

## 2021-2022 Performing Arts Series

## in the Sanctuary

**Apollo's Fire: Handel's "Messiah"**

Thursday, December 9, 2021, 7:30 pm

The trumpet shall sound! Apollo's Fire welcomes renowned British conductor Nicholas McGegan, who loves nothing more than Handel. This delightful Handel expert leads the virtuoso musicians of Apollo's Fire, Apollo's Singers, and four soloists in Handel's beloved holiday classic.

*\*requires vaccination proof or printed proof of negative COVID test within 48 hours of event.*

**Burning River Brass: "Our Kind of Christmas"**

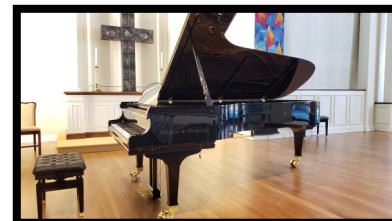
Tuesday, December 21, 2021, 7 pm

A touch of tradition, a dash of jazz, and a healthy measure of festive cheer! Burning River Brass presents Christmas concerts with a little something for everyone. As we journey from delightful and time-honored carols from around the world to our very own *Big Band Nutcracker*, we'll have you singing along in no time. It's the perfect way to get in the holiday spirit!

*\*requires vaccination proof or printed proof of negative COVID test within 48 hours of event.*

**Piano Dedication Concert**

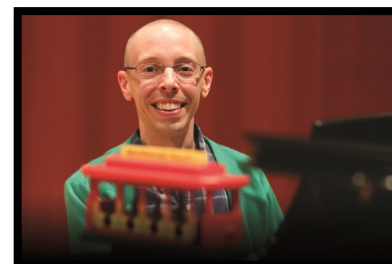
Saturday, March 5, 2022, 7 pm

**Tom Trenney: Organist, Composer, and Conductor**

Sunday, May 1, 2022, 10 am (during worship) and 4:30 pm

10 am: "Mister Rogers: Being a Good Neighbor Might Just be Enough After All"

4:30 pm: "Hymn Festival: Will You Come and Follow Me?"

**Cleveland Chamber Choir: "World of Doubt, World of Faith"**

Sunday, June 12, 2022, 4:15: pre-concert lecture, 5:00: performance



*Tickets will be available through Realm or in-person. Full details available at [fedchurch.org/PAS](https://fedchurch.org/PAS).*

*Check your emails, bulletins, and newsletters for tickets to go on sale.*

*Contact Joshua Konow with questions at [jkonow@fedchurch.org](mailto:jkonow@fedchurch.org) or 440.247.6490 x120.*

## From the Desk of Judy Bagley-Bonner

Dear Friends at Federated,

When Trisha and Hamilton asked me to write this month's newsletter article, I readily accepted because I wanted a chance to thank you for your warm welcome, yet again, as I return to Federated Church in yet another iteration. We have a long history, you and I. And throughout my many returns to fill in for pastoral sabbaticals, etc., I have come to realize and cherish the fact that we speak the same spiritual "language."

Let me give an example: In my most recent sermon, I included a brief quote by Brenda Ueland where she makes the point that being deeply listened to causes one to grow more fully into their own whole self. She says, "you know how if someone laughs at your jokes, you get funnier and funnier?" Well, when I shared that quote yesterday, you as a congregation appropriately laughed. But here's the thing: I have used that quote in other sermons which I have preached in other locations, and nobody laughed! (I was always puzzled by that, because I am so clear that it is, at least, a mildly funny statement.) I share this by way of saying that being a part of Federated Church has always fit for me like hand and glove. You "get me" (and I hope I "get you") in a way that is really special and unique and is a great gift to me. I couldn't have hoped for a better way to finish my thirty-five years of ordained ministry before I join my husband in retirement on the day after Easter, 2022.

Because we speak the same spiritual language, I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you a recent theological discovery I have made, because I suspect you will like it as much as I do. It is an organization called "The Christian Universalist Association." It is not a denomination, but an affiliation of individuals from across many denominations who believe in what is called "universal salvation," which is the belief that the God of love will ultimately love every, single person into healing and wholeness.

