



FEDERATED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

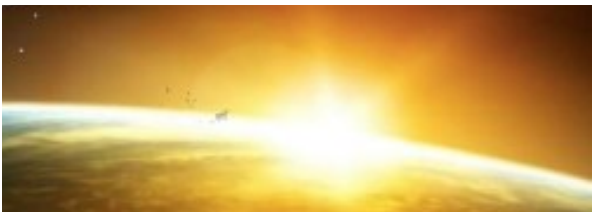
An Open and Affirming Congregation

December 2

Welcome!

Upcoming Activities and Opportunities at Federated

11:30 RISE to Shine Worship Format



Opening Songs

Welcome, Announcements and Prayer

Introduction of HOLA speaker

Call to Offering

Offering Song

Scripture:
Luke 1:76-79

Introduction to Children's Choir
Christmas Musical

Children's Choir Christmas Musical

Ahead At The Fed

Sunday, December 16

Third Sunday in Advent

Service of Lessons & Carols

Reflection by Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

10 am Traditional Worship and Sunday School

Music by Federated Choir

11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship

Music by RISE to Shine Band

December 16 - Lectionary Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

Sunday, December 23

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

10 am Traditional Family Worship

Music by Federated Choir

11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship

Music by RISE to Shine Band

*We are in need of ushers for upcoming services,
especially on Christmas Eve.*

*Interested? Sign up in the Lobby after worship,
or at fedchurch.org/worshipsupport.*

We welcome you to The Federated Church, a place to belong and a place to become.
We are people just like you, who hope and love and hurt, and we have found
that Jesus Christ makes a transforming difference in our daily lives.
Your presence matters to us. We open our hearts to you.

Our Staff is Here to Support YOU

We at Federated believe in service. We think of our congregation as Ministers to the World and our church staff as Ministers to the Congregation. Should you have questions or need information, please contact us at 440.247.6490. We look forward to serving you.

Clergy *denotes part-time staff

Hamilton Throckmorton, *Senior Pastor*
Mark Simone, *Pastor of Children's, Youth & 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*

* **Janis Stefanchik**, *Bookkeeper*

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

* **Darlene Nichols**, *Pastoral Care Administrator*

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

Ed Willmott, *Properties & Events Manager*

Jake Magalski, *Maintenance & Grounds Lead*

* **Larry McGurer**, ***Wilson Taylor (temp)**,
Custodians

Music Staff

Joshua Konow, *Director of Music Ministries*

* **Marcia Snavelly**, *Organist*

* **Pat Haynish**, *Director of Children's Choir*

* **Thaddeus Quintin**, *Director of Federated Bell Choir*

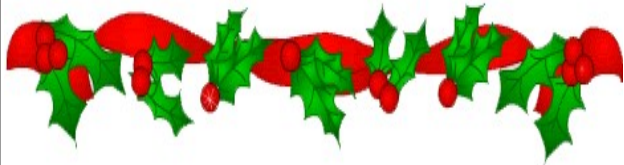
Children's Ministries Staff

* **Marty Culbertson**, *Director of Youth Faith Formation*

* **Kiersti Critchfield**, *Director of Children's Faith Formation*

* **Alex Bell**, **Lianna Davis**, **Trisha Holland**,
Childcare Providers

Our Ushers and Greeters are wearing red carnations. They are available to answer any questions you may have and will be happy to assist you in any way.



Christmas Day Dinner

Tuesday, December 25

12:00 pm—2:00 pm

Family Life Center

Free of Charge—All are invited!

Sponsored by the Chagrin Valley Council of Churches.

For home delivery or to arrange transportation to the dinner, call 440.708.0000 ext. 331.
To volunteer, call Andrea at 216.406.6214



Federated Forum

TOMORROW, December 10

1:30 pm Refreshments in Fellowship Hall

2:00 pm Program in Sanctuary

Presenter: Randy Fusco

Federated Forum is pleased to present a special musical program provided by our very own Randy Fusco. Randy will present a Christmas-themed musical program of songs and related commentary.



Wondrous Wednesday

Wednesday, December 12

6:00 pm FREE dinner, 7:00 pm program
Bell St. Fellowship Hall



Celebrate Christmas with Ethnic Foods

Swedish pepperkakor (cookies) and sweet ham, fresh sauerkraut and sausage, savory roasted veggies, yummy pineapple stuffing that makes you drool... it's time to bring out the seasonal ethnic foods and **celebrate Christmas!**

Our favorite accordion player, Nelson Fenner, will play Christmas carols. Can we get Hamilton to *sing a duet*? Let's try! **Come join in the fun.**

Call 440.247.6490 to reserve food, or sign up at the reception desk in the Bell Street Lobby.

Grandparent and Grandkid Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, December 15 | 9:00—11:00 am | Bell St. Fellowship Hall

Come and join us as we partake in a pancake and sausage breakfast in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a relaxing morning in your pajamas (if you so choose) as we read a Christmas Story and create Christmas crafts together. This event is open to all and is free. There will also be volunteer grandparents for children whose grandparents live out of town.

