



FEDERATED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

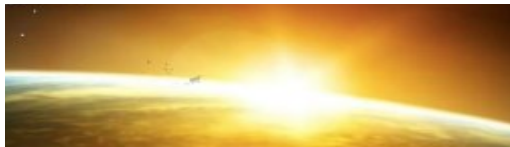
An Open and Affirming Congregation

December 1

Welcome!

Upcoming Activities and Opportunities at Federated

11:30 RISE to Shine Service



Spirited and Invitational Music
Welcome and Announcements
Offertory invitation
Offertory song
Scripture
Sermon
Communion
Song
Blessing

*All children are welcome in worship!
Childcare is also available during the service
for birth-Pre-K aged children downstairs in room G20.*

God accepts me just as I am, and loves me too much to leave me that way. Federated accepts all people as they are and supports them in the spiritual journey. With Christ we offer hope and healing to change our world.

Our Mission Statement

Ahead At The Fed

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday in Advent
Christmas Eve Offering Recipient
Introduced

- 10 am Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
Traditional Worship and Sunday School
Music by Federated Choir
- 11:30 am RISE to Shine Modern Worship
*Children's Choir performs annual
Christmas Musical*

December 8 - Scriptures

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday in Advent
Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches
Traditional Worship and Sunday School
*J.S. Bach's "Cantata No.63" with choir,
orchestra and soloists*

- 11:30 am RISE to Shine Modern Worship
A Service of Scripture and Song
Music by RISE to Shine Band

Wednesday, December 18

Led by Rev. Susi Kawolics
Service of Solace

7 pm

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*
* **Dan Kershner**, *Pastoral Care Pastor*

Administration and Staff

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

Music Staff

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

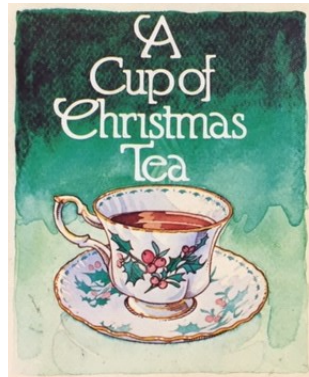
Children's Ministries Staff

- * **Marty Culbertson**, *Director of Youth Faith Formation*
* **Kristin LeFeber**, *Director of Children's Faith Formation*
* **Alex Bell, Lianna Davis, Trisha Holland**, *Childcare Providers*

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

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

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.



Come share this wonderful evening as our guests. You will enjoy beautiful music, delicious food, and warm fellowship.

RSVPs are appreciated. Call 440.247.6490 or stop by the Bell St. reception desk. If possible, plan to bring a sweet or savory treat to share. Finger foods are preferred (no nuts, please).

Countdown to 28th annual Homeless Stand Down on Jan. 11

Donations of new or clean and gently worn coats, boots and winter gloves, (or checks made out to Federated with HSD in memo line) will be collected **Monday, December 9—Sunday, January 5.**

Sign ups for volunteers (limit 18 adults) begin December 9 for the 11:30-3:00 pm shift downtown. Carpools available from Federated at 10:30 am for January 11 Stand Down .

Questions: please contact Cathy Watterson at Cwstarfish2000@yahoo.com or 216.978.1037.

Thank you in advance for your consideration!



Search for the Christ Child

An interactive journey to Bethlehem

Next Sunday, December 8
5:00—8:00 PM (Open House)

Federated Church: 76 Bell Street
note new location!



You're invited to come experience the Christmas story like never before! Follow a shepherd guide on a 20-minute interactive journey along Mary and Joseph's trek to Jerusalem. Meet angels, wise men, King Herod, and other characters before ultimately arriving at a live nativity to behold the Christ child.

Enjoy cookies and hot chocolate during the short wait for the journey to begin. Small treat bags also provided to young children.

Appropriate for all ages and absolutely free for anyone in the community to attend! Please invite your friends. *(Canned goods donations and a free will offering accepted.)*

This is Federated's fifth year putting on this stunning production and the first time we will hold it at Bell Street. You simply will not want to miss it! More info available at www.fedchurch.org/SFTCC.

"The Wise Man's Journey" *A Christmas Musical*

Sunday, December 8 | 11:30 am

We invite you to the annual Christmas musical, performed by Children's Choir members in K-7th grade during the 11:30 RISE to Shine service.

"The Wise Man's Journey" was written by our very own Abby Goodman, 7th grader. Directed by: Pat Haynish.



