



FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, February 23, 2025

7th Sunday after Epiphany, Annual Congregational Meeting

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.

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

Governing Council - Federated Church Elders			Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Georgia Behlen, <i>President</i> Bob Arp, <i>Vice President</i> Barb Sanderson, <i>Secretary</i>			Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D. <i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i> edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Stuart Gausman <i>Director of Music Ministry</i>
<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	Brenda Sand <i>Christian Education Director</i> brenda@federatedcolumbus.org	Lee Augustin <i>Organist</i>
Pat Anderson	Chris Dixon	Terry Norris	Kathy Zywiec <i>Co-office Administrator, Social Media Coordinator</i>	Amanda Weeder <i>Accompanist</i>
John Lohr	Nila Novotny	Linda Wheatley	Antoneea Kriewald <i>Co-office Administrator</i>	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
Brenda Sand	Max Porter	Marilyn Vrana	Mark Baumann <i>Custodian</i>	Beatriz Garcia Lopez <i>Nursery Attendant</i>
Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons				
Kathy Leischner	Tammi Gotschall	Peg Meyer		
Barb Olson	Steve McClure	Joe Chin		
Lori Rine	Jesse Abrego	Brenda Wardman		
Andree & Terry Hoeman, Co-Historians				
Bill Royer, Head Usher				

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2025

7TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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

PRELUDE

Come, Ye Disconsolate

ARR. HAYES

How Great Thou Art

ARR. HAM

Amanda Weeder, Piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Presbyterian Outlook

One: Our salvation is from the Lord;

All: God is our refuge in times of trouble.

One: The Lord helps us and rescues us;

All: God saves us because we take refuge in our Lord.

One: Let us worship God.

*** OPENING HYMN #555**

Now Thank We All Our God

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: We have been called to love our God with all our heart, mind, strength, and soul and to love our neighbor as ourselves, but our lives are constricted and self-consumed. We have failed to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves as we should. Let us make the good confession before God and others.

All: Merciful God, you have commanded us to love you above all and to have no other gods. You have called us to love others as you love them. But we are personally and socially deformed by the love of other “gods” — the false gods of prosperity and materialism, racial and ethnic privileging, gender exclusivity, and nationalistic imperialism. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit so that we might learn to love as you love and live as people baptized as your own children.

*** MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Friends, hear the good news of the gospel — God’s radical forgiving, transforming and justice-seeking love will not let us go and is ever bringing resurrection and new life.

All: Let us remember our baptisms and trust in God’s mercy to restore our right standing as God’s own. Thanks be to God!

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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: Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

*** HYMN #304**

Jesus Loves Me! (verse 1)

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

CHORAL ANTHEM

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

ARR. HAYES

Chancel Choir; Stuart Gausman, Director; Amanda Weeder, Accompanist

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Marv Zoucha, Liturgist

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

One License #711910-A

CCLI License #1160936 & 20180420

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel According to Luke 6 : 27 - 38

Pew Bible, NT, page 64

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 NEW CREED" from the United Church of Canada**

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus,

crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*** RESPONSIVE HYMN** *Christ, Your Words of Love Confound Us (see insert for words and music)*

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO DIED IN 2024 (NECROLOGY REPORT)

SONG OF GRATITUDE *For All the Saints (verses 1 & 4, please remain seated)*

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 (Contributions can be placed in box/plate by sanctuary entrance)

*** 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**

O God, may these gifts be used as a witness to your love, peace and justice at work in the world, renewing the face of the earth. Amen.

*** CLOSING HYMN #358** *Help Us Accept Each Other (verses 1 & 4)*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ARR. SPRUNGER

March 2 - Café LaFed will be hosted by Good Shepherd Hispanic Ministry

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, February 23, 2025

8:45am SALT - Adult Education Class, EC4
9:00am Education Hour
10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am Annual Meeting
3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, February 24, 2025

1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, AD2
4:00pm Diamond Dancers
5:00pm Special Olympics
7:00pm Scout Meeting Troop 212, FH

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

11:30am Staff Meeting
2:30pm Caregiver Support Group
7:00pm Governing Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study
6:30pm H.I.S. Puppeteers, EC1
6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, February 27, 2025

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

Friday, February 28, 2025

6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service, EC6

Saturday, March 1, 2025

No Scheduled Events

Sunday, March 2, 2025

8:45am SALT - Adult Education Class, EC4
9:00am Education Hour
10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

KENYA TRIP—THANK YOU FEDERATED FAMILY!
Mary Sharpe knitted 46 hats for us to take to Kenya.
Beth Sharpe helped sew the seams. Kathy Zywiec sewed 50 dresses and 40 shorts for children in Kenya.
Federated members are now sponsoring 11 children for educational scholarships.
Thank you SO VERY MUCH to all the wonderful people of Federated! Sincerely, Katie & Julie

Membership and Growth Committee is having our first Progressive dinner Friday February 28th. We are limiting the number to 25 (and you may be asked to bring one of the food items).
If there is a lot of interest we may do a second event later in the year, so let us know your interest even if you can't attend this one.
Thanks for your help! Nila Novotny

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

- ◆ Pray for Ryan Wilch, he had a stroke on Friday, 7th. Ryan is the nephew of Alison Wagner.
- ◆ Pray for Brenda Kallweit, she fell and broke her hip on Feb. 10th. She had surgery and is recovering.
- ◆ Pray for Jackie Marker, she had a stroke and is recovering.
- ◆ Pray for Margaret Trew as she is recovering from illness and COVID. Get well cards would be appreciated. Call the office for information.
- ◆ Pray for Jolene Daro, aunt of Stephanie Johnson, she is having complications from surgery.
- ◆ Pray for Doug Johnson who will be having a heart procedure next week. Doug is the father of Stephanie Johnson.

