

**We Welcome you to
THE FEDERATED CHURCH OF WAUCONDA
December 15, 2019
3rd Sunday of Advent
Children's Christmas Program**

Words of Welcome

Announcements (Please sign registration pad)

Prelude and Lightening of Candles

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Kathy Dewar and her Family

As a symbol of Christ as Joy

Reader I: Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE; the second candle is PEACE; and the third candle is JOY.

Reader II: You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. Isaiah 55:12

Reader III: Let us pray. Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy and help us shine as a light in the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen.

**Opening Hymn* "Joy" See Media

Children's Christmas Program "Once Upon A Night" See Insert

Giving Our Tithes and Offering

**Offering Hymn* "The First Noel" No. 245 (v.1 & 5)

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields
as they lay;

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those Wise Men three, full reverently upon the knee

And offered there, in his presence,

their gold and myrrh and frankincense

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**Offertory Prayer*

**Closing Hymn* *“Joy to the World”* No. 246 (vs 2-4)

**Benediction*

**Postlude*

** Please stand if you are able*

Thank you for worshipping with us. We invite you to join us for coffee and friendship following this worship service in the refreshment area.

There will be a sermon manuscript (5 copies) available for those who wish to read before the sermon or give it to someone.

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

Today’s Worship Participants:

Acolytes: Cody Lucius, Hero Lucius

Director of Music/Organist: Geri Meyer

Greeter For October: Bonnie DeBoer

Ushers: Bonnie DeBoer, Dave Fehlman, Heidi Leo, Mindy Taylor

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Coffee Fellowship – 10:30am

**Third Sunday
in Advent**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOU CAN STILL SUPPORT THE BAZAAR!

Thanks to the following donations, we have a wonderful selection of raffles. We will draw for the winners during coffee fellowship TODAY and will be selling tickets until the time of the drawing. Thank you again to the following talented and generous members and friends:

Raj Bhatt	Long Grove Chocolates
Kathie Carr	Original Pastel Artwork
FOCW	Special Gift Basket
Nancy Lucius	Homemade Jams
Karen Malik	Framed Sports-themed Art
Geri Meyer	2 Collections of Egg Ornaments
Mary Steffen	Hand-made Afghan

A BIG "THANK YOU!"

Candee and the FOCW wish to thank everyone who put in so much time and effort to make the Christmas Bazaar another big success.

Lou Ann also says "Thanks" to all the Super Seniors (and "Junior" Seniors) who came out to support the Super Senior Christmas Party. And extra thanks to the Maliks for hosting and L.J. Slavin for such memorable entertainment!

NATIVITY DISPLAY

Pastor Fred has an extensive collection of Nativity Scenes. He has brought a few for us to see during this time of Advent. Please take some time during coffee fellowship to enjoy this display. Thank you, Fred!

BEACON DEADLINE

The deadline for Beacon submissions for the January issue is Monday, Dec 16th. The Beacon assembly falls right around Christmas and to respect the time of the volunteers who edit and assemble the Beacon we will stick to a very careful timeline. There will be NO extensions. Sylvia is going to edit the Beacon for January, so please send her your information at azuresbc@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

BLUE CHRISTMAS – DEC. 19

For some of us, the holidays can also be a time of struggling with illness or sadness or brokenness. We know some of us are facing a life-threatening illness, the death of a loved one, a divorce, job-loss, or a separation. Some single persons will feel especially alone during this time when families are so emphasized. For this reason, we will be having a service to remember the challenging parts of the Christmas holidays. God is present with us in our illness, sadness and grief as well as in our joy and celebration, and we expect the Holy Spirit to move in powerful ways at this service! Please join us for this special service. Please extend the invitation to family and friends you know are going through rough times. There will be a light meal served at 6:00, followed by the service at 7:00.

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE – Jan. 26, 2020

Our Annual Church Conference will be Sunday, January 26 right after our worship service. It is a time to reflect on our church ministries and missions of 2019 and to share our plans, visions, and dreams on our future ministries of 2020. All Board members and committee chairs should attend.

For the Annual Church Meeting **all the annual reports and forms** (written reports of accomplishments in 2019, financial reports, and plans and/or goals for 2020) are due in the church office by Dec. 31. Contact Peggy 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.

CONTINUED PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

Ron Zinkel, Sheryl Rohrbein, Dave H., Lucille Vece, Florence Anderson, Jan Hironimus, Mary Steffen’s sister Diane, Brian Zinkel, Melissa Pearson, Heidi’s friend Deb, Cheryl F.’s mom, Aiden Lucius, Mitch & Joann Beinkowski, Teddy Sta.Rosa, Louise’s co-worker, Geri Meyer, Ken Sorlie, Tony Rake, Angie Humphrey, Bob Reardon, Lilah Mae Stangeland, Jason Miele, Larry Bock, Leonor Braund, Florence Burton, Donna Gallmeyer-Dixon, Mickie Kisselburg, Scott Matthews, Billy Meyer, Laura Peroutka, Larisa Peterson, Brian Swanson

Note: Please contact the church office with any necessary updates.

Prayers of sympathy to Pastor Jason Hladik and his family on the passing of his brother Jeff.

