

# WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

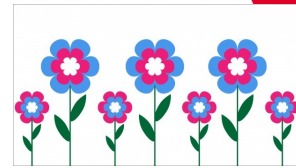
36925 Willow Road , New Boston, Michigan 48164

Reverend Brad Lewis, Pastor

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

**THE COMMUNICATOR**

**JUNE 2017**



## A NOTE FROM PASTOR BRAD:

It's a jungle out there!" Just ask Jay Rathman. He was hiking in one of the wilderness areas near his northern California home. Passing along a rocky ledge, he sensed a movement beside his face. A timber rattlesnake struck, just missing his right ear. Its fangs got snagged in the wool of Rathman's turtleneck sweater, pulling the snake onto his shoulders. He grabbed it just behind the head with his left hand, as they both tumbled down the slope through the brush and rocks. In this eyeball-to-eyeball encounter, he discovered that snakes don't blink.

In about 20 minutes, he was able to throttle the reptile. Later, passing through the checkout gate, Rathman said to Warden Smith, "I'd like to register a complaint about your wildlife here."

Reading that hair-raising account reminds us how closely it resembles life on a daily basis. At the most unsuspecting moment, something strikes at us. We are knocked off balance by the assault .... Who hasn't been tumbled head over heels by demands and deadlines? Who hasn't done battle with poisonous irritations on the slopes of overcommitment, underachievement and burnout? Who hasn't had to fend off surprise attacks from criticism that strike at us like hungry predators and rip into us like needle-sharp claws? They are frequent and varied: physical pain, emotional trauma, relational stress, spiritual doubts, marital conflicts, occupational disappointments, financial reversals ... demonic assaults.

[ J. Walter Cross, "Under No Delusions," Bradenton, Florida.]

**In the midst of what at times seem like chaos we need to remember that God has not abandoned us or stopped caring about us. When you survey the scriptures you discover over and over again that God never gives up on us:**

Adam and Eve disobeyed the very First Rule. But God never gave up.

Abraham wandered, and Sarah laughed. But God never gave up.

Moses hid and shook with fear. But God never gave up.

Saul went insane. But God never gave up.

David plotted against Uriah. But God never gave up.

Ahaz sold out to Assyria. But God never gave up.

Israel fell into pieces. But God never gave up.

The Jewish people became exiles. But God never gave up.

John the Baptist was beheaded. But God never gave up.

Jesus was unjustly crucified. But God never gave up.

Peter denied he even knew Jesus. But God never gave up.

The disciples all ran away. But God never gave up.



Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

11 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

As Pastor Kelly leads this wonderful family of faith in the years to come know that God is with her and you, and that God has good plans for all of you.

Remember, to never give up should be the hallmark of every Christian.

God loves you and so do I,  
Pastor Brad

## 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:** We need to learn how to appreciate the present moment.

**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 Bridgette Gering or sign the order form on the bulletin board. Orders and payments are required 2 weeks prior to date.

## Willow United Methodist Church

36925 Willow Road  
New Boston, MI 48164

Rev. Brad Lewis, Pastor

Email address: 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

## Father

© JENNIFER S. WILLIAM

When I scratched my knee,  
Or if I bumped my head.  
When I was afraid of the dark,  
Or that thing under my bed.  
When I cried in the night,  
Or even in the day.  
You were there for me,  
To make it all okay.

You tickled my feet,  
And laughed at all my jokes.  
You taught me to believe,  
In having high hopes.  
You are my father  
You did what you had to do.  
But more than a father  
You are my friend too.  
You made everything good,  
That was once bad.  
I just want you to know  
I love you Dad.

**HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
Day!**



## WERE YOU HERE???

When Pastor Brad explained to the congregation that when Jesus knew His eternal destination was near He told His Disciples  
“Do not let your hearts be troubled”

When we were told that if we have questions about our earthly life, the Bible has answers, it is our Gift From God.

When several of the women of Willow Church spent a Saturday morning cleaning at the church.

When we sang “He’s got the whole world in His hands” and knew that trusting in God is a choice, what we know, we know by faith.

### COMING TO WILLOW CHURCH THIS SUMMER

**JULY 2 Pastor Kelly comes to Willow Church!**

Vacation Bible School” June 19—23rd

**COUNTRY CONCERT:** with Jim Farr in honor of Pastor Brad June 23rd  
7:30 pm...church sanctuary Bring a friend!

Bricks 4 Kidz Camp: June 26—30

Annual Picnic: July 23rd

Blessing of the Animals: July 30th

WHEN YOU INCLUDE GOD IN ANYTHING,  
IT CHANGES EVERYTHING!



