



Willow U.M. Church

THE
COMMUNICATOR

JULY 2013

A Note from Pastor Marianne



Have you ever read the book of Proverbs in the Bible. It's a good one. Full of advice, some that may not seem to make sense upon the first reading of it – you have to ponder the words to understand what the author is getting at. It's good exercise for our minds and spirits. Proverbs 15:23 says, "A person has joy by the answer of their mouth, and a word spoken in due season, how good it is!"

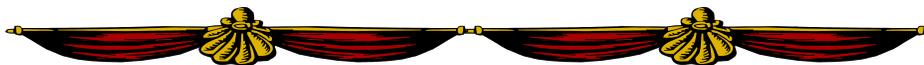
The story goes that "a demanding wife continually nagged her husband to conform to her high standards. 'This is how you should act, this is how you should dress, this is what you should say, this is where you should be seen and this is how you should plan your career!' She insisted every aspect of his life be honed to perfection. Feeling thoroughly whipped, the man finally said, 'Why don't you just write it down? Then you won't have to tell me these things all the time.' She did so gladly.

A short time later, the wife died. Within the course of a year, the man met another woman and married. His new life seemed to be a perpetual honeymoon. He could hardly believe the great joy and relief he was experiencing with his new bride. One day he came across the list of 'do's and don'ts' his first wife had written. He was amazed that he was actually following all of the instructions – even though his second wife had never mentioned them. He thought about what might have happened and finally said to a friend, 'My former wife began her statements, 'I hate it when . . . ; but my new wife says, 'I just love it when . . .'"

The most important way we can help those around us to become the best they can be is to pray for them and always speak encouraging words to and about them. When we trust in God to fix what we think is wrong with those around us – our spouses, children, friends, etc., we often find it is we who need the fixing.

Who can we encourage with an "I just love it when . . .?"

Let's do it! Love, Pastor Marianne



Sermon Titles and Scripture Texts:

July 7: "Hunger for Righteousness" Holy Communion/Children's Church
Matthew 5:6

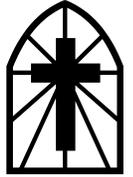
July 14: Jeanne Lochner will be preaching

July 21: "Into the World" Children's Church
Matthew 5:14

July 28: Outdoor Worship at Senior Park in Waltz
"Little House on the Prairie Sunday"

We're on the WEB!!!
www.willowchurch.org
Check us out!!!

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 Sunday of the month coordinated by Jennifer Johnson.

Parenting Study Class The Basics of becoming a proactive parent...call the church for details

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 or your order may be canceled. If you have an altar vase, please return it to the church.**



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. This

month's items: **CEREAL**

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.



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)

**I AM LIFE AND LIGHT IN
ABUNDANCE**

As you spend time "soaking" in My Presence, you are energized and lightened.

PSALM 48:9



COMING TO WILLOW CHURCH:

Parenting Study –

The parents will be finishing up the 2nd four week session on July 7. The parenting topic for this session is, "Discipline With Children and Teens."

Parents of children of all ages are welcome to participate in the learning and the circle of support and encouragement. Stay tuned for 3rd four week session – topic and dates.

Join us Sunday, July 7 at 11:00 to 12:00noon at John and Laura Haydamacker's home at 24340 Waltz Rd., New Boston. The children will be led in study time by Jeanne Lochner, Children's Ministry Director. Any questions, please contact Pastor Marianne at 248-875-3783 or Jennifer Johnson, co-coordinator at 734-625-5750.

All Church Picnic – Children's Ministry Fun in the Sun

Come one, come all to Willow UMC for some fun in the sun on Saturday, July 20 with an All Church Picnic and Activities sponsored by the Children's Ministry: Bouncy House and Water Slide for the Kids!

At 12:00 noon, the festivities will begin with a Potluck (bring a dish to share) Picnic. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Beverages and Paper Products will be provided. And once again, Richard Maxwell will serve as "grill master."

