

November 2019



THE SPIRE

THE FEDERATED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

A Message from Church Council

A letter from Church Council was sent out in August providing an update on the work of three separate task forces formed by the Council. Each group was charged with researching various options regarding the future of the Family Life Center and its grounds, and bringing these options to the Council at our October meeting.

We are pleased to say that **we received a wealth of information** at the October meeting and there was, and continues to be, a high level of involvement and enthusiasm. **However, there is still much work to be done** and, quite honestly, we need more time.

The Council planned to call a special congregational meeting on November 17 with the possibility of a vote that would determine the direction we would pursue. The consensus however, is that more time is needed for collective exploration and research, and we appreciate your continued patience, prayers, and active interest. We

are making strides but are not yet ready to provide complete and fully vetted information to the congregation. And we don't want to come to you with anything less.

So, **there will NOT be a special meeting of the congregation on November 17.** Instead, we will send an open letter to the congregation before the end of October that will provide further updates and information.

For now, we want to assure you that the work being done by so many people is extensive and **the motivations of all involved are in the best interests of our beloved Federated Church.** We are absolutely united in this process of discernment and in our intent to bring accurate, realistic information to the congregation.

God is still speaking, and we are still listening.
- Your Church Council

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 parents' hearts as they introduce their children to the true meaning of Christmas... hundreds of people passing through Federated to experience the journey to Bethlehem live. Imagine taking a step away from the stress of holiday preparations to relive the birth of Christ...

On **December 8 from 5:00—8:00 pm at Bell St.**, Federated Church will present *Search for the Christ Child*, an interactive journey to Bethlehem, for the fifth time. We are inviting the community to join us to celebrate the birth of Christ.

As you can imagine... this is no small task! 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** 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 to find the sign-up link.

For more info, visit the link above, or contact Kiersti Critchfield at kcritchfield@fedchurch.org or 440.247.6490 ext. 103.



Time to Celebrate Federated's Centennial Anniversary

A Wondrous Wednesday Event

Wednesday, November 13

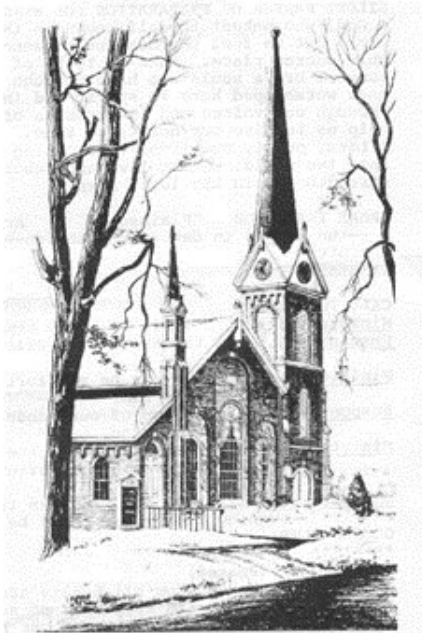
6:00 pm FREE dinner, 7:00 pm program

Bell St. Fellowship Hall

John Bourisseau, from the Chagrin Falls Historical Society, is coming to help us celebrate **100 amazing years** of being Federated Church! Gather with all your church friends at this Wondrous Wednesday event.

We'll have a celebratory dinner at 6 pm, then at 7 pm, John will take us through an informative talk about our 100-year history, complete with PowerPoint pictures.

To reserve food, please reply to: katiesharbage@gmail.com and include your name, and how many are attending. Or, call the church and leave your reservation: 440.247.6490. Vegan dishes will be available.



New Members Class

(aka Inquirers Class)

Saturday, November 2

9:00 am—2:00 pm

Bell St. Lounge

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, November 10.

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

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP "FEDSGIVING"

THANKFUL

VIBES

HOST: KRISTIN LEFEBER 703-434-9851

WHERE: THE GOODMANS
38640 FLANDERS DRIVE SOLON, OH 44139

WHEN: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 FROM 4:00 PM
TO 7:00 PM

Happy fall, Federated Families! Jill, Eric, Abby and Noah Goodman have invited us for dinner and fellowship. Please bring an appetizer, side, or dessert to share. (Sign up on the "what to bring list" at tinyurl.com/fedsgiving).

