



STREAMER

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle

7300 Belvidere Road

Caledonia, Illinois 61011

815-885-3455

March 2020

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

The word "Lent" does not mean "penance" or "giving up something"- although that is what first enters our thoughts. The word "Lent" comes from an Old English word *lencten* which refers to the lengthening of days.

In the Christian calendar, Lent is the Holy Season that begins at Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Sunday.

It used to be that we all saw Lent as a time of sacrifice, a time of deprivation- a time to fast from chocolate, coffee, candy, meat, T.V. or other indulgences. That idea changed for me in the late 1980's.

Authors Jim and Evelyn Whitehead proposed a new idea- fasting and feasting. This is what they suggest: Let us use Lent as a time to fast on parts of our lives that are unhealthy and feast on what brings us life. What a novel idea. Instead of an external checklist which emphasizes outward appearances, they ask us to focus on the internal- our hearts. In other words, the Whiteheads say, use the season of Lent to become more honest- accepting that our past is past, letting go of our baggage and saying "hello" to what God wants most for us- to be more fully alive.

Lent does not become a time of spiffing up our externals so that when the spotlight hits us, we look good. Instead, it becomes a time to allow the Light of Christ to shine through us a bit more clearly.

From what is it that we want to fast? Our quick temper? Our rush to judgment? Our sharp tongue? Our frugality? Our wayward ways? Our feelings of being excluded? The frenzy of our lives? Our need to shop?

What do we want to feast on? Simplifying our lives? Daily writing down three things for which we are grateful? Praying more frequently with loved ones? Watching a sunset or a sunrise twice a week? Reading a Gospel in its entirety in one sitting? Talking to an unfamiliar person at church?

Among other things, I will be fasting on frenzy and feasting on focus.

I have even made a sign that I have put up in my office to remind me.

I wonder what God might want you to Fast on? Feast on? this Lent and beyond.

Isn't it time to let go of what is in our way and move deeper into God's Light?

Peace, Glen

Lenten Devotionals

Again this year we are providing Lenten Devotionals to the members of Willow Creek in two different ways:

For those who like to have a physical devotional in hand, we have printed a few copies of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary 2020 Lenten Devotional. They will be available on the credenza in Fellowship Hall.

For those more adept at using their computer, on our website we are supplying links to two wonderful on-line Lenten Devotionals.

- One is from Biola College- very creative and multisensory.
- One is from Pittsburgh Seminary.

In order to access them, you will have to subscribe to these on-line Devotionals; they are so worth it. I subscribe to both.

I hope that you will try these on-line devotionals to see how they help us grow at this holy time of year. Direct any feedback to me.

Thank you for being willing to experiment. As our church evolves, two of the attributes that our church will need to embody is flexibility and agility.

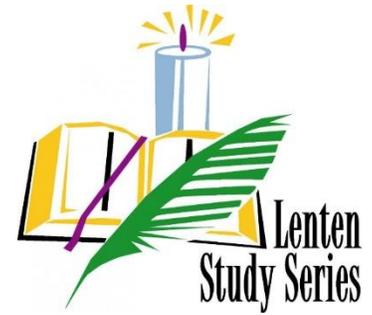
This Lent, let us practice being flexible and agile. Blessings. Peace, Pastor Glen

 <p>The 2020 Lent Project Online Devotional Series</p> 	<p>Biola University CENTER for CHRISTIANITY CULTURE & the ARTS 2020 Lenten Project</p> <p>http://cca.biola.edu/events/2020/feb/26/2020-lent-project-online-devotional-series/</p>
 	<p>Pittsburgh Theological Seminary 2020 Lenten Devotionals available Online, Audio or PDF</p> <p>https://www.pts.edu/devotional_1</p>

2020 Lenten Soup Suppers will be held 5:30-7pm on Wednesday

- March 4
- March 11
- March 18
- March 25

The members of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church are invited to provide a simple soup or two loaves of hearty bread. Salad and drinks will be provided. Signup sheets will be in Fellowship Hall.



After our meal, the children will have their own time of study.

The adults will be watching and discussing portions of the movie "The Shack".

Invite your neighbors and friends to this enriching time of study and fellowship.

Miss a Worship service?
Check out recordings on
Willow Creek's new YouTube channel!



