



FEDERATED CHURCH

INTO OUR NEW CENTURY IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST



Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2016

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.

Hearing assistance devices and large print hymnals are also available. **Ushers are here to help you:** Don Anderson, John McPhail, Linda McPhail, Denny Vollbracht, Tim Warren.

All are welcome to Sunday fellowship after worship, this week hosted by the Personnel Comm.

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

For **Prayer Chain** requests, call the Church Office (402) 564-2812 to call the Order of St. Andrew to start the prayer chain. The Prayer Chain is strictly confidential.

If you missed worship last week, visit www.federatedcolumbus.org to see videos of worship and bulletins or Channel 99 (HD) at Noon Mondays and Saturdays and Sunday at 8pm.

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

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

Governing Council 2016			Clergy and Staff	
Joie Taylor, <i>President</i> • Rick Porter, <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><i>Class of 2016</i></u>	<u><i>Class of 2017</i></u>	<u><i>Class of 2018</i></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
Beth Millard	Chris Dixon	Jeannie Kiser-Jensen	Lee Augustin, <i>Organist</i>	Zach Nickolite, <i>Custodian</i>
Mary Sharpe	Heidi Klevemann	Sharon Kuncel	Bob Arp, <i>Chancel Choir Director</i>	Ashli Porter, <i>Nursery Attendant</i>
Mike Slizoski	Dave Melick	Bill Royer	Stuart Gausman <i>Bell Choir Director</i>	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
Karen Whitney	Nila Novotny			
Kristi Wolfe	Paul Sanderson			

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WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

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

PRELUDE

*I Wonder as I Wander
Sleepers, Wake
Lee Augustin, Organist*

APPALACHIAN CAROL
HARM. BACH

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass Friendship Folders to your neighbors.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

MARK 13:24-27

One: There will be signs in the heavens and distress among the nations.

All: When Christ returns in power and glory people will faint with fear.

One: But when you see these things, lift up your heads:

All: our redemption is drawing near!

One: Let us worship God.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 15**

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Drew, Kristi, Gunnar, Brielle & Alyse Wolfe

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

FEASTING ON THE WORD, ADVENT

One: The Lord is near.

All: In your presence, Holy God, we confess that we need repentance. We have broken your commands against idolatry. We do not live in peace with your creation or your people. We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise, for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news and for the sake of all the world.

One: Let us offer silent prayers of confession.

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: Amen. The Lord has taken away the judgments against you.

All: In the name of the one God who lives and moves among us, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

***SONG OF PRAISE #2092** *Sing the Faith Songbook*

like a child

CHILDREN'S SERMON

All children are invited forward for a special message.

Lisa Perrin, parent and Christian Education Committee member

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Annika Lister Stroope

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.

BELLS OF JOY

Advent Carol
Stuart Gausman, Director

ARR. HOPSON

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faith Dill, Liturgist

READING OF SCRIPTURE

The Gospel according to John 1: 1 - 5, 14- 18

PEW BIBLE NEW TESTAMENT PAGE 91 - 92

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

The One Who Relates and Offer Hope

Edward Yang, Associate Pastor

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

***RESPONSIVE HYMN No. 7**

Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Silent Night, Holy Night

ARR. GRAMANN

***DOXOLOGY** ††

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: Merciful God, you come into our midst longing for communion with us, becoming one of us. Break our resistance to life with you, show us the path toward just relations, and bring us into your unimaginable peace; in Jesus' name. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN No. 4**

Creators of the Stars of Night

***BLESSING AND SENDING**

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: As children of God, we are no longer strangers, but friends. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

POSTLUDE

As With Gladness Men of Old

ARR. LEVITT

***After praising God with the Postlude, all are welcome Sunday fellowship,
hosted by the Stewardship Committee***

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT FEDERATED

Next Sunday, December 18 at 9:30 a.m.

*Lighting of four Advent Candles and the story of Jesus' birth
in story and song with Sunday School children*

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

5 o' clock p.m. Family Service

7 o' clock p.m. Choral Music, Communion, and Candles

11 o' clock p.m. Communion and Candles

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25 - Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.



