



October 2018

THE SPIRE

THE FEDERATED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

WHAT SHALL WE BRING?

I am honored to serve in the role of Stewardship Committee Chair this year, returning after serving from 2013 through 2015. After a short hiatus and involvement in other aspects of Federated, I accepted the call to return to the role. Mike Quintin and Laura Taylor will serve with me and we'll be joined by Melinda Smith who provides wonderful support. I am blessed.

We are all blessed with the many ministries provided within and through Federated beyond the walls of both our Family Life Center and our Bell Street building which is going through a transformation as a result of the successful Capital Campaign. Numerous projects have been in process and completed over the past 5 months, with more to come before we move worship service back to Bell Street. I am passionate about this church and our faith family and joyfully give back to God, and God's work through my family's financial commitment and pledge. I invite you to think and pray about what it means to be a good steward and share our resources and treasures. My prayers are that all of us share that passion together and prayerfully and joyfully commit in a financial way through our pledges.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday November 18**, when we will celebrate Commitment Sunday and

Ingathering. Over the many years that I have been a member of this faith community, I have found that these are two extremely rich and meaningful aspects of what and who we are. It will be exciting to be back in the Sanctuary, bringing our completed pledge cards forward, along with food and turkeys which will become bountiful Thanksgiving meals for many families.

What Shall We Bring? What shall you and I bring to Commitment Sunday, as we give back to God a portion of the resources that we are so bountifully provided?

I invite you to pray about your pledge as the official stewardship "season" is upon us. Federated Church needs the commitment of each and every member of our faith family to continue to do God's work within and through this faith community.

Martine Scheuermann

Martine Scheuermann
Chair of Stewardship Committee



Important Update: Family Life Center Worship Extended

Some project delays have resulted in us returning to worship at our Bell Street Sanctuary **starting Sunday, November 4.**

This is later than our hoped-for date, but we are responding responsibly to the bumps and curves that have been placed along our path. The good news? The projects will be completed using only available funds raised during the campaign and we are blessed to have a beautiful Family Life Center available to us.

We will continue to worship at the Family Life Center through October 28.

September 30—October 28, 10:00 am | Worship and Sunday School @ Family Life Center

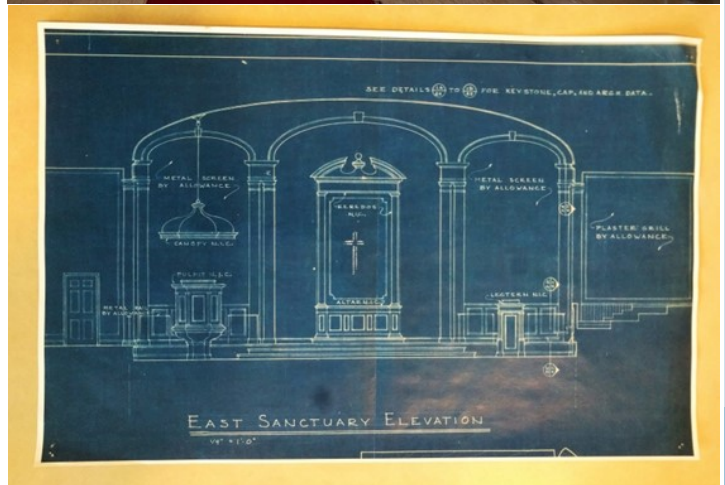
Rejoice & Renew Capital Campaign

What's Been Happening

Please note: The current Project Timeline has us returning to the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 4 (see back page for more details)

Much as we might not be comfortable with it, God rarely puts us on a straight and narrow path. And our Capital Campaign Projects are no exception! Please keep Keith Mast, Paul Koepf, Heather Harris, Ray Piskula (our general contractor from Envirocom), Becky Gruss, Bill Franz, and Amy Eugene in your *prayers* as they juggle the ins and outs of this year's capital projects - \$2M worth of projects in 5 months! Your thanks, confidence, and prayers continue to bolster them forward!

The heating and air conditioning units have been installed for the Music Room and the Fellowship Hall, with the Chapel unit being next on the list. That leaves the Sanctuary unit as the last unit to be installed. The final touches of these "external" projects will include mounting decorative fencing to hide from view both the east side and west side street-level units. In addition, the roof should be finished by the end of September.



From Hamilton's Desk

Dear Friends,

This place is hopping! And it's impressive to see. The improvements and repairs at Bell Street are coming along, and we're still on track to return to the Sanctuary for worship on Sunday, November 4. As I write, the new roof is largely completed, and three of the four HVAC units that were to be replaced have been installed and hooked up. The fourth—the one that will heat and cool the Sanctuary itself—encountered a manufacturer-induced delay. Even with that delay, however, that fourth unit is scheduled to be installed and readied in time for our Nov. 4 return. All this work is vital for the congregation's comfort, but most of it is hardly seen.

