



November 2018

# THE SPIRE

## THE FEDERATED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

### Search for the Christ Child—Help Us Bring the Christmas Story to Life!

Imagine the look of awe on a young child's face as he sees Baby Jesus lying in his mother's arms... the stirring in young parents' hearts as they introduce their children to the true meaning of Christmas... hundreds of people passing through the Family Life Center to experience the journey to Bethlehem live. Imagine taking a step away from the stress of holiday preparations – away from the mall, the wrapping, the decorating, the spending – and taking a step back in time to relive the birth of Christ...

On **December 2 from 5:00—8:00 pm at the Family Life Center**, Federated Church will present *Search for the Christ Child*, an interactive journey to Bethlehem. This presentation will be not only for our own church family. We'll throw our doors open and invite the community to join us on the journey to celebrate the birth of Christ.



Visitors will be welcomed at the Camelback Inn where the census will be taken and visitors will enjoy light refreshments as they wait to begin the journey. Small groups will travel together led by shepherd guides who tell of the birth of a long awaited King, the Son of God. Traveling back in time, travelers encounter angels, shepherds, wise men, live animals, and more on their search for the child. The excitement starts to build as visitors realize that they will see the face of God. At the end of the journey, travelers are directed to the stable. There He is, the Christ Child, the Son of God! The one they have journeyed so long to find is lying in His mother's arms. The tiny baby is the hope of the world.

Now, imagine your role in all of this. We'll need **youth, adults, and babies to play roles** in the production – Mary, Joseph, Jesus, angels, wise men, shepherds, King Herod, and the list goes on. We'll need **volunteers to set up scenes** at the Family Life Center and to tear them down after the production. We'll need **bakers to provide cookies** for our travelers. We'll need **people who can welcome** and guide and **people who can serve refreshments**.

We need you! How can **you** help *Search for the Christ Child* come to life? **Join us as we embark on this incredible journey.**

**Go to [fedchurch.org/SFTCC](http://fedchurch.org/SFTCC) to find the sign-up link.**

For additional information, contact Kiersti Critchfield [kcritchfield@fedchurch.org](mailto:kcritchfield@fedchurch.org) or 440.247.6490 ext. 130.



### Important Update: Family Life Center Worship Extended into November!

Some project delays have resulted in us returning to worship at our Bell Street Sanctuary starting Sunday, November 18.

We will continue to worship at the Family Life Center through November 11.

## The Dawning of a New Service – Rise Up for December 2!

*A message from Joshua Konow, Director of Music Ministries*

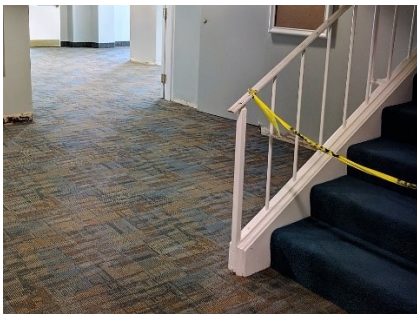
My first year as Director of Music Ministries has been a whirlwind. With Federated's soon-to-be-completed renovations and the birth of my daughter Ariana this summer, I have been thinking a lot about new life and new possibilities. At our church, the RISE group has been diligently hearing the voices of our congregation and we are now ready to bring forth the fruit of those discussions. Imagine a service full of invigorating music, inviting you to participate in worship. Imagine a service that speaks to those outside our building and that connects our passion for Christ to the relevant topics of today.

Federated has always been at the forefront of social ministry and personal connection and is one of the many elements I'm proud to see here. Our "Rise to Shine" 11:30 am service will feature a new musical group inviting you to sing with us as we arrange recent and familiar tunes to begin service with multiple musical selections. People of all ages and backgrounds will participate together as we seek to lift our Sunday spirits and create new pathways for connection to the Light of God. Music will seamlessly flow into the sermon and allow for a condensed service time of 45-50 minutes. *Spirited, Relational, and Relevant.* I cannot wait to see you (and invite friends) at our 11:30 service beginning on December 2!



