PHILIP KWIAKTOWSKI NAMED NEXT PGM PRESIDENT

“AS PACIFIC GARDEN MISSION has been favored by God to operate continually for 136 years and “Unshackled!” broadcasts are in their 63rd year, we, as the Board of directors of Pacific Garden Mission are fully persuaded that Pastor Phil Kwiatkowski is the right man at the right time to lead the mission.

He has a proven record of 25 years of faithful service at PGM, wealth of experience in loving people and managing mission ministry under the training of Dr. David McCarrell, and a strong commitment to the historic Gospel-centered purpose of Pacific Garden Mission.

We ask all followers of Christ who love PGM to join us in regularly praying for Pastor Phil as you continue to lift up the old lighthouse in your prayers.”

DR. ELWOOD CHIPCHASE
Chairman of the Board, Pacific Garden Mission
PGM News would like to introduce you to Philip Kwiatkowski, the newly appointed President of Pacific Garden Mission. Pastor Phil has 25 years of experience with Pacific Garden Mission, and since 1997 has been the Vice-President of ministries. He realized early on that PGM was a place where lives were being transformed. But when he first began with PGM, he was ultimately planning to be a missionary in a foreign country.

Pastor Phil was twenty when a spiritual transformation began while working as a phlebotomist at a blood bank on the south side of Chicago. Life had fallen into a routine but was not fulfilling. Thankfully someone at work took an interest in him, invited him to church. The church was an African-American church on the south side of Chicago where he heard the message of forgiveness through the blood of Christ resulting in a personal relationship for those who put their faith and trust in Him. The Holy Spirit worked in his life and made him realize that it was not by good works, as he had come to believe, but that he could get into heaven but only by God’s grace. An “invitation” was extended to accept God’s free gift and he responded. Soon after that he met Pastor Bob Sheridan of Palos Bible Church, a current board member of PGM, who took him under his wing and discipled him. Phil began to realize that he could no longer live the same lifestyle and hang out with the same friends that he had been. As he grew in his faith, Pastor Sheridan encouraged him to seek further Biblical education at Moody Bible Institute.

While at Moody, Pastor Phil volunteered for one month in May of 1988 which provided him his first exposure to Pacific Garden Mission. But at that time he wasn’t thinking of PGM as his missionary destination, he was thinking of overseas. Earlier, during spring break, he went on a short term mission trip to Florida. While there sharing the Gospel, someone caught his attention, Ann, who also attended Moody. As they talked, both realized they wanted to share the Gospel on a regular basis by becoming foreign missionaries. Little did they know that the mission field would be only two miles from Moody! Pastor Phil married Ann in 1987 and they now have four children. Ann worked at PGM for a short time, before taking a position as a French instructor at Christian Liberty in Arlington Heights in 1997, where she has worked ever since.

Early in his career at PGM, Phil and Ann took a trip to France where they met with a church that wanted them to come as missionaries. They were uncertain whether they should go or not, so they prayed for God’s direction in their lives. However, God had already begun to redefine the Kwiatkowski’s thoughts regarding the location of their mission field. Also, the president of PGM at the time, Mr. Saulnier approached Phil telling him that the Mission would like him to do more. But little did he know at that time that it would eventually lead to his becoming President himself of the ministry.

Pastor Phil’s experiences at PGM during his first year included working in the military ministry, driving the mini bus, answering counseling calls and giving tours. One year later in 1989, after graduating from Moody, he was transferred to the Men’s Division where he became the Supervisor of the Transient Ministry. The longer he was at the Mission, the more his heart

Early in his involvement with Pacific Garden Mission Philip showed unusual maturity and passion for ministry. He developed his speaking and leadership skills at the State Street location.
began to break for those that came and as he contemplated where he should go for his “mission field”, he realized he was already in it! He wanted to stay and invest in the lives of those that were coming to PGM since he realized there was no place like PGM where people could come through the doors and be ministered to through the Word of God which can powerfully transform lives. As he worked in the Men’s Division, he saw men that were once addicted or coming out of prison come to Christ as their Savior. These men would join the Men’s Program and he would see their lives turn around. He saw men that would visit after graduation from the program come back to visit, would meet their families, hear about their jobs, and church responsibilities. This was the place for him! Lives were being transformed by the power of the blood of Jesus Christ! So the decision was made. PGM was the place God had for Phil to serve.

In 1991 he was ordained and became Program Pastor and then a few years later was named Men’s Division Director. In 1997, he was named Vice President of Ministries where he has served for the past 16 years. Also, for seven years during this time, he was Senior Pastor of New Hope Community Church in Palatine. Currently, he is pursuing a Masters in Theological Studies from Liberty University which

Philip is equally comfortable with a homeless guest as with the Mayor of Chicago.
he will complete in March of 2014, with his Master of Divinity degree.

God continues to work in Pastor Phil’s life through all of these experiences, guiding him through varying levels of responsibilities and testing his leadership abilities and bringing him to this place in his life where he can now use all of these abilities and experiences to lead Pacific Garden Mission into the future. The staff of PGM is excited to have Pastor Phil as its new leader and wish God’s blessings as he continues his service at Pacific Garden Mission in this new role!

