



# STREAMER

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle

7300 Belvidere Road

Caledonia, Illinois 61011

815-885-3455

March 2017

What is Lent? The word “Lent” comes from an Old English word meaning “spring” — when the days lengthen and new life springs forth. All things seem possible as the tiniest bits of green life promise to break free from the icy fingers of death. During Lent we anticipate the victory of the light and life of Christ over the darkness of sin and death. It is, to borrow a phrase from C.S. Lewis, a season of a kind of “happiness and wonder that makes you serious.”

It is my prayer that as we journey together from Ash Wednesday to Easter, we might get serious about our broken humanity, and also experience with greater abundance the reality of God’s redeeming grace. It is my hope that by embarking on this journey together, we would each experience this grace in new ways and be moved to practice even more the gifts of Christian love.

Like Spring, and the promise of Easter, Christian love is the “possible impossibility” of *meeting* Christ *in* another and *being* Christ *for* another. Christian love isn’t a self-seeking “good deed” or key to the pearly gates. The practice of Christian love takes us on a journey deep into the heart of God, who loves us more profoundly than we can ever fully understand.

Just as we carefully prepare the fields or garden, just as we get ready for big events like weddings or graduations, Lent invites us to arrange our hearts and our living in order to truly blossom in the new life that keeps coming. One way to do this is to observe the journey Jesus took to his Easter resurrection victory. Let’s let this be our guiding purpose during the Season of Lent this year.

Based on positive feedback we had with last year’s Lenten devotionals, we are again presenting devotionals for your use which can be picked up now in the Fellowship Hall. In addition, I have just ordered some family activity devotional kits (which I hope will arrive quickly) for family time devotions. During the Children’s Message on Sundays I will begin a lesson that can be reinforced throughout the week at the family table. I will also preach on these same themes during the Big Kid’s Sermon, and I would LOVE to welcome YOU on Thursday evenings before Bell practice (5:30-6:30pm from March 2<sup>nd</sup> to April 13<sup>th</sup>) to go even deeper with group discussion. Please come. I will provide a crock-pot meal for the first session, and perhaps we can have a final Agape meal before worship on Maundy Thursday! Please email/text/call or just speak to me to RSVP.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Judith



Dear Friends:

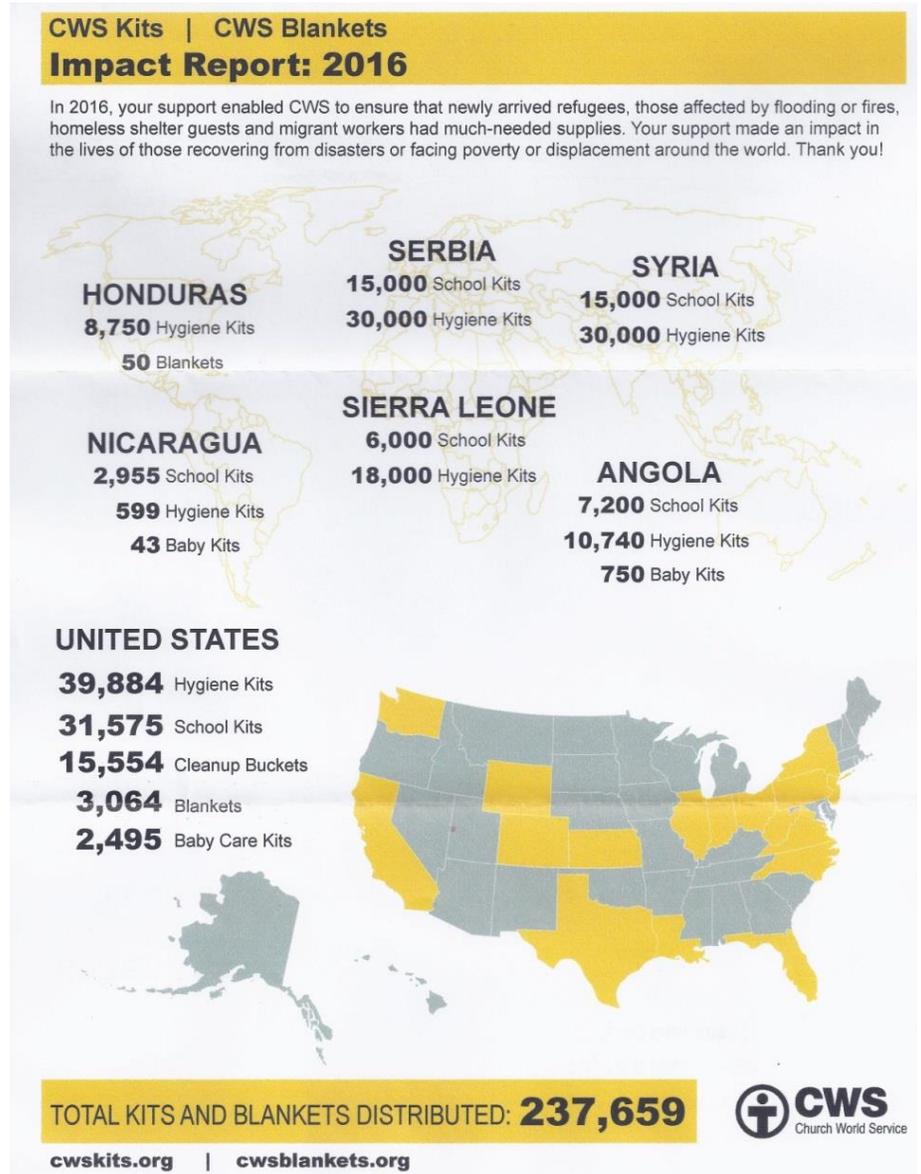
Thank you for your kind donation of School Kits to Church World Service.

