



WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36925 Willow Road , New Boston, Michigan
48164

Kelly Vergowven, Pastor



OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS

THE COMMUNICATOR 2017



A note from Pastor Kelly

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

What a wonderful beginning to our ministry together at Willow UMC. We had a blessed month full of activities in July including an engaging coffee hour, an energetic church picnic, and even a blessing of the animals service!

This month, we will have our 2nd Annual Country Fair on August 26th, which gives us the opportunity to welcome members of the community in to see what we, here at Willow, have to offer others as disciples of Christ. We can also engage them in returning to share in a worship service or bible study with us.

Each day God presents us with opportunities to right wrongs by sharing Christ's love, to save lives by acting with kindness and compassion, and to bring justice by spreading God's word. Our actions may not seem like they are making an impact, but, we may never know if our actions renew someone's faith or if our compassion rekindles someone's hope. We may never know whether we are an answer to someone's prayer. But as the scripture above assures us, God has a plan for us. Embracing daily opportunities to help others can be a big part of that plan.

I'm looking forward to what the hopeful future holds for us!

God's peace and blessings to you all!

Pastor Kelly

*The Love Of God
How Marvelous*



Pastoral Care

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.

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

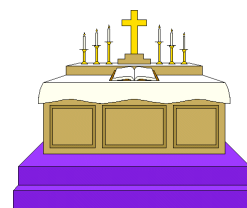
Music Ministry: Choir and worship opportunities through music participation. Practice every Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Sept. — May

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.

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: Who might need to know Christ through my words or actions today?

Altar Flowers: Altar flowers can be displayed as a memorial or in honor of someone or something or a special event. Please contact Bridgette Gering or sign the flower form on the bulletin board.



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



Children's church meets every Sunday.

Children of all ages are invited to attend Children's Church

during worship service each Sunday.

There will be a Bible Story time and activities for the children to participate in to enhance their time of learning.

Jennifer Johnson is our Children's Church Coordinator.

The children's church team includes Jennifer Johnson and Jeanne Lochner. If you would like to join the mission, please contact Jennifer Johnson.



Were you here???

When we welcomed Pastor Kelly with a coffee hour and our love and affection?

When Pastor Kelly assured each of us that the “New Beginnings” are not only for Willow Church but for her also?

When Pastor Kelly explained to us that God, our heavenly Father, is in charge of all our tomorrows and that we can recover our lives when we give our burdens over to our Lord?

When we gathered at Ash Park for an afternoon picnic filled with fellowship and fun?

When Pastor Kelly told us that God is our adoptive parent—and as a Christian we have a new life—we are born anew and we are unconditionally loved.



Church Bulletin Announcements

If you have any announcements that you would like to share in the Sunday bulletin, please get them to Pastor Kelly the week before you would like to have them printed.

COMING TO WILLOW CHURCH

Country Fair: August 26th

Chicken Supper: Sept. 13th, Oct. 11th, Nov. 8th

Choir Practice Begins: Wednesdays in September

God Works: Sept. 28th, Oct. 26

KINDNESS

What a difference kindness can make! It is a powerful way to share God's grace with others. When we put on kindness, we look more like Jesus. We never know when a thoughtful gesture could turn the day around for a co-worker, a struggling child, or the stranger behind us at the coffee shop. We can share the love of Christ with those around us through our kind words and actions.

Dear Lord, thank you for loving us. Help us to be like Christ, reaching out to others with kindness and compassion. Amen

From “The Upper Room”

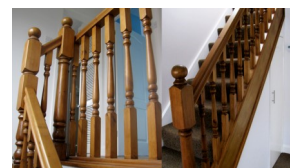
Scatter seeds
of kindness
wherever you go

People often
forget that
kindness
is free.

 **I can BEE
KIND**
by doing things for
others without expecting
something in return.

*Thank
you*

Special thank you to our Trustees for the hard work of having our beautiful new bannister installed in the front entrance hall way. What a difference it makes, not only wonderful to look at but safe and clean.





COUNTRY FAIR at Willow Church

This year again Willow Church will host a **COUNTRY FAIR**. Everyone is invited, everyone is asked to help and everyone is promised to have a day of fun. The women's group is sponsoring and hosting second annual COUNTRY FAIR this year. **Saturday, August 26th. Time 11:00—3:00.**

Several booths will hold baked goods, produce, crafts and gently used items, etc. And of course the kitchen will serve up some delicious (roast beef and sloppy joe lunches) food. Some have already volunteered to chair a booth, help where needed and are attending preliminary meetings. We're reaching out to all our congregation to help, add ideas, and busy themselves making items for sale.

