



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, Loving All

January, 2020

*"The time
Has come*

*To be only
Light
In the world*

*To be only
Love
In the world*

*To be only
Peace
In the world.*

*It is what this
Sacred season
Calls us to.*

*Light.
Love.*

*And a deep
Abiding
Peace."*

*"Canticle,"
by Christine
Rodgers*



Another year has come and gone—can you believe it?!

As we get out a new calendar, it's worth noting that the new year for us as Christians actually began on December 1st with the first Sunday of Advent.

It's also worth noting the differences with which these two begin. The turning of a new page in our world is often marked by new year's resolutions and promises we make to either get rid of a bad habit or start a good one. However, while our intentions might be good, statistics show that only 8% of people actually fulfill their promises, and 80% fail by the second week of February!

In contrast, the Christian new year begins not with putting our trust in ourselves, but with the promise that God is making all things new.

When we begin with placing our hope in God rather than ourselves, failure leads us to grace rather than shame. We are not called to perfection, but, like the Magi, to setting out on the journey. This journey requires risk and courage. We may fall off the camel or lose our North Star, but God will wait for us.

When we are led by this kind of Light; when we come to know this kind of Love and Hope—then we can journey through the darkest of nights toward the light of a new day with an abiding sense of peace. And when we do, we will discover that, along the way, we have been transformed; we too have become light, love, and peace for the world.

This is the invitation in the Season of Epiphany: to draw near to the Light of lights like the Wise Ones long ago, and then to journey back into the world glowing with the Light of new life—giving others permission to do the same. God knows our world could use that.

Happy New Year! Let your Light shine!

Pastor Eric

God Speaks Through Our Worship



Sunday, January 5

Liturgist: Linda Babcock
Communion
Feed My Sheep

Sunday, January 12

Liturgist:
Usher Breakfast

Sunday, January 19

Liturgist: Shrestha Singh
Annual Congregational Meeting
Handbell Choir

Sunday, January 26

Liturgist:
Family Sunday & Penny March

IN THIS ISSUE

Worship Service

Worship	10:00 am
Kids Club	10:15 am
Coffee Fellowship	11:00 am

Inside This Issue

Pastor's Page	1
Worship Schedule	2
Flowers & Fellowship	2
Annual Meeting	3
LNO & GNO	3
Bunco	3
Preschool/Need a Ride	4
BBQ/ Thank You/Deacons	5
Bd. of Mission & Society	6
Hope Haven	7
Prayer List	8
Birthdays & Anniversaries	8
Stewardship Report	8
Church Information	9
Monthly Calendar	10

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

January 5	Linda Mason in memory of her mother, Millie Berry
January 12	Marion Bennett in memory of her son Michael
January 19	Karen Primm in memory of her Sister, Phylliss Satter
January 26	

Fellowship Hosts

Board of Mission & Society

January 5	NONE
January 12	NONE
January 19	NONE
January 26	NONE

**The Birth
Flower of
January:
Carnations**





The Annual Meeting of Federated Church will be held on Sunday, January 19 immediately following the 10:00 AM worship service. Board chairs will review their work from 2019 and new board members and officers will be elected and installed.

2019 Yearbooks will also be handed out – with members' names, addresses and phone numbers you can refer to all year long! If you have a new address, phone number or email address please notify the church office.

Notice to All Church Boards

**2019 Annual Board/Committees
Reports are due in the Church Office Thursday January 2, 2020.**

Ladies Night Out

Los Ranchero's Mexican Restaurant

6:00 pm

Monday, January 27

Sign-up Sheet in Dutton Hall



Guys' Night Out

Los Ranchero's Mexican Restaurant

6:00 pm

Monday, January 20

Sign-up Sheet in Dutton Hall



BUNCO RETURNS IN JANUARY!

Get ready for fun and the opportunity to win a few dollars! Bunco is back on January 18th 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!





Welcome to
Preschool

Thank you to everyone who supported the Federated Church Preschool 25th Annual Cookie and Candy Sale. It was so nice to see family and friends of our preschool students along with church members and community members who support us year after year. This year we had a beautiful selection of goodies which made a net profit of \$1,173.00. All proceeds go towards toys, activities and materials for the students. We will begin our new year in January with refreshed minds and bodies after a two-week winter break from school.

Happy New Year and may God bless each and every one of you.

Jan & Staff



*Need a
Ride?*



Some members of our congregation are not able or comfortable driving after dark. Since there are activities during the winter that they might like to attend, such as Ladies Night Out, Guys Night Out, Christmas Eve service, Bunco, special worship services, we want to be able to offer transportation when needed.