*Come Learn, Worship and Share
with us every Sunday*

*Adult
Sunday School*



9:00am

Worship



10:00am

Fellowship

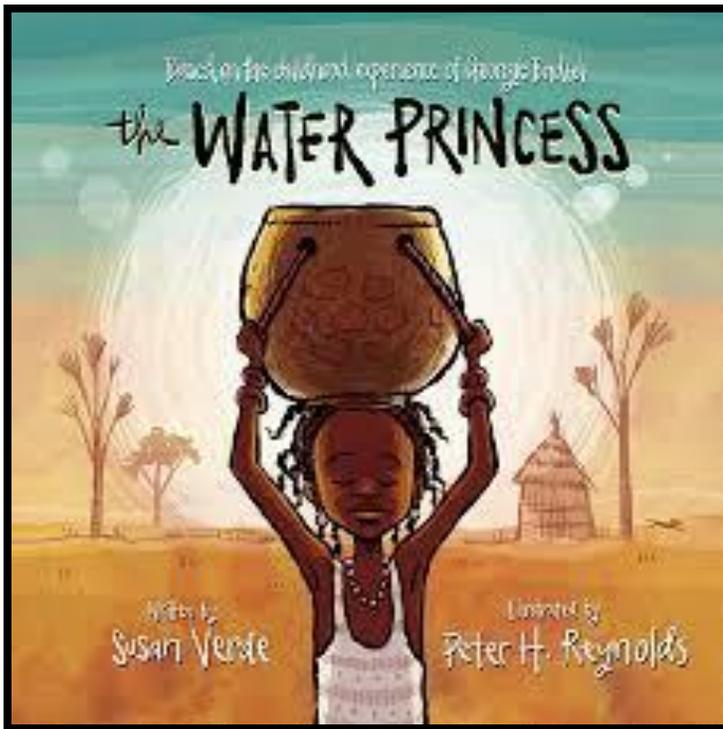


11:00am



SUBSCRIBE

search: Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle



On Sunday February 16th, the children of the church led us in worship. It was a marvel. During the Sermon time, they read and acted out the book called The Water Princess. Then Argyle Greenlee presented many facts about the dearth of clean water in many parts of Africa. The children allowed me some time to speak. Part of what I said was this:

"Rebekah Landi, Maren Reid, April Rottman and I make up the Christian Education Committee. In one of our meetings, we reflected on the energy that Change for Change Sunday (3rd Sunday of each month) was producing not only in the children of our church but also within our congregation. We

began to dream and wonder out loud "What might God be up to?" And in our wondering and dreaming out loud, it hit us that, for this year, the children could help our church focus our mission. One of us said something about digging wells; one of us said something about knowing an organization that digs wells; one of us remembered reading "The Water Princess" and one of us said something about planting trees and the Holy Spirit just took over.

Our proposal, which was approved by Session, is to take 6 months of the 2020 budgeted money that is ear-marked for Mission and use it to buy wells through an organization called Marion Medical Mission- www.mmmwater.org- which FYI was begun by the son of a Presbyterian Minister. Plus, we want to plant trees and other bits of landscape around local Habitat for Humanity's homes. As my friend Doug would say, "It is not about what we cannot do, but what we can do." In the heart of this world, the Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present. God's love constantly impels us to find new ways to express holy love."

As a follow-up to the marvel of that worship service and to augment what Argyle presented, we are providing you with three links to short videos which teach us about why we are focusing on digging wells this year. Just click on the links. Please take the time to ponder and pray with each one.

Any questions? Direct them to me... Such good energy. Such a marvelous Sunday.

For those of you not here on that Sunday, please feel free to join us in our 2020 Mission focus each third Sunday of the month when the children collect the "Change for Change" offering.

As we offer our change, we are changed.
We become sources of "living water" who bless others in our world.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Dear Partners in God's Mission,

We give thanks to you for your support of Special Offerings, our collective witness to the love of Jesus Christ. By participating in Special Offerings, your congregation joins other churches to change lives around the world through ministries of compassion, advocacy, development, peacemaking, Christian formation, education and witness.

On December 31, 2019, we received \$365 for the Christmas Joy Offering. Your congregation's giving, when combined with that of others, will share the love of Christ with those in need.

Again, **thank you** for giving to enable all people to know God's life-giving welcome in Jesus Christ. Please let me know how we can support *your* efforts.

With gratitude to God for our shared mission,
Bryce Wiebe

I would like to thank Jim & Delores Hall for the great meal that they made for us to eat at my place. It was delicious. Plus, Jim brought some reading material that he is going to quiz me on. Thank you, for the church for having such caring people. Again, thank you Jim and Delores.

Todd Greenlee

thank
you!



Willow Creek,

Thank you to all the cards and well wishes you sent during my eye surgery recovery. It was a great comfort knowing you all care.

God Bless,
Renee O'Dell



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



PASTOR
NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

Your prayers are working and the PNC continues to review applications while also reaching out to potential pastors. Please continue praying that our positive conversations continue at this productive pace. Whew – that’s a plethora of P’s!

Sincerely, The Pastor Nominating Committee

“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.



