

## WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36925 Willow Road , New Boston, Michigan 48164

Kelly Vergowven, Pastor

**OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS**

**THE COMMUNICATOR     JANUARY 2018**



### Happy New Year!

I am grateful for the opportunity to experience another year of wonderment in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I pray that your Christmas season was a spiritually fulfilling time of joy as we wait expectantly for our coming Lord.

Please join me in celebrating this new year with a devotion from the book “Jesus Always” by Sarah Young.

Do not dwell on the past. *See, I am doing a new thing!* As you begin a fresh year, rejoice that I am continually working newness into your life. Don’t let recent disappointments and failures define you or dampen your expectations. This is the time to make a fresh start! I am a God of unlimited creativity; expect Me to do surprising things in this year that stretches out before you.

*Today* is a precious gift. The present moment is where I meet with you, beloved. So seek My Face throughout *this day that I have made*. I have carefully prepared it for you – with tender attention to every detail. I want you to *rejoice and be glad in it*.

Search for signs of My loving Presence as you journey along the *path of Life*. Look for the little pleasures I have strewn alongside your pathway – sometimes in surprising places – and thank Me for each one. Your thankfulness will keep you close to Me and help you find Joy in your journey.

I look forward to a beautiful new year with all of you, serving as disciples of Jesus Christ!

God’s peace and blessings to you all!

Pastor Kelly



### 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.



## 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



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**



## 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

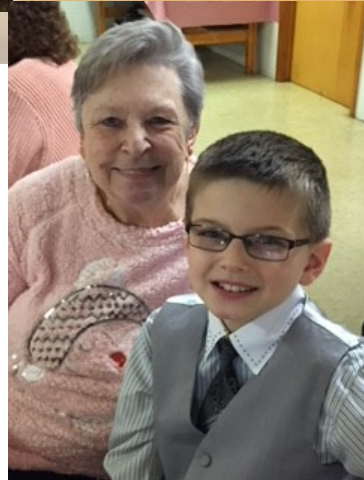
**Children's Ministry:** Christian education during worship service is offered weekly to foster and guide our children in their faith under the direction of Jeanne Lochner. Children's Church is held each Sunday: coordinated by Jennifer Johnson.





4 SUNDAY'S  
OF ADVENT

ALL CHURCH LUNCHEON







## Christmas at Willow Church

Our Choir Cantata

Cookie Walk

Children's Program

Santa Shop





## TRUSTEES:

Our trustees continue to keep our facility in good repair. Here are just a few of the many items they've tackled:

Projects completed by the Board of Trustees  
Willow United Methodist Church

- ◆ Plumbing repairs in kitchen
- ◆ Ceramic tile in both bathrooms (upstairs)
- ◆ Hardwood floor in the Narthex
- ◆ Upper & Lower stairs in entrance of church
- ◆ Window in garage
- ◆ Make arrangements for sale of (3) lots
- ◆ Purchased cleaning equipment for janitor
- ◆ Making major changes in lighting for Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Made arrangements for new insurance carrier



## The Women of Willow

The Women of Willow continued to spread the love of Our Lord in 2017. Following is a list of just a few of the many items they have accomplished in 2017.

God Work's Community Meals, UMCOR \$800.00 donation, \$100.00 in UMCOR supply kits, hosted church game night, all church pot luck, cookie walk, women's luncheon, purchased meat for all church picnic and pot luck, continued to deliver meals to church members as part of our meal support program, sponsored Santa Shop for the children of Willow, purchased oil table cloths for the tables in the fellowship hall, purchased Christmas decoration for fellowship hall, Maundy Thursday Meal, Indoor Church clean up day, Appreciation Luncheon for Pastor Brad, Teddy Bear Ministry, Soup Swap with women's group, Donated \$500.00 towards new stair banister, Given out 50 + pock-



## FIRST RESPONDERS SERVICE:

Join the First Responders on Sunday, January 21st as our congregation honors them for their service. Please plan to join us for a brunch/coffee hour following the service where you will have the opportunity to personally thank/honor them.



## WERE YOU HERE?

When we lit the Advent Candles?

When Advent taught us that Christ's love and light is among us?

When Pastor Kelly reminded us that through Jesus Christ we have experienced forgiveness and love?

When we celebrated the birth of OUR LORD at the Candle Light Service on Christmas Eve?

When Pastor Kelly reminded us that the Christmas story is still the greatest story ever told?



# January 2018

Sun

Mon

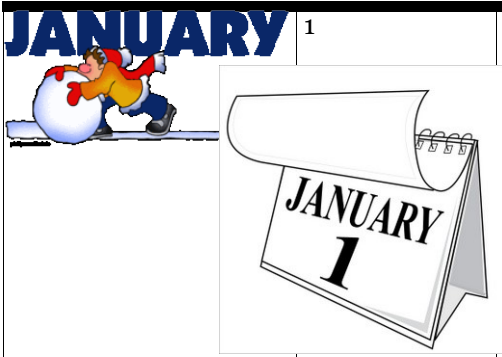


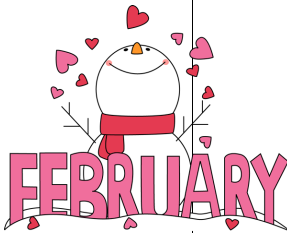
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 Rotary 6:30  Gail Gray	3 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	4  Whitney Baker	5	6
7  Holy Communion Children's Church Woman's Mtg.  Mark Buttignoli	8  Debbie Carter Madison Dent	9 Rotary 6:30	10 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	11 Bible Study 7:00	12  	13
14 Baptism Coffee Hour  Children's Church	15  Mary VanMeer	16 Rotary 6:30	17 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00  Michelle Simon	18 Bible Study 7:00	19	20
21 First Responders Service Children's Church First Responders Breakfast Ad Board Mtg.	22 	23 Rotary 6:30  Raeann Burkhart	24 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	25 GOD WORK'S Community Supper	26  Connie Burke	27  Judy McDaniel
28 Children's Church  Hollie Morrison	29	30 Rotary 6:30	31 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	1 	2	3