



# Streamer

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle  
7300 Belvidere Road  
Caledonia, Illinois 61011  
815-885-3455  
June 2021

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

## A FINAL REFLECTION

It was a great pleasure subbing for Pastor Lauren during her maternity leave. I enjoyed developing a series of messages about the role God's love plays in the lives of God's children as I shared some of my personal story.

One story I didn't share is about my daughter who now works for the Northern Illinois Food Bank and her comment that surprised me years ago when – as a teenager – she declared her favorite parable begins:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, "

"Although she doesn't remember saying it I remember it well. I think it is because she would attend worship in those days and read a book during my sermon. I didn't chastise her for it, but I was doubly impressed that one sermon I gave on Matthew 25 must have gotten through to her. Her commitment as a fund raiser for the CROP Hunger Walk organization and now for Northern Illinois Food Bank suggests all the more that I am right about that.

Unlike so many of Jesus' parables that can be found in at least two or more of the four gospels the parable of the sheep and the goats is found only in Matthew. This helps make naming our national church program after it a logical decision. Although chapter 25 has several other parables as well, Matthew 25 has become synonymous with the Jesus saying:

"For as much as you have done it to the least of these you have done it to me."

One thing that has recently struck me is this. When the sheep were informed they had helped Jesus, their risen Lord, they were surprised.

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'"

It appears the righteous sheep didn't need awareness that they were helping their savior. They were simply helping out of their compassion for anyone less fortunate than themselves.

It is my understanding that the call to become a Matthew 25 Church includes the effort to convince all Presbyterians that everyone, even those who have made bad choices in their lives, are worthy of our help. Your web site makes it clear that Willow Creek Presbyterian Church understands this. As I pointed out in my Pentecost sermon your web site – 'Our Missions' page under the 'About Us' tab – cites Matthew 25 and continues:

"Mission and outreach are a huge part of who we are at Willow Creek Presbyterian Church. We believe that serving one another is serving God. You'll notice that we serve not only those around us, but those among us. If you are in need, please contact us."

Clearly, Willow Creek Presbyterians are not surprised to know all that they do for others has, in fact, been helping our Savior. Were your church to become an official Matthew 25 Congregation you would simply be announcing this to everyone else.

Pastor David Jones

## Hybrid Worship

We have returned to hybrid worship! Our local public health guidance allows for 50 folks in our sanctuary, and so if you feel comfortable, you are welcome to join us in person for worship on Sunday mornings at 10am. You are also welcome to continue worshipping virtually on Facebook live, YouTube or our church website.

Per current public health guidelines, we will wear masks in the building at all times, practice social distancing between households, and we will not be able to sing or recite together. Our hope is that these restrictions are temporary.

If you do choose to join us for worship in person, we ask that you sign our updated WCPC Covid-19 Waiver.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask! Call or email the church office.



As updates happen to the Phase 4 public health guidelines, Session is doing its best to adapt our own protocol. The newest update says that a fully vaccinated individual (including the two week waiting period) does not 'count' in the total limit of having 50 people gathered in one space. That being said, if you have been fully vaccinated and are willing to share that info with us, we can then welcome more people into our sanctuary. If being fully vaccinated and willing to share applies to you, then we ask that show your vaccine card to the host on Sunday

morning (the hosts are the ones receiving waivers at the little table on the stairs). They will put a check by your name that you are fully vaccinated and will then know that you should not be counted in the total of 50. You only have to show your card once - we'll keep record of it. Please know that this is 100% voluntary and we will not ask for your card. Simply show it if you are willing. Please let us know if you have any questions!

**\*\*We are grateful that the covid situation continues to improve, as evidenced by the CDC announcing new guidelines for folks who are fully vaccinated. We look forward to discussing these new guidelines, as well as the policies from our local government, at our next Session meeting on June 8th. For now, we will continue to follow our current policies for worshipping in person (wearing masks, practicing social distance between households, etc.). \*\***

# f. faith and finances

## Per Capita

Please submit your Per Capita prior to December 1, 2021 in order to meet the Blackhawk Presbytery Deadline.

## Bank Draft

A Bank Draft is an easy way to give monthly. Many of our members have chosen this method. Several advantages include: no church weekly giving envelopes, no need to write checks, no handling by the Church Financial Secretaries & there are no fees. Please contact our bookkeeper Diane VanVleet at the church for assistance to set up a bank draft.

## Online Giving

Through the website: [willowcreekpc.org](http://willowcreekpc.org), click on the "Giving" or "Make a Donation" tabs and follow the instructions. This is a very simple method to give. There is a 2% fee per dollar amount on each transaction. On a gift of \$50 the fee would be \$1. If this is a recurring gift, and you would like to avoid the fees the church pays you may want to consider a bank draft.

## Church Envelopes

This is a traditional method of giving. Church envelopes are generated for you and used to give weekly gifts. If you wish to receive or discontinue receiving a box of envelopes, please notify the church office.

## WCPC Operating Statistics

	WCPC Operating Statistics	
	April 2021	Year-to-Date
Income	13,508.58	44,607.33
Expenses	11,266.06	53,316.62
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Excess/(Deficit)	2,242.52	(8,709.29)





Dear Willow Creek Friends,

I have managed to line up what I hope is a good mix of music for the summer: old faithful Willow Creek musicians, old faithful guest artists, and some new faces and talent.

On June 6<sup>th</sup> the entire service will be played by Deborah Dunnavan-Moreau, both on the piano and the organ. Deb is one of my dearest friends. In fact, we graduated from East High together many years ago. When I came back to Rockford in 2005, we ran into each other at a RPS 205 function, both of us being teachers, and we have been fast friends ever since. How wonderful to renew a friendship from so long ago... someone who knew me way back when. Deb will also be playing for us in August. I so look forward to working with her.

