

Good News from the Mission and Service Commission

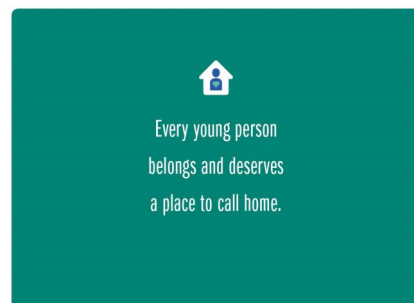
2021 Christmas Eve Offering Recipient

We are pleased to announce the recipient of our 2021 Christmas Eve offering! The agency that the Mission & Service Commission felt most reflected Federated's priority of inclusion and social justice is **A Place 4 Me**.

A Place 4 Me serves youth ages 18-25 who are transitioning out of foster care, juvenile justice, or who are currently homeless or at risk of homelessness. Many of these youth are of color and/or are LGBTQ. The goal is to eliminate youth homelessness through an innovative program called Opportunity Passport that addresses financial literacy and responsibility.

Our offering will be directly deposited into the youths' own supervised bank account in the amount of \$100.00. Program funds from grants and donations provide \$1 for \$1 matching funds as students complete classes that are created collaboratively by them with a program leader. As each account builds, the young adults can begin spending their savings on approved assets such as one month's rent, health care costs (including dental), educational expenses (books or a computer), a car, investments (stocks or CDs), or entrepreneurial enterprises.

In addition, peer youth navigators are available to help youths through the shelter system, unsheltered homelessness (cars, camps), or bouts of "couch surfing." The navigators coach young people on how to talk with landlords and case workers, where to look for good paying jobs and trustworthy landlords, how to obtain a GED, and how to get along with family members. A Place 4 Me, housed at the YWCA of Greater Cleveland, has served 258 youths since its inception (2018). It currently supports 128 young people.



Christmas Eve Services

This year, Federated Church is offering three festive and inspirational in-person worship services on Christmas Eve. The two earlier services will also stream online at [YouTube.com/TheFederatedChurch](https://www.youtube.com/TheFederatedChurch).

4 PM	6:30 PM	8:30 PM
Family Christmas Eve Service Also streaming online - Childcare offered for B-Pre-K - Children's Choir sings - RISE to Shine Band performs (Pre-service music begins 30 minutes prior to service)	Traditional Christmas Eve Service Also streaming online - Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches - Federated Choir sings (Pre-service music begins 30 minutes prior to service) <i>*Note the new time!</i>	Traditional Christmas Eve Service - Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches - Music by soloists and special guests (Pre-service music begins 30 minutes prior to service)

Performing Arts Series—December Concerts

Apollo's Fire: Handel's "Messiah"

Thursday, December 9, 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.

Limited tickets available online at fedchurch.org/PAS.

**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, 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!

Tickets can be purchased after worship on Sundays through December 19, or online at fedchurch.org/PAS.

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



From the Desk of Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that December is nearly upon us! Where has the fall gone? And it's striking that COVID-19 is still with us, still very much shaping the life we live together.

If you're like me, there's a sense in which you grow used to this new normal. We always have our masks with us. We avail ourselves of vaccines and their booster shots. We grow accustomed to the dance of distance we so often need to do to keep ourselves safe from the virus. We've learned how to go about our business.

At the same time that we become somewhat inured to this ongoing pestilence, we also, though, grieve what we still miss. Travel becomes a guessing game of risk and reward. Masks constrict us and prevent us, sometimes, from recognizing each other. The growing sense of freedom we had in the early summer gives way to a discouragement with the apparent endlessness of the disease.

So as we come to this season of lights, with Hannukah and Christmas enticing us forward, we look beyond us to the only One who can give us the peace and joy for which we so desperately long. And we do long. We ache for brightness and spirit and delight. In a striking departure from even recent years, we notice Christmas trees and holiday lights going up much earlier than ever before. People want visible signs of hope. They want vivid displays of happiness and thrills. No wonder trees and lights and greenery go up so early. It's what people crave in order to get through the turbulence and disruption.

As wonderful as those lights are, though, we also need something more. Those lights point to the One who graces us with favor and care. And it's to that One that we look during this Advent and Christmas season.

