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

U.S. POSTAGE

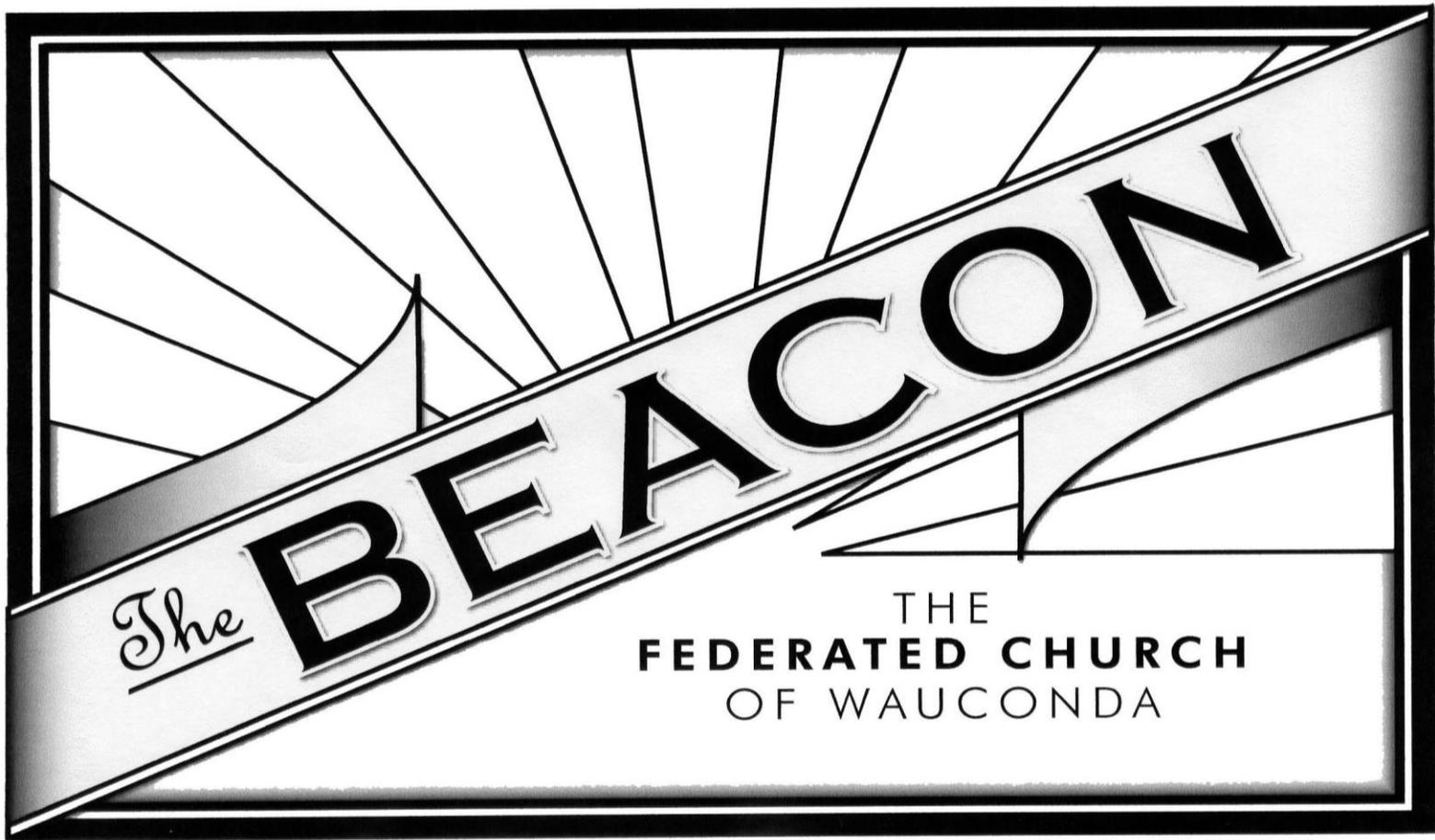
WAUCONDA, ILLINOIS
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FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN –



So, continue encouraging each other and building each other up, just like you are doing already.
1 Thessalonians 5:11

Words are funny things. We use them day in and day out without thinking much about their meaning. As you read these words you don't need to look in a dictionary to remember what each one means. They are a part of your knowledge.

