



COVER ART: SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS BY AUDLEY TRAVEL

September Streamer

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

SEPTEMBER 2022

“A Faith Community, Growing Together, Sharing the love of Christ”

Dear Willow Creek Presbyterian Church Family,

What a wonderful summer we have enjoyed!

- A lively Vacation Bible School with over 30 people each day learning about God's love.
- 20 beds built (and blankets tied! with our service project.
- Nearly 30 guests from Ukraine hosted at our potluck.
- Over 300 guests welcomed at our Boone County Fair Respite Tent - an outreach endeavor that over 40 of you participated in.
- 20 crates full of school supplies for the hard working teachers in our community

I have noticed that I over-use the adjective “little”. Just ask Scott - I have a terrible habit of checking in with him on how his day has gone by asking something like: “How was your little meeting?” I don’t *mean* that the meeting was small or insignificant (though we’ve had to discuss that a few times!), it’s just a word that I often attach to things without thinking about it or realizing what I’m saying.

Similarly, when we were enjoying (ha!) our covid isolation days, I snapped this image of Emmett on the manse lawn, and decided to share it on social media. I quickly typed out the caption: “Big blue sky 🌟 big little church 🌟 little big boy”

But then I thought about that for a moment - our church *looks* so big in this picture, because Emmett looks so small. But we’re not a “big” church - and we’re also not “just” a little church. In fact, statistically, in our denomination, only 35% of the congregations are bigger than our church. Most churches are smaller than ours.



We're somewhere in the middle. We have the benefits of not being too little - we do have a healthy budget, thanks to your ongoing generosity and faithfulness, and we have enough people to show up to serve our community in significant ways.

We also have the benefits of not being too big! We're a place where you're missed when you're not able to join us for worship. We're a place where kids feel comfortable running around and enjoying themselves before and after (and sometimes during!) worship - we're a place where everyone can feel at home.

On Facebook, I concluded my caption like this: *It's a big little church because it looms large on our corner, shining like a beacon in the field and gives with the biggest heart but feels like a little community where everyone knows your name.*

I am so grateful for this big little church and the many ways God uses us to share divine love with our community. May we continue to be the little place where the big story of grace and mercy shines like a beacon.

Pastor Lauren

WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS

July was a good month for giving. Our Expenses were above average for the month of July. The Manse needed to have the water filtration system replaced, causing our expenses to be higher than normal. We had a surplus of \$3,700.00 for the month of July. We are in the red about \$2,700.00 so far on the year. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.



	July 2022	Year-to-Date
Income	\$17,294.47	\$101,493.63
Expenses	\$13,543.94	\$104,257.93
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Excess/(Deficit)	\$3,750.53	\$(2,764.30)



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday 9/4	10a 11:30a-1p	Worship - Pastor Tanya Preaching Membership Class (Lunch provided, please RSVP)
Monday 9/5		Labor Day - Church Office is Closed
Tuesday 9/6	6p-7p 6:30p-8:30p 7p-9p	Pipe Band & Drumming Session Meeting - Fellowship Hall & Zoom CoRPB
Wednesday 9/7	9am	1st Day of Argyle Preschool! Men's Coffee @ Boone County Family Restaurant
Thursday 9/8	6p	Bell Choir

Sunday 9/11	10a	Worship - Baptisms: Coen Dhamer & Case Johnson
	10:30ish-11a	Change for Change
	11:30a-1:30p	Children's Sunday School Youth Kick-off: MESSTIVAL!
Tuesday 9/13	9:30a-12:30p	Presbytery Meeting @ Stronghold
	6p-7p	Pipe Band & Drumming
	7p-9p	CoRPB
Thursday 9/15	6p	Bell Choir
Sunday 9/18	10a	Worship in the Parking Lot - Kirkin'
	10:30ish-11a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Potluck
Tuesday 9/20	8a	Building & Grounds Meeting
	6p-7p	Pipe Band & Drumming
	6p	Music & Worship Meeting
	7p-9p	CoRPB
Wednesday 9/21	9a	Men's Coffee @ Boone County Family Restaurant
Saturday 9/24	9:30a	Adult Silent Retreat @ Rock Cut
	11a	Adult Fellowship @ McEachran Winery
Sunday 9/25	9a	Adult Sunday School
	10a	Worship - Guest Preacher Rev. Rodney Bunch
	10:30ish-11a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	F/P/E Meeting in the Library
	11:30a-1:30p	Youth Lessons & Games
Tuesday 9/27	6p-7p	Pipe Band & Drumming
	7p-9p	CoRPB
Thursday 9/29	6p	Bell Choir

