



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

February 2019

Pastor's Corner

A big thanks to Carl von Ende, co-chair of the Search Committee, for explaining the next steps in the search process at our 91st Annual Congregational Meeting. Afterwards I was asked a few questions. So, I thought describing the process in writing might be helpful, particularly for those unable to attend due to inclement weather or other good reason.

Q: How will potential applicants know we are looking for our next called pastor?

A: The vacancy is posted on the national UCC website, at this moment along with 17 other UCC congregations in Illinois which are searching. Potential candidates respond to the description of our opening by having their ministerial profile sent to our search committee. Each ministerial profile has a current background check attached, done by a third-party vendor.

Q: How will potential applicants see our full profile?

A: After our search committee studies the ministerial profiles received, it will select candidates in whom they have interest, and will send our profile directly to them. After studying our profile, each candidate has the option of expressing continued interest or withdrawing. Initial interviews by Skype, requesting more information, checking references, and face-to-face final interviews with 3 to 5 candidates follow.

Q: Carl said we have received 16 ministerial profiles so far. Will we receive more?

A: Yes, potential candidates are entering the search process all the time. Our search committee will continue receiving profiles until it discerns it has found the one God wills to serve here next.

Q: Can we see the congregational profile?

A: Of course! Carl tells me he will place a copy in Dutton Hall in the near future.

Q: How will we know a candidate is supportive of our being an Open and Affirming (ONA) church?

A: Both our national listing and our profile indicate we are ONA. Experience suggests candidates will let their personal position be known in their ministerial profile. If not, the search committee has the right to ask where they stand on this (and any other) issue.

Q: Will we be able to hear the candidates preach?

A: Only the final candidate recommended for call by the congregation. The search committee is charged with finding the best candidate based upon multiple skills, not just preaching, and we don't want to turn this search into a preaching contest at the end. The search committee may request and consider an audio or video recording of a sermon, ask candidates to preach in neutral pulpit where the search committee sits in the pews and listens, or attend a service in the candidates' current churches.

Q: How long will it take the search committee to find our next called pastor?

A: Only God knows! The search committee needs to be patient, persistent, and prayerful. If the search committee forgets any of the three, there will be problems ahead. What the search committee does not need is pressure from the congregation. God will provide in God's time. In the meantime, I'm very happy to continue serving as your Interim Minister.

Peace and joy!

Ken

God Speaks Through Our Worship



Sunday, February 3

Liturgist: Dave Juday
Communion
Feed My Sheep
All Boards Meeting

Sunday, February 10

Liturgist: Skip Schramer

Sunday, February 17

Liturgist: Amy Douglass

Sunday, February 24

Liturgist: TBD
Family Sunday
Penny March

I N T H I S I S S U E

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

- February 3 Linda Mason in celebration of daughter's wedding
- February 10 Marilyn Montzka in honor of Linc. Smelser's birthday
- February 17 Polly & Dick Carter in honor of their
wedding anniversary
- February 24 Marion Bennett in memory of her son, Michael

Fellowship Hosts

Board of Deacons

- February 3 Linda Babcock & Judy Winter
- February 10 Judy Winter
- February 17 Suzanne & Dave Juday
- February 24 Pam & Nate Kitterman



Church DEACONS

Holy Communion on February 3 will be by intinction.

A sign-up sheet to be a liturgist is on the credenza in Dutton Hall. Don't wait to be asked. Each and every volunteer is very welcome.

The Deacons will host the coffee hour after church on Sundays in February. However, if you would like to help or take a Sunday, that would be welcomed as well.



To Federated Church Members & the Board of Deacons,

Thank you very much for the cookie tray of delicious treats you gave John for the holidays! It was so nice of you to think of him.

Take care,
Sue & John
McCue



To Federated Church members,
Thank you so much for the tray of cookies. We enjoyed them very much

Carlene Bauer



Safe Passage

No one deserves to be abused.

Dear Federated Church,

Thank you so much for your donation to Safe Passage during the holiday season!

We are so grateful for your continued support of our agency!

Have a very happy new year!

Sincerely,

Kendal—Safe Passage Staff



The month of January has proved to be difficult to get outside to play and move. The temperatures have been below a safe temperature or the ice has made the surface very slick and difficult to move on. We continue to use Dutton Hall as our gym and move our large muscles and use some of the energy that comes with youth.

We have been learning about penguins which enjoy the warmth of the sun and also find happiness sitting on top of an iceberg. We had fun dressing as penguins, eating a black & white snack (Oreo Cookies!) and true penguin food, fish (Goldfish crackers) for snack. They are amazing creatures which have taught us very interesting things during our search for penguin facts.

We also continue learning numbers, letters, colors, shapes and so much more every day through play and learning activities.

We have learned daily life lessons in social skills, manners, and treating each other as we would like to be treated. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday was a day off from school but we learned about the man and his legacy to the world and for all children to grow in peace, acceptance and love. Speaking of love, February is just around the corner and we are already getting busy and excited about Valentine's Day.

Stay safe and warm when outside and start thinking of who needs a card or wish of love and friendship from you come February 14th, 2019. We wish you love and lots of chocolate too!



Jan & Staff



But

Due to conditions beyond my control

Rain SNOW Ice Temperatures below zero

The February newsletter is finished.

Enjoy!!!



Mission and Society News

February Love Offering to Benefit First Friday Friends Club

Your Love Offering this month will be used to support the First Friday Friends Club, part of Hospice, facilitated by Jen Conley, music therapist and licensed professional counselor, at North-western Medicine Home Health and Hospice at Kishwaukee Hospital. The club meets the first Friday of each month October

to May and provides comfort and support for children who have lost an immediate family such as a mom, dad or sibling. For more information on this group contact Jen Conley at Hospice at 815 756-3000.

