

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ARGYLE

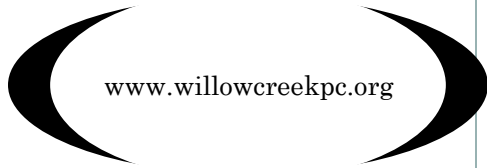
The Rev. Judith March Hardie

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Return Service Requested

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*A Faith Community, Growing
Together, Sharing The Love
of Christ*



«Label Name 1»

«Address Line 1»

«City, State Zip (5-digit)»

*I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the Presbyterian Women,
each one of you, for remembering me at Christmas. It is such a joy
to serve Christ with you—and that in itself is a gift! May you all
know the Peace and Joy of Christmas throughout the year.*

Pastor Judith

*Do you want to know where
things are in the kitchen? Come help
with the Spring Cleaning on Feb. 7th at
9:00am!*

**We will soon be acquiring a new
supply of kitchen towels. Please remem-
ber to launder and return them after use.
Thanks! —The PW Coordinating Team**

Mariners

**We will meet on Wednesday, Febru-
ary 13th, at 11:30am at Jessica's Res-
taurant in Roscoe. Come join us!**



Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle



STREAMER

February 2013

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From the Pastor

At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus speaks what is commonly known as the Great Commission: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you” (28:18-19). As Christians, we know that Jesus calls us to reach out to the people around us and to help them become followers of Jesus.

We have wrestled with how to accomplish this task ever since. The earliest followers thought new Christians should follow the Jewish laws (kosher food rules and circumcision). Jesus was a Jew, and all the original disciples were Jews, so shouldn't all new converts follow suit? And while we are used to reading the Scriptures in English, it used to only be read in Latin (the “universal” language). Printing the Bible in other tongues was heresy, punishable by death. In the 16th century, Martin Luther and others realized that while the ancient chants and hymns appealed to some, for others they were an obstacle. Did you know that “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” is sung to a traditional German drinking tune? These changes did not come easy. They were probably uncomfortable for many of the faithful, but they did serve to open a path by removing barriers that kept new people from coming to faith in Jesus.

This year we are going to focus on removing barriers and creating open paths, for ourselves and others, to a deeper faith in Jesus and a greater capacity to fulfill his Great Commission. Guided by Acts 2:41-47, we will seek to pray, to praise, to eat, and to fellowship more together. Lent begins in just a couple of weeks. Let us all try to give up our stranglehold on laws, rules, and traditions which can become barriers to growth for ourselves and others. Let us each endeavor to add time in prayer, time at table, time in worship and time together, welcoming all who seek after God!

From The Pastor (continued from page 1)

The best open path I know to God is through being the church Christ calls us to be. We do this through scripture reading, worship, prayer, fellowship and service. I invite you to add scripture and prayer to your daily regimen this month (It's a short month, you can do it!!). Let's pray the psalms together this month (email me at willowcreekpc@frontier.com for a reading schedule).

Let's enjoy this new journey together, too. Move around at fellowship time. Sit with someone new. And join us for Shrove Tuesday (2/12 at 6pm)--a pancake supper, fellowship, and games for young and old! The following night we gather at the table for worship on Ash Wednesday (2/13 at 7pm). That night, and each Sunday morning during Lent, we will come to the Lord's Table for communion by intinction.* Let's get out of our comfort zone (where it's all about us) and move into the caring zone (where it's all about Jesus)! May God guide us as we seek to share the good news of Jesus with those around us.

*Intinction is a way to take communion by dipping the bread into the cup. This can help during flu season, when passing the trays of bread and juice mean passing germs along as well. Larger pieces of bread will be provided so that fingertips will not come in contact with the juice. This was the recommended way to serve communion during the H1N1 epidemic a few years ago.

FAMILY FUN NITE!

Come join us on Feb. 12th from 6-8pm for a pancake supper and games for young and old as we celebrate one last time before the season of Lent!

