

# Spreading the Word

Washington Presbyterian  
Church  
AUGUST 2019

## From the Pastor's desk...

*"I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."  
Gen. 9: 13*

I don't know of anyone whose spirits are not improved by a rainbow. It doesn't matter where you are, or what you are doing. You could be stuck in traffic, you may have had a difficult day, or maybe just sitting on the porch watching the wind blow through the trees. The point is, you are not expecting anything. It's raining and all your plans have just been put on hold. There is nothing to do but wait it out and so you sit there sniffing all the things you can't smell when everything is dry—the street, the grass, the earth, the dog.

It's easy to lose track of time when it is raining because rain has a way of triggering memory. Before you know it, you are five years old and sliding down a muddy bank behind the house while the rain soaks your clothes and smacks your hair flat against your head. The taste is sweet and salty, part sky and part you. It runs down your body like the best bath you ever had. Then you look up and there is a perfect arch of pure color, a rainbow where you least expected it.

The story of God, Noah, and the rainbow is one of the stories that has gotten down deep inside of us. When we see the rainbow, we remember God's promise of peace, God's everlasting covenant with all creation. The rainbow is God's pure gift to us. God says, "I choose you to be my partners. We seem not to think about the rainbow being for us and forget that God is on the other side of it. This partnership is a covenant between Me and thee. I came to understand this lesson in 2007.

Oh, I had heard and read the Genesis story since a child. I always loved to see rainbows, but did not always appreciate the significance of it. I had been on sabbatical for two weeks cranking out the finishing touches of my dissertation. I took it right up to the day before the deadline, half panicky that it would not be finished on time. Funny, I had been researching, reading, writing the thing for three years. Now, all of sudden, time was up and I was exhausted. I rolled the final page off the printer, stuck it in a big manila envelope ready for mailing. I held it against my chest as I gazed out my kitchen window as tears rolled down my cheeks I said, "It's all yours, Lord. I've done the best I could. I pray you will bless it and use it for your kingdom." I opened the front door for a breath of fresh air and there it was—a double rainbow over my house. I had fulfilled my part of the covenant—to write for Him. The rainbow was the answer.

There's not a day that goes by, that I don't search the heavens for his reminder. And every time I see it, I still cry. We can search the sky for the sign we know is there, even when we don't see it. We can stay awake to it, and to God, and to one another, until the next time we look up and see it—a perfect curve of color, stretching clear across the sky; God's everlasting Yes to all who live in its embrace.



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The *deadline* for submitting articles for the **September newsletter** **August 17 at 5 p.m.** articles may be e-mailed to **[jsq85@aol.com](mailto:jsq85@aol.com)**

## **Great Rivers Presbyterian Report from the Pastor**

Presbyterian met at First Presbyterian Church of Macomb on June 8, 2019.

The meeting came to order at 10 am with an opening prayer of Pentecost.

A quorum was established followed by the seating of new teaching elders and elder commissioners of which Susan Cox was acknowledged.

The Stated Clerk's report was followed by a CPM report.

Our Exec. Presbyter for Transition, Rev. Ryan Landino gave an interesting presentation called "Start with Why." Why do we want to do this or that, how will we do it, and when. Round table discussion took place.

A worship service began @ 11: 15 in the sanctuary with, first, words of welcome from the Rev. Erin Marth who spoke on "A Spirit of Adoption" from Romans 8:14-39.

Lunch was provided by the church.

Rev. Sara Dingman brought greetings for the Synod of Lincoln Trails.

An informative report was given by Ken Green concerning news and changes from the BOP. Rev. Jonathan Warren presented a report from the Visioning Team. Grants have been awarded to several churches in our Presbytery. Sabbatical Grants have also been issued as well as Mission Initiative. The team now is seeking 3 elders, 1 minister who will serve on the Visioning Team next year.

4 Readers for the 2020 ordinations exams are needed. The reading will take place Feb. 3-7.

A lengthy Leadership Team Report was received concerning the sale and closure of the Sherrard Church. Also a report of the Cooksville Church who has been without a pastor.

A motion was made and passed to allow FPC of Moline to grant an easement to the city of East Moline.

