



FEDERATED NEWSLETTER

Our Mission Statement:

We are called to nurture a growing relationship with God by following the example of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision:

We strive for a healthy relationship of people to God and people to people. We seek to respond to the Gospel and to the needs around us. With God's grace we can make an effort toward providing for individual, church and community needs, while continuing to support national and world missions.



If you have articles, events or other information you would like included in this newsletter, please call the Church Office at 564-2812 or email us: fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org. The deadline for submitting information for Newsletters is the 20th of the prior month, e.g. July deadline will be June 20th.

Reopening Info

The Music & Worship Task Force, along with myself and Pastor Edward, have met twice this month to begin looking at how our church would handle re-opening with the virus present. We are looking at how many units our sanctuary would hold with members/family units sitting 6 feet apart. Members would sit with their families only and would wear masks. There would not be singing by the congregation as the virus is airborne. There are more differences, but these are some to start thinking about.

My primary purpose in writing is to let you know that church will be different to keep us safe from the virus. I want you to start thinking about this as a way to keep us safe and healthy. Please know that we are waiting until our denominations, this task force and Governing Council feel it is a good time to open again, and that we as a church are ready, so that we can be as safe as possible.

More information will be coming & we ask for your prayers as we strive for a nurturing, welcoming and safe environment that will be different from our past worship services.

Peace & grace,
Marcia Grant
Church President

Response to May's *From the Pastor's Desk*

Last month, Pastor Edward encouraged you to share your experiences with sitting or chairs:

Here are some questions for your own reflection:

Do you have a favorite chair? How would you describe that chair and the way it makes you feel?

Have you been in a situation of sitting with someone (or having someone sit with you) for a lengthy duration? How was that experience?

Please feel free to share your thoughts and/or questions with me, via email/text/call.

One of our congregants, Sharon Kunch, wanted to share her experiences with chairs. Please see pages 3 and 4 for her response.

Response to May's *From the Pastor's Desk*

Pastor Edward,

You asked about chairs and the connection to end of life.

My first experience was at age ten and a half when my Grandma was dying. Grandma's husband had died when my mother was just 18 and they continued living together after my mother married. Grandma and I shared a room in my parent's farm home. She'd broken her hip in May 1950 and spent a year bedfast in our living room. After a long quiet night with Grandma close to death my two brothers and Dad sat on the couch, mother and I sat on either side of Grandma's bedside on hard, wooden chairs holding her hand while she took her last breath. May 27, 1951 was, in my opinion, the end of my carefree childhood.

During the next few years during my early teen years, my Dad's father died, two favorite great aunts and others passed away. There weren't chairs except at the burial at the cemeteries. Death was too common for someone so young.

Then in 1959 my brother's second child, my namesake, died in Texas during a new heart surgery at age one month. No chair. Just loss for the baby named for me.

The first day of Spring 1960, a call to my sorority house came that my older brother had been in an accident and not expected to live. My parents arrived and I joined my younger brother and parents driving mile after mile sitting in the backseat of my parent's 1959 Nash to Fort Worth, Texas. The conversation prayerful. Watching parents hoping to find their son alive and learning from the newspaper at the gas station (near Fort Worth that afternoon) that he'd died at five a.m. was challenging. Returning to college the following week I had to take six mid-terms and not one instructor acknowledged my brother's death. Reality of people's insensitivity is no longer shocking.

My husband and I graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1961, moved to Idaho and married December 27, 1961. We moved to Chicago in August 1962. The following years afforded healing, love and the "good life". But on Father's Day of 1966 while sitting at home with the TV on the call came that my brother's first born, now nine, her mother, stepdad and half-sister were killed in a car-train crash near Fort Worth. Now my family had lost one third of our family. No chairs but lasting loss. My oldest niece dead at nine! My parent's had buried a child and two grandchildren. Still their example was faith and God's plan.

My mother's death was through a staph infection in 1984. We were told she would not live through the night though, as I sat on another straight back chair for several days stocking her arm and hand, she improved and I'll forever be grateful to the I.C.U. for allowing me to stay with her because it calmed her. The current medications would have allowed her to live but in 1984 the medications

**What we once enjoyed and
deeply loved we can never lose,
for all that we love deeply
becomes part of us.**

~ Helen Keller

Response to May's *From the Pastor's Desk*

weren't as healing. At age 79, my Dad, brother and I spent a week sitting near and with her until she passed away in her sleep at five a.m. She left her husband, two children and six teenage grandchildren.