*Read more about RISE (Re-Imagining the Sunday Experience) and the new structure of our services on p. 4 of this issue.*

## Rejoice & Renew Capital Campaign Update



Enjoy these photos of our new carpet! Notice the yellow lines in the Fellowship Hall - new hearing loop wires have been laid down before the carpet installation in late October. Notice the lighting of the Sanctuary Altar – the color of the florescent bulbs is being changed to a warmer tone LED bulb for both aesthetic and energy-efficiency purposes. All of the patching work in the Sanctuary has been completed, the new Chancel area has been stained, the roof is finished, and the insulation and HVAC systems have been installed. Currently, they are balancing the temperature of the heat systems. We are so thankful for all the attention to detail that has been a part of this process.

### Free Pew Cushions!

The red pew cushions taken from the Sanctuary are available to anyone who is interested. Free to a good home! Contact Paul Koepf at [paullkoepf@gmail.com](mailto:paullkoepf@gmail.com).

# From Hamilton's Desk

Dear Friends,

Superb work continues in our Bell Street facility, and it's a real joy to watch it all unfold. We are blessed beyond measure by the commitment of you, our donors, as well as by the dedication and talent of the craftspeople performing the work. When we return to our Sanctuary on November 18, we are in for a treat. Come that day to a single service at 10:00 am and celebrate the completion of a major portion of our Rejoice and Renew Capital Campaign. It will be a blast!

At the same time, I am acutely aware of other fantastic blessings in the life of this church, and I want to continue to lift those up and celebrate them. Some of those blessings are related to our history and identity. As members of this congregation in the United Church of Christ, I want to make sure we are reminded regularly of the dedication and devotion of our forebears that has made of the UCC a leader in matters of faith and social justice. Here are some of our denomination's highlights:

- In 1785, Lemuel Haynes was ordained in a predecessor body of the UCC, the first African American ordained by a Protestant denomination.
- In 1810, America's first foreign mission society, the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions (ABCFM) was formed by Congregationalists in Massachusetts. In fact, the birth of this society happened at my alma mater. Five Williams College students who were caught in a rainstorm hid under a haystack and made a pact with each other to lead this mission effort. And now, in a field at Williams, the Haystack Monument commemorates the beginnings of that remarkable movement.
- In 1853, the first woman since New Testament times was ordained as a pastor. And while it took another 120 years or so before the movement caught on, the ordination of Antoinette Brown was a luminous event in church history.
- In the 1890s, Washington Gladden, who served First Congregational Church in Columbus OH, proclaimed the Social Gospel, which takes literally the commandment of Jesus to "love your neighbor as yourself." Social Gospel preachers denounced injustice and exploitation of those who are poor.
- In 1972, the UCC's Golden Gate Association ordained the first openly gay person as a minister in a mainline Protestant denomination, the Rev. William R. Johnson.

We have so much for which to be grateful. As we prepare to reenter our Sanctuary, and soon to begin a new and exciting worship service, may we rededicate ourselves to the reason we are here: to praise God, and to do the work to which God calls us. In the words of a hymn, that task is: "to find the lost and lonely one, to heal the broken soul with love, to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food, to feel the earth below, the sky above! ... To bring hope to every task you do, to dance at a baby's new birth, to make music in an old person's heart, and sing to the colors of the earth!" ("I Am the Light of the World!" vv. 2, 4).

May God continue to bless us with enormous grace and favor. And may we respond in love with all our hearts, that all over the Chagrin Valley, people may say, "Behold how they love one another!"

Yours in Christ,

*Hamilton*

Hamilton

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

### Sunday, November 4

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches  
Communion served  
10 am Worship & Sunday School at Family Life Center (FLC)  
**Music by Children's Choir**  
Mission and Involvement Fair Follows Worship

### Sunday, November 11

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches  
10 am Worship & Sunday School at FLC  
**Music by Combined Choirs**

### Sunday, November 18

#### **\*\* Return to Bell Street \*\***

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches  
10 am Worship & Sunday School at Bell St  
**Music by the Bell Choir**

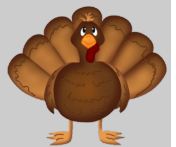
### Sunday, November 25

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches  
10 am Worship & Sunday School at Bell St.  
**Music by Combined Choirs**

**\*\* Worship services will be held at the Family Life Center (16349 Chillicothe Rd.) until November 18, when we will return to the Sanctuary at 76 Bell Street. \*\***

## Holiday Building Closure

Federated's Bell Street location and the Family Life Center will both be closed November 22-23 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Enjoy this time with your families.





