

A BEACON AT BROADWAY AND ADDISON

BY ASHLEY HEHER, SARAH WARNER & LARISSA KWONG ABAZIA



It's strictly organized chaos in the first ten minutes of LVPC's Café Pride as a dozen waiting teenagers walk through the doors, showing ID and depositing their coats and bags.

The neighborhood's only LGBTQ teen social spot that's open late plays host to 50 people on average every Friday night.

Inside, the youth, ages 16 to 24, find friendship, music, food, and a safe place to spend an evening, playing everything from piano to ping pong to card games.

"They're not any different than any other kids," says Café Pride volunteer and LVPC member Kim Alexander, while a group of rail-thin transgendered teens vogue in the middle of the room before running over to a piano for a sing-along. "They're just kids wanting to be kids. They just have no place to go."

Café Pride has become a vital part of the LVPC's LGBTQ ministries since the church began running the program last year. Now it serves LGBTQ youth and their accepting friends with a rotating cast of about 10 to 15 volunteers.

For one 20-year-old, Café Pride is a safe alternative to the rest of the Boystown nightlife. Without it, he says, he'd likely spend time walking up and down the Halsted strip. "It makes me feel safe to be here, to be around others that are my age and share their same experiences as me," he says.

react when a youth jokes that Park Place would be a good corner to "work."

A glance at my watch, at Larissa's weary eyes, and I know it must be time to start putting away the snacks. The few youths remaining are roused reluctantly from their slumber. They amble from our doorway, to an unknown destination in the night's abyss. In my home, in my bed, the street's echo is faint and my warm blanket feels like an undeserved luxury.



CAFÉ PRIDE VOLUNTEERS GARY HAMBURG, LAURA HOUSTON, AND JC CADWALLADER

A Volunteer's Prospective

My chin resting on my hand, the exhaustion of the workweek wearing into my shoulders, I fantasize about curling up in my bed. A group of smiling youth jostles me from my wandering thoughts. As I check them in, I ponder how a person's identity is so much more than what appears on his/her ID card.

Downstairs, a youth changes the music from rap to dancehall, while another changes his clothes from sweats to a mini-dress. Some youths play ping-pong, some sleep, some flirt. One volunteer breaks up an argument, another holds a hand, another keeps the "red drink" flowing. Despite my bravado, I proceed to lose multiple rounds of foosball. I sort the money during Monopoly, trying hard not to

January is Café Pride Month

LVPC will be celebrating Café Pride as a program of the church during the month of January. Each week will include special events. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or simply visiting Café Pride, there's no better time than now! Contact Larissa for more information. ☺

CALENDAR



JANUARY



Kick off the New Year by Reading Life. This 3-week Totally Tuesdays class explores the various narratives that give shape to our individual and collective identities as Christians. What impact do the stories we have been told, lived and born witness to have on the way we understand ourselves and God's vision for us as individuals and as a community? With different Biblical stories as a focal point for discussion, we will begin a dialogue that will hopefully continue far beyond Tuesday. The conversation, led by LVPC Field Placement Student Emily McGinley, begins at 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7
Senior Book Group meets at 12:00 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 7:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9
This month's Wild Women potluck takes place at the home of Anne Raup, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dish, dessert or drink to share. Parking is usually not a problem. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

Cafe Pride provides a safe social space from 8:00 p.m. to midnight for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth and their allies, ages 16-24.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10
The Men's Breakfast features food, camaraderie, and scintillating conversation. Join them at 8:15 a.m.

There will be a special Boundary Training from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for all church staff, officers, and volunteers who work with children. The training, which is required by the Chicago Presbytery, teaches appropriate ways to be around children and protect them. Presbytery staff will lead it.

EVERY SUNDAY

Study the Bible with the Niners Class. They meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Sunday service in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Childcare is provided in the Mulford Room. Coffee hour and time for fellowship immediately follow both services.

Sunday school for children at 10:00 a.m. Classes for ages 3-4 and grades K-2, 3-5, 6-up meet in the Parish House.

Choir practice at 10:15 a.m.

Share your thoughts about faith and life in Begin@10 class, 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Free parking is available in the Recycled Paper Company lot north of the church. Access the lot from the alley.

Help beautify the Sanctuary by donating flowers. To sponsor a Sunday, sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

ADVANCE WARNINGS: SIGN UP NOW!

