GLAD TIDINGS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WESTERN SPRINGS

MARCH, 2015

EXPLORE:

During Lent on Sundays March 8, 15, and 22 after worship, the second hour educational opportunity for children, teens and adults is focused on "I am (not)".



It's a series that requires a bit of introspection because we'll explore the deeply personal reality of "I am happy, healthy, rested, strong, alive; not tired, depressed, crabby, stressed, dying when _______". Each Sunday, you may choose to go do something on your own or with your family that fills in this blank, that helps care for yourself, or you may choose to attend workshops that help you identify new ways to care for yourself. There will be workshops on prayer, meditation, faith, yoga, thoughtfulness, and more. A detailed schedule of workshops will be available in the bulletin announcements each week. We're hoping that people will share tips, practical suggestions, and personal examples of how they're filling in this blank throughout Lent.

Spaghetti Dinner -Saturday, March 14 Seatings at 5, 6 & 7 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale during fellowship hour on Sunday mornings or through the church office during the week through March 10. Choose your seating at the time of purchase.



Spaghetti Dinner

Advanced Tickets: Adults \$6 - Children (4-12) \$3 At the Door: Adults \$7 - Children \$4

All proceeds will go towards the UPY Summer Mission Trip to Tennessee. Thank you in advance for your continued support of our youth!

Bring your friends and neighbors to enjoy a delicious homemade meal served with joy!

Annual Congregation Meeting - March 1



In this issue of Glad

Tidings, you're receiving a copy of the congregation's annual report. Please bring it with you to the annual meeting, which will begin during worship, because we have things to celebrate that just make sense in the context of worship. There will be visual and aural presentations and we will give thanks. We'll briefly pause the meeting at the close of worship and invite you to grab a cup of coffee, take a seat in the Jones Room, and we'll take up the business that lends itself to discussion and vote.

It will be good to sit at tables, ask lots of questions, receive the 2015 budget and act on the pastors' terms of call, and more. It will all be interesting. It will all be important. And it will be much, much better if you join us.



Remember to set your clocks FORWARD one hour Saturday night, March 8!

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

I have a feeling March is going to feel like a long month. It includes four full weeks and three extra days. There are four full weeks of Lent and then Holy Week begins. The first day of Spring is March 20, but I have a feeling that it may still feel very wintery here. Hooray for people who have spring break! It will be here, just in time!



Mary Oliver's poetry is my antidote to winter doldrums, and other doldrums, too. Here's her poem, Spring:

Somewhere a black bear has just risen from sleep and is staring down the mountain. All night in the brisk and shallow restlessness of early spring I think of her, her four black fists flicking the gravel, her tongue like a red fire touching the grass, the cold water. There is only one question: how to love this world. I think of her rising like a black and leafy ledge

to sharpen her claws against
the silence
of the trees.
Whatever else
my life is
with its poems
and its music
and its glass cities,

it is also this dazzling darkness coming down the mountain, breathing and tasting; all day I think of her -— her white teeth, her wordlessness, her perfect love.

"There is only one question: how to love this world."

Together in the struggle,

Jennifer



OUR PASTORS

Rev. Jennifer Burns Lewis, Pastor/Head of Staff **Rev. Matthew Paul Schmidt,** Associate Pastor

jlewis@presbyws.org mschmidt@presbyws.org

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

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Seekers' Class March 15 10:45 a.m.



Are you new to PCWS? Would you like to know more about PCWS or the Presbyterian faith? Then join us for our next Seekers' Class!

Seekers' Classes are fun get-togethers which allow people to learn more about PCWS, ask questions they might have about our faith and the congregation, and become members of PCWS if they feel ready. All are welcome to join us and this is a great way to meet staff and leaders in the congregation. Children are welcome or child care can be arranged.

Please let Pastor Jennifer or our Director of Lay Ministries, Linda Murray (lfmurray99@hotmail.com) know if you'd like to attend. Hope to see you there!



Planning for the Future

Think about the part you want to play in your church's future. Naming your church as a beneficiary in your estate plan to create an endowment can assure your continued participation in the life and mission of your church far into the future.

Getting to Know Your Deacon: Erin Sullivan

On a recent trip in the church elevator, Erin Sullivan commented how shiny the doors looked. That's when the rest of us knew she was "officially" a church sexton. This bright and cheerful 16-year-old takes great pride in her job, always striving to do her best to keep our church spic and span. It's this same can-do attitude that makes her a perfect fit for her newest role as a youth Deacon. Read on for more about this compassionate, super-involved teenager.

