



WILLOW UMC CHURCH



THE COMMUNICATOR

SEPTEMBER 2013



A NOTE FROM PASTOR MARIANNE

A tragedy or conflict occurs in our personal life – and we feel torn apart – life as we know it will never be the same again and we ask, “Why?” A tornado devastates a whole town and innocent people suffer – and we ask, “Why?”

War and violence prevail – and we ask, “Why?” “Why, God?”

This month the sermon series will grapple with this question of “Why?”

I invite you to enter into this conversation as we seek to grow in our faith and understanding of God and humankind in the midst of suffering and confusion. The Worship Service begins at 9:30a.m. each Sunday morning. The conversation on each of the sermon topics listed below will continue on the following Thursday evenings at 7:00p.m. at the Willow UM Church. All are invited and welcome.

The peace of the Lord be with you,
Love, Pastor Marianne

September Titles and Scriptures

September 1: “Why Do the Innocent Suffer?”

Genesis 1:27-28

September 8: “Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?”

Psalms 22:2, John 15:7, Luke 22:41

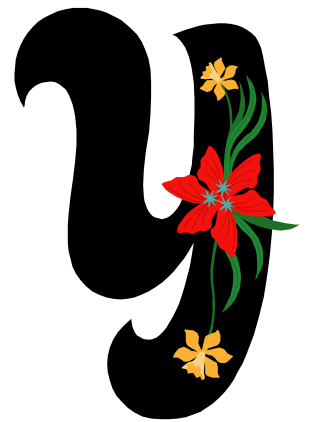
September 15: “Why Can’t I See God’s Will for My Life?”

Colossians 1:9-10, Romans 12:1-2

September 22: “Why God’s Love Prevails”

Romans 8:28, 35, 37-39

September 29: The Ministry of Brother to Brother will lead our Worship
(see article)



A Mom2Mom sale is coming to Willow!



On Saturday, October 12, 2013 parents of young children will be offering great deals on gently used clothes, toys, books, strollers and other items in our fellowship hall.

The sale will run from 9am to 1pm. There will be an entrance donation of 1 non-perishable food/toiletry item or \$1. For those that would like to get an 8am jumpstart on the deals, an early bird entrance donation of 2 non-perishable food items/toiletry items or \$2 would be greatly appreciated at the door.

The Women's group will also be selling a variety of baked goods, including apple fritters.

All proceeds go to the Willow Women's group Thanksgiving Basket Community Outreach Program.

So mark your calendar and come find some fantastic deals on great things for the little ones in your life while supporting our Outreach Program.

Interested in selling your things?

Tables are \$20 each on a first come, first serve basis.

Space is limited so email ASAP at Willowumc@gmail.com

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

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

A man met Dr. Billy Graham one day on the street and after the usual exchange of pleasantries told the spiritual leader of his despair at the sad state of the world. He wound up saying, "I tell you Dr. Graham, it's enough to make a man lose his religion."

After a moment's reflection, Billy Graham replied, "Rather seems to me, It's enough to make a man use his religion."

Submitted by Wanda Young





CHICKEN SUPPER...Submitted by Kathy Farr

It's Chicken supper Time!!! It's Chicken Supper Time!!

(TO THE TUNE OF "It's Howdy Doody Time" if you remember Howdy you are old like me!)

I've told you in the past how important chicken suppers are to the church's finances and why Jim and I personally do them, but I've never discussed how important all the donations are that we receive. First of all there is NO such thing as a small donation. All donations are a huge help.

The church has to purchase certain items that need to be ordered in advance such as the chicken (of course) and the biscuits. The carry—out containers have to be special ordered. We also use particular sized containers for some carry—out items. The average cost of all these items (excluding the chicken) for 2012 was almost \$200.00 per month. The chicken is always over \$300.00. So you can see the church's expense per dinner is over \$500.00 per month. If the church had to buy everything and there are many additional items, needless to say our profit would be very poor. That would mean a lot of hard work and time for almost nothing. Therefore, I hope you understand how important ALL donations, including cash, are and how very much they are appreciated.