Please contact Mark Simone
(msimone@fedchurch.org or 440.247.6490 ext. 101) with questions or to sign up. **RSVP by December 11.** We hope to see you there!



Service of Solace

Wednesday, December 19 | 7:00 pm Bell St. Chapel

Also sometimes called "Blue Christmas" or "Longest Night," the Service of Solace is a service that offers support, prayer and reflection for those experiencing loss, sorrow, pain, or anything making the holidays difficult. This is a service of comfort and hope through prayer, reflection and special music. Everyone is welcome to attend this service, those who are in need and those willing to offer support and compassion.

The indoor Labyrinth will be set up in Fellowship Hall that day starting at noon for meditative walking, prayer and reflection. After the service, there will be a time for fellowship and support with light refreshments.

Any questions? Contact Susi Kawolics at skawolics@fedchurch.org or at 440.247.6490 ext. 102 for more information or for pastoral care.



Federated Day Missions Project: Hygiene Kits for Homeless Stand Down

During Worship on Sunday, December 30 | 10:00 am

We will be doing a congregation-wide project. Please bring in hygiene kit items for the Homeless Stand Down. This includes **full-sized shampoo and conditioner, bars of soap, wash cloths, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shaving cream and razors**. Look for the collection by the Lobby.

During worship on December 30, we will bless the donations and bag them up for our neighbors in need! Please join us for this fun family worship experience!



Responding to Violent Intruders: Free Online Training

Federated staff and some congregation members have been trained to actively respond to violent intruders using ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Confront, Evacuate) techniques.

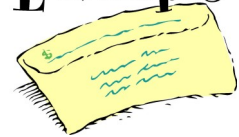
ALICE

We encourage congregation members to take the online ALICE training, please contact: Amy Eugene
aeugene@fedchurch.org or 440.247.6490 ext. 110.

Contribution Envelopes

If you used contribution envelopes last year or indicated on your pledge card that you want a box for 2019, a labeled box is waiting for you in Fellowship Hall. Stop by and pick them up after worship.

Offering Envelopes



Andrew Sords and members of the Cavani Quartet Kick Off Federated's Performing Arts Series

Sunday, January 20 at 3:00 pm | Federated Bell St. Sanctuary

World-renowned violinist Andrew Sords will be joined by members of the Cavani String Quartet and pianist Elizabeth DeMio for a wonderful chamber music program.

Tickets are on sale now. Visit fedchurch.org/events or contact Joshua Konow at jkonow@fedchurch.org.

Donor/Best Seats in the House - \$50

Adults - \$20

Seniors - \$15

Students - \$10





January 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 by **Tuesday, December 11** and include "SPIRE" in the subject line. Thank you!

Free Pew Cushions!

The red pew cushions taken from the Sanctuary are available to anyone who is interested.

Contact Paul Koepf at
paullkoepf@gmail.com.

<div>  This Week In Sunday School  </div>					
Theme	Bible Story	Truth	Theme	Bible Story	Truth
Kids Cove (Birth-Preschool)			Discovery Island (K-5th Grade)		
Birthday Bash	Jesus is born in a stable Luke 2:1-7	Jesus is God's son.	Birth of Jesus—Art	Matthew 1:18-24 Luke 1:26-38, 46-47 Luke 2:1-7	We celebrate the birth of Jesus

Christmas Wreath Dedications

Ten beautiful wreaths adorn our doors throughout the Advent season. The wreaths have been donated by: **Ruth Eberlein-Kershner and sons Jon, Joel and Jeremy Eberlein** in memory of Rev. Dr. D. Thomas Eberlein. **Rick Jones** in memory of David Broad, **Rick Jones** in memory of Leslie Jones, **Charlene Krejci** in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Bates and Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Krejci, **Ann Lentz** in memory of Donal Grube, **Anne Masters and Richard Masters** in loving memory of their daughter Sarah. **Wendy Pierce** in memory of Susan Putnam, **Laura Taylor** in memory of Ryburn Taylor and Sandy Taylor, **Barbara Warren** in memory of Charlie Warren.

The large wreaths in the windows are given in loving memory of Eva Jean Trace by the **Trace and Bittinger** families.



Altar Flower Donor Opportunity

There is an opportunity to donate the altar flowers on Sunday, December 16. This is a wonderful way to honor or memorialize a loved one. You can take the flowers with you after the services, or the Angel Flower Ministry will rearrange them and deliver them to those who could use a bit of cheer.

Please contact Sue Mansour at 440.668.9399 or sueman@roadrunner.com if interested.

Christmas Tree Dedications

The Christmas Trees that stand beside the altar were donated by: **Jack & Mary Hobbs** in honor of their daughter Jody and family, and in loving memory of their son, Jeffrey; **Cal & Kim Lockert** in loving memory of Cal's mother & father, Vern and Millie Lockert, and in loving memory of Kim's mother and father, Wally and Connie Wedemeier; **Byron & Elsie Lutman** in memory of loved ones; **Janet, Polly & Jenny Peters** in loving memory of Don, husband and father; **Ralph Spresser and Judy Holder** in loving memory of Lucille, wife and mother; **Larry Trace** in loving memory of his wife, Nancy, and in honor of their grandchildren, Shannon Marie and Lea Kay Trace and Tyler Matthew Bittinger.