If you and your church would like to get to know the new president of Pacific Garden Mission, please contact him at 312-429-6722. He would love to hear from you.

**Another PGM Success Story**

Born in Miami Florida as one of seven children, Melissa Lammons was now a grown woman living in Chicago in desperate situation with no safe place to go. Finding herself in an abusive relationship she had fallen into a deep depression which landed her in hospital. It was there that three church women witnessed to her about Jesus and Melissa accepted Him as savior. Once released from the hospital she realized she had nowhere to go. She needed to grow in the Lord and had heard about PGM. But another patient had dissuaded her with terrible stories about the mission. Thus she asked Health and Human Services people to take her somewhere else. So, when the vehicle pulled up to PGM to drop her off, she was very distressed and scared.

That was in March of 2012 and she didn’t sleep at all that first night. The next morning, she heard about the Bible program and knew that she was safe. Still a bit scared and unsure but intent on finding out more about Jesus she asked to be accepted on the program. She was pleasantly surprised to learn that what she’d been told wasn’t true. Melissa has greatly enjoyed the study and work. In addition to learning much from God’s Word, Melissa also participated in PGM’s GED program. Prior to being at PGM, she’d worked on getting her GED off and on for 10 years and never successfully completed the process. Now she has! With the GED and having completed the Bible Program, Melissa is ready to pursue her love of cooking. Without a GED, Melissa couldn’t even apply, but now she has applied and been accepted into the fall program of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts. Melissa is an example of what PGM strives to bring all Bible Program participants—a knowledge of the living Savior leading to spiritual growth, increased interest in learning so that they can be a Godly fruitful member of society. Way to go Melissa!
PROVERBS 22:28 READS, “Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.” The blessing that has been on the Pacific Garden Mission since 1877 is a result of the foundation that has been laid by those that have gone before. “Colonel Clarke’s Mission” as it was called in the early days, was a hub of evangelistic fervor. “Night after night, as the colonel pleaded from his table at the front and Mrs. Clarke moved tenderly among the audience, God loosed Satan’s chains from harlots, burglars, drunkards, and other patrons of brothels, gambling joints, and opium dens.” This was an early account of the Clarke’s activity over 135 years ago. While a student at Moody Bible Institute, Dr Sweeting would say, “The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.” That philosophy has been at the heart of Pacific Garden Mission since 1877. From Colonel Clarke to Harry Monroe, from Billy Sunday to Mel Trotter, from Harry and David Sauliner to Dave McCarrill there had been one message and one goal. The message preached from the inerrant Word of God is that “Jesus Saves Sinners.” And the goal is to see them saved.

We here at the Mission do not have to reinvent, reinterpret or change what has worked for so long. We will not remove the ancient landmarks that our fathers have set. We remain committed to the proclamation of the infallible Word of God and will continue to keep the main thing the winning of souls to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As the new president of PGM, I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you for your support of the mission over these many years. But more importantly, and on a personal note, I want to ask you for your continuing prayers for me as I take on the new role of leading this ministry, your ministry, on which God has purposefully placed His hand.
FINANCIAL UPDATE: Summer donations are matching the previous two summers for which PGM is thanking God. However, this year the number of homeless overnight guests has stayed at the higher winter levels which is affecting the costs of operations. So your financial help is very appreciated.

REMINDER: for those 70 1/2 or older: you can make tax-free gifts from your IRA today. The IRA charitable rollover legislation has been extended by Congress through 2013. You may contribute funds in this way if:
• You have an IRA  • You are 70 1/2 or older at time of gift  • You transfer the funds directly to a qualified charity (like PGM)  • Make your gift by Dec. 31, 2013.  Contact John Brewster (312) 429-6760 for more details.

JULY 2013 NUMBERS

694 Daily average of homeless receiving aid and attending Gospel services.
891 Daily average of homeless sleeping overnight.
116 Number of men and women enrolled in Bible Study Program and provided room and board.
52,892 Approximate number of plates of food served.
59,354 Estimated number of items of clothing distributed at PGM or given to other missions.
289 Number of patients treated in free Medical/Dental Clinic.
182 Number of persons who professed faith in Christ!
3,006 Stations broadcasting in 14 languages (Albanian, Arabic, English, Farsi, Greek, Japanese, Korean, Macedonian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, and Turkish)

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PACIFIC GARDEN MISSION makes no charge for care. Food, clothing, overnight accommodations, and medical treatment are totally free. Financial gifts from faithful supporters—and their prayers—keep this ministry alive. PGM receives no city, state, or federal aid.

Areas of ministry include the Mission for Men, Women’s and Children’s Division, Medical/Dental Clinic, “Unshackled!” radio, Bread of Life outreach, Polish evangelism, and PGM Men’s Choir.

PGM, producer of “Unshackled!” is a member of National Religious Broadcasters.