

THE FEDERATED CHURCH OF WAUCONDA
200 BARRINGTON ROAD
WAUCONDA, ILLINOIS
60084

U.S. POSTAGE
WAUCONDA, ILLINOIS
PERMIT No.2

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

>

<

December 2016

Vol. 64, No. 12



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN –
December, 2016



Greetings...

Christmas has always been a season best shared with friends and family. Here at The Federated Church of Wauconda we want you to know ways you can invite people to share in our holiday celebrations, ministry and fun.

Do you have friends who like looking for unique gift ideas and special bargains? Then invite them to attend our Christmas Bazaar on Saturday December 3rd from 9:30 AM-2:00 PM.

Maybe you have friends who are looking for ways to lend a helping hand in our village and beyond. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities during Love INC's Gift of Giving Christmas event on Saturday December 10th from 12:00-6:00 PM. We will also be collecting children's board books for One Hope United throughout the Christmas season.

We will be bringing joy to the residents of Wauconda Care on December 18th at 6:00 PM, as we join them for Christmas caroling, and will be gathering together for a Church Christmas Party at the Bhatt's house that same evening around 7:15 PM.

Our Super Senior Christmas Party will be held at Strawberry Moon on December 11th at 5pm with dinner and a Grab Bag gift exchange.

You may know of someone who could use some encouragement and comfort this Christmas season. If so, consider going with them to our Longest Night Service of Comfort on December 21 at 7:00 PM. Or they may receive encouragement and joy in watching our Children's Christmas Program on December 11th at 9:30 AM.

The Children's Program is just one of many special worship experiences to invite your friends and family to. On December 18th at 9:30 AM our choir will be leading the congregation in worship with their Christmas Cantata, "Season of Praise."

We will have Christmas Eve Candlelight Services on December 24th at 7:00 and 9:00 PM. On Christmas Morning, December 25th at 9:30 AM our worship service will be a celebration of the birth of Jesus with singing of carols and family fun.

Our worship service on January 1st at 9:30 AM will be a day of prayer and encouragement for the New Year.

As you can see we have a busy month ahead, but it is one that is made for sharing. More detailed information about these events can be found in this newsletter, in our bulletin and on our website www.federatedchurchofwauconda.org.

May you have a blessed holiday season,

Pastor Jason Hladik

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

October 23 – 76

October 30 – 83

November 6 – 76

November 13 – 77

November 20 – 88

November 27 - 85

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours are from 8:00am-12:00pm, Monday through Friday. If you need to drop off, or pick up something we are always open during those times.

PASTOR JASON'S HOURS

Pastor Jason's hours are Monday through Thursday 9am-2pm. He will be in the office at this time unless called away due to ministry. Even when he is not in the office he can be reached 24/7 by phone or text at 630-673-0492. Pastor Jason's cell phone will go straight to voice mail between the hours of 10:00pm and 7:00am, but his phone will ring if you call twice. You can also contact him at pastorhladik@icloud.com.

SHUT-IN VISITS FROM PASTOR

If you know of a member of our church or a family member that could use a visit from Pastor Jason, please let him know.

PRAYER PARTNER EMAILS

If you are not receiving the Joys and Concerns Prayer Partner Email and would like to - or if you have a concern during the week - you can call Louise or email her at lbcats32@gmail.com. Joys and Concerns from the Sunday worship service are emailed each week to all who sign up for them.

DECEMBER EVENTS

December 14 - 7pm, Trustees meeting

December 18 - 10:45am, Education meeting

No Board meeting in December, save Jan 9 for the next meeting.

JOIN US FOR PRAYER

When Cathy Mate came to me inquiring about starting a new prayer group, I supported her idea 100%. I knew I would attend the first meeting to support the new program, but I was not prepared for the response that prayer evoked from me. Believe or not, I had never participated in a prayer group before and I am 69 years old! I was not sure what to expect. There were 5 members in attendance. Some participated by sharing their voices in prayer, some kept prayer silent. But it was the sharing of time, the stillness of the hour and the connection with an Almighty God that made the experience, at once, exhilarating, humbling and peaceful. It was truly the highpoint of my week and I look forward to our next meeting. We are currently meeting in the sanctuary on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm. Whether you have a specific prayer in your heart or want to share communal prayer, come and join us. You will be blessed, refreshed and find a new sense of peace. --- Mary Steffen

CHRISTMAS MISSION PROJECT



This year we will be partnering with One Hope United and their ministry to help children throughout the Chicagoland area by giving them the gift of reading. They are in need of children's board books which you can bring from now until Christmas day. You can place your gift in the basket by the tree near the front door of the church or you can make a monetary donation to the church, letting us know it is for the Book Drive and we will purchase the books for you.

