Glad Tidings

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WESTERN SPRINGS **JANUARY, 2018**

PNC Update

The members of the Pastor Nominating Committee (David Boxell, Mark DeVries, Peter Hanson, Kay Kelly, Tricia Koning, Walt Kovalik, Candice Mares, Matt Mosher, Sarah Sullivan) have been meeting nearly every week. At last count, we have met over 30 times. Whew!

We finished phase one, which culminated in an approved (MIF) Ministry Information Form describing PCWS and the characteristics we're seeking. Our MIF has been added to the PC (USA) database and several on-line job boards.

Now we're in phase two, radio silence. We are receiving pastor resumes from a variety of sources and have over 150, so far! We ask you to be patient. We're following a defined process to find the best possible person to lead our church into the future.

We also wanted to let you know what to do if you know a pastor you think we should consider. You can tell the candidate they have 2 options:

1. They can find our position listed in the PCUSA system called CLC (Church Leadership Connection). Most candidates will know this site. There, they can find our MIF, which tells them how to submit information.
2. They can send a letter and a resume to our Pastor Nominating Committee to make initial contact. Our email address is pnca@presbyws.org. We will connect with them and direct them back to the PCUSA/CLC site because that's the process.

Finally, please don't pass along any names or phone numbers directly to members of the PNC. We want to preserve the confidentiality of our candidates.

God's hand is guiding us. And in God's time, we'll have a new pastor and he or she will be who we need. Help us by praying for the work that lies ahead and for all of us involved in the process.

Submitted by Kay Kelly and Walt Kovalick, PNC co-chairpersons

Souper Bowl

Super Bowl Sunday will be here in a few weeks and it is time for the JUPYs and UPYs to start gearing up to participate in what is known as Souper Bowl of Caring. February 4th will mark the 29th anniversary of Souper Bowl of Caring. Our JUPYs and UPYs at PCWS will participate this year in two ways:

First, they will collect money after worship in soup pots and bowls. Simply put your donation in the soup pot or bowl of the NFL team you wish to win the Super Bowl. Then on the following Sunday we will reveal which Team's pots raised the most money.

Second, the JUPYs and UPYs will host a Chili Cook-off that you can enter. Simply sign up on the Sign-up Genius in the church hallway, or online. Then bring a crock pot of chili with you to church on February 4th with a clever name for your entry. After worship, members of the congregation can purchase tickets for lunch. They will taste test all they wish and vote for the pot of chili they like best. After the votes are totaled, we will declare the winner of our second ever chili cook off. This is a fun way for the entire congregation to get involved, help the youth raise money for a local charity, and compete to see who has the best chili around these parts.

Congregational News

Officer Ordination and Installation

I want to invite you to a special service in the life of the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs. On **Sunday, January 21, 2018**, we will have our annual officer ordination and installation service. In this service, we will be ordaining and/or installing ruling elders and deacons.

The Presbyterian Church is one of the few denominations, if not the only denomination, to ordain laypersons to office in the church. Ruling elders-elect and deacons-elect to be ordained kneel and have hands placed upon their heads by pastors and ruling elders just as pastors-elect have done at their ordination. Eight of the nine questions the officers-elect are asked are identical to those asked of pastors at their ordination and the ninth differs only slightly due to the nature of each office.

In short, officers in the Presbyterian Church are not elected simply to the "board" of a church. They are not chosen simply to govern the church. It is much more than that. Presbyterian Church officers are called by God, just as the clergy, to serve Christ in and through the church. Like pastors, this call from God must be outwardly manifested in the election of the congregation and the approval and examination of a church council (for clergy, presbytery, and for elders and deacons, the Session). This call is not just to lead the congregation, but more importantly, to serve and to follow our Lord Jesus Christ, that is, to be servant-leaders. This understanding about our lay officers is one of the great strengths of our denomination.

I hope you can join us January 21 as we set aside five members of PCWS to serve as elders, with four serving a two year term and a youth serving one year. We will also set aside seven to serve as deacons, with five serving a two year term and two youth serving one year. Brief biographies of each are found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Grace and peace,

Bill

OUR PASTOR

Rev. Bill Ingersoll, Interim Pastor wjingersoll@att.net

For a complete list of our staff, visit our website: www.presbyws.org.

Did you Know?

Did you know that PCWS has a Safe Space that has been in place since 2007, and was recently updated. The Safe Space Policy helps PCWS create a safe environment for our children, youth, and adults to learn, grow, and be nurtured. It requires all adults who volunteer with our children and youth to be trained in the policy, have a background check, and brief reference check.