### ***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

**Sign up for both camps and stay all day! \$125.00 JUNE 26 –30th**

**LOCATION: Willow United Methodist Church**

**36925 East Willow Rd**

**New Boston, MI 48164**

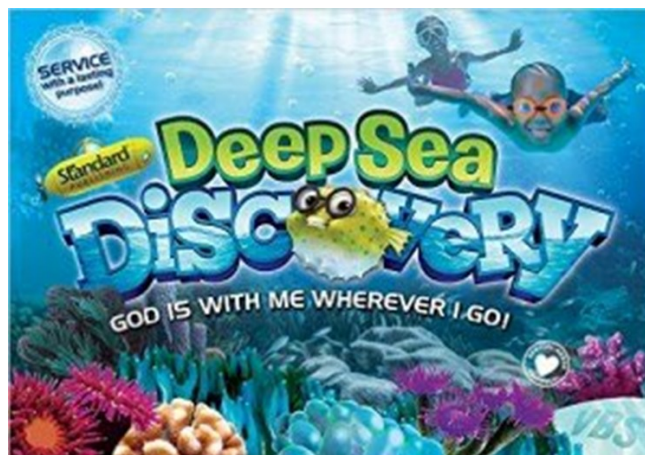
**1-734-654-9020**

## WILLOW CHURCH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JUNE 19—23 6:00—7:30 PM

At Deep Sea Discovery, kids dive into God's Word to see how He has been with His people every step of the way. Hands-on service projects and sea science will help kids experience a VBS adventure like no other!

Kids will

- Know that God is always with them!
- Explore God's presence in their lives!
- Serve God by serving others!



### 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.**



G	I	W	G	B	I	B	L	E	V	O	L	T	E	D
E	E	R	I	P	S	N	I	N	G	R	A	C	E	C
J	Z	Z	R	G	Q	O	O	O	R	A	N	H	K	C
V	T	I	O	Q	I	S	E	I	A	T	R	T	U	J
N	M	E	T	H	O	D	I	S	T	L	E	U	B	Q
O	A	W	C	P	Z	A	E	S	I	A	T	R	O	J
I	X	I	E	C	A	E	P	I	T	A	E	T	T	C
T	I	L	T	X	K	B	G	M	U	A	R	R	H	F
O	U	L	O	S	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	P	C	H
V	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	S	S	Z	R	K
E	E	W	P	Y	A	R	E	P	E	N	T	G	U	J
D	I	T	C	S	G	E	H	R	N	V	Z	J	H	K
O	L	R	P	J	E	I	K	C	S	D	A	U	C	D
G	E	T	O	V	E	D	S	O	J	E	I	E	Q	Q
M	B	T	G	T	B	U	U	O	R	X	P	U	H	Y

ALTAR

BIBLE

CHURCH

DEVOTE

FORGIVENESS

HEAVEN I

LOVE

MISSION

PRAISE

SEEK

VERSE

BAPTIZE

BREAD

COURAGE

DEVOTION

GRACE

INSPIRE

MERCY

NEED

PROTECTOR

SON

WILLOW

BELIEF

CHRISTIAN

CREATION

ETERNAL

GRATITUDE

KINGDOM

METHODIST

PEACE

REPENT

TRUTH



### COUNTRY CONCERT with JIM FARR

**JUNE 23rd...7:30 PM Willow Church Sanctuary**

Jim Farr will be hosting and playing a Country Concert on June 23rd to honor and thank Pastor Brad and Debbie for their time and love with Willow Church. Mark your calendar, bring a friend and plan on hearing some great music from Willow Church's own Country singer, Jim Farr.

**FAREWELL POT LUCK: June 25th...** Pastor Brad's last sermon at Willow will be on June 25th...following service we will hold a pot luck to bid Pastor Brad and Debbie farewell and thank you. Plan to be there as we say thank you and bless you!



# June 2017



Sun

Mon

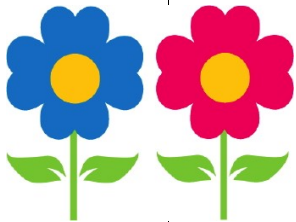

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p><b>PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SISTER CHURCH</b></p> <p><b>WHITE PIGEON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b></p> <p><b>In White Pigeon, Michigan.</b></p>				1	2 Karen Struble	3 John Haydamacker
4 Holy Communion  Children's Church Women's Mtg.	5	6 Rotary 6:30  Justin McDaniel	7 AA 6:00 CHOIR REHEARSAL RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER	8 Bible Study 7:00 at Church	9 	10
11 Graduates Recognition Children's Church  Coffee Hour	12	13 Rotary 6:30	14 AA 6:00  Nelson Haydamacker	15 Last Bible Study of the Season 7:00  Mary & Tom Van Meer	16	17 Judy Buttignoli
18   Children's Church	19 Vacation Bible School through 23rd.	20 Rotary 6:30  VBS	21 AA 6:00  VBS	22 VBS  God Works Free Community Dinner	23 VBS  Fun Concert by Jim Farr for Pastor Brad 7:30 pm	24
25 Children's Church  Pastor Brad farewell Luncheon following service	26 Lego Bricks 4 Kids Camp 9—12 & 1—4 Registration required	27 Rotary 6:30 Lego Bricks 4 Kids Camp 9—12 & 1—4 Registration required	28 AA 6:00 Lego Bricks 4 Kids Camp 9—12 & 1—4 Registration required	29 Marianne Mc Munn Lego Bricks for Kids Camp 9—12 & 1—4 Registration required	30 Lego Bricks 4 Kids Camp 9—12 & 1—4 Registration required	1 