



September 2017

THE SPIRE

THE FEDERATED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

Rally Day
is Family Fun Day
Sunday, September 10



**Church Family & Community
Picnic Noon - 2 pm
in the Church Parking Lot**

TREATS AND FUN FOR ALL

**We will serve a Lunch of
Burgers and Hot Dogs
Fresh off the Grill!
Homemade Desserts,
Veggies and Beverages.**



Glitter Tattoos

Our new program year and Sunday School year begin on Rally Day, September 10!

It's a reunion and a time to celebrate new beginnings.

Worship will be at 9 and 11 am.

Wear bright colors to worship, in celebration!

And, you simply will not want to miss the all-church family event which begins at noon. It will be held right in the parking lot!

There will be plenty of food, games and special attractions, and most of all, time for fellowship and fun!

Please bring a dessert to share!

Invite a friend or two. We're looking forward to seeing **YOU** there!

RESCHEDULED

Colorado Kids

Scramble Golf Outing

At Punderson Golf Course

Saturday, September 9

Tee Times start at 11am

A Great Afternoon of Golf,

Food and Prizes

Support the Kids as

they Complete this year's

Faith Journey

Children's Choir Rehearsals Begin Monday, August 28



All students, grades 1st – 8th grade, are invited to join the Federated Children's Choir.

Rehearsals will be on Mondays, 4:00-4:45 pm in the Music Room. **First rehearsal is Monday, August 28.** If you miss the first rehearsal, you can still join!

We have a broad base of very talented children for this choir. No experience is needed! We will use fun props and instruments as well as our singing voices! We look forward to another exciting year as we grow and praise God together through music!

For more information, contact Children's Choir Director Pat Haynish at phaynish@sbcglobal.net.

A Montage of Family Interests & Memories

We are delighted that Mary Hobbs, one of Federated's own and a very talented artist, has offered a commissioned 30" x 40" art piece in vegetable oil and wax colored pencil. Here is a sample idea of the priceless beauty of this donation.



Rejoice & Renew will host an online auction of this art commission.

- Bids are accepted beginning on Commitment Weekend, Sunday, August 27.
- Email bids to federated.rejoice.and.renew@gmail.com.
- Minimum bid is \$1,000.
- All bidders will be notified of the current high bid at the end of each day during the auction.
- Final bids are accepted through Saturday, September 9 at 11:59 pm.
- Winning bid will be announced on Rally Day Sunday, September 10.

The winning bidder will meet with Mary to determine the content of a family montage or image of their choice.

All proceeds from this auction will go to the Rejoice & Renew Campaign.



From the Desk of Hamilton

Dear Friends,

I

After what has been a beautiful summer, I want to say how happy I am to begin a new program year together. I hope most of you have had some time this summer to rest in the grace and magnificence of God, and to recharge your batteries.

Let me fill you in a little on my family. Mary and I had a chance this summer to visit her brothers, as well as my mother and brother and his family, all of whom live in Maine. We spent ample time on Maine's coast, walking the beach and taking in the grandness of the creation. It was deeply restorative.

We also spent time with our sons Alex, and his wife Cynthia, and Taylor. Alex and Cynthia have just bought a house in Columbus, OH, a home which seems just right for them. Their big news is that they are expecting a baby in early February—which will make Mary and me first-time grandparents. We can hardly wait! As someone said to me recently, "This will give you the chance to rectify all the mistakes you made as parents." Indeed!

Our younger son Taylor has just moved to Lexington, KY. He accepted a position as head cross country and track and field coach at Transylvania University. He had thought he would be an assistant coach for a few years, but when the opportunity presented itself to be a head coach, he jumped at it. He has dived in eagerly and seems very happy.

II

We have an exciting and full fall planned here at Federated. This issue of THE SPIRE will fill you in on the details. I especially want to highlight two dimensions of church life. The first is the conclusion of our Rejoice & Renew Capital Campaign. On August 27, Commitment Sunday leads into the final phase of the campaign, as the entire church and community are invited to make their pledges. September will provide the opportunity for everyone to commit to the freshening of Federated. I'm extremely excited by and grateful for the many stirring commitments that have already been made, and look forward to a wonderful climax to this great endeavor.