From Hamilton's Desk

Dear Friends,

With the month of November comes one of my favorite holidays. When I was a child, my mother always searched diligently for the biggest turkey in the store. There were usually only four of us at the Thanksgiving table, but we all loved turkey, and delighted in the leftovers. It was a day to eat and rest and watch some football and enjoy uninterrupted family time.

I still love Thanksgiving. And Mary and I still look for the biggest turkey we can find. It's a symbol of God's bounty, a reminder of a grace that never lets us go. So on Thanksgiving, my family and I join the Chagrin Falls Turkey Trot and run or walk far enough to stimulate our hunger. And then we return to a delicious meal and meandering conversation and a tryptophan-induced nap. What a treat!

And at the heart of it all is the gratitude we feel for the privilege of life and family and work and daily pleasure. While not begun as an explicitly religious holiday, it is, for me, an opportunity to express my gratitude for abundant blessings.

A substantial part of my sense of blessing comes from my life in this congregation. I am privileged to know you and to share life with you. You embody grace and share your resources and serve in ministries that make our common life so much richer. We laugh and cry together, puzzle through our challenges together, and find together magic moments of grace. These are unexcelled gifts.

I am grateful for some specific gifts here, as well. One is in our newest staff member. In just the last few days, we have invited Kristin LeFeber to join us as our Director of Children's Faith Formation. Kristin and her husband Zach, along with their daughters Zoe and Georgia, have been members here for several years. As a volunteer, Kristin has spearheaded our ministry to young families. She adores children, loves the Bible, is endlessly curious and engaged in learning, and brings a wonderful energy and spirit to her work. We are richly blessed by her presence. Please give her a warm welcome in her new role, and thank her for her ministry.

I am grateful, too, for her many predecessors in that role, most recently Kiersti Critchfield and, after Kiersti's move to Federated's pastoral care position, Marty Culbertson, who has overseen our children's ministries since Kiersti's departure from that role.

On so many fronts, we have much for which to be grateful. May your time of giving thanks be a gift to you. Together may we give thanks to God for all we've been given. And together may we live a life that expresses that gratitude.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Hamilton

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, November 3

Communion Served
Daylight Saving Time ends
Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
10 am Traditional Worship & Sunday School
Music by Adult Choir
11am-12 pm Mission & Involvement Fair
11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship
Music by RISE to Shine Band

Sunday, November 10

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
New members join
10 am Traditional Worship & Sunday School
Music by Adult Choir
11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship
Music by RISE to Shine Band

Sunday, November 17

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
10 am Traditional Worship & Sunday School
Music by Bell Choir
11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship
Music by RISE to Shine Band

Sunday, November 24—

Ingathering Sunday

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
10 am Traditional Worship & Sunday School
Music by Adult Choir
11:30 am RISE to Shine Worship
Music by RISE to Shine Band

Holiday Building Closure

Federated's Bell Street location and the Family Life Center will both be closed November 26-27 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Enjoy this time with your families.



News & Info

Finance Update

At this point in the year, our pledged giving is slightly lower than projected, and some expenses higher than projected. Thus, our expenses are currently outpacing our revenues. Some of the higher expenses are: HVAC (systems not covered by the capital campaign), storm drain repair, rose garden wall repair, trash removal (extra dumpsters), and natural gas.

The remaining months will be important both in terms of fulfilling our pledges, as well as carefully managing our spending.

Custodian Corner

Our search for a head custodian and part-time custodians continues. The job market is such that workers are few and they can do easier work for more pay elsewhere. We are addressing this by offering more competitive wages, yet we haven't been able to "crack the nut" just yet.

It's great to see so many congregation members helping out! Here are ways you, too, can pitch in:

- Help set up or tear down for meetings or events
- Learn how to make coffee for Sunday mornings
- Put out and take down parking signs on Sundays
- Vacuum Fellowship Hall and the Lobby
- Be kind to Jake :-)

To sign up to help out on a Sunday morning: visit <https://tinyurl.com/FEDVOL>.