The interior work, too—the work that will be seen—is coming along well. The painting in Fellowship Hall is finished and looks fantastic. As I write, the painting in the lobby off the parking lot is nearly finished, and also looks superb. The work of restoring the Sanctuary has begun, as well. Repairing the deterioration of the ceiling is the first step. Then will come the painting. After that will follow the cleaning of the Sanctuary floor and the staining and varnishing of the new hardwood Chancel floor. Then will come the carpeting of the Sanctuary floor.

As I watch all this unfold, I can't help but express gratitude for the many lay leaders, particularly the Properties Committee, who have ushered along this striking improvement. And they have engaged fine craftspeople to do the work.

I am so immensely grateful, as well, for all of you who have pledged and contributed to make this work possible. If you haven't yet contributed, it's not too late! Your money will be put to good use. And for those who have—thank you! About two thirds of the pledged money has already been donated, and that has allowed many of the planned projects to be done this summer and fall.

I am so grateful, as well, for the remarkable and life-giving ministries that thrive even in this chaos and upheaval. People are fed and taught and visited and served communion—all because of you! You help set up the Family Life Center for worship each Sunday, and then straighten it up afterwards. You listen to each other, welcome newcomers, tend to families touched by death and dying, work for justice, make music. In addition, the RISE Committee (Reimagining the Sunday Experience) has worked diligently to envision where Federated is being led in the shape of our worship. The Spirit is alive here, filling us with grace and leading us to serve in countless ways.

Jesus said, "I came that [you] might have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). The abundant life of Christ is richly alive here. And more is still to come! Thanks be to God!

Yours in Christ,

Hamilton

OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, October 7

Rev. Susi Kawolics preaches

Communion served

10 am Worship & Sunday School at Family Life Center (FLC)

Music by Bell Choir

UCC Neighbors in Need Offering collected

Sunday, October 14

Rev. Nayiri Karjian, General Minister of EOA/WRA of the UCC preaches

10 am Worship & Sunday School at FLC

Music by Combined Choirs

Sunday, October 21

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

10 am Worship & Sunday School at FLC

Music by Combined Choirs

Sunday, October 28

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

10 am Worship & Sunday School at FLC.

Music by Children's Choir

**** Worship services will be held at the Family Life Center: 16349 Chillicothe Rd. ****

****We will return to Worship at Bell St on November 4th****

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Church Council News

Proverbs 3:5 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."*

How fortunate we all are to worship, play, and serve in the community of Federated! Church Council sends a shout out to the Federated staff for maintaining immense flexibility, fortitude, and mutual support in the midst of construction obstacles, program shifts, and weekly surprises. Staff members emulate God's Grace within day-to-day moments. Please mention your gratitude at every opportunity.

A reminder that worship continues as one service (10:00) at the Family Life Center (FLC) through the end of October. This decision was made due to logistics of FLC set-up and parking constraints. Many worshipers are enjoying the renewed energy and unity of a full congregation. Thank you for your patience and positivity during our transition.

Experts from regional offices of UCC share that thriving churches have changed practices in two important ways: 1. Governing boards engage in more strategic planning and less reporting, and 2. Resources of time, energy and attention focus on a collective, short-term priority.

That's precisely how your Church Council works. The agenda of each Church Council meeting begins with 30-60-minutes of strategic planning in order to proactively plan ways to move our mission forward. We do this by asking each committee and commission councilor to synthesize key decisions and ideas into brief bulleted lists, which become our pre-reading. Also convening representatives from our five commissions on alternating months for a "Cross-Commission Conversation" helps to cross-pollinate ideas and integrate events or topics. Our aim is to work smarter, not harder and to keep "The Main Thing" the main thing. Church Council will join Church Staff in a Retreat on the morning of September 29 to unify priorities and plan for collective impact on those priorities. You can anticipate hearing more about that in the next SPIRE.

The RISE Task Force spent the summer months convening focus groups and using tools and protocols to facilitate candid dialogue about the Sunday experience. Rather than "leaning on our own understanding" and creative ideas, the Task Force began by gathering information from focus groups to discover attitudes, values, and driving behaviors of different segments of our congregation. Initial prototypes to spur further input and conversations will be shared with the congregation. Each prototype responds to interests revealed by the focus groups. The next step will be to embody the input of the congregation and offer "test models" throughout the program year and ask for the congregation's feedback along the way. This is about moving toward a promising tomorrow. Please encourage one another be fully engaged and candid in our conversations so that, together, we can re-imagine a bright future for Federated.