The Administration Team presented their slate of candidates to the Nominating Comm. For classes of 2019, 20 and 21.

The meeting adjourned @ 3pm. Next meeting to be @ First Fed. In Peoria on Sept. 10.

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## **Report of Great Rivers Presbytery Meeting from Susan Cox, June 9, 2019**

The meeting was held, June 8, in Macomb and included an acknowledgement of Native American Heritage of the Assembly site. Also part the day's events was a worship service for the Day of Pentecost.

The motions for the day included: Dissolve the Sherrard-Community Presbyterian Church. Assets will be available to continue the After School Kids Bible Club which meets there weekly.

A motion was approved the request of First Presbyterian Church of Chenoa for waiver/exempt from term limits for session elders.

The Administrative Team gave special acknowledgement to Bill Strawbridge for his many efforts, both financial and physical, to move the Presbytery office to its new location in Peoria.

The program included a report from Ryan Landino, the Lead Presbyter for Transformation. He reviewed a book by Simon Sinek "Start with Why" and showed a TED talk by the author. The premise of the author is that we should not focus of what we do, or how we do it but Why we exist or Why we do what we do. This will make us more successful – he uses the comparison of Apple vs every other electronics company. Rev. Landino's message to us was to answer that question for our church.

The business meeting included a presentation by the Vision Team. Several grants have been made. Broadway Presbyterian Church reported on grants for the Urban Farm Internship and partnership with Jardin de Dios to grow fruits and vegetables close to home in Rock island.

This highlighted the variety of grants that are available with the emphasis on community benefit, not individual needs.

Commission of Ministry present the Annual Ethic Training- Topic Mandated Abuse and Neglect Training. Phone numbers for Adult and Children Hotlines were provided. Phone calls to these organizations are anonymous and necessary to initiate an investigation to review the issues reported.

The next meeting of the Presbytery Assembly will be held on Sept 10 at First Federated in Peoria



Lois E. Noll, 82, of Washington, IL, died at 11:25 a.m. Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at the Apostolic Christian Home of Eureka. Born September 13, 1936 in Peoria, IL to Harley and Ella Mae Worrick Goodman, she married Clyde C. "Ki" Noll on September 11, 1955 in Creve Coeur, IL. He preceded her in death on January 21, 2016. She was also preceded in death by her parents; brother, Denny Goodman; sister, Shirley Bettison; and infant twin granddaughters. Surviving are 3 children, Scott Noll of Morton, Wendy (Tom) Ray of East Peoria, Jenny (Scott) Waller of Washington; 3 grandchildren, Whitney Leeper, Chelsea (Zachary) Mullins, Monica Ray; 2 great-granddaughters, Kamy Leeper, Thea Mullins; and 1 great-grandchild soon to arrive. She was a member of Washington Presbyterian Church and a former member of Bethel Memorial Church in Creve Coeur where she was actively involved in the Women's Guild and Choir. Her greatest joy was time spent together with her family. Memorials may be made to [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](http://www.stjudechildrensresearchhospital.org). Lois's memorial website is available at [www.deitersfuneralhome.com](http://www.deitersfuneralhome.com) where condolences may also be sent to the family.

### PRAYERS FOR:

Sarah Jeffers Jacobson

Rita Hale

Ann Tharp

Tristen

Shay Lynn

Beth Oaks

Dominick Ponto

Butch, daughter & family

Becky Timmons—(friend of the Escue's)



And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:3



# MISSION

## ALMOST HOME KIDS

Kid's themed band aids



## WASHINGTON HELPS ITS PEOPLE

CEREALS



## CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

CRAYONS, MARKERS, COLORED PENCILS,

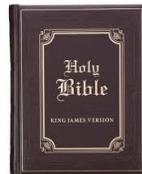


### The Results are in!

Thank you for your participation in the bible study survey. The response was great!

#### The #1 answers were:

Topic - Focus on Daily Living,  
Time of Day - Mornings,  
Day of the Week - Wednesdays.



#### Bible Study schedule:

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 18th—October 23rd 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Book:** "It's Not About Me" by Max Lucado. (Books will be purchased by the church)

A sign up sheet is on the table in the East Room. If you missed out completing a survey, please fill one out for future study reference. The survey will be in the East Room.

