



FEDERATED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Worship Services:

Thursdays at 6:30PM

Sundays at 10 AM

Education Hour

(Sunday School, Adult Education and
Confirmation Classes):

Sundays at 9AM

**PLEASE SEE THE CALENDAR FOR
OTHER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS!**

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**See Page 13 For Information on
The Walk to Jerusalem!**

If you are receiving this newsletter and prefer not to, **OR** you are reading this on the website and prefer a hardcopy, contact the Church Office at fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org or call (402) 564-2812.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

When I arrived at McCormick Theological Seminary 20 years ago, I was anxious to begin my studies. Arriving at the seminary felt like a concrete step on a path I had thought and prayed a lot about, but I was still unsure what it would mean for me to be a minister. McCormick Seminary seemed like a place where I could ask questions while making forward progress toward a calling in the ministry.

Some aspects of seminary were not a surprise: there were books to read, papers to write, and fascinating professors who knew all sorts of things about the Bible I'd never learned in Sunday School.

Other things *were* a surprise: I shared an apartment with a woman who had a career as a professional musician. She was going into ministry as a "second career." It turned out that there were many seminary students who were "second career." It was a good surprise!

I was also surprised to learn that the Presbyterian Church (USA) was not supportive of gay and lesbian people being ordained. I say this was a surprise because my home congregation, Cottage Grove United Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, Iowa, was known far and wide as a church that accepted people — regardless of their background.

Cottage Grove Church welcomed Christian refugees from the Sudan in the early 1990s. Families that had biracial children were accepted just as much as my family, whose members were all Caucasian. We didn't care if an elderly man named Carl had never married. We also accepted Bill, a man over the age of 80, who served a near-life-long sentence for murdering his wife and child more than 60 years before. God loved everybody, and we meant to try and do the same.

The accepting attitude of Cottage Grove Church didn't seem exceptional — it seemed like exactly what the Gospels in the Bible told us that Jesus had told his followers to do. I was proud of my church for treating people — no matter their color, age, background, family make-up, class, education, or country of origin — as people.

So it surprised me when I arrived at a seminary of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to learn that, suddenly, the Presbyterian Church was considered to be a denomination that did not welcome everyone.

Seminary students discussed what this meant for gay and lesbian people who had already started the process to be ordained. Who was going to tell people that they were not welcome? The seminary? Their congregations? The presbytery?

What had *not* happened was that gay and lesbian people were banned from church. No one had said that congregations had to kick anyone out of church. What *had* happened, was that the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church had accepted a paragraph that was added to the Presbyterian constitution. ***please see over —>***

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)

...continued from page 1

This paragraph, commonly known as “Amendment B,” made it very easy for congregations and presbyteries that were not accepting of gay and lesbian people to justify their attitudes with official church policy.

I was disappointed. I wondered if I should leave the Presbyterian Church, in solidarity with the people I felt were being treated unfairly. I soon learned that there was a national network of Presbyterians who were going to work hard to have the exclusionary paragraph removed from the constitution. If I was a part of that network, it seemed that I could remain Presbyterian while working for change from within.

It took a decade for the exclusionary language to be removed from the Presbyterian constitution. Over that time, many Presbyterians who were gay or lesbian, and who wanted to be ministers, left the Presbyterian Church and became ministers in the United Church of Christ (UCC) because the UCC had no exclusionary policy.

Rev. Scott Jones was a minister who found acceptance in the United Church of Christ. He came from a Baptist background. Like so many Presbyterians, he did not want to leave his tradition, but found that, in a way, his tradition had left him.

Rev. Scott currently serves as Senior Pastor of First Central United Church of Christ in Omaha. Rev. Scott has recently published his memoir about his journey, titled “*Open: A Memoir of Faith, Family, and Sexuality in the Heartland*.” I encourage you to come to Education Hour this coming Sunday, January 20, to hear from Rev. Scott.

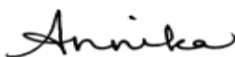
So often, when there are controversial topics in our society, we talk *about* the topics, but we don’t take the time to hear directly from real people whom the controversy affects on a daily basis.

Rev. Scott is an engaging and thoughtful speaker. I hope everyone will take the opportunity to hear from someone who not only survived discrimination from the church, but who has thrived as a minister.

For those of us who have never experienced discrimination for the color of our skin, or who we would want to marry, or our ancestors’ nation(s) of origin, we can never know what it is like to walk a mile in the shoes of someone who has experienced such discrimination. Churches are made up of people. Churches can have the flaws that people have: prejudice, assumptions, biases, and lack of understanding.

