



**Willow Creek Presbyterian  
Church of Argyle**

7300 Belvidere Road  
Caledonia, Illinois 61011  
815-885-3455

**JUNE 2023**

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

Dear Willow Creek Church Family,

Sunday, May 21st was one of my favorite worship services. When we started planning this year's Youth Sunday, Maren and I hoped to highlight how much of a family this church is, and how much we appreciate each other. We wanted to hear from folks who have... aged out of youth group, and when we brought that idea to the youth, they were even more enthusiastic than I expected. As Maren mentioned in her reflection, it was easy for the youth to come up with names of people they wanted to interview. This is one of the many gifts of a church of our size - the youth know of and regularly speak to people who are outside of their family and peer group. In bigger churches, this kind of intergenerational connection is not a given. Middle and high schoolers often end up only being around others their own age, and know the few folks (usually church staff) who lead the youth ministry. There's nothing wrong with that, but there's something so very right about the children and youth of this church knowing they are noticed and cared for by such a large community.

This is one of our congregation's strengths: we are intergenerational - not just multigenerational, but inter, as in, the different generations actually interact with and appreciate each other. Church is the only place outside of our families where we experience true intergenerationality.

Research indicates that one of the greatest predictors of whether or not a young person will remain connected with their faith as an adult is the development of at least one significant relationship with someone outside of their family and generation within their worshipping community. This is what keeps them coming back - the knowledge that they are important, cared for, watched over and loved.

This is what we promise when we celebrate baptisms: The congregation is asked: “Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture this child, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of Christ's church?”

For our current youth, it seems like we're doing “so far so good” on this vow! And what's so lovely about a worship service like Youth Sunday, is if we fulfill that vow to them, at a certain point, they start giving it right back to us. There's an undeniable element of mutuality in true intergenerationality - it cannot simply be adults teaching kids, or kids performing for adults. There has to be actual affection and respect. The youth had an easy time brainstorming names of people they wanted to interview because they know their church family cares about them. They knew folks would make time to talk to them. They may have been a bit nervous that morning as they prepared to share their interviews (or, maybe not!), but they are able to stand up there and speak into the mic, sharing their very own words and work with all of you, because they trust the love and grace of our church.

They also know that you are truly listening to them. They wouldn't have put time into preparing their reflections if they thought you wouldn't listen.

I hope we continue to be a church that listens across generations - the youth listen to older folks and take on the memories shared, deepening their understanding of all that our church has always stood for. They listen and watch and learn how we get things done. And, they have wonderful ideas of their own. Our Young Adults led us in a Spring Mission Drive for hygiene products that older generations might not have thought of as such a significant need - but women in their twenties identified that need right away, and you listened and responded.

There is so much to celebrate about our wonderful church family - and even while we might occasionally wonder or even worry about the future, it is that spirit of celebration that will make others curious enough to join us.

Pastor Lauren

### **JUNE CALENDAR**

Thursday 6/1	11:30a	Ladies Meet and Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
Saturday 6/3	3p	Bell Choir
Sunday 6/4	10a	Worship
	11a	Fellowship and Coffee
	11:30a	Deacon's Meeting
Tuesday 6/6	6:30p	Session
Wednesday 6/7	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
	4p	Christian Education Meeting
Thursday 6/8	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 6/10	9a	Annual Bed Build
Sunday 6/11	10a	Worship in the Parking Lot, 11a Fellowship
Tuesday 6/13	6p	Pipe Band & Drumming
	7p	CoRPB
Thursday 6/15	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 6/18		<i>Happy Father's Day</i>
	10a	Worship
	11a	Fellowship and Coffee
Monday 6/19	9a - Noon	Vacation Bible School
Tuesday 6/20	9a - Noon	Vacation Bible School
	6p	Pipe Band and Drumming
	6p	Worship and Music Meeting
	7p	CoRPB

Wednesday 6/21	9a - Noon 9a	Vacation Bible School Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
Thursday 6/22	9a - Noon	Vacation Bible School
Sunday 6/25	10a 11a 11:15a	Worship - VBS Sunday Fellowship and Coffee F/P/E
Tuesday 6/27	6p 7p	Pipe Band and Drumming CoRPP
Thursday 6/30	6p	Bell Choir