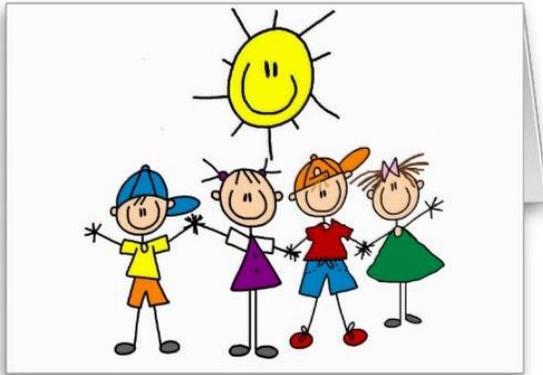
Thank you for your support!



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!**

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.



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.



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.

Dan Holmes will be with us for Special Music on the following Sundays:

March 29

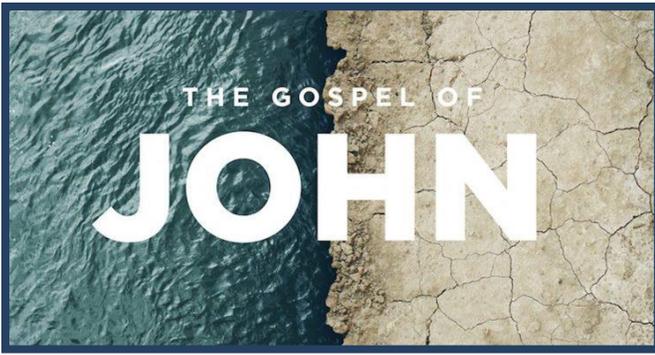
May 31

July 12 (Worship in the Park)

August 16

September 13





The **Christian Education Committee** invites you to deepen your faith in God as we study together using the Gospel of John. We learn from each other.

We meet at 9 am in the Library each Sunday.
Bring a friend. We hope to see you there.

Mariners

The Mariners will meet on Tuesday, March 10 @ 11:30 am at Jerry's Café, 2601 N. Mulford Road, Rockford (In Brynwood Square).

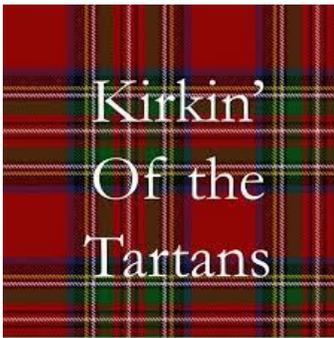


It's Crafts at Maple Crest!
4452 Squaw Prairie Rd, Belvidere
Saturday, March 14, @ 9:45 am
Youth Group Attending
All church members are invited!



WCPC Operating Statistics
Outside lighting repair/replacement and ice/snow/salting/removal set us back in January.
We are all familiar with repairs and weather related issues.
Thank you for your faithful support.

	WCPC Operating Statistics	
	January 2020	Year-to-Date
Income	9,720.43	9,720.43
Expenses	15,340.33	15,340.33
Excess/(Deficit)	(5,619.90)	(5,619.90)



Save the Date
Kirkin & 175th Celebration
Sunday, September 27th



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 September. 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, or sign up in the back of the fellowship hall to be interviewed between now and June 28th.

Let us celebrate together our wonderful history!



Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle was begun 175 years ago. On September 27th, we will be celebrating our history and our heritage. In order to defray the cost of this magnificent moment, on the first Sunday of each month, we will be receiving (in a Scottish Tam) a "freewill offering". The suggested monthly donation is \$1.75/person.

Thank you,
Session and the 175th Planning Committee

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle
@willowcreekpc

@willowcreekpcargyle
Willow Creek PC of Argyle
We are a faith community growing together sharing the love of Christ. We gather to worship, deepen our bonds, and grow in Christ serving others.

Check out the latest photos and events on our Facebook and Instagram pages!
<https://www.facebook.com/willowcreekpc>
<https://www.instagram.com/willowcreekpcargyle/>



Children's Sunday School

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

March 8, 15, 22

April 5, 19, 26

Adult Sunday School

Sundays at 9:00 am in the Church Library



Youth Group Schedule

Mar. 8, 11:30-1:30 pm; Lesson & Games

Mar. 14, 9:30 am - 11:00 am; Maple Crest Crafts

Mar. 29, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm; Family Activities – Passion Story

Apr. 19, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm; Earth Day Activities

