

August 2018

## What I Did Over the Summer...

I will take a page from my old school days and write a little piece about “what I did this summer.” In addition to traditions like VBS/Drama Camp and summer sermon series, I have been helping with the search for a designer for our new web site. The committee has worked hard and is narrowing the field to some folks who came highly recommended by other congregations in Denver Presbytery!

I often use my continuing education time in the summer when things are more flexible. That is definitely true this summer! In early June, I traveled once again to Albuquerque, New Mexico as part of my participation in the Center for Action and Contemplation’s Living School (<https://cac.org/living-school/program-details/> a two-year, mostly non-residential program of spiritual development). Early August 2017, 2018, and 2019, I participate with all three “cohorts”/classes of the Living School at a symposium with over 500 people for four full days, plus two travel days. This June was my chance to be with a much smaller group of 35 for an “Intensive” with Franciscan priest and theologian, Richard Rohr—what a gift! My “Circle”/small group was also able to meet together and share in an even more in-depth way (most of us are in CO, but two members are in NM.) As predicted by former students, I am behind in the



at-home reading, but I will catch up eventually! My prayer is that this program will continue to deepen my relationship with God and sustain my discipleship and ministry.

I had not planned on any additional continuing education until I “graduate” from the Living School a year from now, but a unique opportunity arose. The Mission Committee knows that for the past three years I have periodically attended meetings of Together Colorado (formerly known as

MOP.) Their offices are at Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church and it is a “non-partisan, multi-racial, multi-faith community organization comprised of 220 congregations, schools, clergy and faith leaders across the state... organizing to place human dignity at the center of public life.” <https://togethercolorado.org/2018-weeklong/> For the first time, they offered a 5 ½ day (called “weeklong”) training. All day and evening Monday and Tuesday was led by anti-racism trainers from

New Orleans. It was very powerful and I will continue to integrate what I experienced then and in the organizing training for the other days. I used some vacation time as well as continuing education time for this amazing experience.

The reason that the PC (USA) requires congregations to give pastors time and money to continue their education is that they know that pastors need to drink from the wellspring and be renewed with fresh experiences and wisdom gained through study. Thank you for making this on-going learning possible for me. It really does enable my ministry at WPC to continue moving forward—sustained by God’s grace!

Just in case you think I am all work and no play, one quick photo from my week in southern California with my daughter—we had a great time with a bit of beach, a bit of Hollywood, and several days of Disney! It is clear that I am not the only person at WPC who likes to travel—be safe in any of your journeys and come back safely to your church home! Peace, Laura



**SOME VBS FUN!** (pictures shared by Laura)



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

### Vacation Bible School/Kamp Kidventure 2018!

The week of July 16-20, WPC was filled with the sounds of laughter and excitement from 45 energetic children, three counselors from Highlands Camp and Retreat Center, and 24 very patient and dedicated volunteers. Don't miss the photos shared earlier in this newsletter!

The VBS theme for this summer was, "This Changes Everything." During the week the children came together in groups for Bible study, worship, music, discovery, recreational and creative activities to consider and celebrate how this loving action of God in Christ changes everything. For the older children (10-13), it was also a time to share their theatrical and musical talents as they participated in a theatrical production of "Just Like Us", which they performed on Friday evening. Again, this year we were fortunate to welcome back LuAnn Buckstein as our director.

Every day the children were treated to delicious snacks and lunches, prepared by loving hands, including Friday's amazing cookie bar!

The week concluded Friday afternoon with the annual "Water Appreciation Day". The children spent two hours playing in pools and buckets filled with water toys. They also had a blast sliding downhill on ice blocks and two slip and slides, topping the day off with a 500-water balloon fight!

The C.E. Committee wishes to thank the three counselors Chelsey, Pat and Ryan from Highlands Camp and Retreat, and to the 24 incredibly hardworking volunteers, from WPC, who helped make the children's experience both safe and fun. We also send a big thank you to all the families from the community who graciously allowed their children to participate in VBS/Kamp Kidventure/Drama Camp.

Grace and Peace, Linda

### **SESSION MEETS the third Thursday, August 16th at 7pm! Elders please note it's the third Thursday not the usual 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday this month.**

No regular business was conducted at the July meeting. Instead the session met with the Committee on Ministry from Denver Presbytery for their Triennial visit. At this time the Session held discussions with the committee on topics such as lay leadership, spiritual leadership, relation with pastor, mission in the community and greater church, building needs and how our message is received by the community, and preparation and presentation of the budget. The August meeting will see the beginning of the budget process for 2019.