Join us for a hymn sing service, **Sunday July 9th, 2023!**

#### **A NOTE FROM DIANNE LONDO**



Bells for Beginners will be held again this summer on **Thursday - July 6th, 13th and 20th at 6p!**

Anyone interested in learning more about Bell Choir is invited, and encouraged, to attend. Ages 12 and up. For more information and/or to register, contact me at 815-543-8667 or email [amctmama@outlook.com](mailto:amctmama@outlook.com). I'd like to know by July 1st, 2023 how many are coming in order to prepare materials.  
See you then!

#### **LADIES MEET AND EAT**

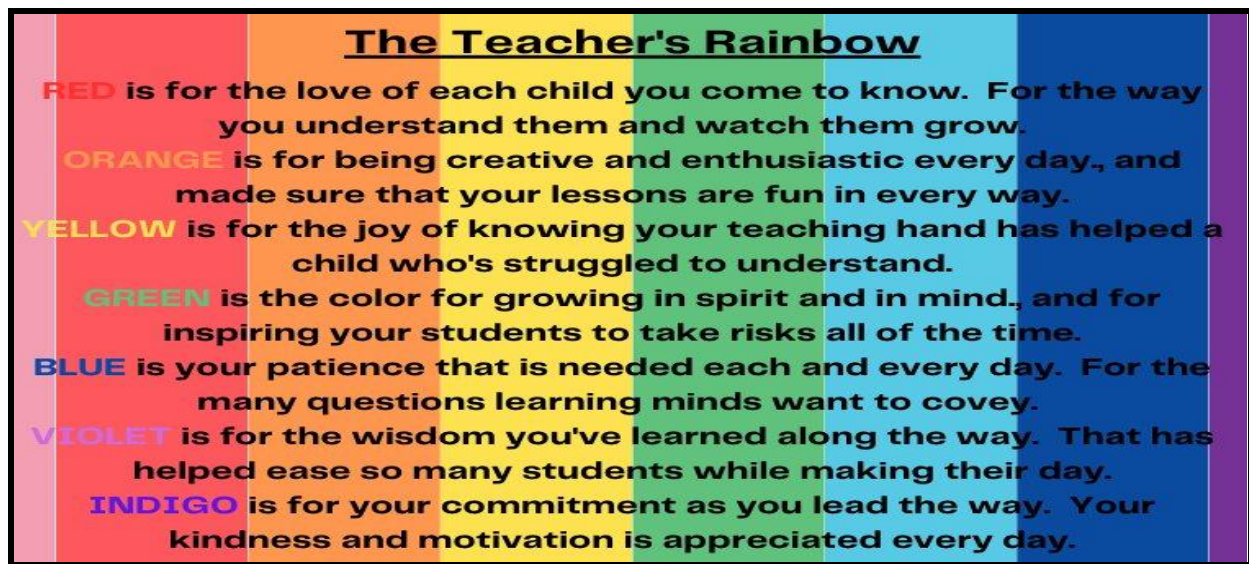
The church women are having lunch the 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month at Sophia's Restaurant in Roscoe, IL. at 11:30a.

No reservations needed. Any questions call Barb Greenlee!

#### **CHAPLAIN LAUREN**

Recently, I was invited to join the corps of volunteer chaplains at Javon Bea Hospital Riverside. Chaplaincy is an aspect of ministry that is incredibly important to me, and I am grateful for this opportunity to serve our community and connect with our local hospital. I will serve approximately one shift per week. You won't notice any changes in my church work or availability, and as always, if you would like to meet with me, please reach out so we can schedule something. If you have any questions, please let me know! ~ Pastor Lauren

***THANK YOU MS. RACHEL FOR A FANTASTIC 2022-2023 YEAR AT ARGYLE PRESCHOOL!***



### THANK YOU TEACHERS AND LEADERS!

Our church is incredibly blessed to have so many amazing teachers and leaders for children of all ages. If you see these folks around, be sure to tell them an extra "thank you for all that you do!" No matter how busy they are, they still manage to find the time and energy to give to support others in their



faith development.

