

THE FEDERATED FORECAST

The Federated Church

612 W. State Street, Sycamore, IL 60178

Phone # 815-895-2706 Fax 815-899-2076

A Covenanted Congregation of

The United Church of Christ & The Unitarian Universalist Association

"An Open and Affirming Church"

Welcoming Any and Loving All

July 2018



In late July and early August, Meg and I will be off on vacation, taking a cruise out of London along the coast of Spain, with additional stops in Gibraltar and Lisbon. Visiting Spain has been on our – or, at least, my – “bucket list” for a very long time, for some reason I neither know nor understand. But we have reached the point in our lives when crossing things off “bucket lists” while we still can does feel like an important thing to do.

At the same time, I confess, there is a part of me that also feels a bit guilty doing so. No doubt, it’s my ingrained Protestant work ethic, my mind playing old-tapes from how I was brought up, the teaching that such self-indulgence is sinful given all that needs to get done and all those who live in need.

But being a driven workaholic ultimately is not healthy, no matter what Calvin and Luther (and Benjamin Franklin, for that matter) taught with their emphasis on being emphatically devoted to systematic productive work. It’s not healthy because it can lead to the equating of economic success with moral superiority. It’s not healthy because it can result in unnecessary self-denial that keeps us from fully enjoying life in the world God created. It’s not healthy because it can give birth to a judgmental attitude rather than genuine respect toward others.

And it is unhealthy because that’s not the way God made us to be.

We human beings need times of rest – not just 8 hours of sleep each night, but at least 1 day off every week. We need time for recreation – to get away and enjoy ourselves. We need times of retreat – to go off and reflect on what we have become and where we are going. We need time for renewal – to recover from the toll taken on body, mind, and soul by the realities of stress, anxiety, and worry.

It’s increasingly evident that the American people are tired, nay exhausted, by the chaos and conflict being created in our country today. There also is no question that the struggle for justice is far from over, and that people of faith are in it for the long term.

But let us not forget that God created the Sabbath Day to help meet our human need for rest from work. Let us not forget that Jesus is depicted in the scriptures as frequently going off by himself for periods of prayer. Let us not forget that it is more than okay to not always keep our noses to the grindstone – it’s both healthy and necessary to take a break, to take care of ourselves, to renew our energy.

Now, if only I can remember that...

Peace and joy!

Kent

God Speaks Through Our Worship



Sunday, July 1

Liturgist: Sharon McKee
Communion
Feed My Sheep

Sunday, July 8

Liturgist: Judy Hoke

Sunday, July 15

Liturgist: Skip Schamer
Congregational Meeting

Sunday, July 22

Liturgist: Carl von Ende

Sunday, July 29

Liturgist: Bill Griesenauer

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Worship Service

Worship 10:00 am

Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am

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Flowers & Fellowship Hosts

*Please share your commemoration
of personal dates with your church family
by providing Altar Flowers
for the morning worship.*

*The cost is \$25.00 and envelopes are provided
for your convenience.*

*You are welcome to take the flowers home with you
following the service.*

***Please commit to these important roles by signing the
sheets in Dutton Fellowship Hall.***

Altar Flowers

July 1	Tom & Sharon Foster in honor of their anniversary
July 8	OPEN
July 15	OPEN
July 22	OPEN
July 29	OPEN

Fellowship Hosts

July 1	OPEN
July 8	OPEN
July 15	OPEN
July 22	Dave & Suzanne Juday
July 29	OPEN



Preschool



Summer time is here! We do miss the laughter, noise and energy of all the children at preschool. But summer gives us the time and space to clean, paint, and arrange the rooms, resource room and playground for the upcoming school year. GUESS WHAT? The September 2018-2019 school year is Federated Church's 50th year of their early childhood education ministry! Anita Kendall had a vision and it became a reality 50 years ago when the Federated Church Nursery School opened the doors to the 3, 4, and 5 year olds of Northern Illinois. The lower hall of the church was transformed into a teaching space and became a safe, loving, and nurturing environment for any and all children. They played and learned among their peers and began their formal education. It is the longest running program to date in DeKalb County in this field. Congratulations to each and every church member who has helped in volunteering, working, financing and praying for your ministry and the awesome work it has done and continues to do for the families and their children.

