



THE SPIRE

THE FEDERATED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

JOURNEY TO GENEROSITY: STEWARDSHIP 2017

A Stewardship Campaign right on the heels of a Capital Campaign?! You bet!

Even as cheers of "Amen!" and "Hallelujah!" celebrate the widely-embraced commitment to renew and refresh Federated's properties to strong working order, we must turn our sights and our energy to the ongoing missions and ministries of daily operations.

Why pledge this year in addition to the Capital Campaign?

Pledging is a core spiritual practice.

Growing in faith, each of us is nudged to stretch beyond our comfort zones, trusting fully in God's promise to provide. Giving out of our own abundance and privilege can be both sacrificial and restorative.

Pledging multiplies our

ministries. The programming and ministries of Federated offer multiple touchpoints for everyone to encounter God's transformative work in and through our lives: growing our faith community in mind, body and spirit.

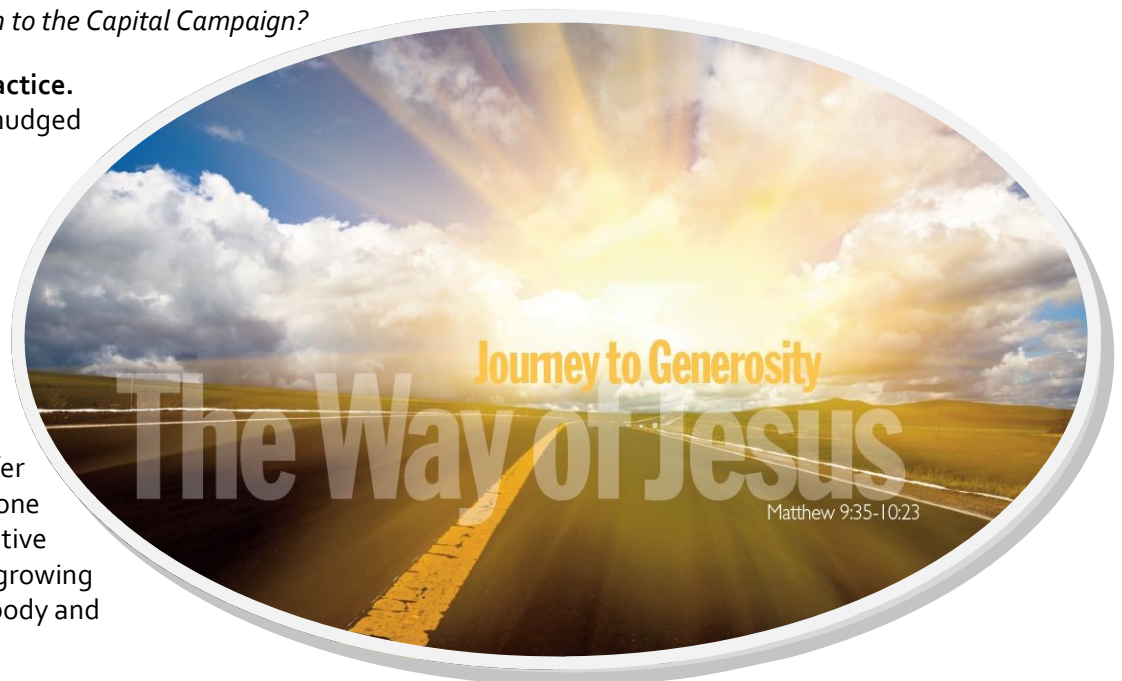
Pledging extends our reach. Christ calls us to engage our resources of time, talent and treasure in ways that heal a broken world. What we pledge supports missions far beyond the walls of Federated, impacting individuals and organizations across the globe.

Pledging spotlights our priorities. As Christians, we become stewards of peace and possibility and a constant beacon of justice and compassion: deliberately giving over our lives and our resources to something larger than ourselves.