Your compassion has given individuals and families touched by disaster the tangible evidence that they matter. That someone cares. And they are not alone.

Disasters can strike anywhere, anytime. And they can take many forms: tornadoes, earthquakes, civil conflict, drought, hurricanes and more. Caring people like you - who understand the urgency of responding after a disaster - allow people in crisis to receive help when they need it, and hope for the future.

Learn more about the power of your compassion at [cwskits.org](http://cwskits.org). Here at home or overseas, when tragedy strikes your donations ensure that help is never far behind.

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Dear Congregation,

On behalf of the MELD Programs at Youth Services Network we would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$560.70. Your support to Youth Services Network is truly appreciated.

Each year Youth Services Network continues to advance our mission ... *"develop, provide and coordinate services that improve the physical, psychological and social well-being of youth in Winnebago and Boone Counties"*. Through our MELD programs, emergency homeless shelter, transitional living housing, young parent support groups, education and employment assistance and prevention education, we have seen many lives change for the better. Thanks again for your generous support to YSN.

Mary Ellen Commare, Executive Director

**YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK, INC.**

*"Serving youth and families in Winnebago and Boone counties with strength-based care."*





We want to thank our church family for the cards, thoughts and prayers during the surgeries and procedures of the last four months with our husband and father. It meant a lot!  
The Brick Family



I wish to thank everyone for all the cards, phone calls & prayers. It certainly is appreciated. Please continue the prayers as I am scheduled for surgery March 2<sup>nd</sup>. God Bless!  
Shawn Spack



**WCPC Operating Statistics**

Our income and expense for the month included \$957.69 for designated missions and per capita, leaving us with \$11,790.82 to cover \$14,431.76 in expenses. This results in the shortfall of **\$2,640.94**, due mainly from the cold

weather and snowy month of December we experienced. We can be thankful for the blessing of the mild January weather we received. Thank you for your continued support.



**WCPC Operating Statistics**

	January, 2017	Year-to-Date
Income	\$12,748.51	\$12,748.51
Expenses	\$15,389.45	\$15,389.45
	<b>(\$2,640.94)</b>	<b>(\$2,640.94)</b>

**STEWARDSHIP RECOGNITION**

ABOVE and BEYOND the CALL of DUTY recognizes individuals, couples or groups that serve God through Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.

Nominations forms can be obtained on the welcome stand outside Fellowship Hall near the Education Wing. Completed nominations can be deposited in the box on the welcome stand. Nominations can also be made directly to Pastor Judith.



**Fellowship is an important part of our gathering. Sign-up is available in the Kitchen Window.** Help us welcome newcomers with light refreshments and warm hearts. If you need any assistance setting up or serving for Fellowship, please call Sandy Bell cell # 815-871-6301.