Current Lay Leaders

Church Council

Ken Horner, Rob Goble, Robin Harbage, Elaine Witmer, Maren Koepf (Moderator), Erinn Grube, Shawn Rockhold, Doug Harlan, Beth Rutkowski, Peggie Jo Shinagawa, Dan Kershner

Commissions

Congregational Care

Ann-Marie Heston, Karen Zoltowicz (Co-chair), Alexandra Ziots, Jane Biggar (Co-chair), Carol Kelly, Carole Halberg, Diane Tuuri, Judy Riemenschneider, (1) opening

Mission & Service

Lynne Kessell, Gay Quintin, Leslie Fincun, Linda Zelazny (co-chair), Judy Lineweaver, Don Hoke, David Telfer (co-chair), Bill Shaul, (1) opening

Spiritual Formation

Barbara Patton, Stacy Cianciolo, Dorothy Quintin, Cassie Moran, Kristin LeFeber, Cathy Digel, Sunny Doxey, Thea Mazingo, Mary Senechal (chair)

Telling Our Story

Harriett Rogers, Diana Weber-Gardner, Bob Munson (co-chair), Katie Swanson-Harbage, Todd Smith (co-chair), Pete Bednar, Laura Taylor, (2) openings

Worship & Music

Sally Ramsey, Gary Dole (chair), Nancie Skonezny, Curtis Grube, Sibyl McBride, Nancy Isham, Dave Strauch, Laura Reed, (1) opening

Elected Committees

Finance

Becky Gruss (chair), Steve Patton, (1) opening

Human Resources

Jim Young, Chris Bednar, Bill Franz

Legacy

Paul Neidhardt, Roger Pettibone (chair), Peter Franz, Alex Taylor, Ralph Hegsted

Membership

Kate Walsh, Rose Brown, Ann Lentz

Nominating & Leadership

Martine Scheuermann, Dave Butz, Phil Fogarty, Bob Abley

Properties

Paul Koepf, Keith Mast, Bill Lentz

Appointed Committee

Stewardship Committee

Laura Taylor, Martine Scheuermann, Mike Quintin

Western Reserve Assoc. Delegates

Susan Lampson, Jim Ogle, Kate Walsh

Ohio Conference Delegates

Susan Lampson, Kate Walsh

Federated Updates

Rally Day Recap 2018



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 treats that are cut-up and ready to serve. Healthy food choices are especially welcome! *Please no nuts.* Food can be set out on the table in the Chapel area. Thank you for helping make our fellowship hours delicious and enjoyable!

Here is the fellowship hour treat schedule for October:
October 7—last names beginning with **U, V, W, X or Z**
October 14—last names beginning with **A or B**
October 21—last names beginning with **C or D**
October 28—last names beginning with **E, F or G**

New Phone Extensions for Staff

With our new phone system, we have new extensions.

You can reach the following members of staff by calling **440.247.6490** and entering the extension number.

Hamilton Throckmorton—ext. 100
Mark Simone—ext. 101
Susi Kawolics—ext. 102
Darlene Nichols—ext. 103
Amy Eugene—ext. 110
Melinda Smith—ext. 111
Ed Willmott—ext. 112

Trisha Holland—ext. 113
Business Office—ext. 114
Laura Taylor—ext. 115
Joshua Konow—ext. 120
Kiersti Critchfield—ext. 130
Marty Culbertson—ext. 131
Dolly Herschel—ext. 133

Special Thanks

Dear Federated staff and congregation,

On behalf of Sharon and the entire Munson family I would like to thank you for the love and support we received during the final leg of Tom's journey with Alzheimer's and the Celebration of his Life which followed on August 24th.

Tom was a remarkable man who ran a gallant race against, as yet, unbeatable odds. But with each step he was encouraged by our remarkable community, nourished by friends, and reassured by our Church's affirming embrace.

May each of you who reached out to Tom in some way be blessed; each touch was indeed a gift to him, to Sharon, and to our family.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Munson



I would like all the folks at the Fed to know how very thankful and appreciative I am of those who have offered prayers and well wishes and cards and a special thanks to members of the choir who have done the same. It is very meaningful to me.

Thank you,
 Chuck King

Faith Formation

New Members Class (Inquirers Class)

Saturday, October 13
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Bell Street

Our next new members' class, which we call appropriately enough an Inquirers Class, is coming up soon. If you are new to Federated you won't want to miss this opportunity 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. For the fall class, the content is streamlined so that it fits into a single day. This is a great option for young parents who find it difficult to attend the spring evening classes. 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, October 21.