4 Easy Ways to Give



service



mobile



text



online

Sundays 10:00
and
11:30 (as of 9/15)

App: "Connect –
Our Church
Community"

"fedchurch" to
73256

www.fedchurch.org/giving

Current Lay Leaders

Church Council

Brendan Buescher, Beth Rutkowski, Maren Koepf, Peggie Jo Shinagawa, Dan Kershner, Ken Horner, Doug Harlan, Elaine Witmer, Shawn Rockhold

Commissions

Congregational Care

Jane Biggar (chair), Carol Kelly, Carole Halberg, Diane Tuuri, Judy Riemenschneider, Ruth Kershner, Karen Zoltowicz, (2) openings

Mission & Service

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

Spiritual Formation

Cathy Digel, Sunny Doxey, Thea Mazingo, Mary Senechal (chair), Stacy Cianciolo, Eric Goodman, Pete Bednar, Alexandra Ziots, (1) opening

Telling Our Story

Todd Smith (Chair), Laura Taylor, Jim Scheuermann, Carolyn Shaul, Dawn Herdman, (5) openings

Worship & Music

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

Elected Committees

Finance

Becky Gruss (chair), Steve Patton, Rob Goble, Don Rice

Human Resources

Chris Bednar, Bill Franz (1) opening

Legacy

Peter Franz, Alex Taylor, Brady Hively (1) opening

Membership

Rose Brown, Ann Lentz, (1) opening

Nominating & Leadership

Martine Scheuermann, Phil Fogarty, Bob Abley

Properties

Keith Mast, Bill Lentz, John Giles

Appointed Committee

Stewardship Committee

Led by Ken Horner, Maren Koepf, Ann Lentz, and Martine Scheuermann

Western Reserve Assoc. Delegates

Susan Lampson, Jim Ogle, Kate Walsh

Ohio Conference Delegates

Susan Lampson, Kate Walsh

News & Info

Rejoice & Renew Capital Campaign Update

Members of the Properties Committee and Finance Committee, as well as the church operations staff, are continuing to oversee the progress and payments of the capital projects that were listed in last month's newsletter.

In order to protect the carpet near the entrances, walk-off pads were installed in mid-October. We are thankful that we now have a system in place to shield our new carpet from the outside elements.

Who got first dibs on the newly reupholstered chairs in the Sanctuary this past month? The ones in the conference room look good, too! The new padding makes them super comfortable during church meetings. These chairs have been with us for a long time, and with this renovation, we'll be able to use them for years to come!



Fellowship Treats

Members of the congregation take turns bringing in treats for fellowship time between the services on Sundays, as scheduled by the Congregational Care Commission.



Please bring ready to serve treats in disposable containers. Healthy food choices are especially welcome. *Please no nuts.* Thank you for helping to make our fellowship time delicious and enjoyable!

- November 3** – last names beginning with **U, V, W, X, Y** or **Z**
- November 10** – last names beginning with **A** or **B**
- November 17** – last names beginning with **C** or **D** and **JOY Bake Sale**
- November 24** – last names beginning with **E, F** or **G**

December SPIRE Deadline

Do you have something you'd like to see in the December edition of THE SPIRE?

Please email your information to Trisha Holland at communications@fedchurch.org by **Thursday, November 14**. Thank you!

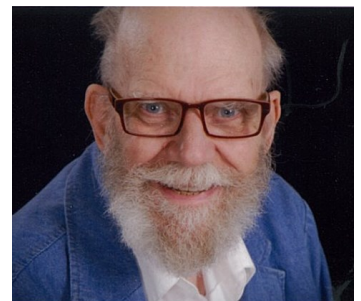
Federated Member Rev. Douglas Garland Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Ordination

The Rev. Douglas Garland lives at Hamlet Village and attends activities at Federated Church. On December 10, he will celebrate his 50th anniversary of ordination.