We see signs of God all around us. One that stands out to me in these last few weeks is a reconnection some of us have had with our Muslim neighbors. In mid-November, Mary and I and a number of Federated people joined the Northern Ohio Intercultural Association for a Thanksgiving dinner at Holbrook Hollows. I spoke that evening about gratitude, and I was filled with my own gratitude as we joined together to share a meal and to build community.

Then, on November 19, the new mosque built by the Chagrin Valley Islamic Center was formally dedicated in a ceremony in their just-completed building. Mary and I joined them for that dedication, and other Federated people were treated to an open house the following day. While we were not in attendance at the November 19 Friday jumrah, or opening worship service, as soon as Mary and I arrived for the ensuing dedication service, one of the members of CVIC greeted us and said, "Federated Church was mentioned in the sermon as one of the very first contributors to the building of the mosque." They were immensely grateful for the support Federated had offered, and for the early boost in support that it gave to them. And I sensed the richness of God's presence in this shared endeavor, and in our great camaraderie.

As we look for signs of hope this Advent and Christmas season, let us look to the grace and wonder of what God is doing in our midst. God's relentless care for all of us is a vivid display of God's ongoing blessing of us and our world. May we be filled to overflowing by the light of the world that holds us close always.

Yours in Christ,



Hamilton

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Every Sunday at 10 AM:

Livestream & In-person worship
with Sunday School and Child Care
(No Sunday School on 12/26)

Sunday, December 5

Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner preaches on
Luke 3:1-6

Second Sunday of Advent: Peace

Music by the Federated Choir

- Communion celebrated

Sunday, December 12

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches on
Luke 3:7-18

Third Sunday of Advent: Joy

Children's Choir presents special

Christmas music

- Introduction of Christmas Eve Offering
Recipient

Sunday, December 19

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches on
Luke 1:39-55

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love

Music by the Bell Choir

Friday, December 24—Christmas Eve Services

4 PM—Family Service

(Pre-service music begins at 3:30 PM)

In-person and livestreamed via YouTube

*Music by Children's Choir and RISE to
Shine Band*

Childcare offered for Birth-Pre-K

6:30 PM—Traditional Service

(Pre-service music begins at 6 PM)

In-person and livestreamed via YouTube

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

Federated Choir sings

8:30 PM—Traditional Service

(Pre-service music begins at 8 PM)

In-person only

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

Music from soloists and special guests

Sunday, December 26

Story time with Rev. Hamilton
Throckmorton

- No Sunday School

FEDERATED NEWS & INFO



TAX-WISE GIVING IN 2021

IF YOU TAKE THE STANDARD DEDUCTION

Under the CARES Act, in 2021, gifts to charities like our church qualify for a “universal deduction” above and beyond the existing standard deduction. The limit is \$300 for individuals and \$600 for married couples filing jointly. So keep your charitable receipts this year, because **in 2021 you can take a modest charitable deduction in addition to the standard deduction.**

IF YOU ITEMIZE

The CARES Act increased the previous charitable deduction limit of 60% adjusted gross income to 100%. That means, if you can afford to give away as much as you earn, **you can completely offset your income with charitable giving for 2021.**

Peter R Franz, CFA, CFP
440.724.9365 or franze35@gmail.com
Federated Church Legacy Fund Committee Chair



Consider gifting pre-tax money

If you're over age 70.5, you can give to the church directly from a traditional IRA. Required minimum distributions were suspended for 2020 under the CARES Act, but this year they're back. Failing to withdraw the required minimum can result in fees and penalties. By calling the financial institution that holds your IRA and asking them to send a distribution directly to the church, you won't be liable for income tax on the gift, but the total amount of the gift (up to \$100,000 per year of charitable giving) will count towards your required minimum distribution.

People of all ages can make gifts of stocks, bonds, or mutual funds. When you give appreciated assets directly to the church, no capital gains tax is due.

Call/email Laura Taylor at 440.247.6490 x115 or ltaylor@fedchurch.org for information to give to your investment advisor about how to make this type of year-end donation to Federated Church.

In Memoriam

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

BJ Kotapish—November 7
Jim Sutherin—November 12

FEDERATED NEWS & INFO

How do you live your faith? Share and you could win Federated swag!

You bring Federated to life through the ways you live your faith in our community, online and in-person! Let's capture these moments through your stories and share your joy with others. Who knows – *you may just change someone's life with your inspiring message of faith.*

How? Participate in our *Living Our Faith* raffle

This is your opportunity to tell or show us how you embody God's love through Federated. When you do, you will be entered into the raffle to win Federated Church swag.