Place of birth: Hinsdale Hospital

Family: Parents, Sarah and Brian Sullivan, and sisters, Colleen (12) and Shannon (8)

Pets: A rabbit named Bailey, a Guinea pig named Chex and three fish

School: Lyons Township High School (sophomore)

Favorite subject: Child Development

Least favorite subject: Math

Activities and hobbies: I am on the badminton team and theater board at school. Also, I love babysitting children of all ages. Best part of the school year so far: Being in the production of "Story Theater"

Other church activities: Handbell choir, UPYs, assistant director of MAD Camp, assistant director of the Christmas pageant, VBS teacher and sexton.

Being a youth Deacon: I like helping others and getting to know them

What makes PCWS special: How I know most of the people and most of them know me because I grew up in this church

Favorite PCWS memories: Every year at MAD Camp (8 years so far!) and last year's Mission trip

College/career plans: I want to become an elementary school teacher

Something I'm good at: Organizing and working with children **Three words that describe me:** Empathetic, dedicated, generous

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Lent/Holy week

Lent has about a month left in it. We hope you're enjoying the Lenten devotionals, in print or via email. We hope you have a fish bank at your house, or are



otherwise plotting a gift to One Great Hour of Sharing. We hope you're using this time to grow in your faith. Before you know it, it will be Holy Week, that time when we particularly prepare our hearts for Easter. Consider the following services and places to spend some time in worship and reflection as Easter nears.

Palm Sunday- Sunday, March 29

8:15 -8:30 a.m. **Blessing of the Palms** at the Tower Green in

Western Springs sponsored by the Churches of

Western Springs

9:30 a.m. Worship

Maundy Thursday- Thursday, April 2

6:30 p.m. Simple meal (bring a finger food dish to pass)

followed by communion (bring a cup of meaning) and Tenebrae service with our friends

from Highlands Presbyterian Church.

Good Friday-Friday April 3

7:00 p.m. **Worship** with Highlands Presbyterian Church

Easter-Sunday, April 5

6:31 a.m. **Sunrise service** with breakfast to follow 9:00 a.m. **Worship** (*please note change in time*!!)

10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt!!!

10:45 a.m. **Worship**

Leadership, Education And Development For the Whole Church

The theme for 2015 is "Ancient Gifts for Modern Times: Catching Glimpses of the Divine".

The Rev. John Bell, music leader and keynote speaker comes to us from the Church of Scotland where he is a minister, lecturer, musician, member of the lona Community and the Wild Goose Resource Group

\$15 registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.

LEAD is presented through a covenant with McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago Presbytery's Empower Ministry Mission Priority Leadership Team, and our host church, Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Join us on Saturday, March 7, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Fourth Presbyterian Church 126 East Chestnut Street Chicago, IL 60611

Easter Flowers

If you wish to make a donation for a plant for the Easter Sunday celebration, the sign-up sheet is posted in the lower-level hallway. The cost per plant is \$20 - last day to order is March 31. Payment at the time you sign up is helpful. Please indicate your preference on the sign-up sheet to:

- * take your plant home after the 10:45 service on Easter Sunday
- * have your plant delivered to a member or friend of the Congregation * have the plant used in planters and flower beds at church



ADULT NEWS

Presbyterian Women

Game Night

Wednesday, March 11 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.



Come to the Pendletons' for an evening of games, friendship and laughter. If you have a request on a game you would like to play please contact Aileen:
(alpendleton@sbcglobal.net).

PW Gatherings 1:00 p.m.

Meets March 19 (3rd Thursday of each month) at church. We meet as a large group for fellowship and then split into two groups:

Beverages and treats will be provided.

#1: In-depth Bible Study Option: Women covenant to study and come prepared to participate and discuss. They are studying Fruits of the Spirit.

#2: TED-Talk/Video Discussions: Various topics will be discussed after viewing clips (no preparation required.)

Coming up April 9:



Salad luncheon and fashion show! 12:30. p.m. Cost \$10.00. Watch for more details in the April Glad Tidings and Sunday Bulletins!

Theology and Brew (Evening Edition)

Rounding out the end of the Groundhog's winter forecast, Theology and Brew (Evening) will be meeting on Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. at Saban's, 9507 Joliet Road, Hodgkins, IL. We'll be sharing food, drink, and another lively discussion of a current blog.