1 Peter 4:10 says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (NIV)

Only you know what you can give. The amount does not matter as much as your faith-filled participation. Do the best you can with what God has given to you. Your commitment helps Federated make a powerful impact on the world. Watch for your "Journey to Generosity" pledge packet to arrive in the mail in mid-October. Then mail in your pledge card or bring it on Stewardship Sunday, October 29, and be part of the celebration of Christ that is The Federated Church.

Let's journey together along new paths of compassionate generosity so that God may be glorified in all things!



New Members Class (aka Inquirers Class)

Saturday, October 28, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm | Bell St.

There have been some inquiries into when we will be offering our next new members class, which



we call, appropriately enough, an Inquirers Class. It is exciting to have people eager to explore the programs and purpose of The Federated Church and to take a fresh look at the meaning of Christ for our times.

Classes are held in the fall and the spring. Again this fall, we have streamlined our content so that it fits into a single day. Lunch will be served and childcare is available upon request. Those who attend the class and wish to join Federated will be received into membership on Sunday, November 12.

Sign up at the Reception Desk in the Lobby, by calling the church at 440.247.6490 or by emailing Melinda Smith at smithm@fedchurch.org.

The Shrimp Boil is Back!

Sunday, October 8, 3:30-7:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

All you can eat for a freewill donation
Benefitting: Back Bay Mission
(Can't attend?... we will have bags of shrimp to sell)



A Look Back at Rally Day 2017



families@fed presents



PARTY

PUMPKIN DECORATING
GAMES • SNACKS

We'll provide apple juice, apple cider and donut holes. Bring a snack to share! Let us know you're coming by registering at <https://tinyurl.com/harvestparty1015>

OCT
15

2:00-4:00 PM

Family Life Center



From the Desk of Hamilton

Dear Friends,

Money is a funny subject in the church. Not funny ha-ha, of course. Money is funny because it stirs things up in us. One of the complaints I've heard most when people talk about a church they've disliked is: "They talk too much about money. We don't come to church to be badgered about money." We come to church, we think, to pray, to hear about God, to grow in the Spirit. Money too easily dominates the rest of life. Don't let it get out of control here.

I get that, I really do. In the church, I love, more than anything, to engage people theologically. I love to toss around ideas and think about God and immerse ourselves in the Bible. I love to find ways to respond to God and enhance our mission in the world. If the subject of money becomes too predominant, I begin to feel antsy, and to think we're getting away from what's central. I'm tempted to deal with the money part as quickly and unobtrusively as possible.

So it came as something of a shock to me when I learned that Jesus talks more about money than he does about any other subject. Let me say it again: Jesus talks more about money than about heaven and hell, more even than he talks about love. Eleven of his 39 parables talk about money and possessions. If you're like me, this is hard to believe. Nevertheless, it's true.

And it's true because Jesus knew that, if we're to have a deep and lively faith, all that we have and all that we are need to be directed to God. With a dynamic faith our whole lives are given to God. With a vibrant faith, we don't cling to what God has given us. We give it away. We share it generously. When we don't share extravagantly, something crucial is missing. Stingy giving is a sign of stingy faith.

All of which is to give some context to this season in Federated's life. Having spent a good deal of energy in the last four months inviting gifts to our Rejoice and Renew Capital Campaign, now, with no real break, we enter the season in which we focus on stewardship. During the month of October, we will be inviting our pledges for the ministry and mission of Federated in 2018. We will be inviting ourselves to follow the way of Jesus and to be on the journey to generosity.

As an upcoming stewardship bulletin insert notes, "we certainly know that investing money in the work of ministry and mission on behalf of others improves the quality of life in our community. It also directly benefits us with a sense of purpose, overall well-being, and being a part of something that is larger than ourselves. It is good for us!"

You may wonder about the wisdom of having a stewardship campaign right on the heels of a capital campaign. But what countless churches have found is that stewardship programs and capital campaigns are symbiotic. When one comes right on the heels of the other, we receive the consistent message that giving is good. It feels good. And it makes a real difference. So this fall, having fortified our buildings, let's now give generously to support and sustain the missions and ministries of Federated. It will be a blessing to all!

