

GLAD TIDINGS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WESTERN SPRINGS

JULY, 2018

Our Deepest Appreciation to Bill

As we eagerly await the arrival of our new Pastor, Erik, we give thanks to Bill for his wonderful leadership over the past 18 months. His sermons were thought-provoking, engaging and inspiring. He invited us to embrace the things that make PCWS so special while challenging us to think about what we want to become. We were offered a glimpse into life in Appalachia and Texas while seated comfortably in Western Springs. Bill treated us to his great storytelling and playful sense of humor. He provided wise counsel to the Session and Committees on how to successfully navigate an interim period. He always greeted us with a warm, welcoming smile. For these, and many other things, we are deeply grateful to Bill.



Bill's last day at PCWS will be July 20th. His last Sunday will be July 15th. Please join us on the 15th in worship as we recognize and thank Bill for his wonderful service to PCWS. After worship, the Deacons are hosting a reception in the Jones Room. If you are unable to join us on the 15th, please drop by the office or drop Bill a note to express your appreciation and wish him the best of luck on his future endeavors.

Thank you, Bill, for all you have done for PCWS.

Rally Day—September 9

Plans are underway for an exciting Sept. 9 Rally Day with Pastor Erik Khoobyarian and PCWS members to make joyful music during and after worship as we begin our church year.



We seek youth and adults who would like to face paint, lead a craft, game, dance, music, to decorate, or post committee sign-ups. We can also provide ideas and materials if you wish. Join us and choose joy for your family. Please contact Kim Fronk, Mindy McMahon or Loretta Gratias-Bremer to express your interest.

MAD CAMP July 15—19



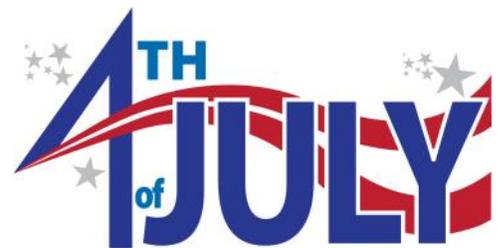
Do you know of a 7-15 year old who loves to act and sing? Sign them up for Music and Drama (MAD) Camp, which begins on Sunday, July 15 thru Thursday, July 19 from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. with the performance on Sunday, July 22, during worship and a 2:00 p.m. performance at Plymouth Place. Friends and neighbors are all invited to participate.

A minimum of 20 participants is needed for MAD camp to be successful and the registration fee is due no later than July 1st.

To register, visit the MAD CAMP page – <https://presbyws.org/mad-music-and-drama-camp>. Deadline: July 1.

Cost of MAD Camp will be \$40 per child or \$50 per family. Scholarships are available.

Please contact Stephanie Coates or Mindy McMahon for more information.



Church and Offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

“Continuing the Journey”

With the election to call your new Pastor, Erik Khoobyarian, on Sunday, June 3rd, the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs prepares to begin a new chapter in its journey of faith. What a wonderful day June 3rd was in PCWS’s life! It is obvious that you, the congregation, are eager to continue to follow our Lord Jesus Christ with new called and installed pastoral leadership. Please know I am excited for you! It is good to see you not simply grateful for PCWS’s past but also looking forward as a congregation to a God-filled future.



My journey of faith will continue as well. “The only constant in life is change,” declares a popular truism. An Interim Pastor soon learns this. In fact, the most frequent question I’ve been asked in the weeks before the congregational meeting, and even more so now that it has occurred is, “What will you do next, Bill?” The short answer is, right now, “God only knows!” With my wife Roberta having retired last October, retirement is a real possibility for me as well. Or, after a break, I may decide to seek by God’s grace another interim pastorate.

For the time being, I will remain at PCWS through July 19th with July 15th being my last Sunday. I will stay in touch with Erik and will continue to work with PCWS’s leadership to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. Upon leaving, I will sign the Presbytery of Chicago’s Covenant of Closure that will officially end my relationship as a pastor with you.

Please know in the midst of my journey together with you I have been inspired by your faithfulness and impressed by the leadership skills that are prevalent among you. PCWS is a healthy, mission-minded church ready to move forward as disciples of Jesus Christ. As I contemplate the future of PCWS, I am filled with hope. Your gifts and talents are many and they will be enriched by the pastoral leadership that Erik will bring. He will begin his work at PCWS on Wednesday, August 1st, while his first Sunday in the pulpit as PCWS’s new Pastor will be August 5th. Blessings on him and all of you!

Grace and peace,

Bill

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.

