

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY AT PCCH

PCCH OFFICE AND CENTER ON THE HILL WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the church office any time Monday through Thursday next week. Thank you.

PCCH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Regular office hours will resume after Labor Day.

PHILADELPHIA COVID UPDATE

Masks during worship and other gatherings will be optional, not required. Thank you for your prayers and understanding as we seek to navigate in this season with full measures of care and compassion.

JOHN WILKINSON RECEIVES LILLY ENDOWMENT GRANT

While still in Rochester, John received a grant from the Lilly Endowment/Louisville Institute. Called a Pastoral Study Project grant, John proposed visiting several congregations for site visits to learn how congregations engage in mission in their communities. Each visit will include a four-day “immersion” in the life of a congregation, including worship, special events, committees and interviews. On September 18, John will report back to PCCH on what he learned. Here is his remaining schedule:

Weekend of August 20—New Life Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA

ARE YOU RECEIVING PCCH EMAILS?

We want to keep you in the loop about worship, social events and learning opportunities happening at PCCH. Our main form of communication with members and friends is through emails like our weekly Worship Information Updates on Fridays and our On Faith on Mondays. The platform we use to send out these emails is called MailChimp. Sometimes these emails can end up in your Spam folder. If you’re not getting our communications, please check there. If that’s not the case and you’re not getting emails from us, please contact Leslie Lefer, our Communications Coordinator, at llefer@chestnuthillpres.org. Leslie can send you a link to use to opt into receiving emails from MailChimp. Thank you for your help!

TRIVIA NIGHT AT CARTESIAN BREWING

Thursday, September 1, arrive between 6:30–7:00 p.m.

Dust off your treasure trove of arcane knowledge and join a PCCH team at Trivia Night at Cartesian Brewing (1326 East Passyunk Avenue, Philadelphia). There will be a food provider on site, or bring in your own (plenty of nearby options, including Pat's and Geno's)! Contact Jeff Podraza (jeffpodraza@gmail.com) if you're interested, and we'll work out details in the interim. Cartesian Brewing was recently named Best New Brewery in Philadelphia Magazine's Best of Philly 2022! The brewery is owned by the husband of Caroline Podraza (who will hopefully join the PCCH team so as to lower our average age and improve our popular culture knowledge).

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Jesus often told parables to describe life in the Kingdom of God. In the remaining weeks of this summer the children will hear four parables. Today is Parable of the Sower.

Nursery care is available for children ages two and under and is staffed by two fully vaccinated, fully background-checked adults. Nursery workers will continue wearing masks.

CARRY AND MOVE EVENT

Sunday, August 14, 11:20 a.m. and Monday, August 15 between 6:00–7:00 p.m.

In preparation for fall Sunday school we are making room in our children's classrooms by downsizing some of our furniture which no longer serves us. Your help is needed to help carry various items down to the parking lot or to place them in the dumpster. To help contact Roberta at rkearney@chestnuthillpres.org

PARENTS ON TAP

Tuesday, September 27, 7:30p.m., Iron Hill Brewery

Introducing a new group for the new year! Beginning on September 27 and reoccurring on the fourth Tuesday of every month, parents of children still in and around the home are invited to join Brian Russo and others at Iron Hill Brewery on Germantown Avenue as we join in fellowship together to discuss all things parenting. From joys to miseries, to questions and suggestions, from sharing stories and experiences, we will try to tackle it all, including the biggest topics confronting both us and our kids. Let Brian know if you'll be there to meet him (brusso@chestnuthillpres.org).



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us for new adventures at Compassion Camp, where we again explore new ways to grow lovingkindness in ourselves and in the world.

- Indoor and outdoor adventures exploring fun ways of loving ourselves, God's people and God's world.
- From creation we will be making and planting things.
- And learning amazing ways to show compassion.

Spread the word. Bring your friends, bring your water bottle, and lots of curiosity. Questions, or to RSVP, contact Roberta Kearney at rkearney@chestnuthillpres.org.