MITTEN TREE

This year we will not be doing a mitten tree. If you have hats, scarves or mittens to

donate, we will still accept them and donate them on behalf of the church. They can be placed in the church office.

December Sunday School Schedule

- Sunday, Dec. 4 will be an abbreviated class time since we will be practicing for our full Christmas program.
- Sunday, Dec. 11. On the morning of the Christmas Program children are asked to arrive by 9 a.m. in order to practice.
- Sunday, Dec 18 there will be no Sunday School as it is recommended that the children attend the Cantata in church.
- Sunday, Dec. 25. No Sunday School since children attend church with their families on Christmas Sunday.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR- Dec 3

The Christmas Bazaar on Sat., Dec 3, needs many helpers to make it a success. Please let Candee know if you are able to help. If you have baked goods, bring them early on the day of the bazaar.

We have many new and repeat items to offer this year, including our Cubs candy bars! Also, this year, for the first time, we will be accepting credit cards. We look forward to seeing you at the Bazaar.

Contact Candee Nustra at [847-526-3873](tel:847-526-3873) or candeenustra@gmail.com if you have questions.



GIFT OF GIVING - Dec. 10

This event was such a big success last year that we have decided to do it again so save the date, Saturday, Dec. 10!

Volunteers will be needed from 11am into the evening. Registration will probably begin around Noon; shopping helpers will be needed; there will be activities to set up and oversee in the afternoon; and a dinner to prepare and serve in the evening; as well as clean-up. If you'd like to learn more or

volunteer, contact Dan Baron for details. Go to the homepage of our website and scroll through the pictures under Featured Events to watch the video from last year.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY - Dec. 11

	Children's Christmas Play!! Date: December 11, 2016 Time: During morning worship service
	Title: The Reason for the Season Please join us for our children's Christmas play. The children of The Federated Church of Wauconda will put on a play to teach one and all the true meaning of Christmas and why we celebrate this very special time of year. Please help support our children's service project by bringing a non-perishable canned good item for donating. The children have pledged that all donations will go directly to our local food pantry. Written by: Lou Ann Kozderka Directed by: Ann Petersen Musical Director: Melissa Pearson

SUPER SENIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday, Dec. 11, at 5:00pm, celebrate Christmas at the Moon, (Strawberry Moon that is). Good food, great entertainment.



There will also be a \$5 -\$10 value Grab bag gift exchange.

Menu: Mini shrimp cocktail appetizers, Salad

Entrees (choice of either the Chili Bar OR the Pesto Tortellini),

Dessert: chocolate Fondue.

\$20 cost includes coffee or soda, tax and gratuity. Music provided by our own Beth and Fabian. Hope you can join us!

Please sign up by Sunday Dec 4th.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING - Dec. 18

We will be singing Christmas Carols for the residents of Wauconda Care Center, 176

Thomas Court, Wauconda, on Sunday, December 18th at 6pm. We will meet at Wauconda Care Center and go from there to Raj and Rose Bhatt's house, 3738 Canton Circle, Mundelein, for a Christmas Party. If you cannot attend the caroling but want to join us at the party, we will see you there around 7:15pm.



Come and enjoy this year's **CHRISTMAS CANTATA**
Season of Praise
Sunday, 9:30am, Dec. 18

LONGEST NIGHT: Service of Comfort

On December 21st at 7pm we will be having a special service for people who are in need of God's comfort. Please join us if you are living with grief, whether recent or from long ago, if the season is bittersweet for you or if you want to support your family and friends in prayer. We will be lighting candles to recognize our needs and sorrows, hearing words of encouragement and sharing in a time of comfort with refreshments afterwards.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Dec. 24, Christmas Eve: 7pm and 9pm
Candlelight service.

Dec. 25, Christmas Day:
9:30am. We'll sing carols and have a Pajama Party for kids of all ages.



WAUCONDA CARE

There will be no meeting in December. We will resume our 4th Wednesday services with the residents in January.

ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS due by January 1

It is hard to believe that 2016 is almost over. The various committees and commissions of

our church have worked hard. Some of those activities have been quite visible and some very busy behind the scenes. This is a reminder that the chairpersons of each committee are responsible for submitting a report to the office for inclusion in the Annual Report. The report lets other members of the congregation know what your committee has done over the past year, what future plans are in the offing and is a record of church activity. Please submit your reports to the office by January 1, 2017.



Thanks for your ongoing support of our church.

Mary Steffen, Chair Federated Board

HANDS OF THE FEDERATED CHURCH

As part of our Membership/Stewardship campaign, we produced a video that is intended to describe who we are. It was debuted in the Worship service on October 30th. If you were not there or were unable to see it, it is now posted on our website under ABOUT OUR CHURCH. Please visit our website, not only to view this video, but to get regular updates about what is going on at the Federated Church. Thanks to Dan Baron, the Harold and Hollabaugh families and others who have shared their technical expertise, suggestions and opinions, and helped me make an idea come alive. Check out "Hands" and see who we are.