WERE YOU HERE?

When Pastor Marianne's message let us know that God is watching us "from a distance!"

When Pastor Taek Kim from Carleton UMC came to Willow Church as part of our Pastor Exchange?



When 23 ladies and 2 "lucky?" men from Willow Church toured the DIA?

When the rains came down during our July Movie Night ?

When Blaire Lenz Simon was Baptized?

School House Dedication

Please join our community on September 16 at 12 noon for the dedication of the School house in Waltz that was donated to the Huron Township by the Willow United Methodist Church.

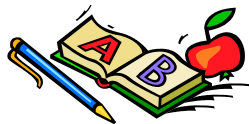


WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WILLOW CHURCH!!!

Ministry opportunity available:

Our children's ministry is in need of someone/s to "keep the toys clean and safe."

The children enjoy playing house with the kitchen set and other toys, but these play things have need for cleaning every other week after Children's Church and/or after church social gatherings in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to be a part of a "team of cleaners," please let Pastor Marianne know. This ministry is especially important when "cold/flu" season hits.



Sunday, September 8 – Rally Day and Back to School Sunday!

Come and celebrate the kickoff of the Fall Children's Ministry at Willow UMC. Included in our Rally Day and Back to School Sunday is **presentation of Bibles to 3rd Graders**. (Please let Pastor Marianne know of any 3rd graders who may like to receive their own Bible.)

We will have **Blessing of the Back Packs**. Children/students, please **bring your own back packs** that you take to school. Along with blessing your own personal back packs we will have a blessing over the **back packs and school supplies that have been donated** by you and our community. Willow UMC has been working with Huron Township Goodfellows to meet the goal of "every child is prepared for a wonderful school year with the necessary tools to make this possible." Drop box for school supplies and back packs in lobby.

We invite **educators and all school staff** to be a part of our celebration as well. We want to **bless you** as you begin your work in the coming school year.

And, we want to **celebrate and dedicate** our **Christian Education servants at Willow UMC** as they too begin a new year of teaching and sharing the love of Jesus with students of all ages.

Following the Worship Service the congregation is invited to lunch. Please contact our Children's Ministry Director, Jeanne Lochner, with any questions or to offer assistance in regard to Rally Day.

Visitation Opportunity

While visiting with the pastor in their home, Ed and Jean Miller shared that they would love to have you, church friends, come and visit them anytime you can. Please call Jean at 734-753-9260 to make arrangements, as she has dialysis on Mon/Wed/Fri.

Willow UMC Choir wants YOU!

Choir Rehearsal for the new church year begins on Wednesday, September 4 at 7:00pm. Our choir director, Karen Struble, has been working on selecting music for each Sunday as well as looking at Cantatas for Christmas and Easter. If you would like to be a part of this music ministry, please contact Karen Struble.



Parenting Study

“Communication With Your Child or Teen”



Willow UMC continues to offer 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 Parent Education and Asset Development for STARS, a school based program helping students make healthy lifestyle choices.

“Communication With Your Child or Teen” is a 4 week study to help adults learn to become better listeners and model good communication techniques for the whole family.

The class will finish up the last 2 sessions on the following dates:

September 1 and September 22.

Please join in even if you had to miss the first 2 classes – all are welcome.

The study starts at 11:00am with snacks and ends at 12:00pm.

Meet in the home of John and Laura Haydamacker at 24340 Waltz Rd., New Boston.

If you have any questions about the class or location, please contact Pastor Marianne, parenting study facilitator (248-875-3783), Jennifer Johnson, co-coordinator (734-625-5750).

