Presbyterian Church Of Western Springs

GLAD TIDINGS

March **2020**

A Note from Pastor Erik…

Author and theologian Frederick Buechner describes Lent as a time for Christians to "ask one way or another what it means to be themselves." This self-examination can be difficult!

One of the things that I learned about myself when working for a summer as a hospital chaplaincy intern is that I tend to try and make people happy when they're going through something difficult or painful. Now, of course this can be a good thing, and maybe even what people want, but it also cuts off the opportunity to walk with someone in their difficult reality.

Buechner poses several questions for us to consider during Lent, and some of these are hard for us to ask ourselves:

> *When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it that you most like and what do you see in it that you most deplore?*
>
> *If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less?*
>
> *Of all the things you have done in your life, which is the one you would most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember?*
>
> *Is there any person in the world or any cause that, if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for?*
>
> *If this were the last day of your life, what would you do with it?*

Over these next few weeks, I hope you'll spend some time with these hard questions and maybe even discuss your answers to them with someone else. Buechner writes that "to hear yourself try to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something not only of who you are, but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sackcloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end."

As we journey together through this time of Lent, may we embrace the hard questions as we explore the way to the empty tomb and the Risen Christ.

Peace,

Erik

Spaghetti Dinner

The annual spaghetti dinner is a much-treasured tradition for PCWS. For many years, the high school youth planned, served, and cleaned up afterward as a fundraiser. Last year we tried something new as people of all ages volunteered to help as we raised funds for the new playground.

This year, we are looking for volunteers to help keep the tradition going! Our fearless chef, Steve Blough, is ready to handle the kitchen once again (thank you, Steve, for your willingness to serve in this way and for your great organization and cooking over the years!), but we need a committee to plan the decorations, recruit the volunteers for setup, service, and clean-up, coordinate dessert, and all of the other details!

If you are interested in being a part of the "Spaghetti Dinner Committee" please contact Pastor Erik ASAP so that we can get the team together and a date on the calendar!

Congregational News

Interfaith Book Group

Wednesday, March 18

The March meeting of the Interfaith Book Group will be held at the Mosque Foundation in Bridgeview. Mary Jo Blough will lead the discussion of ***Before We Were Yours*** by Lisa Wingate. Though a work of fiction, it is very true to the history of the Tennessee adoption scandal perpetrated by Georgia Tann. We will meet at the PCWS at 1:00 p.m. for carpooling to the mosque.

All women are welcome to be a part of this group. Please call Terri at the church office (708-246-5220) to let her know that you are coming. For more information, contact Mary Jo Blough.

Sermons Available as Podcast

For a few years now, PCWS has provided audio recordings of past Sunday sermons. Whether you want to revisit a sermon you've heard, get access to one you've missed, or share one with a friend or family member, our audio archive of sermons online is a great blessing.

We're excited to announce that as of January 5th, 2020 audio of PCWS sermons is accessible through the Podcast feature in iTunes, Spotify and Google Play. Thus, you can now access sermons easily through your computer, smartphone, tablet, or iPod. Click any logo below to be taken to our page, or search Presbyterian Church of Western Springs Podcast in your browser. We're delighted to provide access to sermon content through such a variety of means.

Rev. Dr. Scott Matheney

Pastor Erik will be out of town on Sunday, March 8, we will welcome Scott Matheney back to our pulpit. Scott is the Chaplain at Elmhurst College and a good friend of PCWS!

OUR PASTOR

The Rev. Erik Khoobyarian, Pastor

Email: erik@presbyws.org

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

Presbyterian Women

PW will have a mission program presentation when they meet on Thursday, **March 5** at 12:30 p.m. at Oak Trace Senior Living, 200 Village Drive, Downers Grove. We will enjoy lunch and then meet to learn about the project, Watts of Love, a local non-profit working to bring solar lighting to areas of the world that lack access to electricity. In addition, Highlands Presbyterian and First Presbyterian of LaGrange will present displays of their mission projects. Please RSVP to Terri in our church. Carpooling will be offered from PCWS at noon.

For more information about Watts of Love, visit their website: https://www.wattsoflove.org

Afternoon Circle will meet Thursday, **March 19**, at 1:30 p.m. in the Graham Charter Room to discuss Lesson 7, Words of Love: Do Not Steal. For more information, please contact Sue Eck (sueeck@gmail.com).

