



## WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36925 Willow Road, New Boston, Michigan 48164

Reverend Brad Lewis, Pastor

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

**THE COMMUNICATOR**



**MAY 2017**

### **A NOTE FROM PASTOR BRAD:**

Perhaps you are like me. You have, at some point in your life, worked hard to achieve a life of "success," and now you find it empty. So you begin looking for something else. Your search takes you down several roads and pathways, but nothing has yet offered any greater "success" than you already have. Maybe you are trying to reach the wrong destination in your life. Maybe you should consider a life of "significance" instead of "success."

In the Book of Acts the apostle Peter describes Jesus' earthly ministry this way, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and...he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him [Acts 10:38].

Notice that Peter simply describes Jesus as "doing good." I am certain there are more descriptive words to define what Jesus did, but according to Peter "doing good" was good enough. Arguably the good Jesus did can be sighted as changing the course of human history. That is significant!

Too often "success" in this world doesn't hold much lasting value, but a life of "significance" can change the course of history. So if you are looking for something that fills your emptiness - try "doing good." From personal experience I can affirm that it is in going around "doing good" that I found something much better than "success." I found "significance." You see, going around "doing good" leads to the road that allows your life to be filled with Christ's power and purpose.

May God's goodness fill your life as you seek to "do good" in Jesus' name.



Pastor Brad

**GOD is  
so GOOD!**

## 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 is 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. Children's Church is held each Sunday, coordinated by Jennifer Johnson.

**God Works Free Community Dinner:** God Works is a coalition of people with a common goal of serving food to the homeless and working poor. God Works is non-denominational and currently includes representatives from dozens of churches and secular groups and continues to welcome new members. Everyone in the God Works group believes that hungry people deserve to eat. Willow Church serves a free God Works Community Meal the 4th Thursday of each month from 6:00 pm to 6:30 p.m.

**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. Orders and payments are required 2 weeks prior to date. Please contact Bridgett Gering.

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 email [dhornyak2@gmail.com](mailto:dhornyak2@gmail.com).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SISTER CHURCH**

**WHITE PIGEON UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

**In White Pigeon, Michigan.**

**VOLUTEERS NEEDED:** Please contact Jennifer Johnson if you would like to volunteer as a teacher for our Sunday School program. It's a great way to experience this wonderful ministry.



## Willow United Methodist Church

36925 Willow Road

New Boston, MI 48164

Rev. Brad Lewis, Pastor

Email address: [bklewis2105@gmail.com](mailto:bklewis2105@gmail.com)

Pastor Cell Phone Number: 1-989-906-5231

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



## Bears for Kids

The Willow Church Women's group is sponsoring a new outreach program called **"TEDDY BEARS FOR KIDS."** The Huron Township Police Department receives new Teddy Bears donated by the congregation of Willow Church. The Teddy Bears are kept in police cars, and when an officer encounters a child who has been traumatized due to tragedy or victimization, the child is given a bear. The child is comforted by the bear in an unfortunate or unfamiliar surrounding.

If you would like to donate a teddy bear...please feel free to do so. The teddy bears must be **NEW and be able to fit in a 2 gallon storage bag.** Any size that will fit is welcome, small, medium and just right!. If you can, please bring the bear to church and the women's group teddy bear committee will collect them and when we have the proper amount, see that the police officers have them.

## FREE COMMUNITY DINNERS:

In partnership with God Works! Willow Church is providing **FREE DINNERS** for the working poor, homeless and needy on the 4th Thursday of each month. This MISSION is part of Willow Church's outreach into the community.

Dinners are served from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM with beverage and time for social interaction beginning at 5:30 pm. If you might know of someone/family that would like to enjoy this meal, please pass the word along. All ages are welcome.

Informational flyers are available in the narthex. If you would like to financially support and/or donate food supplies to this mission, please contact Karen Wilson or Jennifer Johnson.

This meal welcomes all for an evening of fellowship and food. Families are welcome.

**PLEASE PASS THE WORD OF THIS SPECIAL OUTREACH.**



**MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO  
PARTICIPATED AND HELPED WITH  
"THE GOD WORKS  
COMMUNITY SUPPER"  
'FREE STYLE'  
WOMEN'S LUNCHEON  
AND  
EASTER HOLY WEEK  
God is good, all the time.**

## GRADUATES

If you have any family members who are graduating from high school, a trade or technical school or from college this year, please leave a note on the desk in the church office for Pastor Brad with the graduate's name and from what school he/she is graduating. We are so proud of our graduates and would like to recognize them during a worship service.

Thank you for your help.



## Were You Here???

When Pastor Brad told us that God said “I will put my Spirit within you and you shall live.”?

When the children of Willow gave an excellent pageant for Easter?

When our Pastor Parish Relations Chair announced that Pastor Kelly Vergowven has been appointed as the new pastor of Willow Church?

When our choir gave such a beautiful Easter Cantata?

When Holy Week at Willow was celebrated with Maundy Thursday supper and service, Good Friday service at Carleton UMC an Easter breakfast and service on Easter Sunday? **HE IS RISEN!!**

When we heard that **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is scheduled for JUNE 19th—23rd?

