

FEDERATED FINDINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WATERVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH

Ramblings from the Reverend

The most musically rich time of our worship year is undoubtedly this Christmas season. There are also some great stories that go along with those hymns and carols and we will explore the backstories and meanings behind some of them this Advent season. I invite you to join us for another wonderful season of worship! We will look at these hymns and carols this season:

December 3 - Angels We Have Heard on High

December 10 - Go Tell It On The Mountain

December 17 - Good King Wenceslas

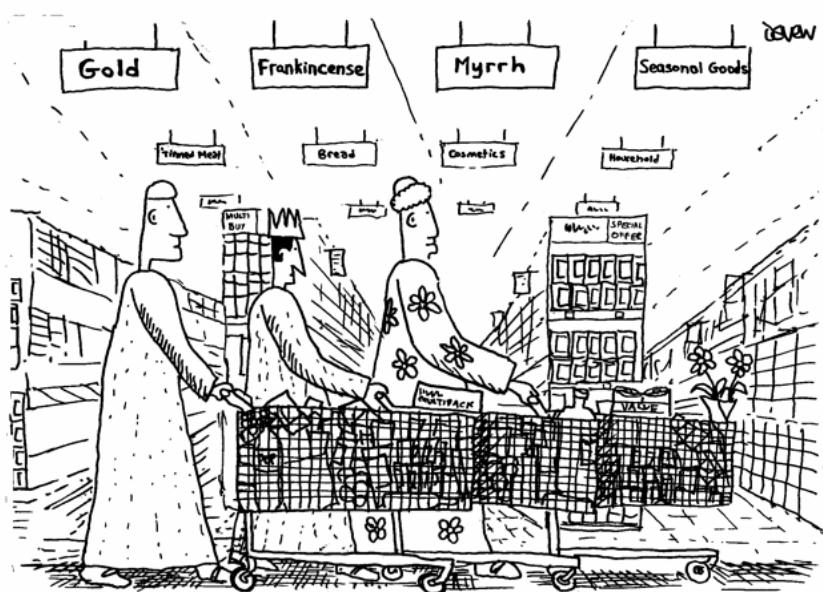
December 24 - It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

December 31 - Joy to the World

Blessings,



Dude, there's a **baby** in the salad...



CartoonChurch.com

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Office Hours

M-W-F

9:00-12:00 and by appt.

Worship During Advent and Christmas

We have a full slate of awesomeness to celebrate the seasons at Waterville Federated Church. Sunday worship at 11:00am. Here's the plan:

December 3 - 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 10 - Children's Christmas Program

The Children's Christmas performance will be during worship and is entitled, "Go Tell It On the Mountain." Rehearsals will start on November 19 during Sunday School at 10:00am. For more information or to help out, please contact Jenna Dixon or the office.

December 17 - 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 (see below).

December 24 - Candlelight Worship and Caroling

Since Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, we will have one worship gathering this day at 11:00am but act like it is evening and have a candlelight worship service. At 5:30pm, we will do our traditional community caroling.

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!

Community Choir Cantata

We are putting together a community choir to perform a cantata on the evening of December 17. There is still time for you to join and make a joyful noise! We will practice in the sanctuary on Wednesdays at 6:30 throughout the season. For more information, please contact the office.

Waterville Community Garden

Perhaps you have heard rumblings about a community garden in Waterville. Well, now it is time to unveil the project and share it with the world! Waterville Federated Church is partnering with the Waterville Main Street Association to operate a raised-bed community garden in the lot next to the parsonage (you might notice some materials over there now). There will be two opportunities in November to learn more about the community garden and how you can be involved: we will have a presentation during worship on November 12 and there will be a presentation during the Harvest Dinner on November 15. For more info, contact Lisa Davies, Jill Thompson, Jenna Dixon, or Pastor Seth.

Harvest Dinner

Our annual Harvest Dinner will be on Wednesday, November 15 at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall. If you call this congregation your church home, you are invited to bring a dish to share, if you are able. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to share in God's bounty!

We will have a presentation on the development and future of the community garden that is being constructed next to the parsonage.

If you'd like to help setup/cleanup, please contact the office (or show early/stay late!).

AmazonSmile Reminder

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.

Financial Snapshot

	<u>Budget Year to Date</u>	<u>Actual YTD (as of 7/31/2017)</u>
Income	\$71,628	\$60,327
Expenses	<u>\$71,628</u>	<u>\$64,628</u>
Difference	\$0	(\$4,301)

Here is the financial update through September 30. We continue to keep expenses well under budget. We have spent \$7,000 less than budgeted. Unfortunately, the parsonage has about \$2,500 worth of plumbing updates that need to be done. The only financial support this church receives is from the people who choose to contribute. Please prayerfully consider your level of financial support so that we can finish the year in the black and make new plans for ministry for 2018 and beyond.

Christmas Bazaar

It's once again time to get bazaar! The Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday, December 2 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!

Tuesday Afternoon Tea

As we approach winter, we often find that it is a strange time. It can be an odd mix of being too hurried during the holidays and being bored out of our skulls because the harsh weather has settled in. Winter is a great time for a little extra fellowship and giving ourselves a set time to be with our church family and hit pause on all the commitments swirling around.

Starting on November 14 and continuing through December 12, you are invited to stop by the parsonage from 2:00-4:00 to relax and enjoy some fellowship. There will be tea, coffee, treats, and more. Stay for two hours or ten minutes—it is a time for us to hang out. See you soon!

Wednesday Morning Coffee

We will once again be hosting our kaffeeklatsch on Wednesday mornings in the fellowship hall starting on November 8. The coffee will be ready to go from 7:00 (or perhaps before) until 9:00. Swing on by and grab a cup and a treat on your way to work or pull up a chair and enjoy some good company.

Bell Choir

The Bell Choir is firing back up for the Advent season. The first practice will be November 2 at 6:30 at the church. 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.

Congregational Meeting Dates

Something that a lot of us tend to overlook is that we are part of a church that asks us as members to discern and act upon the will of God for the future of the church. We are connected to denominations that ask the same thing of us. We don't have anyone above us dictating what we do. We are responsible for being the hands and feet of Jesus in this congregation and for the world. Part of doing that is by meeting together to conduct the deliberative matters of this church.

We will have a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing at-large members of the Board of Elders after worship on November 12. Each denominational group and the community group will also have a meeting after the congregational meeting on November 12. Pastor Seth will be available to each group to assist and answer any questions each group may have.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be after worship on January 28. This will be a time of sharing and vision casting for the year ahead (and will feature food, of course).

Please spend some extra time in these next few months praying and discerning God's will for our lives individually and as a congregation as we look towards the future God has planned for us.