From Erik’s Desk

I can hardly believe that it was a year ago that I met many of you when I came to visit PCWS as the formal nominee of your Pastor Nominating Committee. It was the weekend of June 2-3 that I met most of you and then you were asked to trust your search committee and the Holy Spirit when you voted to call me as your next pastor.

I then returned to California and enjoyed a summer of packing/moving, sad goodbyes, and excitement for my move to Western Springs to start at PCWS on August 1. Summers are an interesting time, aren’t they? Like my summer last year, they’re often a time of transition and regrouping … and hopefully an opportunity for you to connect with your family and friends and enjoy the outdoors.

This summer at PCWS we’re going to have the opportunity to do each of these things as well. We’ll celebrate our graduates on June 9 as members of our community of a variety of ages make educational transitions in their lives. We’ll have opportunities for outdoor fun with our S’mores and Games night and we’ll gather for monthly barbeques where the only agenda is connecting with one another and enjoying a meal together. There are lots of other things happening (including great activities for kids!) and you can read about them in these pages!

I’m hoping that as you plan your summer calendar you’ll look at the events we have planned at PCWS and make room in your schedule to connect with your church family. It can be easy to “take the summer off” from our regular patterns (including church!), but our faith life, and our church life, are nourished and fed by engaging one another in community.

I look forward to seeing you this summer in worship and connecting with you at our events. By the way, the summer is also a good time to invite a friend to join you at PCWS. We’ve designed each of these activities so that they are accessible to new people. Reconnect with people you haven’t seen for a while, introduce your friends to your church, and grow closer to God through all of these relationships.

S’Mores and Outdoor Games
Friday, June 7
6:00 — 8:00 p.m.

Bring your family & your neighbors and join PCWS for s’mores roasted over the firepit! We’ll have a fire pit and s’mores supplies and some outdoor games. Bring your favorite games and a lawn chair as we gather for an evening of relaxed fun, fellowship, and conversation. Please use Sign Up Genius to let us know you are coming!

Summer Barbecues at PCWS

Mark your calendars for the summer Barbecues on:
Tuesday, June 18
Tuesday, July 16
Tuesday, August 13

Gather on the lawn — 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 18 will be the first of our summer B-B-Q’s! Burgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers and all the fixings will be provided! Bring a side dish to share, a chair (or blanket) and bring your friends and neighbors.

Flag Day

Friday, June 14
June 2: *Encountering Jesus*: Samaritan Woman (John 4:1-29)  
June 9: *Encountering Jesus*: Philip (John 14:8-17, 25-27)

**Thistle Farms**

On Sunday, June 2, as part of the *Encountering Jesus* series, Pastor Erik will be preaching about the Samaritan woman that Jesus encounters at the well (John 4:1-29). During the sermon, Erik will share about Thistle Farms.

Thistle Farms ([www.thistlefarms.org](http://www.thistlefarms.org)) is a community of women in the Nashville area who are all healing from prostitution, trafficking, and addiction. They live and work together as they experience the transformation that can come from love and healing. One component of the program is the production and sales of natural products that are environmentally friendly and good for the body. Starting on June 2, we will use Thistle Farms hand soaps in our PCWS bathrooms and we will make the soap and hand lotions available for sale after worship that Sunday and in the church office.

By supporting Thistle Farms, and sharing about their work and their products, we are able to have a direct impact on the lives of these women. Please join us in helping!

**Session Scroll**

The Session met Wednesday, May 15. Here are some of the highlights of the meeting:

- Reviewed the landscaping project that was completed that afternoon;
- Discussed the new phone system that arrived and would be partially installed on workday;
- Received a report on the playground project.
- Heard from the Finance Committee reporting positive news: several members prepaid their annual pledge and income is ahead of expenses.
- Discussed all the fun events planned for the summer and encouraged participation.

**Teacher Recognition**  
**Sunday, June 2**

We are blessed to have numerous volunteers teaching and assisting our children during weekly Sunday School lessons arranged by Kim Fronk and invite you to join us in recognizing them on Sunday, June 2nd.

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**OUR PASTOR**

Rev. Erik Khoobyarian, Pastor  
Email: [erik@presbyws.org](mailto:erik@presbyws.org)

For a complete list of our staff, visit our website:  
[www.presbyws.org](http://www.presbyws.org).

