



Federated Church

A Place to Belong

November

2024

REV. KENNETH
MCKENZIE
PASTOR

KEVIN DIXON
ORGANIST &
CHOIR DIRECTOR

LUANNE BROOKS
CHURCH SECRETARY

Points of Interest

Pastor's Letter

Calendar

Election Day

Living Nativity

Bell Choir

Hanging of The
Greens

Concert

According to Walgreens, Lowes and others, it's Christmas time. The Halloween section is now half-price, and wrapping paper and bright lights seem to be taking over. Did I miss something? What happened to Thanksgiving?

Sure, there's that holiday with the turkey and stuffing and trimmings, but that's really not what I'm thinking of when I say thanksgiving. I'm more concerned with hearts filled with generosity and gratitude for life, hearts quick to forgive and even quicker to welcome any in need merely because they are children of God, created in God's image and worthy of a place at our table. Thanksgiving, an act of praise, a sacrifice of worship, a place of healing in and for our world.

As this season of thankfulness approaches, I am reminded of the passage from Acts 2 where the church is described as those with *glad and generous hearts*, you know, folks who are thankful and excited to share their thankfulness with those who surround them, and I hope that we are counted among their number.

So, until the real start of Advent on December 1st, let us keep our hearts focused upon the giving of thanks and the giving of glory to God in thankfulness.

Pastor Ken

Applying Bible Principles

If you were to ask the average pastor, “How is your church doing?” the answer would probably focus on the ABCs of church growth: Attendance, Buildings and Cash.

Attendance is important. It’s hard to carry on a ministry if no one is there or if the numbers dwindle so low that no one wants to be there.

Buildings are important. Many a church visitor has been turned off by an old, run-down building or by one that is dirty and in need of routine maintenance.

Cash is important. As Zig Ziglar said, “I’ve had money, and I’ve not had it. It’s a lot more fun with it than without it.” The same thing is true of churches.

But attendance alone has nothing to do with the health of a church. There can be thousands present who are a mile wide and an inch deep in their relationship to God. A building can be packed week after week, but that alone does not mean the church is spiritual. In fact, some of the largest churches in this country are made up of congregations who are spiritual pygmies.

Paul sent Timothy to check up on the Thessalonian church. He had been able to spend only three weeks with this new assembly before he was run out of town. Do you know what questions Paul gave Timothy to ask the leaders of that congregation? He didn’t ask about attendance, buildings or cash. Instead, he wanted to take a temperature reading of their spiritual health. To do that, he mentions their faith five times in 1 Thessalonians chapter 3.

- We sent Timothy ... to strengthen and encourage you for the sake of your faith (v.2).
- ...when I could bear it no longer, I sent [Timothy] to find out about your faith (v. 5).
- But Timothy has just now come to us from you, and has brought good news about your faith and love (v. 6).
- For this reason, brothers and sisters, during all our distress and persecution we have been encouraged about you through your faith (v. 7).
- Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith (v. 10).

Throughout this chapter, Paul is concerned about one thing: FAITH. That’s why he sent Timothy in the first place, i.e., to “strengthen and encourage” the people in their faith. Why does Paul give faith such a great emphasis to the exclusion of other worthy topics? Because Paul knew what we seem to have forgotten, that when people break down in their behavior, grow cold in the Lord, no longer desire to serve the Lord, are not consistent in their attendance, find other activities to occupy their time during the week and on the weekends, and reduce their giving or stop giving to the Lord’s work, it is because their faith has broken down. The writer of Hebrews said, “And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him” (Heb. 11:6).

November

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee hour Communion	4 7:00 Finance, Bldgs. & Grds	5 Voting 6:00 am – 9:00 pm	6 WIC 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	7 6:00 pm Bells 7:00 pm Choir	8	9
10 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee hour	11	12 9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girl Scouts	13	14 6:00 pm Bells 7:00 pm Choir	15	16 10:00- Noon Diaper Distribution
17 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee hour	18 7:00 pm Church Council	19 9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girl Scouts	20	21 6:00 pm Bells 7:00 pm Choir	22	23
24 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee hour Hanging of the Greens	25	26 9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girl Scouts	27	28 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	29 Church Office Closed	30 1:00 – 2:30 pm Living Nativity

**Coffee,
Clergy,
&
Conversation
Tuesdays
9:30 – 11:00 AM
Join Us!**



Daylight Saving Time Ends

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 3rd. Don't want to be early for church.



