

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"



FEBRUARY 2024 STREAMER

A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAUREN It was such a joy to ordain and install our new class of officers in worship on January 21st. And it was especially wonderful to invite folks forward to lay on hands during the prayer for the newly installed. I love when half (or more!) of the people in the pews come forward for this part of the service. It takes a little time for everyone to come forward. It can feel a little awkward as everyone shuffles to make space for each other. But it is such a beautiful picture of the church - and particularly, the Presbyterian church - to me. We believe in the priesthood of all believers. This means that all are called to be ministers in Christ's church. All are called to share God's love, grace, compassion and kindness with others. Our church is not a hierarchy with one or two making decisions for everyone else. We are all members of Christ's body - all gifted in unique ways by the Holy Spirit - to love and serve God and one another.

I look forward to the leadership of our new Session and Diaconate, and I am excited about a year of shared ministry with all of y'all!

CHANGE FOR CHANGE Every **second** Sunday, we invite you to participate in this special offering. When we all put our left over dollars and loose change together, the amount really adds up!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us on Sundays at 9:15am in the Library.

- Psalms: 2/4, 2/11
- Lenten Devotional Study: 2/18, 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL will be on the 4th, 18th, and 25th of this month.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY On **Sunday, February 11th** our Confirmation Class will help lead worship. The Confirmands who choose to join the church will be welcomed as new members that day.

ALPINE HILLS - TUBING! Can you join us for tubing at Alpine Hills on Monday 2/19? This is a church family outing - all are welcome! But we do have a limited number of reservations. Let Pastor Lauren know if you'd like to join in the fun! Cost is \$11 per person.

YOUTH GROUP For February, the youth group will be busy with confirmation and the Alpine Hills outing! We meet at the church after worship for games and fellowship on March 3rd and 10th. **We have a few spring dates when we need lunch for the youth group - could you help? Check the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.**

ANNUAL MEETING: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2024 The Session of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle calls the **Annual Meeting** of the Congregation to follow worship on **Sunday, February 4th, 2024** for the purpose of receiving the 2023 Annual Report and the 2024 budget.

A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY A Happy Leap Year February to All! I would like to thank all of you who gave me Christmas wishes and gifts. The many kind written notes, cards and gifts are much appreciated. Again, thank you! Here is the lineup for special music for February:

- Feb. 4th: Willow Creek Sanctuary Choir
- Feb. 11th: Willow Creek Ringers
- Feb. 14th: Ash Wednesday - No Special Music
- Feb. 18th: Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto
- Feb. 25th: Elizabeth O'Leary, Piano

We have an early Easter this year, which I never like much, but that's the way it is. Let's hope that the groundhog does not see his shadow! ♪Liz

SESSION SUMMARY The Session met on Sunday, December 31st and approved the 2024 budget.

WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS December was an amazing month for giving. Our expenses were slightly above average for the month. We are in the black for the end of the year at \$13,293.46. Cold weather is here and heating and snow removal become larger expenses for the church during the winter months. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church!

	December, 2023	Year-to-Date
Income	\$27,889.19	\$193,266.52
Expenses	\$16,710.58	\$179,973.06
Excess/(Deficit)	<u>\$11,178.61</u>	<u>\$13,293.46</u>

SERMON SERIES: THE EARLY LIFE OF JESUS Join us on **February 4th** as we conclude this series with *The Transfiguration*.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Thursday 1 st	11:30a	Ladies Meet and Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 4 th	8:45a	Choir Rehearsal
	9:15a	Adult Sunday School
	10a	Worship - Communion
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Annual Meeting, Fellowship
	11:15a	Deacons
Tuesday 6 th	6:30p	Session
Wednesday 7 th	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
	5p	Confirmation
Thursday 8 th	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 11 th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School
Change for Change	10a	Worship - <i>Confirmation Sunday</i>
	11a	Fellowship
Monday 12 th	6:30p	Beaver Valley Clippers
Tuesday 13 th	6p	Pipe Band and Drums
Wednesday 14 th		Ash Wednesday - <i>Argyle Preschool Friendship Party</i>
	9-9:30a	Drive Through Ashes & Sanctuary (with Prayer Stations) Opens
	11:30a	Skiffers at Stockholm Inn
	5-5:30p	Drive Through Ashes
	6p	Worship
Thursday 15 th	11:30a	Ladies Meet and Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
	6p	Bell Rehearsal