When our Lay Leader Mark Buttignoli explained to us how “He breathed on the disciples and Jesus forgave all sins.”

When Pastor Brad told us “if we have any question about Jesus Christ, the answers are in the BIBLE?”



## EASTER WEEK



## WOMEN'S ANNUAL LUCHEON



## FREE STYLE





## A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love  
Can understand our tears,  
Can soothe our disappointments  
And [calm all of our fears](#).

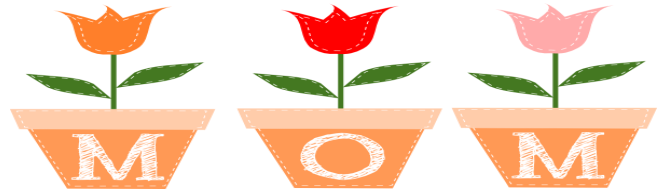
There are times when only a mother's love  
Can share the joy we feel  
When something we've dreamed about  
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith  
Can help us on life's way  
And inspire in us the confidence  
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and a mother's faith  
And a mother's [steadfast love](#)  
Were fashioned by the [angels](#)  
And sent from God above.

--Author Unknown

A  
mother's  
*Love*  
is the  
*Heart*  
of a family.



## COMING IN JULY!!!! PASTOR KELLY VERGOWVEN

Born and raised in Toledo, Ohio, I have been working in the administrative field for more than 15 years. My family and I started attending St. Paul's UMC seven years ago and have become involved in many ministries over the years, including: children's ministry, youth ministry, lay speaker, and music ministry. My call to pastoral ministry came while working with the UMYF over the first three years.

My husband Dennis works for the U.S. Postal service in Toledo as a mail carrier. We have 4 daughters ages 4—12, enjoy spending time with family and friends, playing piano, reading and enjoying a healthy lifestyle.

I look forward to getting to know the Willow UM Church congregation and being in ministry together.

# May 2017

Sun

Mon

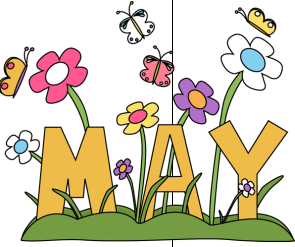


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<p>1</p> <p>Sheryl Karls</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>     <p>Kathy &amp; Jim Farr</p>	<p>3</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Betty Holland</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Women's Mtg.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Katherine Buck</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>10</p> <p>CHICKEN SUPPER</p>   <p>David Lochner</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> 
<p>14</p> <p><b>Mother's Day</b></p> <p>Coffee Hour hosted by the children of Willow</p> <p>Children's Church</p>	<p>15</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>17</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Ad. Board mtg.</p> <p>Kristine McDaniel</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>24</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>25</p> <p>LAST BIBLE STUDY UNTIL FALL 7:00 pm</p>  <p>Katherine &amp; Jim Buck</p>	<p>26</p>    <p>Loretta &amp; Richard Maxwell</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Children's Church</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Memorial Day</p>  <p>Jeanne Lochner</p> <p>Melissa La Forest</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>

# SUMMER CAMPS 2017



we learn, we build, we play with  
**LEGO® Bricks**

## Woodhaven and Huron Schools

*Stop the summer brain drain with a STEM camp!*

**Bat League Camp – Heroes and Villains**      9-12PM      K-6<sup>th</sup> grade      \$95.00

Enter the dark city where a dangerous jokerster and other evil villains wreak havoc. Thankfully there is a bat hero who comes out each night to fight against these evil-doers! The good guys will ride into action as campers build motorized models of the bat hero's speedy vehicle and bat girl's sleek motorcycle. Send the bat hero swinging on his grappling hook technic model from one skyscraper to the next as he fights crime with his trusty super sidekick. Campers will use their imaginations, building skills and crime-fighting passion in this thrilling camp of bat heroes and villains!

**A Galaxy Far Away Space Camp**      1-4PM      K-6<sup>th</sup> grade      \$95.00

Build the Redstone Rocket to blast through the atmosphere into a realm that is truly out of this world. Travel back in time to build NASA's Gemini Capsule. Trust your astronaut's building skills to pilot a spacecraft that will bring you back to Earth safely. We'll build motorized models that represent spacecraft from your favorite popular space movie. Come experience this stellar journey to a galaxy far away

**Registration and information**  
– **bricks4kidz.com/390**

**Sign up for both camps and stay all day! \$125.00**

Gene Blair,  
[ebclair@bricks4kidz.com](mailto:ebclair@bricks4kidz.com), 1-734-748-6039

**LOCATION: Willow United Methodist Church**

**36925 East Willow Rd**

**New Boston, MI 48164**

**1-734-654-9020**

**WWW.BRICKS4KIDZ.COM**

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MORE PICTURES OF WILLOW CHURCH ACTIVITIES

WILLOW CHURCH'S  
"BE YOU TIFUL  
WOMEN!"