The Safe Space policy is one of the ways we live into our baptism vows to our children and youth. It also allows us to answer the theological mandate that Jesus gave us to welcome the little child among us. The Safe Space policy makes PCWS a place that welcomes all and is a place that is safe for all.

If you have questions about the Safe Space policy at PCWS or the next training please speak to Tai Cole or Michelle Hennessy

Deacons At Your Service

Our PCWS Deacons are eager to provide care to all members and especially, members who are in special need. If you know of a member who is dealing with a health issue or tough life circumstance, please let the office know so that a Deacon can follow up. The Deacons can make visits, set up meals to be delivered, and/or provide home communion with the pastor. Our Deacons are ready to lend a helping hand!

Congregational News

WELCOME PCWS's NEW YOUTH LEADER!
Candice Mares

The Session and Faith Formation Committee are excited to announce that Candice Mares has agreed to serve as the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs' Youth Leader, beginning January 1st. Candice joined PCWS in 2014 with her sons John III Adelphia, who is 8, and Frank Adelphia, who is 6. Since then, their enthusiasm and energy have impacted our church in a very positive way.

Candice began a new career in August of 2017 as a legal secretary at the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 in Countryside. She already knows most of our youth, having been a JUPY's leader since 2015 and having been an Adult Advisor for the 2016 Atlanta Mission Trip.

Candice says, "I am currently blessed to be serving the church in number of ways, namely (as a member of) the Pastor Nominating Committee and now my new role as Youth Leader. Anyone who knows me knows I am simultaneously SUPER EXCITED and also a little anxious about this new undertaking. It is unlike anything I have ever done and I ask for the support and patience I know our congregation will show me as I adjust to these new opportunities. Since the day I joined I have always felt like our church family is a warm hug and I am so thankful to be a part of this team."

Welcome, Candice! PCWS is thankful you are part of our team!

Advent 2017

Meet Your New Leaders

ELDERS

Loretta Gratias-Bremer

I live in Countryside, with husband Pat and Ziggy the cat. I currently am employed by the Presbytery of Chicago as the Boundaries Administrator and Staff Resource to the Commission on Ministry. I love reading (mysteries and historical fiction) and like 'digging in the dirt'! That must be part of my Iowa roots - I grew up on a farm! I'm honored to be asked to serve on the session of PCWS and look forward to serving.

Jim Koning

Jim Koning grew up in west central Minnesota. After receiving degrees in Music Education and Conducting, he went on to teach in several different schools before settling in the western suburbs. He teaches Elementary Music and directs the Orchestras at Public School District #106 in LaGrange Highlands. He lives in Indian Head Park with his best friend Tricia and a lot of musical instruments.

Mindy McMahon

Having been an Elder of Worship and Personnel many years ago and a member since 2000, I am eager to give back to our church family and build greater relationships.

Retirement from an elementary principalship has allowed me time to explore mission work in Cuba and volunteer in the PCWS office. Additionally, I continue my work in the field of education through teaching at Illinois Universitys, consulting and some interim work. Even with these positions I have flexibility to travel with husband Jim and our children.

Sal Melilli

Sal and his family have been members since moving to Western Springs thirteen years ago. He has served in various roles in PCWS over the years and continues now in his role as Elder. He is married to Jane Melilli, who grew up at PCWS, and has two children, Isabella and Salvatore. He loves traveling to Italy and cooking.

Colleen Sullivan

I'm Colleen Sullivan, sophomore at LT High School. At LT, I'm active in Track & Field, Cross Country, Color Guard, Peer Leadership Club, GEMS and Math Team. At PCWS, I'm a Sexton, a member of the Youth Committee and I help operate the sound board during Worship. I love running, reading and anything to do with computers.

DEACONS

Sheryl Allen

I live in Western Springs with my husband, Berry and three kids, although the two youngest are off at college. Life is much quieter for me while they are away! I was baptized in our church, a deacon in high school, married and all three of our kids were baptized here as well. I have a lot of PCWS in me and grateful for it! I love getting together with friends, spending time with the family, and being outside. I am lucky to work with my dear sister-in-law, Lisa Wennerstrum, in our interior design business.

