## FEDERATED CHURCH

OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

+

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST** 





# Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 23, 2025

2704 15th Street • Columbus, Nebraska 68601 • www.federatedcolumbus.org
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#### **Federated Church**

## Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, February 23, 2025 Agenda

1 - Call to Order Georgia Behlen, President

**2 - Opening Prayer**Brenda Sand, CE Director

3 - Approval of Agenda (p. 2)

4 - Approval of 2024 Congregational Meeting Minutes (p. 3)

5 - Approval of 2024 Annual Reports (pp. 4 - 10)

**6 - Update on Organ Project**Marv Zoucha, 2025 F&P

**7 - Acceptance of 2024 Financial Report (p. 11)**Mark Weeder, 2024 F&P Chair

8 - Closing Prayer Edward Yang, Pastor

#### 2024 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE & MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Worship Attendance: 5,072; Average Weekly Attendance: 115

Online Worship Attendance: 6,593 Average Weekly Attendance, including online viewers: 242

Membership (on Dec	ember 31, 2024)	
Active Members:	277	
Reserve Members:	37	
Children:	27	

#### **Baptisms:**

3/31/2024	Mack William Irby
4/22/2024	Meg Weeder
4/22/2024	Theo Weeder
4/14/2024	Mckenna Lea Griffith
5/05/2024	Myla Bender

#### Gains During 2024

3

Confirmation (	(5/05/2024)	<b>):</b> 3
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Tessa Miller Celine Perrin Meg Weeder

#### Reaffirmation of Faith:

Brianna Brockhaus Placido Campos Chris Rasmussen

Frank Thompsor	1 2/05/2024
Roberta Saalfeld	l 2/28/2024
Rod Behlen	3/28/2024
Gary Puckett	4/20/2024
Rosie Heinisch	5/22/2024

Member Losses by Death:

Calvin Wagner

Arlene Fleischer 9/12/2024 Ron Novak 11/7/2024

6/22/2024

### Friends of the Congregation

Ben Vrana 2/19/2024 Dwayne Smith 5/27/2024 Lloyd Castner 8/31/2024

## FEDERATED CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2024

The annual congregational meeting of the Federated Church, Columbus, NE was called to order by President Alison Wagner at 10:57 AM. Rev. Edward Yang gave the opening prayer.

A quorum was present.

Motion to approve the agenda was adopted.

Motion to approve the 2023 Congregational Meeting Minutes was adopted.

Motion to approve the 2023 Committee Reports was adopted.

Mark Weeder presented the 2023 financial report and gave an update on the work of the Finance and Property Committee. A motion to approve the 2023 Annual Financial Reports was adopted. Wilma Arp presented an update of the Educational Building's remodeling project.

Motion to approve Laura Porter as a deacon for one year on the Order of St. Andrew, Class of 2024 was adopted.

President Alison Wagner closed the meeting at 11:15 AM.

Brenda Sand gave the closing prayer.

Barb Sanderson, Secretary

## FEDERATED CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27,2024

President Alison Wagner called the meeting to order at 10:53 A.M.

Brenda Sand led us in an opening prayer.

Motion to approve the agenda was adopted.

Georgia Behlen, from the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers for 2025.

Motion to approve the slate of officers was adopted.

Mark Weeder, from the Finance & Property Committee presented the 2025 budget. Motion to approve the budget was adopted.

Marv Zoucha, from the Finance & Property Committee, gave an update on the proposals for purchase of an electronic organ. The Governing Council will be voting on those proposals at the Nov. 26th meeting. Members with questions or comments, are encouraged to speak with representatives of the Governing Council or the Finance & Property Committee.

Peg Meyer, Chairperson of the Order of St. Andrew reported on their mission of service within our congregation.

Rev. Edward Yang led us in a closing prayer.

President Alison Wagner adjourned the meeting at 11:23 P.M.

Barb Sanderson, Secretary

#### **GOVERNING COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Federated church is a very active and caring church, blessed with a thriving congregation. We continue to be a pillar of our community through our numerous charitable works and gifts.

This year we celebrated 5 baptisms, 3 confirmands, 3 graduates and our membership has grown. An additional water heater was added to the kitchen providing quicker hot water turn-around to the East sink.

The Christian Ed Center Renovaton was completed.

The position of "Director of Music Ministry" was created and the plan to move forward with an Electronic Organ was adopted.

A new Pictorial Church directory was compiled.

Federated Church had the privilege of hosting the Christmas Dinner for the Community through the Gausman's leadership.

