



# 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)

Find the Official Church Calendar at: [www.tinyurl.com/wgumc-calendar](http://www.tinyurl.com/wgumc-calendar)

## Village House Thank-You & Update

This year we recruited Stone Church to host the Village House shelter for the month of September. To make sure that their first year in the rotation was a success, St. Francis and Willow Glen UMC partnered to provide a day center for the month, as well. For four weeks, we opened Woodhaven from 7 am to 3 pm three days a week. Because of a really great group of seasoned leaders, it was really pretty easy. Thank you to Liz Pense and Jan and Jim Leonard, Kristen Brown, Gerri Hodson, Sherri Raia and all of our volunteers. In other Village House news, the Steering Committee is still looking for a host church for this November. In the meantime, they are working on a plan to have another nonprofit take over the supervision of the shelter program, hopefully sometime next year. This move will lighten the administrative burden on the network.



## Brown Bag & Bible on October 21

Bring a bag lunch and stay after worship for a deep dive into the text for the day. Scripture is so full of wisdom that we can't possibly cover it all in a 20-minute sermon. There are so many questions and possible life applications. We'll meet at Woodhaven after coffee hour.



## Sermon Series - What Would Jesus Say About.....?

In worship, you voted on the topics you wanted to hear about in upcoming sermons, and we've already covered race relations and parenting. In October, we continue to listen for what Jesus would say about the issues that most concern us today.

- October 7** World Communion Sunday. What would Jesus say about divisions in our country?
- October 14** What would Jesus say about money management?
- October 21** What would Jesus say about the #Me Too movement?
- October 28** What would Jesus say about relationships?

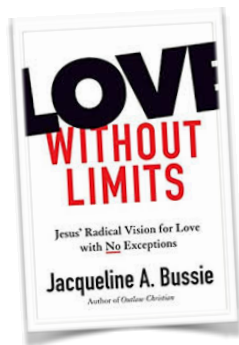


## Nights Are Getting Colder

As the nights have started to get longer and cooler, we have already had our first requests for sleeping bags and blankets. If you have any new or used bags or blankets that are still in good condition, we always like to have them on hand for people who are in need. Men's socks and underwear, boots, jeans and winter jackets are sometimes needed as well (large sizes are best).



## Woodhaven Book Study - Tuesdays, October 2, 16 and 30

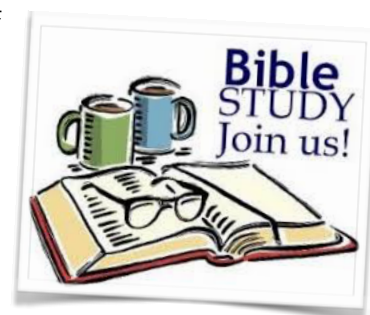


Our book is Jacqueline Bussie's "Love Without Limits: Jesus' Radical Vision for Love with No Exceptions." Bussie is a professor of religion at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota (a Lutheran liberal arts college). In the introduction she tells the story about a Christian publisher that paid her an advance to write the book and even gave her the subtitle. But when she finished the manuscript they told her that she would have to delete two of the chapters dealing with Muslims and LGBTQ persons because they would offend their readership! She refused and found a different publisher! That's precisely our dilemma today, isn't it? Even Christians, especially Christians, have a hard time loving as Jesus did. Here's a blurb from the back: "In Love Without Limits, Bussie imparts practical solutions for people who yearn to love across difference. Through poignant memoir, engaging theological reflection, inspiring stories of friendship, creative readings of scripture, and shout-outs to some of love's unsung heroes, Bussie challenges readers to answer God's call to practice a love so vast that it excludes no one."

## Thursday-Morning-Bible-Class-For-All @ 8:00 AM

Come join us as we study the Apostle Paul in a 12-lecture video series by Professor Luke Timothy Johnson of Emory University—one of our favorite lecturers. Prof. Johnson says: "One of the most fascinating, important and controversial figures in the religious history of the West, Paul the Apostle continues to find champions and detractors, sometimes in surprising places." The course will explore Paul's religious commitments as a member of the Pharisaic movement, his persecution of the Christian sect, the dramatic experience that changed him into an apostle, and his work as a missionary and church founder. It addresses many questions such as these:

- \*Was Paul the inventor of Christianity or part of a larger movement?
- \*Is he best understood from the Acts of the Apostles or from his letters?
- \*Why does he focus on moral character of the community?
- \*How do his supporters and detractors depict him?