On the worship front, I am enormously excited by our focus for the fall. As you may well know, 2017 is the 500th anniversary of the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to the door in Wittenberg, Germany, setting in motion a passion for church reform and faithfulness that continues to today. On page 10 of THE SPIRE you will see outlined a focus on seven core principles that will animate our worship leading up to Reformation Sunday on October 29. For those seven weeks, we will explore, one per week, Church, God, Grace, Christ, Scripture, Faith and Love. Those are at the heart of who we are here at Federated. Let's explore them together, and recommit to being continuously reformed in the image of the living and still-speaking God.

Yours in Christ,

Hamilton

Hamilton

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, September 3—Communion

Rev. Susi Kawolics preaches

10 am Family Worship (No Sunday School)

Music by Ken Horner, soloist, and Marcia Snavely & Randy Fusco, organ & piano duets

Sunday, September 10—Rally Day

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

9 am Family Worship & Sunday School

Music by Combined Chords

11 am Worship & Sunday School

Music by Combined Chords

12 pm All-Church Picnic

Sunday, September 17

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

9 am Family Worship & Sunday School

Music by The Ensemble

11 am Worship & Sunday School

Music by Chancel Choir

Sunday, September 24

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

9 am Family Worship & Sunday School

Music by The Ensemble

11 am Worship & Sunday School

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Church Council News

Council enthusiastically affirmed Chris Bednar to serve on the Human Resources Committee, and Laura Taylor for the Stewardship Committee. Federated has great need of willing volunteers to fill many roles in God's work. We are so grateful to Chris and Laura for their willing spirits and energy. If you are moved to volunteer or know someone who might, please let me know. We have roles for all, and all time and talents are welcome.

Several requests have arisen to fly other flags alongside the rainbow flag in front of Federated. Council approved a procedure for the Senior Director of Operations to efficiently review timely requests and approve them so that other flags representing our values can be flown for appropriate occasions, accompanied by information about the purpose or cause represented by the flag. This should provide opportunities for us to continue displaying our extravagant welcome and provide messages that embrace our community and the values we embody.

Great progress has been made on the Rejoice & Renew campaign with more than \$1.8 million raised. We are looking forward to Commitment Sunday on August 27, when all congregants who haven't already been contacted to pledge will have the opportunity.

Council reviewed the upcoming plans for further congregational discernment of Open and Affirming. Representatives of the commissions met again on August 13 to firm up plans for the fall weekly services, activities and lectures leading to up to celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

The Director of Music Ministries search is moving along with a lead candidate participating in an audition and Q&A with the choir on August 1. In other music related changes, at the request of Florence Olson, the Olson Bell Choir was renamed the Federated Bell Choir in recognition of the expanding donations to sustain this group in addition to the original very generous memorial gift by the Olson family.

Amy Eugene, Senior Director of Operations, provided a thorough report on the current activities and finances of Federated. It is notable that in July, a typically slow month in the church calendar, we hosted over 250 meetings and activities requiring staff support at our two facilities. Federated is alive and thriving. Finances also remain healthy with income ahead of expenses year to date through June by more than \$133,000. We normally enter the summer months ahead on revenue due to seasonal giving, but this year is especially strong.

The next Council meeting will be on September 5 at 7:00 pm in the Lounge. Other dates of note are Rejoice & Renew Commitment Sunday on August 27 and Rally Day on September 10.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Harbage
Church Moderator



2017 Lay Leaders

Church Council

Sunny Doxey, Ken Horner, Rob Goble, Robin Harbage (Moderator), Ann Lentz, Elaine Witmer, Maren Koepf, Ward Pierson, Erinn Grube, Shawn Rockhold

Commissions

Congregational Care

Jane Biggar (co-chair), Bonnie Goldston (co-chair), Ann-Marie Heston, Carol Kelly, Jan Mast, Alexandra Ziots, Karen Zoltowicz, Judy Maloni, Carole Halberg

Mission & Service

Sharen Bakke (co-chair), Heather Harris (co-chair), Linda Zelazny, Judy Lineweaver, Linnea Rostek, Lynne Kessell, Leslie Fincun, Gay Quintin, Don Hoke