Born and raised in New England, he was ordained a minister of the United Church of Christ by the Middlesex-Mendon Association of the Massachusetts Conference on December 10, 1969 at First Federated Church of Hudson, MA. A graduate of Cornell University and Andover Newton Theological School, he served 38 years as a parish pastor in churches of the Penn West Conference. His last parish was Pymatuning Charge, 2 churches in Mercer County, PA, which he served for 26 years. He was also active in

Association and Conference serving on, and often chairing, committees. All the churches he served were from the Evangelical and Reformed side of the UCC, all were originally German reformed churches.

After his retirement in 2008, he moved to Alliance, OH. There he suffered a catastrophic illness, falling victim to a rare form of vasculitis. He is in remission; however, he requires occasional treatments to remain so.



Federated Happenings

Mission & Involvement Fair

Sunday, November 3 | 11:00 am—12:00 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 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.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, November 4 | 1:00—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 **1.877.272.7337** to select an appointment time or go online at redcrossblood.org or be a "walk-in donor."

Sign up with a friend – what a wonderful way to introduce them to Federated! Due to many recent natural disasters, all blood resources are critical.

GIVE BLOOD
You can make a difference.



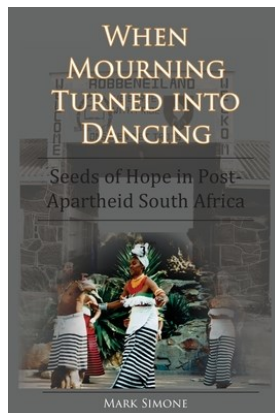
If you have any questions, please contact Carole Mason at 440.338.3573 or at wfmason36@gmail.com. Thank you!

"When Mourning Turned into Dancing"

Mark Simone's new book, **When Mourning Turned into Dancing: Seeds of Hope in Post-Apartheid South Africa**, is printed and in pre-launch mode while he ministers in South Africa.

He would like to offer our Federated church family a discounted suggested donation of \$14.00. Here's a note from Mark:

Thank you, Federated Family, for all your prayers and support of my trips to South Africa over the years. As a gesture of gratitude, I would love to offer you a copy of the book for a minimum donation of \$14.00 if you pre-order. Please email me at msimone@fedchurch.org and I will hold a copy for you. Orders will be filled beginning on Sunday, November 17. Thanks!



Primetime Federated Forum

Monday, November 11 in Fellowship Hall
Gather at 1:30 pm; Presentation at 2:00 pm

Presenter: Fran Bayless

Since 1990, Fran has pursued wildlife and nature photography as an artistic endeavor. From the Arctic to the Antarctic, Fran has endeavored to share and communicate through her images the beauty, vastness, diversity, dramatic scenery and habitats of the animals and birds. Her goal is to draw the viewer into her photographs to experience a moment of wonder, involvement, inspiration, tranquility and beauty. Her work has been accepted into many juried shows and remains on permanent display at various locations.



Primetime Lunch Out

Thursday, November 14, 12:00—1:30 pm
at Welshfield Inn
(14004 Main Market Rd., Burton)

Primetime will travel to Welshfield Inn restaurant for November's Lunch Out. To RSVP, call 440.247.6490 by Friday, November 8.



Federated Happenings

The Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) Team Invite All to Participate

The mission of the Social Justice Advocacy Ministry is to be a voice and witness to God's love for all people and creation and to advocate for justice for those who are marginalized, discriminated against and denied their inherent rights as children of God and citizens of our world. If you are interested in receiving emails about social justice issues and activities, please contact Rev. Susi Kawolics (440.247.6490 x102 or skawolics@fedchurch.org)

Upcoming Events and Activities

Movie Night – Monday, November 18, 7:00 pm, Bell St. Fellowship Hall

The Movie: **The Public**

Focusing on the issue of homelessness, on the coldest night of the year, a Cincinnati librarian is caught between a group of homeless patrons staging a sit-in and a face-off with the local police and media.



SJAM Meeting — Sunday, November 17, 11:15 am (after the 10:00 am service), Bell St. Room 240

Open to all! This is a good time to hear about updates on various initiatives and topics of SJAM.

