

Governing Council President's Report

It is commonly noted that "many hands make light work". Another way of stating that would be when many do a little, no one has to do a lot. I like those thoughts as I reflect on 2018 for our congregation and as I consider all who contribute to the programs and services of Federated Church. If I were to try to name everyone who has done so, I would likely miss one or more, so I'm not going to try.

That said, I do want to share what I believe are some of the significant things that occurred in 2018 or are in the works from that time. We continue to be blessed with interesting and thought-provoking sermons from Pastor Annika and Associate Pastor Edward. We continue to see increased numbers of children in worship services. The opportunity to meet with families who joined the church was a positive as was the opportunity to vote on baptism requests. The Membership and Growth committee took on a big challenge in updating membership rolls for accuracy in our church software and to more accurately reflect our congregation for denominational support. Property and Finance committee is examining maintenance and upkeep needs of aging facilities and is working to address such needs proactively. And, the work of the Sanctuary Technology Task Force has many of us excited about the pending installation of the audio-visual system to enhance our worship services. Last, but certainly not least, was the congregation's positive response to the changed Sunday morning worship time.

More specifically, I want to thank all members of the 2018 Governing Council for their time, participation, and contribution to the leadership of Federated Church this year. In particular, I want to thank Louise Moran for her diligent and high-quality work with minutes of our meetings, and also wish to thank Jim Rains and Chrissy Ford for their efforts in the office responding both promptly and thoroughly to my many information requests.

In closing, I believe some of Romans 12 pertains to those who serve our congregation in any manner: "6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." So whether your involvement in or service to Federated Church is serving or teaching or encouraging or giving or showing mercy, or being involved in so many other ways, thank you and keep it up!

Dave Melick

2018 Federated Church President