Ann DeVries

Ann De Vries has been a member of PCWS since 1993. She has served as a past Deacon, member of the Nominating Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee, the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, a Sunday School teacher, a VBS teacher, a regular Food for Life volunteer, and has helped and participated in various other church activities. Ann's passions include her faith, family, friends, food and health. It's no wonder she is a member of PCWS! Ann's husband, Mark, and her children, Lauren, Michael, and Katie, are all members of PCWS as well. Something you may not know about Ann is that she would love to travel the world as a Michelin Food Critic because she loves trying new foods and different dining experiences. Ann is looking forward to being a Deacon again and serving the PCWS congregation.

New Leaders, Cont'd

Cindy Karstens
I am a life long Presbyterian having grown up in a church in Oak Park. I am previously ordained as an Elder and Deacon and look forward to serving as a Deacon. Scott and I have enjoyed participating in the youth mission trips at PCWS. Spending time with friends and family which includes our four children, their spouses and grandchildren is important to me but I also enjoy the quiet times walking with Scott and just being in nature, even in the winter.
My biggest joy today is visiting our grandchildren. Mackenzie, 3 and Logan, 1 live in Burlington, WI and Theodore, 2 months lives in Boulder, CO.

Laurie Merrifield
I have been a member of the PCWS for 30 years. I grew up next door to a Presbyterian minister in Oak Park, and when Scott and I were married, we lived next door to the Presbyterian Church in Brookfield.

We have raised four daughters here at PCWS, and now my granddaughter, Isabella Davia is growing up at PCWS. This will be my third term serving as a Deacon. During my first term I was the Recording Secretary. During that term, I learned to use the Computer. If not for that term, I might still be computer illiterate. I now sing in choir, even though I am still learning to read music. I help with the Flower Committee.

Kim Yates
Kim is a life-long a Presbyterian, having grown up in a Presbyterian church in central Illinois. She works as a Director of Credit Portfolio Management at BMO Harris Bank. In her spare time, you will find Kim running around to kids' activities, in the kitchen or curled up with a good book. Kim resides in Western Springs with her husband, Nate and three children: Marin, Jillian and Carter.

Jessie Fronk
Jessie Fronk is a sophomore at Lyons Township High School. When Jessie is not studying, she is busy competing as a Level 9 gymnast at Flying High. Jessie has grown up at PCWS and is excited to be a Deacon for her fellow UPYs.

Salvatore Melilli
My Name is Salvatore Melilli and I have been working at the church for a little over a year. Not only did I grow up at PCWS but my mother did as well. I am a sophomore at Lyons Township. For fun outside of work, I play lacrosse and go fishing.

ENDOWMENT AND SPECIAL GIFTS COMMITTEE
Matt Booth
Matt has been a member of PCWS for over 20 years, and is looking to serving another term on the Endowment and Special Gifts Committee. He has served PCWS as a variety of roles, from Assistant Treasurer to Visioning Committee member. He and his family live in Burr Ridge, and he enjoys outdoor activities, running and cooking.

Mike Lobash
Mike Lobash joined PCWS in 2007 after moving with his wife, Laura, and their son Henry from Milwaukee. Since joining, Mike has served as an Elder and Deacon and as a member of the church's Finance and Technology committees. He is active in the church's music ministry as a trumpeter and bell ringer. Outside of church, Mike is an avid fly fisherman and sailor. Professionally, he works as a tax accountant in a family-owned firm.

SAFE SPACE COMMITTEE
Michelle Hennessy
Michelle joined PCWS after her marriage to Kevin Hennessy. A Church Administrator for her former Methodist Church, Michelle helps out in the office with the church database, and handles all communication for PCWS (Glad Tidings, weekly email, Website content, and press releases.) She has one daughter who lives in Charlotte, NC and who will be married on Marco Island in March. In her spare time, she likes to travel, walk and is looking forward to spending more time on Marco Island in the winters.

New Leaders, Cont'd

Kim Yates
See Deacon's

Elizabeth Slezak
Liz was born and raised in Western Springs, the youngest of 9 kids! She and her husband, Braden, have three kids, Jack (22), Alison (19), and David (12). Liz loves most outdoor activities, especially hiking, biking, and long walks with their dog, Lexi. She has taught Sunday school at PCWS for the past several years and feels blessed to be part of such a supportive and friendly church community.