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**KICK-OFF**

**Sunday**

Save the Date:  
Kick-Off Sunday August 25!
Gathering Around the Table

June 17 — Breakfast
8:30 a.m.
Willow Hills Restaurant
6678 Joliet Rd
Indian Head Park

June 18 — Summer Bar-B-Q
6 – 7:30 p.m.
Burgers and Hot Dogs provided
Bring a dish to share

June 30 — White Sox Game (see article to right)

All Signups are Online.

Gatherings have included breakfast, lunch and dinner! An appetizer gathering and a micro brewery! People have connected and learned more about each other. Comments heard have included “I didn’t know that!” ‘When did you start coming to PCWS’? ‘You traveled where? – I always wanted to go there!’ ‘Let’s do this again!’ Have an idea?

Willing to host a gathering? Contact Theresa Dixon or Loretta Gratzas-Bremer.

PCWS Book Group
June 3, 7:30 p.m.

Pachinko by Min Jin Lee.
Four generations of a Korean immigrant family try to make new lives in Japan.

Mark your calendar and plan to meet in the Graham Charter Room, at 7:30 p.m. for an interesting discussion!

Take me Out to the Ball Game!
Sunday, June 30

What could be better than joining your Church Family for an afternoon at the ballpark? Faith Formation and Church Life have teamed up to bring you the first ever all-church baseball outing! The plan is BYO cooler, any and all snacks or beverages you want (and feel free to bring enough to share).

Caravan Departs: 11:30 a.m. - We will leave from church immediately following fellowship and plan to arrive at the Stadium: 12:15ish . . . there will be tailgating southside-style with some pregame festivities.

Game Time: 1:10 p.m. - We have a block of reserved seating near the batting cages.

Where: Guaranteed Rate Field, 333W 35th Street, Chicago, IL 60616

Cost: $12 per person (Pay online and choose "Other" or bring your check payable to PCWS to church)

You are encouraged to sign up online soon as space is limited. Indicate that you’ll be coming; if you're willing to drive and note in the comment section if you are willing to bring others and how many others your car has seats for.

Casual attire (no Cubs gear ??) Come out and have a great time with us!! Questions? Contact Candice Mares.

UPY Car/Pet Wash — Sunday, June 23

Have a car to wash? Have a dirty dog to clean? Our Youth invite you to drop off your car or bring your pet on Sunday, June 23 so it can be cleaned as they strive to raise funds for their Summer Mission Trip to Johnson County, Tennessee in July. Free will donations are appreciated and will offset costs to our youth and families.

June, 2019
Graduate Recognition

Join us Sunday, June 9, during Worship and Fellowship when we recognize our high school graduates. We will hear their successes and future goals before having the opportunity to socialize over treats during Fellowship. Is your graduate missing from this list? Let Forrest in the office know by June 5 so that we can include them in the June 9 bulletin!

Congratulations to our graduates!

- **Tanner Booth** is graduating high school with plans to attend Washington University in St. Louis to study finance and entrepreneurship.
- **Nicholas Boxell** is graduating from McClure Junior High.
- **Jayson Fronk** is graduating from Highlands Middle School.
- **Alex Hanson** is graduating from preschool and will enter kindergarten in the fall at Field Park Elementary.
- **Henry Lobash** is graduating from Park Junior High.
- **Katie Pendleton** is graduating from McClure Junior High.
- **David Slezak** is graduating from McClure Junior High.
- **Jack Slezak** graduated in December 2018 from the Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis with his Masters of Science in Quantitative Finance.
- **Mary Smyers** is graduating from Illinois State University with a Masters in Speech Language Pathology.
- **Anna Weber** is graduating from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- **Tom Wennerstrum** is graduating from University of Wisconsin with a double major in biology and psychology.
- **Pierce Wilson** is graduating high school with plans to attend Wake Forest University.

And congratulations to our Sextons who are graduating this year!

- **Dominic Enrietti** is graduating high school with plans to attend Western Michigan University to study business analytics.
- **Katie Evans** is graduating high school with plans to attend the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs to study biology and prosthetics.
- **Will Morgison** is graduating high school with plans to attend the University of South Carolina to study computer information systems.
- **Nathan Nichol** is graduating high school with plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh to study political science.

Yee-haw Vacation Bible Days

Preschool - 5th grade!

