



WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36925 Willow Road New Boston, Michigan 48164

Reverend Marianne McMunn, Pastor

OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS

THE COMMUNICATOR

JANUARY 2016



A NOTE FROM PASTOR MARIANNE:



New Beginnings.

II Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

2016 will be a year of new beginnings for each one of us. Some of you have experienced great losses in your lives and you are still learning how to come to terms and cope with the new reality that you find yourself living in. Some of you have experienced life changes that are considered good and you are learning how to come to terms and cope with that new reality you find yourself living in. Whatever the circumstance, one thing is for certain, we are not alone. We enter into this new year with the knowledge that we are in Christ and Christ is in us. We can lean into Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit as we meet each new challenge. In Christ, we are new creations . . . never a "finished product," but always in process of being changed.

The coming year will be one of new beginnings for me . . .

With the birth of our first grandchild, I have prayerfully made the decision to care for Kendall when her mama goes back to work full time. (As Doug puts it – my "Higher Calling")

Pastoral ministry was a new beginning for me 6 years ago. I felt such a mixture of excitement and fear, not knowing completely what it would be like and if I could really do such a thing. What a wonderful blessing to have served the Willow UMC for 4 ½ of those years!

And now, I enter into another beginning – with excitement and some fear too. What will this change really be like? Can I handle it?

I think all new beginnings are like this – because we have never been there before. But when God calls, God also provides.

Willow UMC is entering into a new beginning with a pastoral change. I believe that Rev. Brad Lewis will be a blessing to this lovely congregation. I KNOW that you all will be a blessing to him and his wife Debbie. None of you know what blessings are in store or what challenges/possibilities may lay ahead. But when God calls, God also provides.

We are in Christ, we are new creations; "the old has gone and the new has come!"

Rainer Maria Rilke wrote, "Now let us welcome the New Year, full of things that have never been."

Amen.



My love to you and yours in
each New Beginning,

Pastor Marianne

Sermon Titles and Texts for January:		
January 3:	"God Is In the Relocation Business"	Jeremiah 31:7-14
January 10:	"Remember Your Baptism"	Mark 1:4-11
January 17:	Mark Buttignoli preaching	
January 24:	"Different Parts, Same DNA"	I Corinthians 12:12-31a
January 31:	T B D	



Thank
You

To the Administrative Board and Congregation at Willow: Thank you so very much for your generous "yearend bonus." Your gift greatly helps Doug and I with transportation costs, in particular. You are such a thoughtful and grace filled church and you minister to me in so many ways. Thank you once again.

I love you. Pastor Marianne

Thank you, congregation for the noisy offerings that you donated during the Advent Season. 5 families received gifts for Christmas as a result. The gifts were blessed during Worship on December 20 before being delivered to the very grateful families.

Thanks to all who volunteered for Goodfellows, "No Child Without a Christmas" Project. Members of Willow UMC sold papers to raise funds, counted the donations, purchased toys and food, sorted goods, boxed up toys and food. Good fellow and member of Willow UMC, Helena Lilly takes a lead role in this impactful outreach to our community. Thank you, Helena!

Your donations of hats, mittens, and scarves that decorated the tree in the church entry were given to children who needed them through the Goodfellows program. Thank you, congregation!



Holy
Baptism

Remember Your Baptism Sunday

January 10, you will be invited to "remember your baptism" as we reflect on the baptism of our Lord Jesus. During Worship you will have the opportunity to come forward to the baptismal font, to dip your fingers into the waters, and to remember and give thanks for baptism in Christ.

"CAST THY BURDEN UPON THE LORD, AND HE SHALL SUSTAIN THEE: HE SHALL NEVER SUFFER THE RIGHTEOUS TO BE MOVED."

Psalms 55:22

2016 WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

Thank you to those of you who have accepted a role as an elected officer in service with and to the Willow United Methodist Church. Some of you have served in your current role for years – God bless you! Many of you have served on a variety of committees in a variety of roles – God bless you! Some of you are serving on committees for the very first time – God bless you! We are grateful to you for utilizing your special gifts for service to God and the church. May the Lord bless you all and grant you wisdom and peace.

Administrative Board

Chairperson	Katherine Buck
Secretary	Jan Holland
Church Treasurer	Amy Harrison
Financial Secretary	Jan Holland
Asst. Financial Secretary	Kathy Farr
Music Director	Karen Struble
Lay Leader	Mark Buttignoli
Membership Coordinator	Martha Molnar
Children's Ministries	Jeanne Lochner
Assistant Children's Ministries	Hannah Seward
Children's Church Coordinator	Jennifer Johnson
Chairperson of Finances	Jim Buck
Chairperson of Trustees	John Tarr
Chairperson of Pastor Parish Relations	Donna Lee Hornyak
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Jeanne Lochner
Alternate Lay Member for Conference	Mark Buttignoli
Communications	Donna Lee Hornyak
Webmaster	Karen Wilson

Administrative Board Members at Large

Linda Kemp	Sheryl Karls	David Lochner	Jim Farr	Mary Krzeminiski	R.P. Lilly
------------	--------------	---------------	----------	------------------	------------

