

# **Thursday, September 21, & Sunday, September 24, 2023** Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost; Bibles for 3 Year Olds and 3rd Graders

## <u>Mission Statement:</u> 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. In case of an emergency, Edward's cell phone number: 402-302-2812.

Governing Council - Federated Church Elders			Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Julie Graham, President Alison Wagner, Vice President Louise Moran, Secretary			Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D. Pastor/Head of Staff edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Brenda Sand Christian Education Director brenda@federatedcolumbus.org
<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	Stuart Gausman Bell Choir Director	Chrissy Ford Office Administrator cford@federatedcolumbus.org
Jesse Abrego	Donna Augspurger	Pat Anderson	Reagan Gausman Vocal Choir Director	Kathy Zywiec Office Assistant kathy@federatedcolumbus.org
Katie Claus	John McPhail	John Lohr		
Parker Grant	Mark Weeder	Brenda Sand	James Sharpe	Mark Baumann Custodian
Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons			Organist Amanda Weeder	
Ruth Erwin	Sharon Kuncl	Kathy Leischner	Amanda weeder Accompanist	Betty Garcia Lopez Nursery Attendant
Laura Porter	Peg Meyer	Barb Olson	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia El Buen Pastor Fellowship	Bill Royer, Head Usher
Jean Royer Lori Rine		Andree & Terry Hoeman, Co-Historian		

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# Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; BIBLES FOR 3 YEAR OLDS AND THIRD GRADERSHymns, Songs, Prayers, and liturgies in **Bold** are for the participation of the **Congregation**PRELUDEBefore Thy Throne I Now Appear (BWV 668)J. S. BACHAdagio in E-Flat (Sonata 18)W. A. MOZARTJames Sharpe, Organ & Piano

Welcome & Announcements

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP (recording from 09/21/2023)

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 145)

One: Bless the name of the Holy and Sovereign One forever and ever!

- All: Great is our God and greatly to be praised.
- One: Bless the name of the Holy and Sovereign One forever and ever!
- All: This generation will tell the next generation so they may tell the next generation of the Holy One's magnificent and mighty acts.
- One: Bless the name of the Holy and Sovereign One forever and ever!
- All: We declare the abundant goodness, gracious righteousness, and holy love of our God. Praise the Holy One!
- \* Opening Hymn Freely, Freely (see insert for words and music)

\* Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God of abundance, forgive us for embracing a worldview that capitalizes on scarcity. Help us to know that you have given us enough for our journey. You have created us wonderfully and uniquely. Forgive us for comparing ourselves with our neighbor when we are called to love them. Help us to embrace how you have made us as individuals who may bring our singular gifts to our common life.

# \* Moment for Silent Prayer

# \* Words of Grace

One: Beloved, you are enough. God loves you as you are for who you are.

- All: We, collectively, have enough and may share in a common life where all may flourish and live in harmony as our Creator intended and designed.
- One: You are forgiven and free to embrace the life that is uniquely yours.

# All: Thanks be to God, amen!

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE (You are welcome to share a handshake, fist bump or peace sign)

- One: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, a peace the world cannot give." Peace of Christ be always with you.
- All: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

#### \* **SING THE FAITH #2193** CHILDREN'S SERMON

# Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (sung twice)

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

# BIBLES FOR 3 YEAR OLDS AND 3RD GRADERS

CHORAL ANTHEM The Lord is My Shepherd ALLEN POTE Chancel Choir; Reagan Gausman, Director; Amanda Weeder, Accompanist PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Nicole Miller, Liturgist

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

Drew Wolfe

UCC Worship Ways

# 627 - Freely, Freely

CAROL OWENS based on Matthew 10:8, 28:18



**CAROLOWENS** 

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel According to Matthew 20:1-16 One: This is the Word of God for the people of God, **All: Thanks be to God!** 

#### Sermon

Edward Yang, Pastor

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - "A Man Owned a Vineyard" by Carolyn W. Gillette A man owned a vineyard and needed a crew To tend to his land — there was plenty to do. He called out to people downtown in the square, "Come work hard all day and I'll pay you what's fair." God, you call and you send; there is work here to do. There's your whole world to tend; may we garden for you! O Lord, in your vineyard may we seek to be The workers who tend to your justice and peace. He went back a number of times on that day; He called to new workers and promised fair pay. Can we but imagine those first workers' rage When all those who labored received the same wage? God, the gift of your grace comes as quite a surprise. For your mercies embrace even latecomers' lives. May all who have worked long and hard humbly learn: Your grace is a gift and not something we earn. He called the complainers and said, "This is true — That I kept my word and I gave you your due. I share with compassion; I'm loving and kind. I care for all people and give what is mine!" God you give what is yours, more than what we deserve; May we reach out in love where you call us to serve. May we who have witnessed your grace gladly share Your justice and love with your world everywhere. Amen.

