

STREAMER

Willow Creek Church of Argyle
 7300 Belvidere Road
 Caledonia, Illinois 61011
 815-885-3455
 August 2022

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

Dear Willow Creek Church Family,

August has turned into a month of service for us! In January, your Session adopted a Mission framework based on Acts 1:8: *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

We decided it's important to be able to give and serve in:

- "Jerusalem" - our local community
- "Judea and Samaria" - our region
- "to the ends of the earth"

This is the plan Session adopted in January - but we did *not* plan to do all three in one month! (And don't worry, there will still be other opportunities to serve later in the year!). Sometimes that's how our plans go. "The mind of a person plans their way, but the Lord directs each step." We started this year committed to serve and give, and now God has blessed us with *more* opportunities to do that!

- Our "Jerusalem" opportunity is **Crates for Teachers**. We're asking you to help donate school supplies. Then, on **August 20th**, we'll assemble your donations into crates which we'll take to local elementary schools so that the hard-working educators in our community know we're thinking of them and praying for them as they begin another school year.
- Our "Judea and Samaria" opportunity is our **Boone County Fair Respite Tent! August 9th - 14th**
- Our "to the ends of the earth" opportunity is a **Potluck** for Ukrainian visitors on **Sunday, August 7th at 5pm**.

Hopefully you'll be able to say yes to at least one of these opportunities! Maybe one works in your schedule better than the other two; maybe one suits your gifts and skills more than the other two. If you can come to all three, that's great! But that won't be available to everyone, and that's also great. We are called to serve, but we are also called to rest. We are called to connect with others in community, and we are also called to times of solitude. We are called to be a part of a worshipping community, and we are also committed to those we share life with. In all of these things, we can seek the example of Jesus, who said "yes" to many things that were asked of him, and also stepped away from crowds when rest was needed, and even napped in the midst of a storm!

Thank you for being a church community who wants to give and serve whenever, wherever, however. Thank you also for seeking God's wisdom on how to serve and when to rest. I'm excited to walk through this August of service with you, and see what God does as we continue to shine as a beacon of light.

In Christ,

Pastor Lauren

WELCOME UKRAINE FAMILIES!

The Potluck Sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall. Please remember to make a little extra for our guests. Some of our guests have some dietary restrictions, so we need some dishes that are: vegetarian, no sugar, no chocolate or mustard, no rice, nuts or crackers.

Sunday, August 7th, 2022 @ 5pm.

Argyle Preschool Update!

We are thrilled to welcome our new Director/Teacher, Rachel Wolverton!

Preschool begins September 7th! We are welcoming two classes: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am - 11:30am and Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12pm - 2:30pm.



HYMN SING SUNDAY - NEXT WEEK! AUGUST 14TH

JOIN US FOR A HYMN SING SERVICE! TAKE A MOMENT TO FILL OUT THE PEW RACK CARD WITH YOUR REQUESTS (OR JUST SHOUT THEM OUT ON THE 14TH). LET'S MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!

New Chimes for the Handbell Choir!

Our Handbell Choir is in need of chimes! The chimes will expand their options as they choose music to prepare and play in worship.

Altogether with shipping and handling, the new chimes will cost nearly \$3000. Would you like to give to help our Handbell Choir expand? If so, please make a note of "handbell choir" in the memo line of your check and send in to the church office or place in the offering plate anytime during the month of August.

Thank you so much for supporting our wonderful Handbell Choir! They work so hard to provide beautiful worship music for us, and this is a small opportunity for us to express our gratitude to them.

Pastor Lauren

WCPC Operating Statistics

May was a below average month for giving. Our Expenses were average for the month of May. We had about a \$2,000.00 deficit for the month of May. We are in the red about \$5,800.00 so far on the year. The finance committee will continue to look for ways to save money throughout the church. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.

WCPC Operating Statistics		
	May, 2022	Year-to-Date
Income	\$11,893.37	\$70,865.09
Expenses	\$13,953.14	\$76,676.92
Excess/(Deficit)	<u>\$(2,059.77)</u>	<u>\$(5,811.83)</u>

June was an average month for giving. Our Expenses were average for the month of June. We had just under a \$1,000.00 deficit for the month of June. We are in the red about \$6,500.00 so far on the year. The finance committee will continue to look for ways to save money throughout the church. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.