The following quote is from The Christian Universalist website, ([christianuniversalist.com](http://christianuniversalist.com)) "We believe in the full and final triumph of the grace of God over the powers of sin and death: that the mercy and forgiveness of God are victorious; that this victory of redemption is revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; and that, therefore, no human being will be condemned or allowed to suffer pain and separation forever... We believe every person is the divine offspring of God, created in the image of the Heavenly Parent of all; and that every person is destined to be raised up from imperfection to maturity according to the pattern of the archetypal Christ, the Son of God, the Perfect Human in whose image all humanity shall be transformed."

I told you it was good stuff! They go on, of course to endorse the validity of other religions: "We believe that God's Holy Spirit has inspired numerous prophets, saints, philosophers, and mystics throughout history, in a variety of cultures and religious traditions; and that by reading the Bible (the authoritative textual basis of our faith) and other great texts of spiritual and moral wisdom with a discerning mind, and meditating to connect to the Spirit within, we may all gain a greater understanding of truth, which should be applied for the betterment of ourselves and our world."

In a culture where many denominations preach an exclusive, Christian God who sends some people to hell, I thought it might be helpful to direct you to a resource that can provide concise language for an alternative view of God. I found it enormously reassuring to find this organization, and I encourage you to look it up, as much more information is available.

Thanks for "getting me" yet again.

Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner

## Guest Preacher: Rev. David Long-Higgins

Sunday, November 21

Our guest preacher on November 21 will be the Rev. David Long-Higgins, Conference Minister for the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ. Comprising all of Ohio, as well as parts of Kentucky and West Virginia, the Heartland Conference is Federated's conference.



Formerly a local church pastor, Rev. Long-Higgins has, for several years, been in a designated (or temporary) role as conference minister, and was recently elected to serve in that position as a settled (or long-term) conference minister. A gifted preacher, pastor, and poet, Rev. Long-Higgins is a blessing in his role. And it will be our blessing to celebrate worship with him on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Sunday we call Reign of Christ Sunday. Join us that day.

## Melinda Smith to retire in the spring

Another member of the Federated staff has announced their intentions to retire. Melinda Smith, Congregational Life Administrator, is planning to retire from the Federated staff in April 2022. The timing aligns with her husband Todd's retirement.

Melinda joined the staff at Federated in 1998 to fill a 10 hour/week clerical position in the Main Office. That part-time position soon evolved into a full-time position as she took on more responsibilities, including overseeing the computer network and maintaining membership and visitor databases. Her attention to detail and thoroughness led her to take on managing the Church Calendar of events. During her two decades at Federated she designed and launched two generations of our website, and tracked down more than one lost sweater, book or pair of reading glasses left behind at a meeting. But she may be best known for coaxing and cajoling hundreds of congregants into being photographed for five different picture directories from 2002 to 2018!

Melinda and Todd will still be around as familiar faces at Federated. They have no plans to leave the area, except in small spurts, to visit family and explore other places in this country and the world. She will be dearly missed!

### Every Sunday at 10 AM:

Livestream & In-person worship  
with Sunday School and Child Care

### Sunday, November 7–Daylight Saving Time Ends

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches on  
Mark 12:38–44

#### **"Giving from Out of Our Poverty"**

*Music by the Children's Choir and  
Federated Choir*

- All Saints' Sunday
- Communion celebrated
- No Sunday School

### Sunday, November 14

Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner preaches on  
Luke 17:11–19

#### **"Gratitude as a Spiritual Practice"**

*Music by the Bell Choir*

- Gratitude Sunday

### Sunday, November 21

Rev. David Long-Higgins, Conference  
Minister of the Heartland Conference  
(Ohio) of the UCC, preaches  
- Reign of Christ Sunday

### Sunday, November 28

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches on  
Luke 21:25–36

#### **First Week of Advent: Hope**

- No Sunday School

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

**Online Worship on our  
YouTube Channel:  
TheFederatedChurch**

# FEDERATED NEWS & INFO

## An Update from The Legacy Fund

**This is the perfect time to talk about legacy giving. All Saints' Sunday is coming up on November 7 and at Federated, we're blessed to have generous saints who have given gifts to our church over the past 12 months.** Our saints:

- leave gifts in their wills to The Legacy Fund, our endowment fund, which annually supports our church operations and ministries,
- designate memorial gifts in memory of their loved ones to Federated, or
- make current contributions to the Legacy Fund from their desire to ensure Federated's long-term sustainability.