Primetime Federated Forum

Monday, December 9 in Fellowship Hall
Presentation at 1:00 pm *new time
Refreshments to follow

Presenters: Marian Vogel, lyric soprano soloist, and Marcia Snavely, piano accompanist and soloist.

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of beautiful music. This is a chance to see a performance by Marian Vogel, a critically acclaimed professional operatic singer, and to hear our own professional musician, Marcia Snavely, play the piano and organ which is always a wonderful musical treat.



A Christmas Journey in Story and Song! A Wondrous Wednesday Event

Wednesday, December 11 | 6:00 pm free dinner, 7:00 pm program
Bell St. Fellowship Hall

Feed your Christmas spirit with music and storytelling!

We'll be treated to inspirational stories, followed by Christmas caroling accompanied by Randy Fusco. But first, holiday dinner of *favorite Christmas foods*.

To RSVP: call 440.247.6490, stop by the reception desk, or email katiesharbage@gmail.com.



Special Christmas Cantata

Join us for J.S. Bach's festive and inspirational "Cantata No.63 (Christians, Engrave This Day!)" at the December 15 10:00 worship service. An 18-member orchestra will join the Federated Choir and guest soloists for the performance. The cantata celebrates the birth of Christ and the inevitable victory over darkness. Beginning and concluding with triumphant choruses, this cantata is sure to delight your Christmas season.

Performed in memory of Bob Faroo, long-time choir member.

Apollo's Fire Tickets on Sale NOW!

Friday, January 24, 7:30 pm | Sanctuary
A reception will follow the concert.

Visit fedchurch.org/concerts for more information and to purchase, or purchase between worship services in Fellowship Hall.

TICKET PRICING

Advance purchase (General Admission)—\$35
At-the-door (General Admission)—\$45
Premium seating (Front of house/balcony)—\$60
Student admission (18 and under)—\$15

Upcoming Primetime Trips

GLOW at Cleveland Botanical Garden

The botanical garden has beautiful Christmas trees and gingerbread houses on display to help you get in the holiday spirit. The theme this year is "glow." Before our visit we will have lunch at L'Albatros.

Wednesday, December 11, 11:00 am departure

Cost: \$20

Reservations: Call 440.247.6490.

Payment due by Wednesday, December 4.

A Christmas Cabaret at Nighttown

The Musical Theater Project is back with our annual holiday treat! The hits range from "Winter Wonderland," "Let it Snow" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," to Irving Berlin's 101-year-old salute to Santa Claus. We will also have dinner at Nighttown before the show.

Monday, December 16, 5:30 pm departure

Cost: \$35

Reservations: Call 440.247.6490.

Payment due by Saturday, December 7.

Service of Solace

Wednesday, December 18 | 7:00 pm
Bell St. Chapel

Also 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 Kiersti Critchfield at kcritchfield@fedchurch.org or at 440.247.6490 ext. 103 for more information or for pastoral care.

Advent Worship Series Continues

Today's Theme: Hope in the midst of hopelessness
(Scripture: Isaiah 2:1-5)

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This year for Advent, we will focus on our traditional themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, but with some enhancements. In order to further deepen your Advent journey, we encourage you to try different prayer practices in preparation for each week.

Week II (12/8) Peace in the midst of conflict

(Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10)

Begin preparation for this Sunday on December 2 with spiritual practice of **Centering Prayer**.

Begin each day with the praying of the reflection, and then spending some time in quiet contemplation. Ideal time is twenty minutes of silence, focusing on a sacred word, and releasing all thoughts. Spend however much time is comfortable for you centering yourself by resting in the arms of your loving God, and carrying that peace with you.

Vigil for Immigrants

Thursday, December 5 at 4:00 pm

Federated Church's Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) Team invites you to attend the monthly prayer vigils in support of immigrant families. They are held at 4:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month in front of the Federal Building at E. 9th and Lakeside in downtown Cleveland.

The next one will take place Thursday, December 5. All are welcome. Questions may be directed to Bill Shaul at 513.280.2836 or theshauls@msn.com.

Advent Booklets Available

Advent devotional booklets by Rev. Susi Kawolics are available in the Narthex or Lobby. Take one and begin prayers to deepen your advent journey.



Farewell Dinner & Reception

Saturday, December 14 | 6:00-9:00 pm
Bell St. Fellowship Hall

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.

Reservations required. Please make your reservations by **Monday, December 9.** Go to fedchurch.org/events to find the RSVP link or call 440.247.6490.

Main dish provided. Please bring a salad or dessert.

