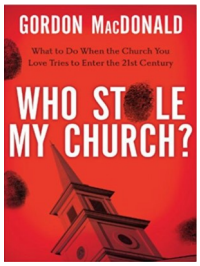
Glad Tidings

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WESTERN SPRINGS **JULY, 2017**

SUMMER BOOK STUDY



As a congregation this summer, we will have the opportunity to read Gordon MacDonald's book *Who Stole my Church: What to Do When the Church You Love Tries to Enter the 21st Century*. Anyone who would like to join the book study is welcome.

Has your church been stolen out from under you?
A storm hits a small New England town late one evening, but the pelting rain can't keep a small group of church members from gathering to discuss issues that lately have been brewing beneath the surface of their congregation. They could see their church was changing. The choir had been replaced by a flashy "praise band." The youth no longer dressed in their "Sunday best." The beautiful pipe organ sat unused. How will this group overcome a deepening rift in their fellowship and nourish the relationship between the young and old? Can their church survive or even thrive?

Who Stole My Church? is a fictional story that tells the all too real tale of many church communities today. In this book you can walk alongside an imaginary community, led by real life pastor Gordon MacDonald and his wife, Gail, and discover how to meet the needs of all believers without abandoning the dreams and desires of any.

Copies of the book are in the church office and can be purchased for $8. You have two dates and times to choose to discuss the book: July 25th at noon and July 26th at 7:00 p.m in conjunction with Theology & Brew at Hillgrove Tap, 800 Hillgrove Ave, Western Springs, IL 60558.

Theology and Brew
Theology and Brew and will meeting on July 25th at noon and July 26th at 7:00 p.m. Join us for lunch, fellowship and discussion We will be discussing the book Who Stole my Church at both of these gatherings.

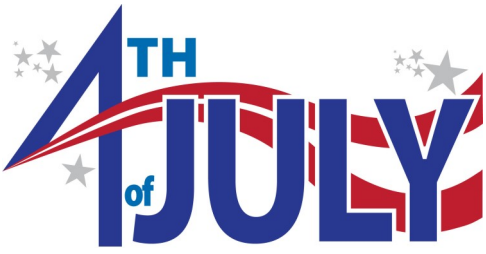
We'll be meeting at Hillgrove Tap, 800 Hillgrove Ave, Western Springs, IL 60558.

Friendship Pew Pads Are Here!

We are very pleased to announce that in response to some of the feedback at the Listening Sessions in April, we now have friendship pads for each pew. These pads will be for worshippers, including guests, to sign during the service. This way we will know who is visiting, contact information will be updated, the new pastor will learn names easier, and it will let members who are in the same pew know who is visiting. This is just another way we are being a welcoming church.

The Deacons have been noticing and appreciating how members are welcoming guests at worship. We thank you!

Wanted:
If you have any small or medium vases to return, the Deacons can use them for distribution of flowers on Sundays.



Tuesday, July 4, 2017
Church and Offices will be closed.

Congregational News

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR'S STUDY
Presbyterians' Role in the Founding of the United States

With our nation's birthday approaching on Tuesday, July 4, I thought it might be a good time to point out the significant role Presbyterians played in the American Revolution.

Did you know that:

- Sixteen of the 56 who signed the Declaration of Independence were Presbyterians.
- The only member of the clergy to sign the Declaration of Independence was a Presbyterian, John Witherspoon.
- The Presbytery of Hanover (located in the area of Richmond, Virginia) in October I776, became the first church body to openly endorse the Declaration of Independence.
- King George III of England called the entire American Revolution a "Presbyterian insurrection."
- During the American Revolution, Horace Walpole said on the floor of the British Parliament that "Cousin America has eloped with a Presbyterian parson."
- A British sympathizer in New York wrote in I776, "I do not know one Presbyterian minister nor have I been able, after strict inquiry, to hear of any, who did not by preaching and every effort in their power promote all the measures of the (American) Continental Congress."
- A Hessian soldier in this country, fighting for Great Britain, wrote in a letter, "Call this war, dearest friend, by whatsoever name you may, only call it not an American Rebellion. It is nothing more nor less than an Irish-Scotch Presbyterian rebellion."

