



Second
Sunday of

FEDERATED CHURCH

Thursday, December 2, & Sunday, December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent

Mission Statement:

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

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 with the Church Office (402) 564-2812 to initiate a Prayer Chain with 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: Spectrum Channel 1304 (HD)

Mondays 11:55am, Saturdays 11:55am and Sundays 7:55pm.

In case of an emergency, pastor's cell phone number is: Edward (402) 302-2812.

| Governing Council 2021 - Federated Church Elders | | | Federated Church Clergy and Staff | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Tim Warren, President Wayne McCormick, Vice President Louise Moran, Secretary | | | Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D., Acting Head of Staff & Associate Pastor for CYF edward@federatedcolumbus.org | Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director brenda@federatedcolumbus.org |
| <u>Class of 2021</u> | <u>Class of 2022</u> | <u>Class of 2023</u> | Chrissy Ford, Office Administrator cford@federatedcolumbus.org | Kathy Zywiec, Office Assistant kathy@federatedcolumbus.org |
| Gene Hahn | John McClure | Jesse Abrego | Bob Arp, Chancel Choir Director | Stuart Gausman, Bell Choir Director |
| Marv Zoucha | Renee Norris | Katie Claus | James Sharpe, Organist/Accompanist | Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia, El Buen Pastor Fellowship |
| Donna Augspurger | Alison Wagner | Mimi Ernst | Betty Garcia Lopez, Nursery Attendant | |
| Financial Administrators: | Donna Augspurger | Robin Lehr | | |
| Terry Millard | Terry Norris | Marv Zoucha | | |

JOYS & CONCERNS

If you have any joys or concerns, please share with the congregation by informing the office.

- ♦ Pray for wisdom as Rebecca Timperley discerns how to have her broken leg treated.
- ♦ Pray for the family of Irene O'Brien Dare who died November 21, 2021. A public visitation was held on Friday, November 26th at Gass Haney.
- ♦ Pray for Leroy Kallweit who is currently in a care facility receiving treatment for an infection.
- ♦ Pray for Karen Grabowski's mother, who had a successful surgery to remove her left axillary lymph nodes.
- ♦ Pray for Bill Royer who will be undergoing open-heart surgery December 10th.
- ♦ Pray for Chuck & Pat Schueneman. Chuck is on hospice care.
- ♦ Homestead Presbytery: *Lincoln Heritage*

We request prayers for the recipients of our food pantry and hat/glove drive; may all be fed and warm as we move into the winter season. Please pray for the life of this congregation, that we may learn and grow together to be faithful followers of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please contact the office staff if you are available to be Liturgist for any of the following dates in December: 12th, 24th - 8pm

Calling all past and future singers!

Choir rehearsals are scheduled Wednesday evenings, at 7:30 pm. They will be meeting the sanctuary for the time being. Masks are optional but they will be observing social distancing.

Please consider giving this fun group a try!

Spaghetti Feed at Peace Lutheran, December 5th from 11:30am to 1:30pm. This event is sponsored by Global Passion Ministries - NE as a fundraiser for their Medical Mission trip to Nicaragua in January 2022. Free will donations requested.

Many, Many Thanks from Cookies 'N More!

Thank you to all the hard working volunteers, bakers and creators, coordinators, decorators and workers who helped make this year's event an amazing success! Our total raised for the event came up to over \$3,500!

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 5th

8:45am SALT (Adult Education), EC4
9:00am Education Hour, EC & Upper Rooms
10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am H.I.S. Puppeteers, EC rooms

Monday, December 6th

4:00pm CHS Diamond Dancers Practice, Gym
5:15pm Order of St. Andrew Meeting, EC8
7:00pm Scouts Troop 212, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 7th

1:00pm Afternoon Bible Study, EC8/Online
7:00pm Cub Scouts 279 Meeting, Fellowship Hall
7:15pm Worship & Music Meeting, EC4

Wednesday, December 8th

10:00am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Evening Bible Study, Online
6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 9th

4:00pm CHS Diamond Dancers, Gym
6:30pm Thursday Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 10th

Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, December 11th

Dress Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Pageant
Wedding

Sunday, December 12th

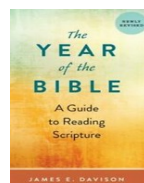
8:45am SALT (Adult Education), EC4
9:00am Education Hour, EC & Upper Rooms
10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am H.I.S. Puppeteers, EC rooms
11:00am Youth Ministry Meeting, EC8

Social Concerns & Missions:

Donations for Oct., Nov. & Dec.: New gloves, hats & scarves of all sizes for the Angel Tree!

Bible Reading Questions

- Which two Old Testament people does James mention as examples of patient endurance and effective prayer? (James 5)
- What is the example that Christ offered for us to follow in his steps? (1 Peter 2)



Bible Reading Sharing & Discussion:

there will be a monthly meeting to share insights and discuss questions related to each month's Bible reading. The monthly hybrid (in-person and online) meeting will not be taking place in December. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24th at 3pm. If you are interested in joining this meeting but the time does not work well for you, please inform Pastor Edward.

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2 & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021

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

PRELUDE

Sleepers Awake! A Voice Astounds Us

BACH

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

MARK HAYES

James Sharpe, Organ/Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: If life was a home, then we would pray -

All: may love be the foundation. May God be the cornerstone. May the Spirit be the windows - ushering light in. And may hope be the walls - holding us together.

