# FEDERATED FINDINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WATERVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH

# **Advent and Christmas Worship**

We look forward to you joining us during these special seasons to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Sunday worship at 11:00.

#### **December 2 - Hanging of the Greens**

This is the Sunday we will celebrate a favorite tradition at the Federated Church—the Hanging of the Greens! You won't want to miss out as we meaningfully decorate our Christmas tree while basking in scripture and song.

#### **December 9 - Christmas Program**

Jenna has something heart-felt, interesting, and joyous planned for this Sunday. You'll have to come and find out exactly what it is! Let's be a people that worship Jesus with creativity and joy!

#### **December 16 - Bell Choir Performance and Evening Cantata**

The Bell Choir will perform Christmas favorites throughout worship. In the evening, we will have a community choir Christmas cantata. Look to the next column for more information about participating in both of these wonderful opportunities.

#### December 23 - Take a Breath and Worship

The only special thing going on this day is the worship of the Triune God with a great congregation!

## **December 24 - Caroling and Candlelight Worship**

We will gather at 5:00pm at the church to get ready to visit our friends and neighbors to bring Christmas joy through song with our annual caroling adventure! We will return to the church for a light meal and then have a candlelight worship service at 7:00.

## **December 31 - Informal Worship**

I know, I know, we are so formal the rest of the year. We will be more informal! Worship will be in the fellowship hall—which is a nicer place to eat treats but also a reminder of the years when this was our worship space.

We look forward to seeing you this season!

## Thanks!

We are a community called together by God to live into grace and love with one another. Each of us serves our church and community so faithfully in so many ways that it is hard to count! Thank you for your passion to serve our Lord for the sake of others and blessings to you and your family in this season of thanksgiving and praise for the coming of Jesus Christ!

## Stay in Touch

watervillefederated.com facebook.com/watervillefc

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Office Hours M-W-F 9:00-12:00 and by appt.

# **Coming Up from the Pulpit**

#### A Preview of God's Word Proclaimed

The first two weeks in November we wrap up our series on the *Eight Marks of a Vital Congregation*. What has stuck out to you that the Spirit is calling you to latch on to? It is hospitality, sharing your faith with your friends, family, and neighbors, being a servant leader? We are all called to do each of our eight marks, but God may be calling you to make special investments in one or two. If you'd like to explore this more outside of Sunday mornings, come to our Vital Congregation Dessert on November 7 at the parsonage or set up a time to talk to Pastor Seth.

November 4 Caring Relationships vs. Social Club

November 11 A Healthy Church Community

The last half of November, we celebrate special days in the Kingdom of God with sermons focusing on the greatness of Christ and thanksgiving:

November 18 Trusting God Completely

November 25 Jesus Christ: the Great Mediator

During the Advent/Christmas seasons, we reprise our exploration of God's Word using songs of the season!

December 2 Reflection on the Hanging of the Greens

December 9 Joy to the World

December 16 O Come All Ye Faithful

December 23 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

December 24 Away in a Manger

December 31 Good Christian Friends Rejoice

# **Community Choir Cantata**

We are excited to be organizing another cantata to be performed by our choir and members of other community churches. The cantata will be performed on **Sunday, December 16 at 7:00pm at the Federated Church**. If you or someone you know would like to be part of the fun, please contact the office. We are also recruiting young voices for a children's piece during the cantata, so all ages are encouraged to participate!

# **Bell Choir Performs December 16**

The Bell Choir is firing back up for the Advent season and practices are starting soon. No experience is necessary—and mistakes are allowed! Help the bell choir put on another excellent performance as we seek to musically bless the Advent and Christmas seasons. Contact the office or Jill Thompson for more info.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- John 1:14

# **Christmas Bazaar**

It's once again time to get bazaar! The Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday, December 8 from 9:00-2:00. You won't want to miss this opportunity to snag wonderful gifts from our local crafters and artisans.

If you'd like to have a table at the bazaar, contact Shirley Daling (745.8369) quickly—they are going fast!

If you'd like to help out with the bazaar, please contact a member of the Guild or the office, your assistance is always appreciated.

We will also have a spot to take up a collection for Jesus' mission work in the world.

We will see you at the bazaar!

# **Harvest Dinner on November 14**

We will join together for our annual community potluck on Wednesday, November 14 at 6:00pm to celebrate the Lord's provision of another year of plenty. Be sure to invite your family, friends, and neighbors—wouldn't it be great if the fellowship hall overflowed?!? Your presence is more important than your ability to bring a dish to share! For entertainment, we will have some open mic time... so prepare that song, story, poem, joke, or that special talent to share!

# Men's Breakfasts

Men's breakfasts are back! Great food, fellowship, and a devotional are on the way! We will be having breakfasts at 8:00am at the Federated Church fellowship hall on November 17 and December 15. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors!

# Women's Bible Study

Faithful women meet each Monday at 10:00 at the church for a time of Bible Study and fellowship. You are invited to join them at at Carol McNabb's house, 418 S. Marion.

# **Financial Snapshot**

Here are the numbers through September 30, 2018:

	<u>Actual</u>	Year End Budget
Income	\$62,999	\$95,755
Expense	<u>\$63,175</u>	\$95,755
Difference	(\$176)	

The Treasurer would like to note that there are about \$1,800 in expenses that need to be paid that were due this past quarter but were delayed due to administrative issues with another organization

Thank you for your continued generosity towards God's Kingdom here in Waterville!

# **Free Lunch Fridays**

We have had a great start to our Free Lunch Friday ministry to our local schoolchildren! Thank you to everyone who has worked hard to make this happen. We have received substantial financial donations to support this ministry for the next few months—most of these have come from folks who don't attend our church. We could use people who are willing to be here each Friday. As we balance participation from worshipers and community members, a sign-up sheet doesn't seem ideal. However, you can always talk to Pastor Seth or Jude Overby for how you can plug in. We also have a face-book group where you can get updates: www.facebook.com/groups/watervillelunch. Thank you for your support!

# **Vision Team Update**

Please continue to pray for our Vision Team as we listen for God's leading on the direction for our congregation. Our fall sermon series and new focus on welcoming have been the first steps towards living into God's future for the Federated Church! Let's continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Waterville!

# **Donate with AmazonSmile**

Buying season is upon us! If you do some of your shopping on Amazon, a portion of your purchase can be donated to the church!

#### What is Amazon Smile?

It is a program in which Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases to a charity that you select. Otherwise, it works precisely like the regular Amazon website and looks the same. Basically, it is a way to give money to a charity by shopping at Amazon with no extra cost to you.

## How do I use Amazon Smile?

If you are a current Amazon user, go to smile.amazon.com, you do not need a new account. You may or may not have to sign back in. It will ask you to select a charity and you can search for Waterville Federated Church. Amazon Smile will remember the charity you selected and you may change it at any time.

## How does the church benefit?

We receive 0.5% of the eligible purchases you make on Amazon Smile. That might not sound like a lot, but if everyone does it, it adds up. We have already set up our free account with Amazon Smile and have been receiving contributions for several months.

# Where can I get more information?

Go to this link for more information: http://amzn.to/1N27MRK If you'd like help getting setup, please talk to Pastor Seth.

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A reminder that Alcoholics Anonymous meets in the conference room each Friday at 7:00pm. If you or someone you know would benefit from being a part of their group, new people are always welcome. Let us continue to pray for the changed lives and recovery that happens with AA in Waterville!



Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.