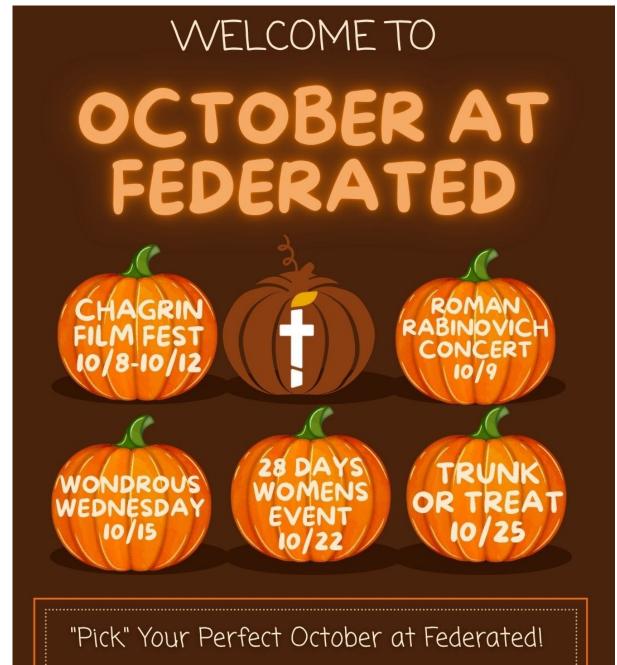
October 2025



The Spire

United Church of Christ — An Open and Affirming Congregation — A Creation Justice Church



Join us for a pumpkin-perfect autumn that promises a delightful experience for everyone! With a patch of exciting events lined up throughout October, there's something special happening every week that you simply can't miss!



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In the Interim...

Five Strategic Themes identified in the Federated 2021 Visionary Action Plan: Energize Participation. Community Engagement. Spiritual Deepening. Congregational Care. Financial Sustainability.

Dear Friends,

Earlier this year, many of you participated in one of the listening sessions held jointly by the Pastor Search Committee and the Transition Team. The information shared in these sessions was critical for the work of both groups as the search committee created a compelling profile and the transition team identified items on which to work to help the congregation be prepared for the new pastor's arrival.

The sessions included three questions: what are the strengths of the church; the qualities you seek in a new senior pastor; and what is God calling the church to be. The first two questions prompted lots of response while the third question about what God is calling the church to be was one where many people struggled to respond.

With the summer behind us and the search process moving forward, it seems prudent to reconsider the important matter of where the Spirit is guiding the church in the near future. Having a clear sense of this call will help all of you as well as the new pastor who will join you in 2026.

To help reconsider this important question, I will lead a series of small group gatherings throughout the months of October and November that will help you focus on listening for the Holy Spirit. We will begin each session with prayer and then, through a series of questions, I hope to help you identify where the Spirit is leading and what action steps we might plan to help you move into this exciting future.

To ensure that every voice has a chance to be heard, the groups will be limited to a maximum twelve participants and will require sign up in advance. To sign up for the date and time of your choice, please <u>click here</u>. While I would prefer to meet with all of you in person, we will make a limited number of slots available via Zoom to meet the needs of those who would like to participate but whose schedules prevent them from attending in person.

Think about all the things that have happened in the last month: we welcomed Oliver Mason who has our youth groups engaged and preparing for a fruitful year; we had a FABULOUS Rally Day celebration and we welcomed 15 new members! We want to build on this energy and momentum

but need to make sure we are moving in the direction the Spirit is calling us to. Please join me for an opportunity to more fully determine where God is leading this church in the near future!

Shalom,



New Healing Room at Federated

Room 330 has been repurposed as a "Healing Room." It has been appropriately painted the color of Meditation Blue, and offers a space for healing activities and practices. There is a labyrinth on the floor to walk, and a cozy corner for pastoral care or counseling, spiritual direction, or just a heart-to-heart conversation. A centering prayer group meets there on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM and anyone is welcome to join. We have massage/reiki tables if you would like to offer a treatment to someone. Or you may just want to go into the room and sit and breathe in its calming, peaceful atmosphere.

If you would like to use the room, please sign up on the calendar, or get in touch with Thea Mozingo (tmozingo@fedchurch.org) to be put on the schedule. This is a new ministry space here at Federated, and is still evolving. Please let us know your thoughts / hopes / dreams for this space. Email Thea at above email address.