# Church Council News

## RISE to Shine!

### Our New Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings at Federated, get ready to **RISE!** Council's Task Force for Re-Imagining the Sunday Experience gathered your reactions to five prototypes for re-imagining a worship experience that opens our doors and horizons to new light. Beginning in December and throughout this program year the congregation will float possibilities in action.

At February's Annual Meeting, a goal to "Re-Imagine the Sunday Experience" set up a team and spun the wheels in motion. The charge was to imagine the kind of worship experience that responds to the needs of a younger generation and that cultivates a rich sense of the presence of God in fresh and relevant ways. Using tools for design thinking, members of the task force hosted input sessions across the summer, designed bare-bones prototypes to spur active feedback from our staff and congregants, and then analyzed the information gathered along the way to discover trends, needs and passions.

We stand ready to breathe life into the favored and viable features to test-run a model, play with ideas and possibilities, and continue to innovate, tweak and refine across the year.

**Throughout November, even as we re-enter our 76 Bell Sanctuary, we will continue a united worship at 10 am. Then, starting the first Sunday in Advent (December 2) we will dedicate two distinct worship times and styles. Our traditional worship will run 10-11 am, with the richness and invitational welcome of our Federated Choirs and Sunday School. Then from 11:30 am-12:15 pm, we offer "Rise to Shine" to shine God's light in spirited, eclectic and relevant worship, featuring excellent music and participation alongside an enriching sermon.**

We encourage the congregation's participation, input and promotion of "Rise to Shine" to friends and family to help Federated move toward God's promising and thriving future at Federated "for this generation and the next." Spirited. Relational. Relevant. Come: let's grow a church with soul and spirit...together!

## A Comprehensive Commitment to Federated Family Ministries

What might happen if the whole church turned its time, energy, and attention to revitalizing Family Ministries? What if "Family Ministries" became more than a position and overflowed into a whole-church commitment to cultivating the next generations of seekers and servant leaders?

At a recent planning retreat, convening Church Staff and Church Council together, we sanctioned a common priority: to amplify ways we value children, youth, and families by providing dynamic and inviting

worship, faith education, and programming. To take this commitment to scale, we charged every commission and program staff member to consider information gained from the community input sessions of the summer and to design action plans for engaging children, youth, and families more deliberately and responsively.

Meanwhile, our Family Ministries Team (Rev. Mark Simone, Marty Culbertson, and Kiersti Critchfield) is in the process of renewing our approach  
(Continued on p. 11)

## 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 Riemschneider, (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

Stacy Cianciolo, Dorothy Quintin, Cassie Moran, Kristin LeFeber, Cathy Digel, Sunny Doxey, Thea Mzingo, Mary Senechal (chair), Pete Bednar

#### Telling Our Story

Harriett Rogers, Diana Weber-Gardner, Bob Munson (co-chair), Katie Swanson-Harbage, Todd Smith (co-chair), Laura Taylor, (3) openings

#### Worship & Music

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

### 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 News & Updates

## What Shall We Bring?

This year's stewardship campaign will culminate on Commitment Sunday, November 18. This is the perfect time to confirm our renewing commitment for a robust Federated future. That future will take place in renewed facilities thanks to the capital campaign. *What shall we bring* to the stewardship campaign that will show a renewed commitment to our programs and ministries, as well?

Stewardship is the currency of our love of God. We value how Federated's ministries and programs touch ourselves and the world around us. And we know that each ministry and program requires Federated operating funds, which are pledged during the stewardship campaign.