Bring a lawn chair, some sun screen, dish to pass and a happy heart.

Outdoor Worship on July 28th at Senior Park in Waltz

Worship will begin at our regular hour – 9:30am at the gazebo. After Worship we will enjoy a tour of the newly renovated School House that Willow UMC donated to the Township.

Bring your lawn chair or blanket for worship.

"Pee-Paw's Garden"

The Willow Church Community Garden

By Karen Wilson

For those of you on Sunday's who might join me in running late to Church on a regular basis or for those of you who just plain like to park out by the garage with me ;)... you may have noticed a garden that went up right next to the garage. Our Willow community garden is true to the meaning of "community." With material help from the Johnson and Lenz families and a full day of hard work planting and chatting with my friend Katherine Buck, it is our gift to the community for anyone in need of fresh veggies, to feel free to come in and pick as they need or to serve as a complement to our wonderfully needed and well established pantry.

Why a garden? A community garden represents a Church that cares with actions and not just words. It sends the message that no person should be hungry or without proper nutrition and that we will do what we can to help make it so! Should you take a stroll out there as the plants start to grow, you might notice the vegetables planted where thought out with soups & salads in mind. Just as our souls need nutrition, our bodies do too.

Who is Pee-Paw? Well, that would be the silly name I used to call my Grandpa who inspired this garden in memory of. My Grandpa loved to garden and it's what I remember seeing him do, summer after summer, year after year, for as long as I can remember. It's what made him happy and gave him purpose. When I garden, it reminds me of him and every year as I plant, just about the time I'm ready to quit because I'm too hot or too tired, a nice breeze blows through and I can't help but think my Grandpa is trying to help me. It may not yet be the perfectly beautiful garden that we someday hope for but in the meantime, we sure pray that it will serve its purpose.



WERE YOU HERE????

When we were asked “does our lifestyle reflect our company with Christ?”

When we were told that “Prayer is a Gift!”

When the children learned how to use a penny for prayers?

When our Sunday message asked us “are you feeling your spiritual life through prayer?”

When Pastor Marianne asked us “what our spiritual pulse was telling us.”

When Danielle Mathews sang “American Tears” and Willow Church saluted those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country?

When we the fathers of our church were told to follow Christ's example—”keep God's Word.”

When our congregation was asked, “are you feeding your spiritual life through prayer?”

When the children of Willow Church celebrated FATHERS DAY?

When Rev. Sherry Foster from Milford UMC told us that with Jesus in our heart we can deal with the “storms of life.”



DETROIT
INSTITUTE
OF ARTS

Free “Senior Trip” to Detroit Institute of Arts

**Sunday, August 4 after Worship
Service**

Age: 50 years old and up

Transportation Information: The bus has room for 2 guests in wheelchairs, so please let Pastor Marianne know if you require a wheelchair for transport there and back on the bus. If you need to bring your own wheelchair, for the guided tour at DIA only, please let Pastor Marianne know that as well so that she can inform the bus company.

The DIA has only 2 wheelchairs available on site and they are on first come, first served basis.

Itinerary:

11:00 a.m.: Bus leaves Willow United Methodist Church Parking Lot to go to DIA.

11:45 a.m.: Arrive at DIA.

Coffee and cookie reception.

12:15 p.m.: Guided Tour of Gallery.

12:45 p.m.: Lunch at Museum (on your own - not free)
Finish browsing as you like.

2:00 p.m.: Bus leaves DIA to go back to Willow UMC.

Please sign up at entry table at Willow UMC or call Church Office (734-654-9020) to make a reservation. We need a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 30 adults to keep our reservation.

Be thinking of who you can invite to join in the fun!