Your Governing Council is a very knowledgeable and reliable group, who truly puts Federated Church first. I thank them for their dedication of attending the Governing Council meetings, running the various church committees and programs, and supporting me throughout the year. Federated Church has a bright future. Fulfilling their term at the end of 2024 is Donna Augspurger, John McPhail and Mark Weeder.

Thank you, Rev. Edward Yang, Georgia Behlen and Barb Sanderson for your support and guidance during my presidency.

This opportunity has truly been a blessing to my life. Working with congregation has been a humble and most gratifying experience. My faith journey has grown is so many ways this year. And I realize that God has truly blessed me and Federated Church.

Alison Wagner 2024 Federated Church President

## **PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Greetings! While we are in a new year, it is helpful to look back over the past year and reflect on God's continuing faithfulness. I would like to highlight various ministry activities during each month of 2024.

In mid-January, the weather was expected to be extremely cold and dangerous for driving. Church members were encouraged to stay home on Sunday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> and participate in the live stream of our worship service. Thankfully with technology, a group of us (musicians, sound booth volunteers, Brenda Sand and I) led the service for our online community. Another highlight for January was the training for new elders and deacons who were ordained and installed for their work on the Governing Council and Order of St. Andrew, respectively, on Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>.

Ash Wednesday was relatively early last year; on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, we participated in the ecumenical service at First United Methodist Church where I preached the evening's sermon. Our church also hosted the Lenten lunch on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. There were couple youth activities in February: Souper Bowl of Caring on Feb. 11 (to help the Platte County Food Pantry) and Ice Skating trip on Feb. 24 (this happened because we had to cancel the annual ski trip due to lack of snow). We also had our Annual Congregational Meeting on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> (since big decisions like budget and slate of officers are done in the Fall, this was a brief meeting).

On March 3<sup>rd</sup> (and Feb. 29<sup>th</sup>), we had the Service of Wholeness and Healing, which we began the prior year. This has been a meaningful time of being reminded of God's power to heal and make us whole with the ancient tradition of oil anointing. Service of Wholeness and Healing is scheduled quarterly on the first Sundays (and preceding Thursdays) of March, June, September and December. [continue on next page]

## **PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

A new ministry activity was started in March, called "Fed@Fed." It is a monthly gathering of high schoolers on the first Sunday of each month to cook together, eat together and catch up. Brenda and I have noticed a drop-off in attendance between Confirmation Sunday and Graduation Sunday. Thus, Fed@Fed has been our way of developing connections with our youth through food.

Last Sunday of March (3/31) was Easter Sunday. I'm thankful for all the gifted musicians and generous volunteers who help to make this service meaningful: Chancel Choir, brass instrumentalists, sound booth techs, Worship & Music Committee (for arranging flowers), Christian Education Committee (for organizing egg hunt). We also got to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism on Easter.

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, we got to worship God a little differently with the Columbus Jazz Orchestra providing leadership for Jazz Sunday. This has been a delightful tradition for the Sunday after Easter (technically, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter in the liturgical calendar). Church staff annual reviews were held on April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> with the support of Personnel Committee. Later that week, confirmands helped with the Columbus Rescue Mission meal (which our church provides on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month with the coordination of our Social Concerns & Missions Committee). On April 16-18, I attended the Synod of Lakes and Prairies Leadership Summitt in Buffalo, MN. The month concluded with Children's Sunday on April 28<sup>th</sup>, as we celebrated the children in our congregation with bounce houses, games, and potluck meal (with the help of Membership & Growth Committee).

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Confirmation Sunday with three new members (listed on page 2) who confirmed their baptism. Couple Sundays later, we celebrated Graduation Sunday with our high school graduates (Alex Garcia Lopez, Tessa Klevemann, Ryland Prokopec and Gunnar Wolfe) with the help of Youth Ministry Committee. Before Memorial Day, we wrapped up another season of Education Hour (for children, youth and adults), Bell Choir and Chancel Choir.

During the first full week of June (3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>), we joined our ecumenical partners for Vacation Bible Camp hosted by the First UMC. In addition, we restarted a tradition at Federated with Hymn Sings on the first Sundays (and preceding Thursdays) of each month. It is an opportunity to sing beloved hymns with fellow congregants as hymn numbers are called out (we have plenty of hymnals to share with online participants to sing along).

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, we had our Annual Garage & Bake Sale chaired by Linda Wheatley and Sue Mares. It is always wonderful to see church members working together in preparation and on the day of the sale. Thankfully, the sale did very well financially and we were able to support various local ministries.