Just thought you might like to know! Have a safe and fun 4th of July!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill

OUR PASTOR

Rev. Bill Ingersoll, Interim Pastor wjingersoll@att.net
For a complete list of our staff, visit our website: www.presbyws.org.

Congregational News

"Breaking Bread" Small Groups

"Breaking Bread" small groups are being formed so that we can get to know one another better here at the PCWS. On Sunday mornings we sit in the pew to worship together, we share coffee hour together, we sit in committee meetings with one another, and we pray for one another, but sometimes this still limits our ability to get to know one another and build relationships within our community of faith at PCWS. "Breaking Bread" small groups will give us the opportunity to make new connections or strengthen ones already present. Whatever your reason for joining, Welcome!

Each "Breaking Bread" group will be made up of eight people from PCWS. The groups are organized and overseen by the Faith Formation committee. As the overseers, they ask that each group meet at least four times in the coming year (once a quarter). The purpose is for the group to have a meal together either at someone's home or out at a restaurant. It is up to the host/hostess for that quarter to choose. The meals can be lunch out at a restaurant or picnic in the park, it could be a dinner in your home where you plan the meal or a potluck you ask everyone to bring something. It is really up to each group to how, when and where you gather to 'Break Bread." Over the course of the year we hope you get to know those in your group and make new connections within our church family.

Sign up now, online or on the church bulletin Board and the groups will be formed in August! If you have questions you can call, email, or speak to Tai.

An update from your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

Hello to our PCWS family! The steps towards finding our next pastor have begun. Your PNC has been meeting regularly since our commissioning, and we are coming together as a team to begin this amazing process. As you are aware, much of what we discuss and work on must be kept confidential; however, we are committed to keeping the congregation updated regularly with what information we can share and how we are progressing.

To date, we have completed our review of the 2001 Self-Assessment Task Force Report and the 2011 Long-range Planning Committee report to get a handle on our recent past. Currently, we are reviewing and processing the information from the recent CAT survey and congregational listening sessions to plan our steps forward.

Next on our agenda will be to start crafting a Mission Statement from which the Ministry Information Form (MIF) will be based. The MIF is a very important document that tells potential candidates about our amazing PCWS church family and the skills and qualifications that we desire in a pastor. Once the MIF has been approved by Session and the Presbytery of Chicago's Committee on Ministry (COM), the MIF information will be entered into the PC(USA) database. This will allow candidates to see our position and the PNC to search for viable candidates.

The PNC is very cognizant of the responsibility and trust bestowed on us by the congregation. We continue prayerfully proceeding with our tasks, as quickly as possible, to ultimately allow selection of the candidate we trust will satisfactorily match with PCWS to help lead us all into a vibrant future! We ask for your continued prayers as we journey together.

Please speak with a PNC member if you have questions about the process or have comments to share. We are here for you and ready to listen!

Kay Kelly, Co-Chair		Walt Kovalick, Co-Chair
Candice Mares	Mark DeVries	Tricia Koning
Matt Mosher	Sarah Sullivan	Peter Hanson
David Boxell		

Children & Youth Ministry

Youth in Mission

This past Saturday, June 24, 8 volunteers departed from church at 3:30 p.m. to the Feed My Starving Children Warehouse in Aurora, to participate in packing meals for in need and at risk families in Haiti and Honduras. We worked with other groups (a total of about 100 people) for two hours packing 173 boxes which contained enough meals to feed 104 children for an entire year! Praise be to God for giving us the time, energy, and willingness to go and serve in ways that can help our brothers and sisters in need!

If you didn't get a chance to help out on this service day, keep in mind the next one is on Saturday, August 20!

July Children and Worship

During the month of July we will be taking a break from Sunday school. Worship bags will be provided for the children to use during the service. They are filled with books, a Bible, and activities for the children use during worship. In each bag you will find, A Children's Guide to Worship by Ruth Boiling.