CHANGE FOR CHANGE We collect this special offering on the second Sunday of the month! Our Change for Change offering helped fund our Bed Build service project in June, and now this special offering is going toward our November service project of meal-packing with Rise Against Hunger.

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/>



ARGYLE PRESCHOOL 2022-2023

Argyle Preschool is so excited to start our school year on September 7th, 2022! 20 amazing students visited the classroom this week to take a peek and drop off supplies. My name is Rachel Wolverton and I am the new Teacher/Director for the upcoming year. I have over 15 years experience and hold a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. My philosophy in the classroom is to help students to build strong relationships, celebrate success in learning and become life long learners. We are excited to play in our new classroom centers, meet our mascot letter lion and make great memories!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 11th, 18th & 25th; November 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th; October 9th, 16th & 23rd



We will gather downstairs or outside if the weather permits after the children's sermon until 11:00a.

FALL 2022 WILLOW CREEK YOUTH SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Activity	Location
9/11	11:30-1:30	Fall Kick Off - Messtival!	Church
9/25	11:30-1:30	Lesson & Games	Church
10/9	11:15- ?	Lunch & Escape Room	TBD
10/23	11:30-1:30	Lesson & Games	Church
11/6	11:30-1:30	Lesson & Games	Church
11/20	11:15	Rise Against Hunger/ Hamball Dinner	Church
12/18	11:15 - ?	Lunch & Caroling	Community

Please consider supporting our Youth Group by signing up to provide lunch for 10-15 one Sunday. The food can be simple and easy. The Youth Leaders, (Pastor Lauren, Maren & Lucas) will take care of serving and clean-up. They can also be contacted with questions. We will plan on eating around 11:30. The sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall, or contact the Church Office to see what dates are available (office@WillowCreekPC.Org). Thank you for your support!



ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Plan to join us for Adult Sunday School this fall! We will gather to hear testimonies from others in our church family. This is an amazing opportunity to learn about others and hear how God has been faithful in their lives, and what they have learned about faith along the way. Join us at 9am on Sundays beginning September 25th! And if you would like to share one Sunday, let Pastor Lauren (Lauren@WillowCreekPC.org) or Pastor Tanya know.

GUEST PREACHER - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2022 @ 10A

We are excited to welcome Rev. Rodney Bunch to our pulpit on September 25th! Pastor Rodney and Pastor Lauren served as missionaries together many years ago at the International Christian School of Vienna, Austria. Rodney is now the Director of Recreation and Community Relations at Central Baptist Church in Wendell, NC. His career and life experiences include recent work with NC Emergency Chaplains, Regional Director for Christian Business Men's Committee, Athletic Director, Youth Pastoring and Church Planting. Rodney played baseball at and attended Appalachian State University (BA Business Management) and earned a Masters of Divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Rodney is also a Pickleball Ambassador for Eastern Wake County. Rodney is married to Jane, and they have 3 children: Anneliese, Cacey-Jane and Jacob.

ACOLYTES

Calling all 4th - 8th Graders! Would you consider serving as an Acolyte? Acolytes bring the light of Christ into the sanctuary at the beginning of the worship service, then lead the congregation out with the light of Christ at the end of the service. We will have Acolytes on the first Sunday of each month (starting in October). Acolyte training will be following worship on Sunday, October 16th. Please let Pastor Lauren know if you're interested! (Lauren@WillowCreekPC.org / 678-230-7549).



