

Willoughby United Methodist Church
15 Public Square
Willoughby, Ohio 44094
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The Broadcaster

Willoughby 
UNITED-METHODIST-CHURCH

January 2020

*Discovering the Heart of God in the
Heart of Downtown Willoughby*

Staff

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Choir Director, Cathy Schneithorst
Bell Choir Director, Steven Petrolewicz
Organist, Young Oh

<https://www.dtwchurch.org/staff/>

440.942.9068
www.dtwchurch.org
Facebook.com/wlbyumc



Weekly Services

Sunday

8:00 am Heritage Service
9:15 am Multigenerational Service
11:00 am Contemporary Service

Kingdom Kids 9:15 and 11:00 am
Nursery, Toddlers, Grades K-6

Wednesday

5:00 pm Meal & a Message

January 2020 - 1



FROM THE PASTOR



Pastor Christopher Liberati
ChristopherL@WilloughbyUMC.org
440.942.9068

2020 The Year of the LORD's Favor

What kind of New Year do you think might be awaiting you?

I think this is a great question considering the tension in our world today. It is easy to get caught up in being reactive to the factors that surround our daily lives, or worse yet, allow tension to cause paralyzing anxiety.

Jesus said, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feed them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"
(Matthew 6:25-27)

We come each week, sometimes even daily, asking God to fix this or save that, responding reactively to our world. I wonder how the year might shape up or look differently, if we took a proactive approach?

The prophet Isaiah starts out in chapter 61 with these words, "The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners" (Isaiah 61:1a) Isaiah's actions are in response to the calling that God has placed upon his life, much like ours should be considering God's calling on our own lives.

Yet I wonder how many times we lay in wait, standing by idle waiting for God to make the first move?

The truth is, God has already made the first move, in creating us in His image! God has already made the second move, for to us a child is born, to us a Savior is given! God has already made a third move, by demonstrating His love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us! How many moves must God make before we respond to His love?

2020 marks a once in our lifetime spot in history to make a difference in the world. Never again, will there

be a year where 20 appears twice. Think about that for a moment. What if we capitalized on the 2020 theme? What if we did 20 things that made a Kingdom impact and then did 20 more? What if we really lived into the promise of Isaiah, to be God's anointed people?

I encourage you to take a proactive approach to your response to God this year.

Here are some of the things you could do:

1. Continue in prayer and supplication
2. Engage in the Holy Scriptures (read your Bible daily)
3. Attend worship services more often
4. Become a mentor for kid in one of our elementary schools
5. Serve at Royal Family Kids Camp this summer
6. Go on a mission trip
7. Serve during Wednesday night Meal & a Message
8. Serve at McKinley center
9. Serve at Project Hope for the Homeless
10. Serve in the choir
11. Serve in the bell choir
12. Serve on the worship team
13. Serve in Kingdom Kids
14. Serve in the Kingdom Tots toddler room
15. Pray for your enemies
16. Join a small group
17. Start a small group
18. Love your neighbor
19. Invite your neighbor to church
20. Live out your calling, etc...

This list is just a start, 20 ways to be proactive for 2020. Could taking a proactive approach in our faith journey make 2020 a year of the Lord's favor?

Let's find out together.

With a prayer,
Pastor Christopher

SUNDAYS 8:00 am

HERITAGE

SUNDAY @ 8

SUNDAYS 9:15 am

MULTIGENERATIONAL

SUNDAY @ 9:15

SUNDAYS 11:00 am

ENCOUNTER

SUNDAY @ 11

WEDNESDAYS 5:00

meal & a message

WEDNESDAY @ 5

Epiphany Sunday

January 5

“Written Into His Own Creation”

John

THE GOSPEL OF LIGHT AND LIFE

Sermon Series

January 12 - February 19



Who's Who at WUMC By Pastor Hazel

The Lovetts—Ruth and Mike

met at Lycoming College, a small Methodist school located in Williamsport, PA. Mike was born and grew up in Pittsburgh, PA. Ruth was born in upstate New York. She lived on one of the Finger Lakes through elementary school, near Houston, TX through the 10th grade and then moved back to upstate NY to finish high school, and moved to North East, PA during her college years. Ruth's father worked for GE or, as her mother referred to it, "Gypsy Electric."

They were married in North East, PA in 1972 and moved to Cleveland because Ruth had obtained a job as a paralegal with one of the major law firms. Mike went back to Kent State to add Industrial Arts to his teaching certificate. He was hired by Kirtland Schools and taught shop in the middle school for 16 years until the Industrial Arts program was discontinued.