We need HELP so please volunteer. If you're interested in helping or have some ideas to guide us, please let Karen Struble know.

Country Fair Chairs:

Kitchen: Karen Struble

Crafts: Vanessa Lenz and Jennifer Johnson

White Elephant: Holly Morrison and Martha Molnar

Bake Sale: Jan Holland and Nancy Cochran

Produce: Helena Lilly and Judy Buttignoli

Soup Base: Irene Kovac

If you would like to help in any of these "booths", please contact Karen Struble or the Chair of that booth.

PLEASE NOTE: THE WHITE ELEPHANT CHAIRS ARE ACCEPTING ITEMS NOW. THEY CAN BE STORED IN THE GARAGE UNTIL THE DAY OF SET UP. Please no electronics or clothing.

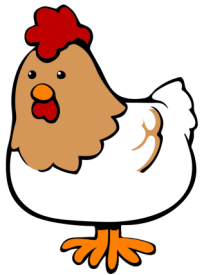
PICTURES FROM THE 2016 COUNTRY FAIR



GOD'S PERFECT HARMONY

We all experience countless ups and downs as we journey through life. When we interact with our brothers and sisters in Christ, reaching out to help one another, we gain strength and courage to persevere. As we learn to support and pray for one another and to work together, we become the example that Jesus commanded us to be when he said, "LOVE ONE ANOTHER" John 13:34

JOY
comes when we
CHOOSE
to live in harmony
with God's eternal
PLAN.
Russell M. Nelson



CHICKEN CHATTER by Kathy Farr (from a newsletter in 2011)

It's really hard to believe, but it's almost time to start Chicken Suppers again. Do you every wonder why, oh, why do we have to do them? Now, I'm not sure since I wasn't around at their inception, but I've been told it was to support our church finances. Not much has changed I guess. I do remember a time when we did eight dinners a year so maybe our six dinners a year hasn't been so bad!!

Yes, the suppers are a lot of work, but for us they are a very real necessity. Our church budget depends on them. It would be a dream if we only had to do the suppers because we wanted to do them instead of needing to do them. I try to accept them and look at them as a great way of fellowship time. You would be surprised at some of the topics of conversations!!

Another thought I have on the suppers and this is my own personal thinking, is that they are a way of fulfilling our Methodist membership vows. When we pledge to join the church, we are asked to commit to the church with our service, gifts, attendance and prayers.

Working on a dinner is a great service to the church. There are many jobs to be done and taking on one of those jobs, no matter how trivial it may seem, is really, really important.

Gifts are very personal and in these hard, stressful times many of us have to watch our finances. I'm sure we would all love to increase our tithing ten-fold, but that isn't a reality: however, if you can donate an item or your time, then your "gift" is a blessing.

Maybe all you can do because of work, children, health reasons or other commitments is to "attend" our suppers (bring along a friend or two!). Your support by purchasing a dinner is very much appreciated.

Finally, we can all PRAY for the success of our dinners. We can thank God for all who are able to help, for our customers and for our wonderful pastor and church family that is ours.

P.S. About attendance—The most important attendance is at Sunday Services.

Kathy is a former chair of our chicken suppers. She is still an active volunteer. If you would like to help with our Suppers, please contact Julie Struble...our current Chairperson.

OUR CHICKEN SUPPERS BEGIN AGAIN SEPTEMBER 13TH.

Eat 
Chicken

August 2017



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2 AA 6:00	3	4	5
6 Holy Communion Children's Church	7	8 Rotary 6:30	9 AA 6:00 Bridgette Gering Donna Lee Hornyak	10	11 	12
13 Children's Church Coffee Hour	14	15 Rotary 6:30	16 AA 6:00	17	18 Tina Szalek	19
20 Children's Church Ad Board Mtg.	21 Mary Krzeminski Carolyn McDaniel	22 Rotary 6:30	23 AA 6:00	24 God Works' Community Meal 5:30 PM Helena Lilly	25 Pastor Brad Lewis	26 Tyler Johnson
27 Children's Church	28	29 Rotary 6:30	30 AA 6:00	31	1 	2