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Cheryl Hanson
- Married at PCWS in 2002
- Became a Member of PCWS in 2004 after moving back to the area
- Former senior high youth advisor, capital campaign committee member, endowment and special gifts committee member, officer nominating committee member and Breakthrough Urban Ministries food volunteer
- Attended multiple family camps
- Family: Husband Peter and two boys: Erik (7), Alex (4)
- Profession: Stay at home Mom and contract management consultant
- Hobbies: Biking, Cooking and Gardening

Kevin Hennessy
Kevin is a long time member of PCWS, having served on session twice, on the nominating committee, on the capital campaign for the building extension and the most recent capital campaign, and is especially grateful for his participation in chancel choir and Los Tres Amigos. Outside of church, Kevin works as a management-side labor attorney for Vedder Price PC in Chicago and looks forward to spending parts of the winter on Marco Island, Florida. Kevin is married to Michelle, PCWS' Director of Communications, and raised his two children, Erin and Sean, in the life of the Church. I love to read, listen to music and attend sports games.

Sue Kovalick
Member since 2007
- Co-Chair, Flower Committee at PCWS and former churches
- Member, Associate Pastor Nominating Committee
- Prayer Buddy
- Mentored two confirmands
- Past officer of Presbyterian Women
- Member Women's Circle
- Helped create Theology and Brew
- Reader's Theater player

Jane Melilli
I was baptized and attended PCWS into my 20's. After I married and had kids, we moved back to Western Springs and joined the church as a family. I feel strongly that giving my time and talent to our church is very important and it has always been on the top of my volunteering list! I currently share the job of Lay Ministries with Kay Kelly. I have been working for myself for the last 12 years as a Window Treatment Designer.

Laurie Petersen
Married to David Petersen, we just celebrated our 33rd anniversary and have one son, Drew. I have been a nurse for 35 years and have been with St. John of the Cross Parish School for nine years. I enjoy gardening, reading, walking, and knitting. I am trying to learn Italian.

Natalie Carlisle
Natalie Carlisle is a freshman at LTHS. She enjoys dance, musical theater, and spending time with family and friends. Natalie was confirmed at PCWS in May 2016 and has participated in the choir, MAD camp, JUPYs and UPYs. Natalie's family includes brothers Andrew and Charlie, parents Whit and Stephanie, and dog, Teddy.

Congregational News

Seasons of Generosity

Here's a quick Stewardship update as of December 6th. We've received Pledges totaling $329,771 from 97 family units. We're still hoping to hear from an additional 14 family units. How does that compare to last year? We have 10 more family units that have pledged this year, with an increase of $12,323. So, some good news relative to last year's results. However, we're still considerably short of our Hopeful goal of $400,000. Session was hoping to be able to develop a very strong budget as we look to call our new pastor this coming year.

We thought everyone would like to see a little more color behind the numbers. Here's a quick breakdown:

Dollar Amount	Number of Pledges	% of Total Pledges
$0 - $1,300 (up to $25/wk)	35	36
$1,301 - $2,600 (up to $50/wk)	22	23
$2,601 - $5,200 (up to $100/wk)	19	20
$5,201 - $10,400 (up to $200 / wk)	15	15
$10,400 and up (greater than $200/wk)	6	6
Totals	**97**	**100%**

As info: It's not too late to increase your pledge! It can be easily accomplished by simply sending a quick email to our secure and confidential Stewardship email address: stewardship@presbyws.org We'll acknowledge receipt and update our records accordingly.

Thanks EVERYONE for your help and participation in this year's Stewardship process. Chad and I appreciated all the timely and generous responses.

Sincerely,

Chad and Condy
Leadership and Ministries Committee

Hats, Mittens, Coats!

The Mission committee is pleased to share that your generous gifts of coats, hats, gloves, mittens and scarves were especially appreciated during the Holiday season by our friends at Margaret's Village and Sharing Connections. We were able to deliver a total of 54 gently used mens', womens' and childrens' coats and jackets, over 172 hats, more than 28 pairs of mittens and gloves, 10 scarves, 11 pairs of socks, two pairs of snow pants and one fleece blanket - unbelievable! We would like to especially note the generosity of Debbie McNair, a friend of PCWS members, who personally donated over 100 hand-knit hats, scarves and mittens this year!

The **non-perishable food items** under the Christmas Giving Tree in the Narthex were delivered to the Pine Avenue Food Pantry in the Oak Park/Austin area after Christmas, which helped to restock the pantry.

Adult News

Presbyterian Women

PW will not meet in January. Instead, gather your friends and have lunch or dinner at Baker's Square on January 23 in support of Church Women United. Coupons will be available in the church bulletin and are valid all day.

