake

THE Lake Street Church Deacons Committee is proud to present the third annual Dinner on the Grounds. It will be held on Sunday, August 29, immediately following the regular worship service, at Dawes Park, picnic sites A & B (the same as last year) at the eastern end of Lake Street.

Here is what we would like you to bring: If your last name begins with A – E, bring a veggie or a green salad; F – J bring grain salad or fruit; K – R bring a side dish (vegetarian or not); S – Z bring dessert. We are trying a different breakdown this year, hoping for a better food distribution.

We will have the plates, napkins, plasticware there. And coolers of water. If you want something else to drink, please bring it.

What to expect: You can expect a pot luck lunch, face painting, games and wacky relays (all ages), jammers, lots of fellow LSCers having fun down by the water in the “commute to commune.”—Larry Schnur, Deacons co-chair.

On Saturday, August 14 –

## Wailin' Mahalias will present free concert at Paschen Park in Chicago

BRING a blanket, chairs, a picnic dinner, and hear the Wailin' Mahalias on Saturday night, August 14, outdoors at Paschen Park, 1932 W. Lunt St., in Chicago (on the corner of Lunt and Damen Ave.).

The show starts at 6:30 p.m. and we will play until 8:30. Hey, it's not Ravinia, but it is free! Rain date is the following Saturday, August 21. And on August 22, the Mahalias will be singing and playing for the Sunday morning worship service at LSC, starting with songs of gathering at 10:20 a.m.

We welcome Ed Jacobs to the band as lead guitarist. Ed comes from a rich musical background and desires to serve the spirit with his musical contribution. Cal Holbrook, our previous guitarist, now is the tour manager for the *Lubraphonics*, an up and coming soul band that is actively touring the United States.

Also, we wish to thank Jan Sutcliffe for her three years with the Wailin' Mahalias. Her gift of time, membership, and heart will be sorely missed as she devotes her time to various LSC committees and follows her love of jazz fiddle.

This means we will be looking for an alto singer for harmonizing, as well as someone who can play folk/gospel fiddle. Call or talk to me at 773/480-0282 if you are interested in auditioning.—Christine Inserra <

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Professor of art history –

## LSC's Jean Gillies publishes book about La Primavera

By Katy Pendleton

LSC's Jean Gillies has produced a book about *La Primavera*. Jean began with a PhD in art history from Northwestern. Then as a professor of art history at Northeastern Illinois University during the early 1970s, she developed and taught a course on images of women, particularly goddesses, in art.

At the same time, she was teaching *Painting of the Italian Renaissance* and became curious about a very famous image of a woman, the ethereal central figure in the *Primavera*, painted in about 1480 by the Italian Renaissance artist Sandro Botticelli.

Jean's extensive research included going to the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, standing on a rickety chair, and studying the painting close up.

She also translated pertinent documents written in Latin which were in the Northwestern University library. The result was a new explanation of the identity of the beautiful woman and a unique program, or story, to explain this amazing work of art.

For some years, the manuscript for this book gathered dust under Jean's bed. She credits her family and LSC members Karen Telser and Claudia Grosz with helping finally get the book published.

For those of you who missed the book signing and discussion on June 20 and want to learn more, contact Jean directly at [jgil2129@aol.com](mailto:jgil2129@aol.com) or 847/328-1669. The full title of the book is *Botticelli's Primavera, the Young Lorenzo's Transformation*. <

### Worship services explore Fruits of the Spirit

THE Summer worship services will continue to explore the various “Fruits of the Spirit” as described in Galatians 5:23. On Sunday, July 25, come to Raymond Park at 9:30 a.m. (or the Parlor if it is raining) to “wake up to the Goodness in our world: dialogue and discussion,” then stay for the 10:30 worship service as Bob Thompson explores the timeless virtue of “goodness.” <

### Food item collection every Sunday in narthex

EVERY Sunday LSC members collect donations of non-perishable food items for delivery to the Good News Partners Food Pantry. There is a container located in the narthex (front entry hall) for you to place your items for this worthy cause. <

### LSC has large-type hymnals

LSC has the standard worship hymnals in a slightly larger type size. If you want to use one, ask an usher. <

## People you know

**Ellen Roeder**, who has spent previous Summers at Camp Mont Shenandoah in Millboro Springs, VA, is devoting this Summer to volunteer work in India.