Sunday 18 th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School
	10a	Worship - First Sunday of Lent - Communion by Intinction
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship
Monday 19 th		President's Day - No Argyle Preschool
		Church Family Outing to Alpine Hills
Tuesday 20 th	8a	Buildings and Grounds
	6p	Pipe Band and Drums
Wednesday 21 st	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 22 nd	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Friday 23 rd		<i>Streamer Articles Due!</i>
Sunday 25 th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School
	10a	Worship - Second Sunday of Lent - Communion by Intinction
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship
	11:15a	F/P/E
Tuesday 27 th	6p	Pipe Band and Drums, Worship and Music
Wednesday 28 th	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study

LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK:

Palm Sunday - March 24th: Handbell Choir, Palm Processional, Pastor Tanya preaching

Maundy Thursday - March 28th - **Potluck and Communion Service**, Fellowship Hall @ 6pm

Good Friday - March 29th

Easter Sunday - March 31st Sunrise Service at the Chapel at Scottish Argyle Cemetery 8am

Pancake Breakfast and Egg Hunt at Willow Creek 9am

Worship in the Sanctuary 10am

SKIFFERS Hello all! **Valentines Day** will soon be here and we've chosen **Wednesday, February 14th** for our next **Skiffers** meeting. We'll meet at **11:30am at Stockholm Inn**. In the spirit of the day, please bring a love story to share. The funnier the better. Not every attempt at romance goes exactly as planned and I'm sure most of us have lived through an event that can be shared! As an idea, I once knew of a shy young man who had a terrible time asking a girl on a date. He'd stammer and shuffle his feet, look at the ground and finally get it out. One girl responded, "That was painful! Like watching you pass a kidney stone!" Sound like anything you've experienced? Or make you think of a romantic mishap? Most weddings have a humorous tale or two. **RSVP to Rich & Dianne Londo by Monday, February 12th**. We look forward to seeing all of you on February 14th at 11:30am at Stockholm Inn. "A cheerful heart is good medicine." - Proverbs 17:22

CHRISTMAS CARD TREE If you did not receive a Christmas card from the following folks, it is because rather than mailing one, they made a contribution to WCPC as part of the Kemmerer Village Project:

The Betzel Family, Jim & Delores Hall, Steve & Dayle Paulson, David Perez-Fernandez and Dude, Annie Picken and Arthur, Steve & Penny Picken, Lee Pickett, Shannon Reagan, John & Kim Reid and Gene & Carolyn Wheeler

LENT During this holy season, we will focus on the people Jesus encountered. We will learn about the faith of ordinary folks while also learning about Christ's ministry. We will celebrate Communion by Intinction each Sunday of Lent as we consider our connection to one another and to our ancestors in the faith - all members of Christ's body.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 14TH! We will offer “drive through” ashes in the parking lot from 9am - 9:30am and 5pm - 5:30pm. The sanctuary will be open all day for contemplation and prayer. Stations will be set up throughout the sanctuary to invite worshippers into the season of Lent with activities that help us focus on God’s presence. These activities are designed for all ages (and so, it may not be a silent space if younger worshipers are present!).

Ash Wednesday Worship with the imposition of ashes **is at 6pm** in the Sanctuary.

LENTEN SOUP STUDY Each Wednesday, we will dig a little deeper into the characters of Sunday’s story at our **Lenten Soup Study** where we’ll share a simple meal, fellowship and study. You do not have to come each week – come when your schedule allows! We will meet on **Wednesdays 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20 from 5:30pm - 7pm**. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to pick a day to bring soup.

OFFICER ORDINATION & INSTALLATION January 21st, 2024 was a day of celebration as we welcomed our new officers and all of our Elders and Deacons met to plan the upcoming year of ministry. Thank you to all who serve:

SESSION

Class of 2024: Abby Guthrie, Lucas Greenlee, April Rottman (Clerk)

Class of 2025: Jeff Cummings, Rebekah Landi, Katherine Ralston

Class of 2027: Lon Clark, Karli Rankin, Molly Shipton

DIACONATE

Class of 2024: Gyneth Lamont, Carolyn J. Wheeler

Class of 2025: Mary Beth Gratz, David Perez Fernandez

Class of 2027: Ron Muzzarelli, Renee O’Dell

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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