Looking ahead to February, we will have our annual book reviews. Be thinking of a book you would like to share with the group.

Afternoon Circle meets January 16, 1:00 p.m. in the Graham Charter Room. Lesson 5 "in Community with the Traditions of the Past" from Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews by Melissa Bane Sevier. Discussion will be led by Rev. Tia Zimmerman Cole.

Evening Circle will meet January 23, at 12:00 p.m. in the Graham Charter Room. Lunch will be brought in from Corner Bakery. Call Nancy Glickman (708-921-1126) for menu choices. Discussion of Tears We Cannot Stop by Michael Dyson will begin at 1:00 p.m. Books are available at local libraries.

Church Women United will hold its brunch and annual meeting at First Presbyterian Church of LaGrange on January 19 at 9:30 a.m. See Mary Jo Blough for tickets.

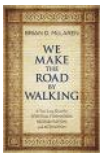
Interfaith Book Group

The Interfaith Book Group will begin the new year by reading and discussing "I am Malala" by Malala Yousafzai, the Afghan girl who was shot because she wanted to go to school.

We meet at PCWS, January 17, and will leave PCWS at 1:00 p.m. to carpool to the Mosque Foundation for refreshments and the book discussion. It promises to be a positive beginning to 2018.

Please call Kristene at church to let her know that you are coming so we have enough drivers. All women of the church are welcome to be part of this group. If you need more information contact Carol Stoub.

ONE Church ONE Book



Our One Church One Book study will continue in January, resuming on January 14th in the Graham Charter room following fellowship time.

If you are interested in leading one of the weekly discussions, please speak to Tai. The more voices and perspectives we have the better discussions we have.

Theology and Brew

Theology and Brew will meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (January 16th) and the 4th Tuesday of the month at 12 noon (January 28th). Both will be held at The Hillgrove Tap. Articles for discussion will be emailed out at least a week before the gathering for you to read and invite friends to join us for the conversation.

Loose Change Offering

Did you know that all loose change placed in the offering plates has been designated to fight local hunger. These donations are split evenly between the Pine Avenue Church Food Pantry and the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Last year PCWS raised $6,620 through loose change donations.

It is important to remember that only loose change is designated to these important missions, paper bills will not. So, next time you have a little jingle in your pocket or purse, please think of making a positive "change" to reduce local hunger.

Children & Youth Ministry

Cookie Walk wrap up

On December 3, the first week of advent, the High School youth held their annual fundraiser to help cover costs of this upcoming summer's mission trip. During our bake sale, we sold over 50 boxes of cookies and raised approximately $650!

The amount raised will help cover the cost of travel and lodging expenses. Thank you to all the bakers and volunteers who helped make this fundraiser happen! We thank God for the generous support you, as a congregation, continue to provide for our youth programs! To God be the Glory!

Advent Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Advent Fair. From Hot Coco making, bath bombs, Jesse Tree ornaments, aromatherapy gift pillows, advent wreaths, and photo booths to loads of candy for gingerbread houses, the Advent Fair had something for everyone and something to share with those we care for. It takes many helping hands to bring all the fun together for this special event each year. The smiles and laughter shared are priceless along with the memories. Thank you everyone for another memorable Advent Fair.

Live Nativity 2017

We traveled to Bethlehem to see and experience the birth of Jesus as can only be told by the children of PCWS. It is a special gift to experience this story retold for us by the youngest members of PCWS. Thank you to Candice Mares, Diane Ravenase and Kim Yates (Costumes) and Laurie Merrifield (After party) for helping bring this all together. To all our actors, actresses, and volunteers; thank you for sharing your gifts and talents and bringing the story to life so that we may always treasure it.

Balloon-a-grams

In February, we will be hosting another fundraiser to help cover the costs of our Mission Trip to Jacksonville, Florida. As is our tradition, the youth program will be delivering "Balloon-a-grams," to our neighbors in the community!

These little bags of fun contain candy, a balloon, and a hand written card. All you have to do is come to the Jones' Room after worship on January the 28th, February the 4th, or the 11th and fill out a form for where the "gram" needs to be delivered and we take care of the rest! We do ask that the recipient live within a 2.5 mile radius of the church. We will be delivering the packages of fun on Sunday, February 11 (the Sunday before Valentine's Day) after worship at 10:30.

Thanks in advance, and we can't wait to see you at the table!