Abigail is three and a half years old now. Most children by this age know between 250 to 500 words. I didn't have to sit down with her and explain the definition of each of these words. When she asks, "what's this?" she makes the connection between the object and the word I say and it becomes part of her vocabulary.

That being said, if I never talked to her, if I neglected my duty to educate my daughter through example and experience, she wouldn't be the smart little girl she is today. We give names to objects, actions, emotions, and people.

Let's take one word for example: encourage. It's easy to break this word up and find out that it means to give someone courage. It comes from the French language, but other languages have the same concept. In biblical Greek, the language of the New Testament, the word is parakaleo. The literal interpretation of the word in this language is to name-with and is the word used for encourage, comfort or urge.

When we parakaleo, or encourage, we are with another person to help them name, or find the words to understand their situation better. Sometimes this encouragement helps them to see their own strengths and abilities and sometimes it is to see that our strength ultimately comes from the Lord.

This word, parakaleo, is where we get the name of the Holy Spirit. In Greek, Parakalete, is The Encourager or The Comforter. God's Holy Spirit is the one who gives us strength, courage and comfort to do the work of God.

When we encourage others, we are participating with the ultimate Comforter to help someone understand just how much God loves them. We get to be a tool the Holy Spirit uses to bring light into darkness and bring names and understanding to confusing situations.

Who in your life needs some encouragement? Be that comfort to them today. Even a little note or a phone call may mean the world to them.

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Jason



Attendance

March 4 – 74
March 11 – 79
March 18 – 77
March 25 – 71

Meetings in January

Worship - April 3 @ 6pm
Trustees - April 11 @ 7pm
Federated Board - April 16 @ 7pm
Outreach - April 8 @ 10:45am
Education - April 22 @ 10:45

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 9:00am-2:00pm. 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.

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.

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 10:00am New Testament Class

Tuesday 6:00pm Old Testament Class



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 behind the annex for you to drop off your cans.



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.



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.



WAUCONDA CARE SERVICE

A Wauconda Care Sing-along is held on the 4th 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 on April 25th as we bring the worship of God in song to the people at Wauconda Care.

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 Nancy Swanson or email her at nraswanson@gmail.com. Joys and Concerns from each Sunday's service are emailed each week to all who have signed up.

THURSDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETINGS

Our prayer meetings are a time to gather with other believers to lift our needs and our prayers to God. We meet on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Thursdays of each month in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm. The dates in April are the 5th, 12th and 19th. Join us if you have personal requests or if you want to be in prayer on behalf of our church family, friends, or our community.

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 provided 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

GARDENER NEEDED



The Memorial committee is looking for a person to tend the Duffin Memorial garden. The individual would be paid an hourly wage to weed, water and woo the garden during the growing months. If you have any interest or want to know more, please contact Candee Nustra at 847/526-3873 or email her at candeenustra@gmail.com

EASTER CELEBRATION

Please join us to celebrate the risen Lord on Easter Sunday, April 1st. The Federated Church will hold 2 worship services: our Son Rise service at 7:30am and traditional worship service at 9:45am. Both services will be held in the sanctuary. The 9:45am service will include parts of an Easter Cantata presented by the choir. Join with us to shout He is Risen: He is Risen Indeed!



SENIORS TO LUNCH AT THE CHOCOLATE SANCTUARY

Super Seniors next luncheon will be Wednesday April 11th at 11:30am, at the Chocolate Sanctuary located in Gurnee. Please sign up if you are able to join us. Here is your chance to have chocolate for lunch and satisfy the chocoholic in you.



HOLIDAY MEMORIES

The ladies at FOCW have decided to expand our proposed Christmas Traditions book to include other holidays. Young people today have no idea of how we older people used to celebrate these special occasions. There were some foods and activities that we didn't have available all year round. We didn't have social media to tell us what the rest of the world was doing. The internet didn't exist for us to surf for ideas. Many of us didn't have air conditioning so we played and socialized outside. For example: a trip to the park for a picnic was a big adventure.

If you have an interesting story about a holiday or activity from your past, we'd love to hear about it. Accompanying pictures, recipes or craft directions are welcome. Please write about it and give it (or email it) to Sylvia. We are setting a deadline of Memorial Day (May 28) to give us time to organize and get the book printed. We look forward to hearing from many of you.