Great possibilities rest in the hands of generous giving. And with increased pledges to our operating fund, think of the possibilities! We can dedicate a larger portion of our operating funds to promote dynamic worship and faith formation, train staff and volunteers in practices of revitalizing programming, provide opportunities for hands-on missions, present community concerts



and events, offer quality childcare to increase parent participation in church programming, make available seed money for initiatives that ignite youth leadership, and facilitate intergenerational artistic expressions.

Our faith family equips and encourages us to bring our whole selves with us wherever we go and to honor the One who gave us our gifts by using all of them. Thank you for the many ways you model abundance in spirit, gratitude, service and generosity all the time. The Federated Church is indeed blessed to be a blessing!

- Mike Quintin, Martine Scheuermann, and Laura Taylor  
2018 Stewardship Committee

P.S. Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 18, when we will celebrate Commitment Sunday and ingathering on our first Sunday back at Bell Street. These are two extremely rich and meaningful aspects of what and who we are. It will be exciting to be back in the Sanctuary and bring our pledge cards forward, along with food and turkeys which will become bountiful Thanksgiving meals for many families.



## The Bookkeeper has Arrived!

Janis Stefanchik has joined Federated as Bookkeeper. She brings significant knowledge and experience to such an important role. She has a passion for accounting and enjoys ensuring data accuracy. Prior to joining Federated she worked in accounting for The Tangent Company and as bookkeeper for Vanderbrook Florist.

Janis will be working closely with Amy Eugene, Senior Director of Operations, and will be taking over responsibilities from Judy Kreger, our external accountant. Janis's office is located on the 4th floor. She can be reached at 440.247.6490 ext. 114 or [business@fedchurch.org](mailto:business@fedchurch.org).

## 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.

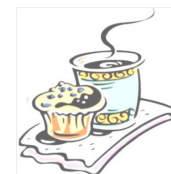
Please bring treats that are cut-up and ready to serve. Healthy food choices are especially welcome! *Please no nuts*. Thank you for helping make our fellowship hours delicious and enjoyable!

**November 4 (@ FLC)** –last names beginning with H, I, J or K

**November 11 (@FLC)** –last names beginning with L or M

**November 18 (@ Bell St.)** –last names beginning with N, O, P, Q or R

**November 25 (@ Bell St.)** –All Congregation



# Federated News & Updates

Dear Ones,

After many months of prayer and discernment, I have made the difficult decision to retire at the end of December. The past six ½ years have been filled with so many blessings that I will cherish. I have established lifelong friendships, worked with commissions and staff members, and had opportunities to grow both personally and spiritually.

After retiring from my school counseling career, I was restless and felt that I needed an "encore career" to fill the void. When I saw the position opening for the Pastoral Care Administrator, I talked to Helen Pointer, Susi Kawolics and close family members and friends before making the decision to apply. Within the first few days of being on the job, I knew this was a calling and an answer to prayer. I was given an extravagant and warm welcome by a caring staff.

One of my responsibilities was to lead weekly Pastoral Care meetings. What a gift to be a part of a team where we focused on the needs of the congregation and felt the Holy Spirit guiding us in the process. Those meetings were incredible times of spiritual growth for me!

I was given so much freedom to offer several programs such as the *End of Life Workshop* in the fall of 2014, and the *Angel Visitation Workshop* in July 2018. As the staff liaison to the Congregational Care Commission, I had the privilege of working with dedicated lay leaders who offered a variety of programs such as the Daniel Plan, Advent by Candlelight,

Ladies Tea, Coffee and Conversation and Sunday morning fellowship treats.

Some of my greatest highlights these past six years included having the opportunity to work with families planning memorial services, getting to know members who stopped by the office or were passing through and visiting, and calling and sending notes to those who were homebound or in care facilities.

I know I will miss the daily contact and rewarding work, and yet I look forward to still being active. There will be more time to travel, spend time with family and friends, take advantage of more volunteer opportunities, expand my work on our social justice committee along with work on a variety of home projects. I am also excited and open to what God's plans are for me as well, as I move into this new chapter of my life.

