



# THE WILLOW WORD

God's Family Growing Through Caring,  
Sharing and Serving

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## Sunday Worship

**10:00 a.m.**

Worship

**11:00 a.m.**

Fellowship Time

Make sure to like WGUMC on Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/WillowGlenUMC](http://www.facebook.com/WillowGlenUMC)

## Psalms Alive! Sermon Series for June

All of June and the first part of July our worship theme will be "Psalms Alive!" We will be reading and singing lots of psalms and trying out different ways to use them to connect with God. The psalms are a great resource for meeting everything life can throw at us, so join us for some spiritual retooling this summer.



**June 3:** Songs for Life's Journey, Psalms 25 and 27

**June 10:** Psalms for Healing and Deliverance, Psalms 13 and 42

**June 17:** A Source of Strength in the Struggle, Psalms 46, 62, 91

**June 24:** Dealing with Anger and Vengeance, Psalms 9 and 109

**July 1:** Psalms for Saying Thanks, Psalms 30 and 100.

## New Members!

On May 20, we confirmed seven youth and received them into membership at WGUMC: Ken Brown, Ben Chamberlain, Sadie Freeman, Jane



Partsch, Jenna Partsch, Lydia Pham and Paige Unger. Their confirmation leaders and pastors were pretty impressed with the thoughtfulness of this group of young people. We welcome their contributions to our church family.

## New Groups Forming, New Things Happening

In the next few weeks and months, three new groups will be gathering to move us forward on three important objectives.

- **The Reconciling Ministries Committee** that was named at our church conference last fall will be holding their very first meeting after church **June 3** to discuss implementing the Reconciling Ministries Statement that we approved last year.
- **The Vision Team** is meeting on **June 14** to make a plan for listening to congregation and community members over the summer and into the fall before coming up with recommendations for how to renew our mission in Willow Glen.
- **The Care Team** has not been active for a while and it's time to get it going again. Gerri Hodson, Gwyne Grubb, Jane Vivan, Kristin Kufeldt, Michelle Partsch, and Liz Pense all signed up to help with pastoral care while Pastor Rebecca is on leave, but we could use a team that meets regularly year round. If you have a warm heart, we can use you.

## Summer Fellowship: While the Cat's Away, the Mice Will Play!

Pastor Rebecca is starting her renewal leave July 2... we are planning some super fun fellowship events while she's away:

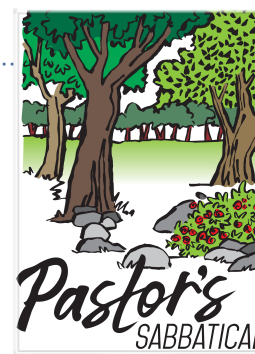
**July 8:** All American Day, wear your team jerseys to church and compete in a pie cook-off hosted by Leslie Chamberlain and Patricia Madsen.

**July 15:** Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for the Zwingman Family hosted by Michelle Partsch, Michelle Unger, Corazon Collen

**July 22:** Service Project hosted by Liz Pense and Corazon Collen

**July 29:** Potluck hosted by Jane Vivian and Kristin Kufeldt

**Aug 5:** Luau with a real roasted pig!!! Hosted by Dave Freeman, Leslie Chamberlain, Efren Lopez, and Tom Grubb.



We could use your help with planning, set up and clean up on any or all of these Sundays, so contact one of the event hosts and let them know if you can lend a hand.

## Parking Lot(s) Updated on June 21-22

The Trustees have contracted to have both the front and side parking lots to be re-sealed, re-marked (one at a time) and any needed bumpers replaced on **Thursday & Friday, June 21 & 22.**

Please be sure to plan any on-campus activities (*and parking*) accordingly. Remember you can always check the official Church Calendar online: <http://www.tinyurl.com/wgumc-calendar>



## WGUMC is Serving Dinner at the Family Shelter on June 30

On **Saturday, June 30** from 4:00-7:00 p.m., WGUMC is scheduled to prepare and serve dinner at Family Supportive Housing at [692 N. King Rd.](#) in San Jose. The shelter has 35 furnished family apartments, provides daycare and helps displaced families get their feet back on the ground.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- 4 people to **Donate Food Items** (we need enough to serve 70 people) - TBD
- 2-3 **Bakers** to bring 2 dozen cupcakes or cookies each to WGUMC on Friday, June 29 or Saturday by 2:00 p.m.
- **Set Up, Cook & Serve** - 4 people are needed to set up, prepare and serve food at the Shelter from 4:00-6:30 p.m. All directions/instructions will be provided. It's a lot of fun, and the friendly people at the Shelter will make you glad you served!