Tuesday, June 18, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 14, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Yee-haw Vacation Bible Days are coming this summer for our Preschool - 5th graders! Saddle up and mark your calendars for Tuesday June 18, and Sunday, July 14, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Come for one day or both, we would love to have your child join us! There will be Bible stories, games, activities, mission and fun while we celebrate God’s gifts to us! Whether you would like to volunteer or be part of the fun, please use the signup link below.

Use the [signup genius online](#) to register your child(ren) or if you would like to volunteer, please sign up online!

Questions, please contact [Kim Fronk](#).

Playground Update!

We are making great progress on the plans for the new PCWS playground! The design phase is nearly complete, so be on the lookout for some exciting information that will be shared with the congregation soon. The goal is to have the new playground installed by the end of summer, and we will be reaching out for volunteers to assist with installation.

Stay tuned for additional details!
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

UPCOMING

CAR/ PET WASH
Sunday, JUNE 23

The annual Car and Pet Wash will be on Sunday, June 23rd immediately following worship. Youth, bring a change of clothes and a towel. Rain or Shine- we have God's work to do!

Youth Mission Trip

The mission trip this year with the Appalachian Service Project to Johnson County Tennessee is July 20-27th. Please pray for us, as we prepare and embark upon our journey.

Our Church family will be represented by Natalie Carlisle, Gabi Cloutier, Mark Dold, Jessie Fronk, Jason Fronk, Abby and Luke Gertsmeyer, Colleen Sullivan, Kathy Wennerstrum, Nate Yates, Lance Smith and Candice Mares. We are all very excited!

Youth Calendar

JUPY Events:
June 2: JUPY/UPY BBQ
June 30 (11:30 a.m.)
All-Church White Sox Game

UPY Events:
June 2: JUPY/UPY BBQ
June 23 — Car/Pet Wash
June 30 (11:30 a.m.)
All-Church White Sox Game
July 20 — Youth Mission Trip

JUPYs and UPYs
BBQ & Outdoor Games
June 2, 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

All youth are invited to celebrate the year together at an outdoor BBQ and games together with Youth Director Candice and Pastor Erik.

Thanks for signing up to bring salads or desserts on SignUp Genius so our youth enjoy time together.

Staff Contact Info

Candice Mares
Youth Director
cmares@presbyws.org
Text or Call (773) 771-0148
Properties Update

In addition to the recent highly-visible projects around the campus (namely the landscaping and our upcoming playground project), we have also been completing several other upgrades.

Last month our electronic door control system was upgraded. As a reminder, if you need access outside of business hours, please let Forrest know beforehand and she can program the doors to open for you.

You may have noticed that our telephones were not working much of last month! A combination of our aging telephone system and some line issues has meant that our phones are very unreliable. We’ve installed a new system that connects through the Internet. This system should provide us with reliable service into the future.

There are other projects coming soon, including the completion of our sanctuary renovations by replacing the flooring and lighting in the narthex. We’ll also be replacing carpet in the offices later this summer.

Finally, thank you to the dozens of people who helped at the All-Church Workday on May 18! We had a great turnout and completed several projects to beautify and clean our properties. A special thank you to Walt Kovalick who organized the operation once again! (More photos are on Facebook!)

Landscaping Project

Have you had a chance to look at the new landscaping that has been installed in the past couple of weeks? Earlier this Spring, we hired Heidi Lopez, from Heidi’s Garden Creations, to design specific areas of the campus, particularly places where other construction work meant the removal of existing landscaping. Heidi and her team installed the new plants and mulch last month. The design is intended to bring year-round color to each area with several native plants and perennials that will continue to get better year after year. It will be exciting to see the growth over the next few seasons!

In these early months of the new landscaping, we will need to water the plants manually until they take root. If you’d like to be part of the watering team, please let Forrest in the office know. We’ll be doing some orientation and signing up to help.

Special thank you to Mary Jo Long, Jane Melilli, and Forrest who worked closely with Heidi throughout the process!
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Lori Carsten
Lori lives in Indian Head Park with her daughters Claire and Marissa. Lori is the Inside Sales Manager for ConTech Lighting in Northbrook. She lists her hobbies as playing softball, practicing yoga and watching Claire play basketball and softball and Marissa doing gymnastics. Lori’s name is familiar as she is a former deacon at PCWS. She enjoys the fellowship and support of the church and is glad to be back in the PCWS family again.