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30a-3p or contact the church office at 815-885-3455 or office@willowcreekpc.org. In case of an emergency, members should contact Pastor Lauren Patrus-Betzel at 1-678-230-7549 or, Lauren@WillowCreekPC.org.

**** Please note the office will be closed on Monday, September 5th, 2022 for Labor Day****

A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY

Dear Willow Creek Friends,

Fall is here! Wow! Where did Summer go?? I have some new ideas for this fall:

First, here is the September line up:
September 4th - Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto & Piano
September 11th - Monroe Family Singers
September 18th - Kirkin' O' the Tartans
September 25th - Marilyn Cade, Pianist

Several people have approached me about starting a choir. I would love to do so! It would not be an every Sunday thing. I am thinking we could sing once in November and then do a special Christmas number with the bells on December 18th. I would like to invite all interested singers, high school age and able, to email me at lizoleary66@hotmail.com. Rehearsals would be selected Sundays at 8:45am.

Even if you have spoken to me, please send me an email so I can get a list going. I will put notices in the bulletin on a regular basis.

Thanks!

Liz

NEW CHIMES FOR THE HANDBELL CHOIR!



Our Handbell Choir is in need of chimes to expand their options as they choose music. Would you like to help our Handbell Choir expand? If so, please make a note of "handbell choir" in the memo line of your check and send it to the church office or place in the offering plate anytime during the month of August. Our wonderful Handbell Choir works so hard to provide beautiful worship music for us, and this is a small opportunity for us to express our gratitude to them.



The Kirkin' o' The Tartans

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS!

Sunday, September 18th

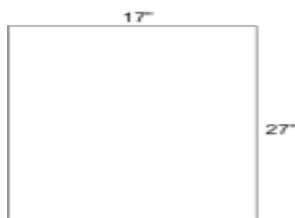
Special worship service including bagpipes and Blessing o' the Tartans! (See tutorial below - all are invited to bring a tartan!) Will your family present a flag for blessing?

We need to know so that a spot will be reserved for you. Remember, we are not all of Scottish descent & we will celebrate any and all backgrounds! The dowel for the flag/banner will be provided. Register in the Fellowship Hall or by calling the church office. Church Potluck following the service in Fellowship Hall. Each family is asked to bring a generous dish to pass. Drinks and place settings will be provided. Weather permitting, "Highland Games" for children will be held outdoors following the potluck.

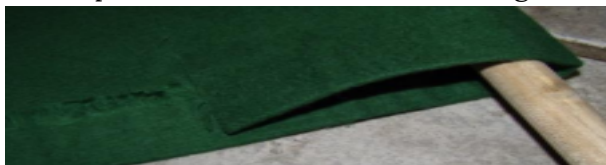
BANNER TUTORIAL FOR KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS

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

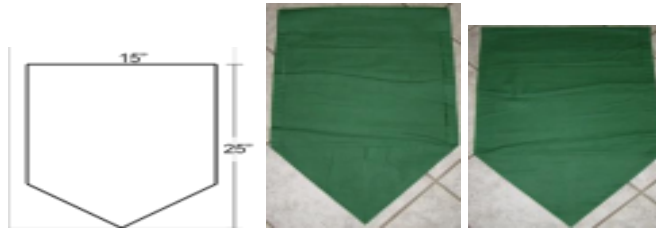
1. Procure solid or tartan fabric. You will need roughly 17"x27". Three sides of a brown paper shopping bag can be used as a rough template.



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.

ALL ADULTS ARE INVITED TO A
**SILENT RETREAT
AT ROCK CUT**
followed by fellowship at
MCEACHRAN WINERY
with Mario's Taco Truck



.....
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH
MEET AT ROCK CUT @ 9:30AM
FOR AT LEAST AN HOUR OF SILENCE AND SOLITUDE
FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP AT THE WINERY
BEGINNING @ 11AM
QUESTIONS? PLAN TO JOIN US?
LET LAUREN KNOW
LAUREN@WILLOWCREEKPC.ORG / 678-230-7549