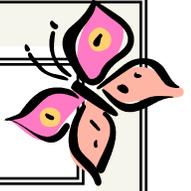




WILLOW UM CHURCH



THE COMMUNICATOR

JUNE 2014

A Note From Pastor Marianne

John 14:18-21 Common English Bible Translation: “I won’t leave you as orphans. I will come to you. Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Because I live, you will live too. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them loves me. Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Yesterday, Memorial Day, Doug, Javier (Rotary Exchange Student from Chile) and I were invited to go sailing on Lake Erie with a family from Milford UM Church. I have never sailed before and I am not a swimmer, so I was a bit nervous. I shouldn’t have been – I was in good hands.

Bruce is retired and has been sailing since he was a boy. Maureen rode in the McMunn car and came with a sketch of the boat so that we could get acquainted with all its parts before we boarded. Their five children (3 of them present) have sailed since birth and they are a seasoned sailing team. The weather was perfect for my first excursion.

When we got aboard the boat, right away I thought about the Gilligan’s Island sitcom and picked a character name for each one of us. Guess who I was?

We never met a bit of trouble out on the great Lake Erie, but I did think about what it might feel like if a great storm came up like it did with Jesus and his disciples. Scary!

As we cruised along, we watched the sails billowing with the air. Doug and Bruce started a conversation about the wind of the Holy Spirit blowing where ever it may. I got a chance to steer the boat and it was more challenging than I had anticipated. Then Bruce, noticing my struggle, instructed me to steer toward a tower in the distance. Having a point of focus made all the difference in keeping the boat going in the right direction.

Life is never the same. At this point, your life may be going along quite well with not a bit of trouble. Or perhaps you are facing one of the greatest storms of your life. In either place, we can experience the feeling of “aloneness.”

Jesus promised us in John 14 that we won’t be left as orphans. And though we cannot see Christ, Christ is with us through the Holy Spirit – the comforter – in the billowing of the sails.

As I was steering the boat on Lake Erie, I remembered that I was doing some of the work, but I was not alone. There was a seasoned team alongside me, there was the “unseen rudder” below me and there was a point of focus in front of me.

As Christians, we are never alone, in the good or in the bad or in the in between. We have the church to support us, we have the power of the unseen Holy Spirit to guide and comfort us, we have Christ and his ways as our point of focus and we have the love of God our heavenly Father to embrace us. We are in good hands.

I pray that we may open ourselves up “full sail” to the mighty grace and power of God in our lives so that our course of life will lead us ever closer to Christ and his kingdom here on earth and in the hereafter.

Glory to God! Amen.

I love you, Mates! Pastor Marianne



Sermon Titles and Texts for June

June 1: "Citizens of Another World"

John 17:1-11

June 8: "Remember Who You Are"

Galatians 3:26-29

June 15: "Boldly Go Where No One Has Gone Before"

Matthew 28:16-20

June 22: "Age of Resurrection"

Romans 6:1-11

June 29: "Dangerous Domain"

Romans 6:12-23

GRADUATION SUNDAY

June 8

Friends and Family of Willow United Methodist Church
you are invited to a Graduation Brunch
hosted by the family members of graduates,

Cameron Buck, Ryley McKart, and Hannah Seward.

Brunch will be served right after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Please plan on attending and honoring these fine youth of our congregation.



"Weird Animals: Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind" Children will learn about some of God's most creative creations through Bible activities, songs, crafts, treats, Bible adventures, Bible memory buddies and something called God sightings

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL June 23—26
Friday—Monday

Vacation Bible School isn't just for KIDS!

ADULTS you are invited to attend a discussion group while the children are in their classes. Pastor Marianne will lead the class in the sanctuary. Youth who are not assisting with VBS leadership, Young Adults or Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles of VBS students, you are invited to attend. We will be using a video and discussion format. Come as you are!



OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT A GREAT SUCCESS!!

Thank you to the John Tarr and Tom VanMeer families for your service to our community in coordinating and running the Outdoor Movie Night. 80 free hotdogs were served, along with drinks and popcorn. It was reported that half those in attendance were new faces! This is an outrageous opportunity for Willow UMC to offer radical hospitality! 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 May movie, "Frozen" were Ed and Jean Miller's daughter and her husband – Gloria and David. 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 July 18. Movie to be announced.

WE HAVE SPONSORS!!

Al and Terri Riopelle, Huron Township Rotarians, have graciously sponsored the movie night for July. Greg and Pamela Stano, also 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.

Ministries of Willow Church



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. All are welcome.

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 spiritual program to help those suffering the effects of alcohol addiction. Meetings are held Wednesdays 6:00 pm here at the church.

Music Ministry

Choir and worship opportunities through music participation. Practice is every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

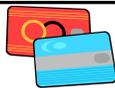
Children's Ministry

Christian education during worship service is offered twice a month to foster and guide our children in their faith under the direction of Jeanne Lochner. Children's Church the first and third Sunday of the month is coordinated by Jennifer Johnson.



