



STREAMER

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle

7300 Belvidere Road

Caledonia, Illinois 61011

815-885-3455

June 2017

Neither life nor love discriminate. Life, with its ups and downs, happens to everyone. Some feel the itinerary of life, though revealed only a portion at a time, has been completely planned and set out for us by God. Some believe that everything happens in response to our own right or wrong ways in either a system of God-adjudicated reward and punishment or some karma-like universal law. While there are many other understandings, I am sure, mine is that life happens--sometimes randomly, and sometimes more predictably.

Whenever I hear the pat answer to some calamity, "Everything happens for a reason," I want to respond, "No, God can give purpose to anything that happens!" My faith in God tells me that no matter what happens, Love is there, and Mercy, making possible what seems impossible. God can give light to darkness, and usefulness even to the worst of circumstances. God can make a way where there is no way.

One of my favorite (of our twelve) confessions is the Confession of 1967, which states, "In life and in death we belong to God. And life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage." I usually read its scripture corollary in Romans 14:8ff in pastoral visits as death nears and as a part of the graveside or interment services. In these times, when death is eminent or has suddenly changed the landscape of our lives, and also when illness or injury brings death more clearly onto the horizon of possibilities, the moorings of our faith community and traditions can bring us the comfort of a solid ground on which to tread an uncertain journey.

There is a commonality, I think, in living through the ups and the downs, the challenges in life—and in sharing these lives together in a faith community. That is why I think church is still relevant and needed today, to help us to live and share and grow, especially through times of trial, crises, or grief. Every calamity is different, however, as are the resulting grief, and responding inner faith. It doesn't help when we try to shoehorn our own experiences, solutions or beliefs into someone else's life. What we can do is offer to share our stories, experiences, prayers and hope, not as solutions, but as witness to the presence of God.

Children get cancer, and the prayers for miraculous healings can seem to go unanswered.

Wonderful, generous, hardworking and sweet-hearted people succumb to illness or injury. They are too quickly gone despite their faithful living.

Marriages end, companies close, positions and wealth are lost despite good counsel, wide education and sound investment.

We are not in control, nor can we know or even begin to understand how our God reigns, and so we ask, and we doubt. Why me? Why now? Why, God?

The joy of living in community with other believers, even when our beliefs differ, comes as we glimpse the presence of God in the smiling eyes, the loving hugs, the stories of similar experience, or the prayers across a hospital bedrail. As we help to encourage and protect the children of the sick or the overworked, as we step in to bring casseroles and spiritual nourishment to the aged or infirm, as we stand with the oppressed or work shoulder-to-shoulder in times of disaster, we become ambassadors one to the other of God's ever-present love and care. As we give ourselves to God and turn more and more to serve others, we may find that our questions change from Why Me to Why Not Me. In fact, the more we give of ourselves, the more we turn to help others, the more we will find the questions of Why fading away, and the sureness of Love filling our hearts. Life happens, and God IS, yesterday, today and tomorrow. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place!

Pastor Judith



Your kind donations are a wonderful way to assist to fight hunger in this area. Thank you very much and know 100% of your contributions go to assist these unfortunate families.

The Old Stone Church Food Pantry



Dear Friends,

What you do matters you are providing hope every day to hungry neighbors across Northern Illinois.

Thank you for supporting Northern Illinois food Bank with your donation of \$435 on 4/13/2017 with your help we can continue to provide hope to our hungry neighbors. Thank you for your vital partnership.

Sincerely, Julie Yurko, President & CEO



I would like to thank Jim and Delores Hall for the visit and bringing me broccoli cheese soup, party mix, and playing cards on behalf of the church. It is nice of them to do that, and having the church thinking of and praying for me.

Thank you again, to everyone at the church for thinking and praying for me. It is nice to have so many great people looking out for each other.

Todd Greenlee

STEWARDSHIP RECOGNITION

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

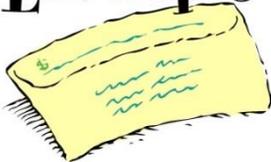


Nominations forms can be obtained on the welcome stand outside Fellowship Hall near the Education Wing. Completed nominations can be deposited in the box on the welcome stand. Nominations can also be made directly to Pastor Judith.