Election Day

Tuesday, November 5th

Voting for Districts 1 & 2 for the Town of Winfield is here in the fellowship hall.

Polls are open from 6:00 am – 9:00 pm

Festival of Carols

Sunday, December 1st, 2PM.

The church offices will be closed November 28th & 29th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, November 24th**

**Help us decorate the
sanctuary after worship.**



On Saturday, November 30th to go along with the festivities in the Village, the Outreach Board and the Junior FFA will display a Live Nativity scene in front of the church from 1:00pm – 2:30pm. We will once again have goats and a calf. The students do a wonderful job representing Joseph, Mary, the 3 Wisemen and shepherds. We hope you will stop by to see them and to enjoy some snacks. The church will be open to view our Christmas displays.



**American
Red Cross**

The results from the October Blood Drive. A huge thank you to everyone who participated. The next one is Friday, December 13th from 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

29 Donors Scheduled!
27 Registered donors!
1 First time donors!
0 Deferrals!
22 Whole blood units collected!
4 Power Red Donors!
30 Total units collected!
10 Units over goal! 🎉



Here are the dates for our upcoming distributions:

November 16th

December 21st





IT'S A GIRL

Congratulations to Matthew and Ashley Brooks on the birth of their daughter, Clara Genevieve Brooks. She was born on October 8th weighing 7lbs. 2 oz. and 20 ½ inches long. She joins big brother Wesley. Her proud grandmother is Luanne Brooks and great grandmother is Marge Brook Ranger.

Retired Ministers & Missionaries

This offering is used to provide Christmas checks to retired ministers who receive very little compensation during their years working for the Lord. The envelope entitled **Thanksgiving** is for this purpose. The amount received will be evenly distributed among the denominations we are affiliated with.



Mt. Markham Optimist Club
“Benefit Community Your Projects”

CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

Fresh Balsam with Red Velvet Bow

\$20.00

Call Nancy Cooper at (315-855-4280)

By November 27th “To Order”

PICK UP

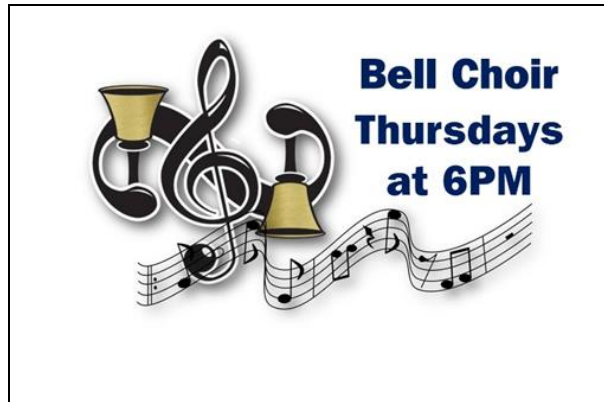
Saturday, December 7th

or

Or Sunday, December 8th

(12-5:00pm both Days)

(6970 County Highway 18, West Winfield)



Bell Choir will begin rehearsals at 6pm on Thursday the 7th of November. ALL are invited! You do not have to be former bell ringer. You do not have to be musician. You do not even have to know how to read music. The only requirement is that you be able to laugh! I can teach you how to play the bells, but I cannot teach you how to laugh and enjoy playing the bells! Hope to see you at rehearsal.

Nancy Angle and I have been friends for over 30 ears and we have played handbells in various choirs together for over 20 years. Most recently we worked together in the Carillon Community Bell Choir. We have also worked to together on bell workshops for youth at various Conference level youth retreats for the United Methodist Church. Nancy loves the bells and my goal is to keep the program that she has started here at the Federated Church alive until she is well enough to rejoin us and take over the leadership of the program.

Let us honor the work that Nancy has done with the Bells by showing up for rehearsal and keep the ringing alive until she comes back!

See you on Thursday!

Cathy Wheat Interim Director of the Bell Choir

Poinsettias

We will be adorning the sanctuary with poinsettias for the Christmas season. Please let the office know if you would like a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. You may purchase one or buy from the Masons. The detail about the sale of the poinsettias from the Masons will be forth coming.

FAX: 315-822-6321

CHURCH: 315-822-6321

WEBSITE:

WestWinfieldFederatedChurch.org

E-MAIL:

Fedchurch66@gmail.com

PastorKen.FedChurch@yahoo.com



**THE FEDERATED CHURCH
P.O. BOX 337
452 EAST MAIN STREET
WEST WINFIELD, NY 13491**