**You are our saints!** The Legacy Fund Committee would like to thank all of those in our faith family who have supported Federated in the past year by telling us they have included the church in their estate plans or contributed in these ways:

Memorial Gifts in memory of:

Joe Coney	Ruth Daniels
Cindy Denney	John Eberly
Barb Eggert	Bill Foley
Barbara Gates	Toni Harris
Ralph Hegsted	Jim Parr
Roger Pettibone	Dorothy Pollard
Judy Rice	Dona Sutherin
Doug and Preston Yaecker	

Legacy Fund gifts

- Curtis & Erinn Grube
- Dick Masters
- In memory of Roger Pettibone
- Alex and Alice Taylor

If you are considering leaving a legacy gift to Federated in your will, please let us know. Contact Laura Piper Taylor at [ltaylor@fedchurch.org](mailto:ltaylor@fedchurch.org) or 440.247.6490 x115 for more information.

Death is serious business, but it's also a chance to celebrate a life well-lived. And leaving a legacy gift that keeps on giving is a great way to bless others long after you have passed. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions:

Peter R. Franz, CFA, CFP  
440.724.9365 or [Franze35@gmail.com](mailto:Franze35@gmail.com)  
Chair, Legacy Fund Committee

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## In Memoriam

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

**Skip Riegel—October 14**  
**Bill Yergin—October 21**

# FEDERATED NEWS & INFO

## Why Church?

**By Rev. Rachel Bauman, St. John's UCC, Wisconsin Conference**

Recently I was asked "why church?" by someone who had grown up without organized religion and wanted to understand why someone would invest their time, talent and treasure within a faith community. My reflexive answer, borrowed from St. Augustine, was "because our hearts are restless until they rest in God."

Raising an eyebrow my friend replied, "Even if that was self-evidently true, it still does not answer the question. Clearly it is possible to encounter the Divine Presence outside of church." In struggling to explain, I found myself using the needs-based language I've learned through the practice of Non-Violent Communication (NVC). NVC posits that all behavior is an attempt to meet universal human needs. Explicitly naming the needs we are seeking to meet through our actions creates greater understanding between us. So, here is an (abbreviated) list of the needs I told my friend are met for me through participation in Christian community.

**Shared Reality:** As a community we believe different things, but we share an understanding that there is 'Something More' that gives life meaning beyond our individual identities and experiences. We share a commitment to following in the way of Jesus.

**Self-Expression & Contribution:** Church was where my leadership skills were first named, noticed and nurtured and where I was encouraged to claim and use my voice.

**Effectiveness:** Through church I am part of a collective body that has the power, through our actions and advocacy, to bend the arc of the moral universe towards justice a little quicker and more effectively than my individual efforts alone.

**Challenge:** Church challenges me to align my behavior with my values and beliefs, holding me lovingly accountable to being my most authentic self.

The list goes on: compassion, celebration, belonging, beauty, inspiration, connection . . .

There is no community that will meet all my needs all the time. But during this season of stewardship as I reflect on what value the church has in my life, I am grateful for how many of my needs are met consistently through my engagement with my church. And, equally important, how investing my time, talent and treasure in this community of faith provides the opportunity to contribute to meeting the needs of others.

