

STREAMER

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle
7300 Belvidere Road
Caledonia, Illinois 61011
815-885-3455
April 2015



from the Pastor's Pen:

Easter only comes around once a year, so let's break out our Sunday best, shall we? Of course, this is not a new idea. We always break out our very best for Easter! Children wear their nicest outfits of the year (as a young girl there was little I loved more than a new Easter dress and bonnet!); the choir comes out in full force to sing the highest anthems (Alleluia!); old folks, new folks, and just more folks come to worship!

But here's the thing: Easter (and Christmas) comes far more than once a year. Liturgically, Christians celebrate Christmas and Easter every Sunday. Weekly worship is meant to be a "mini-celebration" of resurrection joy, of Love come down, injected into the weekly monotony of regular life. Sunday morning worship should always be a reminder that while we may live in a world of suffering and death, the God we worship is the Lord of redemption and life!

What would it mean to not just celebrate Easter as it arrives on our calendar, nor just in weekly mini-celebrations, but to daily live it every moment as we walk the roads of life? Brian McLaren writes:

"It is good and right to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning, but even better and greater to choose to affiliate with it... to identify with it, to join it, to enter it and let it enter and fill us, to give ourselves to it and receive all it offers us, so we can wholeheartedly participate in it and with it, so that resurrection keeps spreading until everything is healed and everything is new and all is well and all manner of things are well." (Brian McLaren, "Joining the Resurrection")

This happens when each and every one of us realizes that there are no hands and no feet but our own and that we can't put off resurrection life until next Spring. The time to celebrate life is today. And tomorrow. And the day after that. The time to work towards redemption in the world is today. And tomorrow. And the day after that.

Every time we work toward the building of God's Kingdom in the world today we do just that: we celebrate the resurrection. Every step we take in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick, mending relationships, liberating the oppressed... is a step toward life. Every step we take toward life should be a step of celebration and joy: pure, Easter-morning joy.

On Easter morning, Christians around the world will gather to proclaim, "Christ is Risen!" The good news is that we don't have to let it stop! Jesus lives today and every day and calls us to do the same. Alleluia!

This year, let's do this: let's celebrate all that we have been and all that we have been given. Let's pray and listen and ponder and respond. Let's lay it all down and ask God to raise up our best living each new day this year to proclaim God's love and grace to all! May every morning be Easter morning, from now on! Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, indeed!

Health Ministries

April is often a month of contrasts. We can experience extremes of weather (sure, it's spring, but how undependable is that in the Midwest?) as well as extremes in emotions as we observe Holy Week: the grief of Good Friday and the unspeakable joy and celebration of Easter.



April is also designated as Cancer Control Month. The word, cancer, can strike fear in the minds of the brave, take our breath away, and cause the same extremes in emotion. However, the word **control** was chosen intentionally because we *can* do *something*!

REDUCE YOUR RISK:

1. Stop smoking
2. Maintain a normal weight
3. Eat a healthy diet: include more fiber and less animal fat
4. Seek health care at earliest possible time if you experience any of the following:
 - * Change in bowel or bladder habits
 - * A sore that doesn't heal
 - * Unusual bleeding or discharge
 - * Thickening or lump in breast or elsewhere
 - * Indigestion or difficulty swallowing
 - * Obvious change in wart or mole
 - * Nagging cough or hoarseness

If you or a loved one experience any of these warning signs, it may not indicate anything serious. But, it's better to be safe and get health care as soon as possible. Prompt diagnosis allows early treatment if it is needed...and gives relief and peace of mind if it is not.

"On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!"
(recorded by a physician, Luke, chapter 24, verses 1-6 NIV)

Memory Café

Enhance and Elevate Your...

- Experience
- Education, Knowledge
- Understanding

Of Memory Loss in a relaxed atmosphere!