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Kerygma Bible Study

Sundays, Oct. 12–Nov. 23 | 8:30–9:30 am | Room G30 Led by Peggie Jo Shinagawa

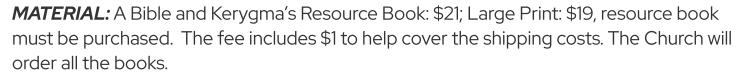
Since 1977, The Kerygma Program of Bible study has been used by a wide variety of denominational groups to increase biblical knowledge & understanding, enhance personal spiritual growth and deepen appreciation for worship.

WHAT: Your Bible! The Study Begins is an introduction to the Bible that paves the way for future study and deeper understanding.

WHO: Individuals who want to understand:

- How the Bible came to be
- · What the Old and New Testaments are about,
- · How to study the Bible and consider its place in our lives.

WHEN: There will be 7 sessions and each will last 1 hour



The course is being offered by the Spiritual Formation Commission and will be led by Peggie Jo Shinagawa Childcare will be available, if necessary.

Sign up on **REALM** or in the lobby.









Wondrous Wednesday and the Legacy Commitee present...

Stages of Life & the Law Planning for Your Life & Legacy
Dana DeCapite, Attorney

October 15th 6:00pm-8:00pm Dinner will be homemade harvest soups





Women's Ministry

Circle will meet on **October 20 at 1:00 PM** in the **downstairs meeting room**, we will gather with **Kathy Rayer** to make cards for the veterans of Federated Church. If you have names of veterans to add to our list, please let us know. We will also be creating toiletry bags for the homeless. Requested donations include: small shampoos, lotions, deodorant, combs, pocket tissues, small bars of soap or body wash, and lip balm. A collection box is located behind the Angel Desk in the lobby for your contributions.

Sit & Stitch continues on **Thursday mornings at 10:00 am in Room 340.** We have plenty of yarn and knitting needles. If you would like to join us to make a prayer shawl, a prayer square, lap blanket...or a baptism a blanket.... We would love to have you join us we always have a good conversation going.

Helping Hands will gather on **Monday, October 27 at 1:00 PM** in the **Lower Meeting Room**, we will be stuffing and sewing cancer pillows for **Western Reserve Hospice**. This month we will be sending over **80 pillows**.

Loaves & Fishes will take place at **St. Paul's** on Sunday, October 26. Jim Scheuermann will once again prepare a wonderful hearty lunch. If you'd like to contribute, donations of cookies, other treats, cheeses, or chips are welcome. Please leave them in the church kitchen by that Sunday, clearly marked **"Loaves & Fishes."**.

If you would like to join any of these activities, all are welcome... just drop in! For more information contact Lynne Kessell, 440-487-9104 or lynnekessell@gmail.com.

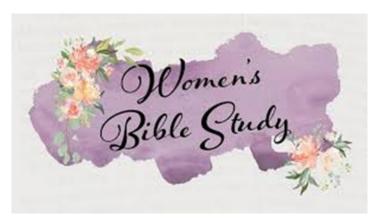
An Invitation to the Women of the Church...

The Women's Friday Morning Bible Study Group invites you to a special ten-week series leading up to Christmas.

We will hear actors portraying Bible characters central to the birth of Jesus;: a prophet, a wise man, a shepherd, Joseph, Mary, and angel, and others.

Starting Oct 17th– Friday mornings 10-11:30 AM in the Lounge.

You are welcome to join the group for any or all of these discussions.



28 DAYS

Connecting Women, Celebrating Unity



OCTOBER 22, 2025 AT 6 PM 76 Bell St., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

28 Days is back! Please join us for our next gathering: **The Masks We Wear!** an evening that goes beyond conversation. Together, we'll peel back the roles and faces we hide behind and discover the stories, wisdom, and strength that connect us. Through creativity, storytelling, and truth-telling, you'll find space to be heard, seen, and inspired.

28 Days brings together women of all ages, races, backgrounds, and beliefs to share stories, explore current events, and build meaningful connections. It's more than a conversation—it's a celebration of the shared experiences that unite us as women in America.

Let's make history together by celebrating what it means to be women who thrive in solidarity and purpose.

We can't wait to see you there!

+

*Dinner and Childcare will be provided!