*"These words from Rev. Bauman resonated with me... I agree with her in that there is no community that will meet all my needs all the time. However, a huge blessing in my life that meets a lot of my needs a lot of the time is this Federated Faith Community. I have been given the privilege to commit back to God a portion of the abundance God has provided to me. My financial generosity through my intention to give enables the staff, congregation, missions and programs here at Federated to continue to touch countless lives including mine. I invite you to join me by submitting your intention to give for the coming year. Watch your mailbox near the beginning of November for your mailed invitation. Let's continue to be a community rooted in love together!"*

*- Martine Scheuermann, Generosity Commission Member*

## December Spire Deadline

Do you have something you'd like to see in the December Spire? Please email your information to [communications@fedchurch.org](mailto:communications@fedchurch.org) by **Monday, November 15** and include **"Spire"** in the subject line.



# FEDERATED NEWS & INFO

## Office of Fund Development Update

*By Laura Taylor*

Thank you for your continued faith and year-round investment in our mission and ministries – and for recognizing that Federated is a valuable partner in your faith journey.

Invitations to submit Generosity 2022 intentions were mailed in September to those who had already fulfilled their Generosity 2021 intentions, as well as to church leaders.

Laura, the Generosity Commission, and Hamilton worked together designing stewardship materials to invite an additional 632 households to **submit their Generosity 2022 intentions by:**

**mailing or dropping off a pledge card to the church,**

**submitting an online Intention to Give form via our website ([fedchurch.org/giving](https://fedchurch.org/giving)), or**

**committing online via their Realm account.**

All materials in the 632 mailed packets were printed/donated by a church family who is grateful to be a part of the Federated Church!

We are grateful for so many near and far who:

- Quickly responded to the September invitation with Generosity 2022 intentions,
- Reconnected with Federated while living out-of-town and made contributions totaling \$9,000 – a benefit of our livestreaming services and online programs,
- Were first-time donors to Federated: 20 households representing almost \$25,000 for our Colorado Kids ministry, Music Ministry, Memorial Gifts, and General Fund support.

Generosity Impact Moment (GIM) videos during September and October worship services celebrated these generous moments (viewable on the [fedchurch.org/live](https://fedchurch.org/live) GIM playlist). YOU make this happen!

Commission	Generosity Being Celebrated
Congregational Care Commission	100 <sup>th</sup> birthday of Norma Burrows
Church Council	Cross-commission celebration of all our ministries
Congregational Care Commission	Volunteer impact and opportunities of their various life-giving ministries
Generosity Commission	Fall Invitation to Generosity 2022 introduction
Telling Our Story Commission	Final roll out of rebranding initiative with TNT-funded steeple lighting ceremony

# MISSION & SERVICE

## Deadline for Christmas Eve Offering Applications Approaching Tuesday, November 2, 5 PM

This year, Federated Church's Mission and Service Commission is inviting applications for its Christmas Eve offering from community organizations that are working toward positive change regarding **racial justice**.

We are looking for groups that emphasize action(s) that build equity, inclusion, and/or diversity for one or more racial or ethnic groups. We value community organizations and their commitment to making a just world for all.

Applications and instructions are available at [fedchurch.org/xmaseve](https://fedchurch.org/xmaseve). Completed applications are due to the church **no later than Tuesday, November 2 at 5 PM**. drop off in the main office during the week 9 AM - 12 PM, or on a Sunday morning to the bin in the Lobby behind the reception desk.

Contact Marty if alternate arrangements are needed at [mculbert@fedchurch.org](mailto:mculbert@fedchurch.org).

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## Parish Nurse Corner

### *A Message from Parish Nurse Kathy Kolcaba*

Good news from St. Paul's! They are now able to partially fund the Parish Nurse Clinic, which will help us pay for more costly winter supplies, such as thermal underwear, sleeping bags, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, etc. Of course, I still appreciate the material donations that our congregation contributes. When we have a surplus, I share with Phil Fogarty's mission to the street people as he leads high school students to the places where homeless persons congregate. In addition to the supplies he gets from us, Phil and his students hand out food bags at each visit which are funded from another source.

Lately, I received 20 warm, hand knitted hats from friends of the clinic, and half of those will go to Phil. Underwear is always in demand and hard to keep up with. As always, trinkets for the Thrift Shop are appreciated (small household decorative items). Lastly, the face towels and washcloths that have been donated have been going fast as well as hygiene items such as bars of soap, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, and shampoo.