A belated **THANK YOU** to those who participated in the Kemmerer Village Christmas card tree this past holiday season. Donations received totaled \$141.14 and were sent in January. Kemmerer Village, a Presbyterian Child Care Agency, is located in Assumption, Illinois, and provides a wide range of quality services, which meet the needs of children, youth, and their families. Thank you to the following donors:

Wayne & Shirley Ashburn
Gordon & Pat Bindenagel
Richard & Sue Brick
Dave & Phyllis Cummings
Dave & Janet Ensminger
Jack & Jean Greenlee
Jim & Delores Hall

Les & Donna Hamilton
Janet Hyland
Carol Norem
Betty Ralston
John & Kim Reid
Wilbur & JoAnne Reid



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9am Ch. School 10:30 Worship w/ Communion 11:30 Fellowship	4 10:30 Luke 7pm Session	5	6	7 Kitchen Spring Cleaning 9am 7pm Bells	8	9
10 9am Ch. School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship 4-7:30 Special Youth Field Trip	11 10:30 Luke	12 Presby. Mtg. Family Fun Nite (Shrove Tues.) 6-8pm	13 Mariners 11:30, Deacons 2pm Ash Wed. Service w/ Comm. 7pm	14 7pm Bells	15	16 M & W 9am
17 9am Ch. School 10:30 Worship w/ Communion 11:15 Ann. Mtg. 11:45 Fellowship 3-5 Youth	18 10:30 Luke	19 B & G 9am	20 STREAMER DEADLINE	21 7pm Bells	22	23
24 9am Ch. School 10:30 Worship w/ Communion 11:30 Fellowship 3pm Skiffers 3-5 Youth	25 9am F&P 10:30 Luke	26 Martha~Ruth Circle	27	28 7pm Bells		

Dear Congregation of Willow Creek Presbyterian:

Thank you for making the holidays a little bit brighter for the clients of the Rock River Valley Pantry. Your help means that a child won't go to bed hungry, that an elderly adult didn't have to choose between heat and food, or that an under-employed dad can still provide a meal for his family.

Your December 2012 donation of \$158.53 will help us provide food to more than 7,000 individuals coming to the Pantry each month. We distribute more than 14,000 cans of vegetables, 21,000 cans of fruit, and 2,900 boxes of cereal as part of the grocery bags that are packed each month by our volunteers!

On behalf of the clients, volunteers, staff, and the Board of Directors, I wish you a happy, healthy New Year!

Sincerely, Kim Adams-Bakke, Executive Director

(from a letter dated December 31, 2012)



Super Bowl Sunday nears, and our youth want to host the Second Annual Souper Bowl of Caring! Last year, our first annual celebration gathered almost 100 cans of soup and almost \$100 for a local food pantry. The youth group delivered the donations and took a tour of the facility. Boy, were they impressed with all that is done through so many volunteers and so much giving!

Our youth group continues to hold a special place in their hearts for the Boone County Food Pantry of Capron, also known as The Miracle on Fifth Street, where Pastor Judith also now serves on the board. The food pantry there is so much more than a food pantry! This year, let's collect some of the non-food items people need and receive from the food pantry during our own Souper Bowl of Caring!!!

Over the next couple of weeks, we invite you to bring both new and gently used clothing items to church. The youth will be collecting through Sunday, February 17th, when they plan to deliver a check from the church, along with all of the items collected, and once again volunteer to work in the warehouse of the food pantry in Capron.



We will be collecting the following non-food items in addition, of course, to cans of soup, checks (made out to WCPC, memo "Souper Bowl Offering"), and cash: men's, women's, children's, babies', and bed clothing; curtains; linens; towels; and accessories. Thank you!

Parish Nurse Notes

As we age, our bodies grow weaker. Balance becomes a problem, resulting in slips and falls. A third of adults ages 65 and older fall each year, often requiring a hospital admission and rehabilitation. Falls can cause skin tears, fractures, and head trauma. Such injuries are expensive to treat and are estimated to reach nearly \$55 billion a year by 2020. Yet, strong-willed seniors, determined to maintain their independence, often delay moves to nursing homes and assisted-living facilities. And as the baby boomer generation ages, it is expected that they, too, won't want to leave their homes either. How do we protect those we love? How do we protect ourselves?