After being unemployed for nearly two years, a member of our WUMC church family helped him find and secure a teaching position at University School. He taught there for 21 years. After working as a paralegal for several years, Ruth went to Case Western Reserve Law School and became an employee benefits attorney for the same law firm.

In the summer of 1985 Mike and Ruth moved to Willoughby after Ruth finished law school, and started attending WUMC not long afterward.

Mike retired from University school in 2013 and Ruth retired in 2016.

Mike and Ruth have two daughters, Lynn who is 37 years old and Jamie who is 28 years old. Both grew up in the Church. At age 16, Lynn discovered Teen Missions International in a Christian magazine. She chose to go on a mission trip to spread the gospel on dirt bikes across Zimbabwe, Africa. Mike was initially opposed but, since the organization allowed her such a short time (3 months) in which to raise funds, he figured it would never happen. God had other plans. Thanks to our WUMC church family she raised the funds in about a month and a half. As a thank you, she brought back a painting done by an artist she met in Zimbabwe of an African village. It is hanging on the wall in the hallway to the left of the altar. Mike says that's when he first suspected she wasn't going to settle on this continent. She is currently in her second year teaching Technology Education in an American international school in Riga, Latvia. She spent the prior 5 years teaching in Singapore.



Jamie is married and living on Cleveland's West Side where she works for City Life Center a part of Youth For Christ. Some of our WUMC church family members help support her in this mission work with inner city kids.



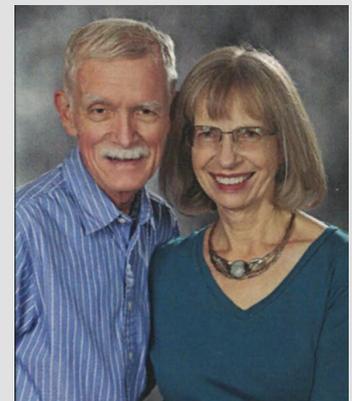
Ruth and Mike enjoy traveling and bought a campervan (Class B RV) to travel around the country. In the summer of 2018, they drove to Alaska where they visited with a cousin in Anchorage and spent four days in Denali National Park. The round trip took about 7 weeks and consisted of 11,000 miles.



They also visited Lynn while she lived in Singapore and in the winter of 2017 toured the Holy Land with Michael Card, a Christian singer, song writer and Biblical scholar. They are looking forward to returning to Israel in January to join Michael Card's Hesed Tour.

Mike's involvement with the church has mostly been working with teens usually on mission trips. Ruth most recently served on staff parish relations committee. They both have been involved with Emmaus Walk and have served at the Royal Family Kids camp.

A favorite scene around WUMC is to see Mike whittling. How many of you treasure a cross whittled by Mike?



Do You Know What the Zimbabwe Connection Is?



Back when Lorna Westlake was a deacon at WUMC, we joined the Zimbabwe Connection. This is a group of United Methodist Churches, including Willoughby Hills, Mentor, Ashland, Adario and others, who have joined together to work with ZOE.

ZOE is an empowerment program for orphan children in Third World Countries that comes out of the North Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. ZOE is breaking the cycle of extreme poverty by empowering orphans and other vulnerable children to become self-supporting, and spiritually strong members of their community in just three years. Millions of children are isolated and exploited due extreme poverty. The well-intentioned response is often to just give them charity support of needed items, fueling a cycle where young people become dependent rather than independent. Simultaneously addressing multiple barriers experienced by those in poverty is the only way to overcome this problem. ZOE teaches these children how to work their way out of poverty by dealing with food and housing security, health and education issues, children's rights, community connections and a strong faith in the love of Jesus Christ.

As the Zimbabwe Connection we have already officially impacted 1014 children (although there are probably even more because the orphans tend to bring other orphans under their wings as soon as they become food secure). Through individuals and groups (like the Zimbabwe Connection) ZOE has changed the lives of about 46,000 children in 2018 alone!

If you would like to learn more about ZOE, look up the TED Talks. The speaker is Gaston Warner, the Talk is entitled We Are ZOE.

You will be hearing more about the work of ZOE and our involvement in the Zimbabwe Connection during the season of Lent as we focus on our theme of God's Glory is Revealed.





A big **THANK YOU** to our **Music teams** for the great music you provided in all of 2019, and especially during Advent. Thank you for all of your hard work, dedication & excellence in serving God in song at WUMC. Music is such a big part of our worship & all of your time spent rehearsing, learning, singing & playing to honor God has been a blessing to so many!



All of our music teams are already in gear for 2020 & are looking for new members who want to join in this new year.

If you can sing or play, why not consider a New Year's resolution to take the next step & get more information about joining one of our groups?