Yours in Christ,



Hamilton

OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, October 1—Communion

World Communion Sunday
 UCC Neighbors in Need Offering Received
 Rejoice & Renew Celebration Weekend
 Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
 9 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by The Ensemble & Children's Choir
 11 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by Chancel Choir & Children's Choir

Sunday, October 8

Rev. Susi Kawolics preaches
 9 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by The Ensemble
 11 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 15

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
 9 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by The Ensemble
 11 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 22

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
 9 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by The Ensemble
 11 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 29

Reformation and Stewardship Sunday
 Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
 9 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by Bell Choir & Children's Choir
 11 am Worship & Sunday School
Music by Bell Choir & Children's Choir

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Church Council News

Church Council met September 5th. Here are highlights from the meeting.

Our Rejoice & Renew Capital Campaign brings us to 2.45 million dollars of pledge commitments and counting! Contributions and commitments continue to grow, making it possible to return Federated's ministering facilities to strong working order. As the campaign draws to a close, a phone-a-thon on Tuesday evening, 9/26 will rally all congregants to actively participate.

Cross-commission sessions continue the second Sunday of alternating months. Councilors, chairs, and representatives from each of our five commissions are encouraged to attend this 50-minute meeting 10:00-10:50 am, designed to integrate and coordinate programming and messaging across commissions. Together, we are developing action plans to make Federated's Open and Affirming commitment to diversity evident in all we do and say. You can expect to see a deliberate increase in sensitivities, advocacies, and education regarding the needs and rights of diverse populations.

At the time of this writing and after a responsible and thorough search process, a new Music Director has been selected to ensure a vibrant music ministry at Federated! As Josh Konow joins us in mid October, please make a deliberate effort to introduce yourselves and affirm his welcome.

Our Senior Director of Operations, Amy Eugene, presented a detailed budget report highlighting a need to decrease our overhead costs. To minimize spending, how might our church gradually rely more on all of us and less on custodial staff for some of the set up, clean up, and optimized scheduling of facilities?

The YMCA held a successful summer camp at our Family Life Center (FLC). They will be requesting from the Bainbridge Township Zoning Board of Appeals the opportunity to expand to another summer camp in 2018 as well as a series of Schools Out Fun Days at our FLC to provide wholesome childcare during the school year as "mini camp days" on regularly scheduled days off from schools.

Council is researching expanded utilization of the FLC as an important contributing force to our future.

Next Church Council meeting will be Tuesday, October 3 at 7:00 in the Lounge.

Fellowship Treats

The Congregational Care Commission is cheerily scheduling treats during Sunday fellowship hours. Members of the congregation will be taking turns bringing in treats based on the beginning letter of their last names.

Please bring in treats that are cut-up and table-ready in disposable containers. Healthy food choices are especially welcome! *Please no nuts*. Food can be set out on the food table in Fellowship Hall when you come to church. Thank you for helping make our fellowship hours delicious and enjoyable!

Here is the fellowship hour treat schedule for October:

- 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



2017 Lay Leaders

Church Council

Sunny Doxey, Ken Horner, Rob Goble, Robin Harbage (Moderator), Ann Lentz, Elaine Witmer, Maren Koepf, 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, Nancy Isham, Sally Ramsey, Gary Dole, Toni Harris, Nancie Skonezny, Curtis Grube, Sibyl McBride, (1) opening

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

Peggie Jo Shinagawa (chair), (2) openings

Properties

Paul Koepf, Keith Mast, Bill Lentz

Appointed Committee

Stewardship Committee

Mike Quintin, Laura Taylor, (1) opening

Western Reserve Assoc. Delegates

Susan Lampson, Jim Ogle, Kate Walsh

Ohio Conference Delegates

Susan Lampson, Kate Walsh

Federated Updates

New Director of Music Ministries: Joshua Konow

We are pleased to announce the hiring of Joshua Konow as Federated's Director of Music Ministries. Joshua was most recently director of music at Westlake United Methodist Church and is the director of the True North Chamber Orchestra. He has degrees in music from Manhattan School of Music and Cleveland Institute of Music.