Sunday mornings will continue to be a vital part of my week because as a member, I will still be able to worship and fellowship with my amazing church family. So, this is not a "goodbye" but rather "see you Sunday"!

With love and light,  
Darlene



## Federated Happenings

### Advent by Candlelight: Nativities of the World

An Invitation for Women to Prepare for Christ's Coming

Monday, December 3 | 7:00 pm | Family Life Center

The Congregational Care Commission is again offering an opportunity for women to prepare for the coming of Christ. By beginning the season with *Advent by Candlelight*, we hope that your Advent this year might be more peaceful and your preparations more Christ-centered.

Please come and share this wonderful evening as our guests and put December 3 on your calendar. You will enjoy beautiful music, delicious food, and warm fellowship.

To help with our planning, we appreciate if you could sign up in advance. There will



be a sign-up sheet during Fellowship Time after services on November 4, 11, 18, 25 and December 2. You can also sign up by calling the church at 440.247.6490 or stopping by the Bell St. reception desk during the week. But even if you don't get signed up... come anyway! We want to enjoy this evening with YOU!

If possible, please also bring a sweet or savory treat to share. Finger foods are preferred (no nuts, please). **We encourage you to enjoy this event with family members and friends—all women are welcome!**



# Federated Happenings

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

The SJAM team continues its activities with many events and opportunities. We invite anyone interested to come to our next meeting: **Sunday, November 11 at the Family Life Center Hearth 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](mailto:skawolics@fedchurch.org)).

### Movie Night: Smog of the Sea

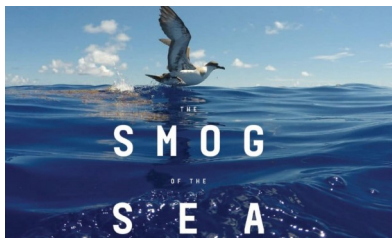
November 19 | 7:00 pm  
Family Life Center Hearth Room

The *Smog of the Sea* chronicles a one-week journey through the remote waters of the Sargasso Sea. Marine scientist Marcus Eriksen invited onboard an unusual crew to help him study the sea. Renowned surfers Keith & Dan Malloy, musician Jack Johnson, spear fisherwoman Kimi Werner, and bodysurfer Mark Cunningham become citizen scientists on a mission to assess the fate of plastics in the world's oceans.

As the crew sieves the water and sorts through their haul, a disturbing reality sets in: a fog of microplastics permeates the world's oceans, trillions of nearly invisible plastic shards making their way up the marine food chain. You can clean up a garbage patch, but how do you stop a fog?

The *Smog of the Sea* provides a new perspective on the once pristine oceans, and makes an artful call to action for rethinking the scourge of the sea — single-use plastic.

Come join us for the movie and discussion about what steps we can take to make a difference, and help curb the scourge of plastics on this planet.



### Fall Planet Friendly Tasks

1. Clean the ducts and area behind the dryer. And don't forget, clean the filter after every use and every once in a while, give it a good wash.
2. Check windows for proper caulking. If you have single-pane windows, add storm windows. Even a plastic film over windows will reduce heat loss. Find kits at DIY stores.
3. Check doors for weather stripping and replace as necessary. If drafts sneak in under exterior doors, replace the threshold or block drafts with a rolled-up towel or blanket.
4. Check your roof for any missing or damaged tiles or shingles.
5. Clean the roof gutters and make sure downspouts are pointed away from the house.

-- Janet O'Hara and [reducefootprints.blogspot.com](http://reducefootprints.blogspot.com)

### Interfaith Prayer Vigil at ICE Headquarters

A group of clergy—Christian, Jewish, Islamic—and others concerned for immigrants in our community are organizing weekly interfaith prayer vigils at the Immigration, Customs & Enforcement (ICE) office located at **925 Keynote Circle in Brooklyn Heights every Thursday, 4:00-4:45 pm.** Each week there is rotating leadership among clergy. At these vigils we will pray, sing, hold silence, lift up prophetic values of justice and compassion and exhort those in power to work from those values.