WCPC Operating Statistics		
	June, 2022	Year-to-Date
Income	\$13,334.07	\$84,199.16
Expenses	\$14,037.07	\$90,713.99
Excess/(Deficit)	<u>\$(703.00)</u>	<u>\$(6,514.83)</u>

Dear Willow Creek Friends,

Hello Willow Creek Friends! Here is the lineup for August, along with a few notes:

August 7...Lucas Greenlee, Pipes

August 14...Elizabeth O'Leary, contralto

- This Sunday there will be a hymn sing. The congregation will be asked to pick their favorite hymns, so be ready!

August 21...Monroe Family Singers

August 28...John Harden, vocalist

I would like to get a choir together to sing for one Sunday between now and Christmas and hopefully a few times in the spring. Two rehearsals at 9 a.m., the Sunday before we sing and the Sunday we sing. You don't need to attend both...just the Sunday of is enough if you are comfortable with that. I will also be glad to hand out music ahead of time if you wish. There will be more information about dates in the next streamer. I know we have enough singers out there to get a nice group together. It is time!



All for now,

Liz

August 20th Crates for Teachers

Help us make Crates for Teachers!

*Donate supplies between now and **Wednesday, August 17th.***

*Our goal is to make at least 37 crates. We need **a lot** of the following items:*

Cardstock

Page protectors

Colorful post-it notes (some with lines!)

Fun clipboards

Stickers

Sharpies (colorful pack)

EXPO dry erase markers (MUST BE EXPO!)

Playdough

Poster putty

We have also made an Amazon Registry for other specific items. The link to the registry will be sent out in the weekly updates email, or call or email the church office to request it.

Plan to join us on Saturday, Aug 20th from 11am - 2pm in the Fellowship Hall to assemble the crates and have lunch together!

These crates will be delivered to local Elementary schools.

Thank you all so much for supporting the educators in our community!

August 9-14th, 2022 Boone County Fair Respite Tent

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall for a time to volunteer at our Respite Tent! See Pastor Lauren, Mike Landi or Jeff Cummings if you have any questions.



Children's Sunday School begins September 11th!

Three Sundays per month, children are invited to go downstairs following the Children's Moment for a lesson and activities. The schedule will be in the bulletin. Children's Sunday school is geared for kids who are in preschool through 6th grade. (Nursery is available during worship for children who are preschool and younger).

Youth Group (6th - 12th grade) starts Sunday, September 11th following worship (11am). See you then! Check in with Lauren, Maren or Lucas if you have any questions.

Stay tuned for Adult Christian Education plans! Classes will start in September!

Summary of the 225th General Assembly

Every two years, commissioners elected by their presbyteries (half ruling elders, half teaching elders) meet to conduct the business of our denomination. General Assembly (GA) is responsible for assuring that the expression of our theology remains true to the biblical standards in our historic confessions as it presents a witness for truth and justice in our community and in the world, setting priorities and establishing relationships within and beyond the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

This summer was the first-ever hybrid assembly, with in-person committee meetings in Louisville and plenary sessions online via Zoom. Here are some of the things the Assembly prayerfully discerned, with decisions that equip and enable various entities of the church to live into their missional calling along with proposed changes to our Constitution (specifically Part 2: The Book of Order) which presbyteries will vote on to ratify in the coming year.

- Elected co-moderators Revs. Ruth Santana-Grace and Shavon Starling-Louis, who stood for election using the theme "Unbounded We Thrive"



- Approved the "Litany of Repentance" offering an apology to African Americans for the sin of slavery and its legacy and recommitting to confronting White supremacy within the church and world.
- Condemned violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, disparities experienced by Black women and girls, and racial disparities in healthcare.
- Formed a committee to write a new confession for consideration by future assemblies and the denomination.
- Renewed commitment to ending gun violence by declaring 2022-2032 a "Decade to End Gun Violence" and asking Presbyterian Mission Agency to develop tools for faith-based advocacy and study.
- Proposed a constitutional amendment to the Book of Order recommending at least 12 weeks of paid family leave be included in all ministers' terms of call.
- Approved a resolution of "Recognition that Israel's Laws, Policies and Practices Constitute Apartheid Against the Palestinian People."
- Approved committee to oversee the unification of the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) and the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) into a single agency to better facilitate the work of the denomination.
- Directed PC(USA) entities to divest from five oil and gas companies who GA concluded are not moving quickly enough to try to slow global warming.