At Federated, Joshua will direct both the Chancel Choir and The Ensemble, and will oversee all other aspects of our music program. He will serve as a full-time staff member, involved in weekly worship planning as well as other activities including music and church life. Joshua will join us beginning Monday, October 16. Please look for an opportunity to welcome him to our Federated Family!

A special thanks to the search committee - Beth Rutkowski (chair), Hamilton Throckmorton, Gary Dole, and Keith Mast who put in a great deal of effort and passion to fill this very important role at Federated.



School Construction & Parking Update

Reminder that there will be no parking in the Chagrin Falls Intermediate School parking lot starting Monday, October 23. The Parking Committee will provide more information and maps showing alternate parking options between now and then. Keep your eyes on upcoming bulletins and on the website.



New Website

On October 1, Federated's website will be getting a complete makeover! This is your one-stop-shop for all things Federated. Learn about our ministries, listen to Sunday sermons, explore the church calendar and upcoming events, and download important resources. Soon, you will even be able to pay your pledge online! Head to www.fedchurch.org to see what the improved layout has to offer.

Federated Happenings

A special offer to help yourself and the Capital Campaign with a **Holistic Group Coaching Circle**
100% of the fee goes to the Capital Campaign.

Did you miss out on the Daniel Plan or wish you still had support to continue? Do you need that extra nudge to keep moving in the right direction for your health? This won't be a repeat of the Daniel Plan, but will incorporate some of the same principles of a healthy lifestyle presented in the DP: food, faith, friends, fitness, focus.

Facilitated by Polly Manke, Certified Holistic Health Coach, you will:

- Have the support of community and an accountability buddy
- Learn tips, tricks, and recipes to sail through the holidays on track
- Tune in to which foods are supporting you and which foods aren't
- Learn a perspective on food as medicine

- Align your goals with your actions
- Nourish Body Mind & Spirit
- Renew the mind, address the stress



Polly has had success in dealing with her own autoimmune condition thru healing foods. Her specialty is in reducing inflammation, pain, anxiety, stress, and fatigue through diet.

The group will meet on the **1st and 3rd Monday of each month from 10:30 am to noon in Bell Street Room 350.** October 23 (4th Monday), November 6 & 20, December 4 & 18, January 8 & 22 (2nd & 4th Mondays), February 5 & 19, March 5 & 19, April 2. (Make up date if needed on April 16)

Suggested donation: \$500 per person. Group size: Min. 6, Max. 10 people. Polly will be in Fellowship Hall between the services on October 15 and 22 to answer questions.

Contact Polly at 440.823.9316 or pjmanke5@yahoo.com.
Deadline to register is October 22.

Federated Happenings

Social Justice and Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) Team – News and Opportunities to Join In

A story from one of our ministry members:

I believe that God loves all children when they are born, and loves them throughout their life, no matter what. That is the gift of grace from God. My oldest grandchild, Nora, while home from college in 2013, came to visit me to share her sexual orientation identity as a lesbian. In 2015 upon college graduation, Nora moved to Portland, OR with her girlfriend, realized her gender identity, and transitioned to be known as Gordon. Gordon’s mother, father, siblings, friends were very supportive as we dearly loved "him". When Gordon visited family several months later it was obvious how much calmer and happier he was with himself! He is now working in community theater, volunteering in graphic novel writing and has many friends in the gay community. We know God accepts, affirms and loves him! For me, it is such a blessing to be part of Federated Church, to know that we and other Open and Affirming Churches welcome, support and offer love and affirmation to my grandson and *all* God's children.

- Audrey Bashian

Because of stories like this, the SJAM team is sponsoring a series of movie nights that focus on human rights, race relations, environmental issues, and more. We invite everyone from Federated Church and the larger community to join together for an evening of learning, stimulating conversation, and exploring the issues of our times.

As we explore issues of social justice, questions that keep coming: *"What is God calling us to do? What is God asking of us? How will we respond?"*

Movie and Dessert Series –

Open to all church and community members – invite others to join you...

When: 3rd Monday of the month

Time: 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Where: Family Life Center Youth Room

Movies: (mark your calendars)

October 16th - **For the Bible Tells Me So** (LGBT understanding)

November 20th – **Episode 201 from the 30 Days Series - Immigration** (Immigration awareness)

Dates January - May 2018 TBD



The October film, **"For the Bible Tells Me So"** is the winner of the Audience Award for *Best Documentary* at the Seattle International Film Festival. Dan Karslake's provocative, entertaining documentary brilliantly reconciles homosexuality and Biblical scripture, and in the process reveals that church-sanctioned anti-gay bias is based solely upon a significant (and often malicious) misinterpretation of the Bible. Through the experience of five very normal, very Christian, very American families - including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopalian Bishop Gene Robinson - we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child. With commentary by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, **"For the Bible Tells Me So"** offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity.

We invite you to bring dessert to share for a sweet touch to our fellowship time together.

Next SJAM meeting:

Sunday, October 15 at 12:15 in the Lounge.

All are welcome to join us. And if you want, you may bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy during the meeting.

We also invite you to visit the **United Church of Christ** website to learn more about the issues that our denomination is working on at this time: http://www.ucc.org/justice_issues - The UCC national office helps local congregations and all settings of the church respond to God's commandments to do justice, seek peace and affect change for a better world. Doing justice, seeking peace and building community are central to the identity of the United Church of Christ.

For more information or to let us know you'd like to get involved, contact Susi Kawolics (440.247.6490 ext.310 or skawolics@fedchurch.org)



Federated Happenings

Opportunities for Service, Fellowship and Fun

As everyone settles down after summer activities, please consider joining one (or more!) of these Ministry Teams to enhance your sojourn here at Federated! These ministries operate under the auspices of the Congregational Care Commission.

The leader(s) of the various Ministry Teams are listed below. Feel free to contact them directly with any questions or to express your interest.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

These Ministry Teams provide services to Federated parishioners. You decide how much or how little time you have to volunteer - any help you can provide will be cheerily welcomed! You will be advised of opportunities to help - but need not do so if it isn't convenient.

ANGEL FLOWERS MINISTRY

Team Leader: Peggie Jo Shinagawa (pjshinagawa@windstream.net)
Volunteers rearrange Sunday altar flowers and deliver the smaller bouquets to Federated congregants who are in need of cheer.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRY

Team Leader: Sue Giles (jgiles3340@msn.com)
Volunteers deliver meals to families with new babies and to those who are ill, in mourning or otherwise in need of this assistance.

ANGEL RIDES MINISTRY

Team Leader: Sue Mansour (sueman@roadrunner.com)
Volunteers provide rides to appointments, church services, and the like.

ANGEL VISITOR MINISTRY

Team Leader: Jeri Shaffer (jlshaffer@roadrunner.com)
Volunteers provide warm and caring personal visits to temporary shut-ins and those in hospitals and other facilities.

COMMUNION TO THE CONFINED

Team Leader: Peggie Jo Shinagawa (pjshinagawa@windstream.net)
Volunteers provide Communion to individuals who are mentally or physically unable to attend worship.

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER NOTE WRITING

Team Leader: Darlene Nichols (dnichols@fedchurch.org)
Volunteers send cards to those experiencing illness, loss, or crisis.

MEMORIAL BAKERS MINISTRY

Team Leader: Sue Giles (jgiles3340@msn.com)
Volunteers provide baked goods for memorial services and funerals.

MEMORIAL HOSTS MINISTRY

Team Leaders: Sue Mansour, Peggie Jo Shinagawa, and Sue Giles (sueman@roadrunner.com, pjshinagawa@windstream.net, jgiles3340@msn.com)
Volunteers serve as Federated's hosts and greeters for memorial services and help with parking, kitchen activities, etc.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

Team Leader: Jeri Shaffer (jlshaffer@roadrunner.com)
Volunteers provide blood pressure screenings at various times.

PRAYER AND PRAISE MINISTRY

Team Leader: Lou Butz (llbonline@att.net)
Volunteers pray for individuals. This can be done at home.

SIT AND STITCH MINISTRY

Team Leader: Lynne Kessell (lynnekessell@hotmail.com)
Volunteers make lap robes for the ill or shut-in and baptism blankets.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Team Leader: Pastor Susi Kawolics (skawolics@fedchurch.org)
After special training, volunteers meet with an individual experiencing a difficult time to provide non-judgmental care and concern.

WEDDING HOSTS MINISTRY

Team Leaders: Peggie Jo Shinagawa and Sally Harrold (pjshinagawa@windstream.net, harrold.sally@yahoo.com)
Lead Hosts are with the family for rehearsal and the wedding; Wedding Day Hosts welcome guests and help with parking, etc.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP

These Ministry Teams provide opportunities to participate in activities and fellowship.

COMMA MOMMAS MINISTRY

Team Leader: Pastor Susi Kawolics (skawolics@fedchurch.org)
Participants provide support for mothers who have LGBT children.

KOINONIA GROUP MINISTRY

Team Leader: Pat Fox (foxjosten@gmail.com)
This Ministry facilitates the formation of small long-term fellowship groups. Pat will help anyone to set up a new Koinonia group. These groups are still taking new members:

Helpers Anonymous Service Group - (contact: Cindy Barclay, cindybarc@usa.com) Participants meet periodically for service projects selected by the group.

Plant-Based Luncheon Group - (contact: Mary Ann Leonard, lifesabanquet@roadrunner.com) Participants meet periodically to enjoy a plant-based luncheon.

MAHJONG GROUP

Team Leader: Ann Marie Heston (amngh@icloud.com)
Participants meet (usually weekly) to enjoy Mahjong and fellowship.

SAME BOAT FRIENDS

Team Leader: Don Hoke (440-338-8219)
Participants are widowers who meet monthly for dinner at a restaurant.

SAME BOAT GIRLFRIENDS

Team Leader: Jenny Evans (jenny8854@sbcglobal.net)
Participants are widows who meet monthly for dinner at a restaurant.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

Team Leader: Lynne Kessell (lynnekessell@hotmail.com)
Participants meet for luncheons and service projects.

Federated and Community Happenings



Pilates Mat Class

Come lengthen and strengthen the body's core muscles. Exercises are performed in sequence, and promote a calming effect.

Offered on **Wednesdays, October 4-25, from 10:00-11:00 am in the Lounge**. Class is \$10/wk. Instructor Joanne Dissauer can be reached at dissauerjoanne@gmail.com or 216.556.4904.

Chair Pilates

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

Offered this fall at the **Family Life Center Youth Room every Thursday 10:30-11:30 am**.

Cost: \$60 for six-week course, or \$10 drop-in. Equipment provided. Wear comfortable clothes. Questions? Call Carol Kelly, P.T. at 440.655.6257.

Yoga ~ Spirit ~ Renewal

Who isn't stressed these days? Let yoga be your reset button. A prayerful, reflective yoga practice in a warm and inviting community offers an answer. Move & Breathe, Relax & Center.

Offered **Tuesdays, 9:00-10:15 am in the Family Life Center Youth Room**. Cost is \$75 for seven classes, or \$12 drop-in fee. Contact Polly Manke at 440.823.9316 or pjmanke@yahoo.com.

The Community Sings!

Cleveland musicians and community-builders Amanda Powell and Anne



Wilson team up to present gatherings around Cleveland Heights to promote singing, serenity, and silliness.

Beer-n'-Hymns

Sunday, October 22, 6:30 pm

The BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Road., Cleveland Heights)

Wondrous Wednesday is Back!

Wednesday, October 11

6:00 pm FREE dinner, 7:00 pm program
Fellowship Hall



Emily Bacha from the Land Conservancy will give us a presentation on their efforts to keep us healthy by preserving forests and natural land. In this day of land development and increased population, learn how they are working to preserve areas that benefit our physical and mental health and that of future generations.