Spiritual Formation

Cassie Moran, Gary Sherck, Barbara Patton, Mary Senechal, Holly Northcraft Spann (chair), Doug Harlan, Cathy Digel, (2) openings

Telling Our Story

Katie Swanson-Harbage (co-chair), Tom Meyer, Bob Munson (co-chair), Mary Ann Leonard, Diana Weber-Gardner, Todd Smith, (3) openings

Worship & Music

Cindy Hollister, Kiko Weinroth, Nancy Isham, Sally Ramsey, Gary Dole, Toni Harris, Nancie Skonezny, Curtis Grube, Sibyl McBride

Elected Committees

Finance

Becky Gruss (chair), Brady Hively, Steve Patton

Human Resources

Cherie Friedman, Jim Young, Chris Bednar

Legacy

Peter Franz, Bill Gaskin, Paul Neidhardt, Roger Pettibone (chair), Alex Taylor

Membership

Megan Campbell (chair), Rose Brown, Kate Walsh,

Nominating & Leadership

Jason Watson, Peggie Jo Shinagawa (chair), (1) opening

Properties

Paul Koepf, Keith Mast, Bill Lentz

Appointed Committee

Stewardship Committee

Eric Goodman, Mike Quintin, Laura Taylor

Western Reserve Assoc. Delegates

Susan Lampson, Jim Ogle, Kate Walsh

Ohio Conference Delegates

Susan Lampson, Kate Walsh

Federated Updates

	April - June 2017			2016
	Actual	Budget	over/(under) Budget	Actual
Income*				
Pledges and Donations	\$803,910.50	\$711,000.00	\$92,910.50	\$721,271.34
Rental and Other Income	\$55,217.46	\$56,292.00	(\$1,074.54)	\$66,314.69
Total Income	\$859,127.96	\$767,292.00	\$91,835.96	\$787,586.03
Expenses				
Payroll	\$458,631.25	\$457,151.00	\$1,480.25	\$453,335.54
Programs and Education	\$6,723.63	\$12,556.00	(\$5,832.37)	\$10,147.88
Missions	\$61,359.54	\$53,448.00	\$7,911.54	\$52,405.16
Office and Administration	\$41,776.41	\$39,914.00	\$1,862.41	\$40,613.69
Properties	\$105,184.59	\$112,998.00	(\$7,813.41)	\$127,608.92
Insurance	\$16,664.00	\$16,500.00	\$164.00	\$17,483.00
Rental Expenses	\$10,983.37	\$10,500.00	\$483.37	\$14,555.97
102 Bell St Costs	\$9,646.04	\$7,598.00	\$2,048.04	\$7,866.59
Other Expenses	\$14,722.46	\$3,965.00	\$10,757.46	\$4,802.10
Total Expenses	\$725,691.29	\$714,630.00	\$11,061.29	\$728,818.85
Net Operating Income	\$133,436.67	\$52,662.00	\$80,774.67	\$58,767.18

*The income budget is based upon the seasonality of giving. The pledge income includes all prepaid pledges.

102 Bell St.

We welcome Dave and Wendy Wilson and their family to 102 Bell Street! The Wilsons are long-time residents of Chagrin Falls and are renting the house through August 2018. If you see Dave, Wendy, or one of their kids, please extend a warm, Federated welcome!



Update from Search Committee for Director of Music Ministries

The committee spent parts of the summer reviewing over 25 applications and interviewing six candidates. That process resulted in rehearsals with two candidates, which were attended by about 40 singers from both choirs, members of the music staff, and members of the Worship & Music Commission.

From the beginning, it has been our desire to take the necessary amount of time to let God and the process guide us to the right leader for this position, rather than following a specific timeline. Marcia Snively has agreed to help coordinate and direct the music efforts until the position is filled, and the choirs will begin rehearsing in late August with Marcia. We look forward to announcing our new Director of Music Ministries sometime in the weeks to come.

Search Committee:
Beth Rutkowski, Chair
Hamilton Throckmorton
Keith Mast
Gary Dole

UCC 5 for 5 Totals

Federated Church participates in the "UCC 5 for 5" which are five ways for churches to support the United Church of Christ (UCC) and its global missions.

