

Wonderful News for Federated!

Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner has agreed to serve as our Interim Associate Pastor! Church Council unanimously affirmed Judy joining us October 1, 2021 through Easter of 2022. Judy will expand her summer offerings as well as focus on Pastoral Care and work closely with Senior Pastor Hamilton Throckmorton. She will also serve as a constant and reassuring presence as we move into 2022 and through our search for a new Associate Pastor.

Federated holds a very special place in Judy's heart and it is because of all of you, our Federated Family, that Pastor Judy has enthusiastically accepted the position. Thank you, Federated and thank you, Judy!

With Gratitude,
Church Council



Our Sanctuary Piano Future: Sanctuary Piano Initiative Progress

The July 6 Benefit Concert and Forum that showcased the Bösendorfer piano was a huge success! There were more than 70 members and friends in attendance who got a chance to hear our musicians perform. Through your generosity, over \$100,000 has been contributed so far for this initiative. You can now view the event on our YouTube channel (youtube.com/thefederatedchurch).

A big note of thanks to those who were a part of the concert: ***Marcia Snavely, whose partnership on our music staff upholds a long-standing tradition of excellence; Randy Fusco, whose musicianship is unmistakable and his excitement for this initiative has been astounding; Rebecca Konow who performed a beautiful duet with Joshua Konow, our talented Director of Music Ministries; and Henry Horvath, one of our developing musical youth.*** These colleagues along with our Piano Team that also includes Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton, our piano technician Brian Wilson, Bruce Gigax, Pat Haynish, Melissa Owen, Laura Taylor, Ken Horner, and Marty Culbertson made the concert possible and created an avenue to dream towards our musical future.

Since January of 2019, our 40-year-old Sanctuary Kawai piano has been noticeably deteriorating. We finally hit our dreaded impasse back in early March when Randy and Marcia were set to record their fantastic "Spring Varietals" online concert. Our piano technician attempted to tune the piano and it would not stay in tune. The unfortunate reality was our Kawai had reached the end of its usable life. Thankfully, Ted Good from the

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Steinway Gallery, the company we also bought our new organ through, was able to lend us a Steinway concert grand piano to use through Easter.

That Steinway concert grand on loan to us was an inspiration! We realized how wonderful such a full-sized piano sounded within our Sanctuary, and thus, the research phase began. It became evident that our Piano Team needed to experience local and non-local instruments. The team visited local dealers, as well as dealers in North Carolina, New York, Connecticut, and Boston, to experience several instruments. And if there was ever a sign from God, the Piano Team randomly ran into past minister Susi Kawolics on the streets of Boston!

After reflection, the team ranked all the pianos that had been played on the various visits, including those in Cleveland, and arduously narrowed the list to six finalists:

A Mason & Hamlin Model CC concert grand (9'4"),

A Fazioli F278 concert grand (9'2"),

A Bechstein Model 234 (7'8"),

A Steinway Model D concert grand (9'),

A Blüthner Model 2 (7'4"), and

A Bösendorfer Model 225 (7'4").

While we are still in a period of discernment determining the most appropriate piano for our future, and dependent on the amount of funding raised, we feel very confident in our finalists.

As we look towards the future with a new piano, the most immediate excitement is our ability to enhance our Sunday worship experiences. A piano with great tone and control will uplift our Choir in fuller and more varied ways. It will give additional life to our RISE to Shine Band. It will complement any soloists or small groups that share their gifts with God and our congregation. A great piano provides the ability to blend with a larger guest orchestra for major works or when we perform pieces with combined groups like the Choir with the Bell Choir or Children's Choir.

An outstanding piano also creates new opportunities for our youth. Having performance opportunities for developing musicians, like Henry, whether it be an official Federated event or opening our doors to piano teacher studio recitals, creates positive experiences for youth while engaging them with Federated's faith family in our wonderful facilities.

Over the last few years, we have been enthusiastically developing a Performing Arts Series. We have already had successful events like the Cavani Quartet, organist Dan Miller, Apollo's Fire, and Marcia and Randy's "Spring Varietals" concert. Future highlights will include regular performances from Apollo's Fire, the Burning River Brass, organist and composer Tom Trenney, and the Cleveland Chamber Choir. With an excellent piano, ***we can confidently invite any pianist or chamber group to our Sanctuary, allowing us to benefit from ticket and rental revenue along with creating multiple new positive touch points to our community.***

We are so grateful for the many members and friends who have become partners in this Music Ministry Sanctuary Piano Initiative. By early August we hope to have funds in place so that the Piano Team can proceed with a decision. And that is the good news: there's not really a wrong course. Any of the piano finalists would be a fabulous addition to the Sanctuary.

Generosity Commission Update

The Generosity Commission has an exciting journey ahead, and we encourage you to embrace the ideas and join us on this journey. The Commission is making plans to offer year-round opportunities to learn about 'generosity as a spiritual practice' and share your generosity.