Sign up by calling the church at 440.247.6490 or by e-mailing Melinda Smith at smithm@fedchurch.org



Fall Adult Education Offering: Spiritual Autobiography

One of the exciting opportunities of faith is discerning the presence of God in the stories of our lives. How has God shown up for you? In what ways might you have experienced doubts? Where was God in the wonders and struggles of childhood; in decisions about where to live and what to do for work; in the meeting of a life partner; in your relationship with your children; in the death of a dear friend or relative?

This gathering, led by Hamilton Throckmorton, is an opportunity for you to tell the story of your life, uninterrupted, and to see it with the eyes of faith. You will also have the chance to hear the stories of others, and to respond with support and love.

The class will meet on five successive **Thursday evenings, from October 11—November 8, from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Lounge at Bell Street.** To attend, you will need to register by calling Hamilton (440.247.6490 ext. 100).

Registration will be limited to eight participants. Because of the nature of the class, drop-ins are not possible: each participant will commit to attend every session. If you know you have other commitments on one or more of the evenings, it will be necessary to wait until the class is offered again.

Sign up now! You'll be glad you did.

Journey to the Divine, Journey to the Center: A Labyrinth Experience

Presented by the Cleveland Ecumenical Institute of Religious Studies
Saturday, October 20 | 9am– 11:30am
Ursuline College

Seeking a way to broaden your spiritual practices? Join Rev. Susi Kawolics, a trained labyrinth facilitator, will present on labyrinth as spiritual tool, and share some experiences with labyrinth. There will be opportunity for labyrinth walking and reflection on the experience.

Cost \$40

[Limited to 20](#)

To register: <http://ceirs.org/registration/>

Couples Retreat

Save the Date: February 15—16,
2019

Hamilton Throckmorton and Mary Senechal will be offering a retreat for couples in February.

It will be an opportunity to grow closer to each other and to see the gifts of God in our marriages and partnerships.

More details to come; mark your calendars now!

Federated Happenings

Next Daniel Plan Sessions

Daniel Plan meetings are open to all - those who have been participating all along plus anyone who wants to learn more about the program! Jump in at any time to learn about living a healthy lifestyle.

For the full up-to-date calendar of sessions, go to fedchurch.org/calendar or call 440.247.6490.

Sunday September 30 at 9am
Faith session 2
Family Life Center Hearth Room

Wednesday October 3 at 9am
Food session 2
Family Life Center Hearth Room

Sunday October 14 at 9am
Food session 3
Family Life Center Hearth Room



November SPIRE Deadline

Do you have something you'd like to see appear in the next edition of the SPIRE? Please email your information to Bridget Davis at communications@fedchurch.org by **Monday, October 15** and include "SPIRE" in the subject line. Thank you!

"I pray that you might be fulfilled and graced this summer by the presence of God. May God bless you and keep you!"

The 2018 Picture Directories have arrived!

If you had your picture taken last spring for our new picture directory, or submitted a picture, your complimentary directory is waiting for you. Look for the distribution table in the corner of the Family Life Center Great Hall after the worship service on Sunday starting October 7 or stop by the office during the week to pick up your copy.



HELP WANTED!

November 5 | 1 pm—6 pm

A few Community Service-minded people with an hour or two to spare are needed to help with the Red Cross Blood Drive on November 5th.

We need people to register donors. No prior experience is necessary. The drive is extremely important due to the current shortage of blood nationwide.

If you can help some time during the hours of 1:00 pm -6:00 pm on November 5th, please call Carole or Bill Mason at 440-338-3573.



Federated Happenings

Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) Team—Update and Events

The SJAM team continued its activities throughout the summer with many events and opportunities. We invite anyone interested to come to our next meeting: **Sunday, October 7 at the Family Life Center Youth Room at 11:15 am.**

Anyone is welcome to join. SJAM continues to offer opportunities for advocacy, activism and education. If you'd like to be on our email list to receive notices, please contact Rev. Susi Kawolics (skawolics@fedchurch.org).

Movie Nights

Recap of September 17 Movie night on White Fragility.

The Social Justice Advocacy Ministry hosted another Movie Night on Monday, September 17th. The evening featured a recorded lecture by Sociologist Robin DiAngelo called "White Fragility — Or Why It's So Hard For White People To Talk About Race." Following the showing, Dr. Velda Love, UCC Minister For Social Justice spoke to those gathered about her work and life experiences.