In July, Brenda and I led our youth summer mission trip with four high schoolers (Brinlee Klevemann, Tessa Miller, Meg Weeder, & Eliot Yang) to Milwaukee, WI. The trip was organized by YouthWorks. We spent a week (July 14-20) at a UCC church in Milwaukee while participating in service projects at a daycare for children and adults. Youth shared their testimonies of the trip on July 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> worship services.

Columbus Days happen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of August. Last year, Membership & Growth Committee prepared a float for both the Friday night and Sunday afternoon parades. We also served the community with a diaper changing station in Frankfurt Square. On August 11<sup>th</sup>, we had a blessing of backpacks during Sunday worship as schools were scheduled to resume. The Governing Council held a retreat at the Benedictine Center in Schuyler, as we discern the ways that God is leading our congregation.

After Labor Day means the restart of our educational and music programs. On Sept. 8, we had the Education Hour Kick-Off with a visit of various animals from Horn T Zoo. We commissioned the Chancel Choir, acolytes and youth ushers on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. This was followed with the commission of Bell Choir and organist, along with Bibles for 3 year olds and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>.

In October, the Men's Fellowship had a service project called "Is Your Car Ready for Winter?" on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> during which vehicles were checked, winter wiper fluid was added, ice scrapers handed out and maintenance recommendations were given. On Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, we observed Children's Sabbath as we addressed the needs of children around the world. We also gave out goodies to children and family during Trunk or Treat on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. The last Sunday of October is reserved for the Fall Congregational Meeting; last year, we approved the Slate of Officers and 2025 budget which included a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.5% for all staff.

An important ministry activity began last October with the monthly Caregiver Support Group. I realized that we have several congregants who are primary caregiver for their spouse. (continue on next page)

## **PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

This support group is meant to provide a safe space for caregivers to unload frustrations and be replenished for the continuing hard work. Our monthly meeting for caregivers is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 2:30-4:00pm.

On Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrated Heritage Sunday with the recognition of 50+ years church members. It is worth noting that numerous members were added to the Heritage list, which had a lot to do with Rev. Lee Hicks beginning his call at Federated Church in 1974. The following Sunday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, we thanked veterans for their military service. The recognition of veterans was organized by the Order of St. Andrew.

Cookies N' More was held on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> (a week before Thanksgiving) and chaired by Katie Claus and Chris Warren. Nearly all the cookies, candies and pies were sold out within the two hours of the sale. Proceeds from the fundraiser go towards global ministries and Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

Soon after the ecumenical Thanksgiving service at St. John's Shell Creek (on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>), we hosted the ecumenical Blue Christmas service on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. The following Sunday was the Children's Christmas Pageant on Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> (wonderful job with the skit!). For the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent we had the Lessons and Laughter services on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>. While both Christmas Eve services included brass preludes, communion and closing with Silent Night by candlelight, 5pm family service welcomed audience participation throughout the service and 8pm traditional service included Chancel Choir for the service of welcoming the Christ Child.

Last year's Christmas Dinner was special for couple reasons. It was the 50<sup>th</sup> year since starting the tradition of serving a warm meal on Christmas Day. It was also the first year for event to be chaired by Stuart & Kristen Gausman and Pat Engels. With the help of numerous volunteers, many people were fed and hearts warmed by Christ's love.

These were many of the highlights from last year (I'm sure there are things that I forgot to mention). Along with continuing time-honored activities (e.g., the Garage Sale, youth mission trip, Heritage Sunday, Cookies N'More and Christmas Dinner), we started some new ones (e.g., Fed@Fed, Caregiver Support Group and Recognition of Veterans) and brought back an old one (i.e., Hymn Sing).

For all the activities of 2024, we give God thanks!

Rev. Edward Yang

#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2024 COMMITTEE REPORT**

Members: Pat Anderson (GC), Jackie Marker, Cindee Wachter, Amanda Weeder, Bob Arp, Marie Bruegger, Marcene Wurdeman, and Brenda Sand (staff)

