

FEDERATED FINDINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WATERVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH

Ramblings from the Reverend

As the school year begins and we transition from summer to autumn, we have many great opportunities to share Jesus' love for and with our community. Look at all the ministry planned out in this newsletter—and it doesn't capture everything that will happen. This season, I encourage you to pray and commit to being internally strong in Christ so that you can be externally focused on bringing Jesus' love to those around you.

What you can do to be internally strong:

- + Commit to attending Sunday worship
- + Commit time daily to prayer and scripture
- + Engage in formation opportunities—we have bible studies and discussion groups happening this fall
- + Find an area to serve in our church—if you aren't sure where you might fit, ask me and we will discern together... maybe it's something brand new

What you can do to be externally focused:

- + Pray for your family, neighbors, and neighborhood to witness Christ's blessings
- + Personally invite people to worship and events
- + Serve at events and make connections with people you don't know
- + Be courageous when you have the opportunity to tell someone that you do what you do because of Jesus

Blessings to your and your family,



Chili Cookoff on October 7

The Second Annual Chili Cookoff is set to happen after worship on Sunday, October 7! We will have prizes from local businesses for the Grand Champion, People's Choice, and Spiciest (Yet Edible). We had a great time last year with many fine entries and look to have many more to sample this year! If spicy food isn't your thing, enter a non-spicy chili and see if you can win over the crowd! We look forward to seeing you for all the chili tasting fun.

Eight Marks of a Vital Congregation

New Sermon Series Beginning September 16

What does it mean to be a congregation that is vital and growing in discipleship? How do we become a congregation that people need to be a involved with in our community? What is my role as a worshipper in this congregation to make God's vision for our future happen? We will address these questions and more as we look at eight marks that make for a vital congregation. Join us on September 16 as we launch this important series!

September 16	Being a Welcoming Congregation
September 23	LIFELONG Discipleship Formation
September 30	Intentional, Authentic Evangelism
October 7	Outward Incarnational Focus
October 14	Stepping Out in Faith - Carol McNabb, preaching
October 21	Empower Servant Leadership
October 28	Spirit-Inspired Worship
November 4	Caring Relationships vs. Social Club
November 11	A Healthy Church Community

See, the home of God is among mortals... See, I am making all things new

- Revelation 21:3, 5

September 9: Hymn Sing

For worship at 11:00 (our first Sunday back at 11:00am), we will have a hymn sing. We will get together and share in the community Christ calls us to share and enjoy, but instead of a message this day we will sing, sing, sing! And the songs we sing are up to you—if it's in the hymnal, we can belt it out to the glory of God. Come join us in worship for a fun time of singing! Remember, it isn't the quality of your voice, it's the passion in your heart that matters.

Choir Kicks off September 9

After a hymn sing, everyone's voices will be good and warm. Choir will begin practicing on September 9 after our time of food and fellowship. Everyone is invited to join the choir and make a joyful racket. If they let Pastor Seth be a part of the choir, they'll welcome anyone and that anyone could/should be you! For more information, talk to Phyllis Browning, the office, or the person you see getting up to sing in the choir near you.

Stay in Touch

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Winter Clothing Drive

What: Winter Clothing Drive and Distribution

When: Saturday, October 27 from 10:00am—1:00pm

Where: Waterville Federated Church

Why: Keep God's people warm

How: Give them warm clothing

We are having a winter clothing drive and we need your help to make it a great blessing to our community! We seek to provide winter clothing—coats, gloves, hats, scarfs, snow pants, boots, warm shirts, etc.—to anyone who needs them. We are looking for new or gently used (and clean!) items in any size. You can bring your donations to the church starting right away.

Preparation Party and Donation Blitz will be on Tuesday, October 23 from 5:00pm-8:00pm to collect donations and prepare for the distribution on Saturday.

What You Can Do to Make it a Blessing:

- a. Donate clothing
- b. Spread the word with your neighbors and on social media
- c. Serve on Tuesday/Saturday to help us get prepared and to welcome our guests

Look for more information coming up, talk to Pastor Seth about how you can help, and start bringing in those donations!



Financial Snapshot

Here are the numbers through July 30, 2018:

	<u>Actual</u>
Income	\$46,879
Expense	<u>\$49,647</u>
Difference	(\$2,768)

The numbers above reflect our regular tithes and offerings and operating/ministry expenses. It is typical, but perhaps not ideal, for us to be a little behind at this point in our fiscal year. Please prayerfully consider your contributions as we head into the last four months of the year.

Two items to celebrate: we have had some generous folks step up and make donations to pay off the outstanding balance on our new HVAC system in the fellowship hall! We also received \$500 from the Waterville Drug-Free Coalition for VBS. Thank you!

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

Friday Feeding

Waterville School has moved to a four-day school week with each Friday off. The churches of our community are trying to fill the potential need kids may have for a nutritious meal and the Federated Church is looking to take the lead. At the time of this writing we are in the process of getting our kitchen permitted for this by the Health Department and then we should be good to go. Our current plan is to offer lunch each Friday from 11:30-12:30. We will offer an easily prepared meal that is kid-friendly. Please consider serving as we launch this ministry and try to make this a great experience for our community. You can commit to one or many Fridays! Please talk to Pastor Seth for more information and see the sign-up sheet in the hallway to let us know you are willing to serve!

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?!?

Women's Bible Study

Faithful women meet each Monday at 10:00 at the church for a time of Bible Study... and lots of laughter by the sounds of what we hear in the office. You are invited to join them throughout the fall as they look at the Apostle Paul's Letter to the Romans. During September, they will meet at Carol McNabb's house, 418 S. Marion.

Vital Congregation Dessert & Discussion

Join Pastor Seth on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 at the parsonage for an open discussion on what it means for the Federated Church to be a vital congregation filled with vibrant disciples. Dessert will be available each evening. We will meet on September 19 & 25, October 3 & 24, and November 7. Let's dream God's dream together!

Community Christmas Cantata

We had a wonderful community Christmas cantata last year and we are looking forward to another great time this year! We will start rehearsing and distributing music soon. Please see Phyllis Browning, Dee Shriner, Pastor Seth, or Terry Connors (the office) to be part of the fun. We could use singers, readers, set decorators, crafty folks, and visual artists to make this cantata the best it can be!

AA

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!

By this everyone will know that you are disciples, if you have love for one another.

John 13:35