Next meetings are scheduled for 6:00 pm,
Tuesdays, March 17 & 21, 2014 at
The Steam Plant Restaurant, Meeting Room
123 Meadow St., Belvidere

For more information, call the Boone County Council on Aging 815-544-9393





STEWARDSHIP RECOGNITION

The title might be ABCD. The meaning is; ABOVE and BEYOND the CALL of DUTY. The purpose would be to recognize individuals, couples or groups that served God through Willow Creek Presbyterian Church ABCD. The time frame might be recently, quarterly

or even annually. Nominations could be made directly or anonymously to members of the Mission, Membership and Stewardship Committee. Please share your thoughts on this endeavor with any member of the Mission, Membership and Stewardship Committee (David Ensminger, Adam Finley, Sherri Finley, Pat Nortch, Delores Hall, Jim Hall) or Pastor Judith.

You Can Make a Difference?

Please clip Box Top Coupons – each one is worth 10 cents. Box Tops can be found on hundreds of quality products from brands like these:

- General Mills
- Pillsbury
- Betty Crocker
- Ziploc
- Kleenex
- Hefty

Visit btf.com for a complete list of participating brands and to learn more about how you can make a difference!



THANK YOU!!



How better to get to know our Church Family than through our weekly fellowship gatherings here at WCPC. Through casual conversations, we can share things we have in common and enlighten ourselves relative to what our fellow parishioners BRING TO THE TABLE.

This can only be possible with the support and participation of the entire congregation! Please consider signing up to host a Sunday in the near future. You will enjoy the experience and your life will be enriched accordingly.

Thank You to all who have signed up!



"Special" Cleaning Suggestions

As any homeowner knows there are occasional or seasonal cleaning projects that need to be taken care of periodically in addition to the "routine" cleaning. The church is no exception. And in the last couple years we have been unable to successfully schedule a Spring or Fall clean-up day. Therefore, what we'd like to try at this point is to have an ongoing list of the "*special*" cleaning projects people may notice around the church and ask the congregation to help out. Maybe an individual or small group could find a time slot that would work well for them

and address anyone of the cleaning projects and upon completion cross it off the list. Do you think we could give this idea a try and help keep the church clean without burdening the cleaning crew with any responsibilities beyond their "routine" cleaning? The "**Special**" **Cleaning Suggestions** list will be posted on the corkboard at the rear of Fellowship Hall. Thank you from the Building & Grounds and Worship & Music Committees!

Thank you Buildings and Grounds Committee!

Stephanie Konen, Preschool Director/Teacher would like to "**Thank**" the Buildings and Grounds Committee for all their hard work. Recently, the committee adjusted the Education Wing Doors to comply with a State Fire Marshall request. And several months ago the committee did a wonderful job removing the old water fountain from the Education Wing.



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the children and staff of Kemmerer Village, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your recent gift of **\$128.00 on 2/23/2015**. Your friendship and support serve as encouragement to our staff as we begin another year providing for the many young people entrusted to our care.

December found our children caught up in the many activities that accompanied the holiday season. Trees were decorated, packages were wrapped, and our small rural village looked like a Christmas wonderland with all the outdoor lighting on campus. The children enjoyed festive parties and hearing the ever meaningful Christmas message. Again, thank you for choosing to be a part of this important mission. The children and staff join with me in wishing you many blessings in the New Year.

We are always happy to schedule lunch and a tour of our campus. Feel free to contact us. We are grateful for your continued support.

Sincerely, Michael A. Havera, Executive Director



Dear Willow Creek Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for bringing grace to the lives of our members, residents and children who rely on the programs at Shelter Care Ministries to provide shelter, awaken hope and honor their dignity as the wonderfully created children of God. I am looking forward to sharing my story of the **Walk to Washington to End Poverty with the members of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church on March 22nd**. Without your generous gift of **\$200.00 to Shelter Care Ministries**, the work we do to end poverty would be that much harder.

