



# Willow United Methodist Church

## The Communicator

July 2014

### A NOTE FROM PASTOR MARIANNE

Wild Saturday night at the parsonage!! #Mom&Dad #LateNightSermonizing — with [Marianne McMunn](#) and [Douglas Jay McMunn](#).

So, this is a Facebook entry Marsha made next to the picture you see. Doug and I got royally busted!! Yes, Saturday nights at the parsonage can be quite “wild.” Here we are wildly preparing for worship the next day.

I must confess that sometimes I do feel like I am wildly preparing for one thing right after another with not much breathing room. But, that is nothing new with me. I’ve fought with those feelings all my living years. And I’m pretty sure that sometimes you have anxious feelings as well.

One thing I have learned is that when I am facing a hectic season, **especially** when I am facing a hectic season, to **not** forsake my quiet times each morning. Reading from the Bible, a favorite devotional or a new book by an inspiring author and spending time just “being” with God helps me to center my thoughts – even if it is for **that** hour. I have found this practice to be cumulative in bringing peace into my heart and mind.

It is in those quiet moments, I remember who I am in Christ and that I am not alone in whatever the day may bring. It is in those quiet moments, I remember God and am thankful.

Jesus said in Matthew 11:28-30, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” That is a great prescription for those “wild nights!”

My love to you, Pastor Marianne

### Sermon Titles and Texts for July

July 6: “The Apostle Paul Takes a Selfie”

Romans 7:15-25a

July 13: “God Shoes”

Romans 8:1-11

July 20: Mark Buttignoli, Certified Lay Servant, preaching

July 27: Lord’s Prayer Series: “Abba”

Matthew 6:9-13

### The Reverend Marianne McMunn

Church: 734-654-9020

Church Fax: 734-654-9020

#### Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday

### Food Pantry

24/7 734-753-4320

Mariannemcmunn@sbcglobal.net

Cell: 248-875-3783

### Children’s Ministry

Director: Jeanne Lochner

Music Director: Karen Struble



**Romulus Library Tutors needed:** If you would like to serve in ministry with those who have reading struggles, you are invited to contact Patty Braden, Library Director and the Romulus Library. Phone number: 734-942-7589. Tutoring requires 15 hours of training that the Library will provide. Won't you consider this opportunity?



**Community Garden:** Have you checked out the summer ministry? Karen Wilson and Katherine Buck have created a beautiful Garden, open to the entire congregation and community. Please pass the news along that the "help yourself" garden is located right by the church garage.



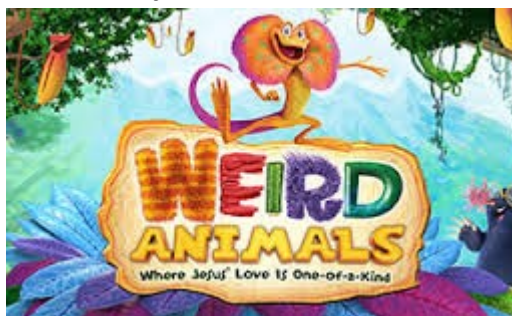
**All Invited to Dinner and a Concert in Milford**  
**Thursday, July 10 at 6:00pm**

Come and enjoy an evening of food and fellowship and music on the deck of Pastors Doug and Marianne's home at 350 Cabinet Street.

Each Thursday evening Milford sponsors a concert in Central Park, just a ½ block away from the McMunn house. The music is easily enjoyed on the deck or you can walk across the street to the park to watch and listen. July 10 the band is Annabelle Road. They are a Country music band. Bring a lawn chair if you wish and enjoy a relaxing summer evening. Doug is cooking on the grill. Please let us know if you are planning to attend by July 8. There will be a sign up sheet at church or you can call Pastor Marianne at 248-875-3783. We will meet rain or shine.



**Thank you Jeanne Lochner and Crew**  
**Another Wonderful Vacation Bible School!**  
This year's theme was



Where Jesus "Love is One-of-a-Kind." Children learned about some of God's most creative creations through Bible activities, songs, crafts, treats, Bible adventures, Bible memory buddies and God sightings.