If you'd like more information on any of our music groups, please contact:

Choir – Cathy Schneithorst cathyapicello@sbcglobal.net
 Bell Choir – Steven Petrolewicz spetrolewicz@gmail.com
 Praise Band – Jason Cork jasonc@willoughbyumc.org



Thanks again for a great 2019 & 2020 here we come!

Blessings,
 Jason, Cathy & Steven



Prayer Team: A New Ministry

What is Prayer Team?

Prayer Team is a new ministry of Willoughby UMC. Beginning in 2020, anyone who would like prayer for him- or herself, or for a friend or family member, will be able to meet with a prayer team member after service on Sunday morning.

We are currently looking for a few more people from each service to be trained by Pastor Hazel to serve on prayer teams. After completing the training, Prayer Team members will be available to meet in the back of the sanctuary following each worship service. All prayers will be confidential.

If you would like to serve as a prayer team member for the service you attend, contact Pastor Hazel or call the church office and leave your name with Julie, the church administrator.

More Opportunities for Prayer

- In addition to talking with a prayer team member after a worship service, you can request prayers through the Prayer Chain by emailing your request to Elaine Ellsworth at praise2285@aol.com. Elaine will forward your requests to the 50+ members on the email chain.
- Our church prayer ministry also leads a time of Intercessory Prayer every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the Chapel. You can join us there to participate in praying for others, or you can submit your request for intercessory prayer by filling out the connection slip in the Sunday Bulletin or using one of the Prayer Request boxes located at the entrances of the church.

Always be full of joy. Never stop praying. Whatever happens, always be thankful. This is how God wants you to live in Christ Jesus. ~ I Thessalonians 5:16-18 ERV

Anyone who lives the way God wants can pray, and great things will happen. ~James 5:16b ERV



Tree Lighting in Downtown Willoughby—selling hot dogs to support the Community Dinners. And serving more than 1500 cups of free Hot Chocolate. Thank you to Willoughby True Value for their annual support with the hot chocolate.





WUMC Live Nativity
at Downtown Willoughby
Tree Lighting
December 5th



WUMC Music Teams singing and playing at Downtown Willoughby Tree Lighting. What a magical night!



Children's Christmas Pageant and Family Craft Fun





Epiphany

Many of us were introduced to Epiphany through the familiar silhouetted-image of Three Wise Men bearing gifts as they followed the Great Star by night. In some cultures, Epiphany is known as the *Day of the Kings (Dia de los Reyes)*. It is also known as Twelfth Day or Twelfth Night, reflecting an old custom of giving a gift for each of the days from December 25 to January 6 for the 12 days of Christmas. The day has special meaning for a number of reasons. Several branches of Christianity celebrate the birth of the Christ Child on January 6 or 7.

The word *epiphany* means *appearance manifestation*. Popular usage likens *epiphany* to words such as *eureka* or *aha!* Use of this word by some English speakers conjures images of having a light bulb turned on, or of being able to see something that was once hidden from view. The texts for the Sundays after the Epiphany dramatize the many ways that we people came to understand who Jesus was, through his baptism, the miracle at the wedding, or through that bodacious declaration in his hometown synagogue! But, this ever-widening circle of revelation began 'outside the circle' of Judaism, so to speak, with the Magi.

Who were the Magi?

Many versions of the Bible refer to them as the *Wise Men*. We often forget that these Magi or Wise Men were non-Jews. Older sources suggest that they were priestly descendants of one of the tribes of the Medes known for their knowledge of the stars (astronomy) and their ability to interpret dreams.

What can we learn from the Wise Men?

First, the Wise Men began their journey because of their beliefs. It was a common belief that when a world leader like a king was born that a special stellar phenomenon would appear in the sky. The Magi saw something that convinced them that they had seen the long-awaited sign. Historians tell us that the Jews, the Romans, and the Persians were all watching the skies about that time, looking for signs of the birth of an extraordinary king. A few years before, around 11 BC, Halley's Comet had been seen. There were other stellar phenomena, including a bright star, Sirius, which appeared brightly in the daytime instead of at night. The Wise Men saw the star and began their journey.

May God give us all inspiration for this year's journey.

Second, the Wise Men were willing to follow what they had seen into unknown territory. Their journey took them outside their country and their comfort zone. The Wise Men risked the consequences of disobeying Herod, who was known to behave as a madman when provoked and returned to their country by another way.

The Christian journey is often an off-road excursion.

Third, the Wise Men were committed to the journey - wherever the star might lead. The Wise Men set out to find a newborn King by following a star and ended up in finding a baby born to young, relatively poor parents! Not exactly what they expected and not exactly what befitted their dignity as priests.

