

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

Official Church Calendar:
www.tinyurl.com/wgumc-calendar

43:19 Methodists Moving Forward



Almaden Hills, Cambrian Park, Los Gatos and Willow Glen UMC's are doing a new thing. The pastors and some lay representatives from all four churches met on May 20th to assess each other's ministries. Since three of our churches are already doing a joint youth ministry, we want to explore what else we can do better together. Since we

share many of the same goals and challenges, we are excited to discover how we can also share in spreading the Good News in our part of the South Bay. Willow Glen's representatives are Tom Grubb and Leslie Fisk. Thanks to Tom's suggestion, we have chosen for our anchor verse (and group name) Isaiah 43:19: "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." On the national level, the United Methodist Church has entered the wilderness and doesn't know where it is going. On the local level, we know that God chooses the wilderness to bring new direction and new purpose to God's people. Our four churches are embarking on a wilderness adventure and we are confident that God is going with us. Stay tuned.

Thank You's

Praise and thanksgiving for our Music Sunday in May. Bob Birnstihl and the choir, Tom Mounts and the bell choir, Michael Kuo and the praise band, and Summer Latimer and her a cappella chorus pulled out all the stops for a celebration that will keep our spirits singing all summer long. The choir and invited guests stayed on to sing at Peggy Schlosser's memorial and despite a few technical glitches was a beautiful tribute to one of the mothers of this church.



Summer Soul Feast:



If summer brings a bit of a change of pace for you, the next few months could be your chance to indulge in a little Soul Feast. We have several opportunities to refresh your spiritual life this summer:

- The well-attended Conversations on Privilege and Race (CPR) workshop at Woodhaven was organized by Deb St. Julien with help from Standing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) in May. We plan to follow up with some movie nights at Woodhaven this summer to continue the conversation about racism in our society (and in our heads). Watch your email and worship bulletins for dates and times.
- Richard Rohr has a new book out, The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe. If you would like to lead or be a part of a book study this summer, let Pastor Rebecca know.
- Join Ingrid Quigley for Christian Meditation on Mondays, 12:30 at Woodhaven.
- We also have an informal Kaleidoscope group that meets a couple times a month over the lunch hour. Kaleidoscope is a way of reading the Bible and listening for God's direction in your life.

(continued...)

- Pastor Rebecca will walk some labyrinths this summer and invites you to join her. On her summer labyrinth list is Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve in the East Bay, Memorial Church at Stanford, and the Jesuit retreat center in Los Altos.

For more information about any of these opportunities, contact Pastor Rebecca at rebecca@wgumc.org.

Vision Team Thanks You For Filling Out Our Survey

You have one more week to provide your input on our current and future ministries. So go to survey.wgumc.org and complete your surveys by June 8th. Our Team is considering your responses and will meet again in June to identify the areas where we can make the most immediate and positive impact on our ability to be God's family growing through sharing, caring and serving in Willow Glen.

Report from your Finance Team

Good news! Our amazing Preschool has had a good year with nearly full enrollment. As a result, their financial picture has been better than usual and they have chosen to share some of their good fortune with the Church. Although the Preschool tries to provide a \$10,000 contribution to the Church each year, this year they decided to up that to \$20,000!! God is good!



We really appreciate the generosity of the Preschool especially as we head into the summer months when giving sometimes falls behind. But even with their generous gift we still need you to keep your pledge up to date to make sure we can pay all our bills throughout the summer months, so please review your pledge when you can and make sure you are up to date. Thank you for your continued commitment to Willow Glen UMC! ~ Your Finance Team

You can update your electronic pledge anytime at give.wgumc.org



Get David Forderer to Annual Conference

David is one of our lay members to Annual Conference, and he has been unable to go, due to schedule conflicts and accessibility issues, for the past few years. He would dearly love to go this year and needs your help to cover the costs (room, board and a stipend) for a personal aide and a reader so he can fully participate in the meeting. This is a big lift for a small congregation, but he has literally been without a lift (into the sanctuary) for a couple of years now. If you can support this effort, please make your check out to WGUMC and designate it for "David to Conference." You can also make a donation online at wgumc.org. Thank you.