One: In this hour of worship, let us work toward building that home together.

All: We may not know the path ahead, but God is here, even now.

One: Let us give thanks for a foundation of love.

All: Let us worship Holy God.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

KLEVEMANN FAMILY

OPENING SONG

Close to Home Theme Song

BECKY & NATHAN BLISS OF BARNABY BLISS

CALL TO CONFESSION

In our scripture passage for today, Zechariah, a new father, speaks to his newborn son, John the Baptist, for the very first time. I want you to imagine yourself in his shoes...

What would you say to a newborn sleeping in your arms? What would you want them to know on their very first day? What would feel important?

I imagine that all of you would speak words of love.

It's impossible not to speak words of love when you're holding a baby, and yet as we grow up, that skill tends to become harder for us to practice. So let us return to our foundation - to words of love, starting with love for ourselves. Let us pray the prayer of confession together.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, when John was Born, Zechariah leaned down and whispered words of love into his ear. We know that you do the same for us, day in and day out, yet we fail to hear it. We forget that in the beginning we were made good. We doubt that we could possibly be enough. We hustle for our self-worth and wear ourselves out aiming for perfection. We deflect words of praise. We hide behind shiny first impressions. Forgive us. Trusting our worth is the hardest job. Open our ears as you open our hearts, so that we might rest on the foundation of goodness you have laid for us. Gratefully we pray, amen.

MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Family of faith, no matter how old we get, God continues to say to us: "You are loved; you are forgiven." That is the foundation of our lives. That is the truth upon which we build our home.

So breathe deeply. There is grace and peace here. Join me in proclaiming this good news:

All: We are loved. We are forgiven. We are claimed. This is our foundation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

One: In Jesus Christ, we know God's forgiveness and peace. Peace of Christ be with you.

All: Also with you.

One: Let us share that peace with one another.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jan Pickrel

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Marilyn Abrego, Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel According to Luke 1 : 57 - 80

Pew Bible, NT, Page 57 - 58

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

All: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE SONG

Prepare the Way

BARRETT

Bob Arp, Chancel Choir Director

SERMON

Edward Yang, Pastor

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: "When Old Zechariah Saw What God Had Done" by Carolyn W. Gillette**

When old Zechariah saw what God had done,
He knew that the promised Messiah would come.

His speech was restored and his friends were amazed;

Recalling his words, we now offer God praise:

You've looked down with favor and rescued your own.

You've sent us a Savior from King David's throne.

The prophets once told us, "It's part of God's plan!"

And now we behold this: We're saved by your hand.

You keep what you promise and so we are blest;

In mercy you saved us when we were oppressed.

As Abraham heard you, we've heard your call too;

We're saved, so we'll serve you in all that we do.

We thank you, O God, that John pointed the way;

In Jesus our Lord now, we've seen your new day.

In Christ, the dawn brightens and death's shadows cease;

We'll live in your light and be guided in peace. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

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CALL TO OFFERING

Zechariah gave one of the greatest gifts he could give to his son. He gave him a foundation of love - words of purpose, pride, love, and belonging. So, in turn, remembering that joyful day, we try to make a similar impact by giving what we can. And we pray that the gifts we give now - our time, our money, our talents - will be infused by the Spirit to make a more purposeful world of love and belonging that we can be proud of. So let us give now. Let this be the foundation - the very start - of a better world.

Financial gifts can be dropped off in the contribution box, located at the entrance of the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY

Of the Father's Love Begotten

LUDVIG LENEL

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, you are our home. You and your goodness are the place we return to, the place we long to lay our head. So today as we offer you these gifts, we pray that you would take this offering and turn it into ministry. Use these gifts to transform the world we live in to better reflect the home you have envisioned for us - a home of peace, a home built on the foundation of love. Gratefully we pray, amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #602

Song of Zechariah (Blest Be the God of Israel)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord Christ, the Only Son of God

J.S. BACH

Upcoming Events:

- DECEMBER 10TH - POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE

- DECEMBER 12TH - CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

- DECEMBER 16TH - ECUMENICAL BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

- DECEMBER 19TH - LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE

- DECEMBER 23RD - NO SERVICE

- DECEMBER 24TH - CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm Young At Heart Service

8pm Candlelight, Communion & Carols Service

- DECEMBER 25TH - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS DINNER CANCELLED

- DECEMBER 27TH - OFFICE CLOSED



Advent and Christmas POINSETTIAS

Please **order poinsettias** by December 10th.

Poinsettias are given to God's glory, and may also be designated as a memorial and/or given in honor of special persons.

| | Quantity (\$9.00 ea.) | Total |
|---|-----------------------|-------|
| No Color Preference | | \$ |
| Red | | \$ |
| White | | \$ |
| Pink | | \$ |
| Grand Total - due to church office by Dec. 10th | | \$ |

Your Name(s) _____

To God's glory and in memory of _____

To God's glory and in honor of _____



***Please return this form and payment to church office
or in the white mailbox by the church office door by December 10.***

Thank you!

Make checks payable to Federated Church.

Please note 'Poinsettia' on the memo line.

Plants purchased elsewhere are welcome.

***Please label it with your name if you wish to collect it after
the 8pm Christmas Eve services.***