There were several hard-luck stories this week which we tried to address with our supplies, our compassion, and our skills. For example, one woman let a desperate friend stay with her only to have all of her identification, cash, and some clothing stolen when the friend disappeared. Another man was attacked on his way home from work, and had a nasty cut on his arm. His cash was taken as well. Another woman needed a dress to appear in court as a character witness for her boyfriend who was hoping to get out of jail.

Life at this subsistence level is hard and heart breaking. And our caring really does help! Thank you for all you do to make life a bit easier, at least temporarily.

Kathy Kolcaba  
440.655.2098  
84 Hall St.  
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

# MISSION & SERVICE

## Homeless Stand Down

Dear Federated Friends,

I hope you are all well, and have safely navigated this last year and a half with COVID challenges and opportunities.

Since winter 2018/19, the Homeless Stand Down(HSD) acquired a new managing (still non-profit) organization, BVU.

Their leadership began late in 2019/2020, and gathering the homeless clients as well as volunteers in an enclosed space was not safely possible.

As a result, the HSD will move outside this coming April 2022, with a gathering to provide services like limited medical consults, eye exams, and even haircuts.

So, in the early spring there will be an update on any opportunities around that event

In addition to the new emphasis of the HSD, they are getting input from a long time Cleveland partner in the advocacy for our homeless neighbors in Christ, Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH) ([www.neoch.org](http://www.neoch.org)).

NEOCH also has a number of outreach efforts. While they provide workshops, webinars, housing justice focus, they also visit those who are living on the street, in tents, in cars as well as in the shelters.

They distribute things we can collect and get to them until an indoor Homeless Stand Down can be held indoors safely again.

Needed items:

- New or gently used CLEAN winter jackets (especially XL and XXL)
- Winter boots (all sizes and genders)
- New socks, hats and mittens
- SMALL sample size or hotel size personal hygiene items (rather than the larger sizes collected in the past)

According to forecasts, experts expect our winter to be longer and colder than the recent past.

Please start collecting any items listed above, and we will plan a Federated collection in late November or early December. Of course, if you'd rather make a cash donation rather than items listed above, you can make a check payable to Federated Church, with "Homeless Stand Down" in the memo line.

Thanks in advance for your consideration and generosity at this busy time. Questions? Call or text Cathy at 216.978.1037 or email [cwstarfish2000@gmail.com](mailto:cwstarfish2000@gmail.com).

- Cathy Watterson



# FAITH FORMATION & SPIRITUALITY



## Communion Classes

### Save the Dates!

Initially postponed from Spring 2021 to Fall 2021, communion classes will now be held on **Thursday, February 24 and Thursday, March 3, 2022, at 7 PM** at Federated Church. Communicants will be recognized at the 10 am service on Sunday, March 6, 2022.

These classes are offered to 5th graders and above who have yet completed them. More information will be available in the February Spire newsletter and via email.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristin LeFeber at 440.247.6490 x130 or [klefeber@fedchurch.org](mailto:klefeber@fedchurch.org).

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## Advent Worship, 2021

### Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love in a Fractured World

The season of Advent is the four Sundays preceding Christmas. With "Advent" meaning "coming," during this season, we will look at four passages from Luke's gospel for signs of hope, peace, joy, and love.

We will seek those signs in our faith and in the world around us. Come to rest in the promises of God, to be fed, and to be led into faith-filled ministry. In the frenetic days leading up to Christmas, you'll be especially glad you took this time with God!

November 28, Advent 1:

The theme is **Hope**, as we hear Luke 21:25-36 and focus on Jesus' words: "Your redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28).

December 5, Advent 2:

The theme is **Peace**, as we hear Luke 3:1-6 and focus on the words of John the Baptist: "All flesh shall see the salvation of God" (Luke 3:6).

December 12, Advent 3:

The theme is **Joy**, as we hear Luke 3:7-18 and focus on words of John the Baptist: "We are baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Luke 3:16).