## Stewardship Guide

This month we will be distributing a guidebook to help us all be better stewards of all our resources so we can maximize our love of God and empower our love of neighbor. Each book contains commitment forms for adults, youth and children. We will be asking everyone to make specific commitments of your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Many thanks to Amy Fall for doing the lay-out and editing.



## Update on our Financial Status

Although our spending continues to be below budget, our reserves have run out and we are starting to go a little negative for the year. So please remember to keep current on your pledge as our church programs are back in full swing for the fall. And if you have the ability to give a little more this year, this would be a great time to help get our budget back in balance. Thank you for your continued commitment to Willow Glen UMC.

Your Finance Team

## Tackle-It-Tuesdays! October 16

Every 3rd Tuesday of each Month at 11:00 a.m. Join the Trustees and Volunteers on Third Tuesday mornings to help tackle those nagging little chores we need done around the church campus! Tasks for all ages and abilities! We can use your help! **Alternatively, if a member has a couple of hours, they can call/text Neil to schedule a weekday or a Saturday early morning instead!** Contact Neil Fissel at [hiltz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hiltz@sbcglobal.net)



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

## Church Staff

### Rebecca Ireland

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)

## Pastoral Letter

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

My five-week renewal leave this summer brought about a spiritual rebirth for me, and I am heading into the fall season ripe for some church renewal, too. Now that I am refreshed, I am better able to see that it is already happening. Over the past year, we managed to raise all the money needed to replace the broken chair lift, and the long wait for the building permit is over. We are now anxious for the contractor to have time to get the work done so we can close our "satellite campus" that has been tuning in from library and welcome everyone back into our sanctuary.

Another sign of renewal is our expanding shelter program. As a founding member of the Village House shelter network, WGUMC is in our third year of providing overnight accommodations for 15 medically fragile women for one month in the winter. But this year, working with St. Francis Episcopal Church, we also offered daytime respite care for the month of September.

New things are happening with our Joint Youth Ministry, too. I'm thrilled that my daughter got to go on the high school mission trip this summer to learn about race relations. Our teens toured the Civil and Human Rights Museum and other MLK sites around Atlanta and worked to rehabilitate homes in South Carolina, and we hope that this trip will give birth to a deeper commitment to racial reconciliation for a new generation of Christian disciples. Not to be outdone in the birthing department, our Assistant Youth Director, Kat Baker, is about to be a new mom, and will be going on maternity leave this fall. We will have an intern, Leigh Alexander, working with Lisa during that time.

Speaking of newborns, in August we marked our first birthday as a Reconciling Congregation and were thrilled to have the Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus sing and celebrate in worship with us. The next week, we participated in the Silicon Valley Pride Parade for the first time.

As this is turning out to be a year of renewal and rebirth, we decided that this fall would be a good time to refresh our approach to Sunday School, as well. So we have moved our program for K through 5th grades from 9 am to 10 am to coincide with the worship service and to help out our busy families. The fact that I have been making plans for baptisms and the reception of new members just confirms what we know: God is good. All the time!

If you think so, too, I invite you to come along on this journey of rebirth and renewal. You can do that by renewing your commitment to support in any way you can what God is doing at WGUMC. Soon you will be receiving an illustrated summary of our ministries for you to explore so that you can decide what that commitment looks like for you. Please take the time to consider all the ways that you can love God and neighbor through your church. Then have each member of your family fill out two commitment forms, keeping one copy for yourself and returning the other copy to the church by October 28.

And may grace and peace be yours in abundance,

*Pastor Rebecca*

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS:



### 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 p.m. in Woodhaven  
Susan Smith

#### Friendship Circle

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

#### UMW Executive Board

Sunday, Nov 18  
11:45 a.m. in  
Woodhaven  
Ruth Granfors

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

### Lunch and Learn Voting Information Forum with League of Women Voters

Please save the date!!! **Sunday, October 14** is the all-important date for the UMW Lunch and Learn Forum on Voting Information. **Everyone is invited** to join us for delicious munchies and a spirited overview of the November election issues. We will meet in Kohlstedt Hall following worship to become better informed voters with the help of the League of Women Voters.

