

Willow Grove United Methodist Church
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Willow Grove, PA 19090-3422

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WILLOW GROVE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

AUG/SEPT 2015

“Getting to Know You!”

Dear WGUMC Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well, surviving these hot and hazy days of summer, soaking in the sun, and looking forward to the fall.

First, I would like to offer a deep thank you to all of you who have been so welcoming to my family and me over these last few weeks. Your simple kindnesses in baked goods, a potted flower, after-church conversations, and emails have been most appreciated. For those of you that have been travelling or away – Steve, Will, Emma and I look forward to meeting you in the very near future.

Second, I want to say publicly how blessed and grateful I feel to have followed Rev. Cyndi Skripak. Her love for you as a congregation and desire to see you fulfilled in your calling to be Christ’s body for a broken and hurting world is a legacy that will continue to pay dividends for years to come.

When asked the questions, “why did you become a pastor?” and “what do you enjoy most about your job?” My answer is simply, “the people!”

One of my favorite verses of scripture is I Corinthians 12 (just before the famous “love” chapter) when Paul speaks of the Body of Christ – like the human body. He says not all can be ears or eyes, hands or feet – but that each has a special role and job to do – and ALL ARE NECESSARY! As a pastor, it seems I have the most amazing and wonderful job of learning all of the parts of the body (even the gooey and strangely shaped ones on the inside), learning what amazing and unique talents and functions all of the parts have, and then helping the WHOLE BODY make sure that those talents, gifts, and functions are utilized and in proper working order.

Sometime I like also to think about it like this....

The church, the body of Christ, is like a beautiful puzzle or mosaic. Each member is like a single piece, which the Puzzler must hold up, look at carefully, notice the unique coloring, patterns and shape in order to join it to the others. Each piece is beautiful and intricate, for each piece has its own story to tell. But, the awe-inspiring, knock-you-down, kind of beauty emerges as the whole puzzle comes together, and amazing pictures appear.

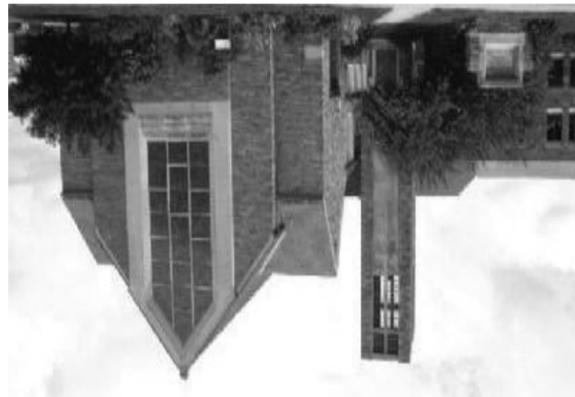
One of my greatest joys in ministry is the opportunity to get to know each and every member of the church, to learn about the resources and assets of our greater community, and to match these gifts and talents with persons and situations that are in need of God’s healing.

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(WGUMC welcomed their new Pastor, Rev. Lorelei Toombs, July 5th, 2015.)

The newsletter of:
WILLOW GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
34 N. York Road, Willow Grove, PA 19090-3422
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Rev. Lorelei Toombs—Pastor
Rev. Jane McCarthy—Deacon
Gayle Wieand—Director of Music Ministry
Kathleen Harrod—Organist
Elizabeth Daly—Administrative Assistant
Kelly Krall—Newsletter Editor