Building Hope in Mexico - Support our Mission Trip, July 27-August 3

This summer, a mission team from Willow Glen and Almaden Hills UMCs will be traveling to Mexico to build houses for working-class families near Tijuana. While the practical mission of the trip is to build a house, perhaps the more important mission is to build community with one another and with our neighbors in Mexico. Throughout the week, we will hammer and saw, mix cement, stucco walls, and lay tarpaper. We will frame walls, lay a foundation, and install doors and windows. Amongst it all, we will be sharing stories and activity with a family of new friends and their neighbors. We will be playing soccer in the streets, jumping rope and making crafts with the children. We will come home with new friends and a new understanding of how connected we are as people of God.



As we turn the keys over to the homeowners and dedicate their new home, we would also like to give them some gifts to warm their new home. During the month of June, we will have gift ideas displayed in the Wesley Room. Please sign up to bring a housewarming gift for our Mexican neighbors, donate supplies for our children's activities on the trip, or help with gas expenses on our trip. All gifts and donations should be brought by July 1. Thank you for sending love and hope to Mexico with your mission team.

Pastoral Letter

This June completes my 30th year under appointment in the United Methodist Church. I was appointed to my first parish in Filer, Idaho (population 1700, counting the dairy cows) in 1989 at the age of 24. As I look back on my young self, pretending to be a pastor, I give thanks for what I have learned about being a pastor in the 30 years since:

- Those parishioners who are old enough to be your grandparents will show you how to be a pastor.
- The people that our youth call “little old ladies” are the coolest and bravest people on the planet.
- The Holy Spirit does all the real work. Note to pastors: get out of the way!
- When you see someone experience God’s love or share it with someone else, it’s the best feeling on earth.
- You can get advice about how to live well from lots of places these days, but church is still the best place to learn how to die well.
- You will do a lot more funerals than weddings and that will be just fine with you.
- You will keep a list of all the things you hate about weddings and feel free to break all the rules when planning your own.
- You will have a very big extended family that knows you better than your own family.
- When you have health problems, your congregation will step up to “pastor” the pastor, and you will learn something amazing about grace.
- Your kid will still get gobs of love and have lots of adults to look up to even if her parents are embarrassing and her grandparents live far away.
- You will save all your packing boxes for your next move and that will remind you to be always ready to go where God wants you to go and do what God wants you to do.

I hope you’ll spend some time this summer musing about where you’ve been and where God wants you to go. As a congregation, we are spending the summer asking those same questions. So please pray for the work of our WGUMC Vision Team and for the 43:19 Assessment Team (Willow Glen, Almaden Hills, Cambrian Park and Los Gatos UMC’s). God is doing a new thing among us and your prayers will help us to see it.

Pastor Rebecca

Church Staff

Rebecca Irelan

Senior Pastor

rebecca@wgumc.org

Susan Smith

Pastor of Children & Family Ministries; Director, Woodhaven Preschool

susan@wgumc.org

Lisa Jacobs

Director of Joint Youth Ministries

lisa3cyouth@gmail.com

Katrina Kraynick

Associate Youth Director

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

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
Pastor Susan Smith

Friendship Circle

Third Tuesday
12:30 p.m. in
Woodhaven
Sue Johnson &
Ruth Granfors

For more information,
call Patricia Madsen at
408-289-1989.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS:

Lifted Spirits Lunch is Wednesday, June 5

Ladies of the local unit of United Methodist Women of the Willow Glen Church will be taking lunch to the Lifted Spirits women at the 4th Street Presbyterian Church on June 5. The menu this month, thinking we would have hot weather, will be salads. We will have purchased chicken salad from Costco, carrot/apple salad made by Patricia Madsen, bananas and mandarin oranges furnished by Barbara Lecus, bread and butter furnished by Jane Vivian, pineapple angel food cake with strawberry topping by Ruth Granfors. Beverages by Gwyne Grubb. We will meet at the church at no later than 11:15 am and carpool to the fourth Street church to meet with about 40 women for lunch. If you would like to help us either with money or with service we would appreciate it. Parking at the Presbyterian Church is very limited. You can contact Ruth Granfors at 408-444-0702 or the President of the UMW Patricia Madsen at 408-289-1989 for more information.