### Lifted Spirits Lunch is Wednesday, October 3

We will take lunch to the Lifted Spirits Drop-in Center on **Wednesday, October 3**. Your donations of \$ to help with the purchase of food items are greatly appreciated. We will assemble all donated items left in the Wesley Room for the Lifted Spirits ladies. As always, the Willow Glen UMW welcomes everyone's involvement and support of this ongoing local mission. The October 3rd meal will be chicken casserole (Ruth), raw carrots and broccoli with Ranch dip (Sherri), cupcakes (Patricia), Jell-O salad (Jane), 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, chips, 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.



### CA/NV Annual Conference Annual Celebration will be held at Campbell UMC



Plan to attend the California Nevada Conference UMW Annual Celebration on **October 20 from 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at Campbell UMC. The guest Speaker will be Shannon Priddy, President, National UMW. **The registration deadline is October 13, 2018.** Registration information is available on the UMW Bulletin Board in the church office hallway and is posted at [elcaminorealumw.org/conference-celebration-2018/](http://elcaminorealumw.org/conference-celebration-2018/)

### El Camino Real District United Methodist Women Annual Celebration

Our District annual celebration will be held **Saturday, October 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at the First UMC of Sunnyvale. The program will focus on *Micah 6:8* and *The Power of Bold: Justice with Compassion*. Workshops include: What can we do to (1) Support Immigration Justice, (2) Interrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline, (3) Support Women and Youth in Transition. **The Registration deadline is October 20.** Registration



information is available on the UMW Bulletin Board in the church office hallway. Also, online registration is available at: [elcaminorealumw.org/annual-celebration-2018/](http://elcaminorealumw.org/annual-celebration-2018/)

### United Methodist Women 2018 Calendar

- Oct. 3 UMW Lifted Spirits Meal
- Oct. 4 UMW Heart and Hand Circle
- Oct. 14 Lunch and Learn Voting Information Forum with League of Women Voters, 11:45 a.m. in Kohlstedt Hall
- Oct. 17 Friendship Circle
- Oct. 20 CA/NV Conference Annual Celebration, Campbell UMC
- Oct. 27 El Camino Real Annual District Celebration, First UMC Sunnyvale
- Nov. 18 UMW Executive Board Meeting, 11:45 a.m. Woodhaven
- Mar. 15-17 Spiritual Retreat at Mission Springs, Mission Springs Conference Center, Scotts Valley

## Fall Walk-a-Thon Fundraiser!

**Sunday, November 4**

**1:00 - 4:00pm**

The JYM's big fall fundraiser is fast approaching. The Walk-a-Thon is a pretty straight forward fundraiser, where students ask church members, family and friends to donate to the Joint Youth Ministry.

Our goal is to raise \$20,000 this year, without including Lisa/Kat's fundraising efforts which are tallied separately. We hope students can rally and raise that together.

Donations are tax-deductible. Email your family and friends, and ask them to pledge YOU in this Walk-a-thon. We will have our online donation link up by this weekend.

We will start handing out envelopes on Sunday, and at every JYM event after that. We will also have forms available online to download soon.

Money that we raise provides scholarships, pays for our program budget, gives a family groceries or counseling, salaries and lots of other boring but super important expenses! So help us to raise raise and make the JYM a wonderful place for everyone.

### Adults - we need your help!

For the past seven years (at least!) Kiersten Manuel has taken charge of our walk-a-thon event. With her youngest daughter graduating high school this year, **we are in need of someone to fill her shoes!**

We would really love to have someone shadow Kiersten this year, so next year they know exactly what to do. If interested, or if you have any questions, PLEASE e-mail Lisa at [lisa3cyouth@gmail.com](mailto:lisa3cyouth@gmail.com).

### Kat is on Maternity Leave

Kat will be on maternity leave starting September 23 until January. In the interim, we are hiring Leigh Alexander to take on some of Kat's responsibilities and offer support to Lisa!