Please contact Craig Ramsay ([craigsramsay@gmail.com](mailto:craigsramsay@gmail.com) or 415-225-7220) with questions and to sign up to help. Remember to bring items to the Church kitchen on Friday, June 29 or Saturday before 2:00 p.m.

**Next date in 2018: September 29**

## Financial Update

Good news on the financial front! We're current on our apportionments for the year, which means we have paid the conference everything we are required to pay for our share of conference activities. Our giving is also tracking a little bit ahead of schedule as a result of a large pledge paid at the beginning of the year. However, unlike prior years, we no longer have a reserve fund to fall back on, so staying current on your pledge is very important to avoid creating cash flow problems, especially as we enter the summer months.



*General Church News continues on Page 7...*

## Church Staff

**Rebecca Irelan**

*Senior Pastor*

[rebecca@wgumc.org](mailto:rebecca@wgumc.org)

**Susan Smith**

*Pastor of Children &  
Family Ministries; Director,  
Woodhaven Preschool*

[susan@wgumc.org](mailto:susan@wgumc.org)

**Lisa Jacobs**

*Director of Joint Youth  
Ministries*

[lisa3cyouth@gmail.com](mailto:lisa3cyouth@gmail.com)

**Katrina Kraynick**

*Associate Youth Director*

[katrina3cyouth@gmail.com](mailto:katrina3cyouth@gmail.com)

**Robert Birnstihl**

*Organist & Director of  
Music Ministries*

**Tom Mounts**

*Director of the Willow  
Glen Ringers*

**Roxanne Kohlin**

*Office & Facilities Manager*  
[info@wgumc.org](mailto:info@wgumc.org)

## Important Reminder:

You can help our Finance Committee take a vacation from worrying about paying bills by remembering to pay your pledge before you go away this summer. This would be a good time to sign up for automatic giving through your bank or the church's website. You can also download an app for giving: Joyfully2UMC. While you may go away, the bills will stay right here! Thank you for your ongoing commitment to WGUMC!

## Pastoral Letter

Worship on May 20 was a Pentecost/Confirmation/Music Sunday mashup that turned out to be a totally awesome and spirit-filled morning. It truly was an outpouring of God's Spirit on our youth and our musicians, and I could actually see it on the faces of everyone in the congregation. As I thought about it later, I realized that this service was a witness to what is very best about Willow Glen UMC: it's intergenerational character, it's nurturing of children and youth and training up of disciples, and it's commitment to producing consistently great music for praising God and inspiring us to go out and serve our community.

There have been times in the past few years when I've questioned the wisdom of bringing our contemporary and traditional services together, and I've wondered if worship didn't feel a little pasted together. I know that the blended service and time change hasn't worked for everyone, but the congregation that gathers on Sunday mornings seems to enjoy being together as one worshiping family, and Sunday it felt as if all the pieces came together just right. That was surely by the grace of God and the effort of a lot of God's people.

So I give a shout out to Susan, Lisa, and Kat for their leadership in confirmation this year. We were so blessed to have Sadie Freeman and Jane Partsch share their faith statements. Hard not to see some amazing grace at work there. And special thanks to Bob, Tom and Michael, not only for the beautiful music on Music Sunday, but for their dedication and leadership of our music program throughout this past year. In changing times and a changing congregation, they continue to make miracles of music happen.

My friends, this is church! Joyce Osborn said to me as she was leaving the service that it provided her with enough inspiration to last a whole year. But we hope you won't wait that long to join us again. With the guest speakers we have lined up and the fellowship events we are planning, there will be rich opportunities to reconnect with each other and renew

our spirits this summer. We'll be seeing you.

Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Rebecca*

## Reclaiming Jesus

A group of prominent mainline clergy recently issued a statement calling on all Christians to reclaim Jesus in a time of moral crisis in our country and in our churches. This statement is similar in purpose to the Barmen Declaration, which was a statement that was issued by the Confessing Movement in Nazi Germany in 1934. Both statements warn Christians against idolizing any political figure or party and call Christians back to our one and only Lord Jesus and his Gospel of love and his prophetic ministry of justice. Copies of the statement are available in the narthex or church office or you can read the statement online at [www.reclaimingjesus.org](http://www.reclaimingjesus.org).



## Women's Groups

United Methodist Women is open to all women regardless of church membership. Please call the contact listed below for information.