The book goes step by step through worship explaining what we do. Have your child try to follow along with each part. During the sermon each week, challenge your child to draw a picture of what is being said in the sermon or in the scripture passage. This is a great way to get them actively involved in worship and have a conversation with them on the way home or over lunch about worship.

THIS MONTH'S

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Ryan Gertsmeier
Stephen Skjei

MAD CAMP

Another MAD Camp has come and gone. Our production of "What's Up Zak" hit all the right notes! MAD Camp serves as a great outreach for PCWS; this year's cast numbered 23 kids, 6 from PCWS and the rest from surrounding communities. We added a second performance at Plymouth Place, where the residents and guests loved our energetic offering.

Thanks to Tai Cole, Laurie Merrifield and Brendon DeBoer for their help with crafts, sets and coaching. Thanks to Erin Sullivan for serving as Assistant Director (4 years in a row!) and to Colleen Sullivan for tech/sound. The cast loved the snacks provided by Linda Murray. I am grateful to have such a solid team making MAD Camp such a great experience for all involved.

For more pictures of the performances at PCWS and Plymouth Place, visit our Facebook Page!

Youth Ministry

"Let no one look down upon you because of your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity." Timothy 4:12

This Month

End of the Scheduled Year

May 7 marked the end of our Calendar year. We will no longer have regular Sunday night JUPYs and UPYs until the fall term begins.

Notable News

Parents Meeting

Youth Parent Meeting as been rescheduled to August 20, 2017 at 10:45 a.m.

Note the change in date for the parents meeting in August! We adapted the date due to the first confirmation meeting being held on July 30th after worship. Can't wait to see you all there!
We will cover expectations, changes, and advisors for the upcoming education year!

Prayer Concerns

Did you know that our youth are being prayed for each week? The Sunday School Teachers, Youth Advisors, and Faith Formation Team prays each week for the youth.

Secret Safari

Daytime road trip to a secret location

July 12, 2017

We will leave from Church on Wednesday afternoon and return that evening.

Total Cost: $15

S'mores and Volleyball

On Sunday, July 23, at 7:00 p.m, UPY's will meet at church for a time of Volleyball, s'mores and fun!

Be sure to wear clothing that can get wet! There may be water balloons involved!

Mark Your Calendar

July Dates:
Wednesday, July 12
3:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
Secret Safari
Sunday, July 23, 7:00 p.m.
S'mores and Volleyball at Church for UPYS.

August Dates:
Saturday, August 12
Second Service Day,
Sunday, August 20
Parents expectations and guidelines meeting after worship

Staff Contact Info

Brendon DeBoer
Youth Director
Church Office:
(708) 246-5220

Brendon's email:
JupyandUpy@gmail.com
After business hours you can reach Brendon at
(712) 441-6708

Congregational News

DID YOU KNOW?

This past Stewardship drive resulted in 86 pledge units pledging for 2017. The total amount pledged was $317,948. This was down $58,154, or 15.5% from the previous year. Our average pledge unit, pledged $3,697 / year, or $71 / week.

Here's some additional details of the dollars pledged:

Dollar range of pledge	# of Pledge units in the range	% of total pledge units
0 - $1,040 (avg $20/wk)	14	16%
$1,041 - $2,600 (avg $50/wk)	31	36%
$2,601 - $5,200 (avg $100/wk)	23	27%
$5,201 - $10,400 (avg $200/wk)	14	16%
Over $10,401	4	5%

We'll begin the Stewardship drive for 2018 in late September. Look for information in an upcoming editions of *Glad Tidings*. Thanks everyone for your gifts and support to our ministries.

Sincerely,

Condy Dixon
Chad Sellman
Leadership and Ministries Committee

Save The Date:

Rally Day—September 10!!

Another way to Support PCWS – Smile.Amazon.com

Do you shop at Amazon.com? Are you starting your shopping experience at www.Smile.Amazon.com? If not, you should start right now! When you sign up at smile.amazon.com and choose PCWS as your favorite charity, .5% of your eligible purchases will be donated on a quarterly basis to PCWS. The only real catch is you have to remember to start shopping at smile.amazon.com, and shopping from the **Amazon apps or Kindle won't count**. Otherwise, it's just like shopping on Amazon—only you get to support PCWS without doing anything extra. Why not visit smile.Amazon.com today, login to your Amazon account, choose PCWS as your favorite charity and update your book-mark. It's that easy!