Mission u 2019 -- Learning Together for the Transformation of the World

Mission u is an opportunity to study current issues impacting society. There is a focus on our responsibilities in fulfilling the mission work of the church. Mission u events include worship, singing, mission projects, and time for fellowship. Study options include *Spiritual Growth, What About Our Money?*, and *Women United for Change - 150 Years in Mission*.

The conference-wide events are open to members and non-members of United Methodist Women. Registration includes meals and options for accommodations. Scholarships are available. For dates and locations see the UMW Calendar below.

Youth may participate in the Mission u event tailored for youth ages 12-17. The Youth Study is "Who Do You Say That I Am?" The youth program is available at all three Mission u events at no charge. More information is available on the UMW Bulletin Board in the church office hallway or from Patricia Madsen (408-289-1989).

United Methodist Women 2019 Calendar

June 1 st	El Camino Real District Climate Justice Event (Los Gatos UMC, at 9:00 a.m., 111 Church Street, Los Gatos, CA). Please Register at www.elcaminorealumw.org
June 7-8th	CA/NV Annual Conference Mission u Event (Community UMC, Quincy, CA)
June 21 st	CA/NV Annual Conference Event UMW Breakfast at 7:00 a.m. 953 10 th Street, Modesto
August 3rd	CA/NV Annual Conference Mission u Event (First UMC, Santa Rosa, CA)
August 16-17	CA/NV Annual Conference Mission u Event (South Reno UMC, Reno NV)

Important Junior High Camp Update

Lisa and I have recently made a difficult, but ultimately best, decision to not attend Hartland Camp this year. We have found another amazing camp for the same week we will be attending instead. Read on for why we made this choice, what the new camp has to offer, and what logistics you need to be aware of.

WHY: Lisa and I believe camp is one of the most integral ways to grow in your faith and in your friendships. Every year since the JYM began in 2002 we have gone on summer mission trips and to summer camp. We have changed organizations a few times, for both of those trips for varying reasons. It's always hard to find a "perfect fit" and sometimes you grow out of the place that once was working for you.

We have had to make some very tough decisions in the last few weeks about our summer commitment at Hartland, where we have been attending for the last 7 years.

We have loved our time at Hartland because of the amazing facilities, wonderful games and team building and the huge variety of activities they've offered. We've loved meeting other students and youth groups which is a key component of camps - meeting other teens from all over California who are involved in youth group and express their faith in differing ways. We have enjoyed worship and many times have enjoyed the speakers at Hartland. However, many times the speakers at Hartland have been significantly different in their theology from what the JYM and the UMC is about. Each year we consider if that is something worth continuing. While we see a value in learning from people who think about God differently than we do, we also feel that the messages preached have been incredibly different than what we believe (specifically women in ministry, gender roles, sexuality, biblical literalism). The speakers at Hartland speak for two, 1 hour sessions each day and are a very large part of camp. In the past if the speaker shares something that is different than what students are use to, they discuss in their "so what" time (the small group time with cabin leaders after) and often we meet as a whole youth group a few times to say "We believe a little differently" and that's ok.

We normally do not know far in advance who the camp speaker is and this year Hartland has announced it early. Lisa and I have done some research about the speaker they have contracted to have at camp. We do not think he is someone we agree with in almost every area of his ministry, and we do not want to support a camp who would hire a speaker to preach to students with the messages we have heard from him, via Youtube and audio recording on Hartland's website. Camp is a crucial place for faith development, and we do not think this speaker will encourage any type of growth in the spiritual lives of our teens.

We quickly reached out to Hartland and were left with two options:

1. Go to Hartland but each time the worship band ends and the speaker is about to begin, all 40 of us leave and go to the chapel where Lisa and I would teach. We considered this, but believe the interruption to the rest of camp would not be perceived well. Additionally, students hear from Lisa and I all the time, we want them to learn from speakers other than us.