Celebrating
50
Years



From the Board of Mission and Society

Feed My Sheep Sunday—July 1

Non-perishable food items are collected on the first Sunday of the month, but you are welcome to place them in the basket in Dutton Hall at any time!

July Love Offering: Federated Preschool

The Board of Mission and Society will be accepting monetary donations to help our Federated Preschool program. In the fall of 1968, before the benefits of early childhood education were valued, the congregation of the Federated Church voted to use its classrooms for a nursery school. Fifty years later this same school is still actively nurturing the needs of today's preschool children.

Envelopes for the monthly Love Offerings can be found in a basket at the back of the church or in the attendance folders. Or you can put "Love Offering" on memo line of your check.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational Meeting of the membership of The Federated Church will be held on Sunday, July 15, immediately following the worship service.

The purposes of the meeting are to update the congregation on the mid-year financial position/condition of the Church, to hear an update from the Transition Team, and to consider a possible exception to our building use policy.

Your attendance at this meeting is encouraged to assure the continued health and vitality of Federated Church. See you all after church on July 15 in Dutton Hall.

From the Federated Trustees' Roundtable:

In an ongoing effort to generate increased revenue for Federated Church, and to better utilize our building and its attributes, the Trustees have been working with our wedding coordinator – Katelyn Fogle-Lancaster – to put together a program to market Federated Church as a wedding/reception venue.

In our discussions, the Trustees have become aware that couples looking for wedding venues today are preferring to hold the receptions in facilities where the serving of wine and beer is permitted.

Accordingly, at the upcoming mid-year congregational meeting on July 15th Trustees will be asking the congregation if they are willing, when parties are renting Dutton Hall for a wedding reception, to make an exception to the current 'no alcohol policy on church property' to allow the serving of wine and beer during the reception celebration – including champagne for any celebratory gestures.

The Trustees will be available for post-service informational sessions the two Sundays prior to the July 15th meeting. We hope to share in these sessions what we have learned to date and to hear all of your questions and concerns regarding this request for exception.

This step of determining the congregation's openness to permitting the serving of wine and beer at wedding receptions is necessary to allow the Trustees to continue development of prudent policies and practices for building use, to move forward in the establishment of a marketing approach to promote The Federated Church as a wedding/reception site in the Sycamore/DeKalb area, and hopefully to secure additional revenue to sustain our congregation.

Knowing such a change in policy is a potentially sensitive matter, we encourage everyone to take advantage of the post-service informational sessions prior to our congregational discussion and any decision-making steps on July 15th.

Nate Kitterman – Chair of Federated Trustees



Membership and Fellowship Board News

From Board Chair, Pam Wagener

Plan now to attend "It Shoulda Been You"; the musical presented by Stage Coach Players in DeKalb on Saturday, July 21, 2018.

The Board of Membership and Fellowship is planning an outing for you. Dinner first at Rosita's and then on to Stage Coach to see "It Shoulda Been You." Here is a synopsis of the show.

The bride is Jewish. The groom is Catholic. Her mother is a force of nature. His mother is a tempest in a cocktail shaker. And, when the bride's ex-boyfriend crashes the party, the perfect wedding starts to unravel faster than you can whistle "Here Comes the Bride!" It's up to the sister of the bride to turn a tangled mess into happily ever after in this musical comedy for anyone who ever had parents.

Tickets need to be purchased before the show so a firm commitment is needed. Tickets are approximately \$15 each. Please sign up as soon as possible.

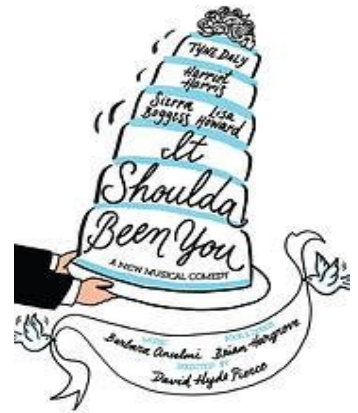
Looking forward to seeing you at this fun summer event!

It Shoulda Been You

Directed by Jan Kuntz

Musical Direction by Judy O'Connor

Music by Barbara Anselmi and book and lyrics by Brian Hargrove.