Find more information at fedchurch.org/events

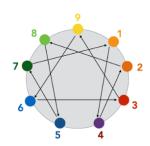


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THE ENNEAGRAM:

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING YOURSELF AND OTHERS



A fascinating presentation led by the esteemed **Debbie Burditt**.

Debbie is a certified and nationally recognized Enneagram teacher and consultant, and a founder of The Enneagram Group. She will guide us through a captivating exploration of this ancient system, revealing how Enneagram typology can support greater understanding of yourself and others.

LEARN MORE ABOUT...

What the Enneagram framework for personality typology is and why it is such an effective tool for growth.

The nine Enneagram personality types; their "superpowers "and their vulnerabilities.

How very different our own world view can be from another's perspective and experience due to aspects of our typology.

How to use the wisdom of the Enneagram to help us grow in our understanding of and compassion for others.

Date: October 29th, 2025 Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Federated Church 76 Bell Street,

Chagrin Falls Cost: \$10.00



Register at www.fedchurch.org/events or by scanning QR code above.



Sponsored by Federated Church's Spiritual Formation Commission

PRIMETIME NEWSLETTER





OCTOBER 2025

We would love to have you join us for one or all of the upcoming Primetime events! You do not need to be a member of the church to join us. Church members can sign up on REALM. Feel free to sign up by contacting Thea Mozingo at tmozingo@fedchurch.org or by calling 440-247-6490

Upcoming Events

October 16th - Fall Trip on the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad

Join us for a great time on the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad - see the leaves and enjoy a train ride and boxed lunches on the train.

This is a completely handicap accessible train-including restrooms. We will meet at the Family Life Center at 11:45 and take a bus to the Rockside Station. We will hop on board and start our trip at 1:00pm. The trip time is 3.5 hours. We do not exit the train.

The cost is \$35 dollars and we have a few tickets left!

October 21st-Widow's Dinner at 1815 Tavern

Join us for another great dinner out at the 1815 Tavern in Aurora's Historic District Meet there at 5:30 - Please RSVP to Thea, Judy Harvey or on REALM so we have accurate reservation numbers.

November 13th - Cleveland Memories Trivia and Lunch

Join us for a great time with local historian, wit and master storyteller Dennis R. Sutcliffe as he rekindles forgotten Cleveland memories. Food and fun with your Primetime friends.

\$10 per person

Federated Church 76 Bell St Chagrin Falls OH 440-247-6490 www.fedchurch.org

federated grow

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PRIMETIME NEWSLETTER





OCTOBER 2025

Upcoming Events

October 16th – Fall Ride on the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad 11:45–5:00pm We will meet at the Family Life Center to take a bus to the Rockside Station. We will enjoy a 3.5 hour train trip with boxed lunches. Tickets are \$35 and include lunch. We have a few tickets left!

October 21st - Widows Dinner at 1815 Tavern 5:30-7:30pm Join Primetimers and friends as they enjoy dinner out. Dinner will be at the 1815 Tavern-170 S Chillicothe Rd, Aurora, OH 44202. Please RSVP to Thea, Judy Harvey or on REALM so we have accurate counts for the reservation.

November 13th - Program and Lunch Here at the Church/Cleveland Memories Trivia - Noon-2:00pm. \$10 per person.

December 11th – Lunch at the Cabin in Aurora (self drive/self pay)

January 8th – Valentine Craft with Kathy Rayer & Lunch–Noon-2:00pm

February 12th - Museum Trip and Lunch-TBD

Next planning meeting is 10/20 at 3:00pm here in the Lounge and all are welcome. If you are not able to attend and want to recommend an outing, please contact Thea.

Please sign up for these events on REALM or by contacting Thea at tmozingo@fedchurch.org

Federated Church 76 Bell St Chagrin Falls OH 440-247-6490 www.fedchurch.org

federated grow



Watch your mail in the coming weeks for information about the 2026 Generosity Campaign!



Family Life Center Capital Campaign (Includes Prior Deferred Maintenance Fund)

\$1,000,000





At our 2024 Annual Meeting, the Church Council brought forward for a vote whether to keep the Family Life Center (FLC). At that time, the current capital needs of the building were presented and discussed at both listening sessions and the Annual Meeting. The congregation overwhelmingly voted to keep the FLC.

