



# Willow United Methodist Church

**THE COMMUNICATOR**

**FEBRUARY 2014**



## A Note From Pastor Marianne

Every grocery store we go into this month, we are going to see chocolate – boxes and boxes of chocolate. (Doesn't hurt my feelings.) It does remind me of that quote from Forrest Gump, "Life is like a box of chocolates . . . you never know what you're going to get. "

It's true . . . when we wake up each morning, we don't know what the day will hold for us. We may have made certain plans but those plans can change in an instant – for better or for worse.

When we take a bite out of our "chocolate of the day" and it's our favorite flavor, let's remember to savor it, to be grateful and give God thanks. And when the flavor of the day is not what we wanted or is just plain awful, let's seek help from the Holy Spirit to remain mindful and even grateful, that God's love and grace will sustain us.

Life is about changes – good and challenging. Lamentations 3:22-23 reminds us that one thing doesn't change: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is God's faithfulness."

"Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in God." Psalm 34:8

May God's love and grace leave you with a good taste in your mouth.

Pastor Marianne



## February Sermon Titles and Texts:

February 2: "Forgiving Family"

Genesis 50:15-21

February 9: "Please Pass the Salt"

Matthew 5:13-20

February 16: Jeanne Lochner, Lay Servant, will be preaching

February 23: "Love Without Limits"

Matthew 5:38-48



# Happenings at Willow Church

## Parenting Study "Handling Anger in Your Home"

Willow UMC offers a free parenting study for parents of children of all ages. The study utilizes a parenting series by Jim Williams who is a national parenting advocate and speaker and the director of STARS, a school based program helping students make healthy lifestyle choices.

This 4 week study helps parents learn new ways to manage their own feelings of anger and frustration.

All are welcome! Dates of the study are the 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

The class will meet February 23rd, at 11:00am. We enjoy snacks, teaching and discussion time and close with prayer 12:00pm. The study is held in the home of Tyler and Jennifer Johnson at 25305 Bernadine Rd., New Boston. If you have any questions about the class or location, please contact Pastor Marianne, parenting study facilitator (248-875-3783), Jennifer Johnson, co-coordinator (734-625-5750).

Hope to see you there!



## Would you like to become a member of Willow United Methodist Church?

If you are considering becoming a member of Willow UMC, you are invited to attend Membership Classes. There will be 2 classes in a session. The first class will include some history about the United Methodist Church (UMC) as well as a question and answer time where you will be invited to ask your questions about the UMC and/or Willow UMC. The second class will include a look at the vows of membership for your prayerful consideration. If after these 2 classes you decide that you do indeed want to take the vows of membership, we will receive you into membership during a Sunday morning worship service.

**The first session of Membership Classes for 2014 will be held March 16 and March 30** right after the Worship Service.

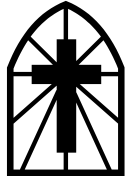
**Membership Sunday** for this session will be **April 13**.

**The second session of Membership Classes for 2014 will be held September 14 and October 5** right after the Worship Service.

**Membership Sunday** for this session will be **October 19**.

Please speak with Pastor Marianne about your interest. If these dates do not work for you, we can be flexible.

# Ministries of Willow Church



## Food Pantry

Ethel's food pantry offers short term assistance for any in need. 1bag 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. All are welcome.

## 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 spiritual program to help those suffering the effects of alcohol addiction. Meetings are held Wednesdays 6:00 pm here at the church.

## Music Ministry

Choir and worship opportunities through music participation. Practice is every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

## Children's Ministry

Christian education during worship service is offered twice a month to foster and guide our children in their faith under the direction of Jeanne Lochner. Children's Church the first and third Sunday of the month is coordinated by Jennifer Johnson.