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

	Ushers	Greeters	Altar Flowers
Aug 2 10th Sunday after Pentecost / Holy Communion	Paul Hyde, Paul Dorozinsky, Stephen Krall Doris Hardcastle	Nancy Durchsprung Paul Hyde	<i>In loving</i> memory of Harold Gudenrath, given by his wife, Marion, daughter Jill, and family.
Aug 9 11th Sunday after Pentecost	Colin Weller, Keith Weller, Janice Weller, Brad Cooper	Kim Hunt Linda Weller	<i>In loving</i> memory of Robert Lobach, given by his wife ,Marie.
Aug 16 12th Sunday after Pentecost	Howard Short, Jr. Paul Dorozinsky, Shirley Liddle, Carolyn Gwin	Shirley Liddle Jane Sharman	<i>In loving</i> memory of Paul Gagnon, given by his wife and family.
Aug 23 13th Sunday after Pentecost	Emily Graupner, Ken Graupner, Kim Hunt Ed Skilton	Jean Yates Brad Cooper	<i>In loving</i> memory of my wife, Polly and son, William Ronald and Carole Woehr, given by her husband and father, William Woehr.
Aug 30 14th Sunday after Pentecost	Charles Sievers, John McCarthy, Shirley Lupton Ruth Roberts	Jean Pugh Stephen Krall	<i>No flower order this week</i>
Sept 6 15th Sunday after Pentecost / No Communion	Robert Mathers, Susan Mathers, Eliane Carr Brad Cooper	John and Gloria Ketterlinus	<i>In loving</i> memory of Jeffrey Jolly and Dayna Roberts, given by their grandparents, George and Ruth Roberts.
SEPT 13 - Resume Regular Schedule	9:15am - Sunday school, all ages	10:00am - Coffee Cart	10:30am - WORSHIP
Sept 13 - Resume Regular Schedule Above 16th Sunday after Pentecost / Rally Day / Holy Communion	Paul Hyde, Paul Dorozinsky, Stephen Krall Doris Hardcastle	Ken and Emily Graupner	<i>In loving</i> memory of Robert Akers, given by his wife, Ruth Akers and family.
Sept 20 17th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Note: Singing and Ringing</i> <i>begins for Sunday School -</i> <i>10:00am</i>	Colin Weller, Keith Weller, Janice Weller, Brad Cooper	Eliane Carr Joan Law	<i>In loving</i> memory of my daughter, Besty Atkins, given by her mother, Shirley Lupton.
Sept 27 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Howard Short, Jr. Paul Dorozinsky, Shirley Liddle, Carolyn Gwin	Bill and Alice Creswick	<i>No flower order this week</i>

“GETTING TO KNOW YOU!”

(Continued from page 1)

Some of you may or may not know that I am a violinist. I began playing when I was 5 years old, and played, very seriously, right through college. I've got music in my soul! So, hymn tunes and songs bubble up in my consciousness long before words do. Being a musician, I know the power a piece of music can have in our spiritual lives – power to encourage, challenge or sustain us through difficult times, or power to recall times of great joy and accomplishment.

So, as we embark on this new journey together as pastor and people, a fun way I thought we could “get to know each other” is to begin with a Ballot Box! The idea is simply this...tear off the below Ballot, fill it out, and cast your vote!

Now, I know folks hate it when the hymns we sing in church are unfamiliar, boring, or too slow. Sometimes, these hymns or songs are simply that because we do not know or understand the value they hold for others.

Well, this is your chance to share! Tell me what some of your favorites are and why! And if it works out well, Gayle, Kathy and I will do the best we can to incorporate as many of them as we can in the next few months.

Peace,

Pastor Lorelei



(With open arms, WGUMC welcomes Pastor Lorelei Toombs, her husband Steve, and two children Will and Emma.)

Name & Contact Info: _____

A favorite hymn or religious song of mine is _____.

I first learned this song (at/ when) _____

It reminds me of _____.

This song became particularly important to me during my life when _____

Now, when I hear this song I think of _____

Other thoughts: _____

COMMITTEE AND MINISTRY NEWS AND NOTES

MUSIC MINISTRY

By Gayle Wieand



We are grateful for the music ministry of our summer soloists: Linda Knauss, Niasha Gwin, Ken York, Gail Garin, Diane Dilks, Rich Carley, John Ekey and Karen Dufala.

Chancel Choir and Bells rehearsals resume on Thursday, September 10 to prepare for the service on September 13. Join us and make a joyful noise!