Session Scroll

The Session met Wednesday, February 19. Highlights of the meeting:

- Elected PCWS Corporation Officers: Peter Weber, President; Suzie Mosher, Vice President; Walt Kovalick, Secretary & Clerk of Session; Pat Ravenesi, Treasurer.
- Discussed continued search for new ministry staff member and possible candidate.
- Heard updates regarding new pew cushions, new procedures for volunteer-driven opening/closing on Sundays, and continued roll-out of our new logo.

Welcome New Deacons and Elders

Betty Banovic (Deacon)
Where are you from: I was born and raised in Chicago Illinois and grew upon the Northwest side.
How long have you been a member of PCWS: We joined PCWS on November 6, 1983. How do I remember that? It was also the day Laura and I were baptized.
Write 2 sentences about you: I am married to Paul Banovic and we have been married for 43 years. We have two kids, Laura and Scott and have 3 grandkids. Sadie is our 9 year old Lab and visits PCWS for church BBQs and Trunk or Treat and has been washed by the UPYs during the dog wash!
Why you said yes to being a Deacon: Being a Deacon is rewarding in the sense of caring for our church family.

Gabby Cloutier (Deacon)
Where are you from: I was born in Chicago but have lived in Burr Ridge for most of my life.
How long have you been a member of PCWS: 9 years
Write 2 sentences about you: I'm an artist. I plan on going to art school for college.
Why you said yes to being a Deacon: I thought it would be good leadership practice and would also look good on college applications.

Sue Eck (Deacon)
Where are you from: I have made eleven long distance moves since I married and left my home in Garden City, New York. Settling in Western Springs provided an anchor for me and my three children Karen, Doug and Trip. I am fortunate to have seven grandchildren of my own and six from my late husband Paul. It alarms me that the youngest of these g-kids are 14 and 16.
How long have you been a member of PCWS: Since becoming a member of PCWS in 1975 I have served the church in several capacities. In the late 80's I served as Deacon; Elder from 1992 to 1995 and as Parish Visitor from 1995 to 1998. It is a pleasure for me to become a deacon again at a time in my life when I can focus more on outreach to members.
Write 2 sentences about you: I keep busy with several activities within the community such as PEO, Village Arts Associates Tower Investment Club, Western Springs Garden Club. Travel will be in my future before long and I am anxious to see what my garden will look like this spring.
Why you said yes to being a Deacon: PCWS has always been there for me and I want to be there for her. I will enjoy being a Deacon.

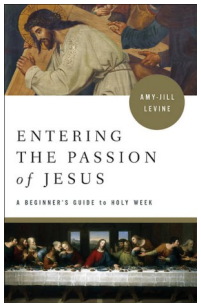
Bambi Tesmond (Deacon)
Where are you from: We have lived in Burr Ridge for the last 25 years.
How long have you been a member of PCWS: I have been a member for almost a year, but have attended PCWS for the past ten years.
Write 2 sentences about you: My husband, Tony and I have one son, Ian, who lives in the city. We also have several rescue animals: 2 dogs, 2 cats, and 2 birds.
Why you said yes to being a Deacon: I said yes to becoming a Deacon because I have enjoyed helping others in my community and want to continue that work within the church.

Diane Bonner (Elder)
Where are you from: I was born in Berwyn, raised in Hinsdale/Burr Ridge and currently live in Lemont.
How long have you been a member of PCWS: I have been a member of PCWS for 41 years but have been attending for 49 years.
Write 2 sentences about you: I have 2 children, Nick and Jess. I have 1 dog, Herman.
Why you said yes to being an Elder: I said yes to being on the Session because I felt called to do so.

Mike Pelton (Elder)
Where are you from: Born and raised in Holly, MI. Living and working in Chicagoland since late 1984.
How long have you been a member of PCWS: A bit less than a year.
Write 2 sentences about you: After my last church closed, I took a year off to visit other churches and denominations to enjoy worship from someplace other than the organ bench. I was also taking a private poll as to who noticed the visitor in their midst. The results were about as I expected. Disappointing. Everyone who sat around me that first day greeted me and made me feel welcome - so here I am!
Why you said yes to being an Elder: Condy Dixon was VERY persuasive!