December 19, Advent 4:

The theme is **Love**, as we hear Luke 1:39-55 and focus on words of Mary: "God's mercy is for those who revere God" (Luke 1:50).

# FEDERATED HAPPENINGS

## 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](mailto:wfranz@roadrunner.com)).

### **Next SJAM Meeting – Sunday, November 21, 11:30 AM online on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/261964671?pwd=czFEQ1lIRzJIUjk2dHE4NGdQaVFTUT09>

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!

### **November SJAM Speaker Night**

**Monday, November 15, 7 PM**

**Online on Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83595558354?pwd=U1VxZU5SZ0NjcEVkbEcxeXpsbVlWdz09>

Two speakers will present on immigration

**Brian Hoffman**, an immigration attorney and executive director of The Ohio Center for Strategic Immigration Litigation & Outreach.

**Jeff Smith**, a board member of AMIS and a member of the Forest Hill Church Immigrant Task Force.

### **December SJAM Speaker Night**

**Monday, December 13, 7 PM (Note, this is the second Monday of the month)**

Tracy Najera from Children's Defense Fund to speak. More details to follow – but SAVE THE DATE!

### **Immigration Reform**

We are collecting **donations for Afghan Refugees** on specific designated days. Volunteers from Heights Friends of Immigrants will pick up the collection and deliver to one of the three agencies involved.

#### **LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED BY AFGHAN REFUGEES:**

**There will be a collection date at the church on Bell Street and at the Family Life Center on Rt. 306.**

**Watch bulletin, and REALM posts for details. But you can start buying/saving the following items now.**

Sheer or beige opaque curtains 84 inches in length, globe floor lamps, area rugs (all sizes), runner rugs, welcome mats, vacuums, full or twin sheets (new only), shower curtains and liners, bed pillows, bath towels, digital clocks, laundry hampers, laundry detergent, silverware trays, tea kettles, cutting boards, knife sets, cookware sets, mixing bowls, cookie sheets, can openers, microwaves, baby wipes, men's and women's anti-perspirant, moisturizer, dish soap, hand soap, sponges, cleaning buckets, trash bags, household cleaning supplies, brooms, adult/child shoes, adult/child underwear, USB wall chargers, grocery store gift cards (25+ for ALDI, Dave's, Marc's, Save-a-lot), nail clippers, toilet paper, toilet brush, hair brushes

**Action Item**–The 60 day comment period on the proposed DACA rules is now open. No changes have been made to DACA yet. Visit <https://comment.homeishere.us/> to learn more and comment.

## Welcome Kettle: Afghan Refugee Resettlement Calls for All Hands On Deck

Hundreds of at-risk Afghans are arriving in the Cleveland area just in time for winter. With limited resettlement funds or resources, they will need to build their lives back from scratch. The National offices of The United Church of Christ are asking churches across the country to coordinate efforts to support Afghan refugee resettlement.

On **November 10, from 7-8 pm**, join us at the **Family Life Center** to hear more about what can be done in an informed and integrated response.

This response project is called **Welcome Kettle** because the tea kettle brings people together in Afghanistan. A collaboration among the Community Life Collaborative, Federated's Social Justice Advocacy Ministries (SJAM), and the United Church of Christ Living Water Association brings April Carson to speak to the urgent needs and a concerted Call to Action. Representatives from churches and organizations in the Geauga County region will join resources for a collective local impact!

April Carson currently works in Cleveland as an attorney and problem solver. Specializing in nonprofit law, she has trained hundreds of 501(c)(3) public charities and foundations across the country. Prior to moving to Ohio, April spent more than a decade in Washington, DC. As Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee, she drafted an overhaul of the Freedom of Information Act, vetted Supreme Court and other judicial candidates, and advised on legislation related to civil rights and constitutional issues.

Most recently, April was a member of the Presidential Transition Team working to ensure a seamless transition of the country's executive branch. While working as a contractor in Afghanistan in 2007, she created a humanitarian aid project to provide school and other supplies for Afghan children and items of need to women's hospitals. April was selected as an Albert Schweitzer Fellow for her work to advance the rights of women and girls.