THANKS TO AN ARMY!

Several weeks ago, I sent an email to the entire congregation asking for help filling Halloween treat bags to hand out at "Trick or Treat on Main." I asked for an army and that is just what I got. About 15 members showed up ready to



work. It took us approximately 75 minutes to prepare 1000 baggies with stickers, suckers and business cards to hand out at the Main street event. We had fun, garnered ideas for next year, and felt very accomplished. Better yet, on the following Sunday, we handed out all 1000 baggies in just about 2 hours. The Federated Church of Wauconda had a presence at the event and 1000 people went home with a little information about us. We continue to look for more community events where we can show others that ALL ARE WELCOME.

OKTOBERFEST WRAP-UP



We had enough people to take over Deacon's at the Golf Club for our Oktoberfest event. About 70 people attended and around \$1300 was raised through the raffles, drawings, etc. The entertainment was good, the contest was fun and everyone enjoyed our MC, Chuck, in his lederhosen. Another big thank you for all the workers that made it such a success.

THANKSGIVING THANK YOU



A huge thank you to all the volunteers organized by the Fellowship Committee who made Thanksgiving Dinner such a wonderful experience. The food was abundant and delicious and served around 100 people.

DONATE ELECTRONICALLY!

We are happy to announce that the DONATE button on our website is finally working. You can now go there if you would prefer to make your regular, or special, donations online; very handy if you happen to be traveling. The site is secure, just make sure that the first few letters in the address bar are https (not just http) whenever you make financial actions online. Click the DONATE button in the upper right

corner of our home page. Once you put in the amount you wish to donate, you will be directed to a screen which takes additional information. You can choose direct withdrawal from your checking account, or use a credit or debit card. It can be a one-time donation or you can schedule regular ongoing donations. It is very easy and only takes about 2 minutes. If you have any questions, please call Mary Steffen at the number in the directory.

PUBLICITY

Mary Steffen has agreed to act as our Communications Coordinator. If you have information that needs to go in the Website, Beacon, Facebook, Bulletin, Sunday Announcements, etc., send her the details and she will pass it on to the "administrators" of each publication. Please be sure to include all the necessary details.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Remember that our church **Calendar**, as well as **News** details such as **Announcements** and current **Events**, are all available on our website:



www.federatedchurchofwauconda.org

You'll also find blogs, pictures, videos, choir music and recent Worship Services.

ACCESSABILITY

The Federated Church of Wauconda has been recognized by the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church for the things it has done to make their ministries accessible to all persons. They don't want anyone's varied abilities or disabilities to limit their participation in the life of the church.



The Federated Church, located at 200 Barrington Road, is a local congregation with ties to both the American Baptist and the United Methodist

denominations with rotating pastors from each denomination. For years accessibility has been important to the leaders of the congregation. Over the years a ramp was added to provide access from the parking lot and an elevator goes from the basement to the 1st and 2nd floors. When there was a deaf member, they provided an interpreter during worship services.



The installation in the last year of power door openers on the main entrance doors have made it a lot easier for persons using walkers or wheelchairs (or people with their arms full) to enter the building. The installation of a hearing loop in the sanctuary has facilitated better hearing for those using hearing aids and there are large print copies of the bulletins and hymnals to make it easier for persons with vision problems to fully participate in worship.



The clergy leadership team includes the Rev. Jason Hladik (Senior Pastor), the Rev. Crystal Calhoun-Johnson (Pastor of Family Ministries), Rev. Fred Berchtold (Minister of Accessibility and Acceptance), and Sarah Becker (Minister of Worship Arts).

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund is one of the ways we meet the needs of congregation and our community. We have been able to provide assistance to members in emergency

situations as well as provide gift cards for food, medicine and gas. If you or someone you know is ever in a time of need, please talk with Pastor Jason. Donations to this fund can be made by writing a check to the church with the words Pastor's Discretionary Fund in the memo line. Donations can also be given in the form of gift cards from local grocery stores or gas stations. We thank you for helping us serve our community.

- Pastor Jason

COFFEE WITH PASTOR

Start your week off right with a time of fellowship with friends from the church. We meet every week on Monday at 8:00am at the Wauconda Café on Rt. 176. Join us for coffee, breakfast or just a good conversation.