**Ethel's Food Pantry** Ethel's Food Pantry is an outreach of our church and community as we strive to help those who are in need of food assistance. All food is donated. If you would like to donate at any time, see Helena, contributions are always needed. Please remember, misc. items are needed all the time. This month's item:

**BISQUICK (same as last month...an always needed product)**



## Scrip 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 Molnar.

This newsletter is compiled by Donna Lee Hornyak. A special thanks to Gail Sobecki and all who submit articles for our newsletter. If you would like to add to "The Communicator" please email : [dhornyak2@gmail.com](mailto:dhornyak2@gmail.com) (Donna Lee Hornyak)

**Jesus intended for us to be overwhelmed by the blessings of regular days. He said it was the reason he had come; "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."**



## 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 bouquets are purchased for the same week is \$12.50 each. Please remember.. Do not take the vases. They must be returned to the florist. Make all checks payable to Darlene's Flowers. If interested in donating altar flowers please contact **Vanessa Lenz** at 734-731-9611. **Please get your flower order and payment to Vanessa 2 weeks ahead of time .**

## Willow Women's Group

---Primary Focus: Community, Service, Church, Support, Education, Fellowship, Fundraising

---Mission: To support the ministries of our church our community and our church family.

---PLEASE join us for our meetings! Meetings to be held the first Sunday of the month after church service.

Willow Women's Group has some exciting fellowship events coming up and we are looking forward to having more ladies of the church join us. Some of the events include: Chick Flick Movie Night, Recipe Exchange, Family Game Night, Church Book Library, and Food Demonstrations. Watch for dates of these fun events!

\*\*\*\*Please contact Jennifer Johnson with any questions or possible suggestions for the group. We are open to new ideas!

Our first fun, church wide event of the year will be on Saturday February 22nd. We will be hosting a **FAMILY GAME NIGHT**. Festivities will begin at 6pm. Please bring an appetizer or snack to share. The Women's Group will provide beverages and prizes to the **BIG WINNERS!** Games will be provided for adults and children! A sign up sheet will go around church. Hope to see all of you there.



## Willow United Methodist Church officers for 2014

**Administrative Board:** Chair – 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 Ministry – Jeanne Lochner, Asst. Children's Ministry – Hannah Seward, Chair of Finance – Jim Buck, Chair of Trustees – John Tarr, Chair of Pastor Parish Relations – Donna Lee Hornyak, Secretary of Nominations – Gail Sobecki, Communion Stewards – Deb Carter, Helena Lilly, Wanda Young, Jeanne Lochner, Lay Member to Annual Conference – Jeanne Lochner, Alternate to Annual Conference – Mark Buttignoli, Communications – Donna Lee Hornyak, Webmaster – Karen Wilson. Ad Brd Members At Large – Mary Krzeminiski, MaryLou Kennedy, Linda Kemp, RP Lilly, Jim Farr, Theresa Buttignoli, Helena Lilly, Sheryl Karls.

**Board of Trustees:** Chair – John Tarr, Treasurer – RP Lilly, Members – John Haydamacker and Jim Farr (2014), Mary Krzeminiski and Mark Buttignoli (2015), John Tarr, RP Lilly, and Jim Buck (2015).

**Pastor Parish Relations Committee:** Chair – Donna Lee Hornyak, Members – Martha Molnar and Jack Nobles (2014), Cameron Buck, and Kathy Holland (2015), Julie Struble, Michelle Simon and David Lochner (2016), Mark Buttignoli and Jeanne Lochner.

**Nominating Committee:** Chair – Pastor Marianne McMunn, Secretary – Gail Sobecki, Members – Linda Kemp (2014), Gail Sobecki (2015), Katherine Buck (2016), Mark Buttignoli.

**Finance Committee:** Chair – Jim Buck, Members – Gail Sobecki (2014), Laura Haydamacker and Jim Buck (2015), Tyler Johnson (2016), Mark Buttignoli and Jeanne Lochner.

# Willow Church Committees:

Each month the newsletter will include a description of each of our church committees, their responsibilities and the names of the committee members serving on that committee so that you may contact them.

This month we will look at the Pastor Parish Relations committee.

