



STREAMER

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle

7300 Belvidere Road

Caledonia, Illinois 61011

815-885-3455

January 2020

"A Faith Community, Growing Together, Sharing the love of Christ"

First of all, Happy New Year! This year promises to bring Good Tidings to the people of God who worship at Willow Creek. God is preparing this church to receive the next Called and Installed Pastor. And, God is preparing that next New Pastor to heed the call of this wonderful congregation. As sustenance for the road ahead, here are two quotes that still speak to me about this moment in our lives.

*I said to the One who stood at the Gate of the Year,
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."
And that One replied, "Go out into the darkness,
and put your hand into the hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."*

*"How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of God's heaven.
No ear may hear your coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive you, still the dear Christ enters in."
3rd verse of "O little Town of Bethlehem*

There is so much to say at this time of year. It is a time when we are invited to reflect on our life and lean into what God has in store for us in the future. So the following are my reflections upon the year we just spent together. I invite you to find time to reflect on your year. You might ask yourself these questions:

*What have been some of the highlights of this past year?
Where have I seen God at work? When have I taken God's hand?
How have I received the Christ more fully into my life?*

Here is my Top Ten Highlight List for this past year:

1. The way Session members treat each other. Kindness and respect.
2. How members of WCPC want prayers when faced with hardship.
3. How the Deacons care for church members.
4. Loren Buffington- outstanding Church Treasurer.
5. Maren Reid- Clerk of Session and Youth Group Leader.
6. Lucas Greenlee- Where else does one regularly hear Bagpipes in Church?
7. Change of Change Sunday and the way our children lead us in Mission.
8. The folks who regularly teach Sunday School.
9. Carol Nevicosi - Church Secretary and Diane VanVleet - Church Bookeeper.
10. Last but never least- Tom Andrews- wonderful musician.

Where have I seen God at work?

1. The hardworking members of the Mission Study Team. We developed several modes to gather Congregational input, processed the information, wrote the Mission Study which was approved by Blackhawk Presbytery's Committee of Ministry. First major hurdle.
2. The church members who said "YES" to being on the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). They wrote our MIF which is up and running. 2nd hurdle.
3. Traveling with some of our High Schoolers to Presbyterian Youth Triennium and the Middle and High School Mission Week. We have some incredible Youth.
4. Leading Mandy and Abbie Nelson through Confirmation.
5. The memorial services for Les Hamilton and Phyllis Hawkins.
6. The 8am Memorial Day Service at the Scottish Cemetery with full military honors.
7. Dan Holmes and Liz O'Leary's special music.
8. Worship in the Park, Kirkin' O' the Tartans, 8am Easter morning Service
9. Moving David Perez into his new apartment with Gene Wheeler.
10. Cookie Walk and my first Hamball dinner!

What an incredible year. God is indeed at work. Let us open our hearts and arms to the future that God has for us for God is not done with us yet!

Blessings,

Pastor Glen



Because of your generosity we experienced joy during this "Holy Time of Year". It's a blessing to work here!

Thank you so much,
Glen Reichelderfer
Carol Nevicosi
Stephanie Konen
Diane VanVleet



Thank you all for the wonderful cards and gifts
- they are truly appreciated.

Thank you,
Tom Andrew



Thank you to all who helped with the Habitat for Humanity Build in Belvidere, JoAnn Buffington for purchasing the fabric and coordinating the events and the youth for assembling the blankets.

(Picture of JoAnn Buffington with Habitat for Humanity homeowner Jessica T.)

A sincere thank you for the food, flowers, cards, phone calls, visits and especially prayers these past 10 months. I am starting therapy in a couple of weeks and following three months recoup time. I am hopeful my spinal surgery is successful. No one knows the future but having so many caring friends makes the unknown a little easier. Happy holidays to each of you and may God continue to touch your lives. Barb Greenlee



Thank you!

To all who made the Christmas Extravaganza a Big Success!



Christmas Card Tree on Sanctuary Landing

If you did not receive a Christmas Card from the following people, check the Christmas Card Tree. They made a contribution to WCPC as part of the Kemmerer Village Project instead of mailing a card.



Kim & John Reid
Dick & Carolyn Wheeler
Carol Norem
Jim & Delores Hall

Gene & Carolyn Wheeler
Dave & Janet Ensminger
Kathy Meyer & Ron Beyer
JoAnne & Wilbur Reid



With all needed approvals in place, we have begun accepting and reviewing applications! Applicants are being interviewed selectively after the PNC screens and provides a positive review of submitted information.