Upcoming October 15 – Video and Conversation 7 pm Family Life Center Youth Room - Reconciliation

Invite friends and family to come view a video on how 2 friends on opposite sides of the political party divide manage to maintain their friendship. After viewing, we will share experiences, ideas, and reflections on how we can have these hard conversations across divides while maintaining respect and friendship. We welcome ALL people of variety of opinions to please join us for this evening, which we hope will lead to reconciliation and reconnection in our own lives.

Discussion will be led by Darlene Nichols, Dawn Dole and Dan Kershner

Voter registration:

Many of our members are out there in the Cleveland area seeking to register people to vote. We have been trained by NOVA, and are putting that training to good use.

Beginning in October, we will look towards ways of getting out the vote for the November election.

Creation Justice

Our environmental justice task force is looking at steps to take for what is needed to make **Federated a "green church."** The UCC calls this "creation justice" work. We are creating a task force to develop a strategy of how to proceed in this endeavor. If you are interested in joining, please contact Dawn Dole (coopdole@gmail.com)

Each month we will share some planet friendly tasks. Here are some for the Fall season:

1. Check the air pressure in your tires. Cooler temperatures lower tire pressure and that, in turn, lowers fuel efficiency.
 2. Clean and test the furnace. Before you really need the heat, get out your owner's manual for instructions on how to clean it. Many manuals are available online, or you can call a furnace maintenance company. If you have a gas furnace, have it professionally inspected once a year. Change the air filter at least twice a year.
 3. Move furniture or any obstructions from vents, baseboard heaters, registers on the floor or radiators so that air moves freely. This is also a good time to vacuum these areas to remove any dust or debris.
 4. Remove window air conditioners for the winter. If they can't be removed, seal them with caulking or tape and cover them with an airtight, insulated jacket.
 5. Vacuum the refrigerator coils to keep the compressor running efficiently. It's also a good time to check that the refrigerator is level ... the door should automatically swing shut instead of staying open. Check the seal on the door ... try closing it on a dollar bill. If you can pull the bill out easily, it's time to replace the gaskets.
- A little effort in the fall will ensure that the chilly months ahead are warm and "green".



-- Janet O'Hara and reducefootprints.blogspot.com

Federated Happenings

Federated Forum

Monday, October 8 | 1:30 pm

Family Life Center

Presenter: Carol Lucas — "Walt's World"



For 43 years, Walt Disney gave us more than 100 award – winning films, documentaries and television shows and built an empire that lives today. In this Fascinating Lives and Legacies presentation by Carol Lucas, we'll learn about Walt's life and times, view his early cartoons and see how he and his peers worked their magic.

Come join us for a fun time as we learn about Walt's life and accomplishments. Who knows, maybe we'll get to know Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse "up close and personal!"

Federated Church Fellowship Hall 76 Bell Street	Men's Breakfast	8:00am to 10:00am Cost: \$10.00 (includes Hot Breakfast)
Saturday, November 10, 2018		

Come Hear

William "Bill" Ryan

National Senior Olympic Silver Medalist in 2013

National Senior Olympic Gold Medalist in 2017

A High School and College Teacher and Coach

Involved in Ministries such as CBMC and Alpha

Involved in Christ Community Chapel in Ohio

Involved in Church of the Resurrection in Kansas

CEO of Not About Me Music

Married and Father of 2

Topic: Being Faithful

Call (440) 247-6490 to make Reservations



Oglebay Lights Tour Save the Date!

Wednesday, November 28 | 9:30 am-9:30 pm

Join Primetime for tours of the elegant Oglebay Mansion Museum in its grandest holiday décor! For more information about this activity-packed holiday day trip, please check out the October Primetime newsletter.

In the Company of Women

Thursday, November 1 | 7:00 pm

Bell Street Chapel

Surround yourself in God's love and call through The Company of Women! Within each season of 2018 we bring forth an evening of sacred space for women of all ages to simply and significantly share stories, explore prayer practices, and become refreshed by God's spirit speaking in and through each one gathered.

Our theme will be **ARCHITYPES: MESSENGERS FROM BEYOND**. On All Saints Day, we gratefully stand on the shoulders of our ancestors and our mentors. Each one has informed the ways we approach life, see life, engage in life. Archetypes give us a lens for understanding our relationship to the gifts these wise souls have offered us. Together, we'll explore archetypes (beyond the maiden, the mother, the crone) and the value of intentionally living into these on our life's journey.

In a noisy world, we create a quiet space to reflect on who you are as God' beloved. Through music, guided meditation, reflection and sharing, become re-grounded and re-minded. Give yourself the gift of joining into circles of shared life, hopes, prayers, and support.

Join Mary Senechal, certified Spiritual Director, Polly Manke, Holistic Health Coach, and Maren Koepf, educator, as we remember God's intentions in our lives.