Immigration

Vigils—First Thursday of each month, 4:00 pm

The immigration vigils are scheduled for the first Thursday each month. They are led by local clergy from all faiths and held at 4:00 in front of the Federal Building downtown on the corner of East 9th and Lakeside. They are organized by Friends of Immigrants and last about 30 minutes.

The next one is **November 7**, and all are welcome to attend. For information, contact Bill Shaul at 513.280.2836 or theshauls@msn.com.

AMIS Fundraiser—Saturday, November 16, 5:00—7:00 pm,

Local immigration advocates who have been working with individuals and families affected by the crisis are holding a fundraiser at the Chagrin Valley Athletic Club. The group is called AMIS and stands for Americans Making Immigrants Safe.

Tickets are \$75 per person. For questions or to purchase tickets, contact Bill Shaul at 513.280.2836 or theshauls@msn.com.

Racial Justice

400 Years of Inequity: A Call to Action: National Conference—November 8-9,

More info: <https://web.cvent.com/event/0eba74b5-835c-47a4-8065-863bfa07ado1/summary>

Gun Sense

For Such a Time as This: A Faith Response to Gun Violence—Saturday, November 16, 11:00 am—2:00 pm

Hope and Forgiveness after the Charleston Massacre—Rev. Sharon Risher. Sponsored by Gun Before Guns. At Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, 3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118. Luncheon Tickets are \$25.00.

Register: <https://form.jotform.com/92585573884172?fbclid=IwAR3DCWVK1td2wce9WNEk6zRVdmBRoUl7AKnynbVIRpX4ojZXRk4ARVTPOVs>

Northeast Ohio Voter Advocates (NOVA)

NOVA is a grassroots organization that believes in expanding voter participation so that all voices are heard in our democracy. If you are interested in volunteering to help northeast Ohio vote in 2020 please consider attending one of these sessions:

East Side: Saturday, November 16, 9:30-12:00 Cleveland Heights/University Heights Main Library on Lee Rd:

West Side: Saturday, November 23, 10:30-1:00 Cleveland Public Library 8216 Lorain Rd

For more information and to register go to nova-ohio.org

Federated Happenings

More News and Events from Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) Team

- Free and open to the public at Landmark Center, 25700 Science Park Drive, Beachwood, Ohio. To register call 216.368.2091.
 - Ohio Innocence Project:** A View From the Bench: Judicial Perspectives on Wrongful Conviction
Michael P. Donnelly, Ohio Supreme Court Judge,
Wednesday, November 6 7-8:30 p.m.
 - For Such a Time as This:** The Power of Prayer and Faith
Alec Berezin, Member, NEO Board of Advocates, Ohio Innocence Project Wednesday, November 13 7-8:30 p.m.
- On Friday, November 1 at 8:30 am there will be a clergy breakfast at Fairmount Temple titled "*Compassion and Courage: Faith Leaders Respond to the Immigration Crisis*" to discuss how clergy can respond to the inhumane treatment of immigrants and their families. Although this is by invitation, clergy may bring 1-2 members of their congregations who are engaged with issues of immigration. Senator Sherrod Brown will deliver brief introductory remarks and Rev. Susi Kawolics will facilitate one of the small group discussions.

Reading and Resources on Racial Justice:

- [Reconstruction: America After the Civil War](#): four-hour PBS Series hosted by Henry Louis Gates
- [Stony the Road](#): Reconstruction, White Supremacy and the Rise of Jim Crow by Henry Louis Gates

Telling Our Story Spotlight

Pew Bibles

One year ago, we moved from the Family Life Center back to Bell Street for our Sunday morning services after a majority of the capital campaign projects had been completed. The Sunday service on November 18, 2018 was so moving, with a Sanctuary full of people ready to celebrate the completion of almost \$2 million worth of much-needed capital projects.

Shortly after that Sunday, we began to notice that the Pew Bibles also needed updating. They had done a beautiful job providing nourishment and direction to the Federated family for over 50 years. When word of that need began circulating, an anonymous donor stepped forward and offered to purchase new Pew Bibles. This gift spoke to the donor as their late father, whose birthday was coming up soon, received such joy from reading his Bible each and every day. What a wonderful way to commemorate the birthday of a beloved parent!