Assess the risk of falls:

Falls in the home are often caused by medication issues, physical weakness, disease, and hazards in the home. In order to be as safe as possible and prevent falls, we must be honest about the risks we (or our loved ones) have and take action to lessen them.

Get a quick response:

Since most of us choose to remain at home, despite the risk, we should consider a response system that will alert emergency responders in the event of a fall. Emergency response buttons are often worn around the wrist or neck with a call box installed in the home to allow communication between individuals and help. Programs can be recommended by each of the local hospital systems. Medical alert systems help many people stay in their homes, giving them and their families confidence and a sense of security.

Focus on prevention:

Prevent falls. Get your vision checked regularly, exercise most days to maintain, make sure your blood pressure and heart rate are in a healthy range, and improve balance. Review your medications with your doctor at least annually. Discuss any drugs that have side effects of weakness and dizziness. Make sure your home is as safe as possible: get rid of throw rugs (affectionately known as "scatter rugs"), get rid of clutter, maintain adequate lighting, and install hand rails along stairs and bathrooms.

All people, regardless of age, should do a mini-home assessment to help prevent falls. If planning home remodeling, plan for the long-term, a future that may require use of walkers, wheelchairs, and other adaptive equipment.

(Excerpts from Rockford Register Star, "Groups Turn Focus to Prevent Seniors' Falls" by Melissa Westphal)

(continued on pg. 4)

Parish Nurse Notes (cont. from pg. 3)

February is Heart Health Month. Protect your heart by eating healthy foods, monitoring and managing your blood pressure, and exercising to keep your heart strong, and take any prescribed medicines as directed by your healthcare provider.



Presbyterian Women News

* As you clear away decorations, etc., and find things that you might not use again or are going to replace, please put them aside for the Fall Rummage Sale.

As you do spring cleaning, you will find things that aren't used or played with anymore. Please gather and save them for the Fall Rummage sale, too.

We had plans to make Fall Fest a real festival last fall, but the weather didn't cooperate. Hopefully, with planning and an earlier date, we can have it this year as we had wanted to last year!

We need not only donations, but also people! It isn't too early to begin to plan. How would you like to help? PW has an Event poster in the Fellowship Hall that needs some names on it!

* THANK YOU to David Ensminger for making the shelves in the kitchen for our coffee cups! They are great and will keep our counter nice and tidy.

* Save the Date: Annual Spring Gathering & Business Meeting
on Saturday, April 13, 2013, in Joliet



To the Members & Staff of WCPC:

Thank you for being there with your hearts & help as we grieve the loss of Betty. She dearly loved the church and would be proud of everyone who helped with or attended her funeral. Thank you all.
The Family of Betty Paulson

Dear Members: Thank you ever so much for your donation of hats, scarves, gloves, and socks. We truly appreciate all you do for our children.

Walter Lawson Children's Home

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF INCOME and EXPENSE
Actual vs Budget
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

	Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES:			
Contributions - General	138,100	139,364	1,264
Contributions - Special	500	720	220
Other Income	9,847	4,653	(5,194)
Endowment	1,000	917	(83)
School & Event	3,325	2,145	(1,180)
Total Revenue	152,772	147,799	(4,973)
EXPENSES:			
MINISTRY OF:			
Personnel	111,799	103,116	8,683
Christian Ed & Youth	5,200	1,366	3,834
Music & Worship	2,885	2,138	747
Member & Stewardship	1,425	783	642
Building & Grounds	41,620	38,325	3,295
Session	5,997	1,584	4,413
Deacons	300	210	90
Missions	2,100	1,786	314
Total Expense	171,326	149,308	22,018
Change in cash from operations	(18,554)	(1,509)	17,045
OTHER:			
Dedicated Accounts, Pre-School & Liabilities	-	(912)	912
Net Cash Transfers To/(From) Investments	-	-	-
Change in cash since January 1, 2012	(18,554)	(597)	17,957

Willow Creek Operating Stats—December 2012

Income	\$17,072.00
Expenses	\$10,844.00
Previous Month-Excess/(Deficit)	1,825.00