Ruth Breckon, Clerk of Session

## DEACONS--A CARING REMINDER FROM THE

**DEACONS:** If your family suffers a loss or illness, or you would like to request prayer, please contact:

Laura 720-471-0751 (cell)

Church Office, 303-422-2354

Prayer Chain, Charlene Pierce

Deacon Co-Chairs: Linda Johnston & Lori

Golightly

**PRAYER CHAIN** – Prayer Chain is a quick way to have your prayer concerns passed on to the church family and enables the church to support you more rapidly in your time of need.

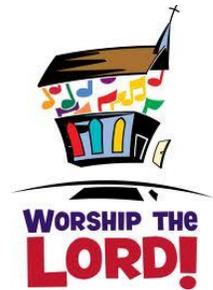
**No meetings in August.**

**Next meeting: September 9<sup>th</sup> after the worship service.**



## WORSHIP

- Meets Wednesday, August 1 at 9:30 am
- The last Outdoor Service is World Communion Sunday, September 2 at 9:30 am. Don't miss this special last Sunday outdoors!
- On Sunday, September 9 the worship services will shift to regular indoor services and to the Fall/Winter schedule with a 10:00 am worship service followed by 11:05 Fellowship Time.
- Thanks so much, music leaders & musicians for your special music each week this summer. Thanks also to our dedicated setup and takedown workers this summer-enabling us to worship outside so many beautiful Sundays this summer.



Anne Baker  
Worship Chair

## MISSION

- Meets Wednesday, August 1st at 3:30 pm
- We are collecting items for The Action Center School Supply Drive. Please donate college ruled paper and notebooks, pens, and pencils. Bring your items and put them in the Action Center basket in the narthex of the sanctuary.
- The Action Center closed their homeless shelter on June 16. Mission will transition to cooking for Homeless Families through Family Promise of Greater Denver (starting in September).



## A FEW NOTES FROM KATIE

The summer is off to a great start for the Sakanais! We traveled to Troy, NY to celebrate my grandmother's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and spent a few days in San Diego with Jon's brother. The girls got to go on their first two camping trips: one in our backyard and the next at Golden Gate Canyon State Park. The S'mores were plentiful.



I am excited for the summer's musical offerings. We hosted young high-school and college musicians (Wyatt from DSA and Karl and Maddy from CU Boulder) as guests this summer as well as professionals (Catherine Robison Ranney and Todd Ranney). Sunday, July 15 we heard the always inspiring Centennial State Pipes and Drums. However, I believe the most-complimented performance of the summer was the lovely hymn singing by Alicia Reeder-Griess, her mother Karen Reeder, and her daughter Constance Griess. Upcoming guests include: Jon Stubbs, member of the Beatles cover band Rubber Soles on 8/19 for the "Gospel According to the Beatles." And on 8/26 we welcome The Pino Project, a flute and classical guitar duet. They will provide music both during the service as

well as some fun jazz and bossa nova music for the picnic after church.

I've been hosting a summer concert series called "Sing and Stretch" with a dear friend named Anna. Anna is a first-grade teacher who is also trained in yoga and uses yoga and meditation as part of her classroom instruction. Our June session was all about animals. July's theme was camping songs and poses. **Come** join us for the class with your kids, grandkids or neighbors on **August 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. for a 40-minute class.**

After Carole Pettit's passing, the family suggested that donations be made in her memory to the music department at WPC. We received many gracious and generous donations in her



honor, and you will see some upcoming purchases thanks to the generosity of those who loved Carole. First, 16 anthem books were purchased for the choir. The anthem books are from the Oxford Publishing Company and contain over 40 anthems that will be a great addition to our music library. Next, two speakers, speaker stands and cables were purchased for the church. These have been used for two outdoor Sundays so far, and you should hear a marked improvement in both sound quality and volume. These speakers can also be used for indoor events in fellowship hall such as dinners, concerts and events. Finally, Julie has plans to use remaining funds for the bell choir, so keep an "ear" out for that!

## FELLOWSHIP—

- Thanks to all who participated in the “Celebrate Vacation Bible School” Fellowship Picnic on Sunday July 22, after Worship.
- Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Fellowship PICNIC after worship. Please keep checking Sunday announcements and E-Posts for details.



## August BIRTHDAYS



Isaac Sovold	Aug. 1
Chris Swanson	Aug. 1
Mike Mohwinkle	Aug. 3
Steve Mestdagh	Aug.12
Betsy Smith	Aug.13
Allan Hills	Aug.17
Dorothy Burhorn	Aug. 18
Jeff Stimson	Aug. 20
Don Tolin	Aug. 27

...and if we have missed *your* birthday please notify the church office @ 303-422-2354.

