

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

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May 2017

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FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

## From The Pastor's Pen . . .

May, 2017

***May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*** (Romans 15:13)

When I was a child, my brothers and I loved reading the funny pages in the Sunday paper. Of all the characters in the comics, my favorite was Ziggy, drawn by Tom Wilson. You may remember Ziggy. He was a short, bald man who hated Mondays, was concerned about his weight and health. He never seemed to get a break. He was always being put down by his doctors, psychiatrist, salesmen and even his parrot. There were times he seemed quite depressed with things going on around him, and yet at other times he had a smile on his face.

The world treated him unfairly, but instead of becoming as cynical and sarcastic as everyone around him, Ziggy was an optimist. He took the time to remind himself that things weren't so bad. He thanked God for simple things. He was kind to his pets and to strangers.

I remember reading one Ziggy comic where he came to the top of a mountain to ask God the question, "Why?" God responded through the clouds, how impressed he was with Ziggy's boldness to come to him and ask such an important question. In return, God said he'd answer Ziggy's profound question. In the next frame of the comic, God replies with the single word, "Because."

We live in a world full of sarcasm, cynicism and hostility. Even when we turn in our faith to God, we won't necessarily get all our answers. The secret to living a good life, when reality isn't always perfect, is to remember to be thankful for what is good in our lives. We most likely won't ever live in a world free of stress or pains. We have a choice to either look at the negative or remember to be joyful for the beauty of a sunset or the smile of a child.

Joy isn't having all the answers to life's questions. It isn't even having a life without sadness or stress. Joy is remembering why you can be happy even when the world around you isn't. As Ziggy once said, "We should appreciate the here and now! ... 'cause it's only here now!!"

And as our Lord Jesus said, "As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete." My prayer is that we will remember to love fully, be joyful in all circumstances and remember there is no day on this earth that isn't full of God's blessings if we will only remember to look for them.



*Pastor Jason*

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

March 26 - 64  
April 02 - 100  
April 09 - 72  
Easter, April 16 - 88  
April 23 -  
April 30 -

## MEETINGS IN MAY

May 03, 7pm	Worship
May 07, 10:45am	Fellowship
May 10, 7pm	Trustees
May 14, 10:45am	Relay for Life
May 15, 7pm	Federated Board
May 28, 11am	Education

## 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](tel: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](mailto:pastorhladik@icloud.com).

## 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.

## EASTER FLOWERS

The lovely spring flowers that adorned our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday were gifts from members and friends of our church. Thank you for your help in creating this beautiful setting.



*Florence Anderson, Gene & Carol Anthony, Baron family, Raj & Rose Bhatt, Florence Burton, Jeff & Dori Cacioppo, Sylvia Chen, Lyle & Jennifer Haerle, Jim & Joyce Hill, Jan Hironimus, Pastor Jason & Tiffany Hladik, Maddie Jensen, Marion Knoff, Heidi Leo, Chuck & Nancy Lucius, John & Cathy Mate, Tom & Peggy Martin, Louise Matthews, Dale & Ann Meyer, Don & Geri Meyer, Jerry & Candee Nustra, Ann Petersen, Tony Rake, Ron & Sharon Rovner, James & Michelle Riechers, Sue Seaman, Jo Spangler, Mary Taylor, Frank & Ruby Thacker, Ted Tremont, Linda Vrabec, Pat Whitson, Val Whitman*



## BIBLE STUDY

Follow up with our Monday and Tuesday Bible Story Café Bible studies which are getting great reviews.

Join in one or both!

**Monday** 10am New Testament Class

**Tuesday** 6pm Old Testament Class



## **CONDOLENCES**

Our condolences to the family of Diane Winkler who passed away on April 14.



- Congratulations to Paige Rivers for being accepted into Carroll University located in Waukesha, Wisconsin.
- Congratulations to Olivia Batson for advancing to the national competitive event for the Future Business Leaders of America which will be held in California on June 24-27, 2017.
- Congratulation to Sarah Carr for making the Dance Varsity High School Team

## **RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER - May 4**

Join us at Strawberry Moon at 7pm for an evening of fun and music. See flyer for more details.

