#### **Willoughby United Methodist Church**

15 Public Square
Willoughby, Ohio 44094
440-942-9068 • willoughbyumc.com
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# The Broadcaster Willoughby UNITED-METHODIST-CHURCH March 2020

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

#### **Staff**

Lead Pastor, Rev. Christopher Liberati ChristopherL@WilloughbyUMC.org

Congregational Care, Rev. Hazel Partington hazelpartington1@gmail.com

Worship Director, Jason Cork JasonC@WilloughbyUMC.org

Director of Children's Ministries, Melissa Cork MelissaC@WilloughbyUMC.org

Church Administrator, Julie Galicz Admin@WilloughbyUMC.org

Youth Director, Chris Muranko Christophermuranko@yahoo.com

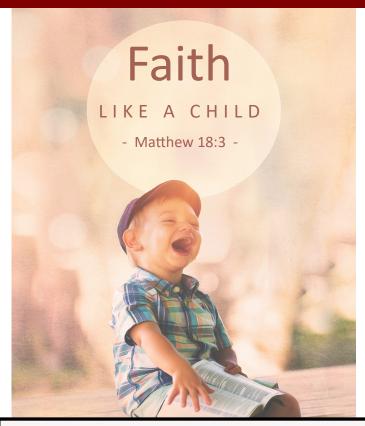
Adult Discipleship Director, Lisa Richards Lisadslc@yahoo.com

Director of Willoughby Food Pantry, Judy Yackin jyackin@gmail.com

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



Pastor Christopher Liberati ChristopherL@WilloughbyUMC.org 440.942.9068

In the hustle and bustle of life, we can often overlook the little things that essentially make up the big things. One morning while I was watching Connie get Anthony ready for school, I noticed a few little things that made me realize the larger love at work. She was in the process of preparing his lunch when Anthony asked if she could make him a blueberry yogurt shake to take with him. Fortunately time was on our side, and out of love, Connie made him the shake that he desired. It got me thinking: what would I have done if I were in her shoes? Would I be so quick to embrace this little request? Would I brush it off for lack of time?

From there I started to think of all the little things that Connie does for us out of love: Her tireless pursuit of keeping the house clean and organized, which by the way is a fulltime job with me and Anthony around. Even if she beats me to bed, she always turns down my side of the bed for me. Her willingness to put up with my corny sense of humor. She presses our clothes so that both Anthony and I can look good as we walk out the door. She has hot cocoa ready for us when we come inside after playing out in the cold. All of these beautiful little things add up to the overall love that she has for us.

Some of these things can be so little that they can often be overlooked or forgotten about. Worst of all, they can be discounted, diminished and even expected. Matthew writes, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." (Matthew 13:31-32)

My grandmother has been gone for quite some time. I will never forget the love that she had for me and our family. As I reflected on the little things that Connie does for Anthony and me,

I am reminded of what those little things grow to be. They become the tree of love that allows husbands, children and

even grandchildren the opportunity to nestle in the branches of love.

As for my grandmother, one of the little things that she would always do for me, out of love, was to make a peanut butter and banana sandwich with the crusts removed. This was quite an act of love considering nothing went to waste in her house. I can't recall what she did with the crusts, maybe she saved them for bread pudding. It doesn't matter really; what matters most is that I realize it was out of love.

May you realize and appreciate the little things in life and recognize them as acts of love. May you always sow seeds of love in the lives of those around you. As you do, may you also come to realize the little things in life that add up to the love that abounds in Jesus Christ.