As always, Kathy and I are eager to hear of any musical requests from the congregation. Email me at

gdwieand@msn.com

SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRIES

By Blanche Erwin

We are collecting **SCHOOL SUPPLIES** for Devereux United Methodist Church children. The school supplies will be collected through Sunday, August 16. We want to give the school supplies to Devereux before school starts in September. There is a collection box in the Narthex for the following items:

Hand held pencil sharpener - canister type / Markers - 8 count - washable / Crayons - 24 count box / Scissors - rounded tip ONLY - NO plastic scissors, please / Glue sticks / Glue, School - white - 4oz / Spiral Notebooks - Wide Rule / Filler paper - Wide Rule / Ruler - Plastic or Flexible - 12 inch and metric / Eraser - Pink, Large / Pencils, #2 wood / Highlighter - Yellow / Colored Pencils

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

By Blanche Erwin

The **Susanna Circle** will meet on the third Monday of the month at 10:30am in the church lounge. The UMW circle is a group of women that study, share and develop a creative, supportive fellowship. We will meet on Monday, September 21 and work on gifts for the homebound members.

Reserve the Date - The women of our congregation are invited to the Suplee Presbyterian Church Ecumenical Luncheon, Wednesday, October 14 at 12 noon. Susan Dunswell will be the presenter of the program, "A Very Hawaiian Whale Watch". The date for reservations will be in the church bulletin in September.

Save Shoe Boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We need empty shoe boxes to pack the gifts. Shoeboxes are filled with small gifts to bring joy and

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN, Cont'd.

hope to children living in countries (including the United States) wracked with war, poverty, and disaster. Shoe boxes for men and women can be left in Room 201.

Save Your Coins For Missions and deposit them, and other coins in the bowl in the Narthex. The mission money this past year was given to Heifer International.

TRUSTEE TIDBITS

By Hank Dougherty

Since our last report we had our spring "All Church Work Day". Although the turn out was lighter than hoped, those who participated blessed our church with much needed, and appreciated, cleaning and repairs. Thank you to all who helped.

During the summer, while some of us were on vacation, work continued on a few projects that have been in the planning stages for quite some time. The results should be very visible and we hope pleasing to you.

1.) Our parking lot has now been sealed and re-striped. This was only possible with the cooperation and assistance of several members of our congregation. There was much discussion between the Trustees, Finance Committee, and the Church Council, as well as, individuals who had related concerns. Working together helped the task be accomplished.

2.) By the time you receive this, we expect that a Cross and Flame sign will have been erected on the front of our building. This has been made available by a generous memorial donation. This will provide an additional witness of the spirit and gift of a loving God to the community around us.

It should be noted that both of these improvements have been accomplished with no funds from the General Fund. The efforts of many of your committee's representatives have worked hard to find ways to accomplish these beneficial projects within the framework of our means. The Trustees will continue to maintain your facilities with prudent care for the Church and our finances.

PAST EVENTS

◇ **CONGRATULATIONS!** In recognition of his dedication, the numerous roles he plays (Teacher, Coach, Department Chair of the Physical Education program) and for all his hard work, Stephen Krall was nominated by his administrators, and received the Excellence in Service Award this past year, representing Strath Haven Middle School, part of the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District.

◇ **KIDS' SPRING DAY** was a success! Pastor Cyndi had a wonderful and delightful send off by the children and families of WGUMC! The afternoon was spent completing the spring mural outside the children's nursery with handprints, enjoying a delicious lunch, making silly faces with props in the photo booth, and simply playing in Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all who contributed and attended to make this a beautiful, successful day!

LETTERS TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear Church Family,

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, gifts and visits by Ruth Roberts over the past several years to my mother, Jackie Cooper. It was so appreciated.



Thank you for the lovely birthday card signed by the many people I've known for 53 years. I enjoyed reading so many names.

Also, thank you for your cards, prayers and support at the time of Mom's passing. It is in times like this that I realize how many people care. It really does help us to get through a difficult time.

Love the church which we attended for so long and hope things will go well for it in the future. Thanks so much for caring. I am deeply touched.

Ann Boyer

Sincerely, Cheryl DelSordo

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES FOR OCT/NOV is SEPT 10, 2015!

A Personal Note from Pastor Cyndi:

Dear Friends at Willow Grove,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support and encouragement during this time of transition. Your gifts, notes and emails were very generous and deeply appreciated. Thank you for a wonderful send off from Gayle, Kathy, Diane Monroe, the choir, the children's party planners and the luncheon committee.

