

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ARGYLE

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

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

NOVEMBER 2023 STREAMER



A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAUREN We had a lovely October studying a few of the Confessions of our denomination. Each week as I prepared the sermon, I worried: *am I the only one who thinks this is interesting?* I was so grateful to hear from several of you that I'm not alone! I deeply appreciate your feedback, and the shared interest in our history. The thing about history is it always remains present with us. The more we learn about our past, the more we learn about ourselves. And the more we learn about ourselves, the more available we are to authentically confess our need for God, grow in faith, and hope for the future. Thank you for journeying with me into the past, and now we slowly turn our attention to the future. One of the gifts of our liturgical year is that it gives us space between seasons to prepare to find hope once again. We begin November by remembering those who have died in the past year, then we slowly begin preparing for Advent, which is itself a season of preparation for the arrival of the Christchild. I am grateful to walk each season with you and learn with you who God is calling this church to be!

THANK YOU FOR FAITHFULLY GIVING Even in uncertain economic times, this church remains incredibly blessed with a healthy budget because of your faithful giving. Thank you. This year, we are experimenting with not doing pledge cards for Stewardship season. If you know there will be a significant change in your giving habits for the upcoming year, please feel free to let Diane (Bookkeeper@WillowCreekPC.org) know. If there are new ways you would like to give your energy and talent, please let me know. I remain grateful to be serving God with you at this Old Brick Church in Argyle! ~Pastor Lauren

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY We will observe All Saints' during worship on **Sunday, November 5th**. We will ring a bell for those who have passed away since last November. If there is a name you would like to have honored, please let Pastor Lauren or the church office know.

DECORATE THE CHURCH Join us after worship on **Sunday, November 12th** to help decorate the church for Advent & Christmas! Many hands make light work - if several volunteers stay to help, we'll be done quickly. There will be jobs for all ages and ability levels. Thank you for joining us to make our church festive for this joyous season!

AMAZING GRACE SUNDAY This year is the 250th anniversary of the writing of *Amazing Grace*. We will celebrate this wonderful hymn of the faith with a special worship service on Sunday, November 19th. Our music ministry will lead us in contemplating the amazing grace of God, and we will learn about the history of the hymn. Join us on November 19th!

MISSION CLOSET DRIVE We have been asked by Capron Elementary to help collect snack items for students in need, and the Youth Group has graciously agreed to lead this drive! We will collect items from Sunday, November 5th through Sunday, November 26th. The snacks need to be **individually wrapped** (granola bars, fruit snacks, applesauce pouches, cracker packs, etc). The youth will share more about this drive on Sundays at church. Thank you for your support of our youth and Capron Elementary!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL starts at 9:15a in the Library. This month we will have "Short Stories by Jesus" on November 5th and 12th (no Sunday school on November 19th). Then we will begin our Advent classes on the Advent devotional on November 26th. The Advent series will continue December 3rd, 10th and 17th.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL starts at 10:30a. This month will be the 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.

YOUTH GROUP Sunday the 5th and 12th from 11:30a - 1:30p.

SESSION SUMMARY The Session of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle met on October 3rd, 2023 for the regularly stated meeting. The meeting opened at 6:30p with prayer and devotions by Jeff Cummings. A quorum was declared. Pastor Lauren opened the meeting with prayer. The following actions were taken: ○ Motion, seconded and approved to keep the Mission budget the same for next year, 2024. ○ Motion, seconded and approved to accept the 2024 Membership and Stewardship Budget changes. ○ Motion, seconded and approved the 2024 Miscellaneous Session Budget changes. ○ Consent agenda approved as stated. ○ Approved August Financials As stated ○ Note of e-vote for Mark Pickett's memorial funds to be used for the Media Platform. ○ Motion, second and approved that letters are mailed to people that could not be contacted in person, by email or, by phone regarding The Cleaning of the Rolls by October 10th, 2023. ○ Moved, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned with prayer at 7:58p.

WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS September was an average month for giving. Our expenses were also average for the month. We were in the red on the year about \$6,000. Cold weather is coming and heating and snow removal become larger expenses for the church. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.