If you are able to provide transportation when you are available for a member of the congregation, please let Suzanne Juday (815-341-9948) or Liz in the church office know.

If you need a ride to a church event, please call the people below. If none of them are available, check with Liz first or Suzanne second, and they will try to arrange a ride. Please try to make the contact a day in advance of the event.

The following people have volunteered to provide rides for activities after dark:

Ruth Olle—815-757-1794 (she has a Tahoe that might be difficult for some people to get into.)

Judy Winter—815-761-9515

Wageners—Phil 815-895-9852—Pam 815-761-9344

Judays—Dave 815-751-1068—Suzanne 815-341-9948





Federated Church Sidewalk Barbecue.

Serves 4.

2 lb. ground beef
2 onions chopped
2 green peppers chopped
4 TBSP sugar
4 TBSP mustard
2 TBSP vinegar
2 tsp salt
1 1/2 cups catchup
Brown meat and drain.

Add remaining ingredients and simmer one half hour.

*I use less onion and green pepper, just a personal preference.

To Thank You at this new Year



A friendly New Year greeting and a special line to say how much your kindness added to the joy of Christmas Day!

The plate of cookies was a treat!

Thanks again and a Happy New Year

Sally Stevens



Holy Communion on January 5 will be by intinction.

The Deacons will host an Appreciation Ushers' Breakfast at 8:30 on January 12, 2020.

A sign-up sheets 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.



Mission and Society January Message **From Paula von Ende, Chair**

*****Fifty-Five Personal Care Bags Delivered to Hope Haven Residents!*****

**31 Men
15 Women
9 Children**

*****Thank you to everyone who helped to make this possible.*****

January Love Offering

The January Love Offering will be made to the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). CASA volunteers are assigned to 100% of juvenile abuse and neglect cases in DeKalb County. Advocates act as the eyes and ears of the judge and the voice of the child in court. CASA's vision is a world where every child is given the opportunity to thrive in a safe and loving home. The CASA organization is celebrating twenty-five years in DeKalb County. New volunteers are always welcome. Note: Training is in the fall.

What volunteers do:

- Visit the child and explain the role of a CASA volunteer
- Gather independent information about the child to make recommendations to the judge in the child's best interests
- Interview the parents, guardians or caretakers, social worker and other service providers
- Review records related to the family and prepare written reports for court hearings
- Attend and participate in court hearings and other related meetings
- Keep all records and information confidential
- Monitor provisions of service plans and court orders
- Ensure the child's wishes are known to the judge and advocate for the child throughout the juvenile court proceedings
- Consult with local CASA program staff for support and guidance
- Maintain focus on the child until permanency is achieved
- Complete 12 hours of continuing education per year

For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer call 815/895-2052.

Kudos to:

- Everyone who donated a meal to the Mattin's. Meals were supplied two days a week during November and one day a week during December. Thank you so much. You made a difference! As we move into 2020, meals are still appreciated. Please contact Gary directly if you would like to help.
- Everyone who volunteered throughout the year to deliver our food donations to the Sycamore Food Pantry at the Methodist Church. Thank you so much for your help. A new sign-up sheet for 2020 deliveries is on the divider if you would like to help in 2020.
- The individuals who made sizable donations of tooth brushes, socks, soap, washcloths and hand towels to the Hope Haven Personal Care Bag project. You were so important to the success of this project!



Hope Haven of DeKalb County, Inc.

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

December 16, 2019

Dear The Federated Church,

Thank you for supporting Hope Haven and valuing the homeless that we serve. Your "Love Offering" donation of \$255.00 (check #1157) will provide food, shelter, services, and positive changes for the homeless living in our community.

The hopes of the homeless are to move to safe, stable, and affordable housing and to live as independently as possible. As an agency, we have established outcomes that we measure so we can help our clients reach their goals. They are:

- Transition the homeless to permanent housing
- Reduce the days the homeless spend in shelter
- Increase the income of the homeless
- Help the homeless obtain eligible mainstream resources
- Reduce the recidivism of homelessness

Just as we expect our clients to create a "plan of action" with goals and objectives to hold them accountable and foster self-determination, the staff at Hope Haven must also hold ourselves accountable to assist and empower this vulnerable population in reaching their fullest potential.

None of this work, for the client or staff, would be possible without the kindness and gifts from donors like you. Pulling someone from the deprivation of homelessness and poverty requires a team of people who embrace the same mission. Thank you for joining us; we are all full of gratitude for your compassion and commitment to the homeless, and our work.