◆ **Homestead Presbytery: Columbus Federated**

Federated Church in Columbus, NE is a blessed community of believers. Our new slate of officers & committees have begun their work for our church, our town & the world through missions. We have new members, new babies & a wonderful staff. We ask for prayers that our church will continue to thrive & spread the love of Christ.

- ◆ **UCC Living Waters Association: Pierce UCC** (Pierce, NE 68767)

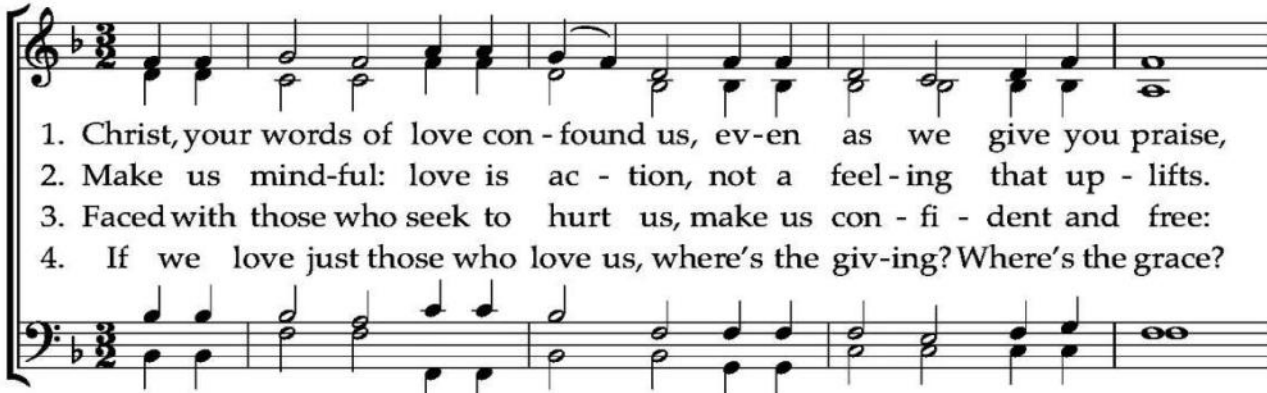
UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb. 23 - Annual Congregational Meeting
Feb. 28 - Progressive Dinner
Feb. 27 & March 2 - Wholeness & Healing Service, Communion, Hymn Sing
March 5 - Ecumenical Ash Wed, St. Luke's, 6:30 pm
March 8, 8:30am - Men's Fellowship Breakfast
March 9 - Daylight Savings Begins