## **PRAYER MEETING – May 4 and 18**



We will be meeting in the sanctuary at 7:00pm on these evenings. 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.

## **LEADERSHIP RETREAT - May 5-7**

See flyer for more information.

## **SECRETARY ON VACATION - May 5 - 8**

Judy P will be taking a well-deserved vacation so the office will be closed from May 5 through May 8. Pastors Jason and Crystal will have regular office hours on those days and can also be reached by cell phone. Have a great vacation, Judy!

## **SUPER SENIORS - May 10**

The May luncheon for the Super Seniors will be at the Geneva Inn in Lake Geneva on Wednesday, May 10 at 11:30. We will have four menu items to choose from. Hope you can join us; it is a newly remodeled restaurant right on the lake. Please sign up by May 4 and see Lou Ann if you have any questions.

## **CALLING ALL GRADUATES - May 21**

On May 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be celebrating with all 2017 graduates. If a member of your family is graduating and you would like to share in the celebration, please submit the names to the church office no later than May 10<sup>th</sup>. We want to celebrate the commitment and achievement of our children, youth, young adults and adult learners. Congratulations!!

## **NIGHT OF HOPE - May 21**

A very meaningful evening of fellowship and sharing with a lunimaria service to honor and remember our loved ones in their battle with cancer. Luminary bags will be available for sale. See flyer for details.

## **WAUCONDA CARE – May 24**

A Wauconda Care Sing-along is held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 3:00pm. Meet at Wauconda Care, just off Rt. 176, at 2:45pm if you'd like to help pass out songbooks and greet the residents before the fun begins. Join us as we bring the worship of God in song to the people at Wauconda Care.



## **Sunday, May 28**

Confirmation is a time of intentional preparation which gives youth the opportunity to reflect on the most basic elements of our faith. It is a special time to begin a journey of faith that nurtures and challenges youth to think about the nature of God, the life of Christ, and learn about our church's beliefs. Confirmation marks a significant point in the path of discipleship.

This year we have two confirmands, siblings, named Jonathan and Sarah Carr. At our confirmation service on Sunday, May 28, 2017 they will make a decision to choose Christ for themselves and join our congregation as responsible members of the church. The classes leading up to this service are designed to help prepare our confirmands to make that decision combining heart and mind. Please keep Jonathan and Sarah Carr in your prayers as they make these important steps in their lives.

Our Confirmation Instructors are seeking to help our young people develop a strong foundation for lifelong discipleship. Special thanks to our wonderful instructors:

1. Minister Sarah Becker
2. Pastor Fred Berchtold
3. Pastor Jason Hladik
4. Pastor Crystal Calhoun Johnson
5. Lisa Knight

## **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**

Outreach is asking for donations of mini water bottles which will be labeled with our website address and an appropriate bible verse about thirst and handed out along the parade route. They can be brought to the church at any time and placed in the lounge. We will have a float and are seeking willing riders. Once again, our church will be a respite site and free ice cream depot for parade



participants and observers. Anyone who would like to assist in these endeavors may contact Lisa Knight at 224-400-3907.

**RUMMAGE SALE**



It's that time of year again when we start to get ready for our annual Fall Rummage Sale. The annex will be open on Sundays to accept your donations. If you need to drop off your donations any other day than Sunday, please contact Nancy Lucius and she can meet you to unlock the annex. You can call Nancy's cell 847-848-5023 or home 847-865-3300. The Rummage Sale dates are September 21 from 9am-6pm; September 22 from 9am-2pm; September 23 from 9am-2pm.

<b><u>Youth Group/ Kids Club Meetings</u></b>	
<b><u>April 30</u></b>	<b><u>Children Sunday Service</u></b>
<b><u>May 7</u></b>	<b><u>Outdoor Photo Scavenger Hunt</u></b>
<b><u>May 14</u></b>	<b><u>No Meeting (HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY)</u></b>
<b><u>May 21</u></b>	<b><u>End of year party!</u></b>
<b><u>May 28</u></b>	<b><u>No Meeting (HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND)</u></b>
<b><u>***Set up Food Pantry Dates, I believe Tuesday nights***</u></b>	
<b><u>***Set up date for Feed My Starving Children***</u></b>	



**ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING**

You can help collect money for our church. Save your aluminum cans and bring them to the church to be recycled. There is a recycling bin outside in back of the annex for you to drop off your cans. Our last collection of aluminum cans was worth \$78.00!