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.

Offering Envelopes



WCPC Operating Statistics

Thru April our average monthly expense is \$14,897.26, in round numbers \$15,000.00. Our average monthly income is \$12,112.34, creating a year-to-date shortfall of **\$11,139.65, \$618.87** per week for the 18 weeks. What keeps us going is our faith in God that he will provide if he wants the Church to survive.



We thank you for your continued support.

WCPC Operating Statistics

	April 2017	Year-to-Date
Income	12,912.70	48,449.37
Expenses	14,350.79	59,589.02
	(1,438.09)	(11,139.65)



Effective Tuesday, May 23 thru Labor Day
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
 8:30 am to Noon



McEachran Homestead Winery Friday Night 6-9pm Patio Schedule

June 2 Ken Curtis
June 9 Daniel Scott
June 16 Lee Gardner
June 23 Cheryl Niemo & The Down Home Boys
June 30 Trinadora



Chancel Choir Rehearsal/Sing for Worship - Sunday, June 4 at 9:00 am
Enjoy your Summer Break!
Young People's Choir providing special music on August 6.

June Mariners – The Old and The New Thursday, June 15 (please note date change) at 11:30 am



- Lunch @ Capri Restaurant 313 East State, Rockford. Parking and entrance is in the back and they open at 11:30 am. You will enjoy this Old and Loved Italian Restaurant in downtown Rockford.
- Next door at 301 East State we will be oriented to the new Oak Street Health-Rockford. This is primary care doctors serving adults with Medicare or Medicaid. Transportation, more time with your doctor, insurance help, communication with your specialist, and phone service 24-7 are part of the Oak Street Health experience.
- RSVP to JoAnne and Wilbur Reid at 779-423-1196. If not available, call cell # 815-520-4501. Or, contact the church office @ 815-885-3455.
- You do not have to be a Mariner to participate.



Martha Ruth Circle
Tuesday, June 20 @ 9:30 am in the Church Library (Janet Ensminger Hosting)

Here's what's happening with the Mission TEAM



Baby Angel Closet

We have several clients each month, and we feel we are serving the community well. We received a large donation of baby supplies in April.



Maple Crest Care Center

On June 29, during Willow Creek Summer Camp, the youth will do one of their local Missions at Maple Crest. The Mission TEAM will join them and we encourage the congregation to come for all, or part of the day.

The schedule for the day:

10:00-10:30 am	Entertainment, Musician Singing
10:30-11:30 am	Planting Flowers
11:30 am	Picnic Lunch in the Screen House behind the Center. Please bring a Lunch and join us.
1:00-2:00 pm	Bible Study with the Residents



Boone County Fair August 8 - 13

Our tent will be in the same location as last year. We had great participation last year and we need you to sign-up again.

Watch for the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall!



Church World Service Kits Challenge

We accepted the challenge for:

- 25 School Kits
- 10 Hygiene Kits
- 10 Clean-up Buckets

Delores Hall will have post-its up early so you can take advantage of the Back to School Sales.



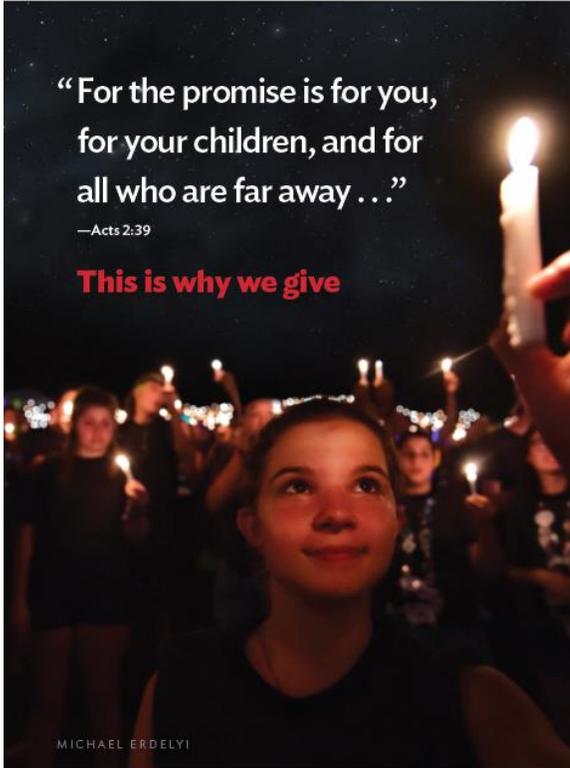
Habitat for Humanity - Boone County

We are planning on providing lunch for a work crew. The date will be determined at our next meeting.