Ethel's Food Pantry Ethel's Food Pantry is an outreach of our church and community as we strive to help those who are in need of food assistance. All food is donated. If you would like to donate at any time, see Helena, contributions are always needed. Please remember, misc. items are needed all the time.

Scrip Program



Our church benefits from the purchase of Scrip gift cards. Every time you purchase a card we receive a percentage of the purchase price. Use the cards not only to give as gifts, but also consider buying them for your own personal use, i.e. dining out, home improvements, gas, personal items. If you would like an updated list of retailers, please see Martha Molnar.

Thank you for your continued support

This newsletter is compiled by Donna Lee Hornyak.

A special thanks to Gail Sobecki and all who submit articles for our newsletter. If you would like to add to "The Communicator" please email :

dhornyak2@gmail.com (Donna Lee Hornyak)

Christians are like the flowers in a garden; they have upon them the dew of heaven, which, being shaken by the wind, they let fall at each other's roots, whereby they are jointly nourished.

John Bunyan



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 bouquets are purchased for the same week is \$12.50 each. Please remember.. Do not take the vases. They must be returned to the florist. Make all checks payable to Darlene's Flowers. If interested in donating altar flowers please contact **Vanessa Lenz** at 734-731-9611. **Please get your flower order and payment to Vanessa 2 weeks ahead of time .**





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. Speak with Pastor Marianne if you have any questions.

What is the Nominating Committee?



Beginning in the February newsletter we have included a description of one of our church committees, their responsibilities and the names of the committee members serving on that committee so that you may contact them. This month we will look at the Nominations Committee.

Per the United Methodist Church Discipline, responsibilities for the members of the committee include:

- “Members of the committee shall be engaged in and attentive to their own Christian spiritual life, and together engage in biblical and theological reflection about the mission of the church.
- They lead/teach the congregation that God gives gifts, skills and experience to every individual within the Body of Christ for ministry for the transformation of the world. Individual ministry may be lived out within personal relationships, in a work or school setting, and with specific leadership in the congregation.
- They develop and track a system for helping individuals discover their spiritual gifts, name their skills, interests, knowledge, and experience. They include people of various ages (including youth, young adults, and older adults) and life situations (married, single, retired). They help people discover their spiritual gifts, name their skills, interests, knowledge, and experience.
- They invite people to positions of spiritual leadership, receive their responses, and provide training and support for these individuals.
- They present a nomination list to the charge conference for a church council chair, a committee on pastor (staff) parish relations, a board of trustees, a committee on finance, a lay member to annual conference and a lay leader. They work throughout the year to name other leaders for the ministry that fulfills the mission of the congregation.”

Nominating Committee at Willow United Methodist Church are Pastor Marianne, Gail Sobecki (secretary of nominations), Linda Kemp, Katherine Buck and Mark Buttignoli (Lay Leader). Thank you committee for your time, your prayers, and your work as you seek to develop a team of leaders to serve God and the church through our ministries at Willow UMC.

This committee’s work will begin at the end of the Summer when we will prayerfully begin to discern nominations for church leadership for the year 2015. If you have an interest in any of the church committees, please contact Pastor Marianne. Serving the church through your offering of time and insight and “hands on work” is a joy, sometimes a challenge, and a blessing.

Won’t you consider how you may serve alongside the various committees?

Graduation Sunday is June 8th

If you know of any graduates (high school, college, technical schools, etc.) that we can also include in our Graduation Sunday Worship Service, please inform pastor Marianne ASAP.



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 second session in our study curriculum will be **June 29**. 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!



June 2014



Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 Holy Communion Children's Church Women's Mtg.	2 Karen Struble	3 Rotary 6:30 John Haydamacker	4 AA 6:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	5	6 Justin McDaniel	7 Buckhart— Fellowship Hall
8 Graduation Sunday with Reception (see invitation in newsletter)	9	10 Rotary 6:30	11 AA 6:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Pastor's annual visit with D.S. Terry June	12	13	14 Nelson Haydamacker
15 Father's Day Children's Church Ice Cream Celebration for Men and Fathers Tom and Mary Van Meer		17 Rotary 6:30 Judy Buttignoli 	18 AA 6:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	19	20 	21
22 Ad Board Mtg. Kimberly Cole	23 Vacation Bible School Begins 6:30—8:30 	24 Rotary 6:30 VBS 6:30—8:30	25 AA 6:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 VBS 6:30—8:30	26 VBS 6:30—8:30	27 VBS 6:30—8:30	28
29 VBS Sunday Marianne McMunn	30 Dallas and Mary Lou Kennedy Alexis Gambino	1  Rotary 6:30	2 AA 6:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	3	4 Happy 4th!!! 	5