

FEDERATED CHURCH



INTO OUR NEW CENTURY IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST



Thursday, December 20 and Sunday, December 23, 2018

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 **Ushers are here to help you and** Hearing assistance devices and large print hymnals are also available. Ushering this month are Rick Porter (Thurs.), Gene Hahn, John & Linda McPhail, Peg Rupprecht, Tim Warren and, Tessa Miller, 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.

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, and on TV at Noon on Spectrum Channel 1304 (HD) Mondays & Saturdays and Sunday at 8pm.

In case of an emergency, the pastors’ cell phone numbers are: Annika: (402) 942-1636 and Edward: (402) 302-2812.

Rev. Kenn Leischner is on-call for pastoral emergencies December 26 - January 2.

Rev. Kenn’s cell phone is (402) 942-3930

Governing Council 2018 - Federated Church Elders			Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Dave Melick, <i>President</i> • Bill Royer, <i>Vice President</i> Louise Moran, <i>Secretary</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 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</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
Jeannie Kiser-Jensen	Julie Graham	Wilma Arp	Lee Augustin, <i>Organist</i>	Bob Arp, <i>Chancel Choir Director</i>
Sharon Kuncel	Kathy Leischner	Linda Wheatley	Stuart Gausman <i>Bell Choir Director</i>	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
Rod Wachter	Gail Wurdeman	Doug Williams		
Financial Administrators:	Terry Norris	Terry Millard		
	Donna Augspurger	Robin Lehr		

JOYS & CONCERNS

- ◆ Prayers of thanks by Tim and Val Rathje and family for Tim having a successful stent procedure this past week.
- ◆ Please hold Marcia Veach in your prayers while she is at Columbus Community Hospital.
- ◆ Jeremy West is recovering at home following surgery on his jaw at Bryan West Hospital. Jeremy and Rev. Annika appreciate your prayers!
- ◆ Both of our denominations are doing disaster relief including work around the country and around the world. Along with your prayers, please visit either denominations' websites to learn about disaster assistance efforts.

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Rev. Annika is on vacation Dec. 26 - Jan. 2

Rev. Edward is on vacation Dec. 26 - Jan. 4

Rev. Kenn Leischner is on-call for pastoral emergencies and can be reached at (402) 942-3930.

Rev. Kenn will provide pulpit supply in the Thursdays, Dec. 27 & Sunday, Dec. 30 Worship Services.

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve

- 5:00pm Family Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 8:00pm Candlelight Service with Communion and Choir, Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26

No events scheduled

Thursday, December 27

- 5:00pm Special Olympics 5 on 5, Gym
- 6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 28

- 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service, EC 6

Saturday, December 29

No events scheduled

Sunday, December 30

- 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 31

End-of-Year contributions received in the Church Office **until 3:30 pm**

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 - New Year's Day

Stewardship 2019



Share the Gift
of God

Thank you to all who have made a 2019 pledge!

101 households have pledged, and 54% of those have increased their pledge! We appreciate your prayerful consideration and support for Federated Church's mission and outreach to the community and beyond.

- The Stewardship Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

9:00 a.m. Sunday All Ages Education Hour resumes January 6th!

Childrens' classrooms are in the Education Center and Youth are on the Second Floor

January Adult Education - Ed Room 4

The coffee is on!

January 6, 2019 we will begin a documentary series reflecting on how God is understood in the Bible, throughout history, and around the world.

On January 20, we welcome Rev. Dr. Scott Jones, Senior Pastor of First Central UCC Church in Omaha. Scott published his memoir this past fall, which shares his journey of growing up in Oklahoma in a Baptist family. When Scott discerned a call to ministry, and also embraced his identity as a gay man, his journey took unexpected turns. Scott will have copies of his book available.

Mission and Outreach

Christmas Dinner volunteers are needed and appreciated! Please contact the church office if you can volunteer at the Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day and/or you can help with home meal delivery (402) 564-2812

Thank you to all who have signed up to serve a meal at the Rescue Mission in 2019! Only a few more dates need to be filled: **Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, and Dec. 13, 2019.** A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Poinsettias remaining in the Sanctuary after Christmas Eve will be placed in Fellowship Hall for Christmas Day Dinner guests to brighten their home or to deliver to others. Thank you!

~ Order of St. Andrew

A huge THANK YOU to the generous people of Federated Church for their contributions to OPERATION EDUCATION, the project that will enable several children of Nairobi to pay school fees so that they can attend school. We so appreciate your help with this wonderful project! What a gift! We will be returning to Kenya in the fall, so watch for updates, or better yet, plan to go with us!

~ Julie Graham and Katie Claus

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018

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

*Of the Father's Love Begotten
O Come, All Ye Faithful
Lee Augustin, Piano & Organ*

ARR. HELD
ARR. DIEMER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass Friendship Folders to your neighbors.

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

*** 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. 22**

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Toby Sand, Acolyte

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

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.

One: Let us join our hearts in a time of silent prayer.

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 (SUN.) *All children are invited to come forward during the hymn for a special message.*

*** RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 29**

Go Tell It on the Mountain (verse 2)

*** 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.

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***

SCRIPTURE LESSON

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 52: 7 - 10

Laura Porter (Thurs.), Liturgist

Isaiah speaks hope to people in exile ~ Pew Bible Old Testament page 683

CHORAL ANTHEM (SUN.)

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!
Bob Arp, Director

J. F. WILSON

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

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

* **HYMN NO. 53** **What Child Is This**

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

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 2: 8 - 20 Paul Sanderson (Thurs.), Liturgist
The Birth of Jesus ~ Pew Bible New Testament page 59

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

LESSON IN PROSE Adapted from "The Life of Our Lord" by Charles Dickens
"The Life of Our Lord" was the last book Dickens published, in 1849

HYMN NO. 59 (please remain seated) **While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks** (verses 1 - 3)
pew Bible New Testament pages 91-92

LESSON IN PROSE Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem by Maya Angelou Barb Sanderson (Thurs.),
Liturgist

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 1: 1 - 12

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY New World Singers Seniors (Sun.)

* **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.**

* **BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

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

POSTLUDE How Great Our Joy! ARR. RUTTER

**After praising God with the Postlude, all are warmly welcome to Sunday fellowship time
with refreshments, hosted this week by Circle 1.**

Christmas Eve Service ~ Monday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Family Service

8:00 p.m. Candlelight Service with Communion and Choir

Christmas Day Community Dinner ~ Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 1 p.m. (home meal delivery at 11:30 a.m.)

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

CCLI License #1160936