There are hundreds of thousands of products that qualify (you'll see an "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" badge near the item description or price). The service doesn't cost anything to you or PCWS (for that reason, donations are not tax deductible). All you have to do is start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. Even though 1/2% isn't a lot on each purchase, if we all shopped at Amazon Smile, it would all add up!

Since we enrolled with Amazon in November 2015, the church has received $137.50 - It's a great start! We hope you'll continue to support PCWS when you shop at Amazon, and encourage friends and family to do the same!

Mission & Ministry

Summer Music

There are two more Summer Choir dates --July 30 and August 27. No need to sign-up—just plan to join us at 8:30 to rehearse that morning's music. People who aren't able to sing regularly during the choir season are especially invited!

How blessed we at PCWS are to have so many talented musicians offer their gifts in worship! In July besides the choir, music leadership will be provided by Tanner Booth, Mike Lobash and the No-Name Band. In August we will hear from Los Tres Amigos and Amy Malone.

Save The Date:
October 29
8:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Advent Devotion 2017 - The "Jesse Tree"

This year the theme for the Advent Family Devotional is the "Jesse Tree". It will explore the genealogy of Jesus and related stories to the custom of the Jesse Tree. Many people used to keep family bibles with the dates of births, weddings, baptisms, and deaths recorded in them. It was a family history that formed the family tree and the identity of the members of the family.

A similar idea was formed by recreating Jesus' family tree throughout the Bible, with familiar stories and people. The premise of the Jesse Tree is from the book of Isaiah where it says, "A shoot will come from the stump of Jesse and from its roots a bud will blossom." In ancient times Jesse Trees developed as a way to show how the New Testament grew out of the Old Testament. Priests would point to a symbol on the tree and tell the story of the person it was related to and also show how the roots of who we are and the story of the Messiah was planted long before any of us, even before King David or Moses. By exploring the Jesse Tree this year we will adventure through the whole Bible and retrace not only Jesus' story but our own.

All ages are invited to participate in writing or drawing a devotion. If you are interested speak to Tai. The Jesse Tree theme will also be used this fall for our Children's curriculum and for our Advent Fair.

Memorial Garden

Have your noticed any changes in the Memorial Garden? It is now a little more private, and peaceful due to the addition of more landscaping. This change was possible because of a gift from the family of Hank Strunk in his memory. Hank was a long time member of PCWS.

The memorial garden is the resting place of many members of our church family and their names are listed on plaques on the walls in the Narthex. Many of those remembered on the walls of the Narthex helped start the church, and helped make it what it is today. The Garden is now a more beautiful place and a tribute to those who rest there and those who will follow.

Member News

Thank you for your service at PCWS in June! We can't do it without you.

Helped in the office, helped with bulletins and with database updates: Carol Ulreich, Michelle Hennessy, Donna Strunk, Laura Fruit, Mindy McMahon, Judy McAtee, Kay Kelly

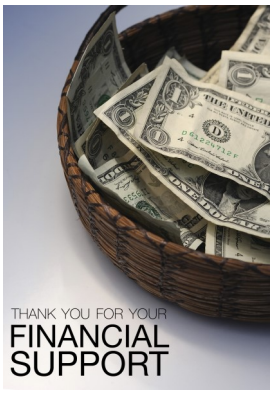
Food for Life Team: Shopper – Carolyn Bozek
Cooks – Ann De Vries and Kim Fronk
Drivers/Servers – Kathy Wennerstrum

Second Baptist Food Pantry run: David and Jane Boxell

Crushed cans: David and Jane Boxell, Mary Jo and Ron Blough, Mindy and Davis McMahon

Prepared Glad Tidings for mailing: Ruth Riordan, Dorothy Andersen, Joyce Habermann and Mary Kae Headland.