The board and staff of Shelter Care Ministries continue to work towards creating a world free from poverty, homelessness and despair. Your gift makes a difference to the many adults and children who rely on the support and hospitality offered through our programs. Truly without our wonderful volunteers, donors and community support we could not continue to serve families who are homeless and adults suffering from a chronic mental illness.

You give more than gifts ... you give the miracle of Grace. Thank you for thinking of Shelter Care Jubilee Members, Housing Residents, Careers & MORE clients and the many children who are served through MAYA'S House. Your generosity will not be forgotten.

Many Blessings to you, Louissett M. Ness M. Med., ORSCC, Executive Director



Dear Friends

I am writing on behalf of the Swedish American Foundation and Holistic Health Services, thank you for your contribution of \$540.00.

The mission of Swedish American is "Through excellence in healthcare and compassionate service, we care for our community." By your giving, you partner with us in our mission and your generosity does make a difference.

Again, thank you. We sincerely hope that through our good stewardship we shall remain worthy of your trust and generosity for years to come.

Regards, Laura J. Wilkionson, MBA, CAE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Little do we know when we will be on the receiving end of the support of our fellow church goers. I found this out the hard way when I was recently admitted to the emergency room and underwent surgery!

While I am mending, I am still not out of the woods. I have two procedures yet to go, but feel fortunate that I can eat and drink without worry of choking.

I truly appreciate all the cards, support and prayers! I look forward to the day I can return to church and thank each of you in person.

Again, thank you, Dave Ensminger!





Sunday, September 13, Kirkin' o' The Tartans Celebration
Sunday, April 19 (after Worship) Next Planning Committee Meeting

Choir Rehearsal:

Sunday, March 29 @ 8:30 am
Maundy Thursday, Apr 2 @ 6:30 pm; sing for worship @ 7:00 pm
Good Friday, Apr 3, Community Choir @ 10:30 am; sing for worship @ noon
Easter Sunday, April 5, after Breakfast (joint w/ Children's Choir); Both Choirs sing for worship
No Choir rehearsal Sunday, April 12
Sunday, April 19 (downstairs) @ 8:30 am (Bells play for worship)
Sunday, April 26 @ 8:30 am (Chancel Choir sings for worship)



Children's Choir Rehearsal:

Sunday, March 29 @ 11:00 am
Easter Sunday, April 5, after Breakfast (joint w/ Chancel Choir); Both Choirs sing for worship
No Choir rehearsal Sunday, April 12
Sunday, April 19 and April 26 @ 11:00 am

Bell Choir



Bell Choir Schedule:

Thursdays, April 9, 16, and 30 @ 6:30 pm
Bells ring for Worship on Sunday, April 19.

Mariners will meet at Wesley Willows on Wednesday, April 15 @ 11:30. All are welcome to attend.



**WCPC Operating Statistics
February, 2015**

Income	9,962.00
Expenses	14,969.00
Previous Month - Excess/(Deficit)	(5,486.00)



Support One Great Hour of Sharing on Easter Sunday, April 5

By supporting One Great Hour of Sharing, you're sustaining programs that provide disaster relief, food, clean water, training, and resources to people all over the world.



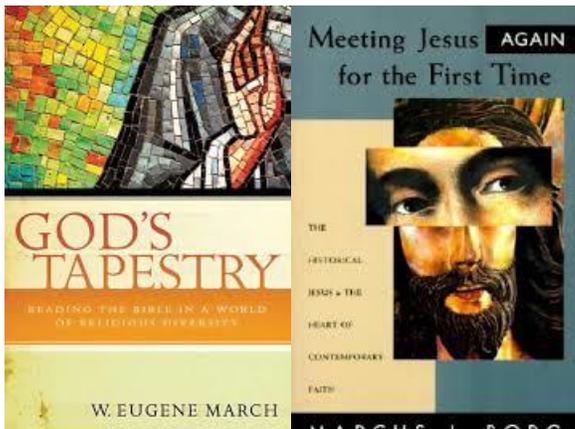
It's A Birthday Party

You are invited, it is for everyone!