**The Shack Bible Study**  
**Saturdays at 10:30 am**  
**March 4<sup>th</sup> chs. 1-8**  
**March 18<sup>th</sup> chs. 9-end**

**April 8<sup>th</sup> go see movie "The Shack" together**

The movie version of this widely read novel opens March 3<sup>rd</sup>, but let's wait to see it until after we've read and discussed it. So, get the book. Read or re-read it, and come to the church for a Saturday morning brunch & discussion.



**Grace and Gratitude Fellowship Hour**  
**(with refreshments after worship)**  
**March 5, April 2, and May 7**

Please help us pass the faith and a little Bible knowledge on to our children. As we do not have Children's Sunday School this year, your participation in these monthly experiences is invaluable for our children and our future.



**Choir Rehearsal:**

Sunday, March 5, 12, 19, & 26 @ 8:30 am  
Chancel Choir Sings for Worship all Sundays in March

**Young Peoples Choir Rehearsal:**

Sunday, March 12, 19, & 26 @ 11:00 am

**Bell Rehearsal :**

Thursdays, March 2, 9, 23, and 30 @ 7:00 pm  
(No Bells on March 16)



## Willow Creek Youth Group & Confirmation Class

Sun, March 12 & 19 - 11:30-12:45 - Confirmation Class

1:00-3:00 pm - Youth Group

Sun, April 9, 23, & 30 - 11:30-12:45 - Confirmation Class

1:00-3:00 pm - Youth Group



### **Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

You are invited to Maple Crest Nursing Home in Belvidere for a 10:30 am Ash Wednesday Service.

We expect the service to last 15-30 minutes.

We will still have the Traditional Ash Wednesday Service at WCPC @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



### **Mariner March Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 14 at 11:30 am**

@ Stockholm Inn in Rockford for Lunch (Jim and Delores Hall Hosting)



### **Save the Date**

### **Mariner May Meeting**

**Thursday, May 11**



White Pines for Lunch & Musical (Please note, this is not on our regular meeting day.)

We have 20 tickets so we will have a few tickets to offer to others. The cost is \$35.00 per person. That includes lunch and show. We will carpool from WCPC and probably leave about 10 a.m. We will have more information soon.



**March 17 @ 1:30pm @ Maple Crest Nursing Home in Belvidere**

Please join us for a St. Patrick's Day Concert.

Lucas Greenlee will be playing the Bagpipes.

### **Martha Ruth Circle**

Tuesday, March 28 @ 9:30 am

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church





## Attention High School Seniors

### The Flora McEachran Scholarship Fund

If you are interested in applying for the Flora McEachran Scholarship, please submit a letter to the Clerk of Session, Maren Reid, stating your intent to apply for the Flora McEachren Willow Creek Presbyterian Church Scholarship. The letter should include the name of the college or secondary school you are planning to attend and your field of study, if you have decided. You may also wish to include information about yourself including activities, community service, etc... Please mail the letter to the church office. (Maren Reid, Clerk of Session, Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, 7300 Belvidere Road, Caledonia, IL 61011)

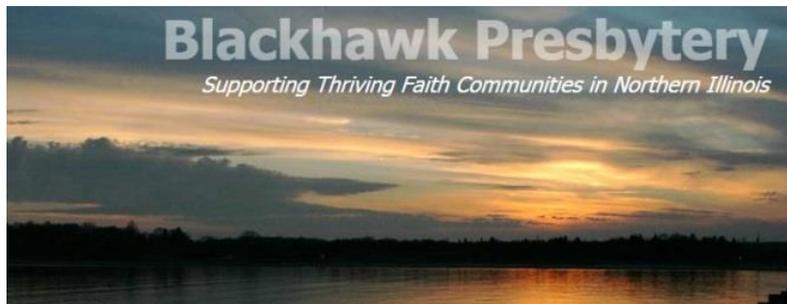
This is a one-time grant with a maximum of \$500. Prior to the September 30 Scholarship disbursement, recipients chosen for the scholarship will need to show proof of enrollment in a course of basic study or training beyond high school.