Strengthen the Church (STC) is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, STC largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC voice has not been heard. **Federated members and friends raised over \$1,000.00 for Strengthen the Church this year.**

Christmas in July provides direct financial assistance to retired and active United Church of Christ authorized ministers and lay employees and their surviving spouses, including pension and health premium supplementation, emergency assistance, and Christmas thank-you checks. **Federated members and friends raised over \$1,700.00 for Christmas in July.**

School Construction & Parking Update

The school construction calendar is official and **the last day to park in the school lot is Sunday, October 22.** Construction will begin and take 18-24 months to complete.

During the construction period, parking will be available at the Federated lot and in the main lot of the Chagrin Plaza. We are also seeking additional parking at other locations. More information will be available early in September.

You can find more information about the construction at www.chagrinschools.org/Construction.aspx

Federated Happenings



Pilates Mat Class

A Pilates Mat Class will be offered at Federated Church on Wednesdays, October 4-25, from 10:00-11:00 am in the Lounge. Class is \$10 per week.

The purpose of a Pilates Mat class is to lengthen and strengthen the body's core muscles. Exercises are performed in sequence, and promote a calming effect. Joanne Dissauer is the instructor and can be reached at dissauerjoanne@gmail.com or 216.556.4904.

Chair Pilates

This will be offered at the Family Life Center this fall every Thursday 10:30-11:30 am in the Youth Room.

Come join us and improve your strength, balance and flexibility using mind body techniques. All levels of fitness are welcome.

Cost: \$60 for six-week course, or \$10 drop-in fee. Wear comfortable clothing. Equipment is provided. Call Carol Kelly, P.T. with questions at 440.655.6257.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, November 11
8:00-10:00 am | Fellowship Hall

Speaker: Dr. Joseph Muscatello, Assoc. Professor at Kent State University

Topic: The Attack on Christianity in Higher Education

Cost: \$10.00 (includes a hot breakfast)

Call 440.247.6490 to make reservations



Federated Single Adult Fellowship

Wednesday, September 27 | 6:00-8:00 pm

Federated Single Adult Fellowship (FSAF) offers a warm welcome to any single adult who wishes to hang out once a month with other interesting and fun adults and learn a thing or two. We meet the fourth Wednesday of the month, beginning September 27, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We meet in Fellowship Hall at Bell Street. Each meeting has a theme and we enjoy potluck suppers so bring something great!

Contact Mark Simone with any questions at msimone@fedchurch.org or 440.463.9439.

Fellowship Treats

The Congregational Care Commission is cheerily undertaking its fourth year of scheduling treats during fellowship hours after Sunday services - beginning after Rally Day, September 10. Members of the congregation will be taking turns bringing in treats based on the beginning letter of their last names (picking up where we left off in May).

Please bring in treats that are cut-up and table-ready in disposable containers. Ready-to-serve, finger foods are preferred. Healthy food choices are especially welcome! Please no food containing nuts.



Food donations can be set out on the food table in Fellowship Hall when you come to church.

Here is the fellowship hour treat schedule for September and October:

September 17 - last names beginning with S or T

September 24 - last names beginning with U, V, W, X, Y or Z

October 1 - last names beginning with A or B

October 8 - last names beginning with C or D

October 15 - last names beginning with E, F or G

October 22 - last names beginning with H, I, J or K

October 29 - last names beginning with L or M

Thank you for helping make our fellowship hours delicious and enjoyable!

Federated Happenings

Social Justice and Advocacy Ministry - HOLA

On August 6, 2017, Federated's Social Justice and Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) learned about current issues for immigrants from Veronica Dahlberg, Executive Director of HOLA. HOLA is a small, grassroots Latino organization in NE Ohio that focuses on advocacy, community organizing and civic engagement. HOLA works with immigrants to educate them about their rights and responsibilities. With a staff of one and a group of committed volunteers they have undertaken activities such as workshops on how to become a U.S. citizen, voter registration, leadership development and classes for entrepreneurs. The most exciting thing is their plan to have a building of their own in Painesville, which will include a commercial kitchen to help incubate small businesses in the food industry. They have secured initial funding.