If you would like to contribute to a freewill offering for Susi, you may bring or send a check to the church, made to Federated Church with "Susi Retirement" in the memo line.



Christmas Wreath Dedications

Ten beautiful wreaths adorn our doors throughout the Advent season. The wreaths have been donated by: **Bonnie Borman** in memory of David Goldston, **Doug & Barb Church** in memory of Arlene, Earl, Anne and David Church, and Louise and Gilbert Fisher, **Mary Dixon and family** in loving memory of her husband, John Dixon, son John E. Dixon, and grandson William Dixon, **The Fullmer family** in loving memory of David R. Fullmer, **Rick Jones** in memory of David Broad, **Rick Jones** in memory of Leslie Jones, **Anne Masters** in loving memory of her daughter Sarah, **Wendy Pierce** in memory of her mother, Susan Putnam. **Connie & Don Sperry** in memory of their parents and sisters.

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

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.

New, Secure Ways to Pay Your Pledge!

You can pay your 2019 balance or your 2020 pledge online by going to:

- Online: <https://onrealm.org/fedchurch/give>
- Mobile App: Download "Connect – Our Church Community"
- Text: "FEDCHURCH" to "73256"

Questions? Contact Janis Stefanchik, bookkeeper, x114 or business@fedchurch.org

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 1—First Sunday in Advent

10:00 am Traditional Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School (K-5)
10:00 am Kids Cove Childcare
11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:30 am Facilities Information & Sharing Session
11:30 am RISE to Shine Modern Worship
11:30 am Kids Cove Childcare
8:00 pm AA Sunday Open Hearth Mtg

MONDAY December 2

10:00 am Primetime Tai Chi Class
10:15 am Monday Morning Miracles Mtg
4:00 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Federated Choir Rehearsal

TUESDAY December 3

10:00 am Tributaries: Yoga~Spirit~Renewal
10:00 am Pastoral Care Mtg
12:30 pm Primetime Bridge
7:00 pm Advent by Candlelight
7:00 pm Church Council Mtg
7:30 pm RISE to Shine Band Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY December 4

7:30 am Contemplative Prayer—away
12:00 pm AA Twelve to One Mtg
6:30 pm Women on the Move AA Mtg
7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Mtg
7:00 pm Tributaries: Gentle Slow Flow Yoga
7:30 pm SLAA/Augustine Fellowship Mtg

THURSDAY December 5

9:00 am Ladies Prayer Group
10:00 am Sit & Stitch
10:30 am Tributaries: Balance, Balls & Bands
12:00 pm Primetime Lunch Out—away
2:00 pm Primetime Bowling
4:00 pm Immigration Vigil—away
6:00 pm Women's Happy Hour AA Mtg
6:30 pm ACA Mtg
7:00 pm Federated Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Tributaries: Gentle Slow Flow Yoga

FRIDAY December 6

9:30 am Women's Bible Study
12:00 pm Friday Noon Big Book AA Mtg
1:00 pm Mahjong
2:00 pm Spiritual Direction Session
8:00 pm Chagrin Falls Friday AA Mtg

SATURDAY December 7

8:30 am Rehearsal for Children's Choir Christmas Musical
10:00 am Facilities Information & Sharing Session

SUNDAY December 8—Second Sunday in Advent

10:00 am Traditional Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School (K-5)
10:00 am Kids Cove Childcare
10:00 am Confirmation Class
11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:30 am Facilities Information & Sharing Session
11:30 am RISE to Shine Modern Worship *featuring*
"The Wise Man's Journey"
11:30 am Kids Cove Childcare
8:00 pm AA Sunday Open Hearth Mtg

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

Those in Federated's extended family who are confined and will share elements from today's Communion table shared by our Communion to the Confined Ministry.

Each week, we ask your prayers for two of our staff members. This week please pray for **Joshua Konow** and **Marcia Snavelly**.

For November, 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:

Myia Sterling, 440.338.4893; Carol Kelly, Elsie Lutman, Janet Peters, Sonja Solar, Nelson Fenner.

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 kcritchfield@fedchurch.org. 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 Harriett Rogers: harriett.rogers41@yahoo.com.

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this morning are given by Mary Dixon in loving memory of her husband, John Dixon, her son, John E. Dixon and her grandson, Bill Dixon.

Fellowship Treats: Thank you to **members with last names beginning H, I, J or K** for providing today's treats. We invite you to join us in Fellowship Hall between the services for food and fellowship.

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 8 – **members with last names beginning L or M**

December 15 – **members with last names beginning N, O, P, Q or R**

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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