**TAKE A GOOD LOOK AROUND**

Keep your eyes open for missing people. If you notice that someone has not attended for a few weeks, pick up the phone and let them know they are truly missed. Or, let Pastor Jason know if you are concerned about someone's absence.





### **ACOLYTES NEEDED**

We are looking for youth who are interested in becoming acolytes. If your child would like to help with the lighting of the candles on Sunday mornings, please see Pastor Crystal for more information.

### **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW COMMISSION**

It has been a few years since our Constitution and By-Laws were reviewed and revised. A committee has been created to perform this responsibility. The following people have agreed to be responsible for investigating this situation and will report back to the Board with any updates they feel should be made: Mary S, Tony R, Dan F, Tom M, Cindy S, Pastor Crystal and Pastor Jason.



### **FOCW**

This group does not meet during the summer months.

The next event will be the Annual Luncheon on Saturday, August 26 at Beelows.

Watch the bulletin and future Beacons for more details.

### **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](mailto:lbcats32@gmail.com). Joys and Concerns from the Sunday worship service are emailed each week to all who sign up for them.

### **PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund is one of the ways we meet the needs of our 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



### **CONTINUED PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:**

Louise Bundy, Florence Burton, Donna Gallmeyer-Dixon, Howard Ficht, Mickie Kisselburg, Hero Lucius, Scott Matthews, Arb Swanson, Ted Tremont, Ron Vaughan Sr., Diane Winkler, Dorothy Wheelock, Linda Wicker, Lisa Wineski

## **Youth Leadership Retreat, May, 2017 - Pastor Crystal Johnson**

**Soul Mates: Friends for the Journey (to grow together as a community and as disciples of Christ and how does service fit in this process).**

### **ITS OK TO RETREAT**

Pack your bags! Our youth leadership retreat is booked for May 5<sup>th</sup> (after school) through the 7<sup>th</sup>. We will leave at 4 pm, grab dinner, and then begin our time together for renewal and reflection.

The *location*: Stronghold is a beautiful 360 acre property; home to The Strong Castle, extensive trails, and Team Building Rope Initiatives Course. Stronghold Center is a four-season retreat and camping center, operated by the Presbytery of Blackhawk Presbyterian Church (USA). Located one mile North of Oregon, IL, the beauty of nature exists in a variety of environments, all along bluffs overlooking the Rock River.

### Challenge Courses

Join us in a weekend of challenges, growth, and fun that will inspire you to achieve individual and team excellence. The adventure-based learning process used in our challenge program allows groups and individuals to grow and learn by doing. We believe this process, when experienced in the outdoors, will create an ideal learning environment.

We will integrate the Challenge by Choice philosophy into our activities throughout the weekend. Participants can choose to try a potentially challenging activity with the support and encouragement of the group. Respect for each individual's choices and ideas is an essential component in each challenge. This philosophy creates exciting learning opportunities and insights into the issues of risk taking, mutual support, self-confidence, leadership, and teamwork. This also helps youth to see their own potential in their everyday life and in the life of the church and with God.

### **Why a retreat? Here are just a few reasons:**

Things that are take-a-ways: it can define the relationship between faith and works, it challenges youth to act in faith and service to one another, it lets them know they are able - without judgment - to realize that the best friendship they can have is with God but, like any good friendship, it needs time and care.

They will learn how to filter the destructive messages they hear and how they, as Christians, can experience joy and peace through Christ despite their circumstances. Each will have the opportunity to learn about loyalty, trust, having each other's back, and how to lead when they are usually the follower.

It will be a chance to unplug and set down the electronics, to see each other face to face and learn how to communicate as Jesus did. It has been said that some of the best ministry happens outside the walls of the church. Yep, you heard me right. This is especially true in the area of retreats. During a weekend retreat you are likely to spend more time with your youth than you do in all the hours of Sunday School put together over an entire year.