2. Find a different camp for this year. It soon became clear this was the best choice.

In the last few weeks we've been trying to find a camp that has:

1. Awesome facilities
2. Similar in style to Hartland
3. A speaker and worship band that isn't incredibly polarizing to our beliefs
4. A fairly similar price to Hartland and is a similar distance away
5. The option for students to be in a cabin with each other & our own cabin leaders, as well as Lisa and I being on site during the week.
6. The same dates
7. Other youth groups from all over California will be attending.
8. Similar amenities as Hartland, including a snack bar, ropes courses, paintball, etc.

And we DID!

WHERE?

We will be attending Sugar Pine Christian Camp.

It is the same dates as Hartland (July 7th - 12th), the cost is the same for your families, the program is incredibly similar as far as what activities are offered, and most importantly we can still be in cabins together and bring our own counselors with us. Some things that are even better than Hartland - it is about 1.5 hours closer to San Jose, with a less windy vomit-inducing road leading to camp, AND while they still have two chapels a day, the morning chapel is much shorter than chapel at Hartland ever was, about 20 minutes with some break out time afterward. Sugar Pine's theme this summer is "The Great Escape" and they have created an escape room at their camp we can do as cabins!

For more info about the camp, please take the time to look at their website: <http://www.sugarpine.org/youth-summer-camps-2019>

Logistics

What do you need to do?

1. Payment - Everything is the same as far as payment (our final deposit is still due June 9th and cost has not changed)
2. Medical forms - Many of you have already filled out the medical form for Hartland, however, you will need to fill out forms for Sugar Pine. I will get those out to you ASAP.
3. Timing - Since camp is closer, we can meet at Cambrian Park at 9:00am instead of 8:00am. We should be back on Friday the 12th around 1:00pm, instead of 2:30pm (We do still need some drivers to camp, so if the shorter drive is more enticing to you, let me know!)

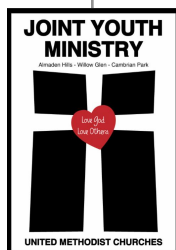
We are really looking forward to a new camp experience and you can trust that we will make it a week that changes your life.

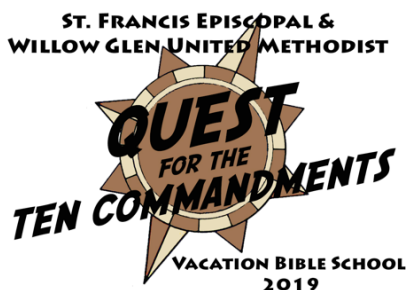
Lisa and I know you will have questions and you are welcome to email or text us.

Our contact info:

Lisa - lisa3cyouth@gmail.com

Kat - katrina3cyouth@gmail.com





Vacation Bible School Work Days

Decorate our adventure spaces on **Sunday, June 23 from 12:30 - 3pm.**

Help us clean it all up on **Friday, June 28 from 1-3pm.**

Many thanks to our faithful children's ministry volunteers and staff!

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
- Tim Fisk - Nursery
- Molly Freeman - Children's Chapel
- Sadie Freeman - Children's Chapel
- Noritsu Lantimo - Nursery
- Jane Partsch - Sunday School
- Jannah Partsch - Sunday School
- Chandra Pham - Sunday School
- Lydia Pham - Sunday School
- Casey Smith - Sunday School
- Paige Unger - Sunday School

Worshipping with Children

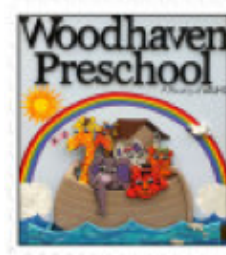
Children are an important part of our church family, and are always included in our worship services on Sunday mornings. You never have to worry that your child will be "too restless" for worship. Our children bring an energy and liveliness to worship that we all enjoy and appreciate. We encourage children to participate in worship in the ways that they are comfortable. Many share their joys and concerns during the prayer time, and join in our responses. Others dance in the aisles, read a book, or work on an activity clipboard provided in worship each week. It is amazing how much our children learn about worship and their faith by participating with us each week.



This summer we will continue to have a "Time for the Child" in worship each week with Pastor Susan or Pastor Rebecca. However, following "Time for the Child," kids will be invited to remain in worship with their families or go out to the playground for free play supervised by our nursery staff. In worship, we will also continue to have "busy bags" available for young children which contain quiet activities for them to explore while soaking in the life of worship around them. We hope that your family will find what you need to make worship a time of rest and growth for you each week this summer.