Ms. Carson's presentation will describe the unique conditions facing the incoming refugees and share her experiences living in Afghanistan. We welcome your questions and aim to keep you informed. You'll learn about specific opportunities for individuals and organizations to be part of this monumental support effort. Every small action matters.

Together, we can give a new start and a heart-warming welcome for Cleveland Afghan refugees. For more information, contact [administrator@communitylifecollaborative.org](mailto:administrator@communitylifecollaborative.org).



## **Environmental and Creation Justice**

### **Little Spark Refill Shop**

There is a new shop in Chagrin Falls called Little Spark Refill Shop which offers a full range of sustainable living products. This is a perfect way to start buying environmentally friendly products and create healthy living habits for yourself and your family.

This is Cleveland's first zero-waste refill shop and it is in Chagrin Falls! Little Spark is dedicated to helping the community reduce their plastic waste, refill their own vessels with natural products and live more sustainably. Bring your own containers or get reusable containers at this shop.

The products also help us eliminate excess chemicals from our life. Eliminating these excessive chemicals helps the environment AND our bodies. For some it could be a life or death decision to eliminate toxins from the products we buy and use.

Buying and using sustainable products is one way we as Christians can help with the environmental justice movement – our voice and choice matters. Speak up through your actions.

Visit the shop online or in person:

<https://www.littlesparkrefillshop.com/>

49 West Orange Street, Chagrin Falls

## **LGBTQ Rights**

People from Federated Church attended the Trans Rights Rally at Bainbridge Community Church on Sunday, October 10. It was emotionally gripping to hear trans children and their parents give their witnesses. About 80 people there.

Pastor Brian Saxe from BCUCC asked the crowd to write letters to state legislators, mentioning the lawmakers by name and what their position was on the Save Women's Sports Act (anti-trans legislation). Attendees were provided with paper, pens, clipboards and names of the legislators and wrote letters. It was a great opportunity for education and advocacy!



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## **Advent by Candlelight**

**Monday, December 6, 6:30-8:30 PM**

**Sanctuary**

Save the date for Advent by Candlelight, which will be taking place in the Sanctuary and reimagined this year because of COVID. More details to come in next month's newsletter.



## Primetime Federated Forum

**Monday, November 8**

**Gather at 1:30, Presentation at 2:00**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Presenter: Judy Bagley-Bonner

We are all looking forward to having Pastor Judy speak to us at Primetime on November 8. She is very special to us.

Judy Bagley-Bonner has long roots in Chagrin, her grandparents having purchased the family homestead at 68 Church Street in 1925. She graduated from Chagrin Falls High School, received her B.A. from Kent State, and her M.Div from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in Minneapolis. She and spouse, Brian, lived in Minneapolis for sixteen years and that is where they had their son, Jackson, who is now thirty-one. After Minneapolis they moved back to NE Ohio

and lived in Burton for fourteen years before moving to Bradenton, Florida in 2013 to support Brian's aging parents.

Throughout her ministry, Judy has served as a hospice chaplain, as well as pastoring several UCC churches, including a four year stint on staff at Federated as Spiritual Life Associate from 2004-2008. She has been back to fill in for staff sabbaticals and vacations for five summers now. She dearly loves Federated, having been baptized, confirmed, married and ordained here in addition to all the ministerial stints. She will join her husband in full retirement the day after Easter, 2022



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## MISSION & SERVICE



### Ingathering

**Sunday, November 21**

It is the season of giving thanks and sharing from our abundance. We will be collecting non-perishable food items through Sunday, November 21 before worship for Thanksgiving baskets for the St. Paul's Church community.

*\*\*Please note: We will collect money for turkeys... please do not buy turkeys! You can note "Ingathering" on your monetary donations. All other items for a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner are needed.*

# A Women's Retreat

## Theme:

Learning to *Love Yourself* authentically, as God loves you, in order to fully embrace God's desire for you to *Love your Neighbor as Yourself*.