The Presbyterian Church finally joined the United Church of Christ in an inclusive policy on ordination, but we cannot undo the past. What we can do is listen to what people who have experienced discrimination have to share. We can confess to our faults, and we can embrace a future in which we do better.

Please see the next page for details about Rev. Scott’s visit to Federated this week.



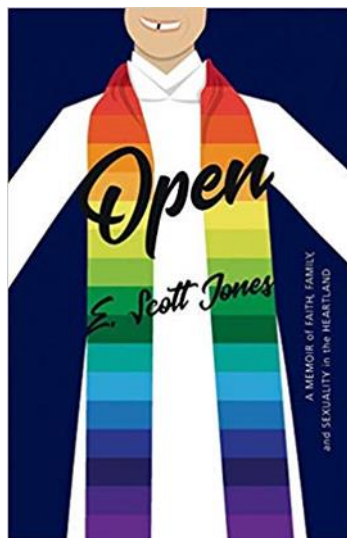
Sunday, January 20th Guest Speaker

Sunday, January 20,
we welcome the Rev. Dr. Scott Jones,
Senior Pastor of First Central UCC Church in Omaha



**Rev. Scott will lead a
combined Adult and High School
Sunday School class, then
will join Rev. Annika for a
Dialogue Sermon in the
10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

Scott published his memoir
this past fall, titled
“Open: A Memoir of Faith,
Family, and Sexuality in
the Heartland.”
Copies of his book will
be available.



January 27, Adult Education continues a new year
series reflecting on how God is understood in
the Bible, through history, and around the world.
See you there!

FEDERATED CYF

Children, Youth & Families

by Edward Yang



All-Church Christmas Caroling at one of several senior care facilities on Dec. 16, 2018

Happy New Year

During a recent confirmation lesson on “Reformed and Always Reforming,” I talked about how God is continually working to change us a church. Christ, who is the Alpha and Omega, states in Revelation 21:5a, “See, I am making all things new.” With this new year, our Children’s and Youth Ministries are looking at how we continue to be faithful to how God is working to change us. We will try different things in our ministry; some things will work and some may not. It is not about following what is hip or trendy. Rather we seek to follow God’s Word with the help of the Holy Spirit (the complete sentence for our reforming in the Presbyterian Book of Order is, “The church reformed, always to be reformed according to the Word of God’ in the power of the Spirit.” F-2.02).



Fifth & sixth graders reading for the Christmas Pageant on Dec. 16, 2018

Upcoming Events

Starting Jan. 23
(Wed) **Youth Mission Team Book Sale** help the youth mission team by donating your books (we’ll even pick them up) and/or purchasing books in the Narthex.

Feb. 3 (Sun)
Souper Bowl of Caring - Our youth will participate in this national event to fight hunger by collecting food and money for PC Food Pantry.

Calling all chefs/
bakers/foodies:
Taste of Federated
coming soon!



Following are Volunteer Opportunities:

Donations/Food Sorter:

- Process & organize clothing and other donations prior to clients accessing them

Office & Landscaping Maintenance:

- Assist in minor maintenance issues or cleaning/organizing the office. Attending to lawn/yard upkeep.

Adult Group Volunteer:

- Assist the Adult Advocate in facilitating group and encouraging conversation with participants. Group takes place on Monday evenings, 5:30 to 6:30 (English & Spanish)

Children's Group Volunteer:

- Assist the Child Advocate in engaging children during children's group on Monday evenings, 5:30 to 6:30

For more information about how you can help, please contact:

Traci Pilar, Volunteer Coordinator

Phone: 402-564-2155

Email: volcoordinator@centerforsurvivors.net

Nursery Attendant Needed

Church Nursery Attendant Needed to care for children ages 0-3 on Sunday mornings. Please contact Rev. Edward, edward@federatedcolumbus.org/(402) 564-2812, with questions and send resumes Attn: Rev. Edward to Federated's P.O. Box 564, Columbus, NE 68602 More information on the church webpage: <http://federatedcolumbus.org/wp-content/uploads/Federated-Church-Nursery-Attendant-Job-Posting.pdf>

Meals on Wheels

Thank you to the volunteers who delivered October 29 - November 2. Federated's next week of service is January 14 - 18, 2019.