Please note that it is key that, wherever you spend your retreat, you make sure that it is out of their normal town as otherwise they will still be engaged in their home routine. Retreats can change the lives of the youth and adults that attend. The power of a retreat is more than just the

program. It's the memories, late night talks, lack of sleep and the concentrated time spent together building relationships with each other and God. A retreat and a leadership retreat will give this group the opportunity to grow, lead, follow, support and learn how to work as a team, which is something they are not encouraged to do in this day and age.

A retreat will give them time away from regular routines and pressures, time for God to break through the noise and busyness of life, and time to see the Spirit of God transform their lives and their heart.

### **The physical part of the retreat time!**

This course is different than other ropes courses in that it is a "Team" course rather than a "Challenge" course. The design supports an experience where each participant learns what it is to be an accountable member of the team supporting each other to reach a higher level of achievement creating greater success as a whole. As a result, unconditional support flows through the team allowing individuals to reach achievements they did not see as possible. The existing barriers are exposed and new paths opened creating higher possibilities for the team through collaboration and commitment of each team member.

Team building physical challenges include the following:

- Challenge Course of team initiatives (1/2 day)
- High Ropes/low ropes challenge (1/2 day)
- Swing by Choice (4 hours)
- Low Ropes (3 hours)
- Archery (3 hours)

### **Program Outcomes (not inclusive)**

1. Improved team support and communication.
2. Individuals and the team explore and understand "inner conversations."
3. Individuals and the team work through challenges and accomplish goals.

As member of a youth group and a church how does this affect our ministry? It allows us to learn, share and grow together as a community and as disciples of Christ.

### **YOUTH MISSION TRIP - July 2017**

The youth group is busy planning and fund raising for the upcoming mission trip to the Redbird Mission on western Kentucky. The trip is not yet completely funded and they can still use your help. Our youth will be going to the second poorest area in the country to help the people there with light construction, clean up, yard work, etc. They will be representing the Federated Church of Wauconda and are asking for your support and prayers. Trips like these have the potential to be life changing events for the group. They will have an opportunity to bond and strengthen their friendships, to deepen their relationship with our family pastor and to participate in acts of Christian service. If you would like to support this trip and our youth, look for the large water jug and empty your pockets of spare change, sponsor one of our youth or make a donation that can be used to defray the cost of meals and transportation. See Pastor Crystal or talk to one of our youth if you would like to help.





# RELAY FOR LIFE

## Team Federated Faith Walkers

*Invite you to join us  
in the fight against cancer*

Thursday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m.  
Strawberry Moon  
204 S. Main Street, Wauconda

*Raffles \$\$*

*Music by Jeff Trudell*

*- 7:30 - 10:30 pm*



\$20 donations will give the opportunity to be served  
by Pastor of the Federated Church  
dressed for the occasion in a very pretty apron!

*Luminaria bags*

*available to honor and remember*



*Special martini flight available for the event*

No cover - - all donations gratefully appreciated.  
All proceeds for the American Cancer Society.



*Flight of Hope - We are sending cancer to the Moon!*

## RELAY FOR LIFE

Help us Bring Hope to a Cancer free Future



Team Federated Faith Walkers  
Presents

### A NIGHT OF HOPE

Refreshment served at intermission



Raffle Items  
Candle light Music  
Filled Luminaria Service

SUNDAY MAY 21st. At 6:00 pm  
Federated Church of Wauconda 200 Barrington Rd.

Featuring Local Musicians  
Heather Moran, Steve Grittman, Pat Ryan  
Geri Meyer, Beth Cameron and Fabian Ularu

Luminary Bags available to Honor & Remember



No Admission  
Donation greatly appreciated  
all proceeds go to American Cancer Society.





## Worship Schedule

Sundays - 9:30am

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

Fellowship - 10:30am

## **CHURCH STAFF**

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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  
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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

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☺ 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](http://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:

**Wauconda Funeral Home**  
**235 North Main Street**  
**Wauconda, IL 60084**

Mark A. Kisselburg  
Craig A. Kisselburg

Phone 847-526-2115  
Fax: 847-526-6251



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 donation.