For the past decade, HOLA has been involved with undocumented immigrants facing deportation as a result of our broken immigration system. HOLA volunteers meet with government officials to provide education and dialogue. They accompany immigrants to check-ins with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) and court hearings. HOLA supports families separated by deportation.

We learned that:

- The number of visas issued for farm workers nationally is at a mere 60,000, while U.S. farmers have a need for 2 million farm laborers.
- In the past, farm workers would come every year from spring to fall and return home to Mexico each winter. Now this is no longer possible. For one thing, it interrupted school for the children. Some of the people currently being deported are deemed ineligible for citizenship because ICE is going back to a border crossing from 20 years ago and retrospectively deeming the voluntary return to Mexico a "deportation." This then rules out any legal remedy to their undocumented status.
- ICE has wide discretion about who is deported. Founded in 2003 in response to the World Trade Center bombing, their mission is "to promote homeland security and public safety through the criminal and civil enforcement of federal laws governing border control, customs, trade and immigration." While ICE's mission has not changed with the new administration, how the mission is being interpreted and applied has changed drastically. It is hard to see how deporting, hardworking, family breadwinners advances this mission.
- Those deported are dropped off in one of the most crime ridden cities in Mexico (Laredo). They arrive at midnight where predators are waiting to rob and kidnap them. Family members scramble to both buy the airline ticket for the person being deported, and several thousand dollars to pay the thieves/kidnappers/crooks upon landing in Laredo. This is intentional.

Currently HOLA has been at the forefront of advocating for undocumented immigrants facing deportation. Under the current administration, immigrants who have been here for decades, checking in regularly with authorities, working, owning businesses, raising families and contributing to their communities are now being deported. It is having a negative impact on families, communities and businesses. Two large, generations old, nurseries in Lake County have closed due to lack of workers. Other businesses are struggling in the face of losing long time, valued, skilled workers.

We as a country have failed to fix our broken immigration system. Although many politicians have given immigration reform and a path to citizenship lip service, our failure to do so is now on full display.

Learn more about HOLA on their website and their Facebook page: www.holatoday.org and www.facebook.com/HOLAOhio.

We will be learning more and finding ways to be allies to HOLA. HOLA speakers will present the program for the March Wondrous Wednesday (March 14, 2018).

If issues of Social Justice resonate with you, **please come to our next SJAM meeting on September 17, 2017 at 12:15 in Lounge.** All are welcome. Federated folks and others.

Group Airfare Reduced for The Spirit Of Ireland Trip

May 7 - 18, 2018

Good News! The group airfare rate has been reduced to \$895 and there is still room to join Hamilton and Mary and members of your Federated family to travel the hills and vales of Northern and Southern Ireland. We will have guided tours of Belfast and Dublin, and visit abbeys, castles and pubs. Do the names "Downpatrick," "Killarney," "Blarney" and "Guinness" sound familiar? If not, they certainly will after the trip.

Updated brochures are available in the Federated's Bell Street Lobby. Please contact Peggie Jo Shinagawa at 440.543.5974 with any questions.



Free Online Training Available

Responding to Violent Intruders

Federated staff and some congregation members have been trained to actively respond to violent intruders using ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Confront, Evacuate) techniques. If you or your immediate family members would like to take the online ALICE training, please contact: Amy Eugene at aegene@fedchurch.org or Bob Brandt at bbrandt@fedchurch.org.

Special Thanks

To our wonderful Federated family, Thank you for all your prayers, rides, cards, calls, and flowers you blessed both of us with in the last month! Barry's eye surgery went well, but a very long recovery! And Kathie's TGA was a 'one-shot' deal – inconvenient, but over and done with and not likely to return! We feel so blessed to be a part of such a loving, prayerful, and concerned community!

Thank you again!
With love, Barry and Kathie Biggin

Many thanks to all who sent cards and brought flowers after my surgery. What a powerful representation of God in our lives! Knowing we are surrounded by God's love and a faith-filled church aids in healing.

Many thanks again,
Norma Bobbitt



I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for the beautiful flower arrangement and expressions of sympathy, encouragement and support upon the sudden death of my husband, Cliff. As never before, I now realize how important the support of a church community can be in the face of an unexpected, tragic personal event. On behalf of our family, I thank you.