No purchase or donation is necessary to win. However, we DO encourage you to look at items you might like to order to give for gifts this Christmas! Take a look at <https://federated2021store.itemorder.com/sale>.

Here's how it works

- **Post your submission on Facebook or send it to Trisha at communications@fedchurch.org:** Choose one element of the new brand pillars – **SUPPORT, WORSHIP, ACT** and **GROW** (SWAG)– and share how you live it each and every day in a photograph, video, poem, prose, story or statement.
- **Submission guidelines:** You may post text and/or a photo or video (no longer than 1 minute) following the guidelines below. You must include your first and last name in your post so we can reach out to you if you're selected as a raffle winner.
- **You may enter more than once:** You may post up to one unique entry for each of the four elements of the brand messaging.: Support, Worship, Act, and Grow. This means you may have up to four chances to win Federated swag!
- **Deadline:** Post your submission(s) by 11:59 PM EST on December 31, 2021 to be entered in the raffle.

Before you post

- If you are posting a photo or video taken in the church, you and any others pictured must be following current COVID safety guidelines and practicing physical distancing.
- Remember social media is a public platform that is intended for public view and use. By submitting your work you give us permission to present it to the public.

Thank you for sharing what living your faith means to you. Questions? Email communications@fedchurch.org.

January Spire Deadline

Do you have something you'd like to see in the January Spire? Please email your information to Trisha Holland at communications@fedchurch.org by **Wednesday, December 15** and include "**Spire**" in the subject line.

FEDERATED NEWS & INFO

Generosity Commission and Fund Development Update

This year's Gratitude Sunday was another opportunity to express our thanks. Here are examples we received.

"I am grateful for...

- *the Worship Committee, or whoever plans such a wonderful variety of services.*
- *the scouting ministry of Pack and Troop 150.*
- *the love and support I have received from so many during this difficult time.*
- *all that we as a faith community do to spread God's love – the monthly paper products, food, sock collections – providing many opportunities to be generous and giving.*
- *the tradition my daughter and I have of coming every Sunday so she can attend Sunday School. I am very grateful for all she is learning.*
- *Melissa Owen who warmly welcomed me back.*
- *Hamilton who called to check in. At the end of our chat he gave a blessing and I felt touched by God.*
- *being back worshipping in-person for the first time since the pandemic started.*
- *my grandpa's health after his surgery.*
- *the music, Primetime, the youth programs, and the pastors, especially Judy Bagley-Bonner.*
- *all who live their faith each and every day through giving of themselves."*



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.

Generosity 2022 Invitations were mailed in early November to members and friends in our faith community and we've had a tremendous response. God is still speaking!

Before Gratitude Sunday: 2022 intentions totaling \$392,000+

Intentions to date: \$666,261.84

#GivingTuesday took place this year in late November. It is a global generosity invitation that promotes engagement and giving back, inspiring people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. For those of you who haven't yet been able to participate in our own generosity invitation, feel free to submit your 2022 intention by:

- **mailing or dropping off an Intention to Give card to the church,**
- **submitting an online Intention to Give form (fedchurch.org/giving), or**
- **responding online via your Realm account.**

Each month the church staff mails out **Happy Birthday greetings** and the printing of our newest cards was donated by a church member who is grateful to be a part of the Federated Church!

Federated was the **Charity of Choice** for a local family who recently donated unrestricted funds as part of a required minimum distribution.

Christmas Poinsettias on Sale

Holiday poinsettias will once again decorate our Chancel during the Advent season. The poinsettias may be purchased in your name, In Honor Of, or In Memory Of a loved one or friend. The cost is \$20 per plant. A listing of those named will appear in Christmas Eve bulletins.

Fill out this form (please print) and turn it in to the church **by Sunday, December 19**. You can drop it into the collection plate on Sunday mornings. If writing a check, note "Poinsettia" in the memo line. If giving online through Realm, use the memo line to add your dedication. Contact communications@fedchurch.org with any questions.