*The reality is that you
will grieve forever.
You will not 'get over'
the loss of a loved one;
you will learn to live
with it. You will heal
and you will rebuild
yourself around the
loss you have
suffered. You will be
whole again but you
will never be the same.
Nor should you be the
same nor would you
want to.*

Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

While my husband had ALS, I had to bring my Dad to Columbus as at age 92, dementia was attacking his brain and he was making irrational decisions and not able to live independently. He was adapting to the move here. My husband was craving ducks and birds, working in the yard, etc. and I was working a job I loved. But Dad began to leave the house and it became necessary to move him to Cottonwood House. He had a heart attack a month after moving to Cottonwood and spent a week in the hospital where I sat daily with him before he returned to Cottonwood. About two weeks later, he had a heart attack and died August 8, 1998, just eleven days before the birth of our first grandchild. He was 92 years and ten months of age. He had a very healthy life until the last couple of years when dementia controlled his thinking. There had been lots of chairs... lots of evenings sitting with Dad holding his hand. These chairs remind me of calm times without many words.

My husband had twitches in his left arm beginning in 1994, which I attributed to being 56. While visiting our daughter in Kansas City two years later and reading an article on ALS, we went to the MAYO Clinic where his diagnosis was ALS (December 1996). Though told he'd be in a wheelchair in six months and dead in two to five years, he had a rare form of the disease and continued to walk until two months before his death. The disease stayed in his left arm from 1994 through 2003 moving to his right arm in 2003. Though, without use of either arm or hand after May 2005, he continued to serve an elected position of the NPPD Board through 2008. We continued travelling stateside and overseas through 2009. After his fall on

October 17, 2012, his body could no longer fight to heal and for three days our three children and I sat with him as his death was slow and peaceful. Again the chairs were hard, wooden straight back chairs. His breath was weak. His lips dry and I continued to wet them with a small sponge that added a small amount of water to his mouth. After three days in which morphine had eased his pain and closed his eyes, he took his final breath and 16 years of living with ALS after diagnosis came to an end.

Chairs may have played a role in waiting for death but was not central to my experience with death. I think our goal is to appreciate life. Personally, I do not choose to prolong my own death.

Sharon KuncI

"Those who pass from this earth, die only, when those who we loved, forget them" -
Anonymous

Important Mission Study Survey Coming Soon!

The Mission Study Committee convened Feb. 11, 2020, to clarify who we are as a church, what our congregation as a whole stands for, and explore our future ministry to begin the process of discerning what God is calling Federated Church to be. A mission study involves a thoughtful, prayerful reflection on how a church can best meet the needs of its members, as well as God's greater community, locally, regionally and nationally. We have now met 8 times and are making good progress.

The Mission Study Committee has been reviewing important information previously created at Federated, as well as denominational recommendations for a productive process. Because this process is fundamentally tied to the wishes and needs of our church membership, we are requesting that you provide us with your feedback by completing a 1-item survey.

The survey will be mailed to the address the church office has for you. Copies of the survey for each member of Federated Church will be provided, and we are requesting each member complete and return the survey on or before Friday, June 5th. A postage-paid, addressed envelope will be provided so that those who mail back their surveys may do so in that manner. For those who wish to respond online, there is a link on the website for ease of access. All responses will be valuable as we move forward with the Mission Study, and respondents do not need to identify themselves unless they wish to do so.

Please be looking for this survey and complete and return it promptly.

Thank you!

The Mission Study Committee

Julie Graham, Steve Heinisch, John McClure, Dave Melick,
Lisa Perrin, Ashli Porter, Doug Williams and Marv Zoucha

Click [HERE](#) for information about our mobile giving app!

Welcome to Federated

Worship Times

Thursday Evening Worship Services are normally at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Worship Services are normally at 10:00 a.m.

Currently, all worship services are online only.