## What is Pastor Parish Relations Committee?

Those serving on this committee at Willow UMC are:

Chair – Donna Lee Hornyak (734-645-2178)

Martha Molnar, Jack Nobles, Cameron Buck, Kathy Holland, Julie Struble, Michelle Simon and David Lochner. As per Discipline, Mark Buttignoli, Lay Leader and Jeanne Lochner, Lay Member to Annual Conference, are also a part of this committee.

The following is according to the General Board of Ministry Resources for Pastor Parish Relations Committee.

**Result Expected:** An effective committee works with the lead pastor and other staff to identify and clarify values for ministry of the congregation so that the staff can set priorities for leadership and service. The committee will fulfill legal and ethical responsibilities related to the staff.

**Qualifications for Job:** *Spiritual gifts:* Exhortation (encouragement), wisdom, discernment, apostleship, administration, shepherding, teaching, leadership.

*Experience, Skills:* Committee members should be diverse in age, experience, and interests in order to bring all ministry opportunities of the congregation to the attention of the staff. Some experience in human relations, personnel management, and communications is helpful. These individuals must listen well to both staff and people of all ages in the congregation while keeping a focus on the mission of the church. These leaders must be able to maintain confidentiality.

**Structure:** The committee shall be composed of not fewer than five nor more than nine persons. One member shall be a young adult and one member may be a youth. In addition, the lay leader and lay member of annual conference shall be members. No staff member nor immediate family member of a staff person may serve on the committee. Only one person residing in the same household shall serve on the committee. *The United Methodist Book of Discipline 2008, ¶258.2*

### **Responsibilities:**

- Lead the congregation to encourage, strengthen, nurture, support, and respect the pastor(s) and staff and their families. Help the staff set priorities that strengthen the congregation's total ministry.
- Consult with the lead pastor to recommend staff positions to support the strategy of the church leadership team.
- Recommend staff compensation, travel, housing, and other financial matters to the church council through the finance committee.
- Create and update written policy for hiring, evaluating, promoting, retiring, and dismissing staff members who are not subject to episcopal appointment. (Procedures must comply with local and state laws.)
- Conduct proper screening (including background checks) for lay employees and volunteer staff.
- Meet with the district superintendent and/or the bishop in an advisory capacity related to clergy leadership. Considerations include the age and stage of the congregation, an understanding of feelings and desires within the congregation about the pastor's leadership and appointment, and the culture and needs of the community around the church.
- Enlist, evaluate, and annually recommend to the charge conference candidates for professional ministry.

# Were you here???

When we were asked, "What kind of neighbor we were?"

When we heard that Emanuel means "God is with us."

When we were reminded that "The world was changed forever on Christmas Day."

When we were told that God is with us in the midst of adversity.

When we were assured that "God chooses not to remember our sins."



## CHRISTMAS AT WILLOW CHURCH

### Willow United Methodist Church

36925 Willow Road  
New Boston, MI 48164

[www.willowchurch.org](http://www.willowchurch.org)

**Marianne McMunn, Pastor**

Email address: [marianнемcmunn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marianнемcmunn@sbcglobal.net)

Pastor's Schedule: Monday—day off Tuesdays and  
Thursdays at church Wednesday—home office and choir rehearsal at  
Willow Church Friday—Study Day Saturday—Home office

Phone: 734-654-9020

Pastor's Cell: 248-875-3783

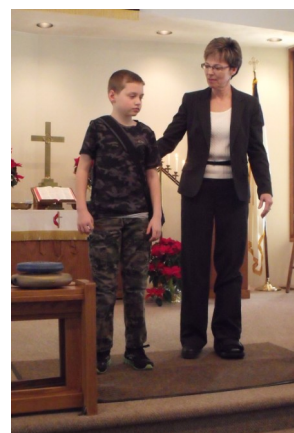
Fax: 734-654-9020

Sunday Service 9:30 AM

Jeanne Lochner: Children's Ministry

Karen Struble: Music Director

**Pastor Marianne &  
Nelson**



### FOR SALE:

Church Pews...8 feet long and/or 16 feet  
long...make excellent entry benches....please  
see Karen Wilson...Best Offer

