

**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! For the first several months of the year, *Change for Change* will go to our Bed Build Service Project. More details on the Bed Build coming soon!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** *Save the Dates!* Join us for VBS on **June 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> (Mon - Thurs) 9am - 12pm!** A snack will be provided. We welcome any Preschool through 6th grade to join us for an adventure!

**AG DAY IN ARGYLE AT WCPC** **Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> 5pm - 7pm!** *Save the Date for a fun evening for all ages!*

**EASTER LILY ORDER FORM**



Would you like to order an Easter Flower in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person? Easter Lilies and bulbs are \$12.00 each. You may donate or take your flower(s) home on Easter Sunday. Please fill out this form and turn it into the office or mail it into the church. The deadline to order is April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025. **\*NOTE:** *Please write anything below as you wish to appear in the bulletin. Please make checks payable to Willow Creek Presbyterian Church and on the memo line, put "Easter Lily".*

Lilies - How many? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hyacinths - How many? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tulips - How many? \_\_\_\_\_

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 In Loving Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

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 In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

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 Donor name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**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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 Caledonia, Illinois 61011



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Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wcpcargyle>

**WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ARGYLE**



**A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAUREN** This Lent, we have journeyed to Jerusalem with Jesus, pausing to listen to the parables that comforted and challenged his followers along the way. Those first disciples found Christ irresistibly compelling - they just kept following him, no matter how strange things became. They kept asking questions, even though the answers were often confusing. They kept walking after him, getting dustier and dustier.

A Rabbi being followed by his disciples was a common scene in the ancient world. This is how learning happened: following, listening, discerning, emulating. Discipleship was much like apprenticeship. Rabbis shared their lives with their followers - they broke bread together, found shelter together, and witnessed God's movement in the world together. Very committed students were described as "covered in the dust" of their rabbi, because they followed so closely that the dust of the road would be picked up from their teacher's sandals and cover them.

As we follow the ancient Lenten path in Jesus' footsteps and approach Good Friday's cross, I think of how our journey began, on Ash Wednesday, with: "*You are dust, and to dust you shall return.*" What does it mean if we begin as dust, and get covered in dust along the way, and return to dust at the end? What does it mean that Jesus' ministry was so dusty: dirty, earthy, rooted in the soil of this world, and somehow entirely otherworldly? How dusty can we get as we follow the one who was, who is, and who is to come?

**HOLY WEEK**

**Palm Sunday** April 13<sup>th</sup> Palm Processional & Willow Creek Sanctuary Choir  
**Maundy Thursday** April 17<sup>th</sup> **Potluck & Communion Service** Fellowship Hall at 6pm  
**Good Friday** April 18<sup>th</sup> **Holy Saturday** Chapel open at Scottish Argyle Cemetery  
**Easter Sunday** April 20<sup>th</sup> **8am** Sunrise Service at the Chapel at Scottish Argyle Cemetery  
**9am** Pancake Breakfast\* **9:15am** Egg Hunt at WCPC  
**10am** Worship in the Sanctuary with Handbell Choir & Communion

*\*Breakfast is at Willow Creek in the Fellowship Hall and provided by the Session. All are welcome!*

This year's **Lenten theme** is "**Journeying to Jerusalem**". Each week we travel a little closer to the cross, learning about Jesus' ministry along the way. We celebrate Communion by Intinction on every Sunday of Lent except for Palm Sunday. On Easter, we will celebrate Traditional Communion.

Would you like to **donate candy** for our Easter Egg Hunt? Must be individually wrapped and be able to fit inside a plastic egg. **Please bring candy to church by April 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**YOUTH GROUP** will meet after worship for games, fellowship and lunch on Sunday, April 13 from 11:30am - 1:30pm. The Youth will also help lead the 8am Easter Sunrise Service at the Chapel (April 20th) and will help with the Easter Egg Hunt. Check the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to help with lunch! The Youth will also meet on Sunday, April 27th from 11:30am - 1:30pm.

**YOUTH FUNDRAISERS** Our Youth are raising money for this summer's Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

**Hire-a-Youth:** Do you have work that needs to be done around the house - dusting, window cleaning, yard work? Two of our youth will come to your home for two hours to complete your chores for \$100. Work will be completed in April, May and June. Details on hiring to come!

**Pew Bench Silent Auction** Steve Picken has made one of our beloved pews into a beautiful bench that would be a wonderful addition to anyone's home! And he has graciously donated it to the purpose of raising funds for the Youth. We will have a silent auction on April 13th (Palm Sunday) and April 20th (Easter) with a form in the Fellowship Hall. Please bid generously in support of the youth group!