Sincerely,
Char Hartson

Mission & Service Opportunities

Metz Mentors

Looking for ways to give back... engage people of all abilities in the community? The Mission & Service Commission has an idea for you: *Metz Mentors*.

The Metzenbaum Center (part of the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities) has started Metz Mentors, a program to help people of all abilities live, learn and earn in our community. Having met with Janice Chesnes (Community Connections Coordinator) at their meeting in August, Mission & Service Commission members found this program to be worthy of our support and would encourage you to learn more and consider becoming a mentor.

Pairings will be based on mutual interests and expose individuals to social opportunities such as:

Health and Fitness Outdoor activities
Fashion and Beauty Sporting events
Restaurants and Shopping
Home Leisure Activities

Look to learn more at a future Wondrous Wednesday. Contact Marty, staff liaison to Mission & Service Commission, at mculbert@fedchurch.org with questions.

Parish Nurse Update—Second Nurse Wanted

Did you know that the Federated Church sponsors a Parish Nurse Clinic at St. Paul's UCC, our sister church on the near West Side? And that it simply would not exist without the commitment of generous Federated members. This commitment is evidenced by food for the St. Paul's pantry, clothes and small household goods for their second-hand closet, lifters and drivers to transport the donations, skilled fix-it folks to do repairs and maintain the humble building, school supplies and backpacks in August, and a part-time volunteer retired nurse (me!) to purchase and hand out basic personal hygiene, underwear, and baby supplies two mornings a week.

What would be helpful are monetary donations to our designated line item fund (used for supplies) and, perhaps, a second retired nurse to volunteer two to four Friday mornings a month (9:30 to approximately 11:45). The church is closed on Mondays and my availability is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Another nurse, supplied by Care Alliance, comes on Thursdays. Folks, this is a very rewarding ministry, especially for nurses who feel called to lend a friendly "hand up" to those who are really struggling.

This has been one of the most gratifying and eye-opening experiences of my nursing life. And as a volunteer, you will have flexibility to go on your vacations and/or trade with me for a Tuesday or Wednesday when needed and possible. You might want to come with me one day just to see if this is a fit for you, and if you think you would like to make this a part of your schedule, you will be thoroughly oriented. If interested, please call me at 440.655.2098.

Thank you for all contributions of your various resources. You are so generous! —Kathy Kolcaba

Mission & Service Opportunities



CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Receiving Applications for the 2017 Christmas Eve Offering

Each Christmas Eve, the Federated Church collects a special offering to benefit an organization, based locally, nationally, or globally, whose specific goals are to improve the lives of those in need, in turn enriching our world. We welcome proposals for one-time funding support to help with capital projects, program development, enhancement or expansion. The Christmas Eve offering is just the beginning of what we hope will be a year-long partnership of mission engagement with the recipient.

Please spread the word!

You will find the application at www.fedchurch.org. ***It must be completed and received by Monday, October 23 to be considered.***

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Marty Culbertson, Staff Liaison to Mission & Service Commission, at mculbert@fedchurch.org.

Neighbors in Need Offering

Sunday, October 1

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the NIN Offering.

Federated will receive the NIN Offering on Sunday, October 1. Please give generously!



A JustHope-Federated PartnerTrip to Chacraseca, Nicaragua

November 12-19

JustHope PartnerTrips are focused more on growing relationships than on accomplishing projects. Projects are understood and incorporated into PartnerTrips as a means of engaging with global partners in their context, but the trips are structured to facilitate encounter, dialogue, and cultural immersion as the primary objectives. JustHope's mission is to create long-term global partnerships that are committed to combating extreme poverty and increasing global understanding.

What will we do? We will have the opportunity to do maintenance at Stitching Hope or in the community, teach art, theater, dance, yoga and other classes in the cultural center, or work on the model farm. We will also have the opportunity to stay overnight with a family in the community.