Name: _____

Phone or email: _____ No. of Plants: _____

In Memory of / In Honor of: _____

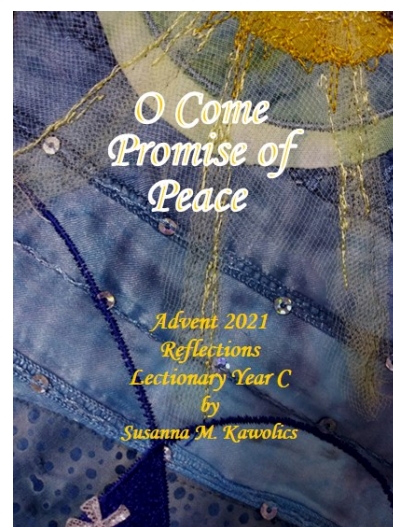
Honor A Loved One & Help Decorate for Christmas

Ten beautiful wreaths adorn the doors of our buildings throughout the Advent season. You may honor or memorialize loved ones by contributing \$45 to help purchase one of these wreaths.

Please call the church at 440.247.6490 x113 and leave a voicemail with your name and dedication or contact communications@fedchurch.org if you would like to help decorate the church for the holidays. Your name and dedication will be listed in Christmas Eve bulletins.

Advent Reflection Booklets Now Available

Advent Reflection Booklets are available in the Lobby and the Narthex. The daily reflections, put together by Susi Kawolics, can also be viewed online at fedchurch.org/adventreflections.



MISSION & SERVICE

Parish Nurse Corner

A Message from Parish Nurse Kathy Kolcaba

WINTER! It's upon us, and many of us here in the Chagrin Valley enjoy the cold, crisp days, the sparkling snow, trees and shrubs coated in white, and the intense blue skies. But in the inner city, there are many folks living most of their time on the streets. On my last visit to St. Paul's, the first seven folks who came in were homeless and asking if we had any coats. Tim, outreach coordinator, was beside himself because he didn't have any to give.

Hearing that, I knew I would have to find some reasonably priced coats to bring in. Fortunately, we had enough money in our church account so I could comfortably buy good coats priced low. We were in luck at Kohl's where they had unisex winter coats with hoods on sale for \$35 each. I bought six of them in different sizes.

This is an example of how the Parish Nurse responds to the needs of our clients. It is a rewarding and interesting volunteer job, to which I have been devoted for ten years. Now, however, I am at the age where I am no longer comfortable driving across town on 480 in the snow or rain. So I have decided to retire at the end of this year.

I am hoping someone will be interested in taking my place, which is to commit to coming to St. Paul's every Tuesday morning from 9-12. Suitable backgrounds for this job would be teaching, medicine, nursing, social work, counseling – any of the helping professions. I can help orient and introduce anyone who would like to try it. And I will continue to bring supplies and donations to the clinic, weather permitting or when I can get a driver (my husband comes to mind!). Phil Fogarty will continue to receive supplies for distribution to his street people.

As always, thank you for your continuing support of St. Paul's Parish Nurse Clinic in whatever capacity you can manage.

Kathy Kolcaba
440.655.2098

Christmas Giving Tree for St. Paul's: Gifts Collected until December 12

Every year, Federated collects new toys and gift items for the St. Paul's Christmas Sale, where members of the community on the near west side can shop for their children for Christmas at greatly reduced prices. We need items for ages 3 to 18 years. Please consider donating new, unwrapped toys such as books, dolls, puzzles, games, basketballs, footballs, cars and trucks, etc. Mittens, gloves, hats and scarves are welcome, also.

Items will be collected under the Christmas tree **in the Bell St. Lobby November 28–December 12** and they will be delivered to St. Paul's on Monday, December 13. Thank you for making the holidays a time of great joy for these children and their families!

FAITH FORMATION & SPIRITUALITY

Winter Book Study-Prayer Group

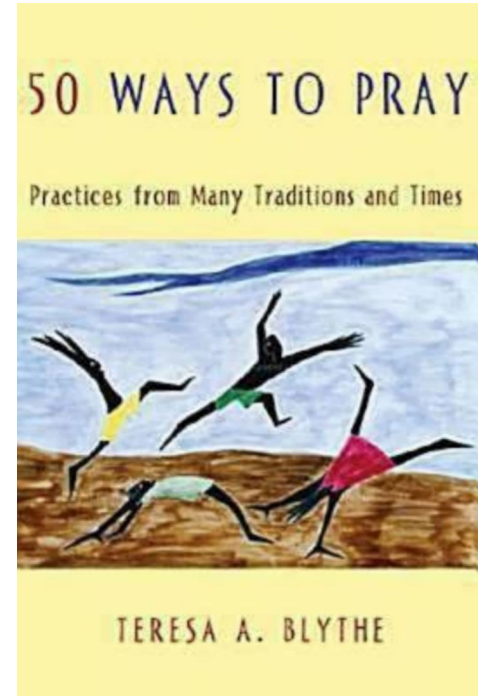
Are you someone who wants a more consistent prayer life but doesn't quite know how to go about it? Join us three Saturday mornings a month from January 8 to April 9 to study the book, 50 Ways to Pray by Teresa Blythe.

