



A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAUREN There is a notecard on my desk with this quote attributed to Martin Luther: "Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree." There is some debate over whether or not Martin Luther said this. It's a fair question, as his writing tended to be far less practical than this particular wisdom: no matter how bleak things look, it's always a good time to plant a seed that might grow into a provider of shade and sustenance for generations to come. Planting is always an act of faith - whether you're gardening casually, farming seriously, or planting the metaphorical seeds of care and concern for others. Planting is always an act of faith, and always a good reminder of what it means to have an active faith. Active faith is work - we prepare the soil, plant the seeds, and water and weed, always in prayer. God is the one who causes seeds to break open while still covered in soil, and new growth to push through to the surface. Planting is an act of faith that reminds us that even the question of how much new growth depends on our activity and how much depends on God is a holy mystery that has no clear answer, but does end in an invitation from God for us to participate. What seed is God planting in your life that leads you to participate in this community of faith? What gift are you being called to share with others that could yield fruit beyond your imagination?

SUMMER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Starting June 3rd, 2024, our Church Office will have new Summer hours! Our office will now be open **Tuesday - Thursday from 10a - 2p**. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the Church Office.

UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES: Mark these special Sundays on your calendars!

- JUNE 2ND YOUTH & CHILDREN RECOGNITION SUNDAY
- JUNE 16TH WORSHIP IN THE PARKING LOT 10am bring a chair
- JUNE 23RD VBS SUNDAY 10am in the Sanctuary
- JULY 14TH WORSHIP IN THE PARK 10am @ Aberdeen Park
 - Bring something to grill and a side to share for lunch following worship!
- AUGUST 21ST SUMMER HYMN SING
- SEPTEMBER 1ST 10AM WORSHIP OUTSIDE THE CHAPEL AT SCOTTISH ARGYLE CEMETERY
 - Bring a chair and join us for this special worship service where we will remember those we lost during and since the pandemic who we were not able to have funerals for. If there is anyone you would like honored, please let Pastor Lauren know.
- SEPTEMBER 22ND Kirkin' Sunday!

YOUTH GROUP camp out at Rock Cut Friday June, 7th - Saturday, June 8th - see Maren for more details! All youth are invited to participate in VBS. Stay tuned for other summer opportunities for fellowship and fun! Thank you to everyone who provided lunch and support this past year!

A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY Dear Willow Creek Friends - Can you believe summer is here?! How I look forward to the warm weather. Let's keep our fingers crossed for good weather for our outdoor services and picnic. Believe it or not, I have filled almost the entire Summer Special Music. Below is June's schedule. Has anybody seen a cicada yet? I suppose their sound could drown out our outdoor music, yet they are God's creatures and they like to sing!!! All for now! 🙌 Liz

- June 2nd: Youth Sunday: Mandy Nelson, Flute & Piano; Abbie Nelson, Trombone and Tom Andrew, Piano & Organ
- June 9th: Tom Andrew, Keyboard
- June 16th: Worship in the Parking Lot, TBD
- June 23rd: Deborah Dunnavan, Keyboard
- June 30th: Willow Creek Ringers

SESSION SUMMARY Session met on May 7th, 2024 for the regularly stated meeting. The meeting opened at 6:30p with prayer and devotions. In attendance were Pastor Lauren (Moderator), April Rottman (Clerk), Tanya Muzzarelli (Guest), Rebekah Landi, Karli Rankin, Katherine Ralston, Jeff Cummings, Lon Clark and Molly Shipton. Lucas Greenlee and Abby Guthrie were excused. A quorum was declared. The following discussions and actions occurred:

- The Consent agenda was received and approved as stated.
- There was discussion regarding the current requirements of the Flora McEachran Scholarship. No changes or actions were taken.
- Motion made, seconded and approved to allow the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau Foundation to hold a painting party fundraiser October 5th, 2024, 8a - 10a.
- Motion made, seconded and approved to permit Tanya Muzzarelli to hold a baby shower July 27th, 2024
- Motion made, seconded and approved the Baptism of Blaine Arthur Dhamer, son of Abi & Matt Dhamer on Sunday, May 19th, 2024
- Motion made, seconded and approved to allow Matt Cummings to do community service hours at the church.

WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS for May will be added to the combined July/August streamer.

GRIEF SUPPORT On Wednesday, July 10th at 11am, we are hosting Nita Osborn, an experienced facilitator of grief support groups, to help us explore our community's current needs. Are folks here interested in getting together for fellowship opportunities as well as intentional grief work, or perhaps just for the fellowship? How frequently will we want to meet and what will those meetings look like? Please plan to join us for this important time of exploration and planning. We will share a simple meal after the presentation. All are welcome. Let the Church Office know if you plan to attend so we can prepare enough for lunch (Office@WillowCreekPC.org / 815-885-3455).