### 4F (Food, Fun, Fellowship and Fixin')

Will next meet **Tuesday, August 7 at 8:30 am.** Please come for some Food, Fellowship, Fun and Fixin'!

**WPC BRIDGE GROUP** meets here at WPC **Wednesday, August 15 at 1:00 pm.** Please **RSVP** to hostess **Caroline Clovesko** so that she knows how many tables to set up.

### PIPERS “RAINY DAY PRACTICES” HERE This summer SUNDAYS 1:00–2:30pm.

Centennial State Pipes and Drums usually practices elsewhere outdoors on Sundays from 1:00-2:30 pm in the summer. On rainy days, if no special events are planned here, they've requested to practice indoors at WPC.

### NEW 2018 PHONE DIRECTORIES

Look for the new 2018-19 WPC Telephone Directories coming early this fall.



## THURSDAY BOOK GROUP

- Meets **Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>** (note it's the **4<sup>th</sup> Thursday** rather than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) at **7:00 pm** at the home of , **Gay Cuthill**, Reading : *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George 303-567-2978,
  - Meets **Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** at the home of **Joan Pepper**, Reading: *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah.
  - Meets **Thursday October. 18 at 7:00 pm** at the home of **Caroline Clovesko** Reading: *Varina* by Charles Frazier
- Please RSVP to the host or hostess.



## PRAYER REQUESTS & NOTES OF THANKSGIVING

### On the Move...

- **Mary Wilcox** has moved to the skilled nursing community at Brookdale Green Mountain.
- ### Giving Thanks for...
- Thanks for those **Presbyterians from across the U.S.A.** that met in St. Louis, MO in late June for our denomination's bi-annual **General Assembly.**
  - On Wednesday, July 18, **Laura Sugg** asked for prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of her great-nephew, **Nixon David Lardes**, in Thornton to **Doug and Bailey Lardes.**



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S QUARTERLY BIBLE STUDY—Saturday, August 18 at Central Presbyterian Church 9:30 am–2:00 pm.

You are invited to the 2018 Bible Study Seminar!



This year's Bible Study Seminar will introduce bible study groups to the 2018-2019 PW/Horizons Bible Study: *God's Promise: I Am with You.* The seminar will be Sat., Aug. 18, with

**registration at 9:30 a.m., worship and program at 10 a.m., followed by lunch.** The place is Central Presbyterian Church, 1600 Sherman St. Denver, 80203. The facilitator is the Rev. Louise Westfall. The Bible study is a journey through scripture to look at times God articulated the promise of his presence. The **cost** for the program and lunch is **\$10, payable at the door. RSVP to Moderator Vicki Terry by Wed., Aug. 15.**



**Report on the Presbytery Immigration Study  
AN EXPERIENTIAL EXPLORATION OF THE  
IMMIGRATION ISSUES held at Shepherd of the  
Hills on Saturday, July 21st.**

This was all day gathering and hard to put into a few words. It was attended by members of Presbyterian churches from Denver and the Rocky Mountain area. Most came away with a better understanding as to why many people don't come into our country legally.

We began by dividing into four groups each of about 16 people. During this orientation period we discussed how the media treated both sides of the question. We concluded that it was an emotional issue enhanced by media opinions instead of facts and we must find out what we are in agreement about. Namely, "It's a mess"!

We then joined together to experience a US History TimeLine. This showed how history has repeated itself many times banning some nationalities and inviting in others. People were able to see where their own ancestors fit into the timeline.

After this we went through a Legal Immigration Simulation which required us to role play various scenarios of people trying to apply for green cards. Answers such as "You are out of luck; married with children cannot apply" came up often. All involved family. One was told, yes, you can apply but the waiting period will be up to 7 years. It was confirmed only 7% of people applying legally can actually make it. The laws keep changing, so nobody knows what they really are.

For me, the most enlightening part was the discussion around the Maquiladoras and NAFTA. Started in the Reagan years, NAFTA was the US answer to the EU which had become the largest Trading Block in the world, next to China. However, in the EU there is freedom to work in any other EU country. NAFTA includes Canada, the US and Mexico. NAFTA hurt the US economy because the textile companies and other businesses built plants down in Mexico where labor was cheaper.

Unfortunately, the corporations didn't pay the Mexicans fair wages and often made them work 12-hour days. In the meantime, people at home were out of jobs. NAFTA also ruined the Mexican Agricultural Industry because whereas US farmers got subsidies, Mexico could not compete with that.

On reflection, free trade guarantees low prices in the US, while restricting access to food security in Latin America. Now, a Mexican at home on minimum wage has to work for three hours to pay for one quart of milk or 2 hours for a packet of corn flakes. It does not seem fair when we use Mexican oil which helps to keep our gas prices down and continue to use their labor assembling cars for US companies. Corporate greed seems to play a part in the border problem, as well as our own.