THIS MONTH'S

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Gabi Cloutier
Avery Mezan
Olivia Mezan
Nicholas Miller

Water for the World

WOW!!! I believe this is the only word that can completely describe the incredible job the children did building the well and presenting it during the Children's Time on December 3rd for Water for the World. Each Sunday there was a small basket placed up front during the children's time in which a few dollars were placed each, but those dollars add up. The children have given $1000 to Water for the World from their weekly offering and on December 3rd issued a challenge to the congregation to help them match their gift.

Thank you for responding and giving so generously.

YOUTH NEWS

"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

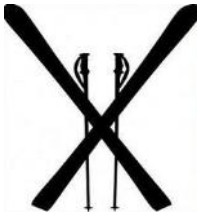
This Month

January

As we reflect on the past year, we look forward also to the upcoming year and how God will continue to use us in our life!

Notable News

UPY Ski Trip



- We will leave on Friday, January 19 at 5:00 p.m. and head for our house just outside of Cascade Mountain.
- We will Ski that night, all day Saturday and return Sunday.
- Will be back at church by 2:00 p.m.
- Cost for all three days with rental will be roughly $285.
- Cost for all three days without rentals will be roughly $160.
- Lodging and transportation will be covered by church, but a $30 fee will be required for food purchases.
- Money is due to Candice on or before January 7.

Mark Your Calendar

January Dates:

Saturday/Sunday, January 20-21
UPY SKI TRIP

Sunday, January 28
5-6:30 p.m.
JUPY Bible Night
6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
UPY Balloon-a-gram Prep

Discussion Night

- Our first regularly scheduled night is for January 28, We will be discussing how we as Christians are called to act in today's society!

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.

Staff Contact Info

Candice Mares
Youth Leader
Church Office: (708) 246-5220

Candice email:
cmares@presbyws.org

Mission and Service

Living Waters

Do you welcome the New Year eager to identify a new resolution to achieve? Or hold on to one you have yet to accomplish? Thanks to our congregation's support of the Living Waters for the World (LWW) project on behalf of our partner congregation in Nueva Paz, Cuba, we all will have the chance to check one resolution off our collective list this year!

As a result of a very generous day of giving on December 3rd with the children actively modeling their donation of $1,000 from their Sunday School offerings . . . the overwhelming generosity of visitors to the Alternative Giving Fair contributing an additional $3,000 . . . and the allocation of over $1,300 raised through the aluminum recycling program, we have met the first threshold required to fund the system. Hallelujah!

So the process has begun. First Trinity Presbyterian Church in Laurel, MS, our partner in funding and the group leading the installation, has funded six LWW projects in Cuba and has an established, trained and experienced team ready to go. In the last couple of months, they've visited Nueva Paz, confirmed the previously-established viability of the site, met with the members of the church who will install, operate and maintain the system, signed a Living Waters for the World covenant with them and have outlined an installation schedule for early 2018. Installation could take place as early as April 2018.

With the New Year, we are looking forward to seeing purified water flow in Nueva Paz and with the generous financial and spiritual support of our congregation, this goal is well on the way to becoming a reality! Throughout the next several months, we'll continue to keep you posted on the progress of this project, on our partnership with First Trinity, and on our continuing support of and partnership with our brothers and sisters in Nueva Paz, Cuba.

Alternative Giving Event

On behalf of all of the agencies our generous congregation supported during the Alternative Giving Event last month – THANK YOU! As examples of the reach that your gifts have, this event raised:
over $1,000 for Heifer International, over $750 for Divine Fair Trade Chocolate and provided for 36 ($20) Walmart gift cards for our friends at Margaret's Village.

Our congregation also generously gave over $3,000 toward the Living Waters for the World project for our partner church in Nueva Paz, Cuba on one very special Sunday of multi-generational mission lessons and giving! What a wonderful way to share our gifts with those in need of sustainable food sources; fair and worthwhile employment; and safe, drinkable, purified water – in our own backyard and around the world.

Mission looks forward to spending this upcoming year continuing to find ways in which we all can continue to come together to enrich the lives of others wherever there may be a need. Happy New Year!

Dear Parishners,
Thank you once again for your generous support and interest in Margaret's Village. You are certainly helping to make the world a better place by your many gifts to us – gifts of money – gifts of service – gifts of presence and gift of hope. Thank you, Thank you. Have a very Blessed and Peace filled holiday season!