The children were blessed with fun activities, great leadership and experienced Jesus' one of a kind love!!

Thanks, Mrs. Lochner and Crew!

## WALKING IN HIS LIGHT

from "The Upper Room" June 2014



On the day we moved to our new farm home in January of 1940, my eight year old world suddenly became larger and more intimidating than ever before. After supper, Dad invited me to go with him to check the animals for the night. As we walked, my dad's kerosene lantern swung, its light moving back and forth as though alive. The shadows seemed to move and come ever closer. "Dad!" I cried out in fear. He suddenly stopped, and I ran smack-dab into him. Dad's chuckle came just before he said, "Don't be afraid. Just walk to the edge of the light."

Just as my earthly father comforted me, so our heavenly Father comforts us in our moments of fear when darkness threatens to consume us. As John 8:12 says: **"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."** If we follow Jesus, we will never walk in darkness.

When the nightly news is filled with reports of economic stress, terrorism, catastrophic weather, and uncertainty for the future of our families, darkness can overwhelm us. Yet even in the darkest moments, the light of Christ still goes before us. His light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. We need not fear. Christ is constantly providing a circle of His light as our place of safety and comfort.



### **Daily Devotional Available**

*Did you know that Willow UMC offers free daily devotional materials each month? They are called "The Upper Room" and you may take one home for your use. The Upper Rooms are located in the back of the sanctuary – large print is available.*

## OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT JULY 18

### Movie: "Nanny McPhee."

Free hotdogs, popcorn, beverages included!



**What an opportunity to share fun, love, and hospitality with our neighbors, families and friends! Who will you invite?**

Thank you to the John Tarr and Tom VanMeer families for this wonderful outreach! Please don't forget to introduce yourselves to those you don't know and tell them how glad you are that they have come to movie night. And while you're at it, invite them to church on Sunday.

Our sponsors for the July movie, "Nanny McPhee" are Al and Terri Riopelle. We wish to express our gratitude for your generous donation as Willow reaches out to our community with free family friendly activities to enhance family life memories. If you would like to assist in the movie night events, please contact John Tarr.

Next Movie Night is August 15. Movie to be announced.

### **WE HAVE SPONSORS!!**

Greg and Pamela Stano, Huron Township Rotarians, have graciously sponsored the movie night for August.

If you see these folks, please give them your thanks. Each family has donated \$175.00 for the licensing of the showing for our movies. We celebrate their generosity and support of this community building event.

## Parenting Study "Your Family and Money"

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 suggests ways parents can help children develop good money values and money management skills.

All are welcome! The third session in our study curriculum will be **July 27**. Meet at 11:00am for snacks and concludes at 12:00pm. Meeting place to be announced. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Marianne, parenting study facilitator (248-875-3783), Jennifer Johnson, co-coordinator (734-625-5750). Hope to see you!

## Church Directories

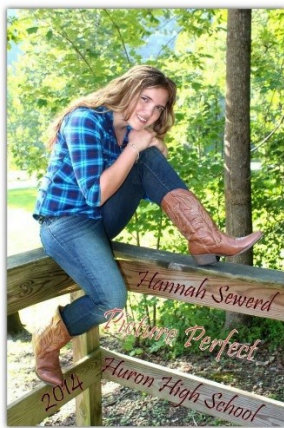
The final edits have been made and returned to the Remember Directory Company. We expect them within the month of July. A special thanks to Martha Molnar and Gail Sobecki who gave much time to bring this wonderful collection of names, phone numbers, addresses, emails, and pictures together into a beautiful book. Thanks to those of you who signed up members for photo sessions, and greeted the photographers at church each day and cleaned up each evening. And thanks to those of you who agreed to be photographed and shared your portraits with us! Wouldn't have been possible without each of you.

## 2014 Graduates

Willow United Methodist Church is very proud of you!!