Questions: contact a Session member

## center for prevention of abuse.

### WPC Work Day

Our church regularly supports The Center for Prevention of Abuse through mission work trips and monetary gifts. Please help us this year on our work trip.

- What:** Mission Work Trip
- Where:** Center for Prevention of Abuse
- When:** October 12, 9 a.m. to around noon
- Why:** Do landscaping cleanup, painting, washing windows
- Who:** Junior high through adults who are willing to work!
- Take:** Rakes, gloves, hedge trimmers, pruning shears, tarps, paint brushes, window cloths

A sign-up sheet will be at church .

Contact Lila Gammon with questions (648-5420 or lgamon1@comcast.net).

# BITS AND PIECES

## INK CARTRIDGES

We are collecting empty printer ink cartridges for credit toward office supplies. If you have empty cartridges please bring them to the church and deposit them in the box under the window outside of the church office.



## MENTOR PROGRAM

The mission committee is organizing volunteers to work with school age children during the school day in the 2019-2020 school year.

Teachers will provide materials and instructions.

Volunteers will work with a student for approximately 30—45 minutes.

Any amount of time is welcome.

(even if you are away for several months during the school year)

More details to follow.

If you are interested or have questions please contact Jean Escue at jsq85@aol.com.

## SENIOR NEWS!

Based on conversations with community leaders across the US, many aging adults are unaware of the available care options and programs that can help maintain their independence and quality of life. So we created a free resource that provides comprehensive information on topics like financial support and care options that are available. You can read more about our work here:

<https://www.caring.com/senior-living/assisted-living/illinois>  
<https://www.caring.com/senior-living/assisted-living>



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## PICTURES NEEDED

Session is working to update the church website. Recent pictures are needed. Please send pictures of the congregation, greeters, church service, choir, session, etc for consideration to jsq85@aol.com



## 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Duck Race

Benefiting the **Center for Prevention of Abuse**

Join us Saturday, August 24, 2019

Fun begins at 4 p.m. - Ducks race at 6 p.m.



The Duck Race is CFPA'S longest running fundraiser. Last year, we raised nearly \$200,000 for survivors of abuse in our community and sold a record number of 30,000 ducks! All adopted ducks are assigned corresponding numbers to the adopter and race down a giant water slide at EastSide Centre in East Peoria. Adopters of the first 31 ducks to cross the finish line win prizes.

**It's a day full of fun for the whole family!**

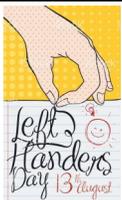
All funds raised for the Duck Race stay local and help us build a safe and peaceful community. CFPA provides free and confidential services to victims of human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexual assault, elder abuse, and offers violence prevention education to students in the tri-county area, reaching 35,000 young people each year.

Thank you for "Racing a Duck to Help Stop Abuse!"



# AUGUST 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1 Francis Scott Key's birthday</b> 	2	<b>3 Watermelon Day</b> 
<b>4</b> WORSHIP 9:30 COMMUNION	5	<b>6</b> Wiggle your <b>Toes Day</b>	7	<b>8 US DOLLAR CREATED</b> 	9	<b>10 Lazy Day</b> 
<b>11</b> WORSHIP 9:30	12	<b>13</b> 	14	<b>15</b> Session Mtng 6:30 PM	<b>16</b> National Tell A Joke Day	<b>17</b> Newsletter info due
<b>18</b> WORSHIP 9:30	<b>19 National Potato Day</b> 	20	<b>21 Senior Citizen's Day</b>	<b>22 Be an Angel Day</b> 	23	24
<b>25</b> WORSHIP 9:30	26	<b>27</b> Global Forgiveness Day	28	<b>29 Mary Poppins Day</b> 	<b>30 Toasted Marshmallow Day</b> 	31

**Birthdays:**

- |                 |                    |                 |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 4 Lance Escue   | 7 Garrett Siebert  | 20 Paula Sights |
| 5 Jazz Kroeger  | 9 Tessa Gilfillan- | 22 Neah Miller  |
| 6 Drew Voorhees | 14 Judy Wilder     | 26 Dick Freeman |

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**





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