Adult Education

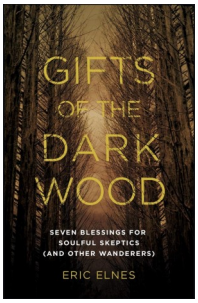
Sunday Morning Lenten Adult Education



Dive deep into the history of the last days before the crucifixion. On Sundays, March 22, 29, and April 5, after Fellowship (11 a.m.-12 p.m.) we will be discussing the book ***Entering the Passion of Jesus*** – *A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week* by Amy-Jill Levine. Jesus' final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward. Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple. His followers risked everything when they left behind their homes, or anointed him with costly perfume. We take risks as we read and re-read these stories, finding new meanings and new challenges. In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

Copies of the book are available in Pastor Erik's office or from the Church Office for $10 or you can purchase it on your own. You are encouraged to begin reading the book during Lent and then join us for the discussions leading up to and including Palm Sunday. This book and our discussions will change the way you approach Holy Week!

Early-Risers: Thursdays in Lent at 7 a.m.



There's still time to join us even if you missed the first week! Lent is a great time to focus on your faith and connecting with others. This book discussion group is a way to do that while also taking a moment in the week for some reflection and reading a book that will inspire self-examination and gathering of skills for the journey!

Starting on Thursday, February 27, from 7-8 a.m., we'll be reading and discussing the book ***Gifts of the Dark Wood:*** *Seven Blessings for Soulful Skeptics (and Other Wanderers)* by Eric Elnes. Eric Elnes demystifies the seven gifts bestowed in the Dark Wood: the gifts of uncertainty, emptiness, being thunderstruck, getting lost, temptation, disappearing, and the gift of misfits. Coffee will be hot and the discussion will be great!

The Soul of Wine Discussion & Wine Tasting

Pastor Erik is leading a four-session wine tasting and discussion group based on the book *The Soul of Wine* by Gisela Kreglinger. Kreglinger, the daughter of a vintner and trained as a theologian, invites us to discover wine as part of a more full-bodied Christian spirituality. She shows us how the soulful savoring of wine is God's way of wooing us back into a great love affair. Indeed, Jesus' first miracle was turning water into wine at a wedding. Along with bread, wine is the gift we receive at the table of communion. Through these gifts we experience God's glorious and loving presence among us, feeding and nurturing us in body, soul, and spirit. Wine was never meant just for a small and elite group of well-to-do people but is for us all. Wine can re-enchant the world and help us fall in love with it all over again. Come and savor its goodness. Each session we will have spirited discussion along with the tasting of four wines.

Cost is $50 which includes the book, 16 wines (4 per session), and a PCWS wine glass! If you wish to share a tasting, or only wish to participate in the discussion portion, you can purchase the book on your own or from Pastor Erik for $12.

Dates: April 19, May 3, May 17, & May 31 **Time:** 5-7 p.m.

Each session will be held in a different home - locations to be announced!
Reservations are required so that we have an accurate head count. Signup available soon!

Holy Week Preview

Palm Sunday – April 5

Be sure to make plans to be at church on April 5 for Palm Sunday! Come early to join in our procession and to take photos with our special guest donkey starting at 8:45 a.m.!

Maundy Thursday – April 9

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the Jones Room for a communal meal of finger foods in the tradition of an "Agape Feast" reminiscent of the last meal that Jesus shared with his friends. From a Greek word for love, "agape" is the celebration of Christ's unconditional love shown in his sacrificial death on the cross. Please bring finger foods to share (nuts, fruits, cheese & crackers, veggies, small sandwiches, etc.)

After the meal, we will begin worship at 7:15 p.m. Our time of worship will include a gradual darkening of the worship space in the Jones Room and will include the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (communion) celebrated around tables. You are invited to bring a cup of sentimental value to you for communion, but cups will also be provided.