In 2025, the Church Council recommended, and the congregation approved, a capital campaign for capital expenses at the FLC. As owners of the building, we are responsible for major maintenance and capital upgrades. Funds raised during this campaign will be allocated to those expenses.

We have received 55 pledges to date and are still accepting pledges for this three-year campaign. Please contact Thea Mozingo at tmozingo@fedchurch.org or 440-247-6490 for campaign materials or to make a pledge.

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OCTOBER

Practical Clothing Collection Now through 10/19

ST. PAUL'S COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Our Sister Church, UCC)

Outreach Ministry

- Hoodies, Sweatshirts, Outdoor long-sleeve shirts (both button up and pullover)
- Jeans (men and women)
- Fall Jackets
- Outdoor shoes
- · Belts, Socks, Headgear
- Short-sleeve t-shirts
- NEW Underwear for Women & Men





All items should be gently used and laundered. Please no rips, tears, stains or holes & no used undergarments.

Thanks for your support!





Family & Youth









kickoff

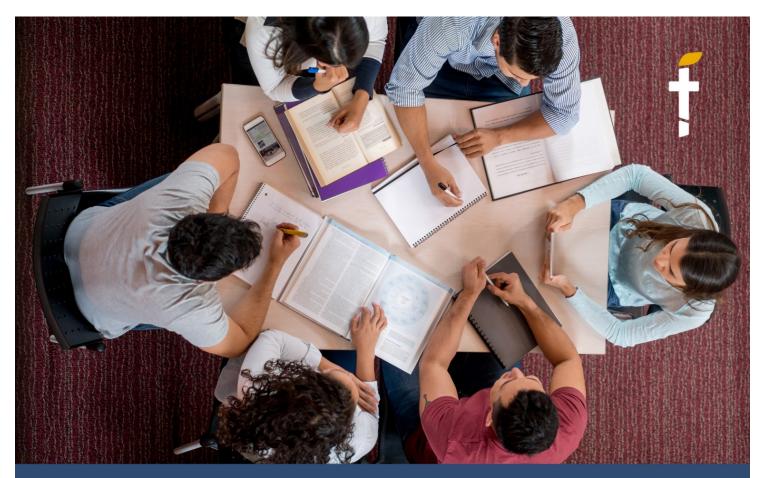






Hello Federated Families! The 25/26 Youth Group year has started with a bang, we have had a great trip out to Geneva on the Lake, collected donations for Rescue Village, and talked about future events! Here is an attached photo gallery so you can keep up with the youth group as we progress through the year. This coming month is not short of exciting activities. On Sunday, October 5th, we will be hosting the Great Federated Baking Show where we will be baking a sampling of breads from across the world, discussing world cultures, and sampling the freshly baked bread. We will be attending the Loaves and Fishes on Sunday October 26 as we continue our partnership with St Paul's in Cleveland. There are more opportunities to be involved every week, so if you are a youth or a family with a student aged 6th grade to 12th grade, please reach out to Oliver Mason to get your name on the email blast! omason@fedchurch.org

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FED YOUTH GROUP TUTORING

Starting Thursday, October 9th, Federated will be hosting a study group in the Lounge from 6pm to 8pm. This is a place for students of all ages to escape distractions and utilize the amazing space and human resources we have here at Federated. Whether that be a group of students the same age working on a project, an opportunity for older students to mentor those younger than them, or to have licensed teachers reviewing with students before exams, we will be able to have a service for anyone who joins. If you are interested in being a volunteer (service opportunity) please email Oliver Mason. This will be a consistent event every two weeks, so no fret if you miss the first one. omason@fedchurch.org

440.247.6490 September 2025 | Page 15

Get Ready for Spooktacular Fun!

Join Us for Trunk or Treat at Federated!

All are welcome to celebrate!



Trunk or Treat! Give me something sweet to eat! Federated will be hosting a Trunk or Treat in the Federated Parking lot on Saturday 10/25 from 4pm to 6pm. We will be in need of volunteers to decorate their car trunks for the youth community of Federated. If you are interested in being a volunteer, follow this google form link for information and to sign up for emails regarding this event! We will be having a costume parade and vote for the most thematic trunk of the evening! Hope to see you there in the Halloween spirit.

Click this link to sign up: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/
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FEDERATED CHURCH PRESENTS... 2025-2026 PERFORMING ARTS SERIES



ROMAN RABINOVICH, PIANIST THU, OCT 9, 2025 - 7 PM TICKETS: \$25-\$45 | STUDENTS \$10
Renowned pianist and ChamberFest Cleveland

co-director performs Haydn, Debussy, Beethoven & Schumann.