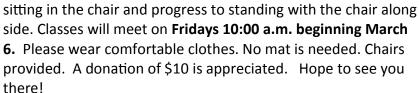
Theology and Brew (Daytime Edition)

Daytime Edition will gather at Now Serving Cafe located at 725 West Hillgrove Avenue, La Grange, on Wednesday, March 25, at 1:00 p.m. If you'd like to join us, no experience is required—only an interest in stimulating discussion and a chance to get to know others on a more personal level.

Just call the church office or write tandbrew@presbyws.org, and you will receive the blog for discussion a few days ahead..

Chair Yoga comes to PCWS!

Chair/Senior Holy Yoga takes the great joy of Christ to all people. Chair/Senior Holy Yoga provides an opportunity for people who are not able to participate in a typical Holy Yoga class due to injury or illness to experience the incredible benefits of Holy Yoga through physical worship, breath and meditation especially adapted for their particular needs. We will begin the class



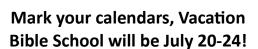




CHILDREN & YOUTH

Come to the Lenten Fair March 8

Come and visit the Sunday School classes during Explore for "Show and Tell". Students will be sharing what they have been doing in class and may have some other surprises up their sleeves. Students will be there to answer questions and tell you what they have been up to.



At Everest VBS, kids will embark on the coolest adventure of the summer while conquering challenges with God's mighty power!



If you have questions or are interested in helping, please contact Carolyn Bozek or Kim Fronk.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement of young people working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities. On Super



Bowl Sunday, February 1, and again on February 8, the JUPYs collected \$493 for Second Baptist Church of LaGrange. Thank you for all your generous support.

Balloon-a-grams

Special thanks to all who helped by purchasing Balloon-a-grams for your friends and loved ones. We were able to sell about 400 and we raised Approximately \$1,088 to help support the summer mission trip to Appalachia Service Project. We so appreciate all the parents for helping with deliveries.





Grab those Easter baskets and bring them to church Easter morning for a traditional Easter egg hunt! Since Easter falls during spring break, we will not be having the full Bunny Brunch activities, but we do hope you will join us for the egg hunt between church services. The hunt will kick off promptly at 10:15 a.m. rain or shine. Your little chickadees will have a great time finding the eggs and will be delighted by the surprises inside.



Hannah Lombardi Izzy Pepol David Skjei



YOUTH MINISTRY

JUPYS (GRADES 6 - 8)

** No JUPYs on March 1!!

ICE Skating



Seven Bridges Ice Arena

Plus pizza dinner after

Sunday, March 8 2:30 - 6:00 p.m.

- ♦ Sign—up in advance
- Permission slips are required
- Bring a friend!

Cost: \$17

includes skating, rental and dinner



March 15th
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Join us for a
GREEN Party
Be sure to wear green!

March Mission Meeting

March 22 5:00-6:30 p.m. Come help fill Easter Eggs for an Easter Egg hunt.

** No JUPYs on March 29—Enjoy Spring Break!!

COMING EVENTS

FAST FOOD FRENZY APRIL 12



UPYS (GRADES 9 – 12)

** No UPYs on March 1!!

Youth Sunday Planning

Help us begin to shape our ideas into a fun and meaningful worship service.



Please add these dates and times to your calendar:

March 8: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come for Pizza

(if you don't have snowball!)

March 14 –15; Small Group planning and Lock-In after Spaghetti Dinner

March 22 - More Planning after Subvert

April 12 — Dress Rehearsal (7-8:30p.m.)

April 18 — Final Rehearsal (TBD)

April 19 — Youth Sunday!!!

Be here at 8:30 a.m.

Join us for brunch afterwards (10:45 a.m.)

Spaghetti Dinner & Lock-In

Saturday March 14th

This is a major mission trip fundraiser. Participation is required from everyone planning

Schedule: Set-up: Friday, March 13 7:00 PM

Sat, Mar 14— Sun, Mar 15 4:00 p.m.—8:00 a.m.

to go on the trip. You can help with set-up, serving and clean up ~ please come and serve as many hours as you can!





UPY SUBVERT POLLUTION

Sunday, March 22 7:00—8:30 p.m.

MISSION & SERVICE

One Great Hour of Sharing

As we begin 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 5, this offering is a long-standing component of our Presbyterian heritage.

Each year, OGHS ministries provide immediate and long-term assistance to many in need via three essential programs:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Self-Development of People Presbyterian Hunger Program.

Many of the families and communities served have been affected by natural disasters. Others, many poor and hungry, are empowered by efforts which support the development of community gardening and micro-enterprise programs.

Throughout the season of Lent, you will find a series of inserts in your Sunday bulletins, highlighting the assistance provided through OGHS ministries. Please take a couple of minutes to read each insert to learn more about how we can each make a difference in the lives of many through our collective support of this program.