God bless you all. And remember, this is the day the Lord has made!

In Christian love, Pastor Cyndi



(The children at WGUMC send Pastor Cyndi off with smiles and hugs at the Kid's Spring Day Luncheon.)

A Special THANK YOU to Those Participants in THE LIFE OF JESUS!!

<u>Gabriel</u> – Craig Weller	Jeremy Hyde, Cole Hyde, Abigail Weller
<u>Mary, Joseph, & Baby Jesus</u> – Karen Dufala, Hank Daugherty, Reagan Creswick	<u>Woman Who Washed Jesus Feet With Her Hair</u> – Pastor Cyndi Skripak
<u>Angels</u> – Mickeline Werthmann, Doris Hardcastle, Patti Petrunis, Abigail Weller, Olivia Creswick, Emily Dufala	<u>One Who Is Healed</u> – Ray Werthmann
<u>Shepherds</u> – Cole Hyde, Ray Werthmann, Christian Creswick	<u>Friends of Lame Man</u> – Craig Weller, Brad Cooper, John Ekey, Dave Kistner, Hank Daugherty, Del Davis
<u>Star of Bethlehem</u> – Jeremy Hyde	<u>Children Welcomed by Jesus</u> – Mickeline Werthmann, Jeremy Hyde, Cole Hyde, Danny Dufala, Emily Dufala, Abigail Weller, Olivia Creswick, Niasha Gwin, Christian Creswick
<u>Page to the Wise Men</u> – Niasha Gwin	<u>Disciples</u> – Peter: Craig Weller, Judas: John Ekey, Carolyn Gwin, Chuck Staley, Ruth Roberts, Christian Creswick, Niasha Gwin
<u>Wise Men</u> – Brad Cooper, Dave Kistner, Chuck Staley	<u>Soldiers</u> – Brad Cooper, Hank Daugherty
<u>Boy Jesus</u> – Danny Dufala	<u>Peter's Accusers</u> – Alice Creswick, Patti Petrunis, Carolyn Gwin
<u>Rabbi</u> – Rich Carley	<u>Mourners at the Cross</u> – Doris Hardcastle, Karen Dufala
<u>John the Baptist</u> – Alice Creswick	<u>Joseph of Arimathea</u> – Dave Kistner
<u>Jesus</u> – Michael Hyde	
<u>Wedding Couple</u> – Pastor Cyndi Skripak, Chuck Staley	
<u>Wedding Rabbi</u> – Rich Carley	
<u>Wedding Guests</u> – Joanna Davis, Carolyn Gwin, Niasha Gwin, Mickeline Werthmann, Alice Creswick, Christian Creswick, Olivia Creswick, Danny Dufala, Emily Dufala,	

Congregation Announcements

Marriages

* Robert Mathers and Jenna D'Erasmus 5/8/15

Death

* Mee Ping Mark, 7/4/15

* Eleanor Marion Hartzell, 7/7/15

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◇ **NAME BADGES** A reorder for "Name Badges" will be placed in the beginning of September. If you don't have one, or lost your badge, please contact Marilu Skilton, or leave your name in the church office with Elizabeth **no later than September 6. You are encouraged to wear your badge each Sunday to make it easier for Pastor Lorelei to learn your name.**
- ◇ **BURIAL PLOTS AVAILABLE** We have been very fortunate to have received 4 burial spaces in the Hillside Cemetery on Susquehanna and Bradfield Roads in Roslyn. These lots can be used by our church members who need a burial space. If you are in need of a space, and are interested, please submit your name and request in writing to any of the Trustees, or the church office. Thank you.



(ASP send off by the WGUMC family July 18, 2015.)

