

The Federated Church of Wauconda

Contact Information:

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Cathy Mate's phone..... 847-487-2235
Youth Coordinator..... Val Lucius

Office Staff:

Secretary..... Judy Pinkonsly

Serving in Worship this week:

Pastor..... Soon Sun Lee
Acolytes..... Madison Lucius, Gabriella Stephens
Director of Music/Organist..... Geri Meyer
Greeters..... Jim & Michelle Riechers
Nursery Attendant..... Nancy Lucius
Usher Chairperson..... Dave Fehlman
Ushers..... Dave Fehlman, Jim & Joyce Hill, John Mate
Worship Assistant..... Peggy Martin

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December 23, 2018 - 4th Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

Registration (Please sign the attendance sheets)

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting: **Love (pink candle) – Judy Culberg, Ruby Thacker, Jutta Culbertson**

First Reader: This is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. The first Sunday, we lit the candle of hope. On the second Sunday, we lit the candle of joy. On the third Sunday, we lit the candle of peace. Today, we light the pink candle of love. One verse that many memorize and remember on this day is John 3:16, "God so loved the world..." Some people may not know the love of other people. That makes it harder for them to understand God's love. During Advent, we pray that we may remember again God's gift of Jesus to the world and know that God's love for all people is the reason for this gift.

(Light the first, the second, third purple candles and a pink candle.)

*Hymn "Advent Song" (vs. 4) No. 2090

***Second Reader:** When we look at the fourth candle, we remember God's love. When we read the words of Scripture, we know of God's greatness and care. We remember God's love at Advent when we remember that God sent Jesus to us to help us know that God is loving and just.

***Third Reader:** Let us pray together.

Dear God: Thank you for your son, Jesus. Thank you for the words found in our Bible that help us remember your love and care. Help us see how we can bring God's message to the people we meet in our schools, at our jobs, and in our neighborhoods. Help us be messengers of God's love for everyone. Amen.

(Advent wreath candle lighting and opening prayer are written by MaryJane Pierce Norton who gives us a permission to use it)

* Opening Hymn "The King of Glory Comes" (vs. 1-2) No. 2091

Children's Sermon

**The Lord's Prayer* No. 895
**Passing of the Peace*
Choir Anthem "O Love So Small" Deborah Govenor

Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People
**Prayer Hymn "The First Noel"* (verse 1) No. 245

First Reading 1 John 4:9-12
Prayer of Preparation
**Second Reading:* John 3:16-17
Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "God's Greatest Love" Pastor Soon Sun
Offering
**Congregational Offertory Response "The First Noel"* (vs. 5) No. 245

**Closing Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High"* No. 218
**Benediction*

Cathy Mate, our Minister of Prayer is available for prayers after service.

FIRST READING

1 John 4:9-12

This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his only Son into the world so that we can live through him. This is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins. Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. If we love each other, God remains in us and his love is made perfect in us.

SECOND READING

John 3:16-17

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Flowers on the pedestal today are in honor of Bob & Virginia Reardon's 67th wedding anniversary!

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE – Jan. 27

Our Annual Church Conference will be Sunday, January 27 right after our worship service followed by a potluck lunch. It is a time to reflect on our church ministries and missions of 2018 and to share our plans, visions, and dreams on our future ministries of 2019. All Board members and committee chairs should attend.

For the Annual Church Meeting **all the annual reports and forms** (written reports of accomplishments in 2018, financial reports, and plans and/or goals for 2019) are due in the church office by Dec. 31. Contact Judy in the office if you have any questions. Your cooperation in submitting reports on time will greatly assist in printing and preparation for the Annual Meeting. Please remember to leave a 1" margin on each side of your typed reports.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING 2018

On Sunday afternoon, Dec. 16, about 16 of us sang Christmas carols around nursing homes. After the Christmas caroling, we came back to the church and enjoyed delicious Sloppy Joes, Jell-O, fruits, and desserts. Thanks to all of you who came out and did a wonderful Christmas caroling!

COMMITMENT CARD REMINDER

If you haven't yet turned in your commitment card, please prayerfully consider what you can give your church in 2019. You can put it in the offering plate any Sunday, drop it off, or mail it to the church office.