Primetime Luncheon

Thursday, October 25 | 12:30 pm (doors open at noon)

Family Life Center

Entertainment by: Judy Brown, vocalist

Cost: \$10. Reservations due by October 19th
Call 440.247.6490.

More information is available in the October Primetime Newsletter.



Federated Happenings

Federated Church to host Stephen Ministry Workshop

Saturday, October 27 | 9:00 am—1:00 pm | Fellowship Hall

Want to learn to care for people in a distinctively Christian way? Stephen Ministers are trained congregation members who provide one-to-one confidential support to those in our congregation and community who are hurting—those experiencing grief or loss, changes and transitions in lifestyle and other challenges. Our church is privileged to host an introductory workshop led by staff from the National Office of Stephen Ministries. Registration begins at 8:00 am and the workshop begins at 9:00 am. Refreshments will be served and resources will be available.

Our Stephen Ministry team is excited about inviting members of other churches to attend this informative workshop because we know how valuable this ministry is in a congregation's life. Our church has been training Stephen Ministers to be caregivers on a one-to-one basis for over 20 years. Members of our congregation are invited to attend for free.

If you might be interested in being a Stephen Minister, attending this workshop is a great way to learn more. You may register by calling the church or contacting Darlene Nichols at dnichols@fedchurch.org if you have any questions.



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Veteran's Day Honor Celebration

Do you know what a "John Wayne" is? How about "MIDRATS"? Have you ever eaten "fish eyes," "pogey," "S.O.S.," or "mystery meat"? Do you know where the term "slush fund" or "the whole nine yards" comes from? Then you or one of your loved ones must have served in the United States Military.

If you have a story to tell about your service, have a photo in uniform, a letter, news article, or memorabilia to share, we want to hear from you so that you will be recognized and honored during and after worship on **Veteran's Day, Sunday, November 11**. To make things easy, you can pick up a form at the church or use the one below to help us learn a little about you or your loved one. It would be most helpful to give us a photocopy (rather than the original) of any photo or memorabilia you are sharing with us to use.

We want to make this a memorable, meaningful and informative day. Additionally, anyone willing to help set up, decorate, or serve in the "Mess Hall" after services on November 11 can contact Kathy Rayer at 440.338.5089.

Veteran's Day Information *(Return to the Church Office when complete)*

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Branch of Military: _____

Rank/Title: _____ Dates of Service: _____

If you have a story of you or your family members to share, or a photograph to add, please attach it with your form.

Mission & Service

Mission & Involvement Fair

Sunday, November 4 | 10:00 am—1:00 pm
Bell St. Fellowship Hall



The Federated Church is remarkable! The opportunities offered here that feed body, mind and soul are innumerable... such as inspiring worship services, welcoming fellowship groups and fun activities. Not only are our members and visitors embraced by an extravagant welcome, but we in turn are given a wide variety of opportunities to express our gratitude by extending that extravagant welcome to others. As Hamilton reminds us, faith is a verb ... and being affirming requires action!

Come to the Mission & Involvement Fair on November 4 to learn about the wide variety of ministries, organizations and clubs through which we can put our faith into action, either within our own church community (such as the Stephen and Angel Ministries) or through service in our larger community (such as SJAM, St. Paul's, or Friends of Nicaragua). And there are so many more! Enthusiastic participants will share their experiences and happily answer your questions. Come! Treat yourself to delicious snacks while you make the rounds and find out what's happening!

Neighbors in Need Offering

To Be Collected Sunday, October 7

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. 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 systematic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.



The 2018 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 fedchurch.org/ministries/xmaseve.

It must be completed and received in the Church Office by **Monday, October 22, at 5:00 pm** to be considered.

If you have questions, please contact Marty Culbertson, Staff Liaison to the Mission & Service Commission, at



CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Federated Day Mission -MEDWISH

Saturday, October 6 | 8:30 am

Our first Day Mission for this new programming year will be held on Saturday, October 6. We will be meeting at the church at 8:30 and returning back a little after noon. We will assist in unloading, packing and distributing medical supplies.

We are limited to 20 people total with minimum age of 13. If you would like to attend and receive more details, contact Mark Simone at msimone@fedchurch.org



Mission & Service

Cleveland's Storyteller

Wednesday, October 10th | 7pm
Family Life Center Great Hall

A benefit event for the 2019 Homeless Stand Down



The Homeless Stand Down (HSD) is a one-day event providing access to resources for individuals and families facing poverty and homelessness. The Homeless Stand Down provides homeless individuals, families, and veterans a day of respite from the elements, renewal of the human spirit, and reconnection to needed services that assist in the totality of human wellness and sustainability.