Cameron Buck



Hannah Seward



Ryley McKart



## John Dean Town Health Project

Willow UMC, along with other Ann Arbor District UMCs have pledged a total of \$35,570, of which \$17,068 has already been contributed for the John Dean Town Health Project. The goal of this project is to bring sustainable and lasting health improvements to 18 rural Liberia villages. The Ann Arbor District has been in partnership with St. John River District for years and because of this existing infrastructure are able to embark on this major effort. This project will train local midwives from 18 villages within walking distance of John Dean Town. These multi-day sessions (given quarterly) focus on hygienic best practices for rural births, pre and post natal care and child immunizations. Also, nutrition, safe water, malaria, HIV/AIDS and other general public health topics. Each village must meet certain qualifications in order to have a midwife trained, i.e. working space, compensation, people willing and able to provide for a well and latrine facilities. Villages will also receive mosquito nets for general distribution. For more information, please contact Pastor Marianne.

Thank you, Willow Administrative Board for saying yes and for supporting these efforts to "combat the diseases of poverty by improving health globally." (One of the UMC's Four Areas of Focus)



## Summer Bible Study-

All are invited to a 4 week study session beginning July 24. We will meet at Wanda Young's home at 19070 Otto Court, New Boston at 11:00am for an hour. We will be using the book, "New Testament Stories From the Back Side" by J. Ellsworth Kalas as our resource for study and discussion. Dates of the study are Thursdays, July 24, 31 and August 7, 14. Contact Pastor Marianne if you have any questions. We will meet at Willow UMC on July 31 only.



## Outdoor Worship at Apple Charlie's on July 13<sup>th</sup>

Our dear friends/family at Apple Charlie's are hosting our Outdoor Worship this summer. Worship will begin at our normal hour (9:30am). You are invited to bring a lawn chair if you want, but there are picnic tables available under the pavilion, where worship will be held. Mary Grover and LaRaine Fowler will be providing refreshments. Come as you are and enjoy worshipping in this beautiful outdoor setting.



## Course of Study for Pastor

Pastor Marianne will once again be traveling to Chicago area (Evanston) to Garrett Theological Seminary for her annual classes for Course of Study. All Local Pastors are required to take at least 2 classes per year at the seminary of their choice. A total of 20 classes. Pastor Marianne begins her studies and writing papers for these classes each January. Homework is all due in June. Her focus of study this year was Evangelism and New Testament. Each day, classes are 8:30am to 5:30pm with required assignments each night. Please feel free to call her, knowing that a return call may not be immediate.

Marianne will leave after worship on July 13 and will return July 22. Rev. Taek Kim from Carleton UMC will be on call pastor in case of pastoral care emergencies. Mark Buttignoli will be our contact person. You can reach him at 734-497-4082.



## Annual Church Picnic

Mark your calendar: Willow Church's annual picnic is being planned for **August 9<sup>th</sup>**. Plans are for a pot luck at the church...FOOD, GAMES, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP....

# July 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



		1 Rotary 6:30	2 AA 6:30 John & Laura Haydamacker	3	4 	5
6 <b>Holy Communion</b> Children's Church Women's Mtg.  Vanessa Lenz	7 	8 Rotary 6:30	9 AA 6:30  Shirley Olson	10 Dinner and a Concert at Mc Munn's in Milford	11	12
13 <b>Outdoor Worship at Apple Charlie's</b> Pastor Marianne leaves for Chicago for Course of Study  Gabriella Tilley	14 Carol Noble	15 Rotary 6:30	16 AA 6:30  Shelley Gardynik Dan & Andrea Gambino	17	18 Free Movie Night	19
20 Children's Church	21	22 Rotary 6:30  Pastor returns from Course of Study	23 AA 6:30	24 11:00 am Bible Study Discussion at Wanda Young's Home La Raine Fowler Stephanie Baker	25	26  Kathy Farr
27 Parent Study Ad Board Meets	28	29 Rotary 6:30	30 AA 6:30  Mary Lou & Dallas Kennedy	31 11:00 am Bible Study/ Discussion at Wanda's home	1 	2