## Save the Date



### 2017 Willow Creek Summer Camp Monday, June 26 – Friday, June 30

- Vacation Bible School – Pre-K (Ages 4-5)
- Stronghold Day Camp – Elementary (Grades 1-5)
- Local Mission Tour – Middle School (Grades 6-9)



## Save the Date – Tuesday, June 13

The Blackhawk Presbytery will hold their meeting at Willow Creek Church on Tuesday, June 13. Representatives from 88 churches in the Blackhawk Presbytery are invited. Please call or email Pastor Judith if you would like to participate on the “Presbytery Planning Team” or any of the Event Day additional teams that will be needed: Parking Team, Greeting Team, Registration Team, Worship Team (Choir & Head Usher), and a Kitchen Team. In addition, we have now been asked to host an inaugural fellowship event, either before or after the meeting. This could be a cook-out, a meet-and-eat at a local restaurant, or even a visit to a local attraction (like the Paulson Museum or McEachran Winery). Such fellowship events will be hosted in conjunction with each Presbytery meeting, moving forward, to help us get to know one another and to build us up for shared mission through better connection to God and our community. Please let Pastor Judith know if you would like to help with the Fellowship Team. Pastor’s email [willowcreekpc@gmail.com](mailto:willowcreekpc@gmail.com) and cell # 779-200-2247.



# ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERINGS



Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

- Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters
- Receives 32% of funds raised

## Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)

- Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed
- Receives 36% of funds raised

## Self-Development of People (SDOP)

- Invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills
- Receives 32% of funds raised



### March 2017 All Church Calendar

Wed 3/1	10:30 am	<i>Maple Crest Ash Wednesday Service (you are invited)</i>
	7:00 pm	<i>Ash Wednesday Service with Communion by Intinction</i>
Thur 3/2	5:30-6:30 pm	<i>Lenten Bible Study in Library</i>
	6:00-8:00 pm	Surviving Change in Argyle Room
	7:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal in Sanctuary
Fri 3/3	3:45-6:00 pm	Girl Scouts – Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
Sat 3/4	10:30 am	<i>The Shack Bible Study @ WCPC</i>
Sun 3/5	8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	9:00-9:50 am	Gather & Gospel
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion by Intinction; 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent; Mission –Northern Ill Food Bank; Chancel Choir Sings for Worship
	11:00 am	Grace & Gratitude Fellowship Hour
	5:00-6:00 pm	AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety)
	6:15-7:30 pm	Drum Circle
Tue 3/7	<b>7:00 -9:00 pm</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
Thur 3/9	<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Deacon Meeting</b>
	5:30-6:30 pm	<i>Lenten Bible Study in Library</i>
	6:00-8:00 pm	Surviving Change in Argyle Room
	7:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal in Sanctuary
Fri 3/10-3/17	---	Secretary Carol on Vacation
Sun 3/12	---	Daylight Saving Begins – Spring ahead one hour
	8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	9:00-9:50 am	Gather & Gospel
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion by Intinction; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent; Chancel Choir Sings for Worship
	11:00 am	Fellowship
	11:00 am	Young People’s Choir Rehearsal
	11:30 -12:45 am	Confirmation Class
	1-3 pm	Youth Group – Games/Snack/Lesson
	5:00-6:00 pm	AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety)
Mon 3/13	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Mission TEAM Meeting</b>
Tues 3/14	11:30 am	<i>Mariners @ Stockholm Inn (Halls Hosting)</i>
Thur 3/16	5:30-6:30 pm	<i>Lenten Bible Study in Library</i>
	6:00-8:00 pm	Surviving Change in Argyle Room
Fri 3/17	1:30 pm	<i>Maple Crest St. Patrick’s Day Concert (L. Greenlee on Bagpipes)</i>
	3:45-6:00 pm	Girl Scouts – Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
Sat 3/18	10:30 am	<i>The Shack Bible Study</i>
Sun 3/19	8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	9:00-9:50 am	Gather & Gospel
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion by Intinction; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent; Chancel Choir Sings for Worship
	11:00 am	Fellowship
	11:00 am	Young People’s Choir Rehearsal
	11:30 -12:45 am	Confirmation Class
	1-3 pm	Youth Group – Games/Snacks/Lesson
	5:00-6:00 pm	AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety)
	6:15-7:30 pm	Drum Circle
Mon 3/20	---	<b>**Streamer Deadline**</b>

### March 2017 Calendar Continued

Tue 3/21	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Buildings &amp; Grounds Meeting</b>
	<b>12:15 am</b>	<b>Preschool Board Meeting</b>
Thur 3/23	5:30-6:30 pm	<i>Lenten Bible Study in Library</i>
	6:00-8:00 pm	Surviving Change in Argyle Room
	7:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal in Sanctuary
Fri 3/24- Fri 3/31	---	No Preschool
Fri 3/24	6:00-7:00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal Pantarelli/Mitchell
Sat 3/25	3:00 pm	Wedding Pantarelli/Mitchell
<b>Sun 3/26</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b>
	<b>9:00-9:50 am</b>	<b>Gather &amp; Gospel</b>
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship with Communion by Intinction; 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent; Chancel Choir Sings for Worship</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Fellowship</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Young People's Choir Rehearsal</b>
	<b>5:00-6:00 pm</b>	<b>AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety)</b>
Mon 3/27-4/3	---	Pastor Judith Vacation
Tue 3/28	<b>9:30 am</b>	<i>Martha Ruth @ WCPC</i>
Thur 3/30	5:30-6:30 pm	<i>Lenten Bible Study in Library</i>
	6:00-8:00 pm	Surviving Change in Argyle Room
	7:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal

**Surviving Change** – sponsored by Better Together Life Coaching, LLC. Please call 815-243-3311 if you are interested.

### 2017 Stronghold Summer Camps are here!

More information is available at [www.strongholdcenter.org](http://www.strongholdcenter.org) or pick up a brochure at Willow Creek Presbyterian Church

2017 STRONGHOLD SUMMER CAMPS							
Date	Event	Sleeping Area	Grade Completed	Tier I	Tier II	Tier III	Squire Circle
June 16-18	Grandcamp	Heritage Lodge	Grandparents & Grandchildren ages 5-12	\$150 \$100 \$75	\$175 \$125 \$75	\$200 \$150 \$100	\$250 \$200 \$150
June 25-30	Jr. Eco-Explorers Jr. Castle Camp Climb High	Sears Center Castle Summer Cabins/Tents	3-6 3-6 7-11	\$325 \$335 \$370	\$375 \$385 \$420	\$425 \$435 \$470	\$525 \$535 \$570
July 5-14	Jr. High 10-Day Sr. High 10-Day	Summer Cabins Summer Cabins	6-8 9-12	\$455 \$465	\$520 \$530	\$585 \$595	\$700 \$700
July 5-8	Mini Camp	Sears Center	2-4	\$170	\$200	\$230	\$280
July 9-14	Jr. Adventure Jr. M.A.D.	Summer Cabins Sears Center	3-5 3-6	\$310 \$330	\$360 \$380	\$410 \$430	\$510 \$530
July 16-21	Night Owl Sr. High Night Owl	Sears Center Carriage House	6-8 9-12	\$350 \$360	\$400 \$410	\$450 \$460	\$550 \$560
July 17-21	Day Adventure	Summer Cabins	K-3	\$103	\$128	\$153	\$203
July 23-28	Jr. Artists Hydro Camp Wilderness Adventure Medieval M.A.D.	Sears Center Carriage House Tents Castle	3-6 3-6 6-8 6-8	\$335 \$340 \$350 \$350	\$385 \$390 \$400 \$400	\$435 \$440 \$450 \$450	\$535 \$540 \$550 \$550
July 28-30	Family Camp I	Heritage Lodge/Tents	Open to all	See Description			
July 30- August 4	Jr. Discovery Camper vs. Wild Jr. High Adventure Sr. High Adventure	Sears Center Summer Cabins/Tents Summer Cabins Summer Cabins	3-6 6-8 6-8 9-12	\$335 \$345 \$335 \$350	\$385 \$395 \$385 \$400	\$435 \$445 \$435 \$450	\$535 \$545 \$535 \$550
August 4-5	Family Camp II	Heritage Lodge/Tents	Open to all	See Description			

### Can't attend, but would still like to participate?

Consider donating to the Stronghold Camp Scholarship Program

[www.strongholdcenter.org/donate.html](http://www.strongholdcenter.org/donate.html)

Or call Stronghold (815)732-6111



# THE SEASON OF LENT 2017



## Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 1

10:30 am Service @ Maple Crest

7:00 pm Worship with Ashes and Communion



## First Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 5

10:00 am Worship with Communion by Intinction



## Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 12

10:00 am Worship with Communion by Intinction



## Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 19

10:00 am Worship with Communion by Intinction



## Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 26

10:00 am Worship with Communion by Intinction



## Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, April 2 (Guest Preacher Rev. David Jones)

