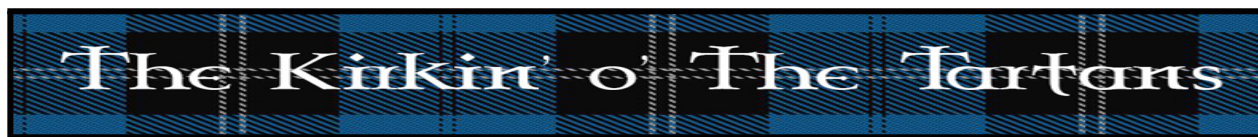


# WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ARGYLE

7300 BELVIDERE ROAD I CALEDONIA, IL. 61011 I 815-885-3455

## SEPTEMBER 2023 STREAMER

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



**A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAUREN** - A friend who is a pastor of another church shared with me this question: "If your church wasn't your church, would you go there?" In other words, if I wasn't *obligated* to be here every Sunday, would I choose to be? I quickly responded: "Yes, absolutely! I love my church!" He frowned and asked if I was lying. I reassured him I wasn't. He said: "You're lucky then. That's rare."

I don't know how rare it is, but I do feel lucky that you are my church. And, as blessed as I feel to call Willow Creek home, I also hear the wisdom and possibility of his question. Many of you have always called Willow Creek your church home. It was never much of a question for you *which* church you would go to - if you were going to go, of course it would be this old brick church in Argyle! That's such a gift - to have such a committed, deeply rooted congregation. And part of the gift of deep roots is having the strength to ask questions like: "If your church wasn't your church, would you go there?" In other words: is there any hope or dream for our wonderful church that God is planting in your heart - an area of growth we have yet to experience? I always love hearing ideas like that! Let's open our hearts to how God might transform even a congregation that's been in place for nearly two centuries. ~ Pastor Lauren

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** - **Kick Off Sunday 9/10** All Preschool to 4th graders are invited! Fall meeting dates (Sundays 10:30am - 11am): 9/10, 9/17 and 9/24. More dates to follow.

**YOUTH GROUP** - **Kick Off Sunday 9/10** All 6th - 12th graders are invited! We meet on Sundays from 11:30am - 1:30pm for lunch, fellowship, games and Bible study. Fall meeting dates: 9/10, 9/17, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS OCTOBER 1ST** - Join us for *Short Stories by Jesus*. Each week we'll study a different **parable**, learning historical context that will make these familiar stories even richer. Classes will be led by Pastor Tanya, April Rottman and Pastor Lauren. Class will meet in the Library from 9:15am - 9:45am (though you're welcome to come earlier for fellowship!).

**BOOK DRIVE FOR CAPRON ELEMENTARY** - We are collecting books to be used in the library, classroom and sent home with students for Capron Elementary. Book suggestions are listed on the flyers in the Fellowship Hall. We've already nearly doubled our goal of 50 books - can we triple it? Bring books in through September 10th. New books are preferred.

**PASTOR LAUREN WILL BE AWAY FROM 9/14 - 9/19** - Pastor Tanya will lead worship on 9/17. If you have any Pastoral Care needs during this time, please reach out to Clerk of Session April Rottman, Chairperson of the Deacons Mary Beth Gratz, or Pastor Tanya.

**SERMON SERIES: THE CONFESSIONS** The PCUSA has a constitution made up of two parts: the *Book of Order* and the *Book of Confessions*. The Book of Order is our polity - the rules we follow to make sure we do things decently and in order, and also with a whole lot of grace. The Book of Confessions is the eleven statements that our denomination has affirmed which guide our understanding of our history while also shaping our present practice of faith. Each confession was written to articulate what it means to follow Christ *here and now*. We will learn about the context - the “here and now” - of a different confession each week, and learn how our ancestors in the faith interpreted Scripture as they sought to understand what faithfulness looked like in their particular time and place. We will begin with learning about the Scots Confession on Kirkin’ Sunday, and end our series on October 29th, Reformation Sunday. I look forward to digging into our Reformed roots with you!

**SESSION SUMMARY:** The Session of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle met on August 1, 2023 for the regularly stated meeting. The meeting opened at 6:30 pm with prayer and devotions by April Rottman. A quorum was declared. Pastor Lauren opened the meeting with prayers for the community suggested by the Session members. The following actions were taken:

- The Consent agenda was approved as stated.
- A motion was made, seconded and approved for Steve Paulson to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting with prayer.