**AUGUST
15-18**

6-8pm

Ages

4-10

\$20

**per child
for the week**

**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF
CHESTNUT HILL**

8855 Germantown
Avenue
Philadelphia, PA
19118





PCCH



Goes to the Ball Game



Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs

host the Gwinnett Stripers

Saturday, August 27, 6:35pm
(fireworks following)

We've secured 20 tickets -- \$11.00
each

Join us for this annual popular
event!

Obtain your tickets by contacting
Clarke Woodruff at
scw207@hotmail.com

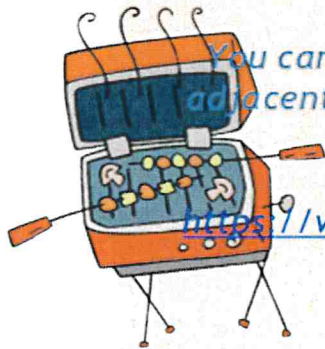


PCCH HOMECOMING PICNIC

*Sunday, September 11, 2022
Following Worship*

Join us to greet new and familiar friends as we launch a new program year in the life of the church.

Volunteers are needed to help with this year's picnic. We need people to set-up and clean-up as well as provide side dishes.



You can sign-up on the bulletin board adjacent to the main office or through this sign-up genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4FAFA82CA1FE3-pcch3>

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN & CONNECT

JOIN THE MATTHEW 25 TEAM!

“Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’

Last September, our Session approved our becoming a Matthew 25 congregation. The Matthew 25 commitment is a partnership with the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to build congregational vitality, dismantle racism and all other “isms,” and eradicate poverty. This committed us to focus educational efforts and actions around three focus areas:

- Building congregational vitality by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.
- Dismantling structural racism by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- Eradicating systemic poverty by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency more succinctly states: “The work of Matthew 25 is a direct response to the good news of Jesus and a faithful expression of what it means to be Christ’s disciples in this time and place.” Learn more about the Matthew 25 vision here:

bit.ly/3tXChWc

During the past year, we have raised awareness of this initiative by becoming more purposeful in our social witness outreach, increasing conversations and education around systemic racism, and partnering with area churches of color. Now, we’d like YOUR input and help in integrating Matthew 25 into our daily life!

Please join us on **Sunday, August 28 (note new date)** (at PCCH) to learn more and to share your thoughts and goals around how we can embrace Matthew 25 in all we do. Please RSVP to John Wilkinson (jwilkinson@chestnuthillpres.org)

CROSSING CHOIR SPECIAL SUMMER CELEBRATION CONCERT AND PICNIC

Saturday, August 13: 3:00 p.m. Concert Discussion; 4:00 p.m. Concert; 5:00 p.m. Picnic

A Philadelphia premiere from renowned singer/songwriter Shara Nova, "*Titration*."

This is the first home concert for the Crossing in August! We're excited. We can't think of a better work to dive into deep Summer than Shara's *Titration*, an exploration of feeling—of embracing our bodies, our joy, our rage, our determination.

Bring a blanket or a chair, if you like, for our outdoor celebration following the indoor concert. Throw in a bottle of something. We'll provide the burgers, salads, chips and a bit of Rosé. Tickets available on our web site at: crossingchoir.com.

SUMMER BOOK GROUP

"*On Juneteenth*," Sunday, August 28 (note new date)

Join us following worship as we review Annette Gordon-Reed's recent work, "*On Juneteenth*."

This timely volume is brief in length but substantive in content. Gordon-Reed, who teaches at Harvard, uses her own autobiography and Texas history to help us consider many of the issues we are facing today. Please join us—reading the book (which you can do somewhat quickly) is helpful but not necessary.

FALL BOOK GROUP

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer is the book we will read as a congregation this year. Our approach will be to read 3-4 essays, meditating on them and then coming together for discussion of personal reflection questions to be provided in advance of each discussion. As the discussion questions are meant to encourage personal reflection and sharing it is not necessary to have read a particular essay in order to join in the conversation.

Kimmerer, a biologist, describes her book as a braid of stories meant to heal our relationship with the world. The braid is woven from three strands: indigenous ways of knowing, scientific knowledge, and the story of an Anishinabekwe scientist trying to bring them together in service to what matters most. It is an intertwining of science, spirit, and story—old stories and new ones that can be medicine for our broken relationship with earth, a pharmacopoeia of healing stories that allow us to imagine a different relationship, in which people and land are good medicine for each other.