A FREE dinner will be held prior to her presentation. It will be a Mexican-themed meal with roasted chicken and fresh ingredients. Vegan, dairy-free, and gluten-free diets are all accommodated. Please RSVP to 440.247.6490 so we make enough food.

Good Tidings Benefit Choir Recruiting Voices... for fundraiser for the Geauga Hunger Task Force

Practices will be held at **Notre Dame Chapel, 13000 Auburn Road in Munson, Ohio. Sundays 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**.

Practices start October 8 for the 1st section of Handel's Messiah plus other Christmas music. The choir is open to high school students and older.

You may bring your own score with you or there will be copies available for approximately \$8.00. Solo auditions will take place during the practices. The Christmas programs are **December 2 at 7:00 pm, December 3rd at 3:00 pm**.

Contact Sue Juhasz, Project Coordinator at srcgjuh@windstream.net or check out the Facebook "Good Tidings Benefit Choir" page.



Theological Forum with Shane Claiborne

Saturday, October 14, 8:30 am | Pilgrim Congregational Church

Shane Claiborne is a founding partner of *The Simple Way Community*, a radical and progressive faith community that lives among and serves the homeless in Philadelphia. He is the author of several books including *The Irresistible Revolution* and *Jesus for President*.

Claiborne is having a public presentation followed by a talkback session. There will be a book sale and signing after his discussion. The cost is \$20.00. Go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shane-claiborne-in-cleveland-tickets-34890269736?aff=eac2> to register, or register at the door with a check made to "Pilgrim Church."

Co-sponsored by Avon Lake UCC, Dover Congregational UCC, First Church UCC – Oberlin, and Pilgrim Congregational UCC.



Special Thanks



As we're heading towards the end of the active phase of Federated's *Rejoice & Renew* Campaign, it's been a wonderful time of reflection. Our church is blessed with such creative and inspiring people! Here are a few circumstances, which inspired me along the way:

- Seeing the Federated Youth & Children's quilt decorating the Fellowship Hall wall.
- Being able to use the creative endeavors of a staff member for the campaign literature and video: wonderful pictures and video taken via a staff member's drone!
- Members of other churches donating to this campaign. One note said "how lucky we are to have you in our beautiful little village."
- Person who had already pledged to the campaign, being so moved by the kick-off "raised-to-date" announcement that they upped their pledge, which allowed us to reach the \$1 million mark.
- A couple tripled their original gift consideration after hearing recent faith witnesses and Hamilton's sermon!
- New visitors being moved to pledge, although they aren't yet members.
- Talented members offering to use their creative skills as fundraisers - with all proceeds going to the campaign.
- Members willing to step out of their comfort zone and speak to others about the campaign.
- Seeing the church history bulletin board organized by a member, which highlights a 1927 Capital Campaign! A great way to honor our past, as we continue to move forward.
- Members of varying perspectives pledging to the campaign!
- Members creating the "coin collection contraption," which got our children (and the Village Nursery School Preschool children!) excited about being involved and contributing.
- Folks who have let us know that they haven't been able to commit to the campaign yet, but are working behind-the-scenes to make their pledge a reality.

In other words, we're all different and we all care. That is a good thing, thanks be to God!

— Laura Taylor, Campaign Assistant

Special Thanks to our Summer Musicians

Once again we experienced a marvelous summer filled with rich musical blessings in our worship services. Grateful thanks to our special musicians who offered their time and talents so generously. It is always a joy to work with such gifted individuals and groups.

And once again, in addition to solos, duet and quartets, the Federated Summer Choir (also known as the pick-up choir) performed on a July Sunday. So thank you, summer choir members and soloists.... Kiko Weinroth, Beth Rutkowski, Bruce Gigax, Nancy Isham and Kate Breen, Ted Rodenborn, Jenna Stein, Ben Bunsold, Keith Mast, Elise Leitzel, Brenna Sincaglia, Federated Four (Elizabeth Spencer, Ann Lentz, Bruce Gigax and Carl Jenks), Ken Horner. and Randy Fusco (piano). We are so grateful for your dedication and talents.

Thank you,
Marcia Snavelly

In times of great need... we can always pull together!