Our new NRSV (New Revised Standard Version) Pew Bibles replace those that were donated to Federated in 1971, maybe by some of you, in honor or memory of almost 70 loved ones. This new gift in no way negates the old gift. A record of each 1971 Pew Bible and its respective dedication was preserved before those Bibles were replaced by the 2018 versions.

As a way of offering our thanks to each Bible donor, past and present, a memorial stone has been engraved and placed near the heated brick stairs, along the walkway close to some rose bushes that Jake planted this fall. So, the next time you are walking to Federated from the Chagrin Falls Intermediate School parking lot, take a look on the left-hand side and give thanks for all those who have touched Federated by their kind donation of Pew Bibles over the years. We are truly blessed!

Mission & Service

Ohio City Power Supports Soup For the Soul

Have you wondered about the table in Fellowship Hall most Sundays full of donated handmade items? The money made from these sales goes to a program at St. Paul's, one of our mission partners, called "Soup for the Soul." It is a program that provides lunch for the homeless. Our dollars pay for the cooks. A lot of the lunch is based around the bagels donated by Einstein's in Chagrin and food in the food cart at the bottom of the Sanctuary stairs.

This is just a reminder to continue to donate to the food cart. If you would like to make any dollar donations to either the food cart or money to pay the cooks, please contact Lynne Kessell at 440.247.5544, or find her in Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

Ingathering is Here

Deadline—Sunday, November 25

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 Bell St. Lobby on Sunday, November 10 or 17. On November 25, 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. Let's celebrate our blessings by sharing from our abundance!



Homeless Stand Down Clothing Collection

Collection begins in December

Please consider buying a new or gently worn jacket or **waterproof** pair of winter boots when you're out shopping or running errands for the Homeless Stand Down this winter. We need men's women's and children's sizes, especially L and XL. We will also collect hats, socks, underwear and personal care items for hygiene kits. Thank You!

Parish Nurse Corner

A message from the parish nurse

I have been in charge of the St. Paul's clinic for over four years, and I generally volunteer there Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. (Thankfully, a group of subs helps out when I travel.) I see, on average, 30 people per day, including young and old men, women, and children. Funding for hygiene and basic underwear products comes from the non-profit arm of St. Paul's, and this arm does the grant writing to raise money for their many outreach programs. My budget from this non-profit covers most needed supplies, except during the more expensive winter season.

Last year I started giving one set of thermal underwear to every client who wanted one, keeping careful records. I also added gloves, stocking hats and winter scarves. All of these items were in demand and I hope to repeat all of the above this year. Because of these more expensive winter items, I am especially grateful to the many Federated folks who are donating socks, scarves, blankets, hats, gloves, and (yes) underwear.

To make underwear and socks last longer, I started a laundry detergent campaign to encourage folks to save money for the laundromat or wash items by hand in a bucket. I provide the soap. This initiative has been quite popular and your donations of laundry detergent will be much appreciated.

A client I have been working with for a long time who works hard outdoors has developed incontinence. He was hesitant to ask me for help, but we had built a connection and trust, and he began a long conversation about his own embarrassment. We discussed pelvic floor exercises, dietary modifications, and a classic medication that would help (for which he will ask his doctor). He asked me to write it all down. This therapeutic conversation was heartwarming for me – just one of many ways that I can help my clients.

In faith,
Kathy Kolcaba
440.655.2098

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a dinner and reception recognizing and celebrating the ministry of

Reverend Susi Kawolics

on the occasion of her retirement from Federated Church.

Saturday Evening, December 14
Bell St. Fellowship Hall



SAVE THE DATE!

"Sugarloaf Mountain" *An Apollo's Fire Concert*

Friday, January 24, 7:30 pm
Bell St. Sanctuary

A reception will follow the concert.

Stay tuned for ticket information.

 [tinyurl.com/SMCONCERT20](https://www.facebook.com/tinyurl.com/SMCONCERT20)



Tributaries

Feeding the River of Spiritual Life

A spiritual growth academy for the wider community. A portion of proceeds support programs of Federated Church.