Mike Pelton
Mike is a native of Holly, Michigan; the oldest of five siblings. He was raised Presbyterian and has some small world connections to PCWS. (Ask him to share!) Mike has been singing since middle school and also plays piano and organ. He was our guest organist and is already singing in the Chancel Choir. Professionally, Mike services and maintains pipe organs and considers his hobbies to be genealogy and keeping up with friends and relatives as time and circumstances permit.

Stacy Restani
Stacy (spouse is Eddie Restani below) is a real estate agent who loves cooking, reading and spending time with her family, and two dogs. Stacy jumped in to PCWS activities with both feet. She has already participated in the Rise and Shine series earlier this year and is a regular in the Wednesday afternoon Bible Study. Stacy also hopes to volunteer with children and learn more about Stephen Ministry.

Edward (Eddie) Restani
Eddie (spouse is Stacy above) is a former commodities trader who is now self-employed. Eddie describes himself as a foodie, who rehabs homes, and loves spending time with his family. Eddie is looking forward to being involved in PCWS. It should be easy because Eddie and Stacy live across the street on Lawn Avenue in Western Springs.

Bambi Tesmond
Bambi and her husband Tony have been attending PCWS since December. They both love to cook, play tennis, and share walks with friends and animals. Bambi is on the board of the Wellness House and she volunteers at the Courtyard in Hinsdale. Tony is a partner with Northern Ohio Medical Specialists. Their son Ian is an enthusiast of all sports and works and lives in the City.

Otto Sherrick
Otto comes to PCWS from First Presbyterian Church LaGrange. Otto is a veteran who has another small world connection with our congregation. He says our own Loretta Gracias-Bremer was his youth group leader and an influential force in his upbringing. Otto is already getting involved at PCWS by rehearsing with the Chancel Choir.
Welcoming Ministry

Several years ago, many people read “The Welcoming Congregation” by Henry G. Brinton. Now, the session created a new committee called “Welcoming Ministry.” You may wonder, “Why? We are already a friendly church.” PCWS is a friendly church, but we can be better. Welcoming is not just greeting people. Welcoming is thinking about the concept of “dual use.” Creating new programs/events that encourage attendance by members, and helping everyone feel comfortable inviting friends.

The Welcoming Ministry will help coordinate and put some structure in place to help create and improve a welcoming and hospitable climate. We will take a look at where welcoming begins: at the curb and continues into the heart of the congregation. The ministry of welcoming is not the responsibility of a few people or a committee. It is the responsibility of the entire church family. This committee will be the group to formalize processes and provide support to our Directors of Lay Ministry.

As a start, we will be looking for volunteers to be “ASK ME” people on Sunday morning:

A. Ask me a question
S. Service
K. Knowledge
M. Ministry
E. Encourage

These individuals will wear ribbons on their name tags to identify them as someone who is available to answer questions before or after worship, or any of the fun events planned at PCWS. We’ve scheduled training/information sessions for anyone looking to help with this new ministry. The first session will be at 11:00 a.m. Sunday June 2, after Fellowship time. For anyone not available to attend that Sunday, we’ll offer a second session on Sunday, June 9 after Fellowship. If you’re interested in being an “ASK ME” person, please contact Kay Kelly, Jane Melilli or Michelle Hennessy.

Watch for more information on Welcoming in future Glad Tidings.

Michelle Hennessy
Elder, Welcoming Ministry

Musical Happenings in June

Summer is just around the corner and with it comes the opportunity for you to share your musical gifts with the congregation! There are many open dates for vocal and instrumental soloists as well as the possibility of being in an ensemble, just let Stephanie Coates know what your availability is and I’ll get you scheduled for a summer Sunday!

The Chancel Choir will be singing on June 9th, Pentecost Sunday. Rehearsal will be at 8:30 a.m. Come join us! The anthem will be one that is easy to pick up in a rehearsal so why not come sing with us?

The Bell Choir will be rehearsing in June and will play in church on Sunday, June 23rd. We would love to have you give us a try so just drop me an email or talk to me at church and we’ll get you started up.

