

## WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36925 Willow Road , New Boston, Michigan 48164

Kelly Vergowven, Pastor

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

**THE COMMUNICATOR     MAY 2018**



### A NOTE FROM PASTOR KELLY

*But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.*

*I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.*

Psalm 13:5-6

As we continue to move through this season of Easter and into Pentecost, let us rejoice in the abundance of God's love that we find in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our connectedness with the living Christ offers us the opportunity for thankfulness in every way.

Thankfulness provides some of the most important building blocks for our lives. Thankfulness enlarges the capacity of our hearts for abundant joy. It helps us endure suffering without falling into despair or pity. No matter what is happening, we can always thank the Lord for eternal salvation and unfailing love. Praise be to God!

I am grateful for this beautiful season of Easter 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:** Jesus said, "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

**Matthew 18:20**



**WILLOW CHURCH  
VACATION BIBLE  
SCHOOL**

The dates are set and the theme is being discussed.  
Mark your calendar for June 18—22nd.

If you would like to help, please contact Jeanne Lochner.

Snacks, daily lunch items, volunteers to help each day are needed. Check with Jeanne and participate in this wonderful ministry.



## 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.

# 8<sup>TH</sup> Annual Women's Luncheon

Date: Sunday MAY 6

Time: 11:00am

Place: Willow Methodist Fellowship Hall

All ladies are welcome to join us for a fun luncheon. Complete with guest speaker, a craft,  
delicious food, and fun fellowship!

Invite your friends and family to join us as well.

Tickets: Adult - \$10.00, Children under 12 - \$5



## COMMUNION CONSIDERATION:

That communion is a time to turn our hearts to God. It is a time to pray silently for forgiveness, listen to the music and reflect on one's own life; of realizing that we are partaking with Jesus at the last supper and that he died for you so that your sins can be forgiven.

So as we approach the elements and as we walk away, (some of our members kneel at the communion rail to pray) let's be considerate, as a congregation, to be **silent** at this time of communion.

Calvin sings a solo and we raise our hands to our Lord.



FREE  
STYLE SET  
UP



## GOD ERASES OUR SINS AND GIVES US A CLEAN PAGE TO BEGIN ANEW



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 erases our mistakes, our sins, completely, as if they had never happened."

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 remain. GOD GIVES US A CLEAN SLATE.

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

### Were you here?

When so many of Willow celebrated the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

When we gathered for Easter Breakfast in the fellowship hall.

When Pastor Kelly encouraged us to lift up our hearts—Easter is a new beginning.

When we were reminded that the life and power of God is better than any darkness.

When Pastor Kelly assured us that we are among the blessed who have not seen Our Lord but choose to "BELIEVE."

When we were assured that "the resurrection of Jesus brings new life to us."

When our Sunday sermon told us again that "CHRIST WALKS WITH US."

When we heard that Jesus is the "Good Shepherd—He gave His life for us.



### BLESSINGS

Psalm 145 makes this promise: "The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made"

As God's children, we are blessed beyond measure, but sometimes, as busy women in a demanding world, we are slow to count our gifts and even slower to give thanks to the Giver.

Our blessings include life and health, family and friends, freedom and possessions—for starters. And, the gifts we receive from God are multiplied when we share them with others.

May we always give thanks to God for our blessings, and may we always demonstrate our gratitude by sharing them.

From God's Promises to Women—Family Christian Press 2002



# God's Wife

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge.  
The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.

The winner was:  
An eye witness account from New York  
City , on a cold day in December,  
some years ago: A little boy,  
about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the  
roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering  
With cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said,  
'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!'

'I was asking God to give me a pair of  
shoes,' was the boy's reply.

The lady took him by the hand, went into  
the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks  
for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water  
and a towel. He quickly brought them to her.

She took the little fellow to the back  
part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed  
his little feet, and dried them with the towel.

By this time, the clerk had returned with  
the socks. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him  
a pair of shoes.

She tied up the remaining pairs of socks  
and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, 'No  
doubt, you will be more comfortable now..'

As she turned to go, the astonished kid  
caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears  
in his eyes, asked her:

“Are you God's wife?”





# ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MINUTES

APRIL 22, 2018

**Present:** Pastor Kelly, Helena L., R.P. L., Kathy F., Jim F., David and Jeanne L, Debbie C. Donna Lee H., Martha M., Judy B., Mark B., Amy H., Linda K.

Meeting open with devotion by chair Mark B.

**Minutes** from February N/A

**Pastors Report: Pastor Kelly**

Holy Week and Easter service/programs went well. Lay servant classes were held and attended by 3 lay leaders. Membership classes are planned. May 6 will be new member welcome. Julie Struble will attend this year's annual conference (May 31<sup>st</sup>) along with Pastor Kelly. May 20<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday and Pastor Kelly will be away, Mark B. will be officiating with Jeanne L. as lay leader. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of June 18 – 22.

**Finance Report: Amy Harrison Motion** by Jim Farr supported by Debbie Carter to approve the February finance report as presented. Motion carried. Motion by R.P. Lilley supported by Jeanne Lochner to accept the March finance report as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion held on presented budget. No action taken.

**Trustees:** R.P. Lilley and Jim Farr reported: The parking lot gate will be locked except for Sunday Services and Special Events. The trustees have accepted an estimate of \$1150.00 to have the fellowship hall and kitchen stripped and waxed. Discussion held, and the board recommends that we proceed but do only scrub and wax. This should bring the price down. The attorney has signed the paper work for the property sale and the purchaser is moving forward. The lawn maintenance schedule has been arranged.

**PPRC:** Donna Lee Hornyak...no report, all is good

**OLD BUSINESS:** Women's Luncheon is Mary 6<sup>th</sup> No church requests

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Annual Conference: Pastor Kelly and Julie Struble will be attending. Budget will need to be adjusted. Estimated cost \$800.00 per attendee. Jeanne Lochner will ask the congregation to support our conference through offerings and collections.

Donna Lee H. brought up purchasing new knobs for the stove. Approximately at a cost of \$200.00. Discussion held. Some felt the women's group should purchase these, some felt the trustees should purchase them. No results or further action taken.

**Motion by Jim Farr, supported by Martha Molnar to adjourn the meeting.**

Motion carried...meeting adjourned 11:30 am

Submitted by Donna Lee Hornyak. Acting secretary for this meeting only!!!

# May 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<p>1</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p> <p>Sheryl Karls</p>	<p>2</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p> <p>Kathy &amp; Jim Farr</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Last Bible Study until fall 7:00</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Women's 8th Annual Luncheon</p> <p>Betty Holland</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p> <p>Katherine Buck</p>	<p>9</p> <p>CHICKEN SUPPER</p>	<p>10</p> <p>David Lochner</p>	<p>11</p> 	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p><b>MOTHERS DAY</b></p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Coffee Hour</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>16</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Children's Church</p> <p>Administrative Board Mtg.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Kristine McDaniel</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p>	<p>23</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>24</p> <p>God Works Community Supper</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Katherine &amp; Jim Buck</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> 	<p>28</p> <p>Loretta &amp; Richard Maxwell</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Rotary 6:30</p> <p>Jeanne Lochner</p> <p>Melissa LaForest</p>	<p>30</p> <p>AA 6:00</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00</p>	<p>31</p>		