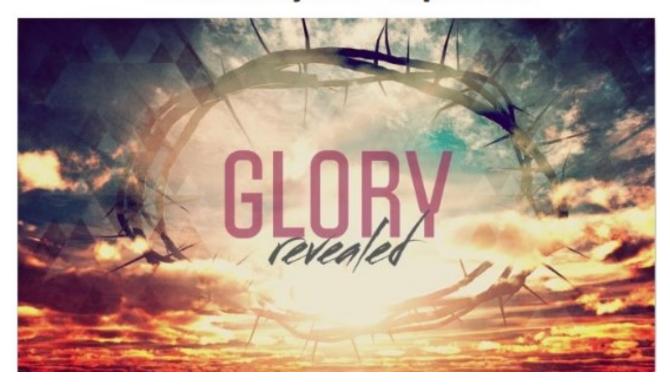
Praying that you see the little things as part of the larger love that God has for you,

Pastor Christopher





# Lent/Easter Sermon Series February 23 - April 15





# Who's Who at WUMC By Pastor Hazel

Meet the Zaucha Family (pronounced ZA'ca)–



Stephen and Abbey met in August of 2004 in upstate New York while Stephen was stationed at Fort Drum and Abbey was staying with a friend whose husband was deployed to Afghanistan. Stephen was born in Euclid and grew up in Eastlake. He attended Eastlake North and Cleveland State University, earning his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 2002. After college, Stephen joined the Army in 2003 and attended basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia and the Engineer Officer Basic Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri before arriving at his first permanent duty station at Fort Drum, New York. Abbey was born in Manchester, New Hampshire. After graduating from Memorial High School in Manchester, she moved away from New Hampshire and lived in Vermont, Massachusetts, and

Mississippi, before ending up in New York in 2004. It was at this time, that Abbey and Stephen first met and decided to get married.

They were married in July of 2005 at Fort Drum, New York prior to Stephen's first deployment to Afghanistan. During Stephen's deployment, Abbey was a volunteer with



the unit Family Readiness Group (FRG) which kept all the spouses connected to what the unit was doing while deployed. Abbey also ran a small baking business, providing delicious baked goods to the spouses and family members of the FRG. Upon returning from Afghanistan, Stephen was given orders to attend the Engineer Captain's Career Course at Fort Leonard Wood in 2007 and, with that, Stephen and Abbey left New York for Missouri. During their time at Fort Leonard Wood, Abbey and Stephen received the wonderful news that Abbey was pregnant in the fall of 2007 with their oldest daughter, Emma, being born in May of 2008. Upon completion of the Engineer Captains Career Course and a tour of duty as a Small Group Instructor, Stephen received orders to Fort Bragg in the spring of 2009.

On the move again in the spring of 2009, Stephen, Abbey, and Emma packed up their home at Fort Leonard Wood and moved to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Prior to leaving Fort Leonard Wood, Stephen and Abbey were again given the wonderful news that Abbey was pregnant. This news was tempered, though, by the fact that, within two months of arriving at Fort Bragg, Stephen deployed to Afghanistan for the second time. During this time, Abbey again volunteered with the unit FRG and continued her business of baking delicious treats for the other spouses in the unit. In December of 2009, Stephen and Abbey's second daughter, Charlotte, was born.

Stephen was fortunate enough to be able to be home for the birth of Charlotte as well. After returning from Afghanistan in the summer of 2010, Stephen spent two more years in the Army before resigning his commission in 2012. At this time, Stephen and Abbey moved to Willowick, Ohio and began the next chapter of their life.

Now living in Ohio, Stephen began working in manufacturing as a production supervisor for Zircoa, Inc in Solon while Abbey stayed at home with Emma and Charlotte. Over the years, Stephen and Abbey have tried out multiple churches, but none felt right for them. Then in the spring of 2019, Abbey was introduced to the Willoughby United Methodist Church (WUMC) and, as with Goldilocks, this church was just right, and Stephen and Abbev have been attending ever since. Abbey also had the privilege of being Baptized in the church by Pastor Christopher.

As stated above, Stephen and Abbey have been blessed to have two daughters. Emma is 11 years old and is a sixth grader at Eastlake Middle School, and Charlotte is 10 years old and is a fourth grader at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School. Charlotte enjoys softball and is currently being taught by Abbey how to sew. Charlotte has, so far, been able to sew a new sweatshirt for herself. Emma enjoys reading, will be starting softball this year, and will be learning to sew as well. Emma and Charlotte had the opportunity to attend VBS at WUMC last year and had a wonderful time.