LSC's **Doug Scofield** is not the Doug Scofield who has been mentioned so often in the newspapers and other media as an advisor (and other roles) to indicted former Illinois governor Rod Blagojevich. Same name, different person.

**Mark Suppelsa**, LSC member and WGN anchor, was master of ceremonies when the Youth Job Center of Evanston hosted a record 400 people at its annual gala on April 24 at Salvage One in Chicago

**Alicia Berneche** was one of five Evanston residents whose poems were selected by a city council committee to be stamped into the concrete at the new entrance to the main Evanston library. Alicia's poem in the concrete will read:

Your feet scan these words  
And you feel the vibration of meaning  
Through their soles.  
Poetry is motion  
And the rhythm of bodies  
That pound their stories  
Into the earth.

**John Blegen** was shown in a color photograph in the June 10 Pioneer newspapers as he was playing his saxophone at LSC with the band, Young Hazel, in a fundraiser for the people of Haiti. Not shown, but also contributing were LSC's John Tuck (bass) and Allen Ramier (drums).

**Katherine Thomas**, daughter of Mark Thomas and Shanti Elliot, recently was selected to present her research paper, titled "From Peon to Professional: Elizabeth Gaskell's Nightingalian Nurse" at the 24<sup>th</sup> National Conference on undergraduate research in Missoula, Mont. Katherine is majoring in nursing at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, IN.

**John Mosser**, brother of the late Tom Mosser who was active at FBC/LSC for many years, attended the worship service at LSC on July 18. He now lives on the East Coast, but maintains his contact with LSC. John arranged his trip to the Chicago area so that he could attend the service and visit with friends at Tom's old church. ◇

### Grandma says —

You may be on the right track, but you will get run over if all you do is just sit there.

From the Associated Baptist Press —

## Texas board gives final approval to controversial textbook standards

Austin, TX — Amid vocal protests, the Texas State Board of Education voted May 21 to approve social studies curriculum standards that urge high school students to examine church-state separation critically.

Those standards not only influence textbooks in Texas, but also could have an impact nationally because Texas is one of the top two buyers of textbooks in the United States and many publishers craft their books with the Texas market in mind.

Those who expressed immediate disapproval of the standards included not only many supporters of strong church-state separation but also legislators in the nation's other largest textbook market — California.

Over the objections of some members, the Texas board approved a lengthy list of amendments on the day of final vote. The new standards — for high-school level classes in history, government, and other social studies — passed along party lines with the board's nine Republicans favoring and the five Democrats opposing them.

One amendment calling on high school students to compare and contrast separation of church and state with the Founders' original intents passed 11-3. It rewrote a contentious church-state amendment, offering what some observers characterized as compromise language.

As amended, the standard states that students "should examine the reasons the Founding Fathers protected religious freedom in America and guaranteed it free exercise by saying that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and compare and contrast this to the phrase 'separation of church and state.' "

Thomas Jefferson, who famously used the phrase "wall of separation between church and state" in a letter to the Danbury Baptist Association in Connecticut, had been dropped by the board from an early draft of the high school standards in a list of influential thinkers.

In response to a firestorm over the omission, the board reinstated Jefferson to the high school standards. But the board rejected a move to add James Madison — primary author of the Bill of Rights and the Constitution itself — and also dropped theologian John Calvin's name.

At the opening of the May 21 meeting, Republican board member Cynthia Dunbar of Richmond offered an invocation articulating the position of a vocal segment of the state board — a desire to teach public school students that the United States is "a Christian land governed by Christian principles."

—From the Baptist Joint Committee "Report from the Capital" issue of June 2010. ◇

July 24, 2010 *Spire* — 7

LAKE STREET CHURCH  
607 Lake Street  
Evanston, IL 60201

Change Service Requested

The Spire