When: Sunday, May 17, 2015 during Fellowship.
Where: Fellowship Hall, Willow Creek Presbyterian Church
What: Find the table decorated just for the month of your birthday. Join those who share your month.

Enjoy special cupcakes and other goodies.
Gifts will be what you give to the Birthday Offering in the Mission Envelope in your bulletin. Those gifts will be forwarded to the Birthday Offering PW to be combined with other gifts and given out in Grants for very Special Projects.

We hope you will all be there! MMS Committee



A New Soul Friendship...A New Readers' Circle... A New Book Club

First Meeting to be held:

Wednesday, March 25th @ 6:30 pm
Willow Creek Presbyterian Church

Stay tuned for the next meeting date!



**Save
the
Date**

Traveling Day Camp July 20-24, 2015

Instead of a Vacation Bible School this summer, Willow Creek Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Traveling Day Camp July 20-24 here at church...more details to come!



3rd Annual Community-Wide Picnic date is set for Sunday, August 16

April 2015 All Church Calendar

Mon 3/30-Mon 4/6		No Preschool – Spring Break, Pastor Vacation Mon-Wed (3/30-4/1)
Thur 4/2	6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	<i>Maundy Thursday Service with Communion (Chancel Choir Sings)</i>
Fri 4/3	10:30 am	Community Choir Rehearsal
	Noon	<i>Stateline Churches Good Friday Service (WCPC hosting; Community Choir Sings)</i>
	3:30-5:30 pm	Girl Scouts-Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
Sun 4/5	8:00 am	<i>Sunrise Service at Scottish Cemetery</i>
	9:00 am	<i>Breakfast at Church</i>
	<i>After Breakfast</i>	Chancel Choir & Children’s Choir rehearse briefly after Breakfast
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion (Chancel & Children’s Choir Sings; One Great Hour of Sharing Collection)
	11:00 am	<i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>
	11:00 am	Pastor/Music Director Meeting
Mon 4/6	7-9 pm	Session Meeting
Tues 4/7	---	Preschool Resumes
Thur 4/9	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal
Sun 4/12	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (No Choirs - Soloist)
	11:00 am	Fellowship
	1-3 pm	Youth Group
Tue 4/14	---	Presbytery Meeting in Crystal Lake (Kim Reid attending with Pastor)
Wed 4/15	11:30	<i>Mariners @ Wesley Willows</i>
	3:00 pm	Deacons Meeting
Thur 4/16	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal
Fri 4/17	3:30-5:30 pm	Girl Scouts-Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
Sat 4/18	8:00 am	Music & Worship
Sun 4/19	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (downstairs)
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Bells Ring for Worship)
	11:00 am	Children’s Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 am	Fellowship
	11:20 am	Kirkin’ o’ The Tartans Planning Committee Meeting
	1-3 pm	Youth Group
Mon 4/20	---	Streamer Deadline
Tues 4/21	9:00 am	Buildings & Grounds Meeting
Fri 4/24	---	Streamer Published
Sun 4/26	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Chancel Choir Sings for Worship)
	11:00 am	Children’s Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 am	Fellowship
	1-3 pm	Youth Group
Mon 4/27	9:00 am	Finance & Personnel
	10:00 am	Pastor Meeting @ Stronghold
	7:00 pm	Membership/Mission/Stewardship Meeting
Tues 4/28	9:30 am	<i>Martha Ruth Circle</i>
Thur 4/30	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal



Registration for Summer Camps is now open online (www.strongholdcenter.org).