Stephen, Abbey, Emma, and Charlotte have been blessed to be members of WUMC and are continuing to build relationships within the church and with God.



# What is Zoe Empowerment?

Epiphanie Mujawimana is a woman from Rwanda who watched how difficult it was for orphans who depended on well-meaning relief organizations to survive. She noticed that when the organizations left the people were in worse shape than before because they had become dependent on handouts and did not know how to make their way without them.



Together with some other social workers from Africa, Epiphanie put together a program for empowerment, where orphans are gathered into a peer group and work and learn together for three years. The empowerment model goes against the grain of traditional charitable giving practices. Instead of handouts, orphans receive training and resources specific to their personal needs giving each child the opportunity to implement the lessons learned in the program for themselves while being held accountable and encouraged by the empowerment group. By promoting independent decisions, with the support of a community, the confidence and dignity gained is sustainable well beyond the three-year program that Zoe implements. Zoe graduates continue to lift the entire community by conducting businesses, sharing their faith and skills and knowledge, and reaching out to support others.

At WUMC we have been committed to this empowerment program for about 15 years in partnership with several other churches as the Zimbabwe Connection. For example, in August we sell sweet corn for a Zoe fundraiser. This Lent, the Zoe orphan empowerment group that we support will be the focus of our Lenten giving. Each week we will learn a little more about how we share Christ's love through supporting our ZOE orphan working groups.

One of Epiphanie's coworkers, Barbara Mattsanga, is coming to Ohio and <u>will be</u> <u>speaking at our churh at the 8:00 am service on March 8.</u> She will then go to Willoughby Hills UMC to speak at their 9:30 and 11:00 services.

Please take this opportunity to learn more about the Zimbabwe Connection. You may also learn more at zoeempowers.org or by listening to Gaston Warner's TED talk about Zoe Empowerment.



One day winter VBS! Sat., Feb. 29 from 9:30am-12pm. Music, games, craft, Bible time and snack! Indoor snowball fight! Your kids won't want to miss this!

Our next 10 week "Walking Through Grief" class will begin on Thursday, March 19, 7- 9 pm in Room 3. Our goal is to be the 'arms of Jesus' to people who are grieving the death of a loved one and give them much needed tools, support, encouragement and hope in their grief journeys.

About 200 people have come through this program since it was started in 2014, and this will be the 4th session to meet at WUMC. Many in our congregation have come through the program and found help.



## Willoughby United Methodist Church

15 Public Square, Willoughby, Oh 10 Week Class - Thursdays March 19-May 21, 2020 7:00-9:00 pm - Room 3



This class is open to anyone in the community, so if you know of someone who might need this type of important grief support, please pass this info along. We provide a class notebook FREE of charge and there is no cost to attend. And, the bonds developed by those who take this class are further strengthened by our once a month Group Dinner which is held the 1st Wednesday of each month at Applebee's Restaurant in Willoughby, 6:30 pm –all group alumni are invited to attend, and those who choose to attend can continue to find support in this community in this way.

For request more info or to register, visit www.dtwchurch.org, & click on the 'prayer & care' tab. Or feel free to contact group facilitator Cathy Schneithorst directly via cell 440.477.2010 or email: cathyapicello@sbcglobal.net



If you, your child or grandchild is an active member of our church and a college student—now is the time to apply for the WUMC college grant or the John A Mathers Memorial Scholarship. For more information, please message Melissa Cork at Melissa C@Willoughbyumc.org.

Sign up for the new weekly WUMC Newsletter at the bottom of on our website.