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**

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Safe Space Update

We are pleased to announce that the building is now in compliance with our Safe Space Policy. Many thanks to Herb Smyers for installing windows in the office doors for the Pastor and Associate Pastor.

We will also be offering Safe Space training sessions for anyone who is interested in the policy, or those who need training or need to be re-trained (required every three years to remain approved under the policy.)

The dates are:

Sunday, July 1 -- 10:45 a.m.

Sunday, August 26 -- 10:45 a.m.

Tuesday, August 28 -- 6:30 p.m.

(precedes Sunday School Teacher Training at 7:30 p.m.)

Please contact Loretta Gratias –Bremer or Michelle Hennessy with any questions.



THIS MONTH'S
BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Stephen Skjei
Weston Baise
Ryan Gertsmeier
Zeke Tester

From the Youth Director

A great big hug and happy July to you all! With so much excitement brewing in the works for our little church family I don't know where to begin. How great was it to meet our new pastor? I know we are all so excited to welcome him next month. The youth had a great opportunity to spend some alone time with him while he was in town and I am so pleased to say we had a great turn out for an impromptu UPY/JUPY Sunday night meeting. He was indoctrinated with a traditional game of alien and a good time was had by all!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the car and pet wash! What an adventure! Special shout out to everyone who came together to make it happen (even in the rain). Thank you for going above and beyond for our youth!

In the very near future, we are pleased to remind you that six of our UPYs will be flying to Florida to get dirty doing God's work, helping those less fortunate with needed repairs from last year's detrimental hurricanes. Say prayers for Natalie Carlisle, Jessie Fronk, Luke Gertsmeier, Drew Hughes, Colleen Sullivan, and Sarah Blough. Under the fearless leadership of the great Lance Smith, we will depart for Jacksonville, Florida on July 21st.

Candice Mares

Volunteer Sunday Mornings

Help start each Sunday with a warm greeting to members, friends and visitors. A family, group of friends or the power of one can share the warmth of PCWS. It's easy and fun – arrive by 9:15 a.m. at the front door in the narthex. Have a warm smile and extend a friendly handshake to people arriving at PCWS. Take a Sunday to be an extension of the warmth of PCWS.

Looking for a way to help in Worship but don't like public speaking? How about being an usher? Help hand out bulletins and seat those requiring assistance. Arrive by 9:15 a.m. for a brief check-in with our experienced head usher of the day. During worship help collect the offering. Ushering is an important job helping with the flow of worship. Sign up for greeting or ushering one Sunday, a recurring Sunday (like the 1st Sunday of the month) or even a date of special meaning.

ADULT NEWS

Update from the Pastor Nominating Committee



PASTOR NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

Greetings Friends! It is not often in life that you can celebrate for being out of a job, but that is exactly where we in the PNC currently find ourselves. Sunday, June 3, as you know, we had the honor of standing before our congregation to present our nominee for pastor, Erik Khoobyarian, and with resounding approval, the congregation voted favorably for him to be our next pastor!

Leading up to last Sunday, those of us in the PNC were excited because we knew all about Erik, and we were hopeful that you would share our enthusiasm. Fortunately, many of you were able to meet Erik at various fellowship events last weekend, and based on the vote, it is obvious that you felt the same way. We know Erik is the right person to lead our church into the future.

Our year-long search process required significant commitments and understanding from everyone to help us through the process. We thank you again for your prayers and support. Although the PNC is now dissolved, our work is not done. Erik will need all of our help transitioning into his new life with PCWS. We are all in this together and as much as Erik was called to be our new pastor, he cannot lead us alone. His beginning with PCWS is a call for all of us to continue to help one another, to pray for one another and to continue to make PCWS the great place that it is. Needless to say, these are exciting times, and we cannot wait for this next chapter in our beautiful church to begin!

Welcome Our New Pastor Financial Campaign Update

The Leadership and Ministries committee would like to thank everyone for their timely and generous contributions to the "Welcome Our New Pastor Campaign". The work on the Manse is in full gear with a lot of the projects already completed. As a result of our congregation's generosity, we were able to surpass our goal of \$75,000. Our final totals are: \$86,326!! We had 56 Family units participate in the campaign. What a great way to welcome Erik as our new Pastor, and to extend our hand in fellowship as we continue to serve our Community reflecting God's inclusive love. Thanks again for your selfless and generous contributions.

Women's Retreat

November 2-4,
2018



O clap your hands, all peoples; Shout to God with the voice of joy.