Coordinator will be Renee Bellum 402-563-2441

Platte County Food Pantry

We ask that you help support this ministry by bringing in the following items: Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Tuna, Macaroni & Cheese, All Soups, Spaghetti Sauce, Jell-O, Canned Vegetables, Cereal, Ramen Noodles, Pancake Mixes, Bar Soap, Applesauce, Canned Pasta, Diced Tomatoes, Dry Pasta, Canned Fruit, Tomato Sauce, Pudding, Saltine Crackers, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Pancake Syrup, Toilet Paper

Platte Valley Humane Society

The Platte Valley Humane Society is privileged to have a donation receptacle in the northwest entrance of the Federated Church. Requested items are:



January:

Paper Towels
Laundry Soap


February:

Dryer Sheets
Clorox Bleach

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 9:00am Adult Bible Education 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:15am Youth Ministry & Christian Education Committees Joint Meeting 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	14 4:30pm Personnel Meeting 5:15pm Special Olympics Basketball 6:45pm Membership & Growth Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212	15 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion Group 4:00pm Tuesday After School Tutoring at Emerson School 6:30pm Property & Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279 7:00pm PEO - Chapter FJ	16 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Youth Club	17 5:00pm Special Olympics 5 on 5 5:30pm Nominating Committee Meeting 6:30pm Thursday Worship Service	18 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	19
20 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Adult Bible Education 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	21 12:00pm BIG PALS- Little Pals 5:15pm Special Olympics Basketball 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212	22 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion Group 4:00pm Tuesday After School Tutoring at Emerson School 7:00pm Governing Council Meeting	23 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Youth Club 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	24 5:00pm Special Olympics 5 on 5 6:30pm Thursday Worship Service	25 9:00am MOPS Leadership Meeting 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	26 11:00am Scouts Pinewood Derby
27 9:00am Adult Bible Education 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	28 5:15pm Special Olympics Basketball 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212	29 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion Group 4:00pm Tuesday After School Tutoring at Emerson School	30 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Youth Club	31 5:00pm Special Olympics 5 on 5 6:30pm Thursday Worship Service		

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:00am Adult Bible Education 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	4 5:15pm Special Olympics Basketball 5:15pm Order of St. Andrew Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 7:00pm CM Teachers Meeting	5 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion Group 8:00am Bible Study with Rev. Annika 4:00pm Tuesday After School Tutoring at Emerson School 6:00pm Consonaires Rehearsal 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279	6 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Youth Club	7 5:00pm Special Olympics 5 on 5 Meeting 5:30pm YM Teachers Roundtable 6:15pm Scouts Arrow 6:15pm Order of the Arrow 6:30pm Thursday Worship Service	8 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	9
10 9:00am Adult Bible Education 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Youth Ministries Committee Meeting 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	11 5:15pm Special Olympics Basketball 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212	12 6:30am Christian Education Committee Meeting 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion Group 8:00am Bible Study with Rev. Annika 11:30am OSA Prayer Chain Meeting 4:00pm Tuesday After School Tutoring at Emerson School 6:00pm Consonaires Rehearsal 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279	13 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Youth Club Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14 5:00pm Special Olympics 5 on 5 Worship Service	15 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	16 <div> More Articles on Next Page  </div>

Women's Fellowship Restructuring Committee

Sue McClure
Rogalyn Stevens
Joie Taylor
Linda Wheatley

Cookies'N More 2018

The 12th Annual Cookies 'N More was held Thursday, November 15, 2018. A heartfelt Thank You to those who made Cookies 'N More a tremendous success! We had over 95 cookie and bar makers and over 20 candy makers, as well as others who donated cash and door prizes. Those who worked the Baking Day were able to bake 775 cookies. That's over an additional 64 dozen cookies! We had people who: distributed flyers, created artwork, made phone calls, placed yard signs, sent e-mail and text blasts, decorated, set up the nativity, worked in the kitchen receiving all the items, printed labels and signage, helped work the event, helped with clean-up, and picked up luminaries at Frankfort Square. We hope we didn't miss anyone, as this event simply cannot run without many people stepping up to help, and we appreciate everyone's efforts! Federated is so blessed to have such a supportive congregation!

The profit total this year came to over \$3,500!!! Great job everyone!!!

Congratulations to the 7 door prize winners. They are:

Angela Enfield;
Jane Koziol;
Karen Grabowski;
Rose Marie Hoffman;
Charlotte Carrig;
Barb Mohr;
and a young boy named Parker

All our door prize winners were truly appreciative, and some have been attending this event for years.

Again, thank you one and all.

