

FEDERATED CHURCH



INTO OUR NEW CENTURY IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST



Christmas Eve Day, Sunday, December 24, 2017

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

If you are new to Federated, please tell us on a “Visitors Card” & in a red Friendship Folder.

Children are welcome in worship at Federated. Children’s Activity Bags are at the Sanctuary entrance. The Library/“Cry Room” is child friendly. Child care is available Sundays in the Nursery. Ushers are here to help you — please ask them if you need hearing assistance devices and large print hymnals — ushering this month are Rick Porter (Thurs.), Gene Hahn, John McPhail, Linda McPhail, Peg Rupprecht, Tim Warren and Dennis Vollbracht and Eliot Yang, Youth Usher.

We are called Federated because on July 2, 1914, Columbus’ Congregational (now the United Church of Christ) and Presbyterian churches joined to serve as one congregation.

The Order of St. Andrew serves as Federated’s deacons. Prayer requests can be shared on **Prayers Cards** in the pew pockets or **Prayer Chain** requests to the Church Office (402) 564-2812 to call the Order of St. Andrew. The Prayer Chain is strictly confidential.

If you missed worship last week, visit www.federatedcolumbus.org for videos of worship and bulletins, or on Channel 1304 (HD) Mondays & Saturdays at Noon and Sunday evenings at 8pm.

In case of an emergency, the pastors’ cell phone numbers are:

Annika: (402) 942-1636 / Edward: (402) 302-2812

Governing Council 2017 - Federated Church Elders			Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Rick Porter, <i>President</i> • Dave Melick, <i>Vice President</i> Louise Moran, <i>Secretary</i> • Terry Norris, <i>Treasurer</i>			Rev. Dr. Annika Lister Stroope <i>Senior Pastor</i> annika@federatedcolumbus.org	Jim Rains <i>Office Manager</i> jrains@federatedcolumbus.org
<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	Rev. Dr. S. Edward Yang <i>Associate Pastor</i> <i>for Children, Youth, and Families</i> edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Chrissy Ford <i>Bookkeeper & Publications Coord.</i> cford@federatedcolumbus.org
Chris Dixon	Jeannie Kiser-Jensen	Gene Depue	Lee Augustin, <i>Organist</i>	Zach Nickolite, <i>Custodian</i>
Heidi Klevemann	Sharon Kuncil	Kathy Leischner	Bob Arp, <i>Chancel Choir Director</i>	Ashli Porter, <i>Nursery Attendant</i>
Dave Melick	Bill Royer	Gail Wurdeman	Stuart Gausman <i>Bell Choir Director</i>	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
Nila Novotny				
Paul Sanderson				

JOYS & CONCERNS

- ◆ Please hold Janet Lyon in your prayers as she recuperates from leg surgery at Columbus Hospital.
- ◆ We give thanks to God with Hailey Rathje and family for the graduation on Dec. 15. She received her Bachelor's in Social Work summa cum laude from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.
- ◆ To help those affected by disasters, visit Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is pda.pcusa.org and United Church of Christ is ww.ucc.org/disaster.

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Rev. Annika is out of the office Dec. 26-31 but reachable by cell phone. Rev. Edward is on vacation Dec. 26-Jan. 2

The Church Office is closed Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

Sunday, December 24

- 9:30am Morning Service, Sanctuary
- 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 5:00pm Family Service, Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Candlelight Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 25 - Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26 - No events scheduled

Wednesday, December 27 - No events scheduled

Thursday, December 28

- 6:30pm Thursday Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 29

- 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service, Sanctuary

Saturday, December 30 - No events scheduled

Sunday, December 31

- 9:30am Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, January 1 - Church Office Closed

Please note: December 31 is a Sunday this year. The final deposit for 2017 pledges, contributions, and donations to Federated Church will be **Friday, December 29**. All pledges, contributions, and donations received after Dec. 29th cannot be deposited until 2018, and therefore cannot be credited to 2017. We appreciate your understanding. Thank you for your generosity!

Learning & Fellowship

2018 All Church Book Read has TWO options this year! Option One: 100 Things Every Child Should Know Before Confirmation by Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick. Wondering what you missed years ago in confirmation class? This book can help! Option Two: Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race by Debby Irving. This book may challenge you, but it is worth it. Read one book or both! Books on sale now in the Narthex. Contact Rev. Annika with questions.

Tuesday Christian Discussion Group has started "Jesus, A Pilgrimage" by James Martin, SJ Tuesday mornings with breakfast at 7 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The book takes the reader on a pilgrimage to places in the Holy Land where Jesus lived and ministered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more details, visit www.federatedcolumbus.org, or contact the church office (402)564-2812.

COMING UP AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Thursday, December 28 and Sunday, December 31

Rev. Kenn Leischner preaching

Thursday, January 4 & Sunday, January 7

Epiphany Sunday with Communion

Sunday, January 14

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

Chaplain Ted from the Rescue Mission will

speak during Education Hour

SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR

No Education Hour Today, Dec. 24

Education Hour Resumes January 7th

Pre-K through high school are welcome to Christian formation and fellowship at **10:30 a.m.** in the Education Center and Upstairs Youth Rooms
Adult Education at 10:45 a.m.