Weekly Calendar

Activities in ***bold italics*** take place at the Family Life Center. Rentals, Scout and non-church related community events are not listed.
*Find the full calendar of events on our website at **FEDCHURCH.ORG/CALENDAR***

SUNDAY December 9

9am-3pm JOY (Jr. High Youth Group) Bake Sale & Giving Tree Shopping
10:00 am Confirmation Class
10:00 am Jr. High Sunday School
10:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service
11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship Service featuring Children's Choir Christmas Musical
12:15 pm Reception for Christmas Musical
6:30 pm GROUP (Sr High Youth Group) Mtg
8:15 pm AA Sunday Open Hearth Mtg

MONDAY December 10

8:00 am Spirit Walk & Roll
10:00 am Primetime Pillows for Hospice Sewing
10:00 am Primetime Tai Chi
10:15 am Monday Morning Miracles Mtg
1:30 pm Primetime Federated Forum
3:15 pm Primetime Ministry Team Mtg
4:00 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Congregational Care Commission Mtg

TUESDAY December 11

8:00 am Spirit Walk & Roll
9:30 am Pastoral Care Mtg
10:00 am Tributaries: Yoga~Spirit~Renewal
6:30 pm Spiritual Formation Commission Mtg
7:00 pm Mission & Service Commission Mtg
7:00 pm AA Fireside Mtg
7:30 pm RISE to Shine Band Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY December 12

7:30 am Contemplative Prayer
8:00 am Spirit Walk & Roll
12:00 pm Twelve to One AA Mtg
6:00 pm Wondrous Wednesday Dinner & Program
7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Women on the Move AA Mtg
7:30 pm SLAA/Augustine Fellowship Mtg
8:00 pm Al-Anon Regular Mtg

THURSDAY December 13

8:00 am Spirit Walk & Roll
8:00 am Men's Discussion Group
8:00 am Primetime Newsletter Preparations
9:00 am Ladies Prayer Group
9:30 am Sit & Stitch
10:30 am Tributaries: Chair Pilates
12:00 pm Primetime Luncheon
3:45 am Guitar Choir
6:00 pm Women's Happy Hour AA Mtg
6:30 pm ACA Mtg
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY December 14

8:00 am Spirit Walk & Roll
9:30 am Women's Discussion Group—away
12:00 pm Friday Big Book AA Mtg
1:00 pm Mahjong
8:00 pm Chagrin Falls Friday AA Mtg

SATURDAY December 15

9:00 am Grandparents/Grandkids Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY December 16

10:00 am Confirmation Class
10:00 am Jr. High Sunday School
10:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service
11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship Service
2:00 pm JOY (Jr High Youth Group) Town Event
6:30 pm GROUP (Sr High Youth Group) Mtg
8:15 pm AA Sunday Open Hearth Mtg

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER: Please include in your prayers this week....

If you have other concerns or praises you would like held in prayer, please fill out a Blue Prayer Card and put it in the prayer box, or email Darlene Nichols dnichols@fedchurch.org before Monday morning. Our Prayer and Praise Ministry Team and our staff will pray for your request. If you would like to be on this ministry team, please email Lou Butz: llbonline@att.net.

Herk Exline, 7173 Sugar Bush Lane, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022, who was hospitalized and is now home.

Kris Exline, 7173 Sugar Bush Lane, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022, who was hospitalized and is now home.

Each week, we ask your prayers for two of our staff members. This week please pray for **Lianna Davis** and **Hamilton Throckmorton**.

For December, the Mission & Service Commission is asking us to keep in prayer one of our church's mission partners, **EDWINS Leadership and Restaurant Institute**.

The Fellowship of Prayer Note Writers for this week are:

Darlene Nichols, 440.821.9963; Carol Basler, Sally Ramsey, Sue Mansour, Brenda Ehle.

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Bob and Marilee Rickert by their son Rick (Robert Jr.), and daughters Maren Koepf, Carolyn Culbertson and Janet Kister and their families.

Fellowship Treats: JOY (Jr. High Youth Group) is having a bake sale in Fellowship Hall today. All proceeds will benefit shopping for the St. Paul's Giving Tree. Please join us after worship to enjoy these treats and support the cause!

Each week, certain members are invited to bring treats to share. Please bring ready-to-serve finger foods in disposable containers. They can be set on the treat table in Fellowship Hall. Healthy choices are especially welcome, but please *no nuts*. Thank you in advance for your participation.

December 16 – **members with last names beginning S or T**

December 23 – **members with last names beginning U, V, W, X, Y or Z**

December 30 – **all congregation members**

Photo Release Policy: Families and others in attendance at a Federated Church function acknowledge that they may be photographed or videoed and their images used in church publications and/or promotional materials.



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