Board of Trustees

<u>Chairperson</u>	2016	2017	2018
John Tarr	John Tarr	Jim Farr	Mark Buttignoli
<u>Treasurer</u>	RP Lilly	Martha Molnar	Mary Krzeminiski
R.P. Lilly	Jim Buck		Kevin Burke

Pastor Parish Relations Committee

<u>Chairperson</u>	2016	2017	2018
Donna Lee Hornyak	Julie Struble	John Haydamacker	Donna Lee Hornyak
	Michelle Simon	Jack Nobles	Tessa Bailey
	David Lochner	Wanda Young	

In Addition per Discipline: Mark Buttignoli and Jeanne Lochner

Nominating Committee

<u>Chairperson</u>	2016	2017	2018
Pastor Marianne McMunn	Katherine Buck	RaeAnn Burkhart	Hollie Morrison

In Addition per Discipline: Mark Buttignoli

Finance Committee

<u>Chairperson</u>	2016	2017	2018
Jim Buck	Tyler Johnson	Jan Holland	Laura Haydamacker
	Jim Buck	Amy Harrison	Gail Sobecki

In Addition per Discipline: Mark Buttignoli and Jeanne Lochner

Communion Stewards

<u>Chairperson</u>	Pastor Marianne McMunn	Debra Carter	Helena Lilly	Wanda Young
		Jeanne Lochner	Julie Struble	

Altar Guild

<u>Chairperson</u>	Pastor Marianne McMunn	Jan Holland	Vanessa Lenz
--------------------	------------------------	-------------	--------------

Thank you to those who have served on committees and your time of service is complete. We so appreciate your time, sharing your gifts and your ministry to us all. Special thanks to Donna Lee Hornyak for all the extra efforts that transitioning of pastors requires of the Pastor Parish Relations Committee chairperson.

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.

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: Every care that I can turn over to God makes room for another blessing.



Willow Church Cook Book

Thank you to all who submitted recipes for the Willow Church Cook Book.

NOW ON SALE!!! \$10.00 each.

Please see Martha Molnar for purchase.

Willow United Methodist Church

36925 Willow Road
New Boston, MI 48164

Rev. Marianne McMunn, Pastor

Email address: mariannemcmunn@sbcglobal.net

Pastor Cell Phone Number: 248-875-3783

Office Hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays

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

Script Program

Our church benefits from the purchase of Scrip gift cards. Every time you purchase a card we receive a percentage of the purchase price. Use the cards not only to give as gifts, but also consider buying them for your own personal use, i.e. dining out, home improvements, gas, personal items. If you would like an updated list of retailers, please see Martha Molar.

Thank you for your continued support.



Altar Flowers: Altar flowers can be displayed as a memorial or in honor of someone or something or a special event. Cost per bouquet: if only 1 bouquet is purchased for the same week is \$15.00. Cost if 2 vases are purchased is \$12.50 each. Make all checks to Darlene's Flowers. Please contact Vanessa Lenz at 734-731-9611. Orders and payments are required 2 weeks prior to date.

Were you here?

When Pastor Marianne told us that God calls us to serve all families and that we have the power to make a difference in one person's life?

When the children of Willow Church presented their wonderful Christmas Program?

When we were reminded that God tells us to walk by faith into new adventures?

When we were asked what are we willing to do in our lives to follow the light of Jesus Christ?

When we again heard WHAT A WONDER AND AMAZEMENT IT WAS TO HEAR "MARY HAD A BABY"?

When our blessed choir gave a beautiful CHRISTMAS CONTATA?



Willow Church Celebrates Christmas

We bless the gifts we give, we host a cookie walk.

We Sing His praises.

We light the Advent Candle





January 2016



Sun

Mon

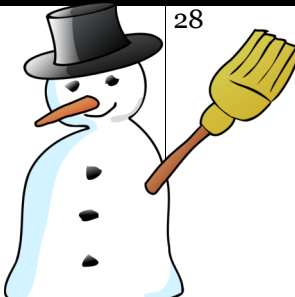

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

27 	28	29 Rotary 6:30 pm	30 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	31 7:00 pm	1 Happy New Year 2016	2
3 Holy Communion Women's Mtg. Ed & Jean Miller	4 Whitney Baker	5 Rotary 6:30 pm	6 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 7:00 pm Bible Study at Wanda Young's home Mark Buttignoli	8 Debbie Carter Madison Dent	9
10 Baptism Sunday Remember your Baptism Coffee Hour	11	12 Rotary 6:30 pm	13 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	14	15 Mary Van Meer	16
17 Administrative Board Mtg. Michelle Simon	18	19 Rotary 6:30 pm	20 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	21	22	23 Raeann Burkhart Mary Grover
24 Marriage Study	25	26 Rotary 6:30 pm Connie Burke	27 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal Judy McDaniel	28 7:00 pm Bible Study at Wanda Young's home Hollie Morrison	29	30 
31 Pastor Marianne's final Sunday Farewell Luncheon	1 <i>Hello February.</i>	2 Rotary 6:30	3 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	4 7:00 pm Bible Study at Wanda Young's home	5	6