Leigh grew up in the Cambrian Park neighborhood and was a part of the JYM from 6th - 12th grade. She has been a small group leader for our Jr. High girls since she graduated in 2017, and has been a camp counselor with us the past two summers.

She is amazing with our students and will be a wonderful addition to our team! You can congratulate Leigh on this role at her new e-mail: [leigh3cyouth@gmail.com](mailto:leigh3cyouth@gmail.com)!

We are so grateful for you Leigh!

### October Dates!

We are at Almaden Hills UMC - 1200 Blossom Hill Rd San Jose 95118 - in September & October

**Sun, Sept 30 at 5:00-6:30pm:**

We want to do something fun and different together - so please join us for a family hike! We will be meeting at the Bernal Historic Ranch Park, doing a fairly easy hike together, and will be done by 6:30pm.

**Wed, Oct 3 at 6:00-8:00pm:**

Guys Night & Girls Night with pizza dinner

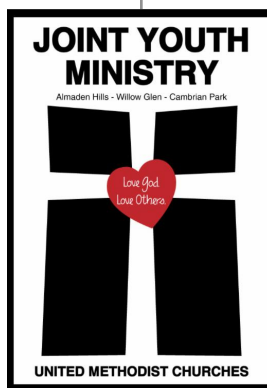
**Sun, Oct 7:**

**4:15 4:50pm** - TGV groups meet

**5:00-7:00pm** - Small group Sunday!

**Wed, Oct 10 at 6:00-8:00pm:**

BYOB groups meet, sandwich dinner [Only for students who signed up in September!]



You can always find out what's happening with the JYM by visiting our website: <http://www.jointyouthgroup.com/>

Our contact info:

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

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

Leigh - [leigh3cyouth@gmail.com](mailto:leigh3cyouth@gmail.com)



**We're digging in to the Bible to learn about discipleship in Sunday School**

*The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love." (Psalm 103:8)*

As we learn about God, we can't help but want to reflect God's goodness in the world. Each week, we discover something new about God and consider how we live out God's love. In October, we're exploring the book of Exodus and how God's actions teach us about God's grace and loyalty.

Sunday School is for all preK through fifth grade children. We leave worship together after the children's time and head over to Sunday School with our volunteer teachers. Our lessons include a variety of activities to help u understand the fullness of who God is and how God loves us, so we can live out God's love in the world.

Join us as we dig into the Bible and learn about our faith in fun and creative ways.

**Family Game Night at WGUMC**

**Saturday, October 27 5:30-9:00 p.m.**  
(note new day)



Are you looking for a way to connect with your family and others? Wanting to get away from the screens for some good fun? Join us twice a month for family game night at Woodhaven! Bring your 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.

**It's time to Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF!**

For over 60 years, kids have trick-or-treated for UNICEF, making a difference in the lives of kids in need all around the world.



You can, too! Pick up your orange trick-or-treat box from Pastor Susan and start collecting donations from family, friends and neighbors. You can even wear your costume to church on Halloween weekend and trick-or-treat for UNICEF among your church family at fellowship time. Let's help make a difference in their lives this Halloween!



**CROSSWALK**  
FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP FOR  
THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADERS

**Friday, October 12**  
**7:00 - 8:30pm**  
**Wesley Room and Kohlstedt Hall**  
**Theme: Be wise... like an ant?**  
**Scripture: Proverbs 6:6-8**

What wisdom can an ant teach us? Let's dig into the Bible and find out! We're exploring the wisdom found in Proverbs and how it can help us live faithfully. The ants will show us the value of working hard and taking action, and we'll consider the rewards of taking some initiative in our own lives. As always, there will be fun and friends, food and fellowship at CrossWalk.

CrossWalk is for all third, fourth and fifth graders. Bring a friend!

E-mail Pastor Susan ([susan@wgumc.org](mailto:susan@wgumc.org)) to ask any questions, let her know you are coming, or just say "hi!"