Sincerely, The Pastor Nominating Committee

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.



“Change for Change Sunday”



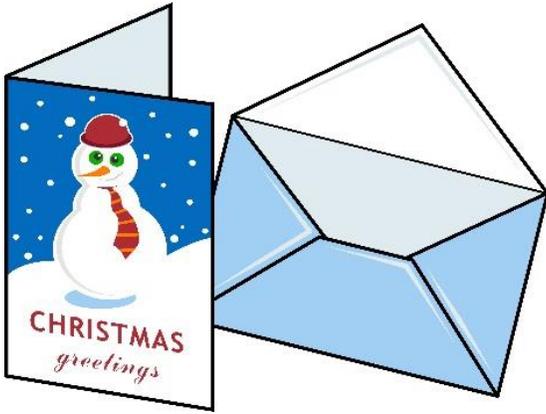
Each **Third Sunday** of the month from is "**Change for Change Sunday**". The children as part of the worship service will be collecting change from the congregation so that their chosen Mission projects can be fully funded. We have pledged to raise these our children in the faith. The children have taken the lead in this mission project. They have given us the opportunity to show, surround and saturate them in the Gospel value of generosity. **Thank you for your support!**

Do you like to sing or play an instrument? We are looking for people to share their gifts of music as anthems and offertories during worship. Please let the Worship & Music Committee know if you (or someone you know) is interested.



The Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District picked up the donated boxed potatoes from the Church and juice boxes from the Preschool. They also appreciated the donation of winter scarves, mittens and hats from the “Giving Tree”.

(The Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District are pictured here with the Preschool Children.)



Greeting Cards of all Kinds

When you are cleaning out a drawer and find those Christmas cards and the cards people sent for your birthday or when you were recovering from whatever, they can be used by Walter Lawson Home in their activity center. You can bring them to church just as they are. The youth will cut the front of the card off to prepare them for Walter Lawson. A box will be in Fellowship Hall for the card deposit. Thank you for recycling your cards in a way to help others. The cards will be delivered by the Deacons when we have some to give them.

Walter Lawson Card Cutting – Fourth Sunday of the Month

We will be cutting the Greeting Cards for the Walter Lawson on the Fourth Sunday of the Month. **Please join us!**



WCPC Operating Statistics

With the end of the year almost upon us, it is likely that we may not be able to cover our year to date deficit but we should be ok financially going forward.

Thank you again for your support and generosity.

Happy Holidays.

WCPC Operating Statistics

	November 2019	Year-to-Date
Income	\$12,795.86	\$134,363.64
Expenses	12,543.19	141,155.76
Excess/(Deficit)	252.67	(6,792.12)

Church Office Closed

Monday, December 23rd thru Thursday, December 26th

Monday, December 30th thru Wednesday, January 1st



Craft & Christmas Songs at Maple Crest

Saturday, January 4th @ 9:30/45 am

Willow Creek and the Youth Group are invited to attend Craft & Christmas Songs at Maple Crest.

Please join us!

UN-Decorating



the church!

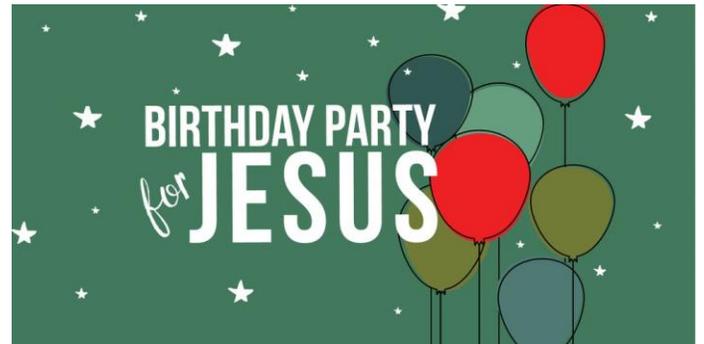
Undecorating Party

On Sunday, January 5 we will combine the Birthday Party for Jesus and the tasks of undecorating the church. There will be games for children immediately following

the church service while we start undecorating the church. A crockpot potluck will follow and end with a birthday cake for Jesus. Please come join us! Bring your favorite crock pot recipe. Rolls, crackers,

drinks and table settings will be provided.