Click this link to see the most recent [bulletin](#) and image below for most recent worship service:

Worship Service - May 17, 2020
from Federated Church

Federated Church

Mission Study Committee Survey

The mission study encourages all congregational members of the household to complete an individual survey if desired, or one survey per household to convey your wishes and needs. All responses will be valuable as we move forward with the Mission Study, and respondents do not need to identify themselves unless they wish to do so. Please follow the [link](#) to complete this valuable survey!

Phil Wilson Scholarship Renewals

Federated Church Foundation Scholarship Renewal Applications were mailed out the week of May 4th.

Please contact Jim in the church office if you did not receive yours.

Applications are due back to the church office with an official transcript (or copy) no later than June 23rd.

Late applications are subject to a reduction penalty.

T-Shirts Needed!

Needlecraft Ministry is looking for good, used adult T-Shirts to make diapers. Please leave in the office. Any questions, contact Louise Moran.



Sale at Joie Taylor's House ~~June 4th~~ May 28th to May 31st

~~Joie Taylor will be having a sale at her house, here in Columbus, on June 4th starting at 9 am. She will be there from 9 am to 3pm on June 2nd to price items for sale. Federated friends are invited to stop by on the 2nd to visit and get pre-sale bargains!~~

*****After the Newsletter was printed and sent out, we found out the information in this article is incorrect. The sale will be from Thursday, May 28th to Sunday, May 31st, starting at 8am. Joie will not be in Columbus; she is not able to leave the facility in Iowa. We apologize for the misinformation in recent printings and emails.***

DVD Players and Laptops Requested

Do you have a portable DVD player or laptop that you are no longer using? If so, can we take it off your hands? We have church members who are not able to view worship services on TV or internet, so these devices can help to provide a portable viewing machine. Please let the office know if you have a device to donate or need a device to watch services.

♦ **We would like lift up health care workers by name during the coronavirus pandemic. Please share name and info for relatives who work in this profession:**

- ♦ **Dr. Nila Novotny** (member & local physician)
- ♦ **Dr. Jeff Gotschall** (member & local physician)
- ♦ **Carrie Prokopec** (member, daughter of Doug & Randi Williams, ER nurse at CCH)
- ♦ **Lisa Perrin** (member & nurse at CCH)
- ♦ **Dr. Paul Vrana** (son of Ben & Marilyn Vrana, researcher at Mt. Sinai Hospital NYC)
- ♦ **Michael Griffith** (son of Annette & Bob Griffith, nurse in Omaha)
- ♦ **Dr. Tyler Curry** (son of John & Deb Curry, psychiatrist in Omaha)
- ♦ **Jill Morris** (daughter of Jim & Kathy Morris, traveling nurse)
- ♦ **Dr. Jacob & Abbie Oran** (son-in-law and daughter of Kathy & Kenn Leischner, physician and nurse in Kearney)
- ♦ **Drs. Jeff Zoucha & Jennifer Hill** (son & daughter of Marv & Barb Zoucha, physician in Denver & ob/gyn in Omaha)
Continued in next column
- ♦ **Drs. Brian, Jeff & Jessica Gartrell** (son, son & daughter-in-law of Bruce & Diana Gartrell; family practice in Omaha, ENT/family practice in Council Bluffs, IA, pediatrician/hematology/oncology at St. Jude's Hospital in Memphis, TN)
- ♦ **Lily Pickrel** (granddaughter of Jan Pickrel, CMA at Genoa Long Term Care Center and nursing student)
- ♦ **Michelle Bellum Goedeken, Sarita Goedeken Panowiecz & Lorrie Niemeyer** (daughter, granddaughter & niece of Fred & Rene Bellum; nurse at Fairbury Hospital, radiology tech, nurse practitioner at St. Elizabeth's Hospital)
- ♦ **Cheryl Blodgett** (niece of Deb & Doug Rasby)
- ♦ **Ken Koehler** (relative of Georgia & Rod Behlen)
- ♦ **Holly Tracy** (daughter of Rae & Dave Fulton, ER nurse at Faith Regional Hospital, Norfolk)
- ♦ **Cathy Flowers Cox** (daughter-in-law of Nancy Blackburn & John Cox, ER nurse in Dodge City, KS)
- ♦ **Julie Bennett** (daughter-in-law of Pete & Carol Bennett, occupational therapist at CCH)
- ♦ **Carly Hoke** (daughter of Guy & Linda Wheatley, RN in Downey, CA)
- ♦ **Dr. Kaponi Chong-Hanssen** (cousin of Chrissy Ford, Physician at Ho'ola Lahui Hawai'i)