*General Church News continued from Page 2...***Remember These Folks in your Prayers:**

The Family of Steve Quigley  
Sara Zwingman & Family  
Pat and Tom Farrow  
Jane Plane  
Dorothy Mauseth  
Harriet Hosack  
Eva Fisher

Mary Pierson  
Kay Champion  
Kay Dahl  
Barbara Hawkins  
Russ Kintner  
Lex Danson  
Ruth Lines

Mark Menicucci  
Norm Brustrom  
Peggy Schlosser  
Lynda Hutcheson  
Lynne Hosack  
Bob Normant  
Katrina Baker

Tom Mounts  
David & Tom Forderer  
Joyce Osborn  
Barbara DeWit

**Are You a Leader?**

Moses was unequalled among the prophets in the Hebrew Bible. But after all he did to free the slaves in Egypt, God would not let him lead them into the Promised Land. God decided that it was time for new management. But who could replace Moses? And that's the problem, isn't it?

Passing the mantle of leadership has always been a problem for prophets and apostles, Messiahs and missionaries and regular folk like us. "Who can replace Moses?" is a question that gets repeated in every generation and in every congregation.

So, those of you who are leaders, but don't know it yet, don't say, "I'm not a Moses." If you do, we'll say, "Good, because God doesn't need Moses. God needs you." Just remember what Rabbi Susya said toward the end of his life: "God will not ask me why I was not Moses. God will ask me why I was not Susya."

God knows that you are you, and you are enough. The question is: what do you need to do to be the "you" God is calling you to? Here are some things to think about:

1. You can't part the Red Sea, but can you read a spreadsheet? The Finance Committee needs you.
2. You can't get water out of a rock, but can you fix a faucet? The Trustees need you.
3. You can't keep track of a bunch of Hebrews wandering in the wilderness, but can you help us organize a pictorial directory? The pastor wants to talk with you.
4. You can't do miracles by holding up your staff, but can you support the staff of this church and help guide us in making staffing decisions? The Staff Parish Relations Committee needs you.
5. You can't climb the mountain and see God's face, but can you sing or ring a song of praise? The chancel and bell choirs and praise band need you.

After settling in the Promised Land, Moses needed 70 assistants and we do, too. Thank you for all the amazing things you can do.

The deadline for the November  
*Willow Word* is **October 24**.  
Please send your story ideas  
and submissions to  
[Janissa.Dayrit@gmail.com](mailto:Janissa.Dayrit@gmail.com)

**Benefit includes Village House Women's Shelter!**

**WWW 13th Annual Lunch & Fundraiser**  
**October 26 from 10:30-2:00pm**  
**San Jose Fairmont Hotel**

Can't Make it? Please consider making a donation of any amount:

<https://wonderfulwitchywomen.com/become-a-sponsor>

**Bella Vista LEAGUE**  
PRESENTS  
*Wonderful Witchy Women with a Cause*  
**13TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON**

*Conjuring Good Will for All*

**OCTOBER 26, 2018**  
**FAIRMONT SAN JOSE**  
For more information, visit:  
[WWW.WONDERFULWITCHYWOMEN.COM](http://WWW.WONDERFULWITCHYWOMEN.COM)

**2018 BENEFITING CHARITIES**

**Child Advocates**  
**CASA of Silicon Valley**  
[WWW.BEMYADVOCATE.ORG](http://WWW.BEMYADVOCATE.ORG)  
Child Advocates of Silicon Valley provides stability and hope to children in the foster care system who have experienced abuse and neglect by providing a trained, dedicated volunteer to mentor and advocate for the child's best interests.

**The Village House**  
[WWW.VILLAGEHOUSESCCCA.COM](http://WWW.VILLAGEHOUSESCCCA.COM)  
An interfaith shelter of hope serves as a place of refuge for homeless and medically-fragile women to serve as a safe place to take the first step towards a productive and stable life.

**Heritage Home**  
[WWW.CITYTEAM.ORG](http://WWW.CITYTEAM.ORG)  
A residential program to help pregnant women overcome homelessness, learn life skills to overcome life obstacles to become loving mothers. Heritage Home is restoring lives and rebuilding communities through innovative programs which provide food, shelter, clothing, training, and spiritual transformation.

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT:  
[WWW.WONDERFULWITCHYWOMEN.COM](http://WWW.WONDERFULWITCHYWOMEN.COM)

**Bella Vista LEAGUE**  
*Wonderful Witchy Women with a Cause*

**Willow Glen United Methodist Church**

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