**WCPC APPRECIATES CAPRON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S EDUCATORS!** We have been asked to help celebrate the CES faculty and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week! Beginning April 6th we will collect *small bags of chips, crackers, cookies, snack cakes, bottled water, flavored water, juice, soda, post-it notes, fun pens, colored paper clips, binder clips, and fun office supplies.* All donations will be delivered on Tuesday, May 6th. *You are also welcome to bake homemade treats and drop them off May 4th, 5th or 6th.*

**A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY** ♪ Hello Willow Creek Friends! Here is the special music lined up for April:

**6th** Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto **13th** Willow Creek Sanctuary Choir

**20th** Mandy Nelson, Flute and Willow Creek Bell Ringers **27th** Elizabeth O'Leary, Piano

**THE DEACONS** are putting together a **Willow Creek Cookbook** and need your favorite recipes! Please submit recipes to us by Sunday, June 22. If you have recipes and/or pictures from members who are no longer with us, feel free to include them. *A Taste of Willow Creek* is a fundraiser for the Deacons. Copies will be available for purchase in the fall. Looking forward to all of your tasty dishes!

**SESSION SUMMARY** The Session of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle met on March 4th, 2025 for the regularly stated meeting. The meeting opened at 6:33pm with prayer and devotions. In attendance were: Pastor Lauren Patrus-Betzel (Moderator), Karli Rankin, Katherine Ralston, Rebekah Landi (Clerk), Tom Andrew, Molly Shipton, and Pat Nortch. Lon Clark, Jeff Cummings, and Cindy Nelson were excused. A quorum was declared. The following actions were taken:

1. Consent agenda was received and approved as stated.
2. A motion was made and seconded to move the money from Gifts and Bequests account into a business checking account at Rockford Community Bank. An amendment to the motion was made to empower the finance committee to invest the money into CDs when they determine the interest rates are favorable. The motion with the amendment passed.
3. A motion was made and seconded to schedule 1-2 CPR trainings with a cost of \$20 per participant, prioritizing training preschool and nursery staff. The motion passed.
4. A motion was made to approve the request for building use on April 26, 2025 for the Farm Bureau painting party. It was seconded and the motion passed.
5. A motion was made and seconded to approve preschool playdates at church with Lauren supervising. The motion passed.
6. A motion was made and seconded to approve using the \$300 that we use for the mission each month be used for the 4 Special Offerings from March, May, October and November. The motion passed.
7. A motion was made and seconded that until the Bed Build, Change for Change funds would go to the Bed Build costs. After the Bed Build, Change for Change funds should go to our Family in Need Fund. The motion passed.
8. A motion was made and seconded to empower the Deacons to create a cookbook. The funds raised will go into the Deacon's budget. The motion passed.
9. A motion was made and seconded to use Carol Lyford's memorial fund for the preschool laptop and Pat and Gordon Bindenagel and Loren Buffington's memorial funds for the office computers and necessary equipment. The motion passed.

**FARM BUREAU PAINTING PARTY WITH A PURPOSE!** Join your friends as local artist Angie Scordato, provides instruction on how to create your own 12"x16" canvas while you enjoy snacks and help support Agriculture Education. All supplies, snacks & drinks included. **\$40.00 per person. Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am - 11am here at Willow Creek.** Any questions, feel free to reach out to the Church Office.

**WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS** February was an above average month for giving. We are seeing an improved giving trend compared to previous years. Our expenses were average for the month. We are seeing an increase in income due to the investments made by the Finance/Personnel/Endowment Committee. Thank you for your continued support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.

	<b>February, 2025</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>
Income	19,185.15	32,483.54
Expenses	14,728.59	37,709.18
Excess/(Deficit)	4,456.56	(5,225.64)

**THE FLORA MCEACHRAN SCHOLARSHIP** is available for any student in or beyond their senior year of high school who has not previously received it. See Pastor Lauren or Rebekah Landi for more info.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** will be on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> of this month.

**APRIL CALENDAR**

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	6p 6:30p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals Session
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8a 5:30p	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10a 10:30a 11a 11:15a	Worship - Pastor Lauren Preaching Children's Sunday School Fellowship Deacon Meeting
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	6p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10a 10:30a 11a 11:30a	Worship - Palm Sunday <i>Change for Change</i> Children's Sunday School Fellowship Youth Group
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	8a 6p	Buildings & Grounds Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals, Worship & Music
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	8a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	6p	<i>Maundy Thursday</i> Potluck & Worship
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Good Friday</i>
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Holy Saturday</i> - Chapel at Scottish Argyle Cemetery is Open
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	8a	Sunrise Service at the Chapel at Scottish Argyle Cemetery
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	9a 9:15a 10a 11a	Pancake Breakfast (Provided by the Session) in the Fellowship Hall Egg Hunt at WCPC Worship in the Sanctuary with Handbell Choir & Communion Fellowship
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	5:30p 6p	Worship & Music Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	8a	Farm Bureau Paint Party
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10a 10:30a 11a 11:15a 11:30a	Worship Children's Sunday School Fellowship F/P/E Youth Group
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	6p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals