



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

October 2018



Patience...Persistence...Prayer

Patience...Persistence...Prayer

Patience...Persistence...Prayer

With the naming of the Search Committee on September 30, and with the Local Church Profile nearing completion with final input from the Transition Team and the Church Council, we have reached the midpoint of the interim period and are entering a new stage.

With the help of Illinois Conference Associate Conference Minister Kathy Lawes of the Prairie Association, the Search Committee will be trained, study our Local Church Profile, advertise the opening nationally, read Ministerial Profiles of persons seeking first calls and new calls, secure additional information, interview finalists, and discern that one person whom they believe God would have serve here next...all the while keeping the congregation informed of progress while maintaining confidence about the identities of those being considered.

Three things are necessary for this next stage: **Patience...Persistence...Prayer**. Forget any of the three, and you can be sure problems will follow.

Patience: This stage takes time. It must not be rushed and there is no need to rush. Decision-making by consensus requires honest discussion and should not be done under pressure. God often works with timelines different than local congregations and pastoral candidates...and God's time is always right. So, let's enjoy the time we still have together as interim pastor and people, and allow the Search Committee all the time and space it needs to do their work right.

Persistence: Experience suggests pastoral searches have both periods of significant progress and seasons of waiting expectantly for the next step. No doubt, there will be disagreements within the search committee that must be worked through to reach true consensus, and there will be disappointments along the way. But the covenant of the Search Committee is to stick with their charge to find the right person until the task is accomplished, and the covenant of the congregation with the Search Committee is to never lag in support of their faithful efforts.

Prayer: The search for a pastor differs from virtually every other hiring process. It is more than advertising a position, interviewing, and picking someone who is qualified. The spiritual dimension of a call takes the search process to a different level. Now we're talking about nothing less than discerning God's will. That requires prayer. Someone out there is the answer to this congregation's prayer. This congregation is the answer to someone's prayer. So, let us constantly lift the Search Committee up in all our prayers, that through their efforts God's will shall be done.

Patience...Persistence...Prayer.

Say it aloud: **Patience...Persistence...Prayer.**

Repeat it again and never forget it: **Patience...Persistence...Prayer.**

Peace and joy!

Kent

God Speaks Through Our Worship



Sunday, October 7

Liturgist: Jerry Lane
Communion
Feed My Sheep

Sunday, October 14

Liturgist: Linda Babcock
Handbell Sunday

Sunday, October 21

Liturgist: TBD

Sunday, October 28

Liturgist: TBD
Family Sunday
Penny March

IN THIS ISSUE

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

October 7	OPEN
October 14	OPEN
October 21	OPEN
October 28	OPEN

Fellowship Hosts Board of Deacons

October 7	OPEN
October 14	OPEN
October 21	OPEN
October 28	OPEN





Moderator's Notes

It's nearly impossible to believe that September is coming to an end! And, haven't we had a busy month! We have Rally Day behind us; our preschool's ice cream social; a Bunco Night; Ladies and Guys Nights Out; and each event has given all of us much joy! Yet while we were relaxing and having some fun, food, and fellowship, we ALL remained busy behind the scenes attending different committee meetings within our Boards; the Transition Committee will be wrapping up their gathering of information for the new Search Committee (that Church Council will be recommending to the members at our Congregational Meeting Sunday, September, 30); and the Stewardship Campaign will be kicking off soon with Peg Vitkus and her team leading the charge! The Pig Roast drive-through dinner will be held on October 4...tickets are still available to be purchased....along with purchased donated tickets that can be given to the committee so that the Sycamore Civic Apartments and nursing homes may enjoy the pig roast dinner; and Paula vonEnde along with her group are rounding up worker bees to help with the Fall Thrift Sale! So, please take a few minutes to read through the October Newsletter! It's filled with all sorts of information and activities that continue to make our church a very enthusiastic, friendly, and loving community!

Pam Kitterman
Moderator

The Board of Mission and Society

Feed My Sheep Sunday—October 7

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!



October Love Offering-Neighbors In Need

This is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of the NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Envelopes for the monthly Love Offerings can be found in a basket at the back of the church or in the attendance folders.



Membership and Fellowship Board News From Board Chair, Pam Wagener



The Ladies Night Out for October will be at the Hillside Restaurant in DeKalb on Monday, October 22 at 6:00 pm to celebrate Octoberfest!

NOTE: No Bunco in October.

Thank You From Federated Preschool

September 19, 2018

Dear Federated Church Members:

I love handwritten notes as they offer an old fashioned feel of gratitude and display of personal feelings from the writer. I am typing this so it can be put in the newsletter for all to see and be included. Please as you read this think of a crisp white card with little multi-colored handprints stamped all over it with hand written words expressing thoughts from my heart.

The beginning celebration for Federated Church's once Nursery School which is now evolved into Federated Church Preschool was amazing and beautiful. Thank you does not begin to capture the feelings in my heart and the singing in my soul.

Pam Kitterman, in the role of moderator, began discussions with me the celebration that the church wanted to give the families of the preschool. She met with me and kept me updated while asking for input and we worked toward the date in September that was picked for the Ice Cream Social. I thank Pam for her guidance, suggestions, kindness and overall loving leadership.

An event like this cannot be successful without many helping hands and hearts. I thank all the church members in every, and any role they played to make this family event so sweet. The room had to be set up, the refreshments were made, purchased and then arranged and were served to all the waiting tummies. After the event there is always the clean-up. No job is overlooked.

The families felt so welcomed and were so relaxed while enjoying sure delight-dessert! The children really enjoyed picking their toppings for the ice cream and especially picking the color of their drink. I heard all about it by each one. Thank you for the kindness and patience given to the little ones as they took their time picking, and then changing their mind or dropping an occasional goodie. The families were relaxed and felt "at home" and said it was a great way to start the 50 year celebration.

I was happy to see Mrs. Kendall, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Pfund and Mrs. Van Buren arrive in the beginning when families were scarce as this gave them time to meet church members and catch up with old acquaintances. They toured their old classrooms and then said their farewells. Then the children began arriving little by little to fill up Dutton Hall with laughter, smiles, and very messy chins and noses.

I was the only one at the church service and for all the hard work and thought put into it I am sorry. I am sorry that others did not get to enjoy the blessing of the joy you put into the music, readings, sermon and spoken joys. My tank is filled with such emotion and feelings of love from this one special hour. The song selection spoke words about teachers, children and God. The words spoken were appreciated. Pastor Kent's sermon was designed to reach our hearts about the reading and weaved in the 50 years of your ministry of educating children while addressing what the spoken word can do negative and positive. I am here to say all of your spoken words along with the actions of the service began the 50 years off as a true blessing from God. It was a treasured gift I will remember always and an authentic spiritual out-pouring from all of your souls.

Continued page 6

I contacted Pam and let her know how well the celebration went on Sunday. We brainstormed and decided to use the remaining ice cream and opened toppings for our color celebration on Wednesday and Thursday for the children who were not able to make it. In God's perfect way there was just enough left over for those two days and the children present. The little ones were so excited that they got to have ice cream after all.

I am humbled that God has allowed me the blessing of this important role in your church as director of a true cornerstone in this community. Families repeatedly express their belief in Federated Preschool and what it does for their children and family. They let me know that others gave them the reference and high praise about the educational program. Please understand the importance of your continued support, assistance, prayers, positive words and physical presence for each child who enters your doors at 612 West State Street. Your village vows to give each and every child the equal and important nurturing to develop and grow into what God has designed them to be.

I am blessed. I am thankful. I am forever joyful for the start of this special year. Thank you.

Love,

Jan

The Board of Mission and Society is sponsoring a Fall Thrift Sale.

The Thrift Sale will be held Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20. Donations of all types of fall and cold weather clothing, especially children's sizes, are welcome. We could also use fall and Christmas decorations, toys, bedding and household goods. The fall and Christmas decorations were especially popular last year and it would be great to see this area grow!

The Thrift Sale hours are:

Set-up, Thursday, October 18	9 am-5 pm	
Sale, Friday, October 19:	9 am-4 pm	
Sale, Saturday, October 20:	9 am-1 pm	\$5 -fill a brown bag sale

All donations should be clean and in good condition. They may be dropped off in the all-purpose room beginning October 14 with set-up on Thursday, October 18. Please save brown paper bags from Hy-Vee or other stores. They are needed on Saturday for the \$5 brown bag sale. **No electronics, including printers and computers, phones, please.**

***Helpers are needed for the Thrift Sale set-up, sale, and clean up. Sign-up in Dutton Hall.**





Federated Prayer Shawl Ministry

In approximately 2012, Rosella Nagy, wife of Interim Minister, Bill Nagy had a conversation with Carol Fogle. Knowing that Carol was a crafter Rosella mentioned a program her home church had begun: a prayer shawl ministry. Congregants create a prayer shawl for fellow member. Carol talked with people who might be interested in knitting or crocheting prayer shawls and thus began our ministry.

People who had never crocheted or knitted along with experienced people got together twice a month to share knowledge and to do a good deed. The learning experience could be intensive for some of us. For those of us still learning our first prayer shawls were not rectangles or triangles – more trapezoidal in appearance! My first one became a blanket for the cat. We learned from each other and shared our lives together.

If you are interested in learning to knit or crochet or want to become part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, we meet the first and third Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. in the Youth Room

At first we gave away the shawls as needed and did not keep track of who received them. Now we have a book that keeps track of who receives the shawls and when they are given. Since we started recording, approximately 100 shawls have been given to many people. The prayer shawls are stored in the Youth Room and are available as needed. We have baby blankets, wedding shawls, and shawls for a variety of needs. Several times a year the prayer shawls are blessed in a church service by the minister.

Here is some information about prayer shawls I found at www.shawlministry.com.

"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing,

symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God.

They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace,

mother, hug, shelter and beautify.

Those who have received these shawls have been

uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to

fly above their troubles..."

Written in 1998 by: Janet Severi Bristow Copyright ©2018

Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls, or Mantles, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it onto someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!

Shawls can be used for: undergoing medical procedures; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during bereavement; prayer or meditation; commitment or marriage ceremonies; birthing, nursing a baby; bridal shower or wedding gift; during an illness and recovery; ministering to others; graduation, birthday, anniversary, ordination, holiday gifts; or just socializing...there are endless possibilities!

Pam Wagener



Sondra King Memorial CROP Hunger Walk Coming Soon!

The DeKalb County North (Sondra King Memorial) CROP Hunger Walk will be here before you know it! Sunday, October 14th is the date and the walk will step off from the First Congregational United Church of Christ in DeKalb at 3:00. Federated Church needs walkers and donors to help us

help others!

Church World Service is the organization which originated the CROP Hunger Walks almost 35 years ago. DeKalb County has been involved ever since that time. Nationally, in 2017, there were 900 walks with 107,000 participants raising \$9,000,000. Before the walks, though, grain was harvested and gleaned and shipped overseas to areas of the world which were war-torn or where need for food was dire. We continue that honorable tradition every year through our participation in the CROP Hunger Walk.

Brief facts about hunger:

795 million people around the world do not have enough food to lead a healthy, active life

1 out of 6 children – roughly 100 million – in developing countries is underweight

Around the world, hunger kills more people than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined

Hunger is on the rise

Locally, the agencies which serve people in need and which provide food (such as Hope Haven, Safe Passage, and VAC-Meals on Wheels) are always in great need (25% of the funds we raise are used to support these agencies as well as Barb Food Mart, Bethlehem Food Pantry, and the Sycamore Food Pantry).

To make a donation or to register to walk, go to <http://www.crophungerwalk/dekalbil>. The team name is Federated Church.

Last year, Federated raised \$1,790 of our walk's \$24,000 total. With your help, we can do it again!

To get involved, contact Jerry Lane (text 815-762-8339) or Jean Evans (email at jean-nied431@gmail.com) or call 815-895-2617.





Hope Haven of DeKalb County, Inc.

"Serving the homeless and the community for over 20 years"

September 10, 2018

The Federated Church
612 W. State Street
Sycamore, IL 60115

Dear Congregation,

Thank you so much for inviting me to speak at your service about Hope Haven and our programs. I especially want to thank you for inviting our six girls from "The Squad," one of our therapy groups for youth who have experienced childhood trauma. Although they were nervous, they were touched by the realization that you cared and listened so intently about their journey to Canada.

As many of you know, the girls came back from Canada only to discover they didn't have a home, or a safe home, to return to. The sudden crisis was met with a loving and quick response by Dave & Suzanne Juday, parishioners at your church. On September 1st, the girls moved into their own home, with a nurturing house parent to provide them with guidance, love, and care that they always deserved. Your congregation's outpouring of support through donations and gifts helped create a comfortable and functional home, and for that, I am deeply grateful. The girls are adjusting to this new life of security and warmth, and would like to thank everyone who intervened during their time of need.

Thank you again for the compassion you have shown these girls. The benefits from years of treatment they have received, could only be sustained once the risk of re-traumatization was eliminated. They have resiliency and desire to take advantage of all that has been given to them, and a commitment to live a life of purpose and gratitude. Thank you.

With much gratitude,

Lesly

Lesly D. Wicks, LCSW
Executive Director



Prayers for Healing from Illness or Injury

Dick Carter

Don Gould

Karen Hamingson's cousin, John

Judy Hoke's brother-in-law, Milton

Pam Kitterman's brother, Larry

Margot Mattin

Victims of Hurricane Florence

Prayers for Peace at Time of Passing

Bill Lantz's family

Joe Fraccaro's family

Gip Seaver's brother, Scott Seaver's family

Pastor Kent's nephew, Gabe's family

Jerry Lane and family

Additional Prayer Requests

Rachel and family, niece of Bev Whildin

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

PIG ROAST

A logo featuring the words "PIG ROAST" in a bold, black, serif font. Below the text are five stars, with a silhouette of a pig in the center.

Pig Roast Drive-Through Dinner

Pig Roast Drive-Through Dinner **UPDATE**

Please return all money and any unsold tickets to the church office or Alice Whitney by October 1st. If you sell tickets the week of the sale, just call Alice (815-901-2896) by Wednesday morning and tell her how many you sold, so we get the right number to Inboden's.

And sign up to work on the 4th. Sign-up sheets can be found in Dutton Hall, but if you forget to sign up, please come at 3:00 to help out.

The church will be sponsoring a drive-through/eat-in dinner the late afternoon of Thursday, October 4th. The dinner will be catered by Inboden's and will include pulled pork from a roasted pig, baked beans, twice baked potato salad, applesauce, a roll, and a dessert (cookie, brownie, or bar cookie.)

The planning committee includes Alice and Tony Whitney, Skip Schramer, and Suzanne Juday.

Please see any one of them if you have questions.

Tickets for the Drive-Through Dinner have been distributed or mailed. Extra tickets are available in the church office. Although it is important that we all show up the day of the dinner to work, it is equally important that we sell tickets. Tickets are \$12.00 each.





October Birthdays

02	Phil Wagener
03	Paige Walk
05	Glenn Hollister
08	Thomas Foster
09	Skip Schramer
09	Alexandra Smith
11	Marilyn Montzka
17	Carlene Bauer
18	David Finney
18	Barb Salvatore
19	Earl Seaver
19	Crystal Foster
20	Annie Olle
20	Lily Becker
20	Ozzie Nikitopoulos
21	Jacob Welcker
23	Sharon Foster
24	Judy Winter
24	Oliver Nikitopoulos
25	Johnathan Foster
25	Elliott Marsh
30	Nina Slack



October Anniversaries

01	Tony & Alice Whitney
04	Katelyn & Mike Lancaster
13	Thomas & Kimberly Foster
14	Don & Fe Gould
19	Brad & Malorie Nelson
20	John & Sue McCue
25	Ray & Randi Napientek



*Daylight-Saving
Time Ends*

Sunday,
November 4



Stewardship Report

Week ending September 23, 2018
 Attendance: 43
 Kids' Club: 2
 Offering Y-T-D: \$ 118,480.59
 Covenant with God: \$ 158,169.00
 Hurricane Relief Fund \$240.00



Monday, October 15 at 6:30 pm
 Sam's in Cortland

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:

Sandra Mineau pastor at Woodside Congregational Church in Rockford is collecting bottle tops. They will be recycled into benches, similar to those at Mayfield.

Please call if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

815-229-3265



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

Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday and Thursday
9:30am—4:30pm

Secretary's Office Hours

Monday—Wednesday—Friday
9:00am—3:00pm
Tuesday—Thursday
9:00am—noon

The Federated Church

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	2 8:30am Federated Preschool 5:30pm Church Council	3 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	4 8:30am Federated Preschool 4:00pm Fall Pig Roast 8:00pm AA	5 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	6
7 Communion Feed My Sheep 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Club 11:15am Fellowship 11:30am Bd. of Religious Ed. 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	8 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	9 8:30am Federated Preschool	10 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	11 8:30am Federated Preschool 7:00pm Church Council 8:00pm AA	12 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	13
14 Handbell Sunday 8:30am Membership Bd 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Club 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	15 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:00pm Guy's Night Out 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	16 8:30am Federated Preschool	17 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	18 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:00pm Fall Thrift Sale Set-up 5:30pm Bd. of Trustees 8:00pm AA	19 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Fall Thrift Sale 12:30pm Federated Preschool	20 9:00am Fall Thrift Sale
21 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Club 11:15am Fellowship 11:30am Bd of Mission & Society 11:30am Board of Deacons 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	22 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:00pm Ladies Night Out	23 8:30am Federated Preschool	24 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	25 8:30am Federated Preschool 8:00pm AA	26	27
28 Family Sunday Penny March 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Club 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	29	30 8:30am Federated Preschool	31 Halloween 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal			