



FEDERATED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

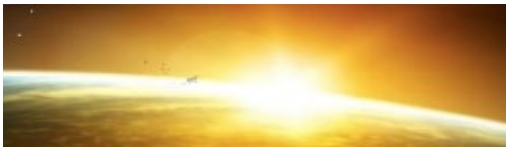
An Open and Affirming Congregation

December 8

Welcome!

Upcoming Activities and Opportunities at Federated

11:30 RISE to Shine Service



Three songs

Welcome and Announcements

Christmas Eve Offering Recipient—
St. Paul's Community Church

Passing of Peace/Offering

Children's Musical
(The Wise Man's Journey)

Benediction

*All children are welcome in worship! Childcare is also
available for birth-Pre-K 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 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*

10 am

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

December 15 - Scriptures

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Wednesday, December 18

Led by Rev. Susi Kawolics
Service of Solace

7 pm

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Rev. Susi Kawolics preaches
Traditional Worship and Sunday School
*Music by Adult Choir & Bell Choir
Liturgical Dancers*

10 am

11:30 am RISE to Shine Modern Worship
Music by RISE to Shine Band

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 Snively**, *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.

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

TODAY | 11:30 am

Stick around to see 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, 6th grader. Directed by: Pat Haynish.



Primetime Federated Forum

TOMORROW, in the Sanctuary
Presentation at 1:00 pm *new time
Refreshments to follow

Presenters: Marian Vogel, lyric soprano soloist, and Marcia Snively, 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 Snively, play the piano and organ which is always a wonderful musical treat.





Search for the Christ Child

an interactive journey to Bethlehem

TODAY! ~~

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 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.

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 by TOMORROW, December 9. Go to fedchurch.org/events 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 a check to the church, made to Federated Church with "Susi Retirement" in the memo.

Rev. Mark Simone on WCPN

This Tuesday, December 10th at 9 am, our own Mark Simone will appear on WCPN radio, (Cleveland's NPR station at 90.3) to discuss his new book, *When Mourning Turned into Dancing: Seeds of Hope in Post-Apartheid South Africa* with Mike McIntyre on the Sound of Ideas program. Federated is a huge part of this story. We hope you can tune in for part or all of the conversation. HOWEVER, the Impeachment process potentially may pre-empt the slot, in which case it will be rescheduled.

Copies of the book are being offered after Sunday services in Fellowship Hall at a very discounted price. Almost at cost. If you would like a copy, please visit the display and fill out one of the forms (if you would like a personal inscription), or take a book and put your check (to Mark Simone) in the container. Mark is part of the RISE service and may not be at the table! The Federated price is \$14.00 (retail is \$18.95). Thanks!

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.



Christmas Cantata Next Sunday

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 bring delight to 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.

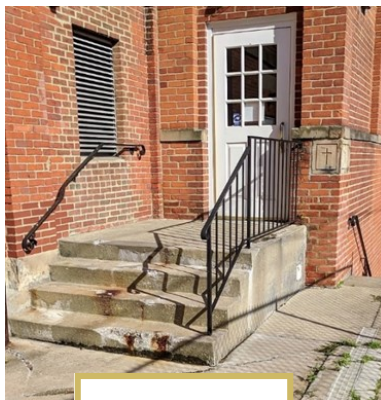
Visit fedchurch.org/concerts for more info and to purchase tickets, or purchase tickets between worship services in Fellowship Hall.

TICKET PRICING

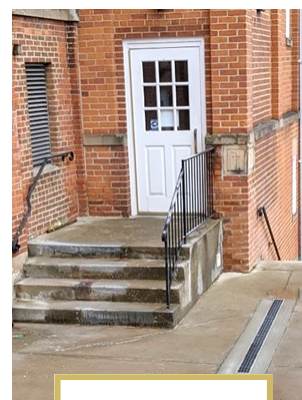
Advance purchase (General Admission)—\$35
At-the-door (General Admission)—\$45
Premium seating (Front of house/balcony)—\$60
Student admission (18 and under)—\$15

Rejoice & Renew Capital Campaign Project Update

Our thanks go to John Giles, a member of our Properties Committee who coordinated the contractor work on the west stairs, used in emergency situations, as we did during the fire drill this fall. The recently completed work entailed patching and repairing the west stairs - both the block of stairs used to exit our building and the stairs all the way from the Heinen's delivery lot up to the rose garden. This is one of those campaign projects that isn't necessarily aesthetically interesting, but is so vital to the safe and efficient running of our buildings.



Before



After

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: Peace in the midst of conflict
(Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10)

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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 III (12/15) Joy in the midst of despair

(Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10)

Begin preparation for this Sunday on December 9 with spiritual practice of **Praying with the Arts**.

Begin each day with opening yourself to joy that comes from some kind of art. Find a picture that draws you in, a poem that moves you, a piece of music that touches a place deep within. Prayerfully sit with it, opening yourself, asking the spirit to guide you as you pay close attention, as it evokes feelings, insights, thoughts. Let the art become a vehicle to a deeper relationship with God, and bring you joy.

Amy Eugene will be Leaving Staff

Amy Eugene has let us know that she will be leaving her position as Senior Director of Operations here at Federated. After serving so capably in that role for nearly three years, Amy has decided to step away from the intensity and complexity of the work and to move into a new chapter of her life. She has been a wonderful gift to Federated, and has served with commitment, skill, and a deep passion for the mission of this church. We will miss her greatly.

Her last day with us will be Sunday, January 5, when we will have a chance to say good-bye to her in worship. Thanks be to God for the blessing she has been to Federated.

Facilities Information Sessions

Following a letter sent out to the membership from Church Council, we are hosting information/listening sessions to hear more about and discuss work that has been underway by two different task forces. We remain committed to hearing your questions and giving you a chance to respond. We hope you will make time to join the discussion by being part of one of these:

TODAY at 12:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, December 15 at 9:00 am (Rm. 240)

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 tomorrow 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

TAS Cooking Class

Last May, our Turkish friends and neighbors hosted an Iftar dinner during their Holy days of Ramadan. It was a huge success and a wonderful way to begin building some great relationships. They are now offering a cooking demonstration and meal to be held in Fellowship Hall. This event is open to ALL Federated - adults and children.

Sunday, January 19, 4—7 pm

The cost is \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for ages 5-12, and free for children under 5.

Please RSVP by calling the church at 440.247.6490 or sending an email to info@noica.org.

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 8—Second Sunday in Advent

10:00 am Traditional Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School (K-8)
10:00 am Kids Cove Childcare
10:00 am Confirmation Class
11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:30 am RISE to Shine Modern Worship *featuring*
"The Wise Man's Journey"
11:30 am Kids Cove Childcare
12:30 pm Facilities Information & Sharing Session
4:30 pm GROUP (Sr. High Youth Group) helps with
Search for the Christ Child
4:45 pm JOY (Jr. High Youth Group) helps with
Search for the Christ Child
5-8 pm Search for the Christ Child

MONDAY December 9

10:00 am Primetime Pillows for Hospice Sewing
10:00 am Primetime Tai Chi Class
10:15 am Monday Morning Miracles Mtg—away
1:00 pm Primetime Federated Forum
3:15 pm Primetime Ministry Team Mtg
4:00 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
4:15 pm Liturgical Dance Rehearsal
7:00 pm Combined Task Force Mtg
7:00 pm Congregational Care Commission Mtg
7:30 pm RISE to Shine Band Rehearsal

TUESDAY December 10

8:30 am HR Committee Mtg
10:00 am Pastoral Care Mtg
10:00 am Tributaries: Yoga~Spirit~Renewal
2:00 pm CVCC Mtg
7:00 pm Federated Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Mission & Service Commission Mtg
7:00 pm Spiritual Formation Commission Mtg

WEDNESDAY December 11

7:30 am Contemplative Prayer—away
11:00 am *Primetime Trip to Cleveland Botanical Gardens*
12:00 pm AA Twelve to One Mtg
6:00 pm Wondrous Wednesday Dinner & Program
7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Tributaries: Gentle Slow Flow Yoga
6:30 pm Women on the Move AA Mtg
7:30 pm SLAA/Augustine Fellowship Mtg

THURSDAY December 12

8:00 am Primetime Newsletter Prep
9:00 am Christmas Eve Letter Mailing Prep
9:00 am Ladies Prayer Group
10:00 am Sit & Stitch
10:30 am Tributaries: Balance, Balls & Bands
4:15 pm Liturgical Dance Rehearsal
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 13

9:30 am Women's Bible Study
12:00 pm Friday Noon Big Book AA Mtg
1:00 pm Mahjong
4:00 pm JOY (Jr. High Youth Group) helps with City
Mission Party Setup
8:00 pm Chagrin Falls Friday AA Mtg

SATURDAY December 14

6:00 pm Farewell Dinner & Reception for Susi
Kawolics—Reservations required

SUNDAY December 15—Third Sunday in Advent

9:00 am Facilities Information & Sharing Session
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School (K-8)
10:00 am Kids Cove Childcare
10:00 am Confirmation Class
11:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:30 am RISE to Shine Modern Worship
11:30 am Kids Cove Childcare
11:30 am SJAM Mtg
6:30 pm GROUP (Sr. High Youth Group) Mtg
8:00 pm AA Sunday Open Hearth Mtg

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

Sunny Doxey, 17511 Fairlawn Dr. Chagrin Falls, OH 44023-6425, who is recovering from surgery.

Joan Butler, 36500 Euclid Ave Apt A561, Willoughby, OH 44094-4496, who is at Fairmount Health Center at Breckenridge Village due to a loss of hearing.

Joy Haddix, 13081 Longwood Ave, Burton, OH 44021-9508 who is in the hospital recovering from spine surgery.

Marcia Snavelly, 138 Southwyck Dr, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022-4106, on the death of her ex-son-in-law Robert Belding. A Memorial Service was held on Thursday, December 5.

Each week, we ask your prayers for two of our staff members. This week please pray for **Pat Haynish** and **Thaddeus Quintin**.

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:

Bob Abley, Mary Ann Boysen, Paul Neidhardt, Marge Overman.

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 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

The flowers from today's worship service will be rearranged and distributed by the Angel Flower Ministry after the 10:00 am service.

Fellowship Treats: Thank you to **members with last names beginning L or M** 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 15 – **members with last names beginning N, O, P, Q or R**

December 22 – **members with last names beginning S or T**

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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