Love Offering Envelopes

The Love Offering envelopes are found on the table at the entrance to the sanctuary. Any offering, large or small, will make a difference to the organizations we support.

Feed My Sheep Sunday, February 3

Donations to Sycamore Food Pantry

With the start of the New Year, the Mission Board is updating the list of food items for the Sycamore Food Pantry at the United Methodist Church. Suggested donations include:

Baking mixes, brownie, cake, corn bread
Canned fruits and vegetables
Canned soups
Canned tuna
Cereal
Individually wrapped snack items like granola bars or crackers
Macaroni and cheese
Paper towels
Pasta of all kinds and ready-to-eat canned pasta and sauce
Peanut butter
Personal hygiene items
Spaghetti sauce
Toilet paper
Travel sizes of shampoo, lotions from motels, etc.
All items must be within the "use before date" limits printed on the packaging. No refrigerated items or breads needed.

****If you think of another suitable donation, please bring it to the cart. ****

We are also looking for volunteers who would be willing to deliver the donations to the pantry once or twice a month. They may be delivered M-F from 9 am-3 pm when the church is open. If you would like to help, please sign up for a month in Dutton Hall.





Prayers for Healing from Illness or Injury

Mia & Kenzo Harris
 Judy Hoke-Jackson's granddaughter, Elizabeth
 Pam Kitterman's brother, Larry
 Margot Mattin
 Nancy, friend of Betty Johnson
 Bill Nagy
 Malorie Nelson
 Pam Wagener's brother, Ron

Prayers for Peace at Time of Passing

Family of Judy Jones, Sue McCue's cousin
 Peggy Safford's Aunt Jean and family
 Catherine "CJ" Johnson family, sister of Skip Schramer
 Paula von Ende's brother-in-law

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.

Membership Committee

Membership and Fellowship Board News
 From Board Chair, Pam Wagener

BUNCO in February!

On February 23, 2019 at 7 pm in Dutton Hall.

Novices and returning players are welcome to roll the dice. Bring 4 quarters and a snack to pass and your sense of humor. If you haven't played before, we will teach you.

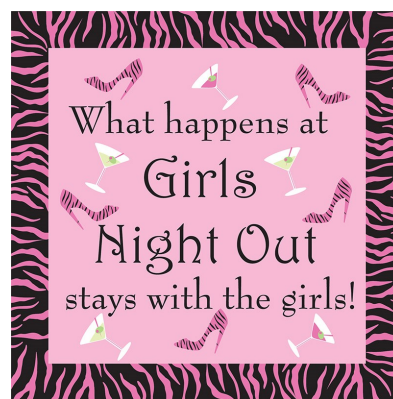
See you them!



gg80484497 www.gograph.com

PJ's Courthouse Tavern & Grille
 202 W. State Street
 Sycamore

6:00pm
 Monday, February 18



Ladies Night Out
 6:00 pm Monday, February 25
 At
 Los Rancheros



February Birthdays

02/04	Becky Smart
02/05	Sue Finney
02/05	David Gordon
02/12	Linc Smelser
02/12	Aiden Johnson
02/14	Areane Gould
02/15	T.J. Jackson
02/18	Sharon Hollister
02/21	Bill Perkins
02/24	Bill Griesenauer—75
02/27	Katrina Olle
02/28	Tracy Ekstrom
01/30	Kara Napientek
01/31	McKenna Foster



February Anniversaries

02/22	Dick & Polly Carter
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Happy
Valentine's
Day



**Be
a
Good
Steward**

Stewardship Report January 27, 2019:

Attendance Last Week:	36
Kids Club:	
Offering Y-T-D: \$	19,547.00
Covenant with God: \$	158,169.00

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: Federatedchurchpreschool@gmail.com

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:
Jerry Lane 815-895-2617

Assistant Moderator:
TBD

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:
Pam Klitterman 815-899-7032
Dave Wood 815-756-1680

Board of Deacons:
Linda Babcock 815-758-0763

Board of Membership & Fellowship:
Pam Wagener 815-895-9852
Alice Whitney 815-895-5023

Board of Mission & Society:
Paula von Ende 815-758-7375

Board of Religious Education:
Malorie Nelson 815-784-6060

Board of Trustees:
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 and Thursday
9:00am—noon

The Federated Church

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	2 11:30am Harambee Rehearsal
3 Communion Feed My Sheep 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Club 11:15am Fellowship 11:30am All Boards' Meeting 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	4 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	5 8:30am Federated Preschool	6 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7 8:30am Federated Preschool 8:00pm AA	8 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	9
10 8:30am Membership Bd 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Club 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	11 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	12 8:30am Federated Preschool	13 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14 8:30am Federated Preschool 8:00pm AA	15 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	16 10:00am DeKalb Co Quilters Guild
17 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	18 All President's Day 6:00pm Guy's Night Out 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	19 8:30am Federated Preschool	20 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	21 8:30am Federated Preschool 5:30pm Bd. of Trustees 7:00pm Church Council 8:00pm AA	22 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	23 11:30am Harambee Rehearsal 7:00pm Bunco
24 Family Sunday Penny March 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids' Club 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	25 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:00pm Preschool Sing 6:00pm Ladies Night Out	26 8:30am Federated Preschool 6:00pm Preschool Sing	27 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:00am Sewing Circle 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	28 8:30am Federated Preschool 6:00pm Quilters' Guild Meeting 8:00pm AA		