Dan Ruminski

will entertain with engaging stories of the leaders who defined Cleveland's Gilded Age. All proceeds will be donated to the 2019 Homeless Stand Down.

- **No ticket required**, bring your friends and family!
- A **free will offering** will be collected at the door
- Light snacks will be served
- We will also be collecting **winter jackets, winter boots, and winter gloves in good condition**

*For more information or questions, contact
Cathy Watterson,
216.978.1037*



Homeless Stand Down Donation Opportunity

"Cleveland's Storyteller" is an event hosted by the Mission & Service Commission to benefit the 2019 Homeless Stand Down.

The children and youth would like to invite the congregation to not only come but also help them collect toiletries for hygiene kits as listed below.

There will be bins at the Family Life Center throughout October for your donations.

If you have questions about items to be donated, contact Marty Culbertson at mculbert@fedchurch.org



Hygiene Kits Include:

Shampoo and Conditioner or
2 in 1(full size)
Bar of Soap
Lotion
Washcloth
Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Shaving Cream and Razor (Men)
Feminine Items (Women)

Other Optional Items:

Chapstick
Floss
Deodorant
Antibacterial Wipes
Mouthwash
Nail File/Clippers
Comb/Brush



Drop items in specially marked bins at the Family Life Center throughout October

Telling Our Story Spotlight

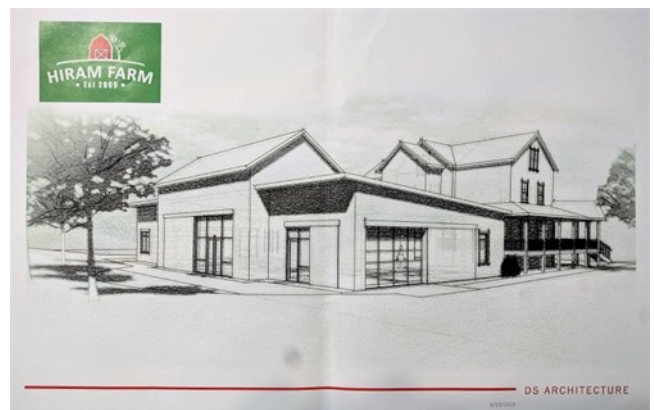
An Update on Hiram Farm

It's been a little over 8 months since Hiram Farm received the funds from our 2017 Christmas Eve offering and we wanted to give you an update. Hiram provides meaningful work and community support for adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other developmental disabilities. Located on 120 acres in Hiram, Ohio, they serve 33 individuals from Portage, Summit, Geauga, and Cuyahoga counties. All of the proceeds from the sale of agricultural products (such as organic beef, pork, eggs, and vegetables) are set aside to provide paychecks to the farmers who do the farm work with support from their direct support professional staff. Consequently, Hiram Farm is a stepping stone that the farmers use to learn the independent skills needed to obtain work in the community. October will be a transitional month for Hiram Farm as they see the retirement of their long-term Executive Director, David Lundeen, and the hiring of Leeanne Jereb who will take up the reins.

Hiram Farm received approximately \$34,000 as a result of our offering and a portion of those funds have been used to finish 2 projects and begin a 3rd one. The farm uses greenhouses and hoop houses to provide all-season programmatic and gardening space, respectively. With the addition of our funds, radiant heating was installed in the floor of 1 greenhouse and 1 hoop house. This has already allowed Hiram to increase the number of individuals served by 7. That's 1/3 of their waiting list! Funds from Federated were also used to help pay for the cost of architectural fees associated with their planned farmhouse addition. Hiram Farm still has some of our funds left and will apply those to the cost of the new addition. Their goal is to start construction in 2020 after all funds needed have been raised. Each of these projects increases programmatic space - especially space available in winter weather - to decrease the number of individuals on their waiting list and increase the number of individuals served.

There is a local connection to Hiram Farm as well. Vicky McWilliams grew up in Chagrin and attended church here as a child. Her son, Cameron, is a farmer at Hiram Farm. In April Vicky sent a lovely thank you note to us, telling us how much the Farm means to her family and her son and thanking us for choosing Hiram Farm.

We hope to hear more about Hiram Farm in the next few months as the Mission & Service Fair approaches.



Family and Youth Ministries

Family Ministries Restructure Plan and Direction

When I was a kid I was quite the master of building snow men. In recent years I have assisted my grandkids in expanding to snow women and snow kids. I have learned that creating a useable snow ball upon which a snow person can be built, sometimes one must turn the snow boulder in different directions to create a round-ish torso. It isn't just start rolling straight ahead. That creates a snow hot dog. But rolling the growing ball in different directions rounds it.