Thank you to all who helped make the Emergency Cleanup Bucket project a huge success! Hamilton challenged us to get 30 and we busted through that with 44 buckets! And, we collected over \$4,100 for hurricane relief efforts (the UCC, Emergency USA Fund)

Blessings to you for opening your hearts to the needs of so many!
Marty Culbertson



Mission & Service Opportunities

Help Feed the Homeless at St. Paul's

Ohio City Power's *Soup for the Soul* program has been preparing lunches for our friends at St. Paul's for four years.

These items are needed for St. Paul's outreach program from Federated:
Soup base (chicken or beef: low sodium/low fat), rice, pasta, canned tomatoes, chicken, ground turkey or ground chicken; canned kidney beans, navy beans, and tomato paste, commercial size oregano, garlic powder, salt and pepper; tuna in water, frozen peas, wide noodles, bread crumbs, low sodium mushroom soup; pasta sauce or pizza sauce, pizza cheese and cheese slices.

Items can be marked with "SFTS" and left behind the reception desk in the Lobby or in the freezer/refrigerator in the Tunnel. The receptionist can help get it there. Let Lisa Braun know when items are there for pick up at 440.289.1657.

Neighbors in Need Offering

Sunday, October 1

Federated will receive the NIN Offering on 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.



CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

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.

You will find the application at www.fedchurch.org. ***It must be completed and received by Monday, October 23 to be considered. No exceptions.***

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

Faith Formation

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. This month we've decided to study the book of John.



Come for fellowship, discernment and maybe even enlightenment! Our discussions are personal, topical and always meaningful. We'd love to have you join us!

Sermon series continues in October: The Seven Solae

We will be celebrating Reformation Sunday on October 29. 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
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

This Month in SUNDAY SCHOOL		
	Theme	Life App
DISCOVERY ISLAND (K-6)	Fruit of the Spirit	The Holy Spirit helps me act in good ways.
KIDS COVE (B-PreK)	Zig Zag Zone	God can help me.

JOY in October!

Spread the Word for Jr High Kids!

Sunday School at 11 am in Rm. 350
(except on Communion Sundays)

JOY has some great opportunities
On Sunday afternoons:

10/1 Meet at the Family Life Center 5 pm

10/8 SHRIMP BOIL at church-3:30-7 pm
raising money for Back Bay Mission

10/15 Meet at the Family Life Center 5 pm

10/21 Cedar Point trip, 9 am. Meet at church

10/29 Reverse Trick or Treat 2 pm, (sharing
treats at Hamlet). Meet at the church

Questions? Contact Marty at mculbert@fedchurch.org.

Confirmation Call and Dates

We invite all teens 9th grade and up to join the class of study, discussion and experiences which lead to a deeper understanding of our faith and church membership. Please contact Mark Simone to sign up at msimone@fedchurch.org or 440.463.9439.

Classes for October will be:

8th – Confirmation at the FLC. 10:15 to 11:45 am.

15th – 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.

New Sunday School Curriculum!

Children's Ministries is excited to announce a new rotational model curriculum for the 2017-2018 school year! Deep Blue will allow children to experience a Bible story through art, cooking, games, mission, science, spiritual practices, storytelling and drama, allowing them to interact and creatively explore God's wondrous world. As a result, each Bible story and its meaning will stay with them for life! Please pray for us as we embark on this new journey.



If you are interested in teaching or helping out with our Sunday School program please contact Kiersti Critchfield (kcritchfield@fedchurch.org, 440.247.6490 ext. 218) or Emily Culp (eculp@fedchurch.org, 440.247.6490 ext. 212).

GROUP October 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! More info to kids and family through our weekly email. Contact Mark at msimone@fedchurch.org if you want to be added to the list.

October 1 – Leadership Team. FLC 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 – 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



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

CLERGY

- 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, * Wilson Taylor, *Custodians*

Music Staff

- Joshua Konow, *Director of Music Ministries*
- * 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

The Family Life Center

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 for all of your events

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- Centrally located in the beautiful Chagrin Valley
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