We will experiment with different prayer methodologies from the book at home on a daily basis, then meet to share experiences and pray together.

We will meet from **10-11:15 AM at the Family Life Center**
on January 8, 15, 29, February 5, 19,
March 5, 19, 26, April 2 and 9.

Please contact Judy Bagley-Bonner for further information or to sign up at 440.478.0159, or email her at jbagbon@gmail.com.

Judy Bagley-Bonner and Jane Kenneweg will lead this group. There will be no group book order so please procure the book on your own.



Winter Book Study on The Great Divorce by C.S. Lewis

Join Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner and Bill Kenneweg for a Zoom Book Study on C.S. Lewis's imaginative classic, The Great Divorce.

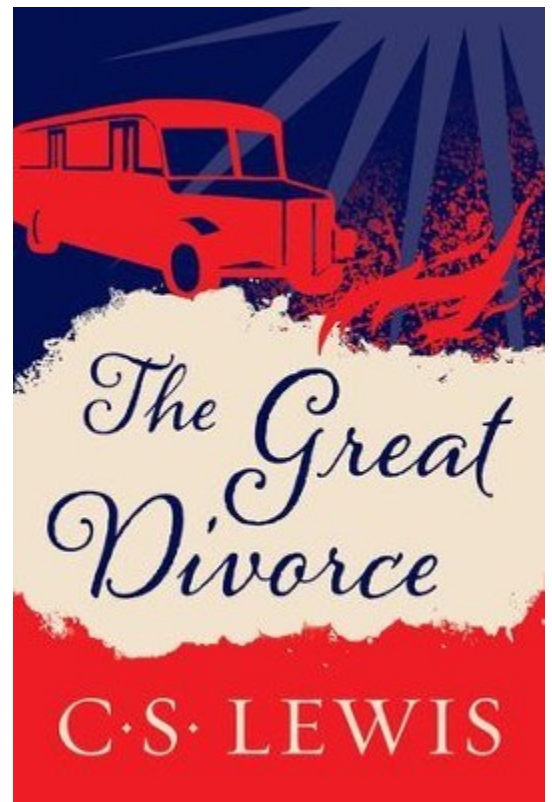
The book is a short, Christian allegorical tale about a bus ride from hell to heaven. An extraordinary meditation upon good and evil, grace and judgment, Lewis's revolutionary idea in the The Great Divorce is that the gates of Hell are locked from the inside. Using his extraordinary descriptive powers, Lewis's The Great Divorce will change the way we think about good and evil, heaven and hell.

Wednesday Evenings, 7-8:15 PM

January 26, February 2, 16, 23, March 9

Online via Zoom

Please contact Judy Bagley-Bonner for further information or to sign up at 440.478.0159, or email her at jbagbon@gmail.com. There will be no group book order so please procure the book on your own.



Advent by Candlelight

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

The Congregational Care Commission invites you to Advent by Candlelight.

Please join us as we enter into this season of joy, peace, hope and love. There is no need to RSVP—please just show up! All are welcome.



Money Matters as Faith Matters: Five Fundamentals of Fiscal Fitness

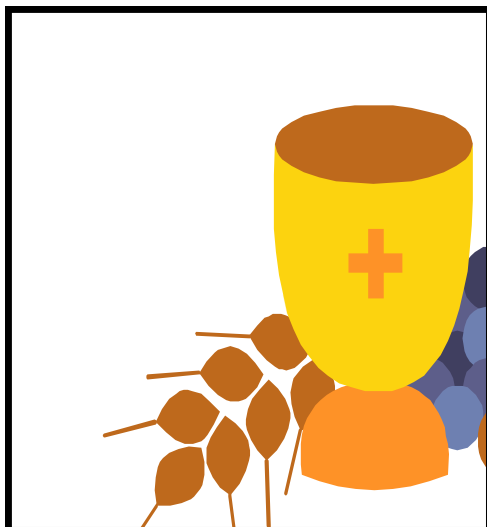
Save the Date: January 20, 6:30-7:30 PM

How can our money matters be faith matters, too? The Spiritual Formation Commission will join with the Generosity Commission in offering a series of sessions on breaking through the money taboo, normalizing talk about finance issues in the context of our faith. We'll begin with a presentation by a certified Financial Planner focused on the Five Fundamentals for Fiscal Fitness. Watch the January Spire for more details. Childcare will be provided.



