

FEDERATED CHURCH



INTO OUR NEW CENTURY IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST



Thursday, December 27 and Sunday, December 30, 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.

Sunday, December 30

10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 31 New Year's Eve

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

Tuesday, January 1 - New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 2

No events scheduled

Thursday, January 3

5:00pm Special Olympics 5 on 5, Gym

6:15pm Order of the Arrow, EC 8

6:15pm Scouts Roundtable, Fellowship Hall

6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, January 4

6:00pm Latino Prayer Service, EC 6

Saturday, January 5

No events scheduled

Sunday, January 6

9:00am Adult Bible Education, EC 4/5

9:00am Sunday School, Ed. Center, Upper Room

10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship Service, Sanctuary

Stewardship 2019

Thank you to all who have made a 2019 pledge!

105 households have pledged, and **56%** 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



Share the Gift
of God

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

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.

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 signup 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

Please return any tea towels to the Kitchen, that you may have taken home to clean! Thank you!

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 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

*I Saw Three Ships
Joy to the World
Lee Augustin, Piano & Organ*

ENGLISH CAROL
GERMAN CAROL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass Friendship Folders to your neighbors.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

(PSALM 148; TRANSLATION ADAPTED FROM COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE)

One: Praise God!

Many: Praise God from heaven! Praise God on the heights!

One: Praise God, all you messengers! Praise God, all you heavenly forces!

Many: Sun and moon, praise God! All of you bright stars, praise God!

One: Do the same, you young ones!—and you who are old together with you who are young!

Many: Let all of these praise God's name because only God's name is high over earth and heaven.

One: God raised the strength of the people, the praise of all the faithful ones....

INVOCATION

(Psalm 148; Hebrews 2: 10-18)

Creator, The world you have made is powerful and dangerous, diverse and beautiful. By praising your goodness in all creation, we creatures learn our place and know our strength. Open us here to recognize the One you sent into this complicated world, Jesus--Holy One, Human One, Vulnerable Child—At home wherever there is rejoicing, or struggle, or anguish, or hope. Teach us to follow Jesus along the paths of praise and service which lead to You.

*** OPENING HYMN NO. 53**

What Child is This

CALL TO CONFESSION

(MATTHEW 2: 13-23)

One: Holy One, You sent Jesus into a world where children are at risk; where they, Holy Innocents, suffer, And their parents, like Rachel, weep for them. When we forget that The Holy Family was a poor family:

Many: Lord, have mercy.

One: When we forget that The Holy Family was a refugee family:

Many: Lord, have mercy.

One: When we forget that The Holy Family was an immigrant family:

Many: Lord, have mercy. (a moment of silent prayer)

One: Forgive us, O God, and lead us to recognize your Holy Child in the places of greatest need.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: Jesus, savior from sin, is present with us in the painstaking work of the Reign of God opening our hearts and our eyes, rebuilding our relationships, restoring our joy. Let us celebrate this great grace by offering to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

CHILDREN'S SERMON (SUN.) *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.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC (SUN.)

The Little Drummer Boy/Peace On Earth
Bob Arp and Wayne McCormick

GROSSMAN & SIMEONE

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12: Selected Verses

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

SERMON

Rev. Kenn Leischner

What I want to talk about now is the various ways God's Spirit gets worked into our lives... God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful:

wise counsel, clear understanding, simple trust, healing the sick, miraculous acts, proclamation, distinguishing between spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues.

All these gifts have a common origin but are handed out one by one by the one Spirit of God. God decides who gets what, and when. You can easily enough see how this kind of thing works by looking no further than your own body. Your body has many parts—limbs, organs, cells—but no matter how many parts you can name, you're still one body. ...

I want you to think about how all this makes you more significant, not less. A body isn't just a single part blown up into something huge. It's all the different-but-similar parts arranged and functioning together. If Foot said, "I'm not elegant like Hand, embellished with rings; I guess I don't belong to this body," would that make it so? If Ear said, "I'm not beautiful like Eye, limpid and expressive; I don't deserve a place on the head," would you want to remove it from the body? If the body was all eye, how could it hear? If all ear, how could it smell? As it is, we see that God has carefully placed each part of the body right where he wanted it.

⁴But I also want you to think about how this keeps your significance from getting blown up into self-importance. For no matter how significant you are, it is only because of what you are a *part* of. An enormous eye or a gigantic hand wouldn't be a body, but a monster. What we have is one body with many parts, each its proper size and in its proper place. No part is important on its own. Can you imagine Eye telling Hand, "Get lost; I don't need you"? Or, Head telling Foot, "You're fired; your job has been phased out"? As a matter of fact, in practice it works the other way—the "lower" the part, the more basic, and therefore necessary. You can live without an eye, for instance, but not without a stomach. When it's a part of your own body you are concerned with, it makes no difference whether the part is visible or clothed, higher or lower. You give it dignity and honor just as it is, without comparisons. If anything, you have more concern for the lower parts than the higher. If you had to choose, wouldn't you prefer good digestion to full-bodied hair?

The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the joy.

You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your "part" mean anything.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 48

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Away in a Manger

TRADITIONAL CAROL

* 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: **With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love. Let our gifts point to your presence in the world, and do your transforming work among all who are vulnerable and in need.**

* BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

* CLOSING HYMN NO. 28

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

POSTLUDE

Come, Shepherds, Rise

BOHEMIAN CAROL

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

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

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