

WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36925 Willow Road , New Boston, Michigan 48164

Kelly Vergowven, Pastor



OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS

THE COMMUNICATOR NOVEMBER 2017



A NOTE FROM PASTOR KELLY

"Thanks-giving"

Newsletter Article – October 2017

We certainly have a lot to be thankful for this month of Thanks-giving! Our chicken suppers have been the talk of the town, our God Works! dinners have been filling those who are hungry with a delicious meal, and our Annual Church Conference was a blessed reassurance of God's presence in our church and our community.

As we fall back into these cold but cozy days, let us be reminded of the peace and presence of God's love in our lives. Here is a beautiful poem of Antiphons for Autumn as you reflect on the changing of the seasons.

O Antiphons for Autumn

O Season Full of Remembering,

Come! Come with your golden shawl. Come scattering the beauty of well-aged leaves. Strengthen us for changing our old patterns. Give us memories that sustain our dreams. O Come!

O Cooling Breath of Autumn,

Come! Come with your natural paradox. Show us our fullness and emptiness. Breathe into us a spirit of gracious acceptance. Tame out desire to have summer stay forever. O Come!

O Seeds Sprung Loose from Dying Plants,

Come! Come teach us to be generative. Carry us to places where we can take root. Encourage the seed of our love to fall freely. Gift us with the grace of surrender. O Come!

O Harvester of Wisdom,

Come! Come fill us with the waters of wisdom. Show us the beauty of aging with grace. Prepare us for the long, dark nights. Gather from our lives all that has potential. O Come!

O Gleaner of Gardens and Fields,

Come! Come gather what is most precious in us. Urge us to embrace our cornucopia of goodness. Stir up gratitude and a sense of wonder. Move us to give freely of our abundant harvest. O Come!

O Rustling Leaves Falling from the Trees,

PASTORAL VISITS

Pastor Kelly is available for pastoral visits! If you would like a visit or know of someone who would like a pastoral visit please let Pastor Kelly know via a phone call, text, email or a note on her desk to set up a date and time.

Be grateful,
enjoy every
moment ❤️

Willow Church Ministries

Food Pantry: Ethel's food pantry offers short term assistance for any in need. 1 bag of groceries at a time. The food pantry is open 24/7. Please call the church for information or to request assistance.

Spiritual Growth and Bible Study: A weekly study fellowship with emphasis on deepening personal spirituality with practical disciplines. Study group meets Thursdays at 7:00 pm.

Prayer Ministry: Our congregation offers, through prayer and meditation, intercessory prayer for any concern 24 hours a day. Please call the church office to leave your prayer requests.

AA Ministry: Utilize a 12 step program to help those suffering the effects of alcohol addiction. Meetings are held at the church Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Music Ministry: Choir and worship opportunities through music participation. Practice every Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Sept.—May

Children's Ministry: Christian education during worship service is offered weekly to foster and guide our children in their faith under the direction of Jeanne Lochner. Children's Church is held each Sunday: coordinated by Jennifer Johnson.

This newsletter is compiled by Donna Lee Hornyak. A special thanks to Gail Sobecki and all who submit articles. If you would like to add to "The Communicator", please e mail me at dhornyak2@gmail.com.

Thought for the Day: Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you

Belong to Christ Jesus 1 THESSALONIANS 5:17-18

Which Member Are You?

A lot of members are like wheelbarrows—not good unless pushed.

Some are like canoes—need to be paddled.

Some are like kites—if a string isn't kept on them, they fly away.

Some are like kittens—more contented when petted.

Some are like balloons—full of wind and ready to blow up.

Some are like footballs—you can't tell which way they'll bounce next.

Some are like trailers—they have to be pulled.

Some are like neon lights—they keep going on and off.

Many, thank goodness, are like the North Star—there when you need them, dependable and ever loyal.

So...Which Member Are You???