Good Friday — April 10, Noon-8 p.m. Individually-Guided Observance

Mark your calendar and plan on stopping by the church at some point between noon and 8:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10. Last year many people found this new experience to be a valuable one for them. Throughout the Sanctuary there will be several interactive stations at which you can spend as little or as much time as you would like. A booklet will be provided to guide your experience through the stations. Good Friday is one of the most important days in our church year. It marks the day when Jesus' suffering was complete in his crucifixion and death. It is a day to confront the reality of evil in the world and the even more important reality that God did not run from evil and that God gave the ultimate sacrifice to conquer evil. Our celebration of this day is marked with a recognition of Christ's humanity and suffering. I hope that you will plan on attending. Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Pastor Erik

Easter Flower Dedications

Starting later this month and through early April, we will be seeking sponsors for Easter flowers. After worship on Easter you can take your plants home or they will be delivered by the deacons to those who might need some extra joy in their lives.

More information and an order form will be available later this month in the Weekly Connection and the Sunday morning bulletin. You can also complete your dedications online at presbyws.org/signup.

Deadline for dedications is Monday, April 6.

Easter – April 12

We'll have two worship services on Easter, one at 6:10 a.m. (beginning outside in the pre-dawn darkness) and the other at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

More information about Easter will be included in the April *Glad Tidings*, but plan on joining us for one or both of these services!

Following the 9:30 a.m. worship service there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 5th grade (older kids can help!)

For Adults

Gathering Around the Table

You can host a gathering! One great part about Gathering Around the Table is that you can organize the gathering at a local restaurant, or even at PCWS! The gatherings are an important way for us to connect with and have meaningful conversation with one another. You could even give your gathering a theme if you want to make things a little more fun. In February there was a tropical night and this month there will be a game night … maybe you might want to host an event with a theme! But, really, the important thing is creating an opportunity for people to gather, talk, and connect. Yes, you can do it! Reach out to Theresa Dixon to chat about your idea and the timing for a gathering!

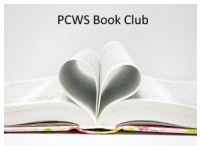
All the Signups are **online** and individually for each event - participate as often as your calendar allows.

Upcoming gatherings:

Wednesday, March 4th - Lunch @ PCWS! Gather for lunch at the church in the Jones Room, and support Interfaith Community Partners at the same time. **Starship Restaurant** (in Forest Park) is supporting this great organization donating 20% of each meal on Wednesdays - they have great soups and sandwiches! We will have a selection of sandwiches and soups to choose from. Deadline to sign up is Noon, Tuesday, March 3. We do need reservations for this gathering because they will be delivering the food to us!

Saturday, March 14th - Game Night! Join in for a fun night of games, conversation and appetizers at the home of Lorraine Hoskins. Bring a small appetizer to share. Beer and wine will be available. This "Gathering" is limited to 30, please signup soon so you won't miss out!

PCWS Book Group Meets Monday, March 23



The group will meet in the Graham Charter Room to discussf ***Little Fires Everywhere*** by Celeste Ng (Fiction.)

Everyone is welcome to attend for any or all of the discussions. Check the church calendar for future dates and the books chosen for discussion.

For more information, contact Joyce Rodos.

World Day of Prayer March 6th

All are welcome to join Church Women United in the celebration of World Day of Prayer at All Saints Episcopal Church, 4370 Woodland Ave., Western Springs. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. and those who are interested will go to lunch together after. Enter through the red doors on Woodland (parking on the street). All are welcome and we hope to see you there!

Weekly Bible Study

You are invited to join Pastor Erik and others from our community for Bible Study each Wednesday from 2-3 p.m. We talk informally about the text for the upcoming Sunday.

No preparation is required and the conversation is always interesting. Come whenever you can and know that we'll always have a spot for you! Please see Pastor Erik with any questions.

Youth Ministries

PCWS YOUTH
Calendar of Events

Fri., 3/14 @ 7:45-11:30 a.m.
Greater Chicago Food Depository Service

Sun., 3/29 @ noon
Lunch at Palmer Place Restaurant

Sun., 4/26
Earth Day Project

Tue., 4/28 @ 7 p.m.
Youth Sunday Planning

Fri., 5/15 @ 6-8 p.m.
Youth Sunday Practice & Pizza

Sun., 5/17
Youth Sunday & Lunch

Sun., 5/31
Confirmation Sunday

Sun., 6/28 @ 9:30 a.m.
Car Wash Fundraiser & Wrap Up Party

7/26-8/1
Appalachia Mission Trip

Any questions? Reach out to Candice Mares, Youth Leader

March is here already! WOOHOO. For those of you who know me best you know that this season, for me like so many of us, brings such JOY to my heart. It is not a secret that Easter is my favorite of all holidays. The preparation, the traditions, the promise of the resurrection and rebirth. Signs of Spring will soon be peeking through frozen gray all around us returning color to our cold and weary neighborhoods. Also, you know I love that March means BASEBALL!! Whatever team you love- ROOT, ROOT, ROOT for the home team!! (And of course, we all know that by that I mean Go Cubs- wink).