\* RESPONSIVE HYMN #343 Called as Partners in Christ's Service (verses 1, 2 & 4)

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## 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.

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

 (An offering plate and contribution box are available in the back of the church before and after each service, if you would like to make a donation. Thank you.)
May we live generous lives that reflect the fullness of the gospel, unity of the spirit, and faith in our God.

#### \* DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

#### **\* UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Great God, please receive our gifts for the glory of your name and the blessing of your people. May we be dedicated stewards of your abundance and use these gifts for the benefit of your kingdom. Amen.

3:00pm

#### \* CLOSING HYMN #415

Come, Labor On

\* BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

### Deck Thyself My Soul with Gladness Café LaFed will be hosted by Circle #1

WILLIAM CASNER

#### **JOYS & CONCERNS**

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

• Prayers for Ben & Marilyn Vrana, who are both recovering from COVID. Ben is currently in the hospital.

• Happy 70th Anniversary to Chris & Lauretta Dixon. Join the Celebration on October 8th from 2pm to 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. No gifts, no cards, just your presence.

• I want to thank you all for the thoughts, prayers and good wishes over the past 4 months while I have been dealing with a brain bleed and all its issues. I can happily tell you that I am now able to put all of it in the rear view mirror and lead a "normal" life now. Blessings to all, Jan Pickrel.

 Congratulations to Jonathan Philip Strevey and Hannah Le who will be married on September 16, 2023 in Colorado. Jonathan is the son of Sara Dixon Strevey and grandson of Chris & Lauretta Dixon.

• We would like to thank you for all the kind words, prayers, cards, and gifts since Brendon's accident. Having the support and love of our church family has been a huge comfort to us all. We welcome you to continue to pray for healing as Brendon regains his strength and resumes life. ~ Tim, Val and Brendon Rathje

• Homestead Presbytery: Lincoln Heritage Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln Heritage congregation. May they continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.

• UCC Living Waters Association: Scribner First Congregational UCC (Scribner, NE 68057)

#### THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, September 24, 2023 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary 11:15am Pipe Organ Task Force Meeting, AD2 3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary Monday, September 25, 2023 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, AD2 4:00pm Special Olympics Basketball/CHS Dancers 7:00pm Troop 212 Meeting, FH Tuesday, September 26, 2023 5:30pm Consonnaires, Choir Room 5:30pm Girl Scouts of America Meeting, gym 7:00pm Governing Council Meeting Wednesday, September 27, 2023 10:00am Staff meeting, AD2 4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study, Online 6:30pm Bells of Joy Rehearsal, Sanctuary 6:30pm Puppets Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary Friday, September 29, 2023 6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service Saturday, September 30, 2023 No Events Scheduled Sunday, October 1, 2023 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

September 24 - Bibles for 3 Year Olds & 3rd Graders October 1 - World Communion Sunday October 15 - Children's Sabbath; Operation Education Nairobi Fundraiser October 29 - Fall Annual Congregational Meeting November 16 - Cookies N' More

## NEWS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is still looking for people to volunteer and serve for the committees listed below. Please reflect on these groups and find where your gifts and talents would help our church best! If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Julie Graham, Alison Wagner or Pastor Edward!

- Governing Council (2)
- \* Christian Education Committee (1)
- \* Youth Ministry Committee (1)
- \* Finance & Property Committee (2)

- \* Worship & Music Committee (1)
- Nominating Committee (4)
- Membership & Growth Committee (2)

We would like to thank everyone that helped with the Columbus Days float. Special thanks to John and Anita Hahn for pulling the trailer. Thank you. Membership and Growth Committee.

Pickle Ball nets are up in the gym and can be enjoyed by small groups. Monday - Friday, 8am - 4:30pm

Volunteers are still needed for the following:

- Liturgists (all Sundays!!!)
- Education Hour (Teachers/Helpers)

For the months of July, August and September we will be collecting Leashes, Pine Sol and Bleach for Paws and Claws. Thank you, Social Concerns and Missions Committee



## FREE COVID TEST KITS

How to order free COVID tests ONLINE. Four free tests will be available for each household. Request through the government's <u>COVIDTests.gov portal</u> beginning on Monday, Sept. 25

A great BIG thank you to all the folks who assisted in the preparation of getting the Education Center ready for the renovation. It took time and hard work, but we are finally ready to get started. Those assisting in the tasks were: John Hahn, John Petersen, Paul Sanderson, Larry Mares, Tim Rathje, Dave Melick, Sue McClure, Bob Arp, Wayne McCormick, Steve Heinisch, Terry Hoeman, the church staff, and Marv Zoucha. The contractors will begin removing light fixtures, dry wall the ceilings, cover all plastic water lines with soffits, install new doors and windows, paint all ceilings, mount new light fixtures, and paint all walls. This is a huge undertaking, and we would like to thank the congregation for their continued support. If you have any questions, please feel free to