<a href="https://www.dtwchurch.org/">https://www.dtwchurch.org/</a>
Subscribe to our Weekly Newsletter

# YOUTH NEWS

## **Talent Show Spaghetti Dinner**

Please join us on Saturday, **March 7 from 5 to 7pm** where the youth will be providing a spaghetti dinner and talent show. Tickets are being sold and will also be sold at the door.

There will be a table in the back after 9:15 and 11:00 am services.

Ask a youth if you have questions.





At the Wolstein Center Jam Nation: 3:30 pm Doors Open/Pre-Jam Party: 5:00 Show Time: 6:00 pm

**CLEVELAND, OH** 

Mar 29, 2020

The youth group is very active in many areas of the church. It quickly hit the ground running with our book study Love Does by Goff where we have been learning how to put love into action. Commitment to confirmation, serving communion, taking offering in service and worshipping are also keeping our youth active and growing. As we move into March there are many parts that will be taking place including our talent show spaghetti dinner.

Christopher Muranko Youth Director Lenten Study Glory Revealed is the youth study for Lent



6 week Musical opportunity! We're organizing an EASTER SEASON CHOIR to sing at 3 services – Palm Sunday, Good Friday & Easter Sunday.

We're inviting anyone who is an experienced singer, but who can't be part of the Choir on a regular basis, to join us for 6 weeks.

What's required is attendance at all Choir rehearsals in March (Tuesdays, 6:45-8:30 pm, starting on March 3) & singing with us at those 3 services.

Contact Choir Director Cathy @ <u>cathyapicello@sbcglobal.net</u> if you have questions or are interested in participating!





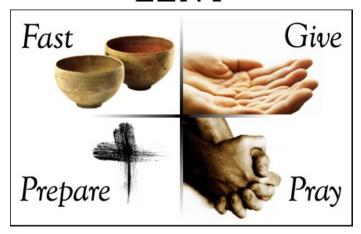
# "I was a stranger and you invited me in" Matthew 25:35

The Open Door Ministry is hosting a season kick-off luncheon from 11am–1pm on Saturday April 4 in Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in serving as a greeter at our Open Door Table is encouraged to attend the luncheon to learn more about this special ministry.

We're looking for servants interested in welcoming visitors into our church during Willoughby's Outdoor Market, which opens Saturday, May 2 and runs through October 31. Visitors, including vendors and shoppers, are welcome to use our restrooms, tour the church, visit the sanctuary, or just step inside to warm up or cool off. In addition to the Outdoor Market, we open our doors to the community during Downtown Willoughby events including Classic Car Cruise-In, Arts Fest and Last Stop Willoughby.

We look forward to seeing you at the luncheon. Please contact Susan Gerber at 440.289.1298 or Edwina Jones at 440.278.4988 for more information.

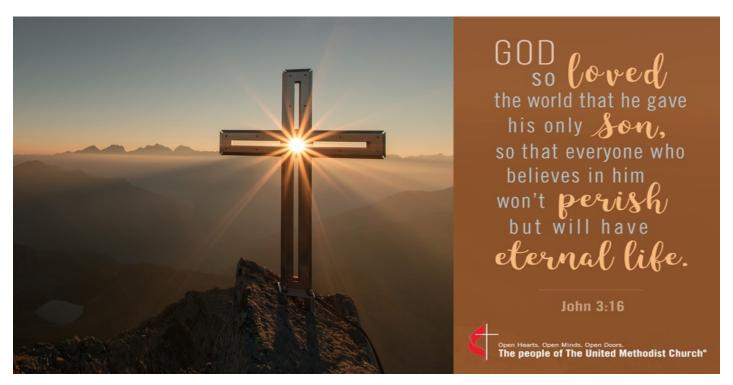
# LENT



# What is Lent and why does it last forty days?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.



# 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off

Congratulations to Teresa Lowe, winner of our second annual chili cook-off! Teresa won the coveted WUMC Chili Ladle with her "Momma's Country Chili." She couldn't be there because one of her kids was sick so three of her children—Deanna, Chris and Jaonna — brought the prizewinning chili for her. The event was well attended and there were several chili entries. A good time was had by all! Watch Facebook and the bulletin for our next *What's Up* gathering.