*Children's Sunday School Teachers:* Rebekah Landi, Beth Monroe & Karli Rankin

*Youth Group Leaders:* Lucas Greenlee & Maren Reid

*Adult Sunday School Wranglers:* Pastor Tanya Muzzarelli & April Rottman

### DAN HOLMES HOMECOMING CONCERT

Thank you so much to everyone who made the Dan Holmes Homecoming concert possible on Friday, May 19th - and thanks for coming out to hear his stories and songs!

We are grateful for Dan's generosity. He agreed for the concert to be a Good Will Offering for our Family in Need Fund. \$97 was raised for the fund.



The **Family in Need Fund** is available for anyone in our church family who has need - and we think of our church family very broadly. The Fund has been used to help with bills, gas, groceries, school fees and more, for folks who are church members - and for those who are friends of our congregation. If you're not sure whether or not a need "qualifies" for the fund, reach out to Pastor Lauren to find out. This fund is one of the ways our church continues to shine as a beacon of light in this community. If you know of someone who is in need, let Pastor Lauren know.



## SESSION SUMMARY

The Session of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle met on May 2nd, 2023 for the regularly stated meeting. Pastor Tanya Muzzarelli opened the meeting at 6:30p with prayer and devotions. A quorum was declared and the following actions were taken:

The consent agenda was approved as stated:

1. A motion was made, seconded, approved to have Worship in the Parking Lot
2. 6/11 & 8/20 and Worship in Aberdeen park 7/16/23
3. A motion was made, seconded, approved for use of Fellowship Hall 5/6/23  
by Shannon Reagan

The meeting closed with prayer at 7:45 pm

## WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS

APRIL 2023 YEAR-TO-DATE

April was an above average month for giving. Our expenses were average for the month. Our new sound booth in the sanctuary is complete and in use by the Media Committee. We were in the red on the year about \$3,500.00 so far, but in the black about \$2,000.00 for April. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.

	2023	Year-to-Date
Income	\$15,047.43	\$56,172.86
Expenses	\$13,059.55	\$59,760.65
Excess/(Deficit)	\$1,987.88	\$(3,587.79)

## A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY



Hello Willow Creek! Summer is finally here - with our outdoor services and Worship in the Park. Here is the outline for June:

June 4th Willow Creek Bell Choir  
June 11th Renee O'Dell, Soprano & Kathy Clark, Alto

June 18th Joyce and Bill Zartman, bell tree & violin

June 25th VBS Sunday

I had intended for the choir to sing also on June 11th, but with other things going on, there is no time to practice. My plan is to get the choir going on a regular basis in the fall, hopefully singing on a set but flexible schedule once a month and practicing twice a month. All are welcome. There will be more information on this in the next streamer. I would appreciate any feedback on this idea from any and all interested singers.

All for now! - Liz



### **ARGYLE PRESCHOOL - A NOTE FROM MS. RACHEL**

Congratulations to all our Argyle Preschool Graduates and all 2023 Graduates!

Best wishes to everyone on their next journey!

We are getting ready for another great year at Argyle Preschool! The classroom is getting some updates and Ms. Rachel is doing some training, so next year can be better than ever! We still have a few openings for next year. Please reach out at [argylepreschool@willowcreekpc.org](mailto:argylepreschool@willowcreekpc.org) to take a tour.

Tips for Students Getting Ready for Kindergarten: As you begin buying supplies for next year, make sure you have your child with you. Children should be able to independently open, close, unscrew and zip lunch boxes, lunch containers, water bottles, backpacks, shoes and all clothes/jackets. Not all brands are made the same and practice makes perfect!