Cookies 'N More Committee

B-I-N-G-O

Ladies: We are seeking names of who would like to be called IF and WHEN additional help is needed on 4th Wednesdays (2:00 - 3:00) Bingo. It would not be an every month call, but a 'just in case'. Prizes are always provided by the circles. The sign-up sheet is in the sanctuary. *Thanks for your help, PW Women*

New Book - Tuesday Morning Book Discussion

The book, "Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes" by E. Randolph Richards will be the next book to be reviewed at the Tuesday morning Christian Book Discussion. The author removes the cultural blinders of language, time and social mores to allow the reading of the Bible in fresh and unexpected ways.

Copies of this book are available at Amazon.com. Mark your calendars to meet with us at 7:00 AM on Tuesday, January 15th for breakfast and a stimulating discussion in Fellowship Hall. In preparation, read the introduction and first two chapters of the book.

2x4s Dinner Together 2019

The Bible tells us how Jesus was invited into homes to share meals. The concept of meeting and visiting over a meal is age-old. By sharing a meal we become a family. At Federated we have been practicing this church family-building concept for many years through our "2x4s Dinners Together" program.

The "2x4s" dinners are simple affairs. The participating families (or singles) share three meals between the months of March-April, May-July, and August-October. The designated host contacts the 3 other couples (singles) to arrange a date. The host provides the main dish and the other guests bring either a salad, a side dish or a desert.

Contact Bob Trautwein at 402 910 4341 or at rjtraut@yahoo.com if you would like to participate in the upcoming 2019 "2x4s" Dinners Together. It's a lot of fun without much work and the dinners help us know one another all the better.

Funeral Committee Information

Funeral Committee 2: Co-Chairpersons: John & Deb Curry, Steve & Marcia Dewald, Larry & Sue Mares, Guy & Linda Wheatley

Members: Diane Barbarglia, Liz Boettcher, Gary & Dana Brandt, Jane Crister, JoAnn Dowd, Mimi Ernst, Jose & Trinidad Garcia, Jeff & Tami Gotschall, Gene & Cola Hahn, Fonda Hanks, Whit Hanner, Cindy Hoadley, Terry & Andree Hoeman, Leroy & Brenda Kallweit, Ron & Charlotte Lambert, Herman & Beryldean Lauterbach, Ruth Lind, John Lohr, John & Julie McClure, Kevin & Mary Meyer, Bryon & Peg Meyer, Diane Scheffler, Donna Shreve, Kim Swierczek, Clark & Lori Smith, Joe & Marilyn Srb, Paula & Rebecca Timperley, Jeremy West, Doug & Randi Williams, Drew & Kristi Wolfe, Gail Wurdeman

Dates to Remember:

Youth Mission Book Sale

Starts January 23 in the Narthex

The Walk to Jerusalem

starts January 27
through Easter, April, 21

Souper Bowl of Caring

February 3 in the Fellowship Hall

Annual Congregational Meeting

February 24 after Worship Service

Ash Wednesday

March 6

Lenten Luncheons

At First United Methodist
starting March 13

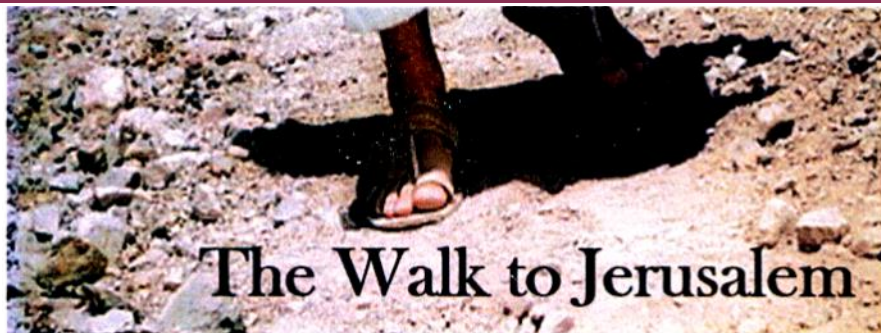
Palm Sunday

April 14

Easter Sunday

April 21

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)



Did you know walking is mentioned over 200 times in the bible?

One of the most important things we can do for our bodies is to be active. For most of us the simplest form of activity is walking.

Join us as we embark on 'The Walk to Jerusalem', an imaginary walk from Columbus to Jerusalem, Israel. 'The Walk to Jerusalem' encourages us to increase physical activity by walking, spiritual growth with weekly devotionals and cultural awareness as we learn about geographical locations we've collectively walked to as a parish each week.