Flowers in July: Nancy Glickman, Laurie Merrifield, Sue Eck, Sue Kovalick



Summer is a critical time, as revenue trends lower due to vacations and summer travel. The committee would like to encourage the congregation to make regular contributions through the summer months. There are several opportunities to continue your support while away. Members can arrange for direct deposits, credit card payments or make one-time contributions through the church donation website, or you can use your own bank's Bill Pay to schedule your contribution. We thank you for your support throughout the year.

The Finance Committee

From Our Members

Dear Friends of PCWS,

Notes and flowers have meant so much – old and new friends!
I'm so sure it helped my spirits, not my handwriting!
I send thanks and love,
Betty Toft

Member News

To Rachel Slager, Brendon DeBoer's fiancé, on the death of her aunt, Cindy Speelman, June 11, 2017.

Bulletin Deadline

Please submit all announcements to the church office by 9:00 a.m. Wednesday morning.

Email to pcws@presbyws.org .

We're Social! Are You?

Follow us, share our information with your friends and family!

Find us on Facebook

yelp

Glad Tidings Deadline

Articles for the next month's *Glad Tidings* are due by the **10th** of each month.

To ensure your submission is received, please **email** articles and pictures to:

GT@presbyws.org

Help prepare the August *Glad Tidings* for mailing— Meet July 26 @ 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Room.

Remember in Prayer

- **Roger Adams**
- The Ahmeti Family
- Tom Allen
- **Kimberly Bone**
- Suzi Brinkman
- Diane Markley Bruser
- George Bruser
- **Oliver Carter**
- **Michael De Vries**
- **Bill Dougherty**
- **Billye Dvorak**
- Norm Erickson
- Paulette Erickson
- **Becky Glasscock**
- Elaine Greco
- Joshua Haberkorn
- Ronald Halla
- **Rich Kanak**
- Ruth Kaduke
- **Phil Kasik**
- **Kathleen Kircher**
- Barbara Lennie
- **Mae Love**
- Deborah Matthews
- **Evie Meyer**
- Debi Mirlenbrink
- Norb Mirlenbrink
- Peggy Mirlenbrink
- Mary Myers
- Holly Oliver
- Ginger Oswald
- Sharon Pederson
- **Pat Petros**
- **Joyce Rodos**
- **Marge Sandrik**
- Beata B. Sak
- **Rev. Don Simmonds**
- **Lewis Skeels**
- Mike Slesicki
- Betty Staab
- Jerry Tausk
- Gloria Torres
- **Betty Toft**
- **Norman Toft**
- Jeanne Trotter
- Teri Tuffner
- Marie Vejsada
- Cheryl, Deb Mathews mother
- Dorothy Wilson
- Our men and women serving our country in the Armed Services
- Donna (Friend of Joyce Smyers)
- Michael (friend of Jane Norman)
- Presbyterian Church Congregation in Nueva Paz, Cuba
- The people of Syria, especially family members of PCWS Interfaith Women's Book Group

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF WESTERN SPRINGS
5250 Wolf Road
Western Springs, Illinois 60558-1898

Web Page: **www.presbyws.org**
E-Mail: **pcws@presbyws.org**
Prayer Requests: **prayers@presbyws.org**
Telephone: **708-246-5220**
Fax: **708-246-4276**

6-27-2017
Dated Mail

Scan to
Learn about PCWS

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in July

July 4	**July 4th—Church and Offices Closed**
July 5	**Faith Formation Committee** **Worship Committee**
July 10	***Glad Tidings* Article Deadline**
July 23	**Session**
July 25	**Food For Life**
July 26	**Prepare *Glad Tidings* for mailing**

Upcoming Events in August

August 2	**Faith Formation Committee** **Worship Committee**
August 10	***Glad Tidings* Article Deadline**
August 16	**Session**
August 19	**Youth Service Day #2**
August 20	**Youth Parent Meeting**
August 29	**Prepare *Glad Tidings* for mailing**

To view a full calendar of events, please visit our webpage: www.presbyws.org
and click on the "Calendar" link at the top of the page.