Psalm 47:1

How are the hands of women instrumental in bringing joy to our lives and the lives of our family and friends? These questions will be explored at our **November 2-4, 2018 Women's Retreat** at Stronghold Retreat Center in Oregon, Illinois. While plans are underway, we seek women of our congregation to offer music, crafts, décor, bring games or share a talent that you would like to offer at our retreat. Please reach out to Mindy McMahan, mindymcm@aol.com to express your interest or ask questions.



As more of us shop online, if you shop at Amazon, please use this link to shop and have a portion of your purchases donated to PCWS:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-6009525>

Or, visit smile.amazon.com and choose PCWS as your favorite charity.

Anyone can choose PCWS as their favorite charity, why not ask your friends and family to choose PCWS?

ADULT NEWS

Seeking Sunday School Teachers

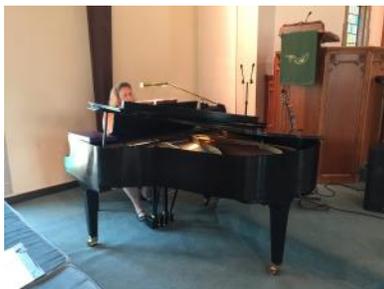


Faith Formation is seeking members who are willing and able to teach Sunday School. Lesson plans and materials will be provided, training offered and our 33 preschool thru 8th grade children ready to benefit from your interest. We would love you to teach as often as you like from mid September thru mid May. The more teachers we have makes it possible for you to teach less often. Additionally, our children will benefit from lessons offered by a variety of volunteers.

Kim Fronk is offering a **training session at 7:30 p.m. on August 28th**. Let Kim know where you would like to focus your teaching interests -- 4-8 year olds, 9-11 year olds, or middle school age children. All teachers can coordinate their schedules to find convenient dates. Let's show our youth our passion to learn and grow in worship from loving congregational members.

A Lovely Donation!

Thank you to Joe Benson for donating the beautiful piano that now resides in the Sanctuary! The piano that used to be in the sanctuary is now in the Jones Room. The old Jones Room piano will replace the piano in Room 201.



Thank you Joe for the generous gift!

Book Club Selections for 2018-19

After lively discussion, Book Club members came to a consensus on the choices for next year's reading material. The selections cover a wide range of materials: fiction, nonfiction, historical fiction, history and social justice. There is something for just about anyone—sorry, no fantasy or traditional mystery books. Look over the list now and see if you would like to join us for at least one meeting.

2018-19 Book Selections

- Sept. 24** The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict—A brilliant physicist in her own right, Mrs. Einstein must fight to make a place for herself in the male-dominated scientific world.
- Oct. 22** The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland by Jim DeFede—Small town meets the crisis as 38 jetliners are diverted when US airspace is closed.
- Nov. 26** Killer of the Flower Moon by David Grann—In the 1920's the Osage Indians were quite rich but they are being murdered one by one.
- December** Enjoy the holidays
- Jan. 28** Anxious to Talk about It: Helping White Christians Talk about Racism by Carolyn B. Helsel—self explanatory
- Feb. 25** Lucky Boy by Shanthi Sekeran—The lucky boy is loved by two mothers, one a poor undocumented immigrant and the other a woman unable to bear a child.
- Mar. 25** The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See—A traditional and insular village of tea farmers is introduced to the modern world by a young woman who leaves to get an education.
- Apr 29** The Librarian of Auschwitz by Antonio Iturbe—Based on the life of an actual prisoner, this is the story of one girl determined to keep the magic of books alive in the worst of circumstances.
- June 3** Pachinko by Min Jin Lee—Four generations of a Korean immigrant family try to make new lives in Japan

Please mark your calendars for the 4th Monday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the Graham Charter Room, for interesting discussions!

MEMBER NEWS

Thank you for your service at PCWS in June! We could not do it without you.

Helped in the office: Janet Andersen, Diane Bonner, Jan Fortina, Laura Fruit, Judy McAtee, Mindy McMahon, Donna Strunk, Carol Ulreich



Second Baptist Food Pantry run: David and Jane Boxell, Kathy Wennerstrum

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

Prepared Glad Tidings for mailing: Dorothy Anderson, Mary Kae Headland, Harriet Potenza and Donna Strunk

Flowers in June: Sue Eck, Sue Kovalick, Laurie Merrifield

Letter from Tai

Thank you so much to the PCWS family, staff, Session, Deacons, and Bill Ingersoll for the wonderful celebration and goodbye to this beloved congregation. It is an experience I will treasure and take with me into my next journey in life. Thank you for the generous gift and heartfelt cards you wrote. PCWS is a truly special congregation with a great future ahead. You have meant more to me and my family than words can adequately express.