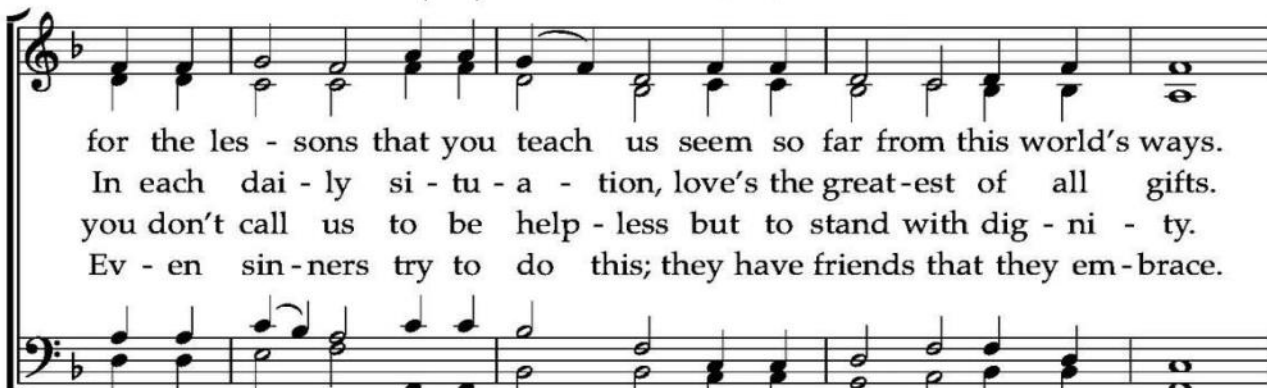
Christ, Your Words of Love Confound Us

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2019

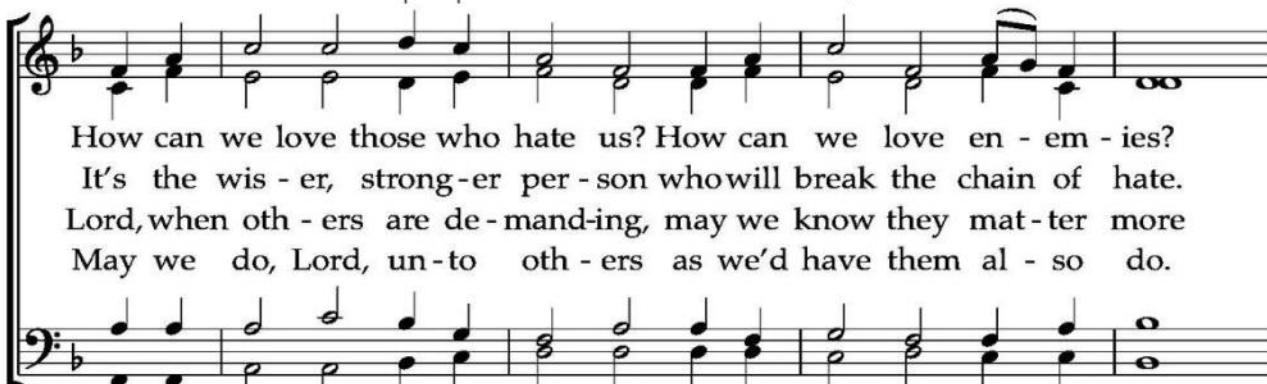
Beach Spring, attr. B. F. White;
harm. Christopher Gage



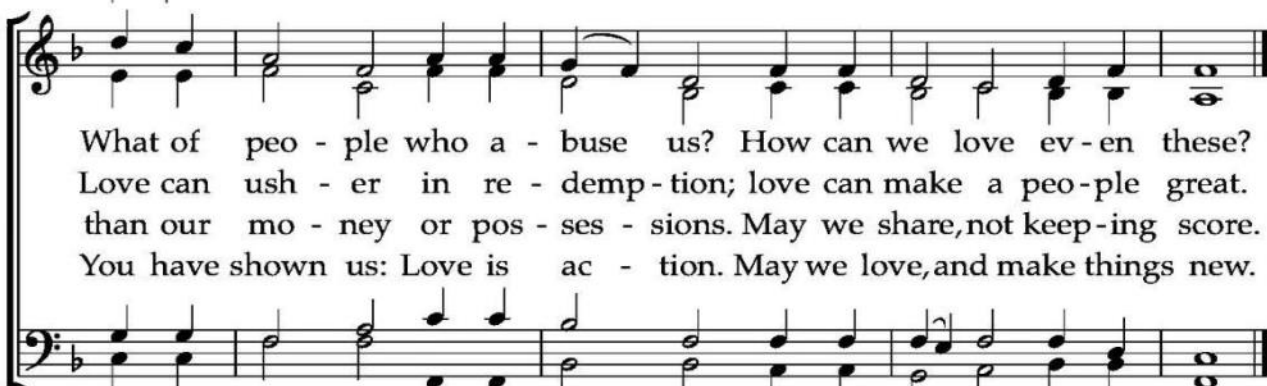
1. Christ, your words of love con - found us, ev - en as we give you praise,
2. Make us mind - ful: love is ac - tion, not a feel - ing that up - lifts.
3. Faced with those who seek to hurt us, make us con - fi - dent and free:
4. If we love just those who love us, where's the giv - ing? Where's the grace?



for the les - sons that you teach us seem so far from this world's ways.
In each dai - ly si - tu - a - tion, love's the great - est of all gifts.
you don't call us to be help - less but to stand with dig - ni - ty.
Ev - en sin - ners try to do this; they have friends that they em - brace.



How can we love those who hate us? How can we love en - em - ies?
It's the wis - er, strong - er per - son who will break the chain of hate.
Lord, when oth - ers are de - mand - ing, may we know they mat - ter more
May we do, Lord, un - to oth - ers as we'd have them al - so do.



What of peo - ple who a - buse us? How can we love ev - en these?
Love can ush - er in re - demp - tion; love can make a peo - ple great.
than our mo - ney or pos - ses - sions. May we share, not keep - ing score.
You have shown us: Love is ac - tion. May we love, and make things new.

Text © 2019 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com | Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com

Harmonization © 2017 by Christopher Gage.

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 | |
| 4 - Approval of 2024 Congregational Meeting Minutes | |
| 5 - Approval of 2024 Annual Reports | |
| 6 - Update on Organ Project | Marv Zoucha, 2025 F&P |
| 7 - Acceptance of 2024 Financial Report | 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 December 31, 2024)

Active Members:	276
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

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

Reaffirmation of Faith:	3
Brianna Brockhaus	
Placido Campos	
Chris Rasmussen	

Member Losses by Death: 8

Frank Thompson	2/05/2024
Roberta Saalfeld	2/28/2024
Rod Behlen	3/28/2024
Gary Puckett	4/20/2024
Rosie Heinisch	5/22/2024
Calvin Wagner	6/22/2024
Arlene Fleischer	9/12/2024
Ron Novak	11/7/2024

Friends of the Congregation

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