



FEDERATED CHURCH

Thursday, January 8 & Sunday, January 11, 2026
Baptism of the Lord; 1st Sunday after Epiphany

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	
Bob Arp, <i>President</i> Steve Heinisch, <i>Vice President</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 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Class of 2028</i>	Brenda Sand <i>Christian Education Director</i> brenda@federatedcolumbus.org	Lee Augustin <i>Pianist</i>
Nila Novotny	Terry Norris	Marcia Grant	Kathy Zywiec <i>Co-office Administrator</i> <i>Social Media Coordinator</i>	Amanda Weeder <i>Accompanist</i>
Max Porter	Linda Wheatley	Antonio Garcia	Antoneea Kriewald <i>Co-office Administrator</i>	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
Jon Kiser	Marilyn Vrana	Placido Campos	Mark Baumann <i>Custodian</i>	Deb Gaeth Anjel Garcia Lopez <i>Nursery Attendants</i>
Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons				
Tammi Gotschall	Peg Meyer	Doris Augspurger		
Steve McClure	Joe Chin	Lori Rine		
Jesse Abrego	Brenda Wardman	Georgia Behlen		
Andree & Terry Hoeman, Co-Historians				
Bill Royer, Head Usher				

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8 & SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

BAPTISM OF THE LORD; 1ST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

PRELUDE

Like a River Glorious
Breathe on Me, Breath of God
Wonderful Peace
Amanda Weeder, Piano

ARR. LIMBAUGH

ARR. HAM

ARR. LOPEZ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Presbyterian Outlook

One: The voice of the Lord is powerful and full of majesty.

All: May the Lord bless us with God's Peace!

One: The voice of the Lord proclaimed Jesus as God's beloved.

All: In our own baptisms, we are claimed as God's beloved.

One: Let us worship God.

* OPENING HYMN #356

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: On this Baptism of the Lord Sunday, we remember our own baptisms, where we were claimed as children of the covenant and beloved of God. Yet we live as those who are alienated from God. We have turned away from God, one another and the earth. Let us confess our sins, trusting in God's mercy.

All: Merciful God, we confess that we are estranged from you and from one another. We treat others as strangers rather than as people created in your image and fellow children of God. We exploit the earth as though it were our possession rather than a gift entrusted to our care and a reflection of your image and glory. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit that we might live as people who have been baptized as your own children.

MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, hear the good news of the gospel — and of Jesus' solidarity in his own baptism by John with all who have been immersed in baptismal waters, repenting of their sin. In his name, God has forgiven us of our own sins and set us on new paths.

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! Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share that peace with one another.

* HYMN STF # 2056

God is So Good (verses 1 - 3)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

CHORAL ANTHEM

River of Freedom

STEWART/NIX

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Wayne McCormick, 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 Matthew 3 : 13 - 17

Pew Bible, NT, page 3

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Edward Yang, Pastor

* REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Beloved people of God, our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing from sin, and of our being grafted into Christ.

Through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ, the power of sin was broken and God's kingdom entered our world.

Through our baptism we were made citizens of God's kingdom, and freed from the bondage of sin.

Let us celebrate that freedom and redemption through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism.

I ask you, therefore, once again to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we were baptized. Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

Remember your baptism and be thankful, and know that the Holy Spirit is at work within you.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

* RESPONSIVE HYMN #499

Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed

COMMISSIONING OF MEDICAL MISSION TEAM

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, in our baptisms we have been named and claimed as your covenant people, connected deeply with you, with one another, and with the earth. 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 STF #2253** *Water, River, Spirit, Grace* (choir sings first then congregation sings twice)

* BENECTION

POSTLUDE

Shall We Gather at the River?

ARR. SPRUNGER

January 11 - Café LaFed is hosted by the Bell Choir

January 18 - Café LaFed is hosted by the Chancel Choir

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

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THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, January 11, 2026

- 8:45am SALT- Adult Sunday Class, EC4
- 9:00am Education Hour, EC rooms
- 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:15am YM - CE Committees Joint Meeting
- 11:15am Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser, Narthex
- 11:30am New GC Elders Training
- 4:00pm Fed@Fed

Monday, January 12, 2026

- 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, AD2
- 5:00pm Social Concerns & Missions Committee
- 5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball, Gym
- 4:30pm New OSA Deacons Training
- 6:30pm Membership & Growth Committee

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

- 11:30am Staff Meeting, office
- 5:00pm Consonaires, Choir room

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

- 4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study, Online
- 6:30pm Puppeteers Practice/Meeting
- 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir room

Thursday, January 15, 2026

- 5:00pm Special Olympics School Age, gym
- 6:30 pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, January 16, 2026

No events scheduled

Saturday, January 17, 2026

- 8:30am Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Sunday, January 18, 2026

- 8:45am SALT- Adult Sunday Class, EC4
- 9:00am Education Hour, EC rooms
- 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Jan. 17 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast
- Jan. 15 & 18 - Ordination & Installation of New Officers

Volunteers are still needed for the following:

- ◆ Liturgists (all Sundays!!!)
- ◆ Education Hour (Teachers/Helpers)
- ◆ Special Music on first and fifth Sundays

◆ **Homestead Presbytery:** Fairbury

The Fairbury Church asks for your prayers for our ministries. Our Confirmation Youth began a project they call Mission Possible a few years ago, with a simple but powerful mission... to purchase and give away reliable vehicles to local families in need. These young men and women have worked tirelessly to raise funds and, this month, will be giving away their fourth vehicle. Please pray for their continued generosity, wisdom, and impact. Please also pray for our efforts to reduce food insecurity in our community through support of our local food bank and our ongoing volunteer partnership with the Lincoln Food Bank distribution each month.

Finally, and very importantly, please pray for Connect. Connect. is a movement rooted in the example of the early church... sharing life together, being present, and building genuine relationships without pressure, programs, or agendas. We trust that faith grows best through authentic human connection, and that as we truly get to know our neighbors, the Spirit will open doors for God's love to be shared in surprising and powerful ways.

We also ask for prayers for all the churches of our presbytery, and for our brothers and sisters throughout the whole body of Christ. As we look toward 2026, we pray that God would draw us closer to one another and to the communities in which we are planted... that we would take the time to truly know our neighbors, remembering that love begins with presence, listening, and shared life.

◆ **UCC Living Waters Association:** Neligh First Congregational UCC (Neligh, NE 68756)

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

- ◆ Pray for the family of Patricia Blocker. Patricia passed away on December 16, Lake Havasu, AZ.