Rehearsals will be 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. on Thursday, June 6
Tuesday, June 11
Thursday, June 20
Sunday School Mission Sunday

On Sunday, May 5th, our Sunday school children participated in Mission Sunday. They joyfully dedicated and will send $740 to Heifer International which is celebrating 75 years. This money will used to purchase a cow, a sheep and two colonies of rabbits.

The children learned how animals can help those in need and voted on which animals they wanted to purchase. Kudos to our children for their generous giving each Sunday that culminated in this donation.

Greater Chicago Food Depository

PCWS has reserved volunteer spots at the Greater Chicago Food Depository on Saturday, June 15th. The volunteer commitment is from about 7:45 a.m. to 12 noon.

If you are interested in participating, signup online or let Jan Paddock know and she will sign you up. Volunteers must be a minimum of 11 years of age and those age 11 through 15 need to be accompanied by an adult. There will be a carpool option from PCWS on the 15th.

Pentecost Offering

Traditionally received on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, this special offering supports the larger church’s efforts to encourage, develop and support its young people, while also addressing the needs of at-risk children. Most importantly, our congregation is encouraged and empowered to do the same in our own community with 40% of the total amount we are able to collect.

This year the Mission committee has selected Chicago HOPES for Kids as the recipient of our self-directed funds, helping to make a significant positive impact in the lives of at-risk kids in insecure living and learning environments in the city of Chicago.

One out of every twenty students attending Chicago Public Schools is homeless. 56% of those homeless students move two to three times in a three-year period, breaking any school continuity they might hope to achieve. Each time a child moves they can fall three to six months behind in school. Chicago Hopes for Kids provides a series of programs to help these at-risk children including after school programs, parent programs, literacy mentors and summer programs. Your Pentecost offering can help save these young lives from going off the rails and getting lost. Please dig deep to help with this critically important program.

Please note that you can give to the Pentecost Offering very easily online.

Thank you for your generous contributions to this important annual special offering.

One Great Hour of Sharing

A huge thanks and congratulations to our congregation for contributing a whopping $2600+ to the 70th annual One Great Hour of Sharing special offering! The total of all funds collected will be sent to PCUSA mission to be used in places around the world to provide relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and help to empower the poor and oppressed.
Thank you for your service at PCWS in April! We could not do it without you.

**Helped in the office:** Laura Fruit, Kay Kelly, Mindy McMahon, and Carol Ulreich

**Second Baptist Food Pantry run:** David Boxell

**Crushed cans:** David Boxell and Mindy McMahon

**Prepared Glad Tidings for mailing:** Dorothy Andersen, Joyce Habermann, Mary Kae Headland, and Harriett Potenza

**Flowers in May:** Sue Kovalick and Jan Fortina

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### This Month’s Birthdays

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Congratulations to Ashley Glickman & Michael Kozma on the birth of Zelda Kozma on May 8!

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**News Deadlines**

**Bulletin:**
*Email* announcements to the church office by 9:00 a.m. Wednesday morning.

**Weekly Connection:**
Email information to *Michelle Hennessy* by Tuesday, 5:00 p.m. for inclusion in the Thursday email.

**Glad Tidings Deadline:**
Articles for the next month’s *Glad Tidings* by the 10th of each month.

To ensure your submission is received, please email articles and pictures to: *GT@presbyws.org*.
Do your online shopping at smile.Amazon.com and Amazon donates to PCWS! You are not only selecting gifts from the comfort and convenience of your chair, but also giving a gift to PCWS because we benefit from any purchase made using our link to Amazon--anytime throughout the year.

Note: The link is good online only, and not through the AP on your phone or tablet.
Upcoming Events
June 2  Teacher Recognition
JUPY/UPY BBQ
June 3  PCWS Book Group @ 7:30 p.m.
June 4  Deacons @ 7:00 p.m.
June 7  S’Mores & Outdoor Games @ 6:00 pm
June 10  Glad Tidings Article Deadline
June 14  Flag Day
June 16  Father’s Day
June 18  Yee Haw VBS @ 4:00 p.m.
Summer Barbecue @ 6:00 p.m.
June 19  Session @ 7:30 p.m.
June 21  Summer Begins
June 23  UPY Car and Pet Wash
June 30  All-Church White Sox Game

A copy of this flyer is included in this month’s Glad Tidings.

If you receive the electronic edition, Click on the image to download a copy to print and give to your neighbor or for your refrigerator!

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.