While this offering is officially dedicated on Easter Sunday, donations can be made any time during Lent, either with a specially designated envelope in the 2015 box of offering envelopes some may have received, with a check written to PCWS noting "OGHS" on the memo line, or give online through the Donate button in weekly emails or on the PCWS website.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of a gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing ministry this Easter.

Spring Blood Drive

Sunday, June 14 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Presbytery News

Executive Presbyter Bob Reynolds has announced his retirement, effective September 30, 2015. He has served the Presbytery of Chicago in this role since 1999.

The Presbytery of Chicago assembly took place at First Presbyterian Evanston Saturday, February 21. Ruling elders Carol Stoub, Mary Jo Blough, Loretta Gratias-Bremer and Kathy Wennerstrum were our four commissioners to this meeting.

A new moderator was installed, Ruling Elder Sonia Bodi from First Church in Evanston. The Assembly voted on changes to the Book of Order.

Church Women United

At the January meeting of Church Women United, the program was about human trafficking. There is a shop in Naperville that sells items made by, and profits go to, women at risk.

Human trafficking is the modern day slavery. We can help by visiting the WAR Chest Boutique (Women At Risk) located at 4 E. Jefferson Ave, Naperville (630) 904-9200, or shop on line at www.warinternational.org/store.



www.facebook.com/presbyws

You don't need to join Facebook to see photos of all the activities that happen at PCWS.

MISSION & SERVICE

WORSHIP ALIVE!

A workshop on song, prayer and its intersection with creation!

God, Land & Love With John Bell Sunday, March 8 - 2:00-5:00 p.m. First United Church of Oak Park

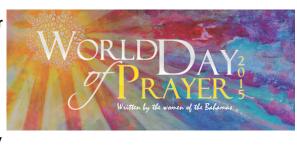
John Bell of the Wild Goose Group at the Iona Community in Scotland is a hymn writer, author, and passionate supporter of congregational song. His work has been honored by the Royal School of Church Music, the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, and the University of Glasgow.

Registration fee is \$35 at the door or \$25 paid in advance. Register online through PCWS Online Giving Page (Events: Worship Alive) or send payment to: PCWS, 5250 Wolf Road, Western Springs, IL 60558. Please note Worship Alive in the memo.



World Day of Prayer

Women, men and children in more than 170 countries and regions will celebrate World Day



of Prayer, Friday, March 6, 2015. This year, the women of the WDP Committee of The Bahamas call us to consider Jesus' words to the disciples after washing their feet: "Do you understand what I have done for you?" The women of The Bahamas describe what Jesus does when he washes the disciples' feet as "radical love." Radical love comes from humility, compassion and commitment. God's radical love is not static or self-centered; it reaches out and draws others in.

Although we perhaps first associate this country of islands with the pleasures of vacation and images of tropical paradise, there is much more to learn. As we listen to our Bahamian sisters throughout the worship service, we see the transformation that occurs when a teen mother finds support to continue her education and to raise her child, when a breast cancer survivor or people living with HIV/AIDS find strength to live out their journeys, and when the chains of oppression and enslavement are broken. Through this service, the women of WDP Bahamas give us an invitation to beauty and love in the name of the transformative and radical love that Jesus brings to us all.

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. World Day of Prayer was founded on the idea that prayer and action are inseparable. Services begin at sunrise in the Pacific and follow the sun across the globe on the day of celebration. Each year a different country's committee serves as the writers of the World Day of Prayer worship service.

World Day of Prayer USA promotes justice and equality for women through prayer, partnerships, service and celebration. For more information, visit the national office of World Day of Prayer USA (www.wdp-usa.org).

MEMBER NEWS

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

Collated and/or folded bulletins: Norman Duncan

Helped in the office and with scanning and database updates: Donna Strunk, Craig Harris,

Michelle Hennessy, Carol Ulreich, Ruth Riordan, Sue Eck, Carolyn Bozek

Crushed cans: David Boxell, Herb Habermann

January Food for Life team: Driver/Servers: Kay Kelly and Carolyn Bozek

Cooks: Ann DeVries and Kim Fronk

February Food for Life team: Driver/Servers: Bruce Barnes, Janet Andersen

Cooks: Mary Jo and Ron Blough, Sue Eck

Second Baptist Food Pantry run: David and Jane Boxell

Prepared Glad Tidings for mailing: Dorothy Andersen, Jan Fortina, Joyce Habermann, Mary Kae Headland,

and Ruth Riordan.