Mission and Outreach

The Spirit of Christmas Giving (previously called Alternative Christmas Giving), sponsored by the Social Concerns and Missions Committee, are Platte County Food Pantry and Dr. Margie Heier's Zambia Medical Missionary (Gospelink). Committee members are available after worship services with information. Your gifts may also be deposited in the office drop box.

Disaster Clean Up Buckets to Arkansas If you or someone you know is travelling near the Little Rock, Arkansas area, please let Rev. Annika know annika@federatedcolumbus.org. Disaster Clean Up Buckets need to go to a warehouse there.

Needlecraft Prayer Ministry is knitting or crocheting Red Baby Hats for babies born in American Heart Month (February). Congenital heart defects are the most common type of birth defect in the country. If you would like to help in this project, please contact Louise Moran for more information. Hats must be completed by Dec. 31st!

Emerson Elementary After-school Tutoring—we are on break and will restart on Jan. 9th.

Wednesday Youth Club Resumes January 10!

Caring & Connecting

From the Order of St. Andrew: Thank you to all who helped decorate the sanctuary. Poinsettia plants remaining in the sanctuary on Wed. Dec. 27th will be delivered to area nursing homes.

If you use Facebook - be sure to "Like" Federated's Facebook page to get quick and easy information about upcoming worship services and special events!

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CHRISTMAS EVE DAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017

Hymns, Songs, Prayers, and liturgies in **Bold** are for the participation of the **Congregation**

The Prelude invites us to begin our time of worship; please take this time for silent reflection.

PRELUDE

Overture to the Messiah
Lee Augustin, Piano & Organ

HANDEL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass Friendship Folders to your neighbors.

Annika Lister Stroope, Senior Pastor and Edward Yang, Associate Pastor

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

BASED ON PSALM 42 AND THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

One: We will know him when he comes, not by any din of drums, nor by his manners or his airs,

All: nor by anything he wears. We will know him when he comes, not by his crown,

One: or by his gown, but his coming known shall be by the holy harmony,

All: which his coming makes in thee. We will know him when he comes!

One: Let us worship God.

*** OPENING HYMN NO. 28**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION & RECONCILIATION

UCC CHRISTMAS OFFERING GUIDE

All: Holy God, we confess that we are a distracted people and forgetful of your love. We make selfish choices, hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice in your world. We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry. By the power of your Spirit, forgive, restore, and strengthen us to live by your light. *Time for Silent Prayers*

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: Amen. God did not send Christ into the world to condemn the world, but to redeem it.

All: We are a forgiven people. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*** RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 29**

Go Tell It on the Mountain (verse 1)

CHILDREN'S SERMON *All children are invited to come forward during the hymn for a special message.*

*** THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: We celebrate the Prince of Peace: the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

All are invited to rise as you are able in body or in spirit to greet those around you.

*** RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 29**

Go Tell It on the Mountain (verse 2)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

READING & SINGING OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

HYMN NO. 48 *(please remain seated)* ***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***

****As you are able in body or in spirit, please rise.***

SCRIPTURE LESSON THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 52: 7 - 10
Isaiah speaks hope to people in exile ~ Pew Bible Old Testament page 683

CHORAL ANTHEM **All the Stars Shone Down** M.L. LIGHTFOOT
Bob Arp, Director

SCRIPTURE LESSON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 1: 67 - 80
Zechariah's Song about his son, John the Baptist ~ Pew Bible New Testament page 58

* HYMN NO. 27 **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**

SCRIPTURE LESSON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 1: 46 - 55
Mary's Song, also called "The Magnificat" ~ Pew Bible New Testament page 57

HYMN NO. 37 (please remain seated) **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

LESSON IN POETRY "Christmas" by John Betjeman

* HYMN NO. 23 **Angels We Have Heard on High**

SCRIPTURE LESSON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 2: 8 - 20
The Birth of Jesus ~ Pew Bible New Testament page 59

HYMN NO. 59 (please remain seated) **While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks** (verses 1 - 3)

SCRIPTURE LESSON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 1: 1 - 12
pew Bible New Testament page 91-92

* HYMN NO. 59 **While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks** (verses 4 - 6)

LESSON IN PROSE excerpt from a Christmas Sermon, by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 31 **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *What Is This Lovely Fragrance*

ARR. MANZ

*DOXOLOGY (tune page 592 of the hymnal)

P.M. TESTERMAN

**O Glorious God, to you we bring; Praise, Treasure, Time as Offering;
Come, Holy Spirit, with us dwell; Born is the Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

All: Giver of all gifts, whose holy season fills our hearts with wonder, we dedicate these gifts to you. Bless the offerings we bring, that they may show the world your peace. Amen.

* RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 29 **Go Tell It on the Mountain** (verse 3)

* BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE *Festival Medley* ARR. FLEISCHER