And looking ahead to spring:
Saturday, March 14th from 7:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. I am encouraging with the loudest of voices that our UPYs and JUPYs and their families come out to help GCFD. I appreciate as much as the next guy having to wake up early on the ONLY day each week we get to sleep in is not that appetizing, but I promise the reward from service will be worth it. Please come be a part of the PCWS Team! Also, in April the youth will have their own environmental-focused day of service, details to follow.

March 29: Meet at Palmers for Lunch. I think we will head back over to Fair Game in LaGrange which seemed to be a great success and fun times for all last time around.

May 17 – Youth Sunday
The first practice will be April 28, possibly one or two more before a final practice on May 15. (Mark your calendars)

Wrapping up February:
THANK YOU to everyone who helped or participated in the Valentine Grams this year with candy and bears instead of balloons. It all went well. Still some tweaking to do to make it better next year but still a HUGE success. Kudos to Mindy McMahon - without your leadership, dedication and organization these grams would be impossible. And thanks to our amazing church family, we sold about 300 Valentines and made $1200+ to support the mission trip to Tennessee this summer! Thanks to all our drivers who drove routes on a snowy day delivering Grams door to door – Stephanie Carlisle, Jill and Roger Dold, Kim Fronk, Jon Gertsmeier, Becka McClintock, Sarah and Brian Sullivan, Joey Benson and Kathy Wennerstrum. One recipient, who is not a church member, told us she was so surprised and inquired about how to make a donation to the youth.

I wish you all the joy of this new season and the openness to see the blessings flourishing all around you and all of us!

Best,
Candice Mares
Youth Leader

Mission & Service

Greater Chicago Food Depository Volunteer Event
Saturday, March 14

We have reserved a slot for a work session at the Greater Food Depository on Saturday morning, March 14, and we hope that you can join in. Carpooling from the church will be available. We will leave around 7:45 a.m. and will be back by noon.

If you are interested in attending, you can either sign up on the Chicago Food Depository website (link for our event), or contact Jan Paddock by email. All attendees must be pre-registered. Also, the minimum age for volunteers is 11.

Please join us for a morning of fun and service!!!

Members Volunteered at Bernies Book Bank February 22, 2020.

Chicago's Community Kitchen

Last year the Session received a donation from members and as part of their donation, the donors asked that some of the funds be used for mission. The Session asked the Mission Committee to research and come up with a recommendation for the funds to be used for a local mission. After considering options, the Mission Committee decided to continue our support of the Greater Chicago Food Depository by donating $6,000 to the **Chicago's Community Kitchens** workforce development program! The Session enthusiastically endorsed this recommendation. These funds will be used to support students as they participate in the free 14-week training program.

Founded in 1998, Chicago's Community Kitchens (CCK) is a job training program preparing unemployed and under-employed adults for successful careers in culinary and hospitality jobs. The program has graduated more than 1,300 students and has a 90% job placement rate. This program is free to the students passing the entrance exam and willing to work. If you'd like to learn more about the program there is a video produced in late 2019 about the CCK program, visit: https://youtu.be/Zs8_fzRF18o.

What a wonderful celebration of our continued partnership and desire to be a vibrant part of our community, bringing the light of Christ into the world!

Mission & Service

Upcoming Mission Outings

The Mission Committee has secured a number of inter-generational mission outings in the coming months. Please take a moment to see if you might join in the fun while helping a great cause!

Saturday, March 14, 2020
Repacking food at the **Greater Chicago Food Depository**. Anyone age 11 and older is welcome to attend. We'll be helping at the morning session from **8:30 a.m. to 11:15 am**. See the article on page 8 for further details. We have 15 spots reserved so be sure to sign-up for the event. Carpooling will be available.

