

Recent Losses of Long-Time Members

During the past few days, Willow Vale Community Church has lost two of its long-time members. We rejoice in the good things God has done in and through their lives, even as we reach out in love and sympathy to family members who feel the loss most strongly.

RUTH LINDSTROM, aged 98, passed away on June 14. Her memorial service was on June 27 in Gilroy,. She had been living near her son and daughter-in-law in Montana for the past five years, but still communicated with Willow Vale as often as possible. For many years she played organ, taught Sunday School, and served the church in many other ways. Even after age 90, she hosted and led a weekday Bible study group at her home that touched many people from the Willow Glen neighborhood. Members of the Lindstrom family have been active in our church almost from its beginnings in 1883. She will be missed, but those who knew her will treasure the memories of her rich and varied contributions.

BILL GRIFFIN passed away on June 24th after struggling for many years with breathing disorders, only a few months after the loss of his beloved wife Carol, who was Willow Vale's organist for many years. Bill and Carol donated the organ now in the church sanctuary, and Bill had often helped with care and repair of the organ and audio equipment. In years past he was very active in men's prayer groups. Anyone who knew him well had heard, at least once, his story about seeing Carol as a teenager, singing in the choir at his church in Santa Cruz, and knowing instantly that she was "the one" for him to marry. With a career in engineering and management at IBM, he was always eager to see things done at the highest level of quality! A memorial service is scheduled at Willow Vale Church, July 9th, at 1:30 PM. One of our former pastors, Art Carl, now retired in Modesto, will deliver the sermon.

The church office will be happy to forward to the families any expressions of sympathy and support that you may wish to share with the Lindstrom and Griffin families.