We ended in prayer and thought about the General Assembly. The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, the Rev. J. Herbert Nelson has asked, "What has this nation become? How have we wandered so far from Jesus' kind admonition, "Let the little children come unto me...for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs."

Respectfully contributed, Gay Cuthill.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES**

• **WHEAT RIDGE POLICE COMMUNITY EVENT**

Join your Wheat Ridge police department for **National Night Out on Tues., August 7 from 4-7 p.m. in Hayward Park next to City Hall/PD at 7500 W. 29th.** Games, music, giveaways and lots of fun for the whole family. It's also a chance to get your questions answered, get to know Wheat Ridge Police officers and learn more about what we can do together as a community. Hope to see you there!

• **Support Wheat Ridge Rotary Club by buying peaches by August 14<sup>th</sup>**

(pick up a form in Fellowship Hall and give it & payment to Jim Niquette or type in a search engine <https://www.wheatridgerotary.org/peaches/> ) Help the Wheat Ridge Rotary Club (that serves the Wheat Ridge Community with scholarships, baskets for needy seniors, volunteering with Feed the Future and helps in global projects such as Uplift Internationale and water projects in Zimbabwe) and enjoy wonderful organic Palisade Peaches. **The peaches are \$38 a box. Order them by Thursday August 14<sup>th</sup> and they will be delivered for you to pick up at Jeffco Fairgrounds 15200 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Golden from 8:00 am–2:00 pm on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.**



• **Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival--The 49<sup>th</sup>**

Annual Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival is **Friday-Sunday, August 10-12.** Admission is free! Come enjoy **live music**, the **9:30 am Saturday parade on 38<sup>th</sup> Ave** from Ames to Upham, the **Beer & Wine Garden** and food vendors all 3 days, **Spaghetti Dinner** Friday Night, **Chili Cook-off** Saturday, **Free Art Show** all 3 days, **Zoppé Circus, Fireworks Friday** and **Saturday nights starting at 9:15 pm.**

# August 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9:30 am Worship Committee meeting 3:30 pm Mission meeting 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	2 8/2-4 Presbyterian Women Churchwide Gathering in St. Louis, MO	3	4
5 9:30 am INDOOR WORSHIP Communion/NAMETAGS 10:35 am Fellowship Time 1:00 – 2:30 pm August Rainy Day Pipers Practice	6	7 8:30 am 4 F 4:00–7:00 pm National Night Out event Hayward Park, 7500 W. 29 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Fun, music, connect with WR Police  7:00 pm Pipers Practice	8	9	10 9:30 am -2:00 pm China Painters  Carnation Festival 8/10- 8/12	11 9:30 am Presbytery Assembly at Elizabeth Presbyterian Church, 325 S. Banner St, Elizabeth, 80107
12 9:30 am OUTDOOR WORSHIP 10:30 am Fellowship Time 1:00 – 2:30 pm Sundays August Rainy Day Pipers	13 Needs Budgets from Committee Chairs due to Eileen Gardner & Brenda Cavanaugh	14 9:30 am Staff meeting  7:00 pm Pipers Practice	15 1 00 pm WPC Church Bridge Group at WPC Caroline Clovesko is hosting	16 9:00 am Advocacy for Faith Formation (FF) FF <i>of the Mind, Body &amp; Soul</i> Shepherd of the Hills  7:00 pm Session meeting	17	18 9:30 am-2:00 pm Presbyterian Women's Quarterly Bible Study <i>God's Promise I Will be with You</i> at Central Presbyterian Church Denver
19 9:30am OUTDOOR WORSHIP 10:35 am Fellowship Time 1:00 – 2:30 pm Sundays August Rainy Day Pipers	20	21 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	22	23 7:00 pm Thursday Book Group at Gay Cuthill's reading <i>The Little Paris Bookshop</i>	24	25 10:00–11:00 am <i>WPC Sing and Stretch</i> sing-a-long & yoga for young children & their families
26 9:30 am OUTDOOR WORSHIP 10:45 am Fellowship Church PICNIC 1:00 – 2:30 pm Sundays August Rainy Day Pipers	27 6:00 pm Stewardship Committee meeting	28 7:00 pm Pipers Practice	29	30	31	

Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church  
9180 W. 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Wheat Ridge CO 80033

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Phone: 303.422.2354  
Fax: 303.456.0533  
Web: [www.wpcpres.org](http://www.wpcpres.org)  
Email: [info@WRPres.org](mailto:info@WRPres.org)