For additional details, please visit fedchurch.org/tributaries.

Yoga~Spirit~Renewal

A gentle, meditative yoga practice in a warm and inviting community. Let yoga offer an answer to a nervous system on overdrive or a body that craves more movement.

Move & breathe, relax & center. When we're healthy in body, mind, and spirit we can be of better service in the world and enjoy our families and life with greater pleasure and ease. New to yoga? You are welcome here. Bring a yoga mat & blanket. Dress comfortably.

Dates/Times: Tuesday mornings, 10:00—11:15 am

Location: 76 Bell St. Fellowship Hall

Presenter: Polly Manke

Contact/Register: polly@pollymanke.com

Tuition: Seven classes \$85 / Drop-in \$15

Gentle Slow Flow Yoga

Join in this yoga class where basic yoga postures will be introduced and will serve as our foundation for each class sequence. With this yoga practice, we will engage in the intentional practice of connecting our entire being, body, breath, mind and spirit with God.

This class is open to everyone with the ability to move through seated, standing, kneeling, and reclined positions unassisted. Bring a yoga mat and wear loose clothing. Please arrive 5-10 minutes early.

Dates/Times: Wednesday and Thursday evenings
7:00—8:15 pm, through December 11

Location: 76 Bell St. Room 230

Presenter: Dawn Dole, RYT200

Contact/Register: newdayyoga.dawn@gmail.com.

Tuition: \$10 drop in fee per class suggested

Balance, Balls and Bands

A new integrative mind body approach to improve your balance strength & flexibility. Exercises are done in a chair and standing with chair support and modified to each individual's tolerance.

Dates/Times: Thursday mornings, 10:30—11:30 am

Location: 76 Bell St. Fellowship Hall

Presenter: Carol Kelly, LPT

Contact/Register: schakell51@aol.com.

Tuition: Six classes \$60 / Drop-in \$10

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 **Tuesday, 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: _____

Save the Date for Advent by Candlelight: A Cup of Christmas Tea

An Invitation for Women to Prepare for Christ's Coming

Tuesday, December 3 | 7:00 pm | *New Location:* Bell St. Fellowship Hall

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.



enjoy beautiful music, delicious food, and warm fellowship. RSVPs are appreciated. There will be a sign-up sheet between services in November. You can also call the church at 440.247.6490 or stop by the Bell St. reception desk. If possible, bring a sweet or savory treat to share. Finger foods are preferred (no nuts, please).

Come share this wonderful evening as our guests. You will

We encourage you to enjoy this event with family members and friends—all women are welcome!

A Note of Thanks

A special thanks goes out to **Karen Zoltowicz** for taking on the task of washing Fellowship Hall tablecloths.

A special thanks goes out to **Marilee Biel** for cleaning out and organizing the Fellowship Hall kitchen every Friday.

A special thanks goes out to **Diana Weber Gardner** for her work on creating our 100th anniversary logo.

A special thanks goes out to **Jim Scheuermann** for his work on producing the beautiful altar banners.





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 An Open and Affirming Congregation
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 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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*
- * Dan Kershner, *Pastoral Care Pastor*

Administration and Staff

- Amy Eugene, *Senior Director of Operations*
- Melinda Smith, *Congregational Life Administrator*
- * Kiersti Critchfield, *Pastoral Care Administrator*
- * Trisha Holland, *Marketing & Communications Specialist*
- * Janis Stefanchik, *Bookkeeper*
- * Dolly Herschel, *Primetime Coordinator*
- * Laura Taylor, *Fund Development Associate*

- Jake Magalski, *Properties, 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*
 - * Kristin LeFeber, *Director of Children's Faith Formation*
 - * Bridget Petitti, *Interim High School Ministries*
 - * Alex Bell, Lianna Davis, Trisha Holland, *Childcare Providers*
- * denotes part-time staff

**Hope to see you this
 Sunday!**

**10:00 am
 Worship and Sunday School**

**11:30 am
 RISE to Shine Worship**