	September 2023	Year-to-Date
Income	\$11,470.13	\$130,447.23
Expenses	\$12,609.44	\$136,381.66
Excess/(Deficit)	<u>\$ (1,139.31)</u>	<u>\$ (5,934.43)</u>

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Wednesday 1 st	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
Thursday 2 nd	11:30a	Ladies Meet and Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 5 th	8:30a	Choir Rehearsal
	9:15a	Adult Sunday School
	10a	Worship - All Saints' Day
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship and Coffee
	11:30a	Deacons, Youth Group
Tuesday 7 th	6:30p	Session
Thursday 9 th	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Saturday 11 th		Veterans Day
Sunday 12 th	8:30a	Choir Rehearsal
	9:15a	Adult Sunday School
	10a	Worship
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship and Decorate the Church 🌲
Tuesday 14 th	6p	Pipe Band and Drums - Lessons and Rehearsals
Wednesday 15 th	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
	12p	Argyle Preschool Board Meeting
Thursday 16 th	11:30a	Ladies Meet and Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 19 th	8:30a	Choir and Bell Rehearsal
	10a	Worship - 250 th Anniversary of Amazing Grace
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Congregational Meeting followed by Hamball Dinner
Monday 20 th		1 st Day of Argyle Preschool Thanksgiving Break

Tuesday 21 st	8a	Buildings and Grounds
	6p	Pipe Band and Drums - Lessons and Rehearsals, Worship & Music
Wednesday 22 nd		Church Office Closed
Thursday 23 rd		Happy Thanksgiving! 🦃 Church Office Closed
Friday 24 th		Streamer Articles Due
Sunday 26 th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School
	10a	Worship
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship and Coffee
	11:15a	F/P/E
Tuesday 28 th	6p	Pipe Band and Drums - Lessons and Rehearsals
Thursday 30 th	6p	Bell Rehearsal

A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY HAPPY FALL! I am ready for those hamballs! Here is the line up for special music in November: ○ November 5th Lucas Greenlee, Pipes ○ November 12th Renee O'Dell, Soprano and Kathy Clark, Alto ○ November 19th Amazing Grace Sunday with Soloist, Choir and Bells ○ November 26th Elizabeth O'Leary, Keyboard and Voice. Choir will rehearse from 8:30a to 9:10a on November 5th and November 12th, with a quick rehearsal on November 19th, working around the bells, etc. We will work on a special version of Amazing Grace and also begin working on music for Christmas. Thanks all. ~Liz

A NOTE FROM MS. KATIE Hello Congregants! I cannot express how welcomed I have felt after jumping into the teaching position with Argyle Preschool. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! I hope you've noticed the changes we've been making in our classroom. I've got a whole group of eager learners! A few of you have asked how you can help, so ..have you got spare parts from a project or craft that you want a loving home for? Excess office supplies from your WFH days? Household items you've outgrown? The creative geniuses at Argyle Preschool would love to put them to good use! Suggested items include, but are certainly not limited to: Extra yarn, bakers twine, ribbon; Scraps of wood, plumbing pipes; Buttons, bits of fabric, zippers; Sticky notes, notebooks, tape dispensers; Step stools, small garbage cans; Paper towel or wrapping paper rolls; Magazines, return envelopes; Bud vases and tiny pitchers. Please drop them off during office hours or put them in my mailslot or Shannon's. If you have a particular hobby or skill you'd like to share, I'd love to hear about it. Thank you for all your support! We're going to have a great rest of the year of learning, exploring, and creating! ~🍎Katie Wolf Argyle Preschool Teacher

ADVENT We hope you can join us for these beloved Advent Traditions!

December 3 rd	Children's Christmas Pageant
December 10 th	Communion and Cookie Walk after worship
December 17 th	Lessons and Carols
December 24 th	10a Communion then 6p Communion and Candlelight

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING The Session calls the Annual Congregational Meeting of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle to be held on Sunday November 19th, 2023 following worship for the purpose of electing officers and approving Pastor Lauren Patrus-Betzel's contract for 2024. The meeting will be followed by our beloved **Hamball Potluck** in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a hamball or turkey main dish and a side, salad or dessert. Drinks, cups, plates will be provided.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS Clocks will “fall back” one hour at 2a on **Sunday November 5th**.

POINSETTIAS Would you like to order a Poinsettia in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person? The cost is \$12.00 each and they are available in white, pink or red. Please plan to take your poinsettia home after December 24th. We can receive some poinsettia donations for Deacons to deliver to our shut-ins, but we usually have way more plants than needed donations. Please fill out the form below and mail it to the church with your payment. Hard copies of the order form will also be available on the office door. **The deadline to order is Monday, December 4th, 2023.**

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Color _____ How Many _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Donor Name - As you wish it to appear in the bulletin:

****Please make checks payable to: Willow Creek Presbyterian Church - With the Memo of “Poinsettia”.***
Flowers not picked up prior to **MONDAY, JANUARY 1st, 2024** will be delivered by the church Deacons to the elderly & infirm.

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 8:30a - 3p. If you'd like to set up a time to visit Pastor Lauren or Pastor Tanya, please reach out to the church office.

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