In this coming year, may we look to heaven for guidance and comfort and may we accept God's blessings in whatever forms we find them, just as the Wise Men accepted that their long, expensive journey led them to a baby born to young, inexperienced parents who lived on the poor side of town.

Finally, the Wise Men brought gifts. They did the thing that people in the East or in Africa or in India would do when visiting royalty. They brought gifts.

- Gold was the kind of gift that you brought to a king.
- Frankincense was the kind of gift that you would bring to a priest.
- Myrrh was given to someone who was about to die.

On This Twelfth Day, or Three Kings Day, otherwise known as Epiphany, think of the gift that you will offer to God in the coming year. The gift of time? The gift of your talents? Your service in the community? Your witness and testimony? The gift of undying love and devotion?

Their greatest gift comes to us in the form of a realization. The Wise Men were the first Gentiles to recognize that Jesus belongs to everyone. Good news is for everyone, not just a select few.

*Star of wonder
Star of light
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading
Still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Amen.

Message is from Discipleship Ministries:
The United Methodist Church





1200 LOST NATION ROAD WILLOUGHBY, OHIO 44094
440-269-8008 mckinleycenter.org

Distributions for residents of Willoughby, Willoughby Hills,
Eastlake, Willowick, Lakeline, Timberlake and Wickliffe
Please bring photo ID & utility bill every visit

MCOC is a 501(c)3 Tax-exempt organization; Donations accepted
Volunteer opportunities available



◀◀◀◀ AVAILABLE AT TAXABLES DISTRIBUTIONS ▶▶▶▶

- ⇒ Taxable/Personal Care Items
 - ⇒ Clothing
- ⇒ Linens & Household Goods
 - ⇒ Pet Food & Supplies



- ⇒ Meet Jesus – for Kids
 - ⇒ Prayer/Chapel
 - ⇒ Hot Meals
- ⇒ Coats, hats, gloves & boots
 - ⇒ Shoes

847 families made 3,414 visits during Taxables Distributions in 2018; One visit per family permitted each month
In 2018, MCOC gave away 18,468 rolls of toilet paper, 2,690 rolls of paper towels, 2,006 bottles of dishwashing liquid

◀◀◀◀ AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY ▶▶▶▶



- ⇒ Durable Medical Goods
Wheelchairs, walkers/rollators, raised toilet seats, canes and shower chairs are available depending on donations received.



- ⇒ Baby Supplies
Clothes, diapers, wipes, baby furniture & strollers as available depending on donations received.

◀◀◀◀ CHOICE FOOD PANTRY ▶▶▶▶

Guests may select items from what is donated and/or purchased from the Cleveland Food Bank.
Number of items to select is based on family size; Families may visit once every 30 days.

In 2018, 854 families visited the pantry 2,498 times; MCOC distributed 65,581 pounds of food



◀◀◀◀ FEED THE BODY, FEED THE SOUL MEALS ▶▶▶▶

On the second, fourth and fifth Mondays of the month, a brief message and time of prayer leads into a time of food & fellowship, beginning at 5:30pm. All are welcome.

◀◀◀◀ PROGRAMS & SERVICES ▶▶▶▶

- ⇒ Voting Willoughby wards 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A and 2C
- ⇒ AA Men's Insight Group
Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Enter by North door

- ⇒ GED Classes provided by ABLE 440-358-8027
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30am-noon

- ⇒ Ohio Guidestone Opportunities First
216-403-1719

- ⇒ ShadeTree Community Church - 440-497-0251
Sundays at 10:45am; Youth group Thursdays at 6pm

WE NO LONGER ACCEPT FURNITURE

The Lake-Geauga Furniture Bank 440-255-3051
<http://lakegeaugafurniturebank.org/> can pick up furniture donations
for a \$10 fee.

Also, Habitat for Humanity's Restore in Eastlake 440-226-3212
<https://www.habitat.org/restores> offers free pickup.



Taxable Distribution hours

- Saturday, January 11 9:00-10:30 am
- Tuesday, January 21 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- Saturday, January 25 9:00-10:30 am

Food Pantry hours:

- Mondays: 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- Wednesdays: Noon-2:30 pm
- Thursdays: Noon-2:30 pm

Feed the Body--Feed the Soul Meal

- Monday, January 13 5:15 - 6:00 pm
- Monday, January 27 5:15 - 6:00 pm

Greatest Current Donation Needs

TAXABLES:

- Paper Towels,
- Toilet Paper (double rolls),
- Laundry detergent (32 loads/64 oz size)
- Dishwashing soap
- Deodorant

PET FOOD:

- Dry cat food

HOUSEHOLD GOODS:

- Children's clothes of all sizes
(larger than 2T)
- Bed sheets, towels, small appliances

FOOD: Peanut butter, jelly, soups,
canned corn

**Donation & Building
Administration Hours**

Mon-Wed: 9:00 am—1:00 pm
(No Thursday or Friday hours)
Saturdays in January:
11th & 25th 9:00—11:30 am

Please note that the McKinley
Community Outreach Center does NOT
pick up furniture donations.