♦ We would also like to lift up those who are considered 'essential workers', including those who are in the food industry, the retail industry, banking, postal workers, sanitary workers and all others who cannot work from the safety of their homes; those who have been furloughed and those who are now unemployed and/or homeless due to the pandemic we are experiencing.

Meals on Wheels

At this time volunteer delivery is suspended due to the pandemic. The hospital is using their employees as a way to further control coming in and out of the hospital as well as reducing risk to the volunteers.

Watch for further information as it is received from the hospital.

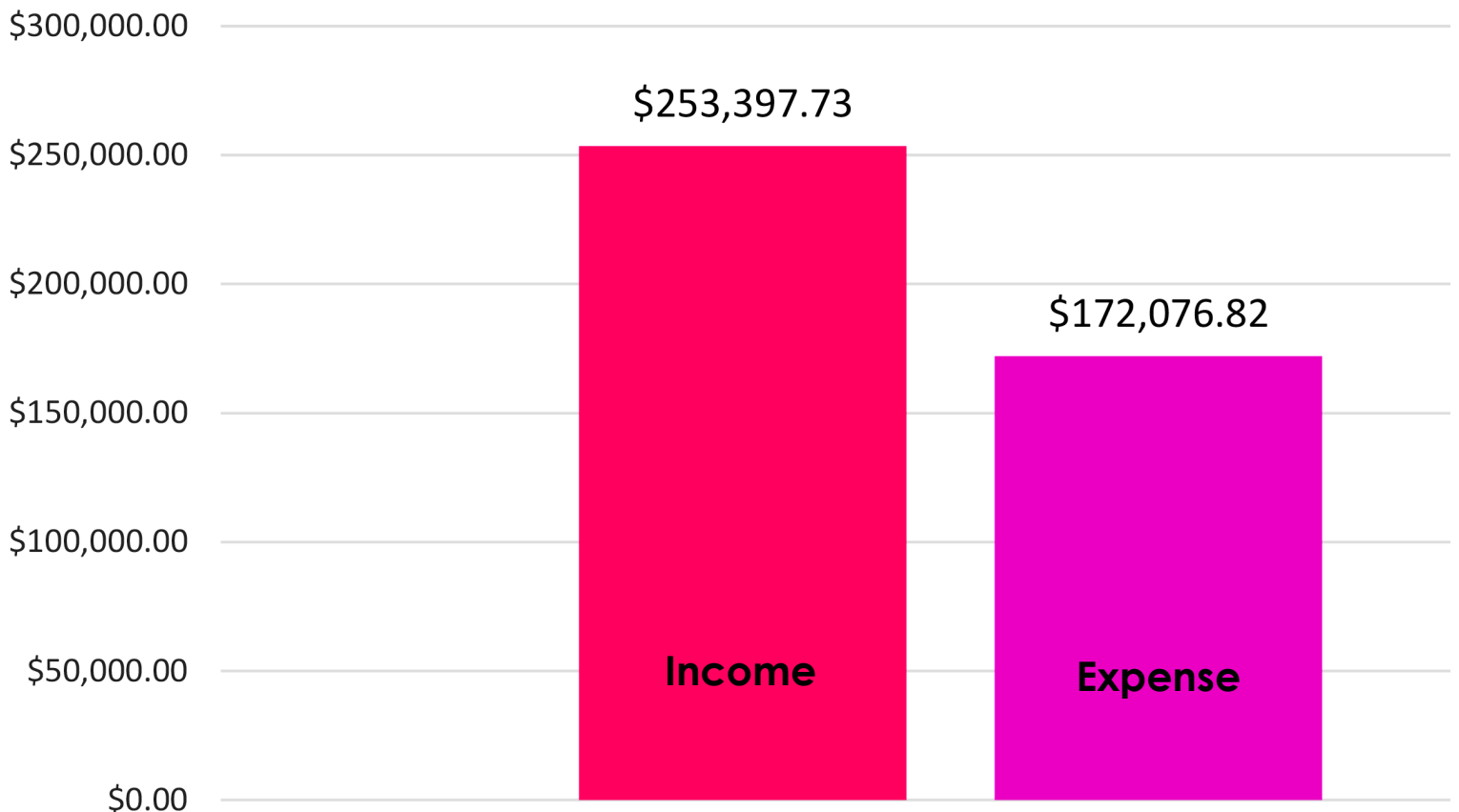


~Renee Bellum

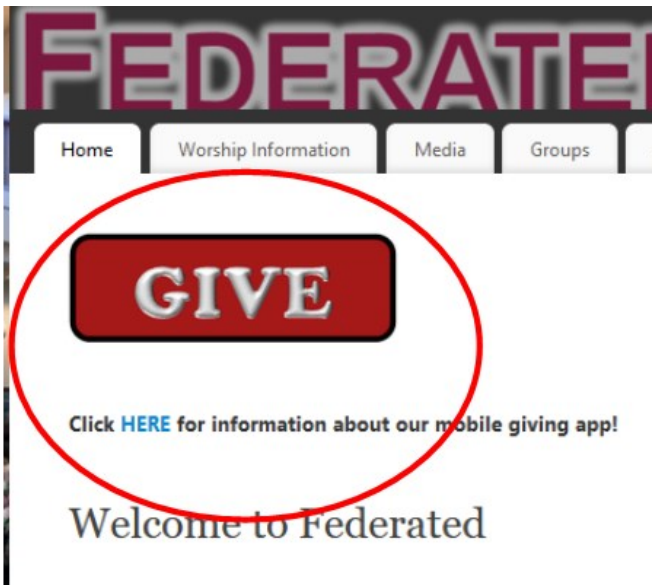
Finance at a Glance

This graph shows cumulative 2020 income and expenses from accounts up to April 30, 2020.

2020 Income and Expenses



Easy Giving Options Available



Give online for a quick and easy way to contribute without leaving the sanctity of your home!

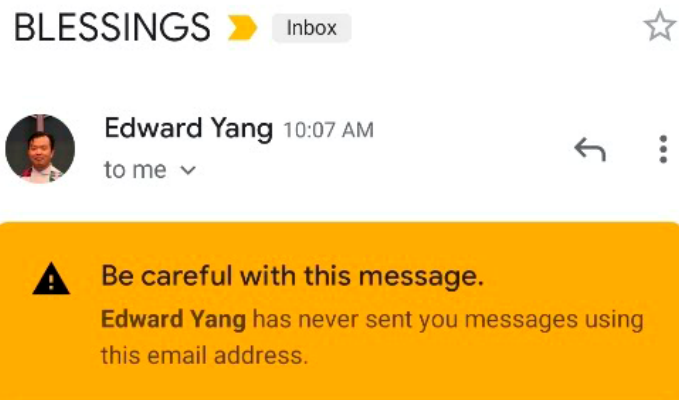
Three options are currently available:

- 1) Online Giving - press the "GIVE" button on the website
- 2) Mobile app - click the 'here' link underneath the GIVE button for instructions
- 3) ACH transfer - call Chrissy at the church office for information.

****Gift Card Email Scam!****

If you receive an email or text requesting gift cards or a "favor" from the church pastor or staff, feel free to delete or call the office to verify. Unfortunately, this is a common scam as explained by the Federated Trade

Commission: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2019/07/worshippers-targeted-gift-card-scam> . The example was an email received by one of our congregants, but be weary of any similar emails! The church office and staff will NOT email you requesting gift cards!



Good morning,how are you?

i need a favor from you,

please email me as soon as you get this message.

Blessings,
Rev. Dr. Edward Yang
Federated Church UCC-PCUSA
2704 15th St Columbus, NE 68601.

Center for Survivors



The Center's needs often change due to shortages or surpluses of certain items. Please call ahead if you have questions regarding needs, 402-564-2155. Here is a partial list of regularly requested items: Household and cleaning items, personal hygiene items, non-perishable food, children's items such as diapers/wipes, adult clothing (new), gift cards to Wal-Mart, Hy-Vee, Super Saver, gas cards, etc.