And so, it has been with our pursuit of a relevant approach to Family Ministries. For several years our staff has tried different things and looked at different models. We have asked questions and listened to our families.

One constant request was to open the gym on a weekend night for a pot luck and family play time. While we hope to create other programs, we are responding initially to this request. We would like to invite all families of all ages to a **Goofy Games and Pot Luck night at the Family Life Center on Saturday, October 20 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.**

Please RSVP to Mark Simone at msimone@fedchurch.org

Blessings in Christ,

Mark Simone, Pastor of Children's, Youth, and Family Faith Formation

A Call To Confirmation

Sunday, September 30 | 11 am-11:30 am

Join us as we present students and parents with our Confirmation program overview, hand out a calendar of all meetings in the program, and talk about the Covenant for Confirmation. Confirmation Class will be held at the Family Life Center for the whole program (October to May).

Our program is designed to help you transition from your Sunday School version of faith to your personal faith. We wrestle, disagree, discuss and generally learn about how Jesus is relevant in our lives. Plus, ask any former student - it is very fun. Bob Abley, Tony Kotnik and Rev. Mark Simone lead the program together and never try to make you into something you are not. You will have fun and discover much about yourself in these months together. And you will learn lots about God and yourselves.

Pastries and fruit will be provided. Please RSVP to Mark at msimone@fedchurch.org so we can plan accordingly!

GROUP Updates

Every Sunday | 6:30 pm

GROUP, our high school youth program, generally meets every Sunday evening at the Family Life Center from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Expect ridiculous games, engaging discussions, faith reinforcing missions and general mayhem.

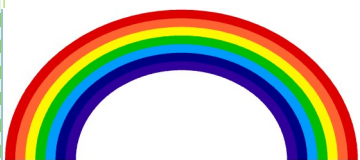
Everyone is welcome & accepted. Always. Even Michigan fans!

Contact Mark Simone for more information at msimone@fedchurch.org



Family and Youth Ministries

This Month in **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (birth-5th grade)



Theme

Life App

**DISCOVERY
ISLAND**

The Rainbow Promise-
Noah

We can trust God's promises

KIDS COVE

Campout

God's got it

Guitar Choir Is Back October 25!

Mark Simone is going to once again offer group guitar lessons beginning in October for any interested child, teen or adult. We will gather on Thursdays at the church at 3:45 – tune up and the lesson will run from 4 to 4:30. There is a one-time charge of \$10 so we can have music and strings on hand. Any level player is welcome.

Our first class will gather on Thursday, October 25.

JOY Updates

(for 6th-8th graders)

JOY kids have some exciting things ahead for October! Here are two missions we will be focusing on.

We will be working on a collection of toiletries for the Homeless Stand Down and then we will be celebrating Halloween with Reverse Trick or Treating !

In between we will have fun in Faith !

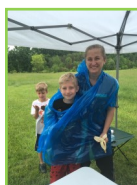
Family Campout

Saturday, October 13 | 4 pm

The LeFeber Home

Come enjoy all the fun of camping without actually camping! We will have lawn games, hiking, cozy fall food, a camp fire program and a tree house. Enjoy quality time together as Federated Families!

RSVP: Kristin LeFeber, kristinlefeber@gmail.com, 703.434.9851





FEDERATED CHURCH
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
76 Bell St. Chagrin Falls Ohio 44022

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OUR STAFF IS HERE TO HELP YOU

CLERGY

Hamilton Throckmorton, *Senior Pastor*
Mark Simone, *Pastor of Children's, Youth, and Family Faith Formation*
* Susi Kawolics, *Pastor, of Worship Planning & Adult 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 Coordinator*
* Laura Taylor, *Capital Campaign Assistant*
Ed Willmott, *Properties & Events Manager*
* Larry McGurer, *Jake Magalski, * Wilson Taylor, Custodians*

Music Staff

Joshua Konow, *Director of Music Ministries*
* Marcia Snavelly, *Organist*
* Thaddeus Quintin, *Director of the Federated Bell Choir*
* Pat Haynish, *Director of Children's Choir*

Children's Ministries Staff

* Marty Culbertson, *Director of Youth Faith Formation*
* Kiersti Critchfield, *Director of Children's Faith Formation*
* Alex Bell, *Lianna Davis, Trisha Holland, Childcare Providers*
* denotes part-time staff

VOL. 69 No. 10 OCTOBER 2018
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship Services continue at Family Life Center

(16349 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls, OH)

10:00 am on Sundays through October 28



- See front cover for more details -