PLUG IN AND RECHARGE

Are you depleted physically, emotionally or spiritually? Many of are and we find ourselves drifting away rather than gravitating toward the One who can recharge us. While the Worship team does not profess to have all the answers as to how to re-energize our congregation, we would like to start by feeding you. The Worship Commission will be sponsoring a series of Recharging Sessions. We will feed you, provide childcare and listen to your thoughts and ideas as well as engage in a conversation about who we want to be as a church. Help us recapture the worshipful, inviting, inclusive, restorative and relevant power of our church community through a stronger relationship with God. Look for your invitation over the next several weeks.



A REMINDER OF THE CROSS

Something mystical happens at the cross. Perhaps more accurately, many spiritual things happen at the cross. Prophecy was fulfilled at the cross. Jesus quoted a song, "My God, why have You forsaken me" there. Obedience happened at the cross. Jesus carried out His Father's will there. Grieving happened at the cross. The mother of Jesus watched her son die. As did his best friend, John. And so many others. Salvation happened at the cross. Jesus sealed our future there. Repentance happened at the cross. The centurion changed his mind about who Jesus was there. The love of God was displayed at the cross. God demonstrated His love there. Some of my favorite writers have said it beautifully:



- ✓ Nails didn't hold God to a cross. Love did. (Lucado)
- ✓ Perfect justice and perfect mercy kissed at the cross. (Kauflin)
- ✓ If you want to know how much you matter to God, look at Christ with his arms outstretched on the cross, saying, "I love you this much! I'd rather die than live without you." (Warren)
- ✓ Christian worship must contain both the cross and the crown. Sing of majesty, and sing of mercy. (Redman)

Cheap grace is preaching forgiveness without repentance... it is the Lord's Supper without confession of sin... Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without the living, incarnate Jesus Christ. (Bonhoeffer)

Pastor Crystal Johnson – Family Pastor

KITCHEN PROJECT UPDATE

As many of you know, members of FOCW have been working at cleaning out the pantry/attic and the kitchen island. The island was overstocked with glass bowls and plates, many of which were let after potlucks and other events. Members were invited to look over the collection which was displayed on tables in Fellowship Hall. They were asked to take what may have been theirs or something that struck their fancy. Then FOCW sorted through the remaining items and kept a good variety and supply of the serving pieces. The leftovers will be offered for sale at the rummage sale.



We also had a tremendous overstock of steamtable pans. Some of the items did not fit our table and some were just an overabundance. Through Pastor Crystal, we were able to connect with several churches in the Chicago area that offered meals to their community. We donated our overabundance to their ministries and thereby supporting their mission. Thanks to all who helped in this endeavor.

We are not finished with the kitchen. It needs a deep cleaning, including removing and washing all the dishes and serving pieces and cleaning the inside and outside of the cabinets. If you feel moved to help, please contact Mary Steffen @marstef50@aol.com.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 1st. This will give the children an opportunity to celebrate Easter with their families in Worship as well as giving our teachers the chance to worship with us on Easter, the most important of Christian Holidays.

LEADING AT THE AGE OF EIGHT



Josiah was 8 years old when he became king of Judah. EIGHT YEARS OLD! Have you ever had an eight-year-old in your house? Have you ever known an eight-year-old? Would you want them to lead your house? What about your nation? Yeah. Me either. The nation of Judah woke up one morning with an eight-year-old king. To be honest, it really couldn't get any worse than it was in prior administrations. So many kings did evil, wicked things. They continuously drove the nation further into paganism and away from the Lord. They caused people to be attacked by enemies near and far. They lacked any kind of personal integrity. This eight-year-old could be a fresh start with a fresh face or the situation could go from bad to worse. How could an eight-year-old protect and defend the nation? How could he lead a nation back to God or anywhere for that matter?

We live in a society that downplays the young. We think that the youth are the leaders of the future and the future is where they belong. The present is a time to play and prepare. But, what if God wants the youngest generations to actually be the leaders in the present?

Josiah was eight. He was thrown into a leadership position that shocked everyone. It was such an amazing thing that 2 Kings 23:25 described it in this way, Never before had there been a king like Josiah, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and soul and strength, obeying all the laws of Moses. And there has never been a king like him since.

