

WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36925 Willow Road , New Boston, Michigan 48164

Kelly Vergowven, Pastor

OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS

THE COMMUNICATOR JUNE 2018



A NOTE FROM PASTOR KELLY

Recently, I was reading a daily devotion on The Upper Room website, when I felt led to look at some of the other resources available and came across this article on blessings. It reminded me in many ways of the meditation that I utilize daily as part of my spiritual practice and I encourage you to consider using this blessing exercise as a part of your daily spiritual disciplines.

A Blessing Exercise

Blessing is the art of being spiritually present to others in prayer. It is asking for God to surround a particular person or situation with love, healing, and peace. 1. Pray for yourself. Focus on the light and warmth of God's love as it surrounds you. Rest in that light and warmth.

Bless me, God, with your love. Bless me with your healing. Bless me with your peace.

2. Pray for a good friend. Bring them to mind as vividly as you are able. In this image, hold them in your heart and extend love and grace to them. Now imagine them in God's gentle, loving hands. Allow them to rest there in God's hands for a moment.

Bless them, God, with your love. Bless them with your healing. Bless them with your peace.

3. Pray for someone for whom you do not have strong feelings. This may be an acquaintance you cross paths with on occasion but don't know well.

Bless them, God, with your love. Bless them with your healing. Bless them with your peace. 4. Pray for someone you dislike—an enemy. Imagine them in God's loving hands, and try to hold them gently in your heart. Release to God any anger or tension that may arise in you. Let these feelings go by setting them free to God's care.

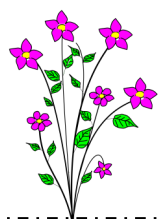
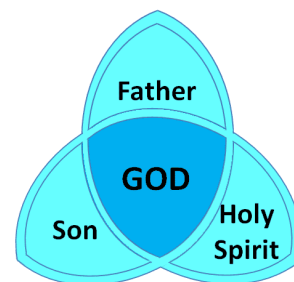
Bless them, God, with your love. Bless them with your healing. Bless them with your peace. 5. Finally, pray for all four people together—yourself, a friend, an acquaintance, and an enemy. Extend God's blessing further—to everyone around you, to everyone in your neighborhood, to those in your town, and eventually to all people, everywhere. Imagine that we all are held in God's hands, and are sustained by God's love.

Bless all people, everywhere, with your love. Bless all people with your healing. Bless all people with your peace.

I am grateful to share in this holy season of Pentecost with all of you, serving as disciples of Jesus Christ!

God's peace and blessing 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 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. **(Will resume in September)**

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 **(will resume in September)**

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.

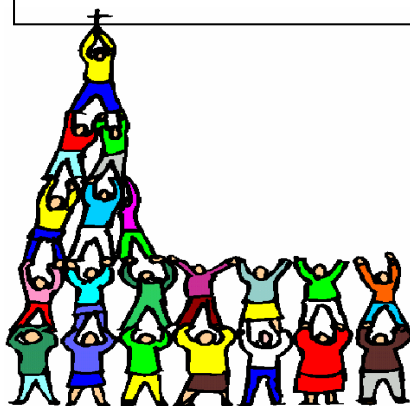


**American
Red Cross**

Together, we can save a life

BLOOD DRIVE

Huron Township Rotary is sponsoring a blood drive at Willow Church on Friday, June 8th 1:00—3:00. Stop by and donate to this worthy cause.



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: HIS PERFECT PEACE

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you! ISAIAH 26:3

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

WERE YOU HERE???

When Pastor Kelly explained to us that “There is Joy in Heaven and Earth” when we remember our baptism.

When we were assured that God will never give up on us. We are His children and given His blessed assurance of care.

When our lay leader Mark Buttignoli asked us if we are willing to “step up” and serve our Lord.

When we were asked to say “Yes Lord, It is I Lord.” God finds a way to use us; ARE WE LISTENING?

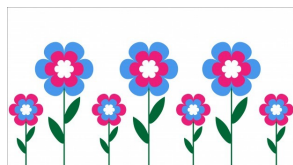
When we learned that Helena and R.P. Lilly are celebrating 60 years of marriage.

When we learned that Kathy and Jim Farr are celebrating 49 years of marriage.

When our sermon was about how Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. Through Him we bear the fruit of His Spirit.

When so many women of Willow and their families gathered for the 8th annual women’s luncheon.

8TH ANNUAL WILLOW CHURCH WOMEN’S LUNCHEON



*Thank
You*

Gail Gray and Hollie Morrison for chairing this year’s luncheon.

And to all the volunteers....you made our day so special!!!





WILLOW CHURCH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 18 through 22nd. 6:00 PM—7:30 pm Get ready for an adventure to an uncharted island where kids are rescued by Jesus!

Venture onto an uncharted island where kids are rescued by Jesus!
Anchor kids in the truth that Jesus carries them through every storm in their life.
They'll learn to hold onto God's promises when they're lonely, worrisome, struggling, do wrong, and feel powerless.



Vacation
Bible
School





ONE PAGE AT A TIME

From "The Upper Room"

The psalmist wrote, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

When I first became a Christian, I wanted to read the Bible from cover to cover, but that seemed like a daunting task. Then, when I realized that the Bible is one large book which has been organized into smaller books, it seemed a lot easier. If I were to read only one page per day in my Bible, I could read through the Bible in less than three years. If I were to read three pages per day, it would take less than a year.

Nothing else we could read is as important or beneficial to our lives as the Bible—God's gift to us. In it, the mind of God is revealed to us. It contains everything we need to know about living a life that pleases God. It will guide us through even the darkest times. The more thoroughly and intently we read the Bible, the more completely we will come to know God.

At first reading the whole Bible may seem almost impossible, but the rewards are well worth our time and effort. Whether a verse, a chapter, or a book—reading the Bible everyday will equip us to fully serve God.

PRAYER: Gracious God, thank you for revealing yourself to us through your word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to read and to understand it. Amen



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.

Blessed are those that mourn for they shall be comforted. The Holy Spirit is at work healing our broken hearts. We are sustained by God's LOVE.





June 2018

Sun

Mon

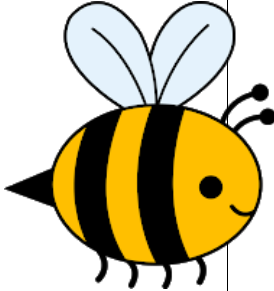





Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 Karen Struble
3 Holy Communion Children's Church New Members Class Women's Mtg. John Haydamacker	4	5 Rotary 6:30	6 AA 6:00 Justin McDaniel	7	8 Blood Drive at Willow 1:00—3:00	9
10 Coffee Hour New Members Class	11	12 Rotary 6:30	6 AA 6:00	14 Nelson Haydamacker	15 Mary & Tom Van Meer	16
17 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY  Ad. Bd. Mtg. Judy Buttignoli	18 VBS starts through 22d 6-7:30 PM	19 Rotary 6:30 VBS 6-7:30 PM	20 6 AA 6:00 VBS 6-7:30 PM	21 VBS 6-7:30 PM	22 VBS 6-7:30 PM 	23
24 	25	26 Rotary 6:30	6 AA 6:00	28 God Works Community Supper	29 	30