## When:

Saturday, November 13th

10am-2pm

\$45 (Includes lunch)

16349 Chillicothe Road. Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

- Please register by 11/1 to ensure 20 person minimum needed for retreat.



Register at  
[SpiceofLife@coach-jen.info](mailto:SpiceofLife@coach-jen.info)  
Questions 909-957-5112

Presenter Jennifer Brown, with Spice of Life Coaching, is a Certified Health & Wellness Coach and Spiritual Director. Supporting women to strive for health, happiness, and wholeness.



## Fitness Classes

### Yoga Spirit Renewal

**Tuesdays 9:30-10:30 AM | Family Life Center—16349 Chillicothe Road**

Move & Breathe, Relax & Center. A prayerful, reflective yoga practice in a warm and welcoming community offers renewal.

We all need the space to slow down, connect to our self, process stressors, and return to the awareness of Spirit at work in our life. A quality of ease in body, mind, and spirit allows us to be of better service in the world, a vessel of hope and Light, and to live with greater joy.

Please join us for this gentle, meditative yoga class...

in person at the Family Life Center (safely distanced).

Or via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84823087475?pwd=Uml4b0p4d055QWhOSng2UTlocnB0QT09>

Questions? Go to [pollymanke.com](http://pollymanke.com) or contact [polly@pollymanke.com](mailto:polly@pollymanke.com)

7 classes for \$85 or Drop-in \$15

### Gentle Slow Flow Yoga

Open to all levels

**Mondays at 10:00–11:15AM (November 1, 8, and 29)**  
**On Zoom! From the comfort of your own home/space.**

Instructor: Dawn Dole – RYT200

This Gentle Slow Flow class links the breath, meditation, movement, and yoga postures together. All levels of Yoga practitioners can find their comfort level, as they slowly and mindfully move through the class. Balance, focus, calm, and peacefulness result from attention to breath as we move through physical “asana” or poses in our yoga practice.

Yoga is a great way to reduce stress in our lives. Modifications will be suggested as needed. This class is open to everyone with the ability to move through seated, standing, kneeling, and reclined positions unassisted.

To join via Zoom, you will need a computer or iPad. Registration is required for Zoom classes so email Dawn at the email below. In-person classes may be available soon—please let Dawn know if you are interested.

For information and **to register** please email: [newdayyoga.dawn@gmail.com](mailto:newdayyoga.dawn@gmail.com).

### Simply Fit Exercise Class

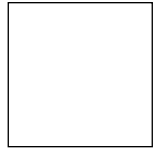
**Monday & Wednesday Evenings, 6:30-7:30 PM**  
**Room 330**

Federated member Sue Brooks will offer this class where you can: Improve balance, Gain muscle strength, Increase joint flexibility, Increase energy level, And much more!

Cost is \$7 per class. First class is FREE. You can reach Sue at 440.248.5507.



76 Bell St.  
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022



## Contact Us!

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thefederatedchurch](https://facebook.com/thefederatedchurch)

Instagram: @federatedchurch

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## OUR STAFF IS HERE TO HELP YOU

### CLERGY

**Hamilton Throckmorton**, *Senior Pastor*  
\* **Judy Bagley-Bonner**, *Interim Associate Pastor*  
\* **Dan Kershner**, *Pastoral Care Pastor*

### Administration and Staff

**Melissa Owen**, *Senior Director of People and Operations*  
**Melinda Smith**, *Congregational Life Administrator*  
\* **Trisha Holland**, *Director of Marketing & Communications*  
\* **Janis Stefanchik**, *Bookkeeper*  
\* **Laura Taylor**, *Fund Development Associate*  
**Jake Magalski**, *Properties, Maintenance & Grounds Lead*

### Music Staff

**Joshua Konow**, *Director of Music Ministries*  
\* **Marcia Snavelly**, *Organist*  
\* **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*  
\* **Alex Bell, Lianna Davis, Tanya Goff, Trisha Holland**,  
*Childcare Providers*

\* denotes part-time staff



federated

Hope to see you  
this Sunday!

10:00 AM  
In person and Online