JUNE CALENDAR

Sunday 2 nd	10a	Worship - Intinction - <i>Youth Recognition Sunday</i>
	11a	Fellowship
	11:15a	F/P/E
	11:30a	Diaconate
Tuesday 4 th	6:30p	Session
Wednesday 5 th	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
Thursday 6 th	10:30a	Ladies Walk at Willow Creek
	11:30a	Ladies Meet & Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
Friday 7 th		Youth Overnight at Rock Cut
Sunday 9 th	10a	Worship - <i>Change for Change</i>
	11a	Fellowship
Tuesday 11 th	6p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals
Thursday 13 th	10:30a	Ladies Walk at Willow Creek
Sunday 16 th		<i>Father's Day</i>
	10a	Worship in the Parking Lot - Bring a Chair
	11a	Fellowship
Monday 17 th	9a - Noon	<i>Set Sail! - VBS 2024 Begins</i>
Tuesday 18 th	9a - Noon	VBS
	6p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals, Worship & Music
Wednesday 19 th	9a - Noon	VBS
	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant, VBS
Thursday 20 th	9a - Noon	VBS
	10:30a	Ladies Walk at Willow Creek
	11:30a	Ladies Meet & Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
Friday 21 st		<i>Streamer Articles Due!</i>
Sunday 23 rd	10a	Worship - VBS Sunday
	11a	Fellowship
Tuesday 25 th	8a	Buildings & Grounds
	6p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals

Thursday 27 th	10:30a	Ladies Walk at Willow Creek
	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 30 th	10a	Worship
	11a	Fellowship

A LITTLE ABOUT MARILYN CADE who has been one of our Special Music guests, earned a Bachelors of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, IL. and a Masters in Music from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, NE. Between degrees and afterward, she studied privately with artist teachers in Chicago and Vienna. While living in Chicago, she worked as a Professional Accompanist. After earning her Masters degree, she began teaching piano at the pre-college and college level until retiring in May of 2023. After moving to Rockford, she maintained a private studio in her home as well. She has had extensive experience as a soloist and accompanist and Chamber Musician and played Principal Piano with the Rockford Symphony Orchestra for several years. She has also performed frequently in concerts at Mendelssohn Performing Arts Center. Marilyn and her husband Warren, have one daughter, Janel and two grandsons, Andrew and Joseph, who live in Champaign, IL.

THANK YOU TO MS. KATIE FOR A GREAT 2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR! On behalf of WCPC Family, Friends and Staff - Thank you so much for all you have done to make this school year amazing! Can't wait for the 2024 -2025 school year!



THANK YOU TEACHERS & 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 find the time and energy to give to support others in their faith development. *Children’s Sunday School Teachers:* Rebekah Landi, Beth Monroe and Karli Rankin. *Youth Group Leaders:* Lucas Greenlee and Maren Reid. *Adult Sunday School Wranglers:* Pastor Tanya Muzzarelli and April Rottman.

WORSHIP IN THE PARKING LOT We plan to worship in the Parking Lot again this Summer! Join us outside on **June 16th**. Bring a chair or sit in your car! (weather pending).

COME WORSHIP WITH US SURROUNDED BY THE BEAUTY OF GOD’S GREAT EARTH! Table service and drinks will be 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 as well as a wheelchair will also be available for anyone who needs assistance getting from the parking lot to the shelter. **Sunday, July 14th, 2024 at 10a Aberdeen Park at 1343 Orth Rd., Belvidere, IL. 61008**

A THANK-YOU FROM CAPRON ELEMENTARY As the school year draws to a close, I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the entire Willow Creek Church community for your invaluable support with the snack drive back in December for Capron Elementary School. Your generosity in donating snacks to Capron has made a significant impact on our students. With your contributions, I was able to continue my snack cart for students in need within the social work office, as well as create snack bags for each classroom teacher, ensuring that no student went hungry throughout the day. These snacks served as a vital resource for students who arrived at school without a daily snack, offering them nourishment and support to get through their day. Your generosity has had a lasting impact, as the abundance of snacks provided has lasted us through to the end of the school year. On behalf of all the staff and students at Capron Elementary, thank you again for your kindness and generosity. Your support has made a meaningful difference, and we are incredibly grateful. With heartfelt appreciation, Aaliyah Calix, *Capron Elementary School Social Worker*

MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

For more information about our staff and volunteers, visit our website. The Church Office hours are Tues. - Thur. from 10a - 2p. If you’d like to set up a time to visit Pastor Lauren or Pastor Tanya, please reach out to the Office.

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Email: office@willowcreekpc.org
Website: www.willowcreekpc.org
Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wcpcargyle>



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.

VBS will be June 17th - 20th, 2024 from 9a - 12p

The registration fee is \$10 for the week with a \$30 family maximum. We welcome any Preschool through 6th grade to "Set Sail!" with us!

Registration forms & payments can be turned into the church office. If paying by check, please put "VBS" on the memo line.

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!

VBS Set Sail! - 2024 Registration Form

CHILD'S NAME _____ AGE _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____

PHONE _____ PREFER CALL OR TEXT? _____

EMAIL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, CONTACT:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

RELATIONSHIP _____

ALLERGIES AND/OR MEDICAL INFORMATION:

For Office Use Only - Paid __ Cash/Check__ Check #__