Now Hiring!

Woodhaven Preschool
at Willow Glen United Methodist Church



We are currently hiring preschool teachers, substitutes and aides for the 2019-2020 school year. If you love children and would like to work in a nurturing, play-based, developmental preschool environment, we would love to meet with you about the opportunities available with 2-5 year olds in our weekday church preschool. We offer small class sizes and collaborative teaching teams, and have 2, 3 or 5 morning positions. ECE units are required. Starting salary is \$18-20+/hour based on education and experience. Please submit cover letter and resume to Pastor Susan Smith by June 30 (susan@gumc.org).

General News continued from Page 2...

Building Houses, Not Walls - Mexico Mission Trip 2019

For most of the past decade, members of the United Methodist Churches of Almaden Hills, Cambrian Park and Willow Glen have led trips to Mexico to build homes for families in need. Partnering with the non-profit Amor Ministries, our teams will spend four days building two homes for working families in and around Tijuana. It is a transformative experience for both our team and the families we serve.



We are fortunate to be able to participate in a truly intergenerational trip. Our 45 volunteers, of all ages are eager to work on the homes and meet our Mexican families. In addition to paying for our own travel, our group also pays for all of the materials needed to build the houses for two families.

This year, we are facing rising expenses which are making the trip more challenging. Our costs have increased, and we want to ensure that we CAN build two homes! To do this, we are asking for your help. To make a donation directly towards the costs of the trip and the homes for two hard working families, please visit our fundraising site at missiontrip.wgumc.org



We would also gladly accept your sponsorship of an individual or family going on the Mexico mission trip:

- ___ Full Sponsorship (\$750 adult or \$450 child)
- ___ Half Sponsorship (\$375 adult or \$225 child)
- ___ Quarter Sponsorship (\$185 adult or \$115 child)

Or your support of the mission team with a financial donation that will help with gas, food, building materials, camp supplies and tools. ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$150 Other: _____

Checks can be made payable to Willow Glen UMC, memo: Mexico mission trip.

Thank you for being part of the 2019 Building Hope Mission Trip to Mexico!

San Francisco Pride March

June 30, 11am - 6pm

Come join Bishop Carcaño, District Superintendent Staci Current and your United Methodist siblings from the CA-NV Conference - **March in solidarity to show that God does not discriminate!**

Please register at <https://forms.gle/kp9Pjt17KDGZC8gEA> to march in the parade contingent & receive further updates on timing and location. You can also tell us your t-shirt size; register for the trolley (for those that cannot walk the entire route). First Come, first serve; seating is available for up to 25 participants. **Let's make this the largest contingent ever!** For questions please contact: Angela Brown at angela.brown@numc.org



ALSO: We are currently looking for a convertible for the bishop and district superintendent to ride in as part of the SF Pride March. If you have a convertible and would be interested in driving it in the parade (or would like to have more information), please reach out to Pastor Alyss Swanson at alyss.swanson@gmail.com. Thank you!

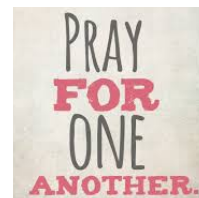
Remember These Folks in your Prayers:

Sara Zwingman & Family
Tom Farrow
Jane Plane
Dorothy Mauseth
Lynne Hosack
Eva Fisher
Mary Pierson
Kay Champion
Kay Dahl
Barbara Hawkins

Russ Kintner
Norm Brustrom
David & Tom Forderer
Joyce Osborn
Barbara DeWit
Alma Taylor
Helen Ball
Bobbie Corson
Jolene's sister, Jacqui

Women of Village House
Yoshiko Buchanan
Kyle Mastrolia
Christine Ryczkowski
Karen Haight
Kami Tomberlain
Lex Danson
Bill Peniston
Barbara Stone

The Family of Peggy
Schlosser



The deadline for the July/August
Willow Word is **June 23**.
Please send your story ideas
and submissions to
Janissa.Dayrit@gmail.com

Willow Glen United Methodist Church

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