

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ARGYLE | MARCH 2025 STREAMER

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



A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAUREN During Lent, we commit to contemplating our own mortality. We begin the season with the imposition of ashes and the refrain: *remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return*. We make our way through the season singing *Hosanna - Lord, Save me!* And we end proclaiming *Alleluia!* on Easter as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

Which of these places would we choose, if the choice was ours? To spend our days contemplating mortality, or shouting "Hosanna!" or singing "Alleluia!"?

Most of us would choose to hang out on Easter Sunday. We love those *Alleluia!* days when the spring sunshine is just warm enough, the scent of new blossoms are brought to us on a gentle breeze, and we're surrounded by laughter and love.

But of course, we don't get to choose. As much as we love those sweet *Alleluia!* days, the life God has written for us weaves from *Alleluia!* to *Hosanna!* to the days of contemplation in-between. And the faith we have been given by the grace of God equips us for each of those days. The particular gift of Lent is to walk through ordinary days with a deepening awareness of our finite nature: we have a limited amount of time and energy and even faith. That is how we are created. God - the Infinite One - does not expect us to be any more than what we are. So for Lent, we practice growing in awareness of and loving our limitations.

This Lent, you are invited to explore our limitations by reading ***Being Mortal*** by Atul Gawande for our ***Lenten Soup Study***. We will meet Wednesdays during Lent from March 12th through April 9th 5:30p - 7p. You may want to read along with us even if you can't join us for soup! And all are welcome - join us for discussions even if you aren't reading the book.

ASH WEDNESDAY March 5th Drive Thru Ashes 9am - 9:30am, 11am - 11:30am and 5pm - 5:30pm
Worship with the Imposition of Ashes at 6pm in the Sanctuary.

LENT: JOURNEYING TO JERUSALEM Throughout Lent we will follow Jesus as he makes his way to Jerusalem and the cross in Luke's Gospel. Join us each Sunday (March 9th - April 20th) as we encounter another story about the life and ministry of our Savior. Lent devotionals this year are a schedule of Scripture readings plus guidance on *Lectio Divina*. Materials will be available in the Fellowship Hall beginning March 2nd.

MISSION DRIVE Thank you so much for helping Empower Boone Food Pantry! If you have an idea for a Mission Drive, let Pastor Lauren or Pastor Tanya know!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR Lindsey Clark! Please greet Lindsey with a smile when you come by the Office. We are looking forward to working with her, and we are so grateful to Annie Picken for helping us through the transition.

YOUTH GROUP Will meet 11:30am - 1:30pm at church on March 2nd, March 16th and March 30th.

LIVING WITH GRIEF GROUP will not meet during Lent.

PARDON OUR DUST The Session is still considering how to best update, improve and utilize some of the underused spaces in our church. We appreciate your patience as things are a bit dusty at the moment! If you have any questions, please check in with Pastor Lauren or Clerk of Session Rebekah Landi.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL All Preschool through 5th graders are welcome to join us after the Children's Moment on Sundays around 10:30am. We will meet **March 9th, 16th & 23rd**. See Rebekah, Karli, Shannon or Riley if you have any questions.

SESSION SUMMARY The Session of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle met on February 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), Rebekah Landi (Clerk), Tom Andrew, Jeff Cummings, Cindy Nelson, Pat Nortch, Katherine Ralston, Karli Rankin and Molly Shipton. Lon Clark was excused. A quorum was declared.

The following actions were taken:

- Consent agenda was received and approved as stated.
- A motion was made to approve the communion dates as presented. The motion passed.
- A motion was made to approve the request for building use on Feb 15 for the Farm Bureau painting party. It was seconded and the motion passed.

WCPC OPERATING STATISTICS January was an average month for giving. We have already improved on last year's giving trend. Our expenses were above average for the month, due to some maintenance. Cold weather is here, church expenses will rise as heating the church increases our expenses each month. Thank you for your ongoing support of Willow Creek Presbyterian Church.

	January 2025	Year-to-Date
Income	\$13,325.39	\$13,325.39
Expenses	\$22,980.59	\$22,980.59
Excess/(Deficit)	\$(9,655.20)	\$(9,655.20)

A NOTE FROM LIZ O'LEARY Hello Willow Creek Friends...is it cold enough for you? I sound like a real old lady when I say this, but I remember when it used to be -25 and that wasn't wind chill. We looked at the thermometer outside of our kitchen window. However, spring will get here! There is a fine lineup for March, all five Sundays of it:

- **March 2 - Dan Holmes, voice and guitar**
- **March 9 - Curtis Smith, vocalist**
- **March 16 - Piper Greenlee, flute**
- **March 23 - Nicholai Janitzky, baritone**
- **March 30 - Kathy Clark, vocalist**

All for now. Stay warm! ~Liz

YOUTH SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER Thank you so much for your generous support of our Youth Group! We raised \$475 at the Spaghetti Lunch for our trip to Louisville this summer for Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

ARGYLE PRESCHOOL UPDATE Please join us in extending congratulations to our wonderful Director/Teacher Katie Wolf as she is expecting a baby in April. We are excited to welcome Delica Austin as our Long Term Sub! She and Ms. Katie will teach together during March, and then Ms. Delica will guide our preschoolers through to the end of the year.

MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday 2 nd	10a	Worship
	11a	Fellowship
	11:30a	Youth Group
	11:30a	Diaconate
Tuesday 4 th	6:30p	Session
	6p	Pipe Band & Drumming: Lessons & Rehearsals
Wednesday 5 th		Ash Wednesday
	8a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
	9a	Drive Thru Ashes, also at 11a and 5p
	6p	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday 6 th	11:30a	Ladies Meet & Eat at Sophia's Restaurant
	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 9 th	10a	Worship
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship
Tuesday 11 th	6p	Pipe Band & Drumming: Lessons & Rehearsals
Wednesday 12 th	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 13 th	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 16 th	10a	Worship
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship
	11:30a	Youth Group
Monday 17 th		Saint Patrick's Day 🍀
Tuesday 18 th	6p	Worship & Music Meeting
Wednesday 19 th	8a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant
	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 20 th	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 23 rd	10a	Worship
	10:30a	Children's Sunday School
	11a	Fellowship
	11:15a	F/P/E
Tuesday 25 th	8a	Building & Grounds Meeting
	6p	Pipe Band & Drumming: Lessons & Rehearsals
Wednesday 12 th	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 27 th	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal

ATTENTION STUDENTS * THE FLORA MCEACHRAN SCHOLARSHIP Please submit a letter describing your plans following graduation to the Clerk of Session (Rebekah Landi). You may also wish to include information about yourself including activities, community service, etc. Please mail the letter to the Church Office (Attn: Clerk of Session) or email Office@WillowCreekPC.org. Prior to the scholarship disbursement, recipients will need to show proof of enrollment in a course of basic study or training beyond high school. Any student in or beyond their senior year of high school who has not previously received the scholarship may apply.

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, hyacinths and tulips will be \$12.00 each. You may donate or take your flower(s) and/or bulbs 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 4th, 2025. *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 flowers".

Lilies (how many) _____

Hyacinths (how many) _____

Tulips (how many) _____

In Loving Memory of:

In Honor of:

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 8:30am - 3pm.** If you'd like to set up a time to visit Pastor Lauren or Pastor Tanya, please reach out to the Church Office.

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