If you are interested in putting together a work crew, contact Beth @ Habitat (phone 815-980-6247)

**Mission for June is the Pentecost Offering.
The Next Mission TEAM Meeting is June 12 @ 9:00 am**

Want to help out at Northern IL Food Bank?
 Go to website www.SolveHungerToday.org or
 call 815-639-1257 to sign up.



“For the promise is for you,
 for your children, and for
 all who are far away . . .”

—Acts 2:39

This is why we give

MICHAEL ERDELYI

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS



Give toward a more promising future

When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share their faith in Christ.



40% stays with your congregation » Develop and support programs for young people in your own church and community

25% supports Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) » Provide opportunities for young adults to serve communities around the world and grow as leaders through transformative Christian service

25% goes to Ministries with Youth » Help guide our youth by uniting them in Christ and lifting them up as leaders and messengers of God’s word

10% advocates for at-risk children » Support vital ministries helping to improve education and provide safe havens for children



Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet

Free!

Medication Disposal
 Bring in all your unused over-the-counter
 And prescription medications

Accepting

Prescription Medications
 Non-Prescription Medications
 Aerosol Inhalers
 Veterinary Medications



Not Accepting

Needles & Sharps
 Medical Waste
 Biohazard Materials

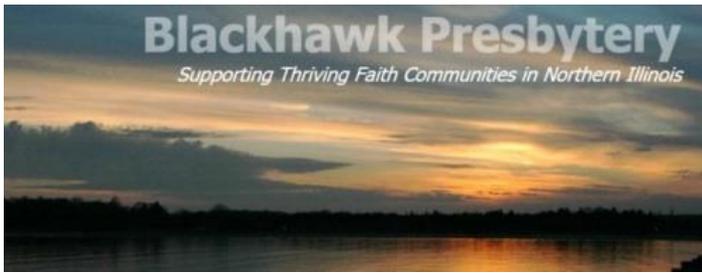
Belvidere Township Buildings

**8200 Fairgrounds Rd.
 Belvidere**

Saturday June 10, 2017

9 A.M. - Noon

Sponsored by the Boone County Soil & Water Conservation District, Belvidere Township, Belvidere Police Department, Spring Township, Pomona Grange, Caledonia Township, and Manchester Township



**Our Church is HOSTING Blackhawk Presbytery on June 13th—
WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

On Tuesday, June 13th, we will be hosting the pastors, associate pastors, retired pastors, presbytery staff, and elders from churches all

over Northern Illinois for one of five regular stated meetings of our presbytery. The morning will begin with arrivals as early as 8 for setting up and general fellowship. The meeting will begin around 9:30, with worship at 9:45. We expect to need to park 60+ cars, and to feed lunch to around 100 people. The meeting will conclude by about 3pm. **GREETERS ARE STILL NEEDED—to act as both hospitality guides and docents (helping people to find what they need and answer questions about our church).**



Worship in the Park will be Sunday, July 23 @ 10:00 am at the Lion's Club Shelter in Rock Cut State Park (Handicap parking available). Table



service and drinks will be provided. Grills will be fired up after the worship service. Please bring your own meat to grill, a dish to share, and lawn chairs if you'd like. There will be games and activities for the kids. A wheelchair will also be available for anyone who needs assistance getting from the parking lot to the shelter.

Come worship with us surrounded by the beauty of God's great earth!