Platte County Food Pantry

The Platte County Food Pantry, located at 3020 18th Street in Suite 13 (Old Hospital) is currently open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the mornings. They have a no-contact drop off bin on the west side of the building on 32nd Avenue between 18th and 19th Streets, donations are needed daily! The current demand is starting to outweigh the supply. If you are in need of assistance, you can call at 402-563-4544, they are providing no-contact pick up as well!



When asked for suggested donations, I was told "If you like it, they will like it!" Some easy suggestions are: Canned and boxed foods such as soup, macaroni and cheese, ramen noodles, pasta and pasta sauce, veggies and fruits; Staple food items: peanut butter, jelly, pancake syrup, crackers. This is not an all inclusive list, any non-perishable food items are needed.

*****Please note: The Can-Care-A-Van donation drive has been postponed to this fall. More information will be available at a later date.***

Platte Valley Humane Society



The Platte Valley Humane Society (Paws & Claws Adoption Center) is located at 2124 13th Street. The hours are Monday through Friday, Noon to 4:30pm, and Saturdays Noon to 3:30pm. However, they are only operating by appointment right now, so call 402-562-5683 before you go meet your future pet!

Currently, they are in need of the following donations: Bleach, Paper towels, Laundry detergent, Cat litter, cat food.

Volunteers are not needed at this time.

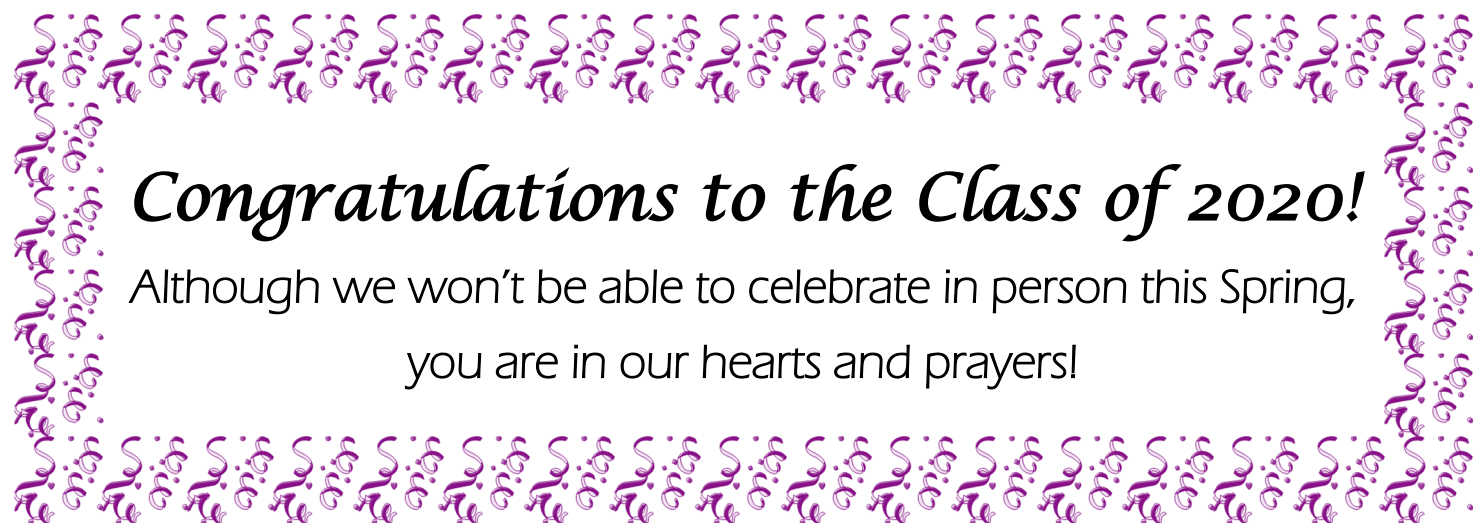
They have a number of animals available, including Rusty, Oakley, Amber, and Odie .