### **Did You Know?**

Did you know that the Old Testament was written to prepare people for Jesus the Messiah? The first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospels – or Good News. They are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. They tell the story of Jesus while he was living here on Earth as Emmanuel – God among us. (The fancy word for that is "Incarnated" -- God living as a human).

The rest of the New Testament tells about how the Church began after he ascended into heaven and was formed to function as the Body of Christ.

Throughout the Old Testament we find stories that give part of the picture of what the Messiah was going to be like. For example every feast that God ordained was intended to be a picture of Christ. Unfortunately our culture is so different from that of the Israelites that most people don't have a clue about what those feasts were designed to tell us.

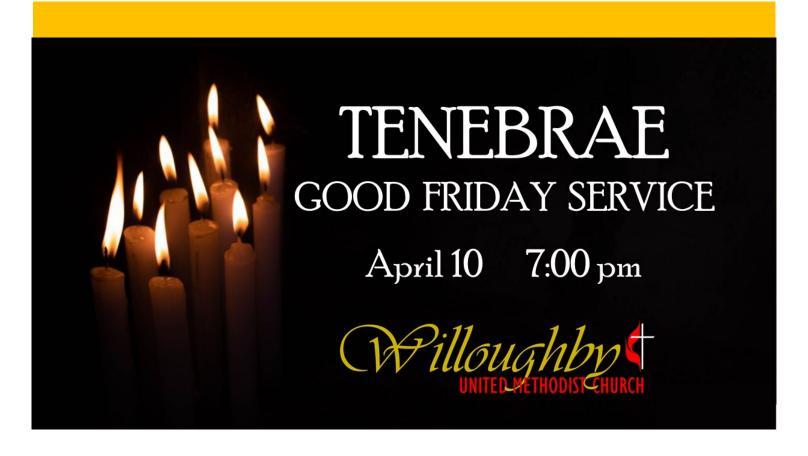
This Easter on Maundy Thursday (April 9) - the day that celebrates the Last Supper - we will celebrate the Passover feast (Seder) and explain how that Jewish holiday gives a picture of Jesus. You won't want to miss this!!

Join us at 7:00 pm on Thursday, April 9 for a real treat!!! Letting us know you are attending will help us know how many to prepare for and would be greatly appreciated. But you will certainly be welcome even if you decide to come at the very last minute! Email Julie Galicz at juliegalicz@gmail.com or call the office at 440-942-9068.



APRIL 9, 2020 • 7:00 PM

Bring your family and friends for this symbolic meal and special evening!



Mark your calendars for Tenebrae

Good Friday is April 10. That evening at 7:00 pm we will once again gather in the Sanctuary to worship using a service called Tenebrae.

Tenebrae means darkness. We will tell the story of the passion of Christ through word and beautiful music. As we move through the events of that week, we will extinguish a total of candles.

If you have never experienced the moving Tenebrae service before, you will be moved by how much more Easter will mean to you afterwards.

Plan to attend and bring a friend.





#### 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



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

This ministry supports an average of 267 households each month.

#### AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



#### **Durable Medical Goods**

Wheelchairs, walkers/rollators, raised toilet seats, canes and shower chairs are available based on donations received.



#### Baby Supplies

Clothes, diapers, wipes, & 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 2019, 826 households were served; MCOC provided 52,938 meals (9 meals a month per person)

# FEED THE HUNGRY

#### 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 5:15pm. 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)

Shadetree Church Youth Group Thursdays at 6:00pm.

#### WE NO LONGER ACCEPT FURNITURE

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

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







#### Taxable Distribution hours

Saturday, March 14 9:00-10:30 am Tuesday, March 17 6:00 - 7:30 pm Saturday, March 28 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, March 9 5:15 - 6:00 pm Monday, March 23 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 March 14 & 28 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

# March 2020

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

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