Flower Guild designers and flower setup in February: Nancy Glickman, Jan Fortina, Sue Eck, Sue Kovalick

The Plant Tour

On Monday, Feb. 16, a dozen members of the church toured The Plant, a local Chicago not-for-profit warehouse filled with ideas and hopes for sustainability. The tour lasted over an hour. We began with an introduction to the overall vision of The Plant—for farms with closed-waste-loops, food business incubation, and sustainability education—before we saw how far they are from actualizing that hope. Their struggle for The Plant becoming truly "off the grid" and "closed-loop" is extremely complex and seemingly endless, and yet our tour guide showed a youthful determination to a achieve counter-cultural, patient kind of success.

In the basement, we saw wet, hanging logs that grow mushrooms, aquaponic systems for symbiotically farm-raised tilapia in conjunction with plants, as well as pools filled with thousands of shrimp. The tour challenged us all to think more sustainably and creatively, to see every aspect of materials already made as assets, and to consider what systems of waste in our homes, in our schools, at our work and in our church could become closed-looped instead of linear.



MEMBER NEWS

Remember in Prayer

- 🕆 The Ahmeti Family
- Paul Allen
- Tom Allen
- 🕆 Carole Berry
- **†** Kimberly Bone
- [☆] Mary Ottmar Booth
- [†] David Boyer
- [†] Diane Markley Bruser
- 🕆 George Bruser
- ♣ Phil Carper
- Sandy Carucci
- **†** Noreen Coyan
- Betty Davis
- Cathy Dold
- → Bill Dougherty
- [☆] Billye Dvorak
- Paulette Erickson
- Jean Geary
- Maggie Joseph
- ☆ Cindi Karstens
- 🕆 Kathleen Kircher
- [☆] Michael Leong
- [↑] Mary Jo Long
- 한 Deborah Matthews
- 🕆 Gloria Nicolai
- 🕆 Ginger Oswald
- Sheila Rensberger
- 🕆 Carolyn Samuels

- Patti Schoenbeck
- ♣ Connie Sligh
- ♣ Connie Spar
- ♣ Neil Stark
- **⊕** Stephen Ministry
- ⊕ Beth Tooth

- ♣ Dorothy Wilson
- Dan (friend of Julie Garino)
- [†] Our troops stationed abroad
- ♣ Presbyterian Church Congregation in Nueva Paz, Cuba
- The people of Syria,
 especially family members
 of PCWS Interfaith
 Women's Book Group
- Those seeking employment

Those in Health Centers

- [⊕] Margaret Miller
- **†** Mary Randa
- ⊕ Betty Toft



Joe Swaar, father of Kay Kelly and Jill Dold, passed away February 9th.

We extend our deep sympathy to his whole family, including Kay and Tom Kelly and their sons, Kevin and Andy and Jill and Roger Dold, and their children, Paige and Mark.

Bulletin Deadline

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

Email to pcws@presbyws.org or fax to 708-246-4276.

Glad Tidings Deadline

Articles for the April Glad Tidings are due March 10th.

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

GT@presbyws.org

Help prepare the April *Glad Tidings* for mailing Wednesday, March 25. Meet @ 10:30 a.m. in the Jones Room.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WESTERN SPRINGS 5250 Wolf Road E

Western Springs, Illinois 60558-1898

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

2-24-15 Dated Mail





Scan to Learn about PCWS

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events in March		Upcoming Events in April	
Mar. 3	Deacons	April 1 Committee Meetings	
Mar. 4	Committee Meetings	April 2 Maundy Thursday	
Mar. 6	World Day of Prayer	April 3 Good Friday	
Mar. 7	L.E.A.D.	April 5 Easter Sunday	
Mar. 8	Daylight Savings Time Set Your Clocks Ahead! Lenten Fair	Worship @ 6:28, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt	
Mar. 10	Glad Tidings Article Deadline	April 7 Deacons April 9 Presbyterian Women Salad Luncheon / Fashion Show	
	Theology & Brew Evening Edition		
Mar. 11	Presbyterian Women		
Mar. 14	Spaghetti Dinner	April 10 Glad Tidings Article D	eadline
Mar. 15	Seeker's New Member Class	April 15 Session	
Mar. 19	Presbyterian Women Gatherings	April 16 Presbyterian Women	Gatherings
Mar. 25	Mail Glad Tidings		CING BEL
	Theology & Brew Eve Edition	April 22 Book Club	ELON NINSTAT
Mar. 29	Palm Sunday	April 24 Mail Glad Tidings	& COWING S