If you see a mistake or missing birthday, call/email Chrissy at 402-564-2812 or fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org

Kevin Kallweit	6/2	Bronwyn Prokopec	6/18
Andree Hoeman, Peggy Meyer, Shirley Spence	6/3	Marilyn Vrana	6/20
Nicole Miller, Kevin Perrin, Karen Whitney	6/5	Hailey Rathje, Taytum Miller	6/21
Ada Marsh	6/10	Giana Boyle, Emily Grant, Mia Grant, Parker Grant	6/24
Pat Scheuneman, Brielle Wolfe	6/12	Ben Vrana	6/25
Jose Garcia	6/13	John Novotny	6/26
Terry Hoeman	6/15	John McPhail	6/27
		Elizabeth Boettcher, Caleb Hast, Marcene Wurdeman	6/28



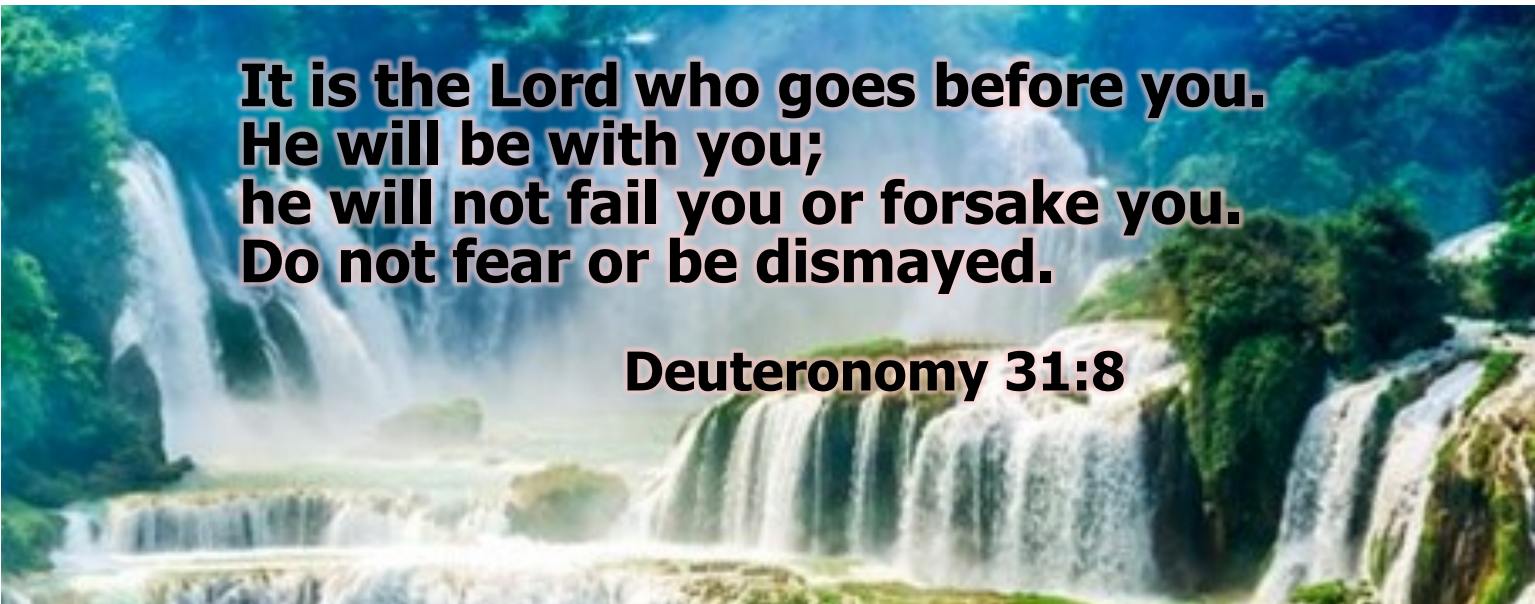
Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

Although we won't be able to celebrate in person this Spring,
you are in our hearts and prayers!

FEDERATED CHURCH
2704 15th STREET
PO Box 564
Columbus, NE, 68602-0564



June 2020 Newsletter



**It is the Lord who goes before you.
He will be with you;
he will not fail you or forsake you.
Do not fear or be dismayed.**

Deuteronomy 31:8