Beth Morgan, Director
**McKinley Community Outreach
Center**

January 2020

*Sunday service times listed on Page 1.

Visit our web page at www.dtwchurch.org
the most up-to-date information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12</p>						
<p>5 <i>Sunday Worship Schedule*</i> Communion 10:45 am Discipleship Fast Track 12:00 pm Linger Longer 1:00 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>6 9:30 am Alanon 7:00 Discipleship Pathway 7:15 Women's GA</p>	 <p>7 6:00pm Front Line 6:45 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm SOS Bible Study 7:30 pm River Street 7:30 pm Worship Band</p>	<p>1 Happy New Year! Building Closed</p>	<p>2 1:00 pm Daytimers</p>	<p>3 9:30 am - Food Pantry</p>	<p>4 2:00 PM Hearts For Music</p>
<p>12 <i>Sunday Worship Schedule*</i> New Member Class 10:45 am Discipleship Fast Track 12:00 pm Linger Longer 1:00 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>13 9:30 am Alanon 5:15 pm McKinley Dinner 6:30 EHS Pilot 2 7:15 Women's GA</p>	<p>14 6:00 pm Front Line 6:45 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm SOS Bible Study 7:30 pm River Street 7:30 pm Worship Band</p>	<p>8 9:30 am Library 9:30 am Food Pantry 5:00 pm Meal & a Miso 6:30 Kennedy Bible Study 7:00 - Bell Choir 7:00 Trustees</p>	<p>9 6:00 pm Missions 7:00 Discipleship Pathway</p>	<p>10 9:30 am - Food Pantry 10:00 EHS 7</p>	<p>11 9:00 am McKinley Distribution 2:00 PM Hearts For Music</p>
<p>19 <i>Sunday Worship Schedule*</i> New Member Class 10:45 am Discipleship Fast Track 12:00 pm Linger Longer 1:00 pm Youth Group 1:00 pm Conf Class</p>	<p>20 9:30 am Alanon 7:00 Discipleship 7:15 Women's GA Martin Luther King Day</p>	<p>21 6:00 pm McKinley Distribution 6:00 pm Front Line 6:45 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm SOS Bible Study 7:30 pm River Street 7:30 pm Worship Band</p>	<p>15 9:30 am Library 9:30 am Food Pantry 5:00 pm Meal & a Miso 6:30 Kennedy Bible Study 7:00 - Bell Choir Broadcaster Articles Due</p>	<p>16 9:30 Mom's Group 1:00 pm Daytimers 7:00 pm Finance</p>	<p>17 9:30 am - Food Pantry</p>	<p>18 8:00 am - Visioning Retreat and Committee Training 2:00 PM Hearts For Music</p>
<p>26 <i>Sunday Worship Schedule*</i> New Member Class 10:45 am Discipleship Fast Track 12:00 pm Linger Longer 1:00 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>27 9:30 am Alanon 5:15 pm McKinley Din 6:30 EHS Pilot 2 7:15 Women's GA</p>	<p>28 6:00 pm Front Line 6:45 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm SOS Bible Study 7:30 pm River Street 7:30 pm Worship Band Broadcaster mails</p>	<p>22 9:30 am Library 9:30 am Food Pantry 5:00 pm Meal & a Miso 6:30 Kennedy Bible Study 7:00 - Bell Choir</p>	<p>23 12:00 pm R & R 7:00 pm Staff Parish Relations Comm</p>	<p>24 9:30 am - Food Pantry 10:00 EHS 8</p>	<p>25 9:00 am McKinley Distribution 2:00 PM Hearts For Music</p>
<p>26 <i>Sunday Worship Schedule*</i> New Member Class 10:45 am Discipleship Fast Track 12:00 pm Linger Longer 1:00 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>27 9:30 am Alanon 5:15 pm McKinley Din 6:30 EHS Pilot 2 7:15 Women's GA</p>	<p>28 6:00 pm Front Line 6:45 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm SOS Bible Study 7:30 pm River Street 7:30 pm Worship Band Broadcaster mails</p>	<p>29 9:30 am Library 9:30 am Food Pantry 5:00 pm Meal & a Miso 6:30 Kennedy Bible Study 7:00 - Bell Choir</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 9:30 am - Food Pantry Family Movie Night</p>	