Save the Date for Women's Retreat

Attention all women of Federated Church: please save the dates of Friday evening, February 25 and all day Saturday, February 26 for a church Women's Retreat at the Family Life Center with Judy Bagley-Bonner and Mary Senechal. Further information to follow.



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 LeFever at 440.247.6490 x130 or klefeber@fedchurch.org.

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).

There will be no December Meeting

Next SJAM Meeting – Sunday, January 16 or 23 (Date TBD), 11:30 AM

Online on Zoom

December SJAM Speaker Night

Monday, December 13, 7–8:30 PM

Online on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87270969364?pwd=WmVjWjgwcThqZlJPTnRGcjhSTkd1dz09>

Or access through fedchurch.org/events

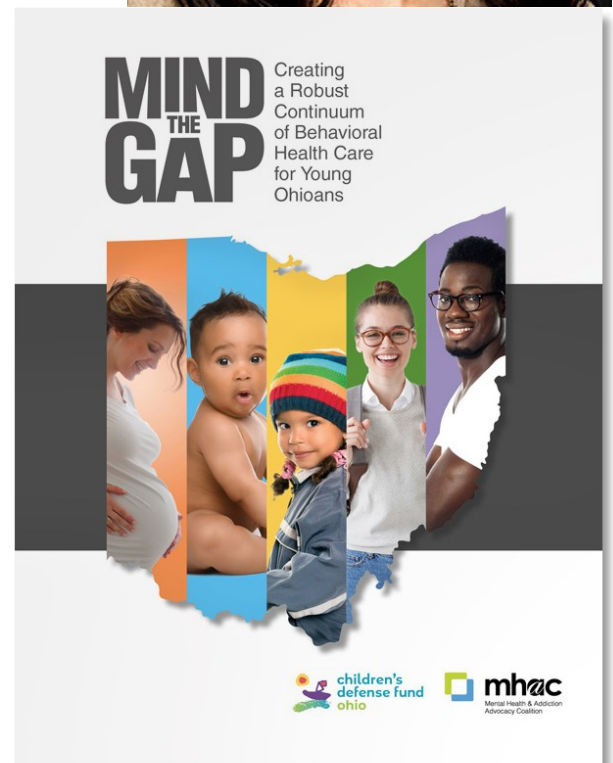
(Please note this is a different Zoom link than the usual one.)

SJAM's December Focus: Women and Children's Issues

Dr. Tracy Nájera believes that we have the power to end child poverty in this lifetime. It is this belief that has inspired her work in research, policy, and advocacy on behalf of children for the past twenty years. Tracy is the Executive Director of Children's Defense Fund–Ohio, a non-profit child advocacy and civil rights organization that has worked relentlessly for more than 40 years in Ohio to ensure a level playing field for all children. She is proud to work on behalf of Ohio's most vulnerable children in the areas of health, education equity, child welfare, safety, and nutrition with the goal of ending child poverty in Ohio and in the United States.

Dr. Najera's experience spans research, program management and implementation, and public policy. She has worked for Ohio's Office of Budget & Management, Battelle for Kids, and in national consulting with Education First. She holds a master in public administration from the Glenn College of Public Affairs and a doctorate in education administration from the College of Education and Human Ecology at The Ohio State University.

Tracy calls Columbus home and when not working on behalf of Ohio's children can be found with her partner at school and athletic events with their two teenagers.



The Welcome Kettle:

An Afghan Refugee Resettlement Call to Action

November 13 - December 18

Accepting household & personal items at the *Family Life Center*

For collection times, item list, and guidelines use the following QR code or visit www.communitylifecollaborative.org



Also accepting monetary donations for new items.
Volunteer opportunities available.
Contact admin@communitylifecollaborative.org

 **Donate** 
 **Volunteer** 
 **Support** 



Co-sponsored by:

Living Water Association of the United Church of Christ
Federated Social Justice Advocacy Ministries



www.communitylifecollaborative.org // 16349 Chillicothe Road, Bainbridge

Immigration Reform continued

Afghan Refugees Settling in Cleveland - How to Help

Catholic Charities sponsored a webinar on ways to help out with the Afghan refugees coming to Cleveland. You can view the recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMMMyTBKf0Js>. There are three resettlement agencies in Cleveland helping with the Afghan refugees resettling in Cleveland: Catholic Charities, US Together and U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI).

Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) has developed an online "Volunteer Interest Form" for people interested in becoming involved in some way to help the Afghan refugees.

<https://a101416.socialsolutionsportal.com/apricot-intake/731e08e3-4e1f-4b34-b9c2-0acecfd775>

The Welcome Kettle provides a local way to coordinate with and assist the large Refugee Resettlement agencies in Cleveland. They are not competing initiatives. Donate, volunteer, or support any of these fine organizations. Questions? Contact Rannigan Walsh, SJAM Immigration lead person at ranni@me.com.

Environmental and Creation Justice

Holiday Season Shopping and Gift Giving

For the holiday shopping season, please keep the environment in mind – avoid buying anything made of plastic, avoid things with a lot of plastic packaging, buy natural, organic products. Avoid plastic gift cards (some gift cards can be paper). Buy from companies that care for the environment and have recycling programs.

12 Ways to have an Eco-Friendly Holiday

<https://www.smallfootprintfamily.com/eco-friendly-holiday-tips/>

1. Make Your Own Wrapping Paper or Go Without.
2. Buy Energy-Saving LED Holiday Lights.
3. Add Organic & Local Foods to Your Holiday Feast.
4. Get a Pesticide-Free Tree.
5. Recycle Your Christmas Tree.
6. Recycle Your Old Cellphone or Tablet.
7. Offset Your Holiday Travel.
8. Donate Your Time or Money to an Environmental Cause.
9. Make hand-crafted and DIY gifts.
10. Give experiential gifts.
11. Purchase eco-friendly and locally made gifts.
12. Stuff stockings with natural, yummy treats.



Check out the **Little Spark Refill Shop** at 40 W. Orange St. for environment friendly stocking stuffers and refills for household items that come in plastic. Think detergent, shampoo, cleaners. Stop by! Reduce, reuse, recycle!

Only a few left!

Need a stocking stuffer?

We have a handful of car magnets left for \$6.

Contact Kathy Franz 440.821.7795 or kfranz17114@gmail.com.

Delivery available!



Primetime Federated Forum

Monday, December 13

Gather at 1:30, Presentation at 2:00

Fellowship Hall

Presenter: Mary Lou Smullen

The History of Christmas Ornaments

Mary Lou Smullen was born and raised in the Cleveland area. She graduated from Orange High School and Ohio University. In 1975 she entered the United States Army via a Direct Commission. One military tour took her to Frankfurt, Germany for 4 years. She loved the way the Germans celebrated Christmas and found her beloved "Pyramid" while flea market shopping there.

Upon her retirement after 20 years of service, she was gifted her great-uncle's small ornament collection. The Pyramid and the ornaments were the catalysts for her passion of vintage and antique Christmas ornament collecting. Moving back to Cleveland about 3 years ago, required her to downsize her collection by about 80%. She kept those things she loved the most and especially enjoys her vintage and antique glass ornament collection.

Her presentation will feature a history of glass ornaments and examples of their evolution thru the centuries.



SPECIAL THANKS

Wow!!! I was simply blown away by how beautiful these [Christmas Cards to veterans] were—read notes last night and they are so touching. What cool [Sunday School] kids we have at the Federated. I wrote a note to them and will leave it behind the desk where I picked up the notes.

...and 70 of them!! What can I say but thank you soooo much. The active military will love these—I love these.

Karen Godenschwager

Thank you to the members of our congregation for the many prayers and cards I received as I recover from my recent hospitalization. My spirit was lifted, and my body strengthened by your thoughtful concern.

With gratitude,
Dan Kershner



**Merry
Christmas
from your
Federated
Church
Family**

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 or contact 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 (December 6, 13 and 20)
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.

Simply Fit Exercise Class

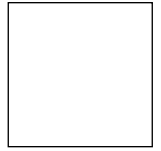
Monday & Wednesday Evenings, 6:30-7:30 PM
Room 330

Federated member Sue Brooks is offering 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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Fax: 440.247.2516

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

Instagram: @federatedchurch

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