So, when are we going to become like an eight-year-old? It isn't even a question of the younger generations leading. We need them to lead in these ways and many would if we would only allow them to. This question should also apply to adults. We need adults who will lead like an eight-year old. Look at how Josiah led: 1. He wasn't hindered by his age. 2 Kings 22:1 2. He broke precedent. 2 Kings 22:2; 21:1-2; 21:19-20 3. He was stubborn in a good way. 2 Kings 22:2 4. He repented when he was confronted with the Word of God. 2 Kings 22:11-13. He brought others along with him. 2 Kings 23:1-3 6. He kept growing in his faith by continually repenting and celebrating. 2 Kings 23

This is the kind of leadership we need, no matter if you are 8 or 80. We need those who transcend their age. We need those that change the status quo and set the course for new paths. We need those who have a determination and focus for godliness. We need those who admit when they are wrong and turn back to God. We need those who will try to bring others along with them toward a vision from God. We need those who don't grow stagnate in their faith but continuously turn to God and celebrate the work of God going forward.

We need those who will lead like an eight-year-old.

Pastor Crystal Johnson

Family Pastor

TRUSTEES ANNOUNCE SPRING WORKDAY



The Trustees have announced a spring work day for Saturday, April 14 beginning at 9am. If you are handy or if you can follow directions, please join us as we tackle the "honey do" list for the church. Trustees said they will concentrate on inside repairs, so bring work gloves and light tools. See you there.

**APRIL 2018
USHERS & ACOLYTES**

DATE	USHERS	ACOLYTES
Greeter for April – Mary Abraham		
Apr. 1	Dick Bode	Hero Lucius
	Bonnie DeBoer	Madison Lucius
	Heidi Leo	
	Mindy Taylor	
Apr. 8	Louise Bundy	Angela Batson
	Ann Petersen	Gabriella Stephens
	Tony Rake	
	Ruby Thacker	
Apr. 15	Raj Bhatt	Hero Lucius
	Rose Bhatt	Madison Lucius
	Tom Martin	
	Peggy Martin	
Apr. 22	Jutta Culbertson	Angela Batson
	Laurel DeBoer	Gabriella Stephens
	Dave Fehlman	
	Ted Tremont	
Apr. 29	Jim Hill	Hero Lucius
	Joyce Hill	Madison Lucius
	John Mate	
	Mary Taylor	

APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Apr. 1	Pastor Crystal
Apr. 8	Linda Vrabec
Apr. 15	Lou Ann Kozderka
Apr. 22	Louise Bundy
Apr. 29	Cheryl Ficht



**MAY 2018
USHERS & ACOLYTES**

DATE	USHERS	ACOLYTES
Greeter for May – Val Whitman		
May 6	Dick Bode	Hero Lucius
	Bonnie DeBoer	Madison Lucius
	Heidi Leo	
	Mindy Taylor	
May 13	Louise Bundy	Angela Batson
	Ann Petersen	Gabriella Stephens
	Tony Rake	
	Ruby Thacker	
May 20	Raj Bhatt	Hero Lucius
	Rose Bhatt	Madison Lucius
	Tom Martin	
	Peggy Martin	
May 27	Jutta Culbertson	Angela Batson
	Laurel DeBoer	Gabriella Stephens
	Mary Taylor	
	Ted Tremont	

MAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

May 6	Pastor Crystal
May 13	Mary Steffen
May 20	Tony Rake
May 27	Ruby Thacker



YOU ARE IN OUR THOUGHTS

AND PRAYERS

Florence Burton, Donna Gallmeyer-Dixon, Howard Ficht, Mickie Kisselburg, Scott Matthews, Laura Peroutka, Dolores Prusinski, Maratha Stanger, Mike Striker, Dorothy Wheelock, Linda Wicker, Lisa Wineski, Brian Zinkel

Prayers go out to the family of Arb Swanson who passed away on March 24.

There will be a visitation on April 7th at 9:30am followed by a service at 10:30am. There will also be a luncheon following the service upstairs in Fellowship Hall.

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.

Worship Schedule: Sundays - 9:30am; Sunday School (Sept.-May) - 9:45am; Fellowship - 10:30am

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Custodian
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, new 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.