Braiding Sweetgrass, still on the *New York Times* best seller list after more than 100 weeks, broadens our work as a Matthew 25 congregation.

Our first discussion will be during Second Hour on Sunday, September 25 at 11:30 a.m. in the Reception Room.

PRESBYTERY FALL 2022 ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY

Mondays in October at 12:00 noon, via Zoom: October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

You are invited to participate in the presbytery's fall anti-racism book study. This fall's book is "You Mean It or You Don't: James Baldwin's Radical Challenge," by Jamie McGhee and Adam Hollowell. Learn more at You Mean It Or You Don't (prayingwithjamesbaldwin.com)
The book is available now.

Here is the ZOOM link for our meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84867525188?pwd=OWlFSFhpazZCMmJCS1llb3ZKaEhpZz09>

Contact John Wilkinson for more information.

CENTER ON THE HILL

Center on the Hill is open this summer Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. with all our practices and protocols in place (sanitation practices, limited number of participants per class, social distancing, and UV air filters). New online content, such as virtual tours, fitness videos, art lessons, recorded presentations and more, is posted Monday–Thursday at 12:00 p.m. on our programs page: chestnuthillpres.org/center-on-the-hill/programs

PLEASE NOTE: The Center will be closed Monday August 15 through Friday August 19 for deep cleaning and advanced sanitation in preparation for the fall season of activities to start in September. The Center will re-open on Monday August 22.

Registration required for all activities and classes at the Center as space is limited for social distancing. Call 215-247-4654 or email msaavedra@chestnuthillpres.org.

JULY AND AUGUST ART GALLERY EXHIBIT

"Thursday Painters:" Watercolor Exhibit Inspired by Landscape and Design

Be sure to stop by the halls of the Center this summer and take a look at the showcase of eclectic, and engagingly profound art works by the Thursday Painters. Former students of Howard Watson at The Woodmere Museum, this group is bringing a special collection of their works to our halls for the summer.

YOGA WITH ATTITUDE

Fridays, Ongoing, 9:30–11:00 a.m.

\$45 per calendar month; first class \$10, walk-ins; \$15 for a single class

This is basic yoga with breath warm-ups, asana and meditation. Students of all ages and levels of experience are welcome. The class provides a method which allows us to adopt an “attitude” when confronted and to respond to the adventures in our lives. Participants practice alternative viewpoints, “while standing in truth and light.

SCRABBLE—OPEN PLAY

Fridays, join at any time, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m., \$2

Do you love to play board games? Are you a great speller or want to be a great speller? Then join in on this classic crossword game that is full-on fun. You can feel the excitement begin as soon as you rack up your letters, choose a great word, and hope to land on a triple-word score. Scrabble game provided.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Fridays, ongoing start anytime, 12:30–2:30 p.m.

\$60 for ten sessions, \$7 per session at the door. Your first visit is free.

Start your weekend right! Enjoy learning folk dances from the Balkans, Greece, France, the British Isles, and beyond. No partner is needed, as most dances are done in lines and circles. There is always a mix of teaching and “just dancing” and it’s a great place for beginners to pick up the basics in a super friendly group. For more details about our Friday folk dance session, contact Anne Ehrhart at anne.ehrhart@gmail.com

STRONG BONES EXERCISE CLASS

Session 1: Tuesdays, September 6—October 18 (no class September 27), 1:00–2:00p.m., \$72 for 6 Week Session or \$15/per class drop in, registration required

Did you know that 1 in 2 women and 1 in 4 men over the age of 50 will have an osteoporosis-related fracture in their remaining lifetime, and that osteoporosis is responsible for 1.5 million fractures a year in the United States? Hundreds of clinical studies have indisputably proven that doing the right exercises, improving your balance, and making some lifestyle changes are critical factors in building stronger bones. In addition, active lifestyles are associated with reducing the risk of hip fracture by half. This class will include standing and floor exercises to improve postural alignment, balance, and strength. This Strong Bones program is derived from evidence-based research in the field of osteoporosis. Bring your own mat, but all other equipment will be provided.