- ◇ **Are you attending a session at one of our United Methodist camps this summer?** Please send Jenny Hyde your name, what camp (Camp Innabah, Carson-Simpson Farm, Gretna Glen, Pocono Plateau), what dates, the camp session (for example, music camp, junior high hilltop, Native American, Day Camp, etc.), and whether you were a camper, volunteer counselor, nurse, volunteer program director, or paid staff (what position). You can email the information to jehyde007@gmail.com. Thanks, and I hope you have a fabulous time living in God's world with fellow Christians! There is nothing like it!
- ◇ **Annual Picnic for Young Families** will be hosted by Paul and Jenny Hyde Sunday, August 9th, 11:00am-2:30pm! If interested in joining us for family fun, please contact Paul or Jenny at jehyde007@gmail.com.

COMMITTEE AND MINISTRY NEWS AND NOTES

DOERS GROUP

By Blanche Erwin

The Doers will start back up Thursday, Sept 10 at 11:00am in the church lounge. Our day will entail the program "Meet the Pastor" with Pastor Lorelei.

Following the program we'll have lunch in Fellowship Hall. Bring a sandwich or salad for lunch while a beverage and dessert will be provided. The Doers meet on the second Thursday of each month.

Visitors and new members age 55 and older are welcome. Please join us for fun and fellowship.

We are looking for a person or persons who have a collection, hobby, or something of interest to share with the Doers. Please contact Charlotte Benning or Blanche Erwin if you are able to help us.

FOOD MINISTRY

By Laura Daugherty and Kathy Harrod

Successfully, our Friendship Meal was held in June, and was combined with the Church picnic. July's meal entailed summer and patriotism. There was no meal in August; however, our next Friendship meal will take place September 20. Future dates for 2015 include October 18, November 15, and December 20. Should we experience bad weather on any of these dates, cancellation will be announced on KYW Newsradio and @CBSphilly.com.

The **Breakfast in a Bag** program provides hot and cold cereal, juice, hot chocolate, fruit, granola bars, and milk (that does not require refrigeration until it is opened). Between 25 and 30 people avail themselves of this service. A Dewees Grant is helping to make this outreach possible.

We continue to supply the office with **brown bag lunches**. When people come to the church office in need of assistance, the office staff is able to meet their immediate needs. These bags consist of a non-perishable prepackaged luncheon item, a bottle of water, and a dessert that does not require refrigeration. If you wish to help with this project please feel free to contact Kim Schwalje for more information.

The **"Friendship Freezer"** holds emergency meals for anyone who needs them. Anyone may add to or take from this collection of meals at any time. They are housed in the lower basket and in the lower door shelf in the freezer. A sign in/out book is located near the coffee pots.

FOOD MINISTRY, Cont'd.

If you add a meal, please list the **ingredients** on the container and the **date** it was placed in the freezer. Then list the meal in the book, along with the date.

If you have need of a meal, feel free to take one and cross it off the list in the book. No names are necessary. As with the brown bag lunches, there is always a need for these frozen meals. So please feel free to cook an extra serving some evening and donate it to the freezer.

Your donations of luscious food, love offerings, prayers and your presence are what keep this ministry running. We are a mission of the entire church body. Your contributions are very much appreciated.

Gradually, we expand our service to our neighbors. If you want to have a positive effect on someone's life, do something rewarding, and also have fun, come and join our amazing, talented, loving, fun crew! Just see Laura Daugherty, Hank Daugherty, Kathy Harrod, or anyone else who is involved. We will put you on our email list and get you started!



HOSPITALITY

By Marilu Skilton



Thank you to everyone who made the "Sunday Coffee Cart" very successful this past year. Special thanks to the May – June Hosts and Hostesses: Shirley Liddle, Marilu and Ed Skilton, Kim Schwalje, Susan Mathers, Nancy Durchsprung, Brad Cooper (Helpers Bob Mathers, Jr. and Kim Schwalje) and Deb Pronzato. **The "Cart" will return on September 20, 2015.**

INTERFAITH FOOD CUPBOARD COLLECTION

By Marilu Skilton

The Prayer Group needs your help with collecting food items for the Interfaith Food Cupboard, located at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Abington. Items especially needed are peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, pasta, canned ravioli and similar products, cereal, powdered milk, pancake mix (just add water), canned fruit, applesauce, canned tuna, and canned meats and stews. There will be a basket in the Narthex for your donations each month on Communion Sunday (the first Sunday of the month). Members of the Prayer Group will deliver the items.