



# STREAMER

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle

7300 Belvidere Road

Caledonia, Illinois 61011

815-885-3455

July 2020

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

## **Being a Life-Long Learner of Faith**

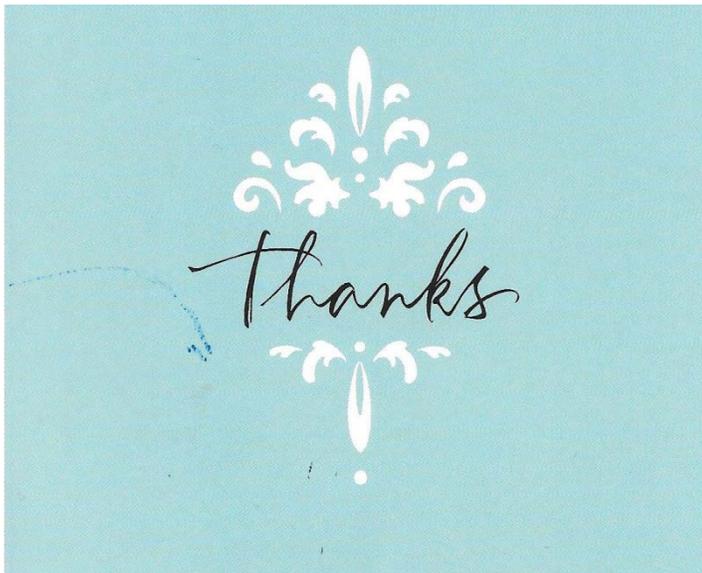
As an educator, the term 'life-long learner' has been a part of my vocabulary for many years now. It is what we strive to instill in our students; the ability and desire to seek knowledge for their entire lives. Being a life-long learner is not something that just applies to the world of education though. Many of us have had to embrace learning in the past few months. Learning new ways of accomplishing some of our daily routines, learning about COVID-19, and learning new ways of staying in touch with family and friends. It may not have always been easy, or what we wanted, however, because our human brains are hard-wired for learning, we were all able to acquire the new knowledge and skills needed to survive in our current world.

This ability to learn and grow should also be an integral part of our faith. Many of us tend to reserve that learning for Sunday morning worship. However, our Christian faith calls us to be life-long learners; to continually study the Bible, to continually listen to discern God's calling, and to continually be active in our faith. One of the beautiful things about being human is our uniqueness which allows us all to learn in different ways. For some of us spending quiet time in meditation with God feeds the learning hunger. Others learn best when engrossed in conversations. Some need to read and dig deeper into the Bible to fulfill their desire to comprehend more. Or perhaps you are a person who digests more when you sit back and listen. Whatever the mode of learning you choose, the point is, that learning is essential. As Proverbs 1: 2-7 tells us learning is needed,

"for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight; for acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young- let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance- for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline."

As our world was reeling from learning to function in the midst of a pandemic, we were faced with another harsh reality: racism. This too requires learning. Perhaps more importantly it demands that we listen. Listen to the stories of others, listen to your heart, and listen to hear where God is calling. Being open to conversations is another place to start learning. Sometimes these conversations will push you out of your comfort zone; embrace this because this is when growth happens. Speak honestly using 'I' statements and work to notice when you judge others. Embracing these courageous conversations is one way to gain knowledge, insight, and compassion. For it is when we are willing to listen and willing to deepen our understandings that we become life-long learners both within our lives and within our faith.

Maren Reid, Clerk of Session



To Our Willow Creek Family,  
 Thank you to everyone for their cards, calls,  
 visits, food deliveries and memorial donations.  
 The “drive-by” visitation and the “drive-in”  
 service helped us through this difficult time. If  
 you weren’t able to attend, the service can be  
 viewed via a cut & paste link at the bottom of  
 Dave’s obituary on the Delehanty website. Your  
 continued remembrance will be appreciated in  
 the coming days.

Sincerely,  
 Phyllis Cummings

[https://youtu.be/5QeC0D3w\\_Ac](https://youtu.be/5QeC0D3w_Ac) (link to recording of Dave Cumming’s Drive-In Graveside Service)



### July Calendar of Worship Services

Date	Pulpit Supply	Service Information
7/5	Hailey Monroe	Recorded
7/12	Dan Holmes	Drive-in Worship in the Parking Lot Change for Change Collection Bring your own sack lunch to enjoy in the parking lot after the service
7/19	David Jones	Recorded
7/26	Mike Engle	Drive-in Worship in the Parking Lot Brown Bag Communion

Worship Services can be found online at: <https://willowcreekpc.org/sermons>

*Our communities and country are enveloped in the dramatic intersection of the multiple crises of: pandemic, the vivid demonstration of racism, economic distress, and deep political division.*

*We turn to God to come to our aid and begin to heal the wounds.*

*We offer this prayer, lovingly crafted by Elder Ron Barkby, Elgin First.*

*You are encouraged to use it in worship or share.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Good and gracious Creator of all life itself...