Thank you! The Music and Worship Committee



As gifts for Jesus at our Birthday Party, we will be collecting items for the Baby Angel closet. Items that are most needed include: diapers (sizes 3-6), diaper cream, baby wash, onesies or other girls' clothes (sizes newborn through 24 months), and books (can be new or gently used). Any donations can be placed on the gift table in Fellowship Hall on January 5.



Mariners

Mariners Fellowship will meet Tuesday, January 14 at Jerry's Cafe, 2604 N. Mulford Rd. (Located in Brynwood Square) at 11:30. All are welcome. Please call Nettie Parker at 815-885-8005 if you have questions.

The 175th Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee would like all members of the congregation, including past members, to feel welcome in planning our 175th anniversary celebration scheduled for multiple dates in 2020. Specifically, we are looking for significant stories, historic events by year/month and/or artifacts as well as individuals willing to be interviewed to share memories of their experiences and family in the church. Please contact Lucas Greenlee, Tom Andrew and Annie Picken at events@willowcreekpc.org.

Let us celebrate together our wonderful history!



2020 Contribution Envelopes are available in Fellowship Hall



Each Wednesday at 12 noon, I invite all members of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church (WCPC) to join me in praying for the needs of the church. If you are not able to get to church due to work or family obligations, I ask you to stop at some point during your day (close your door if you are able) and offer up a simple prayer for the needs of the church as in

“Loving God, I join with others in praying for WCPC.” Ask God to reveal God’s holy intentions for this expression of Christ’s body.

I hope you find time to join in this simple but necessary exertion. “Prayer is work.” Let us join together in this work.
Pastor Glen





Children's Sunday School

Jan 5 Birthday Party for Jesus during Fellowship

Sunday School will be held after the Children's Sermon on the following Sundays:

Jan 19 and 26

Feb 9, 16, 23

March 8, 15, 22

April 5, 19, 26

Adult Sunday School

Sundays at 9:00 am in the Church Library



Youth Group Schedule

Jan. 4 (Saturday) – 9:30/45 am Craft & Christmas Music @ Maple Crest

Jan 5 Birthday Party for Jesus during Fellowship

Other dates are in planning.

Dan Holmes will be with us for Special Music on the following Sundays: March 29, May 31, July 12 (Worship in the Park), August 16, September 13



January Calendar

	Wed 1/1-Thur 1/2	Church Office Closed
	Wed 1/1-Fri 1/3	No Preschool-Holiday Break
Thur 1/2	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Sat 1/4	9:30/45	<i>Maple Crest Craft & Sing</i>
Sun 12/5	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship; Traditional Communion
	11:00 am	Fellowship; Undecorate the Church; Birthday Party for Jesus
	5:00-6:00 pm	AA Meeting in Argyle Room (Sold on Sobriety)
Tue 1/7	6:30-8:30 pm	Session Meeting
Wed 1/8	Noon	Prayer in Fellowship Hall
Thur 1/9	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Sun 1/12	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship; Baptism of the Lord; Ordination & Installation of Elders & Deacons
	11:00 am	Fellowship
	5:00-6:00 pm	AA Meeting in Church Library (Sold on Sobriety)
Mon 1/13	9:00 am	Deacon Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Tue 1/14	11:30 am	<i>Mariners lunch @ Jerry's Café, 2601 N. Mulford Rd., Rockford</i>
Wed 1/15	Noon	Prayer in Fellowship Hall
Thur 1/16	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Sun 1/19	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship; Change for Change Sunday
	10:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	11:00 am	Fellowship
	5:00-6:00 pm	AA Meeting in Church Library (Sold on Sobriety)
Mon 1/20	---	<i>February Streamer & Calendar Items Due to Church Office</i>
	Mon 1/20-Tue 1/21	No Preschool Martin Luther King Holiday
Tue 1/21	8:00 am	Buildings & Grounds Meeting
	6:00 pm	Music & Worship Meeting
Wed 1/22	Noon	Prayer in Fellowship Hall
Thur 1/23	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Fri 1/24		Rankin Wedding Rehearsal
Sat 1/25		Rankin Wedding
Sun 1/26	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	11:00 am	Fellowship; Walter Lawson Card Cutting
	5:00-6:00 pm	AA Meeting in Church Library (Sold on Sobriety)
Wed 1/29	Noon	Prayer in Fellowship Hall
	12:15 pm	Preschool Board Meeting
Thur 1/30	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)

Hamball Dinner and the Christmas Extravaganza