The Walk begins Sunday, January 27 and ends at Easter.

If you are limited in your ability to walk or don't have a device to track the amount of miles you walk weekly, you can track your activity in minutes with 20 minutes of any activity equaling one mile.

There are 7,536 miles between Columbus and Jerusalem. Each mile reported will be one closer to reaching our destination!

This intergenerational walk is available for all to take part in.

Your church leader will be sharing more information on the walk soon.



For more information contact:
Rev. Annika
annika@federatedcolumbus.org
402-564-2812



Celine Perrin, Regan Rine, Daryl Smith	01/15
Charlotte Griffith, Karen Paben	01/16
Reece Gausman, Jason Kallweit, Rod Wachter	01/17
Samantha Beal, John Claus, Hailey Hahn, Alianna Petersen	01/18
Chuck Elliott, Daniel Jeffrey, Kelli Scheffler	01/20
Alex Mares	01/22
Ben Lange, Judy Trautwein	01/24
Mimi Ernst	01/26
Ryder Hoadley	01/27
Ann Jeffrey	01/28
Macyn Norris	01/29
Randi Williams	01/31
Anita Kaspar, Beth Millard, Doug Rasby	02/01
Rogalyn Stevens, Alison Wagner	02/03
Cola Hahn	02/04
Paul Hahn	02/08
Brian Badje	02/10
John Lohr	02/11
Shelley Atwell, Clark Grant, Jeremy West	02/12
Linda McPhail, Kristin Williams	02/13
D'Ete Haldiman, Cindy Wunderlich	02/14
Catherine Scheidegger	02/15

Don't see your birthday in our list above? Find an error?
Contact the church office and let us know!

Federated Church Finance-at-a-Glance

Recap of financial transactions for December 2018

The following information is a brief description of transactions for the previously completed month. Complete records are available in the church office upon request.

Income - December 2018

Contributions, Etc.:	
Current Year	\$45,356.44
Designated Funds (Savings):	
Heifer Project	\$25.00
Christmas Joy	\$816.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1000.00
Food Pantry	\$375.00
Center for Survivors	\$25.00
Ghana Partnership	\$35.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$285.00
Marjie Heier (Gospelink)	\$2,525.00
Back Pack Program	\$25.00
HIS Puppets	\$200.00
Poinsettias	\$63.00
Operation Education	\$1,849.85
Youth Fund	\$100.00
Building Maintenance	\$50.00
Future Year	\$28,210.00
Tuesday Morning Book	\$41.00
Disaster Relief	\$1,020.00
Col. Rescue Mission	\$250.00
Family Choice	\$10,000.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$500.00
Helping Hands - Non-Members	\$50.00
Rent ((Election Day)	\$40.00
Misc. Inc. (WF for Cookies)	\$75.50
Interest Income:	\$5.12
Memorial	\$1.00
Checking	\$88.26
Savings	

Expenses - December 2018

Annual Budget Expenses:	
Committee, Administration, Church Staff, Utilities/Facility Expenses	\$43,158.09
Savings Expenses:	
Memorials (Sheet Music)	\$47.39
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$2,541.69
Christmas Joy	\$391.00
Heifer Project	\$25.00
Doane College	\$95.00
Kamp Kaleo	\$170.00
Food Pantry	\$676.00
Center for Survivors	\$25.00
Hastings College	\$125.00
Camp Calvin Crest	\$220.00
Ghana Partnership	\$215.00
Col. Rescue Mission	\$250.00
HIS Puppets	\$24.00
Operation Education	\$2,603.31
Poinsettias	\$253.89
Church Activities	\$30.00
Building Mntc.	\$1,523.47
Disaster Relief	\$3,636.36
Habitat for Humanity	\$605.00
Pentecost Offering	\$250.00
Marjie Heier (Gospelink)	\$2,525.00
Back Pack Program	\$50.00
Helping Hands	\$620.00

Checking Account Balance Ending November 30, 2018: \$6,716.75

Savings Account Balance Ending November 30, 2018: \$92,253.14

Memorial Account Balance Ending November 30, 2018: \$30,108.69

Checking Account Balance Ending December 31, 2018: \$35,529.27

Savings Account Balance Ending December 31, 2018: \$117,565.32

Memorial Account Balance Ending December 31, 2018: \$30,113.81

THE FEDERATED CHURCH

PCUSA - UCC
2704 15TH STREET ~ P.O. BOX 564
COLUMBUS, NE, USA 68602-0564

Return Service Requested

January/February 2019 Newsletter

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