Totally Tuesdays: Reading Life—

See January 6

Wild Women Potluck—See January 9

Totally Tuesdays: Is That the Herb(al)

You're Lookin' For?—See January 27

Women's Retreat—See January 30

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

The church office will be closed today.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

Lake View Pantry food donations and Two Cents A Meal offerings will be taken at the morning worship service.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

Regular exercise is the key to vitality, so join the Seniors in Motion fitness class. An exercise specialist from Advocate Fitness leads the group. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Deacons meet at 6:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

The Finance Committee meets at 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Seniors in Motion meets at 10:00 a.m.
See January 6.

The Eco-Justice Taskforce meets at 5:30 p.m.

Totally Tuesdays continues at 7:00 p.m. with Reading Life. See January 6 for details.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Senior Book Group meets at 12:00 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 7:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Cafe Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. See January 9.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Session meets at 9:00 a.m.

There will be an all-church calendar-planning event at 11:00 a.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

The church office will be closed for Martin Luther King Day.

Social Justice Committee meets at 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

Seniors in Motion meets at 10:00 a.m.
See January 6.

Totally Tuesdays continues at 7:00 p.m. with Reading Life. See January 6 for details.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Senior Book Group meets at 12:00 p.m.

Worship Committee meets at 6:00 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 7:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

Cafe Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. See January 9.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

The LVPC Book Study Group meets at 10:00 a.m. to discuss *Women of the Silk* by Gail Tsukiyama. The New York Times described the novel as “straightforward and fast moving, its prose succinct and delicate. Enlivened with an engrossing richness of detail, it provides a revealing look at the life and customs of China in the decades before the advent of the Communist state.”

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

Seniors in Motion meets at 10:00 a.m.
See January 6.

Before you hit the drug store, head to LVPC to find out, Is That the Herb(al) You’re Lookin’ For? Do you have questions about herbal supplements? Want to start using these alternatives but aren’t sure where to begin? Bring your questions and come to learn more about herbals. This Totally Tuesdays class is led by LVPC member and pharmacist Daniel Abazia. Class begins at 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

Senior Book Group meets at 12:00 p.m.

Buildings and Grounds Committee meets at 6:00 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 7:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

This year’s Women’s Retreat features the book *Listen with the Heart, Sacred Moments in Everyday Life* by Joan Chittster. All LVPC women are invited to this getaway weekend at Lutherdale Retreat Center in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. There will be time for reflection, sharing, fireside relaxation, fun and games, and great fellowship. Joy Douglas Strome and Sue Cox will be leading the retreat. The cost is \$95 for two nights lodging, linens,

and all meals. They’ll leave from the church Friday at 6:00 p.m. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

Cafe Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. See January 9.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

The Women’s Retreat continues today.
See January 30.

LOOKING AHEAD

February 22—Annual Congregational Meeting^o



GREEN TIP

When it comes to printing from your computer, two sides are always better than one. If you’re printing from a PC, when the print screen comes up, click on “properties” and go to “finishing”— there should be an option to print on both sides!

Consider this: the U.S. alone uses 4 million tons of copy paper annually, about 27 pounds per person. Even with recycling, a considerable amount of paper ends up buried in landfills.^o

LVPC



ARTS

Stephanie Browning performs:
Saturdays, Peninsula Hotel, Chicago (312) 337-2888

Kara Kesselring performs:
January 7, 21, *Jersey Boys*, Bank of America Theatre, Chicago,
www.jerseyboysinfo.com
January 14, 28, Grape Restaurant, Westmont,
www.grape-restaurant.com☐

CHIMES

STAFF

Editor Eric Diekhans
Reporters Rachael Albers, Ashley Heher,
John Vessels, Sarah Warner
Design Michelle Goodman
Photographer John Erickson
Distribution Daisy Braucher, Bill Hastings,
Betty Larsen, Floyd May,
Herb Simms

LVPC

STAFF

Joy Douglas Strome Pastor
Larissa Kwong Abazia Associate Pastor
Tom Gyori Parish Associate
David Murad Parish Associate
Dick Poethig Parish Associate
Jennie Martin Office Manager
Sue Cox Parish Nurse
John Erickson Pianist
Deborah Bayly Principal, Lake View Academy

Submission deadline for the February issue is January 15. Send articles, calendar listings, rants, and raves to Eric Diekhans at ericdiekhans@ameritech.net.☐



Lake View Presbyterian Church
716 West Addison Street
Chicago IL 60613
(773) 281-2655
www.lakeviewpresbyterian.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Evanston IL
Permit No. 169

OPEN
DOOR

OPEN
HEART

OPEN
MIND

Address Service Requested