With God's Blessings,
Rev. Tai Zimmerman Cole

“Dear Confirmands & Confirmand Parents,

Thank you very much for the honor of a tree. That was most unexpected and humbling. That tree should represent all of those honoring the baptismal pledge. Another person that has had a huge impact on confirmation is Janet Andersen. She has devoted many years to confirmation (and taught me a lot). Thus, we can think of this as The Confirmation Tree—continually growing as the faith of our confirmands do!

Thank you,
Rogers Malone”

“Dear Candice, UPYs, and UPY Families...

We can't thank you all enough for gathering the troops and pitching in to help us this past winter during our time of need. You all are shining examples of what a caring and giving congregation PCWS is!

Love to you all!
Paul & Betty Banovic”

MEMBER NEWS



Alena Skeels, daughter of Lewis and Annette Skeels, wed Cameron Troxel in a ceremony at Second Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, Maryland on May 26. The ceremony was officiated by Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco, daughter of Phyllis.

Scott Banovic, son of Paul and Betty Banovic, wed Leah Raven in a ceremony in Evanston, Illinois on June 3.



Welcome to Henry Joseph Spangler, born May 8. Grandson of Joyce Rodos.

Welcome to Amelia Charlotte Kohlsaas, born June 9. Proud parents are Brian & Leah Kohlsaas, proud grandparents are Dave & Carol Kohlsaas.



We were saddened to learn of the death of Norm Toft on June 13. In addition to his wife, Betty, Norm is survived by his son Andrew (Andy) and daughter Wendy and their families.

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 27, 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Room.

Remember in Prayer

- † The Ahmeti Family
- † **Paul Banovic**
- † **Kimberly Bone**
- † Diane Markley Bruser
- † George Bruser
- † Phyllis Cordell
- † **Phyllis DiFrancesco**
- † **Billye Dvorak**
- † Paulette Erickson
- † **Chris Fronk**
- † Mary Jo Gallegos - friend of Jan Melilli
- † Marc Goldstein
- † Joshua Haberkorn
- † **Herb Habermann**
- † **Rich Kanak**
- † Ruth Kaduke
- † **Phil Kasik**
- † **Kathleen Kircher**
- † **John Kregg**
- † Barbara Lennie
- † Suzie – Patti Mangis' sister
- † **Evie Meyer**
- † Mary Kate Miller, Julie Garino's Stp-Mother
- † Debi Mirlenbrink
- † Norb Mirlenbrink
- † Peggy Mirlenbrink
- † Holly Oliver
- † Ginger Oswald
- † Toni Potenza Moya - Daughter of Harriet Potenza
- † **Ruth Riordan**
- † **Joyce Rodos**
- † **Marge Sandrik**
- † Beata B. Sak
- † Mike Slesicki
- † Betty Staab
- † **Donna Strunk**
- † Margaret Swaar, aunt of Kay Kelly and Jill Dold
- † Gloria Torres
- † **Betty Toft**
- † Andy Toft
- † Wendy Toft
- † Teri Tuffner
- † Theresa Ybanez
- † Brian, friend of the Smyers family
- † Our men and women serving our country in the Armed Services
- † Donna—friend of Joyce Smyers
- † Mary - friend of Bruce Geary
- † 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
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Telephone: 708-246-5220
Fax: 708-246-4276

6-27-2018
Dated Mail



Scan to
Learn about PCWS

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in July

- July 1 Safe Space Info & Training Session
- July 3 Deacons
- July 4 Fourth of July
(Church & Offices Closed)
- July 10 *Glad Tidings* Article Deadline
- July 15 Farewell Reception for Bill
MAD Camp
- July 18 Session
- July 22 MAD Camp in Worship
MAD Camp at Plymouth Place
UPY Mission Trip
- July 27 Prepare *Glad Tidings* for Mailing

Upcoming Events in August

- Aug. 1 Faith Formation/Church Life Committee Meeting
- Aug. 7 Deacons
- Aug. 8 Worship Committee Meeting
- Aug. 9 Finance Committee Meeting
- Aug. 10 *Glad Tidings* Article Deadline
- Aug. 15 Session
- Aug. 25 Safe Space Info & Training Session
- Aug. 27 Prepare *Glad Tidings* for Mailing
- Aug. 28 Safe Space Info & Training Session
Sunday School Teacher Training



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.