Friday, April 3, 2020
Attend a special book sorting event helping **Bernie's Book Bank** being held at the LaGrange Park District. We have 5 spots reserved for the **1:30 p.m. to 3:00p.m.** session. Contact Janet Andersen with any questions (minimum age of 5 years old.) Click this link to sign up!

Saturday April 4, 2020
Attend a special book sorting event helping **Bernie's Book Bank** being held at the LaGrange Park District. We have 5 spots reserved for the **3:00-4:30p.m.** session. Contact Janet Andersen with any questions (minimum age of 5 years old.) Click this link to sign up!

Save the Date:
Saturday, May 16, 2020
Plan to come help make meal packets at **Feed My Starving Children** in Aurora. This event is open to anyone age 5 and older. We are signed up for 25 volunteers for the **2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** session. Watch for further details including the signup link. Carpooling will be available. Have Questions? Contact Kathy Wennerstrum or Janet (Ande) Andersen.

One Great Hour Of Sharing

During the Lenten season, one of the things we consider as a congregation is our Lenten denominational offering: One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). Officially dedicated on Easter Sunday, April 12, this offering is a long-standing component of our Presbyterian heritage. Your monetary gift to OGHS, coupled with the gifts and talents of people in communities worldwide, provides the larger gifts of sustainability, partnership and service to those facing hunger, to those rebuilding after crises or catastrophe and to those in communities working to overcome years of oppression. One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports programs in over 100 countries.

This work happens through the efforts of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and the Self-Development of People program of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. For example, in 2019 Presbyterian Disaster Assistance not only provided $5 million in grants they also had 7,354 volunteer teams working in 10 states donating the equivalent of over $10 million in volunteer labor to help those in need.

We thank you for prayerful consideration of your gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing ministry this Lenten season. Donations can be made any time during Lent, with the specially designated envelope in the pew racks, with a check written to PCWS noting "OGHS" on the memo line, or give online through the PCWS website. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

Souper Bowl of Caring Results

Chiefs $327.23 & 49ers $238.12! Nicely done friends!! A total of $565.35 will be donated to the St. Cletus Food Pantry. Thank you, Henry LoBash and Shannon Sullivan, for doing the grunt work!

Pop Up Mission Returns in 2020

The PCWS Pop Up Mission Projects (P.U.M.P.) resumed in February as we assembled 111 laundry kits for the BEDS Plus Care clients in the west and southwest suburbs. On a P.U.M.P. Sunday, please consider spending five to ten minutes in the Jones Room helping us fill a need as we fill a bag! Whether assembling sack lunches for Second Presbyterian or making trail mix bags for the Night Ministry van, we need YOU! Check the Weekly Connection and Sunday bulletin for information on the next P.U.M.P. event.

Congregational News

This Month's Birthdays

Lisa Wennerstrum	3/1	Emily Skeels	3/18
Dawn Mansfield	3/4	Emersyn Williams	3/18
Amy Seus	3/4	Stacia Farrar	3/19
Leah Skjei	3/5	Carly Booth	3/20
Isabella Bunt	3/7	Val Blough	3/22
Barbara Lorsbach	3/8	Elaine Haeske	3/24
Philip Galloway	3/11	Luke Mosher	3/27
Steve Skjei	3/11	Cindi Karstens	3/28
Berry Allen	3/14	Rachel Galloway	3/29
Jenna Harrison	3/14	Stephanie Carlisle	3/30
Laura Martin	3/14	Frank Adelphia	3/31
Christian Cloutier	3/16		
Ali Goetz	3/16		
Rex Lee	3/17		

From the Music Director

As we enter the season of Lent, please consider joining the choir and singing with us. Just as Advent prepares us for the coming of the birth of Christ and Christmas, Lent helps us remember Jesus' life, death, and resurrection that comes with Easter. What better way to prepare for Lent than to sing with the choir? On Easter Sunday, we will once again have the Chancel Choir/Congregation singing of Handel's, *Hallelujah Chorus.* Here are the dates the choir is rehearsing and singing in church during March and April:

Chancel Choir sings in church: March 1 and 15
Rehearsals:
Thursday, March 12 and 26 — 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir sings in church:
Sunday April 5 – Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 12 – Easter
Rehearsal: Sunday, April 2nd – 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Thank you Chancel Choir, Jim and Tricia Koning, Mike Lobash, Amy Malone, Kate Kelly, Kay Kelly and Kevin McDermott for sharing in the music during February. The time you take in sharing music with the congregation helps complete the worship service for all!