JOYS & CONCERNS

- ♦ Worship Flowers are given by Gail Wurdeman and Sarah Aerni in loving memory of their parents, Harold and Irene Wurdeman.
- ♦ Prayers are requested for Phyllis Elliot as she rehabs from a colon infection.
- ♦ Please pray for healing with mental clarity for George Greenawalt as requested by his daughter, honorably retired pastor Irene (O'Brien) Dare.
- ♦ Please hold Dorsie Ivy in your prayers as he recovers and continues rehabilitation at home.
- ♦ Please pray for Lois Zoucha, Marv's mother, as she faces health challenges from cancer.
- ♦ Thank you to Tim Warren and Marv Zoucha who worked very quickly this past week after the church water heater was discovered leaking on Tuesday, and the sump pump was not working. Tim found a discounted water heater, and along with Marv and their crews, got everything up and running on Thursday.

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 11

- 8:00am YMAC Meeting, AD 1
- 9:30am Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:30am Sunday School, Ed. Center, Upper Room
- 10:45am Adult Bible Education, EC 4/5
- 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 12

- 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 212, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 13

- 7:00am Christian Book Discussion, Fellowship Hall
- 10:00am Grief Support Counseling, Choir Room
- 6:00pm Consonaires Rehearsal, Choir Room

Wednesday, December 14

- 3:00 pm Youth After School, Fellowship Hall
- 5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 6:30pm Puppet Ministry, EC 3 & 8
- 7:30pm Youth Club, Upper Room & Gym
- 7:30pm Chancel Choir Practice, Choir Room

Thursday, December 15

- 10:30am Community Planning, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 16

- 9:00am MOPS Playgroup, Gym
- 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service, EC 6

Saturday, December 17

- 12:00pm Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Sanctuary, FH

Sunday, December 18

- 9:30am Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:30am Sunday School, Ed. Center, Upper Room
- 10:45am Adult Bible Education, EC 4/5
- 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship Service, Sanctuary

Advent Bible Study & Christian Education

Sunday Morning Advent Adult Education from **10:45a.m. to 11:30a.m.** - New Advent Bible Study Series! We take angels for granted in the Christmas story...but are their ancient messages meaningful today? We'll explore together in Room 4/5 (feel free to bring your coffee hour treats with you!).

UPCOMING AT FEDERATED CHURCH

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

Mission and Outreach

Family Christmas Caroling - Join together NEXT Sunday, Dec. 18 from 4 - 6pm to visit and sing for homebound members of our church (no singing ability required!). After, we will have supper at church. All are invited!

The Social Concerns & Missions Committee invites you to consider **Alternative Christmas Giving** again this year. The four donation options are: *A Place at the Table* (Backpack Program for schools, Dr. Marjorie Heier's Medical Mission in Zambia, *The Heifer Project*, or Donor's Choice for any other organization or mission. Please visit the table in the Narthex to donate or in the white mailbox at the church office door.

Partnership with Emerson Elementary adult and teen volunteers needed for after-school tutoring Mondays (4pm-5pm). Background check is required. Please talk with Pastor Edward if you are interested.

H.I.S. Puppeteers has many new things to be thankful for!!! Look for the article in the Newsletter coming this December! If you or someone you know is wishing to join the puppeteers, please contact Julie, Cindy, or Katie. We meet on Wednesday evenings. You are always welcome to join our puppet ministry!

Caring and Fellowship

Grief Support Group meets once more in 2016, on **Tuesday, Dec. 13** from **10 a.m. to 11 a.m.** and is open to the community.

Federated's **first annual All Church Book Read** has begun! Purchase a copy or request a loaner in the Narthex. You can learn more about the book, ***In the House of I Am***, a memoir by **Nebraska native Mary Avidano**, and the author at www.maryavidano.com. **February 1** - Mary Avidano will visit Federated and is happy to answer your questions and visit with everyone about writing her book.

Thank You!

A **heartfelt Thank You** to all who made **Cookies N More** a **tremendous success**. We sold out completely! Thanks to 91 cookie bakers, 39 candy makers, volunteers & cash donations. ~ Anita Hahn & Rogalyn Stevens Co-chairs

Old Education Center table now for sale! \$10.00 each. There are five 6 footers and four 8 footers available!!! Get them now, before they are gone!

Stewardship 2017 Update - Fearless Generosity

Thank you to all who have made a 2017 pledge! **106** households have pledged, and **41%** of those have increased their pledge. Thank you for your prayerful support for Federated Church's mission & outreach.

~ The Stewardship Committee