June looks like this:

June 6.....Deborah Dunnavan-Moreau, Keyboard

June 13...Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto

June 20...Tom Andrew, Keyboard

June 27...Jim Burright, Baritone & Guitar

See you in church!!!

Liz

Pastor Lauren & Scott will be back with us on June 6th, so glad to have you back! Also welcome sweet Emmett.



June 20, 2021. Want to wish a Happy Father's Day to all the wonderful fathers. May it is a Blessed one!

To Session,

I wanted to sincerely thank you for choosing me for the Flora McEachron Scholarship. It was such an honor to be chosen and made me ecstatic when I received your letter. I will forever be grateful to my church family and want to thank all of you for helping me become who I am today. I am highly appreciative of your kindness and your guidance that you have given me over the years. Thank you for all that you have done for me.

Abbie Nelson





## “Worship in the Park”

Mark your calendars! Sunday, July 11, 2021 @ 10:00 am  
We will have a Worship in the Park service again after a one year hiatus due to Covid. It will be held at Aberdeen Park and Shelter at 1343 Orth Road. There is a shelter with picnic tables and bathrooms, playground, sand volleyball, walking path, tennis courts, baseball diamond, and basketball courts. Although the Worship and Music Committee does not feel a “potluck” is quite in order yet, we encourage you to bring sack lunches for you and your family, as well as drinks. Our committee will provide charcoal and lighter fluid if you would like to grill some meat. The worship service will start at 10:00 am with music by Dan Holmes, lunch will follow if you choose

to stay.

A wheel chair will also be available for anyone who might need it. There are plenty of picnic tables and benches, but you are also welcome to bring you own chairs if you prefer or would be more comfortable with those.

Hope to see you there!

## Bed Build!

Saturday, June 19 2021 from 9:00-12:00ish will be our first Bed Build, planned in coordination with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Help us provide beds to children in our area who are in need. Below are the ways you can help:

- donate single size sheets, blankets, pillows, or mattress protectors (we need enough for 10 beds)
- sign up to help build beds on June 19 (from sanding to sawing to nailing, all are welcome)
- sign up to help make lunches for the work crew (lunch crew will wear gloves and masks, and package everything individually)
- sign up to help make tie blankets to give to the children receiving the beds



Many hands make light work! This should be a fun way to work together as a church family to help those in our community. All ages and abilities are welcome! We'll provide a picnic lunch for all those who volunteer.



VBS UPDATE: After much deliberation Christian Education reached the decision to not host a week long VBS this year. Instead, we have decided to offer 4 ‘VBS’ Events spread throughout the summer. These will be for a couple of hours (11:00-1:00) on Sunday after church and for kids of all ages; from toddlers to seniors (both high school and age-wise). We’ll fill the time with games, a lesson, and a picnic lunch (brought from home).

Here are the dates for the ‘VBS’ Events:

June 13, July 18, August 1, and August 29<sup>th</sup>.



# CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Sunday, June 6, 13 & 27 @ 10:30 am

We will meet in person. Children can go down to Sunday school after the Scripture reading.

Mark your calendars for the week of August 9.....because it is Boone County Fair time! We have registered to host our respite tent again this year, so we'll be looking for volunteers to offer our hospitality to fairgoers as the time gets closer.



The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than \$18 million for ministries of education and spiritual formation events such as the Presbyterian Youth

Triennium, Young Adult Volunteers and the *Educate a Child, Transform the World* initiative. In addition, 40% of the Offering stays with local congregations to support their own ministries.

Please give generously, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

## **“Change for Change Sunday”**

Each **Second Sunday** of the month will be **"Change for Change Sunday"**. 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.

**Please mail your offering check to the church and indicate in the “memo” Change for Change. Thank you for your support!**



## June 2021 All Church Calendar

Sun 6/6	10:00 am	Hybrid Worship; Communion - Special Music by Deborah Dunnavan-Moreau, Keyboard
	10:30 am	Children's Sunday School
Mon 6/7		<b>**New Summer Office Hours - Tues-Wed-Thurs. 8:30 am – 12:30 pm**</b>
Tues 6/8	6:30 pm	Session Meeting
Fri 6/11	4:00 pm	Youth Camp Out/Lock-In
Sun 6/13	10:00 am	Hybrid Worship; - Special Music by Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto
	10:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	11:00 am	Vacation Bible School
Tue 6/15	8:00 am	Buildings and Grounds Meeting in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 pm	Music and Worship Meeting
Sat 6/19	9:00 - Noon	"Build-A-Bed" Church Parking Lot
Sun 6/20	10:00 am	Hybrid Worship in Parking Lot: <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> <b>(Can bring lawn chairs and sit in family groups, or can sit in cars).</b> Special Music by Tom Andrew, Keyboard
6/21	6:30 pm	Media Committee Meeting
	--	<b>**Streamer Articles due to Church Office**</b>
6/27	10:00 am	Hybrid Worship Service: Special Music by Jim Burright, Baritone & Keyboard
	10:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	Noon	F/P/E Zoom Meeting



Summer Church Office Hours: Open Tues-Wed-Thurs  
from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm or email the church office at  
[willowcreekchrch@aol.com](mailto:willowcreekchrch@aol.com).

In case of emergency members should contact:

Pastor Lauren Patrus-Betzel 678-230-7549

Maren Reid (Clerk of Session) 815-978-5307 or

Jim Hall (Chairperson of Deacons) 815-633-1784



**The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** will be postponed until we can gather in full again. If you would like to contribute to the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, **please mail your offering check to the church and indicate in the “memo” 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle  
@willowcreekpc

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/>

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

YouTube

Come Learn, Worship and Share  
with us every Sunday

Sabbath School	Worship	Fellowship
9:00am	10:00am	11:00am

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