What will it cost? The cost is \$825 plus airfare that is purchased individually. This covers meals, transportation, housing at "Casa de Paz" Retreat House for seven days, translators, trip coordination and leadership. We will be travelling light—participants are limited to one carry-on suitcase. **A non-refundable \$200 deposit is due upon registration, with the balance due by November.** There is limited space so register soon. Participants should be in good health and approved by trip leaders. Optional two day trip to Granada. (Cost depends on number of participants)

For more information or to register contact Diane Tuuri at dianectuuri@gmail.com or Jim Squire at jsquire710@gmail.com.



Faith Formation

Retreat to Ghost Ranch, New Mexico November 9-12

Many of you know that Federated member Rev. Brenda Grauer has taken a volunteer position at Ghost Ranch retreat center in New Mexico. This has prompted interest in gathering a group of Federated folks to visit. We have some who are planning to attend the workshop: Belonging to God: Expanding into the Beloved from November 9-12.

Information is available at: www.ghostranch.org/retreat/belonging-god-expanding-beloved-g17a1011/

If you are interested, please let Susi Kawolics know at skawolics@fedchurch.org or 440.247.6490 ext. 310. If we have an interested group, it would be great to travel together and room together there.



Women's Discussion Group Fridays 9:30-11:00 am Bell St., Lounge

This is an open invitation for all women. We gather for fellowship and spiritual discernment by usually reading the weekly Lectionary verses from a variety of translations. Please join us!

Going Deeper Bible Study For Senior High Youth

Sometimes the week is too long to make it from GROUP meeting to GROUP meeting. Need a mid-week oasis of understanding, fellowship, discussion, complaining and guidance from the Bible? Come to our GROUP night meeting which we call Going Deeper Bible Study. Thursdays at the church, Room 340 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.



Sermon series for September and October: The Seven Solae

As many of you know, October 31, 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the day that Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses against the Catholic Church up on the church door in Wittenberg. Although church reformation had been on the hearts and minds of many for years before that, and much had been written and said, it was this action by Luther that marked the beginning of the reformation, and the birth of the Protestant Church.

The early reformers put forth three foundational principles of reformation known as the "Solae." **Sola Scriptura** (only scripture, not tradition), **Sola Gratia** (only grace, not merit), **Sola Fides** (only faith, not works). Each was intended to represent an important distinction of the Reformers' beliefs compared with Catholic doctrine.

By the middle of the 20th Century, it became common to see the original list of three Solae increased to five. The additions were **Solus Christus** (Christ as only mediator between God and human) and **Soli Deo gloria** (glory to God alone).

More recently, certain Anglican scholars have suggested that there should be a further two additional Solae on the list, bringing the total to seven: **Sola ecclesia** (the Church alone) and **Sola caritas** (charitable love alone).

We will be celebrating Reformation Sunday on October 29. For the seven Sundays before then, beginning with Rally Day, September 10, and running through Sunday, October 22, we will be using one of these Solae each week, along with a Lectionary scripture reading, as a theme for our worship services.

Theme (Sola)	Date	Scripture
Church	September 10	Matthew 18:20
God	September 17	Romans 14:11-12
Grace	September 24	Matthew 20:13-15
Christ	October 1	Philippians 2:5-11
Scripture	October 8	Matthew 21:42
Faith	October 15	Philippians 4:1,6
Love	October 22	I Thessalonians 1:3

Please join us for this series to prepare our hearts and minds for this milestone anniversary of our reformed Protestant tradition.

Family and Youth Ministries

JOY is in the Air for all Jr High Kids!

If you have a junior high student in your family or know of friends looking for a positive, faith-filled program for their junior high kid, please invite them to check out JOY (Jesus Oriented Youth)!

We will kick off the year on September 17 with a picnic gathering at the Family Life Center from 5:00-6:30 pm. Come learn what JOY is all about. Or, if you are a returning family, come renew your JOY friendships!

We have lots to share throughout the year and look forward to growing in our faith through mission, games and even a bit of serious faith-filled discussions!

If you have questions, feel free to email Marty at mculbert@fedchurch.org.



Interested in Supporting Family Ministries?

A meeting for everyone interested in Family Ministries for 2017-2018 will be **September 17 at 12:00 pm in Room 230**. We'll present the program for the next year and discuss ideas for supporting the ministry. Childcare will be provided! If you have any questions, contact Emily Culp at eculp@fedchurch.org.