Willow United Methodist Church

36925 Willow Road

New Boston, MI 48164

Kelly Vergowven, Pastor

Email address: kvergowven@hotmail.com

Pastor Cell Phone Number: 1-734-497-3560

Office Hours Wednesdays and Thursdays

1:30—3:30 PM and upon request

Church phone: 734-654-9020

Fax: 734-654-9020

Sunday Service 9:30 AM

Jeanne Lochner: Children's Ministry Director

Karen Struble Organist and Music Director

FOOD PANTRY 24/7 734-753-4320




IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ORDERING A POINSETTIA TO DECORATE THE ALTAR OF WILLOW CHURCH, PLEASE COMPLETE A FORM BY NOVEMBER 19TH.

Please pay when you order or as soon as possible. Do not forget to state who you would like to honor or memorialize. Please give your completed form to Donna Lee Hornyak or Gail Sobecki. (checks can be made to Donna Lee Hornyak)

WILLOW CHURCH POINSETTIA ORDER FORM 2017

Name: _____ Phone Number _____

In Memory – Honor of: Please indicate _____

 Plant	Color: Red, White, or Pink	Number Ordered	Total Due	Paid
Mini: 1 plant – 3-5 blooms \$3.00 each				
Single: 1 plant – 5-7 blooms \$5.00 each				
Double: 2 plants – 8-14 blooms \$11.00 each				
Large: 3 or 4 plants – 12 -20 blooms \$17.00 each				
Large: Tri Color: 1 Red, 1 White and 1 Pink plant \$17.00 each				

Total Due: _____

Please make checks to: Donna Lee Hornyak



Were you here?

When Pastor Kelly spoke about the 10 commandments and explained that they are given to us through God's Love?

When a group of us joins Pastor Kelly for Bible Study?

When the Willow Congregation gathered for the Annual Charge Conference with Rev. Kim who represented our District Superintendent, Mark Spaw ?

When Pastor Kelly's sermon was about our relationship with God being critical to our health and wellbeing?

When we were encouraged to open our hearts to the Gospel of Jesus?

When the children of Willow enjoyed their Harvest Party?

When 4 of our third graders received their Deep Blue Kids Bible that will provide them with God's Word, pictures, colorful maps and easy to read Holy Scriptures?

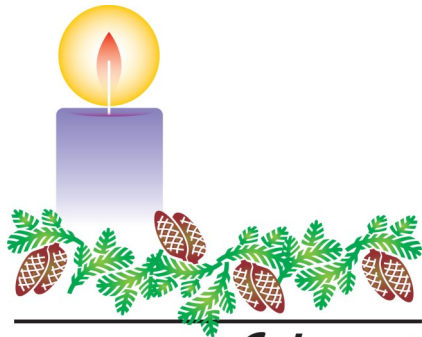
When Pastor Kelly reminded us that "the spirit is with us in our work when we open our hearts to those we seek to serve"?

When we were told Willow Church feeds those who enter...physically, spiritually and emotionally?



THIRD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY





THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Lord says, "I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more." Jeremiah 31:34

The children leaned forward to see what the pastor was doing as she spoke of God's forgiveness. She wrote several words on a legal pad. "OOPS!" she said, "I've made a mistake." Then she turned the pencil over and erased the stray marks. "That's what God does when God forgives us," she said. "God erased our mistakes, our sins, completely, as if they had never happened."

FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

As I watched, I realized that God does more. God forgives and does not remember our sins, as if the paper were restored to its original state. No sign of pencil marks and eraser residue remaining. God gives us a clean slate!

In Jeremiah 31:31-34, the people of Israel were promised a new day, a new covenant even though they had disappointed God over and over again. The promise now extends to all who believe in the new covenant established by Jesus Christ. "If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). WE ARE FORGIVEN.