There are many ways in which generosity emerges in our lives. Here are some of the ideas we have discussed:

- * Would you know how to give back to the church from your estate? The planned giving classes can offer insights and information.
- * How do we integrate generosity into our youth programming? What do they envision when asked about generosity?
- * How can we approach the Lenten season with a sacrificial approach to generosity and opportunities to give? What might that look like for you and how might it emerge in your life?
- * Do our newest members feel the generosity of this church community, and are they in turn inspired to give?

Your Generosity Commission is fired up and ready to go! We welcome your partnership on this exciting journey. If you have ideas to share, please contact Martine Scheuermann, Acting Chair, at mjsmajic58@gmail.com, or Laura Taylor, Staff Liaison., at ltaylor@fedchurch.org or 440.247.6490 x 115.

In Memoriam

Recognition of those who have passed recently. A farewell to friends; May God welcome them with open arms.

Genny Mustin on July 5, 2021
Toni Harris on July 5, 2021

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, August 1

Rev. Mark Simone preaches
10 am Livestream & In-person Worship
Music by the RISE to Shine Band

Sunday, August 8

Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner preaches
10 am Livestream & In-person Worship
Music by Brass Trio from Cleveland Orchestra

Sunday, August 15

Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner preaches
10 am Livestream & In-person Worship
Music by Laura Otis and Nancy Isham, duet

Sunday, August 22

Rev. Mark Simone preaches
10 am Livestream & In-person Worship
Music by the Federated Four

Sunday, August 29

Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner preaches
10 am Livestream & In-person Worship
Music by the RISE to Shine Band

Online Worship: [fedchurch.org/live](https://www.fedchurch.org/live)

Worship Every Sunday
In-person & Online
10:00 AM

Online Worship on our
YouTube Channel:
TheFederatedChurch

September Spire Deadline

Do you have something you'd like to see in the September SPIRE?

Please email your information to
communications@fedchurch.org

by **Sunday, August 15**
and include "SPIRE" in the subject line.

FEDERATED NEWS & INFO

Community Outreach

Believing in something bigger than ourselves

PROGRESSIVE abbvie

Giving back to those in need is a part of who we are

Double the donation! This year, Federated has received matching grants from the Progressive Insurance Foundation and the AbbVie Foundation totaling over \$5,000!

Last year we received matching grants from one company and this year we've added another company to the list. These grants represent **corporate matching funds for contributions that Progressive and AbbVie employees made to Federated Church.**

For those companies that have a matching gift program, when an employee gives any amount within a given dollar range (in Progressive's case from \$20 to \$3,000 and in AbbVie's case from \$25 to \$5,000) they can request a matching gift. The corporate foundation commits to matching those dollars up to 100 percent, depending on the number of requests and the company's profitability that year.

In short, these companies give where their employees give; their corporate generosity to us is in direct response to our members' and friends' generosity. So, **help us double the donation and let us know if your employer participates in a matching gift program** that will match gifts to religious organizations.

In other good news, your Generosity has not taken a vacation! As of July 12:

Generosity 2021 intentions/pledges	\$1,001,975.99
Generosity 2021 payments received	\$640,251 (64%)
Generosity 2021 payments paid through Realm easy Debit/Credit card charges or checking account deductions	\$120,663 (18%)
Generosity 2021 intention/pledges already fulfilled	75
Generosity 2022 intention/pledge received	1

"Mark" your calendars

**September 18 and 19 will be a
Weekend of Celebration for Rev. Simone
as he heads into retirement!**

On Saturday evening September 18, we will have an all church pot luck and all in fun roast of Mark Simone at the Family Life Center.

On Sunday, September 19 we will hear Mark's final sermon at Federated Church and following worship will be a reception in Fellowship Hall!



MISSION & SERVICE

Parish Nurse Corner

On Sunday, June 27, I served for Loaves and Fishes. A "backyard picnic" was prepared and served to about 60 clients from the neighborhood around St. Paul's. The neighborhood includes St. Herman's which is a residential shelter across the street from St Paul's on Franklin Avenue. The weather was beautiful, and after the usual church service, hungry folks came to the food table. Our menu, planned by Jim Scheuermann, included grilled hamburgers, cheeseburgers and hot dogs on buns, condiments, baked beans, potato salad, watermelon, and cookies. Servers were Dan and Ruth Kershner, Judy Riemenschneider, Ray Kolcaba and myself. In addition to a busy prep time and serving time, I was able to meet Faith Noble, who is Treasurer of St. Paul's. I asked her about the progress made from the money donated by the Federated. Here is what I learned:

Gym: New HVAC independent of the church for much greater efficiency, a new roof over everything but the Thrift Shop, new paint on the floor of the Thrift Shop, and new serving and eating tables that are lighter in weight for the set up folks. The gym itself still needs to be painted. One of the old timers told me, "The Thrift Shop never looked better," but it was locked and I couldn't see for myself. However, I asked about household trinkets and was told more were needed to fill the shelves.

Courtyard: New picnic tables, fully used for our picnic.

Kitchen: Repairs made to dishwasher and purchase of a used gas stove to replace the electric stove. Yet to be done are the disposal and refrigerator, which presently is running too warm.

Additional News: The interim pastor will be leaving in November. A search committee is looking for a new and permanent pastor. The church also is open Monday through Friday nights for those who need sheltering and Tuesday through Friday mornings for outreach, food pantry, Parish Nurse clinic on Tuesdays, and other support.

Thank you for your continuing interest and help!
Kathy Kolcaba, Parish Nurse
440.655.2098

FEDERATED HAPPENINGS

Children's Choir Invitation

Hello Federated Families,

I would like to invite **ALL children entering grades 1-8** to participate in the Federated Children's Choir for the 2021-22 school year! Regular weekly rehearsals will begin on Monday, August 23 from 4-4:45 PM in the Sanctuary. We will maintain some social distance since most of the children have not had the opportunity to be vaccinated. Those who have not been vaccinated should wear a mask to our rehearsals.



We plan to sing every 4-6 weeks and to perform a Christmas Musical as we have done in the past. In addition to singing we use various props and percussion instruments to add to our performances! Please encourage your child to join in the fun!

For questions or further information please contact: Pat Haynish (Director) phaynish@sbcglobal.net.

Social and Environmental Justice (SJAM) News

SJAM is a group of Federated and community folks learning about and taking action on a wide variety of societal justice issues such as gun violence, criminal justice, LGBTQ+ rights, environmental issues, racial justice, voter registration, and immigration as well as other areas of concern.

Sound interesting? We welcome you to join us at our next meeting. SJAM is open to all in the community who are looking for ways to work for social justice. To learn more, please contact Kathy Franz (440.821.7795 or wfranz@roadrunner.com).

Next SJAM Meeting – Sunday, August 15, 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall, or join us online on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/261964671?pwd=czFEQ1llRzJIUjk2dHE4NGdQaVFTUT09>

Please feel free to log onto the call and check us out! No obligation. Just join the Zoom and see if what we are about speaks to your heart. We welcome you!

You will receive the agenda a few days before the August 15 meeting. If you have not been receiving our emails, please send your email address to Kathy Franz or sign onto REALM and join the Social Justice Advocacy Ministry. We would love to welcome you either in person or on Zoom on August 15. Equal emphasis on opportunities to learn and actions to be taken.

Movie/Speaker's Night:

Seeds of Literacy

Monday, August 16, 7 PM

In person at the Family Life Center (16349 Chillicothe Rd.) or

Online on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83595558354?pwd=U1VxZU5SZONjcEVkbEcxeXpsbVIWdz09>

66% of Cleveland adults are functionally illiterate. They may struggle to run a household, understand medical instructions, pay bills and budget. Before Seeds of Literacy, Margo Hudson was one of those adults. She'll share her deeply personal experience and how the GED changed her life.

Join us as we hear from Margo Hudson and chat with her about her experiences. Margo Hudson has become a bit of a celebrity. After graduation, she's continued to be an outspoken champion for adult education and the Seeds program.

She's a friend, a tutor, an advocate, a public speaker, a mover and shaker in Cleveland, a national award winner, and so much more. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers. Join us in person or on Zoom. Questions? Reach out to Kathy Franz (440.821.7795 or wfranz@roadrunner.com).

Mt. Zion Congregational Church Community Festival

Saturday, August 7, 10 AM-2 PM

10723 Magnolia Drive, Cleveland, OH

For the past several years Federated Church and Mt. Zion members have studied, prayed, attended movies, worshipped and celebrated together. Here is another kind invitation to honor US Veterans and spend time with one another.

There are 89 Black Civil War Veterans at Woodland Cemetery. Some of them started Mt. Zion Church. Begin the day by laying a wreath to honor them. The Buffalo Soldier Statue is a commemoration of WWI. This statue is our second stop of the morning. What an honor to be included. If you have questions, contact Barry Stees at steesbassoon@gmail.com.

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All Federated Church People are Welcome! Let's have a great turn out and meaningful, fun, fellowship time with our Mt. Zion friends.

Saturday, August 7th -- 3 Events!

10:00am: **Wreath laying at Woodland Cemetery**
6901 Woodland Ave., Cleveland

11:00am: **Wreath laying at Charles Young, Buffalo Soldier Statue**
49th and Prospect (YWCA) Cleveland

12:00pm: **Classic Car Parade and Community Festival**



*Classic cars, food, music and fun!
Goodie bag for those driving classic cars!*

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Exhibit: Maltz Museum
Until August 29

A word to encourage Social Justice Advocates to make the time to go see the Notorious RBG before it leaves on August 29, 2021. It is inspiring and encouraging and who couldn't use a dose of both these days? Advanced tickets required. Go to www.maltzmuseum.org to learn more and purchase tickets.

Men's Ministries Presents



Tuesday,
August 17, 2021
At Frohring Meadow

From 6:00pm till 8:30pm

Sausages & Hot Dogs provided
Bring your own drink(s) – cooler provided
Plus, bring a small side or appetizer.

Cost is \$5.00

Bring a Friend