### Heart & Hands

First Thursday  
7:00 p.m. in Woodhaven  
Susan Smith

### Friendship Circle

Third Wednesday  
12:30 p.m. in Woodhaven  
Sue Johnson

### UMW Executive Board

Sunday, Sept 9  
11:45 a.m. in Woodhaven  
Ruth Granfors

For more information, call  
Ruth Granfors at  
408-444-0702.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS:

### Patricia Madsen Represents Willow Glen UMW at National UMW Assembly

Patricia participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> National UMW Assembly in May in Columbus, Ohio along with 200 women from our California-Nevada Conference. Women from all continents, 45 countries and 49 states studied justice issues including economic inequality, climate justice, maternal and child health and the criminalization of communities of color and mass incarceration. Patricia focused on *climate justice action* and the need to "Take Action" by participating in **Take Action: #CutMethaneChevron** [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/chevron](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/chevron)

**WHY???** Chevron Corporation is the second largest emitter of carbon dioxide in the world since 1880, and its production is only increasing. Many companies have signed on to a set of *Guiding Principles on Reducing Methane Emissions Across the Natural Gas Value Chain* which explicitly commits companies to reducing leaks across the supply chain, but Chevron has not signed on. Please tell Chevron to stop the leaks now!

**Please join hundreds of UMW** who have written letters to the new Chevron CEO, Mike Wirth, demanding that Chevron take important steps toward fixing their leaks, stopping new natural gas projects, and investing in renewable energy. If you want to write a letter, please go to the National UMW website [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/chevron-action](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/chevron-action)

### Mission u: Learning Together for the Transformation of the world

Formerly known as the School of Christian Mission, **Mission u** is an annual UMW training event. Its purpose is to deepen our walk with God and to study the current issues impacting society. Participants grow in understanding God's call to engage in mission, service and advocacy. This year there are three Mission u options to choose from. The first is on **Sat. Aug. 4** at Korean UMC Santa Clara Valley, 1001 Ginger Lane, San Jose, 95128.

This 1-day event is \$50, and the registration deadline is July 1. When you register, you may choose from any of four study options: Spiritual Growth: Embracing Wholeness; Social Issue:

What About Our Money? A Faith Response; Geographic Study: Missionary Conferences of the U.S. United Methodist Church; and Youth Study: Is It Just Money? Our dollars, God's Economy. Registry forms for all options are on the UMW Bulletin Board in the church hallway.

## Lifted Spirits Lunch is June 6



We will take lunch to the Lifted Spirits Drop-in Center on **Wednesday, June 6**. As always, the Willow Glen UMW appreciates everyone's involvement and support of this ongoing local mission. We will serve pulled pork sandwiches (Becky), mac & cheese (Ruth), coleslaw (Sherri), fresh fruit dessert (Carmen) and drinks (Gwyne). **August 1** lunch will be chicken caesar salad (Jane), jello salad, pasta salad, peach cobbler (Ruth) and drinks (Gwyne). If you would like to participate in this mission, please let Ruth Granfors know (408-444-0702). We can always use salads, cookies and beverages, etc. We meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. to assemble all donated items and then carpool to Lifted Spirits.

## United Methodist Women 2018 Calendar

- Jun. 23** CA/NV Conference UMW Breakfast, Modesto, California
- Aug. 4** Mission u, Korean UMC Santa Clara Valley, 1001 Ginger Lane, San Jose, CA 95128
- Oct. 20** CA/NV Annual Conference Annual Celebration, Campbell, UMC

## Vacation Bible School 2018



### Team Spirit

June 25-29

*We're preparing for Team Spirit... We need some special supplies and your help.*

We are collecting empty shoeboxes and old trophies to use in projects at VBS. Please bring items to the church office or the preschool building for Pastor Susan. Contact Pastor Susan with questions.

We'd love to borrow:

- A foosball table
- A ping-pong table
- An air hockey table

We'd also love you to join the fun and help our young players discover the power of being part of Jesus' team. We are looking for adult and teen volunteers to spend a day or two or three or the whole week at VBS. Email Susan ([susan@wgumc.org](mailto:susan@wgumc.org)) if you'd like to be part of our team, or register as a volunteer at [vbs.wgumc.org](http://vbs.wgumc.org)

### Help Needed: Vacation Bible School Work Days

Decorate our team spaces on **Sunday, June 24** from 12:30-3:00 p.m.

Help us clean it all up on **Friday, June 29** from 1:00-3:00 p.m.



### Many Thanks to our Faithful Children's Ministry Volunteers!

Week in and week out, these are the faithful who spend time with our kids, share the scripture stories and play together in faith. Our children have a deep love for God, their church and one another, and they care deeply about loving the world and all of God's people. It is a joy to walk alongside them as they grow, and I am so thankful for the volunteers who are committed to the journey.