Sincerely,
Sister Ann Flanegan

Member News

Thank you for your service at PCWS in December! 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

Second Baptist Food Pantry run: David and Jane Boxell

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

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

Flowers in January: Laurie Merrifield, Sue Eck, Nancy Glickman, Jan Fortina

Member notes:

Thanks, so much for all the cards, phone calls, notes, etc that you have sent. I am doing well and I have a wonderful woman taking really good care of me. I appreciate your prayers and love. I'm so blessed knowing that. Hope it won't be too long before I'll be back. With love, Shirley Pine

Dear Deacons,
Thanks you for the care package! I shared the candy with friends and we all enjoyed it! It's nice knowing you're thinking of me.
Love, Erin

Hello PCWS Family,
I hope everyone is doing well enjoying Western Springs fall season! I just have to tell you how thankful I am for the care package! That was very sweet and much appreciated. Of course I couldn't eat the hundreds of treats on my own and ironically my roommate is my sorority's chaplain so we passed them out at her Bible study. ☺
Happy Thanksgiving and hope to see you all soon!
Thank you again and much love, Lindsey Allen

Dear Deacons,
Thanks you so much for the care package! It made my day. It's nice to be reminded about our supportive church community, and hope to visit soon!
Best Wishes, Alison

Dear PCWS friends,
Thank you so much for the card, prayers and good wishes for a speedy recovery after my hip replacement surgery. Looking forward to seeing you soon!
Julie Kelly

Dear friends,
The flowers are nice. Friends stop in and cannot believe how beautiful they are. Norman and I are thankful of your kindness. Norm and Betty Toft

Member of PCWS,
I would like to thank everyone who sent a get well card. It was great to hear from everyone. John Kregg

Member News

We Extend Sympathy to:

The family of Roger Adams, who died November 25th.

The family of Denis Glasscock, brother of Larry Glasscock who died on Saturday, December 9th.

We're Social! Are You?

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

News Deadlines

Bulletin: Submit announcements to the church office by 9:00 a.m. Wednesday morning. **Email** to pcws@presbyws.org.

Weekly Connection: Submit information by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday for inclusion in the Thursday email.

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 February *Glad Tidings* for mailing— Meet January 24, 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Room.

Remember in Prayer

- The Ahmeti Family
- Tom Allen
- **Kimberly Bone**
- Diane Markley Bruser
- George Bruser
- Phyllis Cordell
- **Bill Dougherty**
- **Billye Dvorak**
- Norm Erickson
- Paulette Erickson
- **Becky Glasscock**
- Elaine Greco
- Joshua Haberkorn
- Ronald Halla
- **Rich Kanak**
- Ruth Kaduke
- **Phil Kasik**
- **Julie Kelly**
- **Kathleen Kircher**
- **John Kregg**
- 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
- Ray Sievers
- Mike Slesicki
- Betty Staab
- Brooks Tonn
- Gloria Torres
- **Betty Toft**
- **Norman Toft**
- Teri Tuffner
- Cheryl, Deb Mathews mother
- Dorothy Wilson
- Brian, friend of the Smyers family
- 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

12-27-2017

Dated Mail

Scan to Learn about PCWS

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in January

Jan. 1 New Years Day (Church and Offices Closed)

Jan. 5 Family Camp

Jan. 9 Confirmation Dinner with Mentors
Deacons

Jan. 10 *Glad Tidings* Article Deadline
Personnel Committee
Special Session Meeting: New Officers

Jan. 11 Finance Committee

Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Day (Church and Offices Closed)

Jan. 16 Theology & Brew Evening Edition

Jan. 17 Session

Jan. 20 UPY Ski Trip

Jan. 22 PCWS Book Group

Jan. 23 Theology & Brew Daytime Edition

Jan. 24 Prepare *Glad Tidings* for mailing

Jan. 28 Balloon-A-Gram Sales Begin

Upcoming Events in February

Feb. 1 Presbyterian Women

Feb. 6 Deacons

Feb. 10 JUPYs & Confirmation Mission Project (FMSC)

Feb. 11 Balloon-A-Gram Deliveries

Feb. 14 ASH Wednesday

Feb. 19 President's Day
Church & Offices Closed

Feb. 20 Theology & Brew Evening Edition

Feb. 21 Session

Feb. 22 Prepare *Glad Tidings* for mailing

Feb. 24 UPYs to Wolves Game

Feb. 26 Book Group

Feb. 27 Theology & Brew Daytime Edition

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.