- JANUARY Christian Education Committee (CE) 2024 met on the first Tuesday of the month except when
  meeting with the Youth Ministry (YM) in January and August to plan joint activities
- FEB/MAR CE donated candy and filled Easter eggs to be delivered by YM as invitations to families to attend Federated Church. More eggs were hidden on the church grounds for an Easter Sunday egg hunt following worship. A Palm parade of children & youth occurred on Palm Sunday. The Children's Bell Choir performed.
- APRIL/JUNE Celebrated Children's Sunday with a congregational potluck. All teachers were recognized during worship and received a gift of appreciation. Vacation church school was held at First UMC in cooperation with the Methodist and St. Luke's UCC churches. The Federated Church will host this in 2025. The 2025 budget was approved with the option of \$3000 for the Triennium fee if any youth attend.
- AUGUST Joint meeting with YM. Approved updated Children/Youth Protection Policy.
- SEPTEMBER Celebrated the return of the Education Hour by commissioning Acolytes, Ushers and Teachers. Bibles appropriate to their age were given to 3 year olds and third graders. The newly improved Education Center was viewed by the congregation.
- OCTOBER Participated in Trunk and Treat in the church parking lot. More than 600 spooks/goblins, etc.
   visited the decorated cars.
- DECEMBER Children performed for the Christmas pageant.

The Committee served Café LaFed twice.

Pat Anderson, reporter

#### **ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

The purpose of the Endowment Fund Committee is to encourage and promote gifts to the Fund, and to invest, reinvest, and administer the Funds in accordance with direction from the Governing Council or the donor's request for specific programs. It was established to enhance the mission and outreach of the Federated Church beyond the general operation of the congregation.

The Endowment Committee is subject to the control of the Governing Council. The Governing Council of Federated Church determines the distribution of Endowment Funds that are generally categorized in four purposes: I) Christian Education, 2) Community Service and Outreach, 3) Wider Mission of Federated Church, and 4) Capital Improvement. The Governing Council may also approve fund distributions for other purposes; however, they control all funds in and out of the Endowment.

The 2024 Endowment Committee consists of five members and serves alongside the Pastor: They are Donna Augspurger, Chair and Governing Council representative (2024); Vacant, Finance & Property Representative; Sue Mares (2024); John Novotny (2025); Terry Norris (2026); and Rev. Edward Yang, ex-officio.

D. A. Davidson holds and invests the Fund's monies, and it is managed by Charlie Bills at D. A. Davidson. Our investment objective is income with a risk tolerance of moderate. The asset allocation on November 30, 2024, was as follows:

Cash and Cash Alternatives – 46.50% Fixed Income – 25.47% Multi-asset – 16.01% Equities – 12.02%

The Governing Council approved use of funds from the Endowment Committee for payment of an electronic organ not to exceed \$90,000.00. The Fund did not receive any monies deposited into the account, excepting activity within the fund. Thus, the account value summary is as follows:

Beginning balance of January 1, 2024 \$352,058.12
Interest/Market activity within fund 22,495.43
Electronic organ expense (see above paragraph) (45,000.00)
Closing value of account 12/30/2024 \$329,553.55

Respectively submitted, Donna Augspurger, Committee Chair

#### FINANCE & PROPERTY REPORT

Here are the items we accomplished in 2024. Mark Weeder.

Ed Center Renovation

Indoor sprinkler replacements

Bell Choir door locks

Landscaping

Electronic Organ

<sup>\*</sup>More detailed information on the portfolio is available at the church office.

#### **FEDERATED CHURCH FOUNDATION REPORT**

The Federated Church Foundation, Inc. was started in 1998 as a 501 (C)(3) private foundation organized exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes. The Foundations funds originated from the generous donation of Mr. Phillip Wilson. Mr. Wilson was a Federated Church member in his youth and later became a successful attorney in Dallas, Texas. Upon his death in 1998, he left a bequest to Federated Church calling for the formation of a Foundation whose express purpose was to establish a permanent endowed scholarship fund. Since it's origination, the Foundation has awarded scholarships to Federated youth for post-high school vocational training and undergraduate studies.

The original gift received from the Phillip Wilson estate has grown to approximately one million dollars in assets by the end of 2024. In the 26 years that the Foundation has been in existence, there has been a total of \$1,048,777 given to provide 698 scholarship awards to Federated youth.

In 2024 there were 3 new scholarship applicants and 5 renewal applicants for a total of 8 scholarship awards in the amount of \$6,000 per applicant.

The present Board of Directors of the Foundation are Doug Williams—President, Marcia Grant—Vice President, John Petersen—Secretary, Marv Zoucha—Treasurer, along with Board members Max Porter, Terry Millard, and Larry Mares.

Assisting the Foundation were:

Scholarship Review Committee—Wilma Arp, Sheri Melick and Clete Arasmith

Asset Management—D.A. Davidson Co.