Willow United Methodist Church

36925 Willow Road

New Boston, MI 48164

Marianne McMunn, Pastor

Email address: marianнемcmunn@sbcglobal.net

Pastor's Schedule: Monday—day off Tuesdays and Thursdays at church
Wednesday—home office and choir rehearsal at Willow Church
Friday—Study Day Saturday—Home office

734-654-9020

Sunday Service 9:30 AM

Jeanne Lochner: Children's Ministry

Karen Struble: Organist and Choir Director

FOOD PANTRY 24/7

734-753-4320

Church Bulletin Announcements

If you have announcements that you would like to share in the bulletin on a Sunday morning, please get them to Pastor Marianne by the Wednesday before you would like it printed in the bulletin.



BURNED BISCUITS

When I was a kid, my Grandma liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after a long, hard day. On that evening so long ago, she had placed a plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of my Granddad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed!

Yet all my Granddad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my Grandma and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that ugly burned biscuit. He ate every bite of that thing... never made a face nor uttered a word about it!

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my Grandma apologize to my Granddad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits every now and then."

Later that night, I went to kiss Granddaddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Grandma put in a hard day of work today and she's real tired. And besides - a little burned biscuit never hurt anyone!"

As I've grown older, I've thought about that many times. Life is full of imperfect things and imperfect people. I'm not the best at anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else. But what I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults, and choosing to celebrate each other's differences, is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

And that's my prayer for you today... that you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God. Because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!



We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the base of any relationship, be it a husband-wife or parent-child or friendship!

So, please pass me a biscuit, and yes, the burned one will do just fine.



Welcome New Members!

Constance Hall-Burke was raised in "little Ida Church of old regular Baptist." She and her husband, Kevin, who is also joining the membership, have been members of Southpoint Church. Kevin and Connie have 4 children: Beckie (married to Rich) – Frances 6 months old; Ashley (married to Eric) – Luke 5 years old; Rachel (married to Steve) – Selena 1 year and Camryn 3 months; and son, Jeff.

Connie is a registered nurse with MBA from Madonna, working in Monroe at Mercy Memorial Hospital. She loves to garden, practices yoga, loves her husband, loves her children, and loves God (not necessarily in that order). Connie says that they drove by Willow UMC for 18 years before visiting. She and Kevin were looking for a community based

congregation and Willow is practically in their back yard!

Connie writes, "The first service I came to I felt at home . . . the first hymn we sang here was "How Great Thou Art" . . . "This was the first hymn I learned to sing in its entirety when I was a little girl. It felt like home!" Welcome "home" Connie! Connie's sponsor is Kathy Farr. She is joining Willow by reaffirmation of faith.

Kevin Burke grew up in the Southgate area in the St. Paul's Catholic Church. He and Connie have been married for 29 years. Kevin works at a Nuclear Power Plant as Engineering Supervisor/Tech expert. He plays ice hockey, sail races and loves music. He also loves time with his "beautiful wife." (Nice wording, Kevin) When asked how he chose Willow UMC, he expresses that his wife was "instrumental" in his choice. Kevin appreciates that Willow is "local, good people, unpretentious." A big welcome to you, Kevin. Jim Farr is Kevin's membership sponsor. He is joining by reaffirmation of faith.



July 2013

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 Rotary 6:30	3 AA 6:00	4 	5	6 Vanessa Lenz
7 Holy Communion Children's Church Women's Mtg. Parenting Study Pastor Study Course, Chicago—gone through July 17	8	9 Rotary 6:30 Shirley Olson	10 AA 6:00	11 Kevin Mullen	12	13 Gabriella Tilley
14 Coffee Hour after Worship	15	16 Rotary 6:30	17 AA 6:00	18	19 Outdoor MOVIE NIGHT "Wreck it Ralph"	20 12:00 All church Picnic here at Willow Church
21 Ad Board Mtg	22	23 Rotary 6:30	24 AA 6:00 LaRaine Fowler Stephanie Lenz	25 Outdoor Concert from McMunn's 7:00 pm	26 Kathie Farr	27 
28 Outdoor Worship in Waltz Park	29	30 Rotary 6:30 Marylou & Dallas Kennedy	31 AA 6:00	1	2 	3