PRAYER PARTNER EMAILS

If you would like to receive the Joys and Concerns Prayer Partner emails or if you have a concern please email Nancy Swanson at nraswanson@gmail.com or call her at 847-533-1766. Joys and Concerns from each Sunday's service are emailed each week.

BREAKFAST WITH FRIENDS

Start your week off right with a time of fellowship with friends from the church. We meet every week on Monday at 8:00 am at various area restaurants. Please check in with Pastor Soon Sun for details. Join us for coffee, breakfast or just good conversation.

DEVOTIONAL GUIDES

The *November/December* issue of "The Upper Room" devotional guide are now available in the literature rack on the table in the entry way. Approximate cost is 50 cents, which may be placed in the offering plate.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to have flowers on the Altar in memory or honor of a loved one, a friend, or a special occasion, contact Ann Petersen at 847-526-9005 or the church office at 847-526-8471. The cost of an arrangement is \$12.50.

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Soon Sun Lee

Youth Pastor: Rev. Crystal Calhoun-Johnson

Secretary: Peggy Martin

OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8am-12pm

Pastor Soon Sun's Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday, 10am-5pm

Pastor Crystal's Office Hours: Tuesday 9-5:00 & Thurs. 9-3:30

Church Phone: 847-526-8471

Church Website: www.federatedchurchofwauconda.org

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR – Dec. 15-22		
TODAY: Dec. 15		3 rd Sunday of Advent
	9:30 am	Children's Christmas Program
	11:00 am	Finance Committee
MON: Dec. 16		BEACON Deadline
	8:00 am	Breakfast with Friends
	9:00 am	Senior Exercise
	7:00 pm	AA Meeting
TUE: Dec. 17	10:00 am	Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
WED: Dec. 18	6:00 pm	T.O.P.S.
	7:00 pm	Federated Board
THURS: Dec. 19	10:00 am	Praying at Florence Anderson's house
	6:00 pm	Light Supper followed by -
	7:00 pm	Blue Christmas Service
	8:00 pm	Alanon Meeting
FRI: Dec. 20		
SAT: Dec. 21		
SUN: Dec. 22		4 th Sunday of Advent
	12:00 pm	HS Youth Christmas party @ the Carrs

LAY MINISTRIES: Next Sunday – December 22

Worship Assistant.....Melissa Pearson
 Ushers.....Ann Peterson, Tony Rake, Ruby Thacker
 Acolytes.....Hunter Lucius, Madison Lucius

Once Upon a Night

December 15, 2019

Cast

Mother – Linda Vrabec

Daughters – Isabella Dewar, Hero Lucius

Angel – Madison Lucius

Caesar Augustus – Hunter Lucius

Innkeeper – Cody Lucius

Shepherd Girl – Gabriella Stephens

Wise Ones – Bonnie DeBoer, Tom Martin, James Reichers

Shepherds – Fred Berchtold, Chuck Burton, Dave Fehlman,
Joe Humphrey,

Soloists – Larry Kujovich, Heidi Lee, Maria Stephens

Crew

Youth Pastor – Crystal Calhoun-Johnson

Musical Director – Melissa Pearson

Stage Director – Louise Bundy

Support Staff – Lisa Knight, Val Lucius, Michelle Stephens,
Nancy Swanson

Songs

Once Upon a Night

Taxes to the King

At the Inn in Bethlehem

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Shine On, Star

Gloria

The Best Gift

Once Upon a Night

A Special Thanks to the Choir for all their support with our music!

Blue Christmas

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died; it may be a time that has always been difficult. The constant refrains on radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost. The anguish of the death of a loved one can make us feel alone in the midst of celebrating and joy. We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness; we need to know that we are not alone. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us.

There are also times of distress, disbelief, anger, and loss; the loss of relationships, the loss of jobs, the loss of health for some.

There are times when life is good and beautiful, and celebration is appropriate. But during those times we sing sad songs of lament, protest and complain about the pain and harshness that life can sometimes be for us. We often feel afraid, angry, depressed, and ashamed. Putting words to this season can often be difficult. But we do this together in our address to God because He will give gifts of hope and peace that the Christmas story offers to us.

For that reason, we'd like to invite you and your family and friends. Even though you are a most joyful person, come to support those who are having a hard time and be a spirit of Christmas to them and show your kindness to others as you celebrate Christmas.

Blue Christmas

A Service of Remembrance and Hope

**The Holiday season is hard for some of us.
We support them that they are not alone.**

**Join us for a service of comfort,
of peace, and of hope.**

**December 19, 2019
Thursday, 7 pm with a light supper at 6 pm
at the Federated Church of Wauconda**



December 22, 9:30 am, 4th Sunday in Advent

Mini-Cantata and a Skit. The Carr Family will light the Advent Candles.

December 24, 4:00 pm, ABC Christmas Stories on Christmas Eve with Candlelight.

This service will consist of ABC Christmas stories, readings, special music by various people, and carols. Make this service the heart of your celebration on this season! Come to honor Jesus our Lord on Christmas Eve.

December 24, 11:00 pm Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

This is a service with carols, special music by Candee, Linda, and Louise, choir singing, Christmas stories, with candle lighting. It will be a day to bless our Lord, Jesus through our service.