Accounting/Tax preparation—Adam Elm of Schumacher, Smejkal, Herley & Elm PC

Legal Counsel—Clark Grant of Grant & Grant

Executive Assistant—Chrissy Ford

Respectfully Submitted, Doug Williams - Foundation President

#### **MEMBERSHIP & GROWTH COMMITTEE REPORT**

Members: Nila Novotny, MD – Chair, Secretary – Megan McHugh, Karen Grabowski (filled in for Beth Sharpe), Gene Hahn, Ruth Lind, Tim Warren, Sunnie Yang.

Our committee met once a month, usually on the second Monday evening of the month at 6:30 pm. Because of the pandemic we didn't start adding information to the pews until November.

Our goal is to enhance the membership and encourage growth where possible. Our activities include:

- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday potlucks continued. We were flexible on dates depending on other church activities.
- 2x4s continued.
- Ruth Lind is working with "Feds on the Go" to develop a group interested in the arts and music.
- Men's Fellowship meets monthly on Saturday mornings. This year they had an event to winterize your car.
- Bookworms met regularly.

#### Events included:

- Columbus Days we had the Diaper changing station which was well received and a float in the parade which was awesome celebrating 50 years of Columbus Days.
- Trunk or Treat was held on Thursday, October 24th from 5-7 pm. We had about 665 people, about 2/3 were Trick or Treaters and 1/3 were adults accompanying the adults.
- Heritage Sunday We recognized our 50 year members and delivered gifts personalized coasters,. 14 of these members attended the service.

Next year new members will include Julie Graham and Claudia Kiser.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,

Nila Novotny, MD - Chair, Membership and Growth committee

#### **ORDER OF ST. ANDREW REPORT**

Mission: To be supportive caregivers to the Federated Church Family

The Order of St. Andrew Deacons strive to be Christ's light to the members of our Federated Church Family. In so doing, we communicate to our members through phone calls, visits, and sending various cards through joys and concerns of our Federated family member's lives. We also send thank you notes for memorial contributions.

One outreach program that we have continued is Caring Hands Sharing Hands. We periodically make meals and deliver them to members when we think they may need them or when we think a "pick me up" will lift their spirits. If you know members who can benefit from this please contact the church office so the Order of St. Andrew may deliver a meal to a member. We have received many positive comments regarding this program.

Other programs we have implemented are gift cards to young college age members as a reminder that we as a church are still praying for them and thinking of them as they begin their lives through furthering their education or moving into the job market. This year we recognized Veterans from our Federated family during the church service near Veteran's Day. We also have assembled and delivered May baskets, and Christmas gift bags to some of our members who are more restricted to their homes.

The Order of St. Andrew projects have been funded through our budget monies, grant monies from Thrivent members as well as Federated church member donations. We are grateful and appreciative to all who have supported the Order of St. Andrew projects.

We currently have four prayer chain groups at Federated and Order of St. Andrew is responsible for organizing those and contacting prayer chain members via text or email. If you have a prayer chain request please let the church office know and we will implement it when needed.

We hope and pray that Federated Church members are seeing the work of Order of St. Andrew and pray we are showing the light of Christ in all we do.

Respectfully Submitted, Peggy Meyer, OSA Chair

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Members: John McPhail, Chair; Bill Royer, Georgia Behlen; Tim Rathje; Cola Hahn and Rev. Edward Yang

The committee acts much like a human resources department in any organization. It deals with matters such as hiring church non-clergy staff, salary and benefits for non-clergy staff, and annual performance evaluations of all non-clergy staff.

This past year saw committee members participate in the annual performance evaluations of non-clergy staff. In addition, it spent significant time and energy in the conceptual development and final recommendation to the Governing Council for an individual to fill the newly-created staff position of Director of Music Ministry.

At the time this report was being finalized, the committee was in the process of conducting interviews with applicants for the staff position of Office Manager so as to hopefully be able to make a recommendation to the Governing Council before the end of the year.

#### **SOCIAL CONCERNS & MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Members: Doris Augspurger, Mike Beard, Linda McPhail, Chris Dixon, Chris Warren, Brea Griffith and Katie Claus Meetings at 5:00 p.m. the second Monday of the month.

The committee asked for volunteers to take meals to the Rescue Mission. Each second Friday of the month was filled throughout December 2024. The committee set up charities to present to the congregation to contribute to for three months at a time.

- January-March Peanut butter to be delivered to the backpack program;
- April-June—Toilet paper or paper towels for the Center for Survivors;
- July-September—Clorox, Pine Sol and leashes to be delivered to Paws and Claws;
- October-December—Mittens, gloves, hats and scarves were delivered to the Rescue Mission, Center for Survivors, and Emerson school.