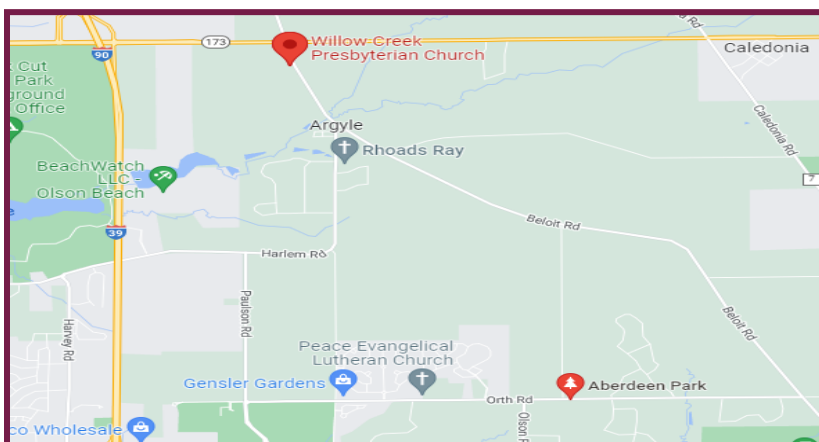
### **2023 ANNUAL BED BUILD**

Saturday, June 10th, 2023 9a - 2p (Lunch provided) Sign up is in the Fellowship Hall.

Please join us for this important service project! We will build 20 beds for children in our community who are currently sleeping on the floor or couches. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers - and, if you'd like to donate lunch, let Pastor Lauren or Mary Beth know!

### **COME WORSHIP WITH US SURROUNDED BY THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S GREAT EARTH!**

Table service and drinks provided. Grills will be fired up after the worship service. Please bring your own meat to grill, a dish to share, and lawn chairs if you'd like. A playground is close to the shelter. A wheelchair will also be available for anyone who needs assistance getting from the parking lot to the shelter. Music provided by Dan Holmes!



Sunday, July 16th, 2023 at 10a  
Aberdeen Park at  
1343 Orth Rd.  
Belvidere, IL. 61008



### Pentecost

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 including 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. Thank you for giving generously!



### THANK YOU FROM SHANNON REAGAN & FAMILY

I wanted to take a moment and give thanks to Session for the use of the Fellowship Hall in May, for my son's party before he left for boot camp to carry out his dream of becoming a

Marine. I also wanted to thank you all, as well.

For this mom, it was a plethora of emotions ranging from very proud - to very sad, that I felt all at once. I told Mason I was glad he decided to join after I found such a wonderful job, beautiful church and the best church family anyone could hope to have. I truly believe the ease of this transition is possible because I'm surrounded by such wonderful people!

Thank you so very much for the thoughts, prayers and support!

### WORSHIP IN THE PARKING LOT

We plan to worship in the Parking Lot again this Summer! Join us outside on:

**June 11<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup>**

Bring a chair or sit in your car! (weather pending)





Willow Creek would like to wish everyone has a happy and blessed Father's Day!

**MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST**

For more information about our staff and volunteers, visit our website. The Church Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30am - 3pm. If you'd like to set up a time to visit Pastor Lauren or Pastor Tanya, please reach out to the church office.

Phone: (815) 885-3455  
7300 Belvidere Road  
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Email: [office@willowcreekpc.org](mailto:office@willowcreekpc.org)  
Website: [www.willowcreekpc.org](http://www.willowcreekpc.org)  
Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wcpcargyle>

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR VBS 2023!**



Please join us for an exciting, fun-filled week at Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, where children will experience God's Word through fun-filled activities. Each day children will participate in songs, a Bible lesson, crafts, games, and a mission project. A snack will also be provided.

**Vacation Bible School will be June 19th - 22nd, 2023 from 9:00a - 12:00p**

The registration fee is \$10 for the week with a \$30 family maximum. We welcome any Preschool through 6th grade to join us for a **WILD** adventure!

Registration forms can be turned into the church office. Please call Willow Creek Church (815-885-3455) or Rebekah Landi (815-978-4982) if you have any questions. Come, celebrate God's unconditional love with us!

*Registration form on the next page.*



## Vacation Bible School - 2023 Registration Form

CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS/GUARDIANS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE(S) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL(S) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

### IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CONTACT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

ALLERGIES/MEDICAL INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_