Sunday, September 24

Contact Lucas Greenlee if you would like to be a part of the Planning Committee

June 2017 All Church Calendar

Sun 6/4	9:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship with Communion; Mission of Month Pentecost Offering; Chancel Choir Sings for Worship 11:00 am Fellowship Hour 5:00-6:00 pm AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety)
Wed 6/7	7:00 -9:00 pm Session Meeting
Thur 6/8	1:30 pm Deacon Meeting
Sun 6/11	10:00 am Worship; Trinity Sunday 11:00 am Fellowship 5:00-6:00 pm AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety) 6:15-7:30 pm Drum Circle
Mon 6/12	9:00 am Ministry Team
Tue 6/13	<i>8:00 am- 3:30 pm Presbytery Meeting at Willow Creek Church</i>
Thur 6/15	<i>11:30 am Mariners Lunch @ Capri, 313 E State, Rkfd; followed by Oak Street Health-Rockford Orientation next door @ 301 E State (Wilbur & JoAnne Reid Hosting)</i>
Sun 6/18	10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 5:00-6:00 pm AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety)
Tue 6/20	--- July Streamer Submissions are Due in the Church Office 8:00 am Buildings & Grounds Meeting <i>9:30 am Martha Ruth Circle in the Church Library (Janet Ensminger Hosting)</i> 5:30 pm Music & Worship Meeting
Sun 6/25	10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 11:15 am Finance & Personnel Meeting 5:00-6:00 pm AA Meeting (Sold on Sobriety) Meet in Library this Night <i>5:30 pm-7:30 pm Family fun Night Willow Creek Summer Camp Kick-off-Fun for all ages (2-102)</i> 6:15-7:30 pm Drum Circle
Mon 6/26-6/30	<i>9:00 am-noon Vacation Bible School (Ages 4-5)</i> <i>9:00 am-3:30 pm Stronghold Day Camp for Elementary (Grades 1-5)</i> <i>9:00 am-3:30 pm Middle School Mission Tour (Grades 6-9)</i>
Thur 6/29	<i>Mission to Maple Crest – Congregation is Welcome</i> <i>10:00-10:30 am Entertainment, Musician Singing</i> <i>10:30-11:30 am Planting Flowers</i> <i>11:30 am Picnic Lunch in the Screen House behind the Center. Please bring a Lunch and join us.</i> <i>1:00-2:00 pm Bible Study with the Residents</i>

2017 Willow Creek Summer Camp – Sunday, June 25 – Friday, June 30

Opportunities for Everyone!

Family Fun Night (All Ages!)



Sunday, June 25, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Dinner served @ 5:30 pm

You are invited to join us for a Camp Kick Off with a Family Fun Night of Intergenerational Crafts, Games, and Bible Study.

It's a camp experience for your **WHOLE** family – There is no age limit on the fun we will have! **Free!**

Pre-K (Ages 4-5)



Vacation Bible School M-F 9:00am-noon \$20/child

We will be running a VBS program for 4-5 year olds. The Preschool VBS, led by Rebekah Landi, is from 9:00-Noon and costs \$20. Preschoolers will participate in songs, crafts, games, and developmentally appropriate Bible study.

Elementary (Grades 1-5)



Stronghold Day Camp M-F 9:00am-3:30pm \$35/child

This summer Willow Creek will be hosting Stronghold's Day Camp for children entering 1st grade through 5th grade. It is an all-day camp (9:00-3:30) full of games, Bible study, crafts, and tons of fun! Snacks will be provided, but children need to bring their own sack lunch. Click on the following link for more information:

<http://strongholdcenter.org/travelingdaycampfaq.html>

Middle School (Grades 6-9)



Local Mission Tour M-F 9:00am-3:30pm \$35/student

Middle School Students (6th-9th grade) will go on a Local Mission Tour (9:00 am-3:30 pm). Led by Pastor Judith and Maren Reid, they will travel to different places in the community, to do service work for 1-2 hours. They will have a picnic at a local park (bring a sack lunch), along with games, projects, and a Bible lesson. Each day will begin and end with Stronghold Day Camp Fun at the church!

Maximum Cost Per Family \$100

High School students are needed as crew for the day camp & Preschool VBS. Please contact Rebekah Landi (815-978-4982) or the church office (815-885-3455) if you are interested in helping.

Registration forms can be mailed to the church or dropped off in the church office (open Tues, Wed, Thurs 8:30 am - Noon). **Please register early as space is limited!**