In **July,** members took food for Habitat for Humanity. **October, November**: The committee was in charge of filling cleanup buckets for Hurricane Helene. With the help of Thrivent Financial grants or \$250 each (applied for by Barb Olson and Kathy Leischner) 12 buckets were filled plus some extra supplies. Mike Beard took the buckets to Lincoln.

In April and December, members provided refreshments for Café La Fed.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Claus, SC&M Committee Chair

#### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Our theme this year was "Share the Light".

Members: Deb Curry, Linda Wheatley, Drew Wolfe and Georgia Behlen

We met twice and were able to communicate the rest of the time by text. Linda and Georgia spoke at service on Thursday and Sundays during this drive. Our goal was a 5% increase over the 2024 pledges.

Stewardship was in charge of Café LaFed on November 24th.

Georgia Behlen, Stewardship Committee Chair

#### YOUTH MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

Federated Church Youth Ministry had a busy year of activities. The youth group (5th - 12th graders) meet monthly for Sunday Fundays. Some of the Sunday Funday activities in 2024 included: ice skating in Omaha, musical Anastasia, cookie baking, Roca Berry Farms pumpkin patch, and annual Christmas Party.

A new program, Fed @ Fed, was launched in 2024. High school aged youth meet in the Federated kitchen on the first Sunday of the month to prepare and share a meal. Some of the meals we learned to make include: pancakes, pizza, runzas, and chicken enchiladas.

Youth service projects included making a meal for the rescue mission, baking cookies for Cookies-n-More, and the Souper Bowl of Caring. Four youth attended the Mission Trip to Milwaukee, WI. The committee hosted several fundraisers to support the mission trip, pizza sales, Mother's Day flower sale, book sale, and can/cartridge recycling.

Three students were confirmed in 2024: Tessa Miller, Meg Weeder and Celine Perrin. Four seniors graduated high school in 2024: Tessa Klevemann, Ryland Prokopec, Alex Garcia Lopez, and Gunnar Wolfe.

Thank you to Federated Church for all the support and encouragement you provide to our youth! Brenda Sand

### **FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE FINANCIAL REPORT**

FEDERATED CHURCH 2024 ACCOUNT BALANCES		
Bank Accounts	<u>Jan. 1, 2024</u>	<u>Jan. 1, 2025</u>
Checking	\$87,782.91	\$103,477.64
Memorials	\$27,299.24	\$47,817.39
Savings	\$485,456.30	\$374,023.51
	\$600,538.45	\$525,318.24
CD Accounts	\$203,168.14	\$410,806.17
D.A. Davidson	\$352,058.12	\$329,421.23
	\$555,226.02	\$740,227.40

## Major F&P Projects in 2024

- Education Center renovation
- Indoor Sprinkler replacements
- Bell Choir door locks
- Landscaping
- Electronic Organ

## PROJECTS & MISSIONS 2024 TREASURERS REPORT (PREVIOUSLY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP)

The group of women, formerly known as the Women's Fellowship Group hosted two large fundraisers in 2024.

On November 21, 2024 the annual Cookies 'N More sale was held.

#### 2024 Cookies 'N More

Expenses: Signs	- \$140.00
Remaining balance from 2023:	\$28.46
Closing Amount	\$3683 <b>.</b> 46
Disbursements of 2024 Closing Amount	
Triennium	\$1,000.46
Columbus Medical Team Stoves	\$1,291.50
Operation Education Nairobi	\$1,291.50
Total Disbursements	\$3,583.46
Left in bank 2024	\$100.00
On June 29th, 2024 the annual Garage and Bake Sal	le was held.
Garage Gross Sales	\$8,334.34
Bank found	\$200.00
Late Sale of white board	\$20.00
Bake Gross Sale	\$679.26
Gross Amount	\$9,233.60
Expenses: Garbage	- \$33.76
Purchase tables	- \$353.32
Total Expenses	- \$387.08
Net Amount	\$8,846.52
Remaining balance from 2023	\$284.09
Closing Amount	\$9,131.46
Disbursements of 2024 Closing Amount	
Rescue Mission Women's housing	\$5,000.00
Helping Hands	\$1,000.00
Christmas Gifts for Staff	\$500.00
Centerpieces for Fellowship Hall tables	\$400.00
Place at the Table (Backpack program)	\$1,000.00
Food Pantry	\$1,000.00
Total Disbursements	\$8,900.00
Left in bank 2024	\$213.46