I hope you will take some time to thank these special people for their dedication, and have your kids find a way to thank them, too! Their love for our children is priceless.

- Lara Brock - Sunday School Supply Queen
- Jed Burkey - CrossWalk
- Ben Chamberlain - Children's Chapel
- Sam Chamberlain - Children's Chapel
- Janissa Dayrit - Sunday School
- Tim Fisk - Nursery
- Molly Freeman - Children's Chapel
- Sadie Freeman - Children's Chapel
- JJ Grzymala - Children's Chapel
- Kristen Millstein - Sunday School
- Noritsu Lantimo - Nursery
- Michelle Partsch - Sunday School
- Jane Partsch - Children's Chapel
- Jannah Partsch - Children's Chapel
- Chandra Pham - Sunday School
- Lydia Pham - Children's Chapel
- Steve Quigley - Sunday School
- Casey Smith - Children's Chapel
- Paige Unger - Children's Chapel

## Family Game Night

Friday, June 22

6:00-9:00 p.m.

in Woodhaven

Join us every Fourth Friday for family game night at Woodhaven!

We'll bring out our favorite board games and find some new ones. We'll have time to connect with one another and deepen friendships as we play.

Bring dinner for your family, or a dish to share, or eat before you come. Drop in for part of the time or come play for all of it. This a casual time for friends and fun.



## What's Happening on the Playground?

This summer, one of our Boy Scouts, Luke Beck, will be doing his Eagle Scout project on our playground, taking down two playhouses and building a new one. Work will begin in mid-June and be completed by the end of summer. While it is our intention that the playground will still be useable and safe during this time, we will need to pay attention to blocked off areas and use care in general. Please be sure your children are well-supervised on the playground at all times, and please let Pastor Susan know of any safety hazards or concerns.



Many thanks to Luke and his crew for their hard work on this project!

The deadline for the July/  
August *Willow Word*  
is **June 24**.

Please send  
your story ideas and  
submissions to

[Janissa.Dayrit@gmail.com](mailto:Janissa.Dayrit@gmail.com)

*General Church News continue from Page 2...*

## Update on Sarah Zwingman

Sarah spent several weeks at Mayo Clinic and was joined there by Tom and the kids to celebrate Emma's birthday and Mother's Day. Shortly after she got home, she had to go back to the hospital, so the journey continues. Please continue to pray for the Zwingman family and here are some other ways you can help them out:

1. A GoFundMe campaign has been set up to help the family - visit <https://www.gofundme.com/sarahzwingman> to donate.
2. Those of you who are church friends can contribute to our "We Care Fund" either by writing a check to WGUMC and including "We Care for Sarah" on the memo line or by giving an online donation through our website (go to [give.wgumc.org](http://give.wgumc.org), then click on "We Care Sarah Zwingman")

Please visit one of the above sites and consider donating whatever amount you are able. The Zwingmans have a great attitude and strong faith, but would deeply appreciate any assistance you can provide, along with your thoughts and prayers.



**California-Nevada Annual Conference**  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



### UNITED METHODIST EFFORTS TO REBUILD PUERTO RICO

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Maria, UMCOR:

- Distributed 13,000 food bags
- Distributed 24,000 solar lamps

Goals by 2020 for Puerto Rico with UMCOR:

- Tower rebuilding on the island
- Build 450 Houses
- Repair 39 churches
- Funding health clinics
- Develop 14 tutoring centers
- Providing comprehensive disaster management programs in 15 municipalities



*Churches are asked to take an offering between now and the Annual Conference Session in Modesto. Bring the offering to Annual Conference Session Wednesday, June 20 during Communion Service at 9 a.m.*

*For more information, log on to [www.cnumc.org](http://www.cnumc.org) - click on "Annual Conference Session 2018"*





## Relax and Release: Managing Stress in Our Everyday Life

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### *A FREE Seminar*

**Sunday, June 10 at 2:00 p.m.**

Los Gatos UMC, 111 Church Street, Los Gatos, CA

Join Los Gatos physical therapist and stress specialist, Anne Roley, and using interactive activities, learn how to:

- Do breathing exercises to help reduce stress
- Develop an awareness of the "felt sense"
- Finish with calming meditation... and much more!

Refreshments will be served. Sign-up is not required, but to help planning, please email [seminars@lgumc.org](mailto:seminars@lgumc.org) or call 408-600-2684.

## Willow Glen United Methodist Church

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