I am so excited to have Lesley join us here at PCWS (see article on right); she is not only a talented pianist and singer, but choir director as well. I know the children will love working with her. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Stephanie Coates

Welcome Lesley Sharkey

As Pastor Erik announced a few weeks ago in church, our guest pianist, Lesley Sharkey, will be joining us throughout the year as accompanist for the Chancel Choir and will be working with the children to prepare a song or two for worship services.

Lesley will begin working with the children during Sunday School during the month of March. The dates are: Sunday, March 1st, 15th, and 29th. The children will be singing during worship on Palm Sunday, Sunday, April 5th.

Thank you ....

to everyone who helped with the service for **Carol Stoub** last month. Carol's family appreciated the love and support of our community, and also the gracious hospitality you all extended through music, ushering, and of course the beautiful reception.

We're Social! Are You?

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

You don't need to join Facebook to see our Page!

Remember in Prayer

- Our siblings at Nueva Paz Presbyterian Church in Cuba
- Our men & women serving our country in the Armed Services
- The people of Syria, and especially the relatives of PCWS' Interfaith Women's Book Group
- **Betty Toft**
- **Betty Anderson**
- **Billye Dvorak**
- Brent Young, son-in-law of Larry & Becky Glasscock
- Brian, friend of the Smyers family
- The family and friends of Carol Stoub
- The family and friends of Noreen Coyan
- Cheryl Donchez, friend of Theresa & Condy Dixon
- David DeFrance, nephew of Becky & Larry Glasscock
- Dorcas Dvorak, friend of the Merrifield family
- Gary Mirlenbrink, uncle of Lori Carsten
- Holly Oliver, daughter of Mary Kae Headland
- Jan Keeler, friend of Amy Malone
- **John Kregg**
- Joshua Haberkorn, grandson of Shirley Pine
- **Kathleen Kircher**
- The family of Kim Rae, friends of Amy Malone
- Laura Querry, daughter of Becky & Larry Glasscock
- Linda Bell, daughter of Margot Walsh
- Marc Goldstein, friend of Carol Ulreich
- Marc Ladene, friend of the Slezaks
- **Marge Sandrik**
- Mary Kate Miller, step-mother of Julie Garino
- Mary, dear friend of Bruce Geary
- **Michael De Vries**
- Michael, friend of Jane Norman
- Mike Slesicki, cousin of Barb Farr & Joe Benson
- Nate & Joann Dardick, friends of Laurie Merrifield
- Norb Mirlenbrink, Uncle of Lori Carsten
- Pat McTiernan, friend of Phyllis DiFrancesco
- Pat White, friend of Becky Glasscock
- Paulette Erickson, friend of Carol Ulreich
- Peggy Mirlenbrink, aunt of Lori Carsten
- Peter Wilkie
- **Phil Kasik**
- Ruth Kaduke, niece of Herb & Joyce Smyers
- Teri Tuffner, aunt of Candice Mares
- Theresa Ybanez, great niece of Laura Fruit
- The family and friends of Toni Potenza Moya, daughter of Harriett Potenza & Craig Harris
- Parents of Tiffany Sellman
- Paul, cousin of Elizabeth Slezak

Bold indicates a PCWS member

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* due by the **10th** of each month.

To ensure your submission is received, please **email** articles and pictures to: **GT@presbyws.org.**

Sending Our SYMPATHY

We extend sympathy to Harriet Potenza and Craig Harris on the death of their daughter Toni Potenza Moya, on February 23.

We Extend sympathy to the family of Noreen Coyan on her death January 29.

Presbyterian Church Of Western Springs

5250 Wolf Road
Western Springs, IL 60558-1898

www.presbyws.org

Church Email: pcws@presbyws.org
Prayer Requests: prayers@presbyws.org
708-246-5220 Phone
708-246-4276 Fax

Scan to Learn about PCWS

Mailed: Feb. 27, 2020

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