Apr. 26, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm; Family Games

May 17, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm; Youth Wrap Up

February 8th Youth Lock-in





2020 Willow Creek Presbyterian Church Summer Bible Camp
Monday, July 13 – Friday, July 17
7300 Belvidere Road, Caledonia

Pre-K (Ages 4-5) Vacation Bible School M-F	9:00am-noon	\$15/student
Preschoolers (ages 4-5) will participate in songs, crafts, games, and developmentally appropriate Bible study.		
Elementary (Grades 1-5) Stronghold Day Camp M-F	9:00am-2:30pm	\$30/student
Stronghold's Day Camp is for children entering 1 st grade through 5 th grade. Day camp is full of games, Bible study, crafts, and tons of fun! Snacks will be provided, but children need to bring their own sack lunch.		
Middle School (Grades 6-9) Local Mission Tour M-F	9:00am-2:30pm	\$30/student
Middle School Students (6 th -9 th grade) will go on a Local Mission Tour. Led by Pastor 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 \$80		
High School Students are needed as volunteers to assist with Preschool VBS, Stronghold Day Camp, and Local Mission Tour. Please contact Rebekah Landi (815-978-4982) or the church office (815-885-3455) if you are interested in helping.		
Registration forms are available at the church or on the church website http://www.willowcreekpc.org Completed registration forms can be mailed to the church (7300 Belvidere Rd, Caledonia, IL 61011) or dropped off in the church office. Please register early as space is limited!		

February 26 - April 12, 2020

One Great Hour of Sharing

For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world.

in a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

your impact

Restoring Hope, Feeding the Hungry, Empowering the Oppressed

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



5,676 PDA work team volunteers served in 2019
\$3.2 million granted around the globe through PDA
in 2019

\$925,960 granted around the globe through PHP in
2018

329 farms and gardens provided healthy food to
families in need

95,500 trees and seedlings planted around the world

5,316 clergy, wage theft monitors, human rights
trainees, organizers, policy advocates, and
indigenous leaders attended intensive trainings in
the U.S.

5,600 loans distributed for income generating
projects and cooperatives

over 5,000 projects in economically poor
communities in the United States and around the
world have had an opportunity to develop solutions
to their own challenges since SDOP's inception
946,000 pounds of fresh produce grown and
prepared by five PHP grant partners in the U.S.

213 certified PC (USA) Earth Care congregations in 47
states helped care for creation

March Calendar

Sun 3/1	9:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00-6:00 pm 6:30-8:30 pm	Adult Sunday School Worship; 1 st Sunday of Lent; Communion by Intinction; Tam Offering; Pulpit Supply David Jones Fellowship AA Meeting in Argyle Room (Sold on Sobriety) Session Meeting
Tue 3/3	Noon	Prayer in Fellowship Hall
Wed 3/4	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	<i>Lenten Study & Soup Supper</i>
Thur 3/5	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Sun 3/8	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 11:00 am 11:30 am – 1:30 pm 5:00-6:00 pm	Adult Sunday School Worship; 2 nd Sunday of Lent; Communion by Intinction Children's Sunday School Fellowship Youth Group Lesson & Games AA Meeting in Church Library (Sold on Sobriety)
Mon 3/9	9:00 am	Deacon Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Mon 3/9 thru Mon 3/16		Pastor Glen Vacation
Tue 3/10	11:30 am	<i>Mariners, Jerry's Café, 2601 N. Mulford Road (In Brynwood Square)</i>
Wed 3/11	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	<i>Lenten Study & Soup Supper</i>
Thur 3/12	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Sat 3/14	9:30 am – 11:00 am	<i>Maple Crest Crafts; Youth Group Attending</i>
Sun 3/15	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 11:00 am 5:00-6:00 pm	Adult Sunday School Worship; 3 rd Sunday of Lent; Communion by Intinction; Change for Change Sunday; Pulpit Supply Greg Albert Children's Sunday School Fellowship AA Meeting in Church Library (Sold on Sobriety)
Tue 3/17	8:00 am 6:00 pm	Buildings & Grounds Meeting Music & Worship Meeting Tentative
Wed 3/18	Noon 12:15 pm 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Prayer in Fellowship Hall Preschool Board Meeting <i>Lenten Study & Soup Supper</i>
Thur 3/19	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Fri 3/20	---	April Streamer & Calendar Items due to Office
Fri 3/20 – Fri 3/27		No Preschool – Spring Break
Sun 3/22	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 11:00 am 5:00-6:00 pm	Adult Sunday School Worship; 4 th Sunday of Lent; Communion by Intinction Children's Sunday School Fellowship; Walter Lawson Card Cutting AA Meeting in Church Library (Sold on Sobriety)
Wed 3/25	Noon 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Prayer in Fellowship Hall <i>Lenten Study & Soup Supper</i>
Thur 3/26	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Women's Studies in the Argyle Room (Jodi Henderson)
Sun 3/29	9:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am – 1:30 pm 5:00-6:00 pm	Adult Sunday School Worship; 5 th Sunday of Lent; Communion by Intinction Fellowship Youth Group Family Activities & Passion Story AA Meeting in Church Library (Sold on Sobriety)

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. You may take your flower home or donate it. Bulbs (Tulips, Daffodils, & Hyacinths) will be donated to the church youth group for planting in front of the church; while leftover Easter lilies will be delivered to the elderly and infirm by the Deacons. 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 March 23.**

Type of Flower _____ Quantity _____
(indicate Easter Lily, Tulip, Daffodil, or Hyacinth)

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.