Lessons from a Christmas tree



- * Twinkle *
 - * Share your gifts *
 - * Bring joy to others *
 - * Be a light in the darkness *
 - * We all fall over sometimes *
 - * You were born to sparkle *
- even if your garland's a little droopy
- * It's okay to be a little tilted! *

**DECEMBER 2016
USHERS & ACOLYTES**

DATE	USHERS	ACOLYTES
Greeter for December – Sandy Gendusa		
Dec. 4	Paul Bacon	
	Ruby Haugaard	
	Ann Petersen	
	Tony Rake	
Dec. 11	Paul Bacon	
	Jutta Culbertson	
	Peggy Martin	
	Tom Martin	
Dec. 18	Dave Fehlman	
	Mary Taylor	
	Ted Tremont	
	Chris Wilson	
Dec. 25	Dick Bode	
	Sandy Gendusa	
	Heidi Leo	
	Mindy Taylor	

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Nov. 6	Pastor Crystal
Nov. 13	Ruby Haugaard
Nov. 20	Peggy Martin
Nov. 27	Linda Vrabec

DECEMBER NURSERY ASSISTANTS

Nov. 6	Val Whitman
Nov. 13	Lisa Morrison
Nov. 20	Linda Vrabec
Nov. 27	Madison Jensen



**JANUARY 2017
USHERS & ACOLYTES**

DATE	USHERS	ACOLYTES
Greeter for January - TBD		
Jan. 1	Paul Bacon	
	Dave Fehlman	
	Jim Hill	
	Joyce Hill	
Jan. 8	Paul Bacon	
	Ruby Haugaard	
	Ann Petersen	
	Tony Rake	
Jan. 15	Jutta Culbertson	
	Dave Fehlman	
	Peggy Martin	
	Tom Martin	
Jan. 22	Paul Bacon	
	Mary Taylor	
	Ted Tremont	
Jan. 29	Dick Bode	
	Sandy Gendusa	
	Heidi Leo	
	Mindy Taylor	

JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Dec. 4	Pastor Crystal
Dec. 11	Louise Bundy
Dec. 18	Cheryl Ficht
Dec. 25	Tony Rake

JANUARY NURSERY ASSISTANTS

Dec. 4	Geraldyn Carr
Dec. 11	Val Whitman
Dec. 18	Lisa Morrison
Dec. 25	Linda Vrabec



Worship Schedule

Sundays - 9:30am

Sunday School (Sept.-May) - 9:45am

Fellowship - 10:30am

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Jason Hladik

Pastor Jason's cell phone.....630-673-0492

Pastor Jason's email:

pastorhladik@icloud.com

Family Pastor..... Crystal Calhoun-Johnson

Pastor Crystal's cell phone.....630-901-8540

Pastor Crystal's email:

pastorccalhoun@gmail.com

Pastor of Accessibility and Acceptance:

Pastor Fred Berchtold

Pastor Fred's cell phone.....815-529-1725

Pastor Fred's email;

godslvestories@comcast.net

Church Phone.....847-526-8471

Email.....federatedchurch200@sbcglobal.net

Beacon editor.....Sylvia Chen

Sylvia Chen's email.....azuresbc@gmail.com

Church Web Site:

www.federatedchurchofwauconda.org

Custodian.....Panuncio Gonzalez

Director of Music/Organist.....Geri Meyer

Nursery Attendant.....Nancy Lucius

Secretary.....Judy Pinkonsly

Youth Coordinator.....Valerie Lucius

☺ Become a greeter at Federated and make a difference! Anyone interested in sharing a smile, a hug, a handshake or just making someone feel welcome, contact Mary Taylor at 847-526-7151.

☺ Please remember to notify the church office if you have a change of address, phone number or a new email address.

☺ Recordings of our Sunday worship services are available on our website. Go to our website to view the latest worship service:

www.federatedchurchofwauconda.org

☺ Our Beacon newsletter is also on the website. If you no longer wish to receive a copy by mail, please drop us a note or call the church office at 847-526-8471 and we will remove your name from our mailing list.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE

Federated Church of Wauconda

Committed to God through Christ to enrich the world through worship, mission, witness, and service.

The **BEACON** gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following sponsors:

phone 847-526-2115

fax 847-526-6251

Wauconda Funeral Home
235 North Main Street
Wauconda, IL 60084

Mark A. Kisselburg

Craig A. Kisselburg



Remember that all monetary gifts to the church are tax-deductible. Just make sure we know your name and address, and attach your name to your contribution each time!
Thank you for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, December 3

9:30 am to 2:00 pm



FEDERATED CHURCH OF WAUCONDA

200 S. Barrington Road
(at the corner of Rt. 176 and Barrington Road)



GRANDMA'S ATTIC

Gently used Holiday decorations and treasures

COOKIE WALK

Homemade cookies sold by the pound



GLAMORAMA FASHION BOUTIQUE

Used clothing, jewelry and other fashion accessories

CRAFTS AND 'EGGSOTIC'

Egg ornaments, quilts, handmade cards, hostess gifts and baked items



USED BOOKS

RAFFLE PRIZES

WE WILL NOW BE ACCEPTING MAJOR CREDIT CARDS