We come before you in a time of darkness and confusion,  
struggling to understand what is happening in our world, trying to  
summon the strength to find answers, trying not to feel hopeless,  
Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

In the quiet of the night, in the stillness of the moment,  
we remember that you are with us and that  
we can call on you to help us to do your work,  
Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

As humankind endures indescribable losses,  
with violence and hate replacing compassion, we need  
now more than ever to be both the peacemakers and the justice seekers  
that you intended your people to be,  
Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We ask that we be given strength and wisdom to remember  
that the darkness will never overcome your light, that  
humankind will have the knowledge to  
find an answer to the global pandemic and viruses of injustice,  
Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord, for those we know, and those we do not know,  
guide us to share your love with all who have lost family, friends, neighbors,  
to the invisible virus and the visible violence, knowing that  
we can reliably tell all that you are with us in this time of suffering,  
transforming the darkness into light,

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

PASTOR  
NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE

Your PNC is working in creative ways to amplify our reach to candidates. We are positive that this, along with your prayers, will lead us to the pastor God has in store!"

On behalf of the PNC, we send blessings and love to you all!  
Marie Wiersema



PNC Members: Ed Rottman, Brenda Benning, Steve Picken, Pat Nortch and Marie Wiersema

During the Illinois "Stay at home", the church office is closed. Please email the church office at [willowcreekchrch@aol.com](mailto:willowcreekchrch@aol.com). Until Willow Creek has a Pastor or there is a new Interim Pastor, in case of emergency members should contact:  
Maren Reid (Clerk of Session) 815-978-5307 or  
Jim Hall (Chairperson of Deacons) 815-633-1784



**Summer Camps are Canceled**

With everything that's going on in our world and church right now, the Christian education committee has decided to cancel VBS/summer camp for 2020. We will miss offering this enjoyable week for our youth, but look forward to holding it again in 2021!  
Christian Education 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/>

If you would like to contribute to Change for Change or 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, please mail your offering check to the church and indicate in the "memo" to which account (Change for Change or 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund) to direct your offering.

### "Change for Change Sunday"

Each Second Sunday of the summer months will be "Change for Change Sunday". The children will be collecting change at the Drive –in service. We have pledged to raise 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!**



**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, please give to the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund.

Thank you,  
Session and the 175th Planning Committee

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

## WCPC Operating Statistics

Determining what drives people to give to a church or charity is an impossible task, and it keeps those responsible for the finances of those entities awake many nights. When times are bad the frustration can get one down, and in good times the relief is so great that one gets the feeling that we can do anything we put our minds to.



**Thank you all for the support the church received in May, and may God continue his blessings on each and every one.**

	WCPC Operating Statistics	
	May 2020	Year-to-Date
Income	16,143.95	61,114.21
Expenses	11,673.59	65,965.32
Excess/(Deficit)	<u>4,470.36</u>	<u>(4,851.11)</u>

## Drive-In Worship, Sunday, July 12, Church Parking Lot



**Dan Holmes**

- Guest Worship Leader
- Special Music

**Change for Change Collection  
Sunday**

**You are invited to bring a sack lunch  
to enjoy in the parking lot after the  
service.**

(Drive-in Worship will replace this Year's Worship in the Park.)

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

- July 12 (Drive-in Service)
- August 16
- September 13





## Kirkin & 175<sup>th</sup> Celebration Sunday, September 27th

Let us celebrate together our wonderful history!



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 27th, 2020. Our theme is "Witness the ties that bind us together", so we are looking for your stories, historic events, explanation of artifacts, and any memories that define the Willow Creek Community.

Please send your personal reflections to Lucas Greenlee, Tom Andrew, and Annie Picken at [events@willowcreekpc.org](mailto:events@willowcreekpc.org).

## Willow Creek 175<sup>th</sup> Dodransbicentennial

### Video Interview Questions

Thank you for agreeing to spend time telling your Willow Creek story. Here are some questions we may ask to get you thinking.

1. How long have you been a member/attended Willow Creek?
2. If you weren't born into the church, why did you stay?
3. If you were born into the church, do you know how your grandpa and grandma or parents met?
4. What was your relationship with your grandparents? Do you know any stories handed down by your ancestors?
5. Did you ever leave the church and come back?
6. What is/was your full-time job?
7. Who else in your family attends Willow Creek?
8. How old are you?
9. What are your hobbies?
10. What talents do you share with the church?
11. How have you participated in the church? (committees, Sunday School, dinners, session, etc.)
12. What impact has the church had on your life?
13. What is the 1 thing you want to be remembered by?
14. What memory of the church no longer exists?
15. How is church today different than when you were younger?
16. How has the church landscape changed?
17. Do you have any photos and recipes passed down by family/ancestors?
18. Anything else you would like to share?

Sharing Our Historic Identify - How do we define our identity (ages, music, clothes, career, hobbies, food) - Finding our identity through our history