This is a step of prophetic faith witness, and we are fortunate to find many neighbors in this city who are trusted partners in this work and share our belief that faithfulness requires prophetic action in situations where abuse of power and great suffering exist. **Please join us if you are able. Your presence matters!**

### Get out and Vote!

*Your vote on Tuesday, November 6 is crucial. In making our decisions, We ask: Who is our God? What is God's agenda for the world? We remember: We are only stewards, owning nothing, but serving only God's will in the world in everything that we do...even our vote.*



*We discern what that will is by way of prayer, and by paying close attention to the actions and the message of those up for vote. We listen, then, and we cast our vote for the one who seems closest to representing God's intention for the day and for the future. Please, this November 6, cast your vote. Cast your faith. Cast God into the world. -- [OMG Center for Theological Conversation](http://OMGCenterforTheologicalConversation.org)*

Members of SJAM will be in the Lobby distributing *Vote By Mail* applications after the worship services for those interested.

### December SPIRE Deadline

Do you have something you'd like to see appear in the next edition of the SPIRE? Please email your information to Trisha Holland at [communications@fedchurch.org](mailto:communications@fedchurch.org) by **Wednesday, November 7** and include "SPIRE" in the subject line. Thank you!

# Federated Happenings

## Wondrous Wednesday

Wednesday, November 14

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

### Program: Cleveland Artist Billy Haynes

You've seen his designs, sculpture, and bronzes around Cleveland. He's one of the 10 artists chosen to design the Bicentennial "Spirit of '76" emblem for our country. You may have already met him as an effective and inspirational teacher in Cleveland schools and college settings. **Now see his paintings and charcoal sketches on our walls.** And, hear his story.



*Come meet one of my favorite characters, "Mr. Billy" Haynes. I met him when he was volunteering, and helping to create outdoor vegetable gardens for the participants of a senior health care center. What does that have to do with art? I have no idea...but it speaks to having a big heart. Hear his story at the Wondrous Wednesday. He's an engaging person to meet!* - Katie Swanson-Harbage

Call 440.247.6490 or stop at the reception desk in the Bell St. Lobby to RSVP if you wish to enjoy the meal.

## Oglebay Lights Tour

### With Wheeling Park Holiday Dinner Buffet

Wednesday, November 28 | 9:30 am  
Depart from Family Life Center

#### Last chance to sign up! Just a few seats left!

This trip is open to all interested adults in the area.

- Board a wonderful, 55-passenger Great Day Tours motor coach. We will stop for lunch (on your own).
- There will be time to shop at the Hilltop Shops, tour the elegant Oglebay Mansion, and Winter Fantasy at the Good Zoo.
- Wheeling Park Country Holiday Dinner Buffet
- Guided tour of the Festival of Lights – a guide will board the motor coach and describe the light show to its fullest extent.

Cost: \$90. Call 440.247.6490 to RSVP by November 9.

## In the Company of Women

Thursday, November 1 | 7:00 pm  
Bell Street Chapel

### Archetypes: 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's 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. Women of all ages are invited to join attend.

## Performing Arts Series Inaugural Concert

Save the Date: Sunday, January 20 | 3:00 pm

World renowned violinist Andrew Sords will join members of the Cavani String Quartet for a chamber music extravaganza. The program will feature Schumann's incredible "Piano Quintet" with pianist Elizabeth DeMio. Tickets available soon! Be on the lookout for more info.

## Blood Drive

Monday, November 5 | 1:00 pm—6:00 pm  
Bell St. Fellowship Hall

The American Red Cross strives to maintain a safe and stable blood supply. Please do your part by making an appointment to donate blood by calling **1.877.RedCross** or go online at **RedCross-Blood.org**.

You can also be a "walk-in donor!" Sign up with a friend – what a wonderful way to introduce them to Federated!

If you have any questions please contact Carole Mason or Bill Mason at 440.338.3573 or at [wfmason36@gmail.com](mailto:wfmason36@gmail.com).