This year, our own Jack Kelley will be one of the counselors on staff.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Sleeping Area</u>	<u>Grade Completed</u>
June 12-14	Grandcamp	Heritage Lodge	Grandparents & Grandchildren ages 5-12
June 21-26	Jr. Artists Jr. Adventure I	Sears Summer Cabins	3-6 3-5
June 21-30	Jr. High 10-Day Sr. High 10-Day	Summer Cabins Summer Cabins	6-8 9-12
June 27-30	Mini Camp	Sears Center	2-4
July 5-10	Night Owl Sr. High Night Owl	Sears Center Carriage House	6-8 9-12
July 6-10	Day Adventure	Summer Cabins	K-3
July 12-17	Jr. Adventure II Jr. Eco-Explorers Medieval M.A.D. Climb High	Summer Cabins Summer Cabins Castle Summer Cabins	3-5 3-6 6-8 7-11
July 19-24	Jr. M.A.D. Jr. Castle Camp Archery Adventure Rock & Rope	Sears Castle Castle Summer Cabins	3-5 3-5 6-8 9-12
July 24-26	Family Camp I	Heritage Lodge/Tents	Open to all
July 26-31	Jr. Adventure III Jr. High Adv. I Sr. High Adv. I Camper vs. Wild	Summer Cabins Summer Cabins Summer Cabins Summer Cabins	3-5 6-8 9-12 6-8
July 31—August 2	Family Camp II	Heritage Lodge/Tents	Open to all

GrandCamp: Granparent(s) and children ages 5-12

Start a new family tradition! Gather up the grandkids and come to Stronghold for GrandCamp. Summer staff provides the program, all meals are included and everyone stays in private rooms with bath. Inter-generational experiences provide time for stories and song, hiking and swimming as well as quality “one-on-one” time. Adults participate in their own Bible study, discussion groups and private time, while grandchildren are engaged in Bible Story time, group games, nature study and art projects. Shared activities include swimming, special craft projects, campfire time and story-telling.

Join us for this special weekend at Stronghold!



Family Camp: Families

Enjoy a new adventure for the entire family. Parents, children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, and all the cousins are invited for a weekend of games, crafts, swimming, campfires, and fellowship in the beauty of God’s creation. Stay in one of our beautiful retreat buildings or bring a tent and stay at the Stronhold Family Campground area. Your camp fees include lodging, food, activities, and programs for ages 3 to 103! There are no charges for infants and toddlers and childcare is provided for them.

Join us for this special weekend at Stronghold!

A The **Assemblymen**



**IN CONCERT WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015
CAPRON LUTHERAN CHURCH**

There will be a potluck starting at 4:00PM.

The Assemblymen will perform at 6:00PM.

No admission but there will be a free will offering.

**The church is located at HWY 173 and South Second
Street, (155 South Second Street), Capron, IL.**

Any questions phone 815-569-2480

To Your Health!



Wellness centered programs presented by the
Boone County Council on Aging in partnership with:

Swedish American Hospital
OSF St. Anthony's Medical Center
Rockford Memorial Health Systems
University of Illinois Extension

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- | | |
|-------------|--|
| March 11 | <i>"Be Smart About Your Heart"</i>
Presented by SwedishAmerican |
| April 29 | "Dr. Dorsey—Strokes"
Presented by Rockford Health System |
| May 13 | Skin Cancer & Melanoma
Presented by SwedishAmerican |
| June 24 | Nutrition
Presented by University of Illinois Extension |
| July 29 | Dr. Isaacsson, Cardiac Specialist
Presented by OSF St. Anthony's Medical Center |
| August 26 | Topic TBA
Presented by University of Illinois Extension |
| September 9 | COPD & Lung Disease
Presented by SwedishAmerican |
| October 28 | Topic TBA
Presented by University of Illinois Extension |
| November 18 | Lung Cancer
Presented by Rockford Health Systems |
| December | Dr. Jeff Smith—Heart Health
Presented by Rockford Health Systems |

All events held at
Boone County Council
on Aging
2141 Henry Luckow Lane
Belvidere
7:30 AM

Space for 50 attendees
Open to adults of all ages
Registrations required by calling **815-544-9893**
All programs begin with a light breakfast.