Advent Calendar

December 2nd, Sat.: 9:00 a.m. "Hanging of the Greens"

December 3rd, Sun.: First Sunday of Advent/Advent Friend begins

December 10th, Sun.: Second Sunday of Advent/Advent Friend- Children's Christmas Program/
Cookie Walk/Santa Shop Coffee after Worship

December 17th, Sun.: Third Sunday of Advent/Advent Friend

Choir Christmas Cantata, All Church Christmas Pot Luck 10:30

December 24th, Sun.: Fourth Sunday of Advent/Advent Friend

December 24, Sun.: 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service



Advent Friend

Would you like to be someone's Secret Advent Friend? Starting on December 3rd, the First Sunday of Advent, Secret Advent Friends will share small gifts with one another (maximum \$5 each gift for : Dec. 3, Dec. 10 and 17th) and final gift on Dec. 17th with a cost of \$25-30. If you are interested, please speak with Laura Haydamacker (734-552-8172). Registration sheets are on the table in the entry at church. The gifts are great, but the most important thing is to remember to pray for your Secret Advent Friend during the season.

Willow United Methodist Church Administration Board Meeting

October 15, 2017

Meeting opened with prayer at 10:45 a.m. Jeanne



ATTENDANCE: Jan Holland, Pastor Kelly, Mark Buttignoli, Jeanne Lochner, Linda Kemp, Mary Krezmenski, Martha Molar, Amy Harrison, Jim & Kathy Farr, Karen Wilson, R.P and Helena Lilly, Donna Lee, Tyler Johnson, and Sheryl Karls.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD: September minutes were read. Jim motioned to accept. R.P supported. Motion carried.

PASTORS REPORT: Pastor Kelly reported that church reports are being completed for the charge conference. The Nominating Committee has been meeting. She is making home visits.

TRUSTEES: R.P. reported that the floor in the narthex has been completed. The stairs will be started on the 1st of November. They have retained an attorney to draw up a purchase agreement for the sale of the vacant lots and mailed the agreement to the purchaser. No finalization of the sale can be done until after the special meeting after the charge conference. The trustees are looking into getting new lighting for the fellowship hall.

FNANCIAL:

N/A

PASTOR PARISH: As Pastor Parish Chair, Donna Lee motioned for Pastor Kelly to be ³/₄ time for 2018. Her salary to be \$26,379 with \$3,000 for housing, Education \$1,600 and travel \$4,200. Martha supported. Discussion held. Motion carried.

WOMEN'S GROUP: At their meeting they voted to see about getting the chairs on the altar reupholstered. A new mission was introduced to collect socks for Detroit homeless.

ADJOURNMENT: Karen motioned to adjourn. Helena supported. Meeting adjourned 11:55 am. Motion carried.

Recording Secretary — Janet Holland



*Willow United Methodist Church,
And our friends at*



*Welcome all to our FREE
Willow Community*



Thanksgiving Dinner!

Community Dinners are served on the 4th Thursday of every month
from 6:00 – 6:30PM in our Fellowship Hall – exception for

Thanksgiving, to be served from 4-6:30!

Dinner dates for the 2017 year are as follows:

Open hearts, open minds, open doors....

36925 E Willow Rd, New Boston, MI 48164
(734) 654-9020

11/23/2017
12/28/2017



November 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<p>1</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p> <p>Robert Lenz</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>7:00</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Time Change tomorrow</p> <p>FALL BACK</p> 
<p>5</p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Women's Group Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>8</p> <p>CHICKEN SUPPER</p> <p>Salute to our Veterans</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>7:00</p>	<p>10</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>Jennifer & Tyler Johnson</p> <p>Samantha Bailey</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Children's Church</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>15</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p> <p>Anne & Ryan Mathews</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>7:00</p> <p>Joyce & John Tarr</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Kevin Burke</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Salute to First Responders</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Coffee Hour</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>22</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>23</p> <p>God Works Thanksgiving Dinner here at Church...ALL ARE WOLCOME</p>	<p>24</p> 	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Ad Board Meets</p> <p>Cameron Buck</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>29</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>7:00</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Hanging of the Greens 9:00 am</p>