GROUP Launch & Fall Calendar

GROUP is the senior high youth program of the Federated Church. We are a safe place for growing minds looking for meaning in the world. We use our faith as a guide, not as a crutch. And all high schoolers are always welcome!

It is always exciting to kick off a new GROUP year. Here is how we will greet the fall! More info to kids and family through our weekly email. Contact Mark at msimone@fedchurch.org if you would like to be added to the list.

September 17 – Our GROUP Kick-Off Party will be a picnic and swimming at the Simone's – 43 Paw Paw Lake. 3:30-6:00 pm. Freshmen welcome ceremony & gift. Bring a side dish.

September 24 – Evening GROUP at the Family Life Center (FLC). 6:30-8:00 pm. Freshmen greeted. HUGE Game night. Bring \$5 for pizza. Devotion – The Four Pictures of Jesus.

October 1 – Leadership Team. Hearth Room. 5:45–6:30 pm. Evening GROUP at the FLC. 6:30–8:00 pm. October and November discussion theme: The Basics. Basically 1 – God Created Us. Plus Ice Cream Sundaes Sunday – bring a topping to share. Ice cream provided.

October 8 – Confirmation at the FLC 10:15 to 11:45 am. Evening GROUP at the FLC. 6:30–8:00 pm. Bonfire at FLC. Picnic. S'mores. Campfire singing.

October 15 – Evening GROUP at the FLC. 6:30–8:00 pm. Mind Games. Basically 2 – We Sinned. Pizza - \$5.

October 22 – GROUP goes to WhirlyBall & Laser Tag. 3:30–8:00 pm. Details later – Five Guys for dinner.

October 29 – Evening GROUP at the FLC. 6:30–8:00. Costume Party – Bring Trick or Treat candy! Prizes. Halloween Program

Confirmation Call and Dates

Confirmation classes begin in October! This notice is to invite all teens 9th grade and above to join the class of study, discussion and experiences which lead to a deeper understanding of our faith and church membership. We meet most months on the second and third Sunday at the Family Life Center (FLC) from 10:15 to 11:45 am. There is so much to share that we want to invite parents and students to a special **Confirmation Breakfast at the FLC on Sunday, September 24 from 10:15 to 11:30 am**. Come see the program overview, our calendar and get registration info as we serve up pancakes and sausage.

Please let Mark Simone know who and how many from your family will be attending the breakfast at 440.463.9439 or msimone@fedchurch.org. Thanks!

Classes for October will be:

15th – Confirmation at the FLC. 10:15 to 11:45 am.

22nd – Confirmation at the FLC. 10:15 to 11:45 am.

29th – Confirmation class helps at Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen. Meet at church at 9:30 am. Back at 3:30 pm.



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An Open and Affirming Congregation
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OUR STAFF IS HERE TO HELP YOU

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Hamilton Throckmorton, *Senior Pastor*
Mark Simone, *Associate Pastor, Family Ministries*
* **Susi Kawolics**, *Associate Pastor, Worship Planning & Faith Formation*

Administration and Staff

Amy Eugene, *Senior Director of Operations*
Melinda Smith, *Congregational Life Administrator*
* **Trisha Holland**, *Marketing & Communications Specialist*
* **Darlene Nichols**, *Pastoral Care Administrator*
* **Dolly Herschel**, *primetime@fed Coordinator*
Bob Brandt, *Lead Custodian*
* **Larry McGurer**, **Daniel Pecchio**, * **Robert Keleman**,
* **Jake Magalski**, ***Kristen Olvera**, * **Brent Simon**, *Custodians*

Music Staff

* **Marcia Snavely**, *Organist*
* **Thaddeus Quintin**, *Director of the Federated Bell Choir*
* **Pat Haynish**, *Director of Children's Choir*

Children's Ministries Staff

* **Marty Culbertson**, *Director Junior High Youth Program*
* **Kiersti Critchfield**, *Co-Director of Children's Ministries, Birth-6*
* **Emily Culp**, *Co-Director of Children's Ministries, K-6 and Director of Family Ministries*
* **Alex Bell**, **Lianna Davis**, **Trisha Holland**, *Childcare Providers*
* denotes part-time staff

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