With much gratitude,

Lesly D. Wicks, LCSW
Executive Director

P.S. We hereby certify that we did not provide any goods or services in return for any part of your gift. Please use this letter as a receipt of your 2019 tax-deductible contribution.

Emergency Shelter & Transitional Project
1145 Rushmore Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115
Phone: 815-758-5765 * Fax: 815-758-7006

Dresser Court Project & Administrative Office
965 W. Dresser Road, DeKalb, IL 60115
Phone: 815-758-3165 * Fax: 815-787-7028



January Birthdays

01/02	Lisa Becker
01/02	Thomas Becker
01/02	Clark Smith
01/03	Pam Kitterman
01/06	Phillip Eubanks
01/06	Lynette Swedberg
01/06	Jeanne Baird
01/06	Toni Lynn Carlson
01/09	Beverly Schramer
01/17	Joanne Baird
01/20	Seth Mattin
01/21	Korie Pietrowski
01/23	Tony Whitney
01/23	Roger Jacobson
01/24	Kristi Bork
01/24	Katie Todd
01/25	Pam Wagener (70)
01/28	Ed Safford
01/30	Kara Napientek
01/31	McKenna Foster



January Anniversaries

NONE



Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers"

Prayers for Healing from Illness or Injury

Jean Evans
 Judy Hoke-Jackson
 Judy Hoke-Jackson's friend Heidi
 Marilyn Hoover's daughter
 Roger Jacobson
 Pam Kitterman's brother, Larry
 Karen Hamingson's grand-niece, Rebekah
 Mary Lidman
 Margot Mattin
 Sharon McKee
 Peggy Safford's mother, Virginia
 Bev Whildin's sisters
 Servicemen/women & Veterans
 Those for whom the holiday season is especially difficult

Prayers for Peace at Time of Passing

Family of Kal-el Sexton and Dalahn Colley
 Rachel and family, niece of Bev Whildin
 Harambee family loss of father/husband

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



Stewardship Report for the month of December

Average Monthly Attendance	51
Offering Y-T-D: \$	160,454.38
Covenant with God: \$	159,450.00

Your Federated Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Eric J. Ogi
Pastor's Emergency: 815-797-2250
Pastor's email: RevEricFederated@gmail.com
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: David Whitney
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

Church Leadership

Moderator:
Jerry Lane 815-762-8339
Email—fedmod48@yahoo.com

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 Kitterman 815-899-7032
Dave Wood 815-756-1680

Board of Deacons:
Linda Babcock 815-758-0763
Judy Winter 815-761-9515

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
Ruth Olle 815-757-1794

Board of Trustees:
Skip Schramer 815-751-4817
Dave Finney 815-739-1734

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee
Jerry Lane
Roger Jacobson
Karen Hamingson
Nancy Renfer



New Collector

Sue McCue is collecting bottle tops.
Contact Sue if you have any questions.



The Federated Church

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Years Day	2 Annual Reports Due 8:00pm AA	3 Pastor's Day Off	4 Pastor's Day Off
5 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	6 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:00pm Quilters' Board Meeting 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	7 8:30am Federated Preschool	8 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:30am Sewing Bee 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	9 8:30am Federated Preschool 6:30pm Church Council 8:00pm AA	10 Pastor's Day Off 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	11 Pastor's Day Off 10:00am Quilters' Guild Workshop
12 8:30am Usher Breakfast 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids Club 11:15am Fellowship 11:30am Bd. of Mission & Society 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	13 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	14 8:30am Federated Preschool	15 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:30am Sewing Bee 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	16 8:30am Federated Preschool 5:30pm Bd. of Trustees 8:00pm AA	17 Pastor's Day Off 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	18 Pastor's Day Off 7:00pm Bunco
19 Annual Meeting Handbell Sunday 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids Club 11:15am Congregational Meeting 11:15am Fellowship 6:00pm Troop #16 8:00pm AA	20 Martin Luther King's Day 6:00pm Guys' Night Out 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	21 8:30am Federated Preschool	22 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:30am Sewing Bee 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	23 8:30am Federated Preschool 6:00pm Quilters' Guild Meeting 8:00pm AA	24 Pastor's Day Off 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	25 Pastor's Day Off
26 Family Sunday Penny March 10:00am Worship 10:15am Kids Club 11:15am Fellowship 2:00pm Court of Honor Troop 16 8:00pm AA	27 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool 6:00pm Ladies' Night Out	28 8:30am Federated Preschool	29 8:30am Federated Preschool 9:30am Sewing Bee 12:30pm Federated Preschool 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	30 8:30am Federated Preschool 8:00pm AA	31 Pastor's Day Off 8:30am Federated Preschool 12:30pm Federated Preschool	