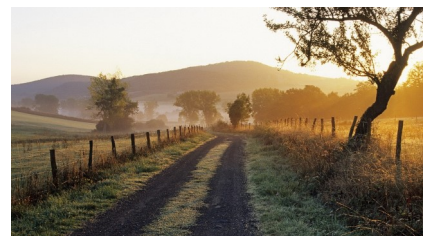


Another July Event planned by the Board of Membership and Fellowship!!

Plan to meet your Federated Friends at the Sycamore Park to hear the last band in the summer concert series on Thursday, July 26, 2018 at 7 pm. Weather permitting, of course.

Bring a snack and drink and a chair and table if you have one. You can also buy drinks and food at the concession stand. Plan to come early to stake out your spot to listen to, dance, and have fun while listening to **Back Country Roads**.

Back Country Roads plays top 40 Country hits and a few older selections. The 6-piece band plays some of their original music and adds a variety of music in their own unique way. This band plays all over the Midwest.



THE FEDERATED CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT
May 31, 2018

This report covers only those funds available for paying operating expenses and does not include bequests, designated pass through funds, or unrealized gains from investments.

The operating income for May was \$15,810 and the month's operating expenses were \$15,506 This means that we had \$304 more income than expense.

The year to date **operating** statement income was \$95,671 and the **operating** expenses were \$81,932. This means we have \$13,739 more income than expense.

The Pork Chop Dinner project had a net income of \$3,010.44. We are doing a good job holding expenses in line. The search committees have not had significant expenses to date.

Notes:

During the month of February the church received \$25,500 in bequests from the Virginia and Arnie Larson Estate and the Ron Blickem Family. The council voted to place these undesignated funds into the Roof Replacement Account.

Reminder: If you designate a portion of the Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA to be deposited directly to the church bank account, you do not have to pay income tax on that portion.

NUMERICAL SUMMARY
OPERATING CASH FLOW
May 31, 2018

Y-T-D	Y-T-D	
ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE

INCOME

Total General Contributions	76,100	72,400	3,700
Trust & Interest Income	12,162	11,717	445
Total Other Income	7,409	2,985	4,424
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	95,671	87,102	8,569

EXPENSE

Total Administrative Expense	53	4,000	-3,948
Total Bd of Trustees	42,227	39,434	2,793
Total Bd of Membership & Fellowship	211	0	211
Total Bd of Religious Education	29	520	-491
Total Bd of Deacons	37,932	37,353	579
Total Bd of Mission & Society	1,481	2,000	-519
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	81,932	83,307	-1,374

OPERATING CASH FLOW	13,739	3,795	9,943
(Income less Expenses)			

Respectfully submitted,
David Wood, Assistant Treasurer



Prayers for Healing from Illness or Injury

Friend of Judy Hoke
 Pam Kitterman's brother
 Margot Mattin
 Pam Wagener

Prayers for Peace at Time of Passing

Family of Georgiann Baird
 Family of Daisette McGrath
 Family of Carol Stubbs
 Family of Nancy Wood's sister

Additional Prayer Requests

Rachel and family, niece of Bev Whildin

Prayer requests are listed for eight weeks, unless the need has passed or you request its listing extended

Note: If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please let Liz know. Thank You.



Holy Communion by intinction will be July 1.

Liturgist for July

July 1	Sharon McKee
July 8	Judy Hoke
July 15	Skip Schramer
July 22	Carl vonEnde
July 29	Bill Greisenauer

Sign-up Sheet for September-October Liturgists is in Dutton Hall.

PRIME RIB SPECIAL IN YOUR FUTURE?

Guys' & Girls' Night Out

Plan now to join your Federated Friends at Sorrento's on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 6 pm for the Prime Rib Special or any other item on the menu. This is our annual event for the men and women to socialize together and eat a great meal. This year we will be in the room off the main dining room so we can be as rowdy as we want to be. The door closes!!

Please sign up now.



Dear Federated Church,

We would like to thank you for the delicious dinner that was received from your church.

The meal was very well enjoyed and gratefully appreciated.

Thank you for your kindness and act of love. God bless you and your Church.