As you can see, many of the topics the Assembly engaged are complex. In a denomination of over a million people, there will be a lot of different opinions on some of these decisions. This is one of my favorite things about our denomination. I had the privilege of participating in GA in 2016. It was a humbling experience to witness working together, seeking to glorify God *not* in the perfection of outcomes but in the holiness of breaking bread with people on opposite sides of every overture. Our unity is not in our ability to merely agree, but our ability to unflinchingly disagree, while remembering that we are sisters and brothers in Christ.

If you have interest in learning more about any of the conclusions from GA, let me know and we'll explore them together.

The next General Assembly will be held in 2024 with online committee meetings and in-person plenary sessions in St. Lake City, Utah.



Sunday, September 19th, 2022- Special Worship Service & Potluck

Remember, we are not all of Scottish descent; we will celebrate any and all backgrounds! The dowel for the flag/banner will be provided.

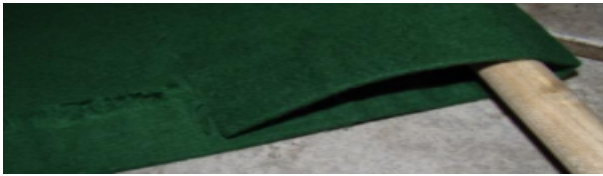
Banner Tutorial for Kirkin' o' the Tartans

Below are instructions for creating a banner for the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle Kirkin' o' the Tartans worship service:

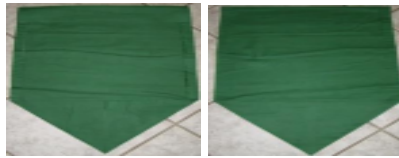
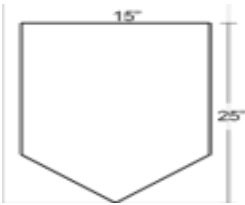
1. Procure solid or tartan fabric. You will need roughly 17"x27". Three sides of a brown paper shopping bag can be used as a rough template.



2. Fold both sides in approximately 1" to obtain a finished width of 15". Sew sides or use iron-on hem tape.
3. Fold top down approximately 2" to obtain finished height of 25". Sew or use iron-on hem tape. The dowel rod used to hang the banner will fit through this slot.



4. Fold in triangles at bottom till they meet. Sew or use iron-on hem tape.



5. Add family crest, family name, family photo, or any other appropriate decoration to individualize your banner.



Please call (815-505-5309) or email (greenleelucas@hotmail.com) with questions.

August 2022 All Church Calendar

Thursday 8/4	11:30am	Ladies Meet & Eat @ Sophia's Restaurant
Sunday 8/7	10:00am 11:00am 5:00pm	Worship Fellowship & Coffee Potluck - Welcome Ukraine Families!
Monday 8/8	10:00am Evening	Deacon's Meeting Boone County Fair Respite Tent Set up
Tuesday 8/9	6pm-7pm 7pm-9pm	First Day - Boone County Fair Respite Tent Pipe Band & Drumming CoRPB
Sunday 8/14	10:00am 11:00am	Last Day - Boone County Fair Respite Tent Hymn Sing Worship Fellowship & Coffee
Tuesday 8/16	8:00am 6:00pm 6pm-7pm 7pm-9pm	Buildings & Grounds Meeting Music & Worship Meeting Pipe Band & Drumming CoRPB
Thursday 8/18	6:00pm	Bell Choir
Saturday 8/20	11am-2pm	School Supply Crates (and Lunch)
Sunday 8/21	10:00am 11:00am	Worship in the Parking Lot Fellowship & Coffee
Tuesday 8/23	6pm-7pm 7pm-9pm	Pipe Band & Drumming CoRPB
Thursday 8/25	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
Sunday 8/28	10:00am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship & Coffee
Tuesday 8/30	6pm-7pm 7pm-9pm	Pipe Band & Drumming CoRPB
Wednesday 8/31	9:00am	Men's Coffee @ Boone County Family Restaurant

Church Office Hours: Open Mon., Wed., & Fri.
from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm or email the church office at office@willowcreekpc.org
In case of emergency members should contact:
Pastor Lauren Patrus-Betzel - 678-230-7549

Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wpcargyle>