# Mission & Service

## Mission & Involvement Fair

**Sunday, November 4 | 11:00 am—1:00 pm**  
**Family Life Center**

The Federated Church is remarkable! The opportunities offered here that feed body, mind and soul are innumerable. 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 welcome to others. As Hamilton reminds us, faith is a verb ... and being affirming requires action!

Come 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 or through service in our larger community. 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!



## Fed Day Missions (FDM)

Our next FDM will return to St. Paul's Church for a number of important projects on **Saturday, November 17. We will meet at Bell St. at 8:30 am** and travel by carpool, arriving at St. Paul's just before 9:30. Our group will work until 1:30 pm and then back to Federated around 2:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to participate! Please RSVP to Mark at [msimone@fedchurch.org](mailto:msimone@fedchurch.org).

## Parish Nurse Corner

Our program is growing fast, which is both good and bad. "Good" because the hygiene essentials that we judiciously distribute serve as a "portal" to entering the church and staying a while. Our clients suffer from mental illness, low self esteem, loneliness, unemployment, poverty, and/or addictions. Once acquainted with the wide services and compassion that St. Paul's provides, as well as the folks who are on the mend or permanently employed, their spiritual journey can begin.

"Bad" because the Parish Nurse program's popularity is outpacing its resources. If any of you wish to help with resources, just write a check to The Federated Church, with "Parish Nurse" listed on the memo line. Or you can put needed supplies in the labeled grocery cart or boxes in the Lobbies of our Bell St. Church or the Family Life Center. I do the shopping for underwear, socks, hygiene products, toilet paper, etc. at the least expensive places (usually Dollar Tree or Marc's).

If you would like to learn more about our PN program at St. Paul's please call me at 440.655.2098. We can always use substitutes for the occasional Tuesday or Wednesday morning when I have other commitments. Friday mornings are currently not being staffed...but they could be if anyone is interested! (Orientation is offered for any new volunteer.)

Thank you!

- Kathy Kolcaba, RN (volunteer two mornings a week)

## Ingathering is Here

**Deadline—Sunday, November 18**

Each year at Thanksgiving, our sister church, St. Paul's Community Church, packages and gives away 100 food baskets for families who would not otherwise have a holiday dinner. The Monday before Thanksgiving, families come to St. Paul's gym and receive a basket filled with everything they will need for a festive holiday celebration.

**Please bring in traditional Thanksgiving foods such as canned vegetables and yams, pie crust mixes, fruit or pumpkin filling, potatoes, and frozen turkeys to the Family Life Center on Sunday, November 4 or 11. There will be a display in the Lobby. On November 18, we return to Bell Street and donations can be left in the Narthex.**

Monetary donations are also needed to complete the baskets. Please make checks payable to Federated Church with "Ingathering" in the memo line. Checks can be left in the offering plate, or brought to the church office.

Let's celebrate our many blessings by sharing from our abundance!



# Special Thanks

## Cleveland Storyteller Event Was a Success! Thank You!

Dan Ruminski was a captivating and articulate spellbinder at a special Cleveland Storyteller event to benefit the Homeless Stand Down (HSD) on October 10. His stories of Cleveland and our bright history of the late 1800's and early 1900's were fun and engaging, whether you had heard him before or it was your first time. We truly appreciate his generous offer to spend an evening that he gave in "charity" for the benefit of The HSD. We raised \$785!

The event committee included Lynne Kessell, Marty Culbertson and myself. Many thanks to the ladies of the Mission and Service and Congregational Care Commissions, Wondrous Wednesday, and Telling our Story who baked or bought many treat to enjoy! I'd also like to thank Bridget Davis, who created flyers and a bulletin for the event as well. And sincere appreciation to Ed Willmott and Larry Trace for the room set up and clean up, as well as the speaker sound system. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

For those who missed that evening event, you may still make donations, with checks payable to Federated Church, and put HSD or Homeless Stand Down in the memo line. 100% of your donations will be used to offer much needed items and services next January.

Last January's Homeless Stand Down, there were an estimated 1500 families, veterans and single adults at the Convention Center in downtown Cleveland to take a break from the frigid temperatures and have a warm meal. They used services like basic health screening, got haircuts, got photo IDs, and even childcare while they stood in line. Their gratitude and patience was expressed often, for items they received, such as warmer jackets, boots, gloves and hats. Upon leaving, they also got a bus pass, a hygiene kit and a bagged lunch to take with them. They truly enjoyed some community and personal attention that day, where many are so alone every day. They even found and savored the smiles that were in abundance.

Thanks again to all who continue to make the missions and outreach of Federated possible with their participation and generosity.

- Cathy Watterson

Dear Members of the Federated Church,

On behalf of HOLA, I'd like to extend our sincere gratitude for your generous contribution. Your support enabled us to work to release 29 farm workers from detention since June and to reunite 47 children with their parents. This would not have been possible without your help!

HOLA has a lot of hard work ahead of us in the coming months. With your continued support we can make a great difference in the lives of these families and children.

Thank you so much!

*Respectfully,  
Elizabeth Perez and your extended HOLA family*

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

We were so moved by the many prayers, cards and the beautiful flowers we received from our Federated family as we welcomed baby Sullivan. Our deepest thanks.

- Mike and Meagan Mulloy

# Faith Formation

## 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!



# Family and Youth Ministries

This Month in <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>		
	Theme	Life App
<b>DISCOVERY ISLAND</b> (K-5)	The Rainbow Promise— Noah	We can trust God's promises
<b>KIDS COVE</b> (B-PreK)	Happy Helpers Club	I am thankful for people who help me.

## Family Fellowship "Fedsgiving"

Saturday, November 10 | 4:00—7:00 pm  
The LeFeber Home

Come for a meal and to build a Thanksgiving tree. Please bring a side or dessert that is special to your family.

RSVP to Kristin at 703.434.9851 or  
[kristinlefeber@gmail.com](mailto:kristinlefeber@gmail.com).



## A Comprehensive Commitment to Federated Family Ministries

(Continued from p. 4)

and offerings for children, youth and families in response to the needs and values expressed. Developing a sequence of milestones for specific ages and stages of faith formation, cultivating youth leadership and advisory teams, inviting youth presence and contributions in worship, and engaging a series of family forums. These each represent the growing scope and integration of programming.

During this transition year, we are also blessed with the volunteer leadership of Kristin and Zach LeFeber as they design monthly events of Federated Fellowship for young

families to build relationships and conversations grounded in faithful parenting.

Our baptismal promise to every child and parent calls the congregation to be the aunts and uncles and grandparents to each child, joining with parents to actively help raise each one in the Christian faith. How is God calling YOU to join in a comprehensive commitment to our children, youth, and families? How are you personally engaging conversation, encouraging support, getting to know the interests and yearnings and worries of our children, youth and families? God is making a new thing in you, through Christ.

## Christmas Poinsettias on Sale

Our senior high youth program, GROUP, is once again raising funds for their work camp trip by selling holiday poinsettias. These holiday flowers will decorate our Sanctuary on Christmas Eve. The poinsettias may be purchased in your name, *In Honor Of*, or *In Memory Of* a loved one or friend. The cost is \$20 per plant. You can take home your poinsettia(s) after any Christmas Eve service from the displays at either entrance.

Fill out this form (*please print*) and drop it in the offering plate or return it to the Church Office with \$20 for each plant by **Monday, December 10**. If writing a check, note "Poinsettia" in the memo line. Thank you!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Plants: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In Memory of:

☐ In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_





**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*

\* **Janis Stefanchik**, *Bookkeeper*

\* **Dolly Herschel**, *Primetime Coordinator*

\* **Laura Taylor**, *Capital Campaign Assistant*

**Ed Willmott**, *Properties & Events Manager*

**Jake Magalski**, *Maintenance & Grounds Lead*

\* **Larry McGurer**, \* **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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## Worship Services continue at Family Life Center

( 16349 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls, OH )

**10:00 am on Sundays through November 11**



**Worship Returns to 76 Bell St.—November 18, 10 am**