Your friends,

Marty, Alice Tommie, John and Matt

DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center



July Birthdays

07/01	Steven Benton
07/03	Elizabeth Finney
07/03	Dylan Foster
07/03	Tomi Griesenauer
07/04	Richard Evers
07/07	Tyler Bork
07/08	Pam Jackson
07/08	Jerry Henderson
07/08	Bill Finney
07/14	Barbara Strayve
07/15	John McBride
07/15	Tyler Slack
07/15	Benjamin Smelser
07/16	Judy Hoke Jackson
07/19	James Crosby
07/24	Anna Walzer
07/29	Katie Swedberg



July Anniversaries

07/01	Tom & Sharon Foster
07/01	Kent & Meg Ulery
07/24	Gary & Margot Mattin
07/31	Johnathon & Crystal Foster



Stewardship Report

Week ending June 24, 2018

Attendance:	39
Kids' Club:	
Offering Y-T-D:	76,341.46
Covenant with God:	\$ 158,169.00



Monday, July 16

Your Federated Church Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Kent Ulery
Pastor's Emergency: 207-570-5627
Pastor's email: kent@ulery.net
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dale Beaman
Administrative Assistant: Liz Finney
Admin Assistant email: thefederatedchurch@frontier.com
Director of Music: Gary Mattin
Music email: mattincurtain50@aol.com
Keyboardist: Yule Dain Yoon
Handbell Director: Marilyn Montzka
Custodian: Almasa Camo
Office phone: 815-895-2706
Office fax: 815-899-2076
Office email: thefederatedchurch@frontier.com
Web Link: <http://thefederatedchurchsycamore.com>

Federated Preschool

Preschool Director: Jan Scheffers
Preschool phone: 815-764-9473
Federated Preschool email:



Upcoming Events:

Sunday, July 15	Congregational Meeting
Saturday, July 21	Stage Coach Play
Wednesday, July 25	Guys' & Gals' Night Out—Sorrento's
Thursday, July 26	Concert in the Park
Friday, July 27	Back Packs Set-up
Sunday, July 29	Packing Back Packs

Church Leadership

Moderator:
Pam Kitterman 815-899-7032
Assistant Moderator:
Jerry Lane 815-895-2617
Clerk:
Suzanne Juday 815-895-2082
Treasurer:
Karen Hamingson 815-895-4631
Assistant Treasurers:
David Wood 815-756-1680
Linda Babcock 815-758-0763
Council Members-at Large:
Nancy Renfer 815-895-4742
Dave Wood 815-756-1680
Board of Deacons:
Linda Babcock 815-758-0763
Bill Griesenauer 773-720-8324
Board of Membership & Fellowship:
Pam Wagener 815-895-9852
Alice Whitney 815-895-5023
Board of Mission & Society:
Paula von Ende 815-758-7375
Fe Gould 815-901-7313
Board of Religious Education:
Malorie Nelson 815-784-6060
Tomi Greisenauer 312-802-1486
Board of Trustees:
Nate Kitterman 815-751-1481
Skip Schramer 815-751-4817

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee

Jerry Lane
Roger Jacobson
Karen Hamingson
Nancy Renfer

The Federated Church

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Feed My Sheep 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:30am Bd. of Religious Ed. 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	2 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	3	4 Independence Day	5 8:00pm AA	6	7
8 8:30am Membership Bd 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	9	10 1:00pm Harambee Rehearsal	11 9:00am Sewing Circle	12 1:00pm Harambee Rehearsal 7:00pm Church Council 8:00pm AA	13	14
15 Congregational Meeting 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:30am Board of Deacons 11:30am Bd of Mission & Society 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	16 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	17 1:00pm Harambee Rehearsal	18 9:00am Sewing Circle	19 1:00pm Harambee Rehearsal 5:30pm Bd. of Trustees 8:00pm AA	20	21 7:30pm Stage Coach Play
22 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	23	24 1:00pm Harambee Rehearsal	25 9:00am Sewing Circle 6:00pm Guys & Gals Night Out	26 1:00pm Harambee Rehearsal 7:00pm Concert in the Park 8:00pm AA	27 6:00pm Back Packs Set-up	28
29 10:00am Worship 11:00am Packing Backpacks 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	30	31				