### **Willow UMC Choir wants YOU!**

*Choir Rehearsal has begun and it's not  
too late for you to join!*

*Choir Rehearsal is every Wednesday at  
7:00pm for one hour.*

*Please contact Karen Struble,  
choir director.*



# God's Cake

Sometimes we wonder, 'What did I do to deserve this?' or 'Why did God have to do this to me?'  
Here is a wonderful explanation!



A daughter is telling her Mother how everything is going wrong, she's failing algebra, her boyfriend broke up with her and her best friend is moving away.

Meanwhile, her Mother is baking a cake and asks her daughter if she would like a snack, and the daughter says, 'Absolutely Mom, I love your cake.'

'Here, have some cooking oil,' her Mother offers. 'Yuck' says her daughter..

'How about a couple raw eggs?' 'Gross, Mom!' 'Would you like some flour then?

Or maybe baking soda?' 'Mom, those are all yucky!'

To which the mother replies:

'Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake! ' God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But God knows that when He puts these things all in His order, they always work for good! We just have to trust Him and, eventually, they will all make something wonderful!

God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning.

Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He can live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart.



## Willow Church



*Happy invites all to our 1<sup>st</sup> annual:*

***Free Style!***

Willow Church is once again hosting our bi/annual **FREE** (but *gently used*) clothing event to benefit anyone in the communities struggling to afford these items. Just show up, take what is needed, and pass it on...no questions asked! While browsing our basement transformed into the Free Style boutique, grab a snack of popcorn, cookies, coffee, and punch offered at Nick, Nelson, & Calvin's "Free" snack bar! For any questions, please contact our Church or email [krwilson@umich.edu](mailto:krwilson@umich.edu).

**When?**

Please join us on **Saturday, February 15th, from 10-3** (or until all items are gone) in our Church basement and take home any clothing items available that you might need.

**Where?**

Willow United Methodist Church  
36925 Willow Road  
New Boston, MI 48164 [www.willowchurch.org](http://www.willowchurch.org)  
Phone 734 654-9020

**Clothing, clothing accessories, shoes, & purses (ONLY PLEASE) are being accepted from 1/19-2/8.** Please understand no items will be accepted past these dates so that we are prepared for a nice, successful Free Style experience.

*Your friends at Willow Church*

# February 2014

Sun

Mon

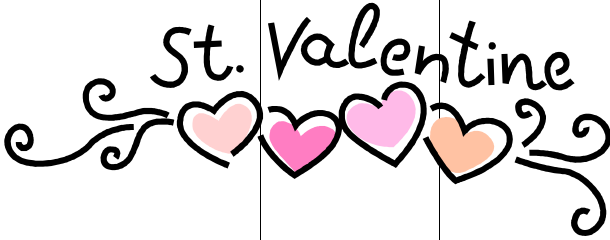

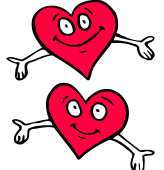
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						<p>1</p> <p>Rachael Hogan</p> <p>Zachary Johnson</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Women's Mtg.</p> <p>Judy Reynolds</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Mike Dayne</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>5</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00</p> <p>Wanda Young's home</p> <p>Debbie Zender</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>All Church Breakfast</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Karen Wilson</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>12</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15</p> <p><b>FREE STYLE at Willow Church</b></p> <p>Mark Zender</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Ad. Bd. Mtg.</p> <p>Jack &amp; Carol Nobles</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p> <p>Jan Holland</p> <p>Tessa Bailey</p> <p>Fay Cannon</p>	<p>19</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>Willow Family Game Night 6:00</b></p> 
<p>23</p> <p>Parenting Study</p> <p>Mark &amp; Deb Zender</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>26</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00</p>	<p>28</p>	