CONTINUED PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

Bernice Block, Larry & Elise Bock, Leonor Braund, Florence Burton, Paul Deinlein, Cheryl Ficht's mother and her niece Madison, Donna Gallmeyer-Dixon, Mickie Kisselburg, Scott Matthews, Billy Meyer, Jason Miele-grandson of Lilah Stangeland, Melissa Pearson, Dorothy Wheelock, Lisa Wineski, Brian Zinkel

Our condolences to the family of Jacqueline Peterson who passed away on December 16. There will be a visitation at Kisselburg's today from 12:30-1:30pm and a service at 1:30pm. There will be a luncheon at 3:30pm at our 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 SOON SUN OUT OF OFFICE

Pastor Soon Sun will be on vacation Dec. 26 & 30. She will be attending a Winter Retreat at Wesley Wood, in Williams Bay, WI on Dec. 27 & 28. She will also be gone from Jan. 2 through Jan. 11 for family medical reasons. Pastor Crystal will be doing pastoral visits while Pastor Soon Sun is gone.

PRAYER PARTNER EMAILS

Joys and Concerns from each Sunday's service are emailed each week to those who have signed up. If you would like to receive them or if you have a concern during the week you can email Nancy Swanson at church60084joysandconcerns@[yahoo.com](mailto:church60084joysandconcerns@yahoo.com).

PRAYING EACH DAY

Pray for the people on our prayer list. We will also pray for each person of our entire congregation each day. Every day in the New Year we are making a special effort to pray for each person or family throughout the year. We will be able to make it through the entire congregation over the course of a year. We will put the individual's name on the church prayer calendar. Please consider this an invitation to join me in praying for our people as well as our prayer lists each week if God lays it on your heart to do so.

READING THE ENTIRE BIBLE

In 2019 we as a congregation will read the Bible each day to read the whole Bible together. You can buy the "One Year Bible (NIV: arranged in 365 Daily Readings)" in any book store or you can use the

“Bible Reading Chart” that we will provide each month in the “Beacon” or in the fellowship hall.

SMALL GROUP OF SINGLE OLDER WOMEN

Our goals are to provide friendship as a means for support, care, prayer, and understanding to the single older women in the church. Our next monthly gatherings are: January 17 at 12pm at J & D’s and 1pm at Annie Petersen’s house; February 21 at 12pm at J & D’s and 1pm at Judy Culberg’s house. See Pastor Soon Sun for more information.

UN-HANGING OF THE GREENS – Jan. 6

Please plan to stay after the worship service on Sunday, Jan. 6 to help take down the Christmas decorations and pack them away. The more help we have the faster it will get done!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

This Christmas as we join together to celebrate our Savior’s birth – part of our celebration, a lone time tradition at Federate Church, are the poinsettias that you see here surrounding us. They have been provided by the individuals that share our joy at Christmas time.

Florence Anderson, Raj & Rose Bhatt, Fred Berchtold, Chuck Burton, Jeff & Dori Cacioppo, Laurel DeBoer, Lee Detwiler, Cheryl Ficht, Dan & Julie Fiscus, Jim & Joyce Hill, Jan Hironimus, Lisa Knight, Pastor Soon Sun Lee, Shelba Lefort, Heidi Leo, John & Cathy Mate, Dale & Ann Meyer, Don & Geri Meyer, Lisa Morrison, Ann Petersen, Tony Rake, James & Michelle Riechers, Jo Spangler, Mary Steffen, Mary Taylor, Frank & Ruby Thacker, Ted Tremont, Val Whitman, Linda Vrabec, Debbie Zinkel

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Worship service – 9:30am; Sunday School (Sept. – May) – 9:45am;
Fellowship – 10:30am**

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR – DEC. 23 - 30		
TODAY: Dec. 23	10:45 am	Education Meeting
	10:45 am	Christmas Eve Rehearsal
	1:30 pm	Funeral Service for Jacque Peterson at Kisselburg's
MON: Dec. 24	4:00 pm	Christmas Eve ABC Story Service with Candle Lighting
	11:00 pm	Traditional Christmas Candlelight Service
TUES: Dec. 25		Merry Christmas
		Church Offices Closed
WED: Dec. 26	6:00 pm	T.O.P.S.
THURS: Dec. 27	8:00 pm	Alanon
FRI: Dec. 28		
SAT: Dec. 29		
SUN: Dec. 30		Pastor Crystal will be Preaching

LAY MINISTRIES: Next Sunday – Dec. 30

Ushers..... Bonnie DeBoer, Heidi Leo, Mindy Taylor
 Acolytes..... Gabriella Stephens, Isabella Dewar
 Worship Assistant..... Linda Vrabec
 Greeter for January..... Mary Taylor