Pastor Lauren led the Session in prayer for the joys and concerns brought by the Session members and Pastor Lauren. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

**WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS:** July was an average month for giving. Our Expenses were below average for the month. We were in the red on the year about \$4,500.00 so far on the year and in the black about \$1,300.00 for June. The summer months are usually slow months in terms of attendance and giving. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church!

	July 2023	Year-to-Date
Income	\$13,816.07	\$103,598.12
Expenses	\$12,458.94	\$108,210.52
Excess/(Deficit)	<u>\$(1,357.13)</u>	<u>\$(4,612.40)</u>

### **SEPTEMBER CALENDAR**

Sunday 9/03	10a	Worship - Communion
	11a	Special Meeting of the Congregation (Nominating Committee)
	11:03a	Fellowship and Coffee
Monday 9/04		Labor Day - Church Office Closed
Tuesday 9/05	6:30p	Session
Wednesday 9/06	9a	Men’s Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant

Thursday 9/07	11:30a 6p	Ladies Meet and Eat at Sophia's Restaurant Bell Rehearsal
Friday 9/08	9a	<i>Argyle Preschool's 1st Day!</i>
Sunday 9/10	8:45a 10a 10:30a 11a 11:30a 11:30a	Choir Rehearsal Worship Children's Sunday School Fellowship and Coffee Deacons Youth Group
Tuesday 9/12	6p 7p	Pipe Band and Drumming CoRPB
Thursday 9/14	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 9/17	8:45a 10a 10:30a 11a 11:15a 11:30a	Choir Rehearsal Worship - Pastor Tanya Preaching Children's Sunday School Fellowship and Coffee F/P/E Youth Group
Tuesday 9/19	8a 6p 7p	Buildings & Grounds Pipe Band and Drumming CoRPB
Wednesday 9/20	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
Thursday 9/21	11:30a 6p	Ladies Meet and Eat at Sophia's Restaurant Bell Rehearsal
Friday 9/22		<i>Streamer Articles due!</i>
Sunday 9/24	10a 10:30a 11a	<i>Kirkin' o' The Tartans</i> Worship Children's Sunday School Kirkin O' the Tartan Potluck
Tuesday 9/26	6p 6p 7p	Worship and Music Pipe Band and Drumming CoRPB

**A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY**- Dear Willow Creek Friends - Hot, Hot, Hot today! I will be glad to see autumn come. The lineup for September is as follows:

September 3rd.....Elizabeth O'Leary, Piano and Voice

September 10th....Tom Andrew, Keyboard

September 17th...Willow Creek Choir

September 24th....Kirkin' o' The Tartans, with pipes, of course, and our Willow Creek Bell Choir  
*Choir will also start this month!* Here is the schedule:

September 10th...choir rehearsal 8:45

September 17th...choir rehearsal 8:45, sing for worship 10:00

If you can only come on the 17th, that is fine. Just let me know, please, so I can plan accordingly.

~ ♪Liz

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH 10AM - KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS WORSHIP SERVICE & POTLUCK :**

Join us for our annual Kirkin' worship service including bagpipes and Blessing o' the Tartans! All are invited to bring a tartan. Remember, we are not all of Scottish descent - we celebrate all backgrounds! There are instructions on how to make a tartan on the Church Office door, or reach out to Shannon in the Office for more information. Kathy Clark has offered to help folks make a tartan - she just needs enough time, so please reach out to her soon if you would like her help. There will be a **potluck** following the service. Each household is asked to bring a generous dish to pass. Drinks and place settings will be provided.

**"THESE DAYS" DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS** - We have noticed that our *These Days* devotional booklets are going fast when we put them out each quarter! We're so glad so many folks are enjoying these devotionals. We're exploring whether or not we need to order more copies to meet our church's needs. As with a lot of things, the price of our subscription has gone up pretty significantly. It would be a considerable expense to increase our subscription, but we're happy to do so if needed. You can help us determine whether or not an increase in our order is needed by letting Pastor Lauren or Shannon know if the booklets run out before you're able to get a copy. You can also let us know if you would like us to set a copy aside for you.

**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  
Caledonia, Illinois 61011

Email: [office@willowcreekpc.org](mailto:office@willowcreekpc.org)  
Website: [www.willowcreekpc.org](http://www.willowcreekpc.org)  
Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wcpcargyle>