Willow United Methodist Church Membership Classes Offered

For those wishing to join the membership of Willow United Methodist Church, you are invited to Membership Classes on October 13 and November 3. Pastor Doug McMunn will lead the first class – church history and your questions about what it means to be a United Methodist. Pastor Marianne will lead the second class in preparation for membership. Membership Sunday will be November 10. Please let Pastor Marianne know if you are interested in becoming a member of Willow UMC. If these class times do not work for you, arrangements will be made. Any questions? Please call Pastor Marianne at 248-875-3783.

Take a Spiritual Renewal Retreat

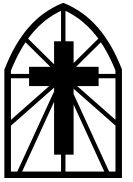
Pastor Doug and Marianne will serve as spiritual directors at a three-day retreat this fall at our beautiful, Lake Huron Retreat Center, near Port Huron, You are invited to register for this October 28-30 event! Details will be available in early September. Enjoy sunrise devotions over Lake Huron, or sleep in if you need the rest, and enjoy yummy mealtimes overlooking the lake. Come away to this quiet place for personal spiritual renewal. Save the date!

A special thank you



To the Women's Group for the purchase of paint to spruce up the church office. Thanks to Donna Lee and Gail for their leg work in this office project. And thanks to RP for his connections to get the painting done at no cost. It takes a team!! Thanks!

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

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 Sobacki 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)



Fresh Mercies

...The unfailing love of the Lord never ends! By his mercies we have been kept from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each day. LAMINATIONS 3:22—23



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 item: **JELLY**

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.**



Brother to Brother
Richard Kerry Thompson
and Matthew J. Packer
will bless us with their music ministry
Sunday, September 29 Worship Service



Breaking Barriers, Celebrating Community.

"What unites us as Christians outweighs what divides us."

Check out their website at mattpackerlive.com or youtube: [ahopefuldad](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaH0pefuldad)

We're On The Web?
www.willowchurch.org

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.

Outdoor Family Movie Night

Willow United Methodist Church will be hosting "Family Friendly" outdoor movie viewing this summer. Free popcorn, hot dogs and beverage will also be available. 'Man of Steel'

Where: Willow United Methodist Church
36925 Willow Road
New Boston, Mi.
734-654-9020

When: Friday September 20th

Time: 8:00 Gathering
Movie Begins at Dusk

Cost: No Charge



So bring your lawn chair or a blanket, your family and friends and join us for **Outdoor Movie Night**

A Special THANK YOU to the sponsors of our September Outdoor Movie Night: Al and Terry Riopelle, Huron Township Rotary Club members.



September 2013

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 Holy Communion Children's Church Women's Meeting Parenting Study	2	3 Rotary 6:30	4 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal Begins 7:00	5 Bible Study 7:00 Mark & Theresa Buttignoli Cheyenne Kennedy	6	7 Paul Dunn
8 3rd Grade Bibles Teacher's Dedication Back Pack Blessing Rally Day and Lunch after Worship	9 Tammie Cole Kristen Southerland	10 Chicken Supper Prep. 8:30 am Rotary 6:30	11 Chicken Supper prep 8:30 am AA 6:00 Chicken Supper 5:00 Chris & RaeAnn Burkhart	12 Bible Study 7:00 Elaine Malaric	13 Wedding Rehearsal	14 4 pm Wedding Matthew Wilkes John Tarr
15 Children's Church Ad Board Meets	16 Dedication of Waltz School House 12:00 Sarah Buttignoli	17 Rotary 6:30	18 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Wanda Young Ryley McKart	19 Bible Study 7:00	20 Outdoor Movie	21
22 MaryLou Kennedy	23	24 Rotary 6:30 Angela Cole Jennifer Johnson Madeline King	25 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Matt & Melissa O'Connor Emily Fowler	26 Bible Study 7:00 Jim Farr	27 	28 Angie Southerland
29 Brother to Brother Concert/Worship Service Keith Farr		1 Rotary 6:30	2 AA 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	3 Bible Study 7:00 Theresa Buttignoli Karla Clark	4 Linda Kemp	5