BURNING RIVER BRASS "OUR KIND OF CHRISTMAS" SAT, DEC 20, 2025 - 7 PM
TICKETS: \$30-\$50 | STUDENTS \$10
Celebrate the season with a festive mix of carols, swing,

and a jazzy Big Band Nutcracker! A holiday concert sure to have you singing along.



APOLLO'S FIRE- "WINTER SPARKS" SAT, JAN 31, 2026 - 7:30 PM TICKETS: ASSIGNED SEATS

Virtuoso chamber works by Bach, Telemann, Vivaldi, and Marais, featuring dazzling soloists on flute, oboe, violin, and viola da gamba.



CLE CONCIERTO- "CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH" SAT, MAR 21, 2026 - 7 PM TICKETS: \$25-\$45 | STUDENTS \$10

Celebrate women composers of the 17th century featuring the music of Strozzi, Bembo, and Leonarda.



AUSTIN WALKIN' CANE- "BBQ & BLUES" SUN, JUNE 7, 2026 | 4 PM **FAMILY LIFE CENTER** TICKETS: \$30 | KIDS (12U) \$10

A crowd-pleasing blues performance paired with our annual dinner. Featuring a community BBQ cookoff!



FOR MORE INFO: JOSHUA KONOW (JKONOW@FEDCHURCH.ORG) OR 216.247.6490X120 OR VISIT FEDCHURCH.ORG/PAS





Experience an unforgettable evening with pianist Roman Rabinovich, performing works by Haydn, Debussy, Beethoven, and Schumann. Praised for his "uncommon sensitivity and feeling," Rabinovich is Co-Artistic Director of ChamberFest Cleveland and winner of the Arthur Rubinstein Competition. A performance not to be missed!

Tickets: \$25-\$45; Student Tickets only \$10! Get your tickets TODAY!



76 Bell Street Chagrin Falls, OH 44022 fedchurch.org/PAS



Scan Here for

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Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation

Social and Environmental Justice (SJAM) News

The mission of the Social Justice Advocacy Ministry is to be a voice and witness to God's love for all people and creation and to advocate for justice for those who are marginalized, discriminated against and denied their inherent rights as children of God and citizens of our nation and world.

We strive to become well informed, provide opportunities to educate ourselves, balanced with opportunities to take action. Live Our Faith!

To learn more, please contact sjamfedchurch@gmail.com

Next SJAM Meeting: Sunday, October 19th

at 11:30 at Bell Street in Lower Level Meeting Room

Or join by Zoom using this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83595558354?

pwd=U1VxZU5SZ0NjcEVkbEcxeXpsbVlWdz09



Saturday, October 18th – No Kings Protest

SJAM is co-sponsoring this event led by Bainbridge Community UCC

Times: 11 AM to 1 PM

BCUCC Address: 17751 Chillicothe Rd. in Bainbridge

Monday, October 20th – SJAM Move Night - Banned Books 7:00pm at the Federated Family Life Center.

We will watch a brief video on how books are selected to be banned, followed by a discussion. There will be refreshments and a great way to learn more about our upcoming Banned Book Library that will be housed at Federated Church.

We appreciate donations of banned books to add to our library!

Letters of Kindness

A Chagrin Falls teacher who has some Ukrainian students shared that they are feeling despair and hopelessness about being able to stay in the US, even though their families came here legally. She suggested writing letters or notes offering kindness and support, assuring them that they are valued, and that we support them. Drop letters at Angel Desk in a bin marked "Letters of Kindness" by **October 12th.**

Help Needed for Removing Prescription Bottle labels

Our Creation Care Team is looking for YOUR help!

We need help preparing empty pill bottles for Matthew 25 medical relief ministries.

Please come to **Fellowship Hall from 1 to 3 pm on October 6, 20, and/or 27** to remove labels and wash bottles. We can reduce landfill waste and help people in need at the same time. Thank you!

Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation



ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS FOR THE MONTH

PUMPKINS FOR WILDLIFE

READY TO DISPOSE OF YOUR HALLOWEEN PUMPKINS? A BETTER WAY THAN THROWING THEM IN THE TRASH IS TO LEAVE THEM IN YOUR BACKYARD OR WOODS TO FEED THE LOCAL WILDLIFE. SQUIRRELS, DEER, RACCOONS, FOXES AND MANY OTHERS WILL ENJOY THE TREAT! THE PUMPKINS SHOULD BE WITHOUT PAINT, CANDLES ETC.

LEAVE THE LEAVES!

DID YOU KNOW THAT 94% OF MOTH SPECIES RELY ON THE LEAF LAYER TO COMPLETE THEIR LIFE CYCLES? MANY OTHER SPECIES ALSO LIVE IN THESE LEAVES. AND CATERPILLARS ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT FOOD SOURCE FOR BABY BIRDS. THAT'S WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO LEAVE FALLEN LEAVES IN THE GARDEN, ESPECIALLY UNDER TREES. AND INSTEAD OF GOING TO THE LANDFILL AND RELEASING METHANE, A POWERFUL GREENHOUSE GAS, THEY BREAK DOWN NATURALLY AND NOURISH YOUR PLANTS. LEAVING PLANT STALKS, ESPECIALLY FROM NATIVE PLANTS, IS IMPORTANT TOO AS MANY BENEFICIAL INSECTS OVERWINTER THERE.



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Our Creation Care Team is looking for YOUR help!

We need help preparing empty bill bottles for Matthew 25 medical relief ministries.

Please join SJAM in Fellowship Hall from 1 to 3 pm on October 6, 20, and 27 to remove labels and wash bottles. We can reduce landfill waste and help people in need at the same time. Thank you!



- Did you know that we have and AED machine here at the church?
- Do you know where it is?
- Do you want to know how you might save a life?

In just a few minutes, you will learn the basics of how to use any AED machine!

Join us on November 9th after worship - the training will just take a few minutes! Please sign up on REALM or by calling the office by 11/2.



October 1 - November 1

SCARVES | HATS | GLOVES | BOOTS | COATS | SOCKS

Help keep our neighbors warm this winter! From Oct. 1-Nov. 1 we're collecting new or gently used water resistant (think of those days of freezing rain!), CLEAN (no pet hair, dirt, mud, or stains, please), winter wear-jackets, boots, sweaters, fleece tops, gloves, hats, scarves, and new socks-for all ages and sizes. Donations will support NEOCH families, veterans, teens, and seniors.

Please consider: These items will be received as if you are giving to a friend. Please consider their dignity may be very fragile, and we' don't want them to feel they are getting cast-offs.



To Donate Monetarily fedchurch.org/giving



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Community Partners



The work of building resilient communities begins with building relationships across differences. From Food Trucks to hayrides. From Nature crafts to adaptive hiking equipment, our 3rd Annual Fall Festival draws diverse participation for all abilities and experiences. Come! Make new connections to nature and neighbors!

Fellowship Treats

Federated members take turns bringing treats for Fellowship Hour each Sunday, as scheduled by the Congregational Care Commission. Of course, anyone is welcome to bring treats at any time!

Please bring ready-to-serve treats in disposable containers. Healthy food choices are especially welcome. *Please no nuts*. Thank you for helping to make our Fellowship time delicious and enjoyable!

October 5– last names beginning with H, I, J, and K
October 12– last names beginning with L and M
October 19– last names beginning with N, O, P, Q, and R
October 26– last names beginning with E, F, and G



Contact Us!

www.fedchurch.org fedchurch@fedchurch.org

Phone: 440.247.6490 Fax: 440.247.2516

Facebook: facebook.com/thefederatedchurch

Instagram: @federatedchurch

OUL STATE IS HERE TO HELP YOU

CLERGY

Vicki McGaw, Interim Pastor Judy Bagley-Bonner, Minister of Pastoral Care

Administration Staff

Beth Rutkowski, Senior Director of People and Operations Brooke Strong, Congregational Life Administrator Thea Mozingo, Director of Generosity Oliver Mason, Director of Youth and Families

* Susi Kawolics, Bookkeeper

* Marty Culbertson, Director of Missions

Jake Magalski, Properties, Maintenance & Grounds Lead

Music Staff

Joshua Konow, Director of Music Ministries

* Marcia Snavely, Organist

* Pat Haynish, Director of Children's Choir

Children's Ministries Staff

* Jannine Mason , Children's Activities Leader

* denotes part-time staff