10:00 am Worship with Communion by Intinction



## Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 9

10:00 am Worship with Communion by Intinction

Young People's Choir Sings



## Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 13

7:00 pm Worship with Communion by Intinction



## Good Friday

Friday, April 14

Noon Worship at WCPC



## Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 16

8:00 am Sunrise Service

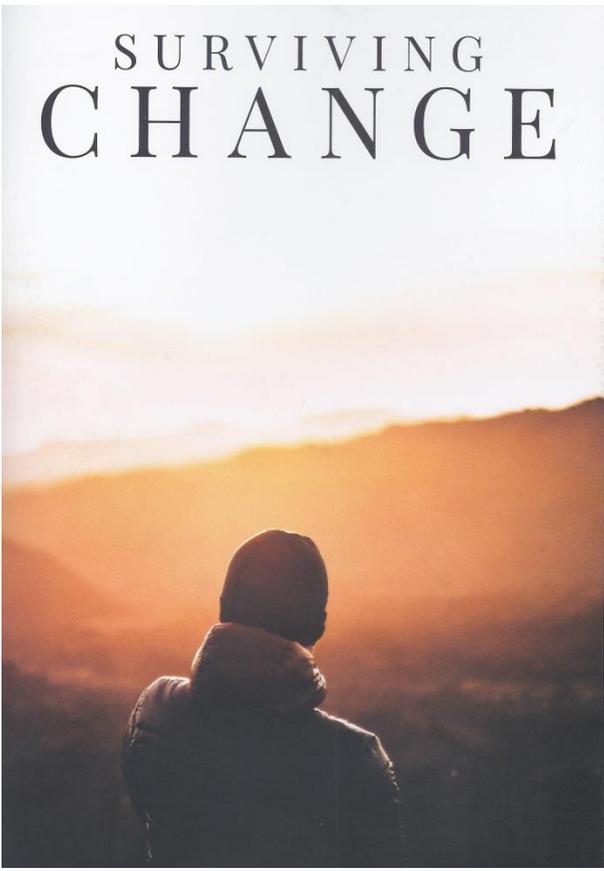
8:45 am Breakfast

9:30 Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 Worship with Traditional Communion  
with Willow Creek Ringers & Chancel Choir

\*Lenten Bible Study 5:30-6:30pm from March 2<sup>nd</sup> to April 13<sup>th</sup> in the Library

# SURVIVING CHANGE



## How comfortable are you with change?

It's an inevitable part of life, but for so many of us it is an uncomfortable reality. Jobs change. Relationships change. Age changes us. Priorities change. Sometime change is drastic. Other times the change in our lives is subtle. In either case, change is an unavoidable component of life that affects all of us.

So how do we navigate change in a way that cooperates with the work God may be doing in our lives? What do we do with all of the expectations that once shaped our hopes and dreams? How do we let go of the old, and embrace new realities?

From Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> – Mar 30<sup>th</sup>, friends will gather together in the Argyle Room on Thursdays, from 6-8 pm with Jodi Henderson & Barbra Riley, from Better Together Life Coaching, LLC. Please call 815-243-3311 if you are interested. Workbooks will be included, no charge for group or workbooks.

*"Connecting heart, mind and soul to the world through creative journaling and prayer."*

## Visual & Faith Bible Journaling

Saturday, March 11 • 9 am - 12 pm

Fellowship Hall • \$5/ person, \$2/child for childcare  
Bring a black sharpie, colored pencils and a Bible.

Register Online:

[https://ilc.ccbchurch.com/form\\_response.php?id=92](https://ilc.ccbchurch.com/form_response.php?id=92)



**Immanuel Lutheran Church • 1045 Belvidere Rd, Belvidere • 815-544-8058 • Enter at Door #1 & #2**



## Easter Flower Order Form

Would you like to order Easter Flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person? The cost is \$12.50, and you may order Lilies, Tulips, Daffodils or Hyacinths. You may take your flower home, or donate it for the Deacons to deliver to the elderly and infirm. Please fill out this form and drop it in the collection plate on Sunday morning or mail it to the church. **The deadline to order is Monday, March 27.**

Type of Flower \_\_\_\_\_ Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

In Loving Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name as you wish it to appear in the bulletin: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please make checks payable to Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, with memo: Easter Flowers.***

Flowers not picked up prior to Tuesday, April 18, will be delivered  
by the Church Deacons to the elderly and infirmed.