



FEDERATED CHURCH

Thursday, August 27 & Sunday, August 30, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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		
Bob Arp, President Steve Heinisch, Vice President		
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Nila Novotny	Terry Norris	Marcia Grant
Max Porter	Linda Wheatley	Antonio Garcia
	Marilyn Vrana	Placido Campos
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		

Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D. Pastor/Head of Staff	Stuart Gausman Director of Music Ministry
Brenda Sand Christian Education Director	Lee Augustin Pianist
Kathy Zywiec Co-office Administrator	Amanda Weeder Accompanist
Antoneea Kriewald Co-office Administrator	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia El Buen Pastor Fellowship
Mark Baumann Custodian	Deb Gaeth Anjel Garcia Lopez Nursery Attendants

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

Thursday, August 27 & Sunday, August 30, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE

On Higher Ground
We're Marching to Zion
Lee Augustin, Pianist

c. 1892

c. 1867

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Presbyterian Outlook

One: Seek the Lord! Seek God in the wilderness.

All: Seek God in the sanctuary.

One: Seek God in the burning bush.

All: Seek God in the burning heart.

One: The Lord is here! This place is holy!

All: We are standing on holy ground.



*** GATHERING HYMN # 356**

Come, Thou Fount Every Blessing

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**



One: Sin casts us out into the cold, but the warmth of God's forgiveness welcomes us back.

Trusting in God's love, let us confess our sins to God:

All: God of wonders, we confess that we do not understand why you call us when we are scared, clumsy, busy or flawed. We confess that we think we know better than you do who is qualified to do your work. Forgive our fears and excuses and self-doubts. Lend us your fire and your strength, as we go about the work of serving our neighbors, building up your church, loving your children, and tending to the scorched places of our world. Help us to burn for you, without burning up or burning out. Give us a purpose and the courage to pursue it.



*** MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

*** DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Hear the good news! New life rises from the ashes.

In Christ, your sins are dead and you are alive to all that is good.

All: In Christ, we are made whole; in Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*** 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 STF #2215**

Cares Chorus

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

SPECIAL MUSIC

His Eyes on the Sparrow
Sarah Bettenhausen, Soloist; Lee Augustin, Accompanist

GABRIEL / MARTIN

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

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Alison Wagner, Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel According to Matthew 16 : 21 - 28

Pew Bible, NT, page 18

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Edward Yang, Pastor

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - "Faith that Carries the Cross" by John van de Laar

It is too easy, God, for faith to become an escape

– **a way to avoid the pain of being human and alive;**

or a path to success

– **a way to persuade the universe to give us the things we want;**

or a system of control

– **a way to bend others to our will**

But the faith you offer is different, Jesus,

more dangerous and compelling;

It's the faith that carries the cross,

that embraces death and lays itself down for the sake of others;

It's the only faith that can lead us to resurrection,

to life renewed and overflowing.

We praise you for this faith, God,

and open our hearts to receive it. Amen.



* RESPONSIVE HYMN # 391

Take My Life (verses 1, 2, 3 & 6)



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

Generous God, we offer our gifts to you, grateful for all you have given us, and grateful for the chance to give to others. Build up your church through these offerings, that we might be a place where your goodness is seen, practiced, and shared. Amen.



* SENDING HYMN # 359

More Love to Thee, O Christ

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Pass it On

c. 1969

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

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THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, August 30, 2026

8:15am El Buen Pastor Bible Study & Prayer
10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am Confirmation Meeting

Monday, August 31, 2026

1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, AD 2
7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 212 Meeting, FH

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

6:30pm Joint Meeting Christian Ed & Youth Ministry
7:00pm Worship & Music Committee

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

11:30am Staff Meeting, Office
4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study, Online
6:30pm Puppeteers Practice

Thursday, September 3, 2026

12:30pm The Basket Cases Craft Group
6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, September 4, 2026

6:00pm El Buen Pastor Bible Study, EC6

Saturday, September 5, 2026

No Events Scheduled

Sunday, September 6, 2026

8:15am El Buen Pastor Bible Study & Prayer
10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am Saalfeld Bench Dedication

• **Homestead Presbytery: Alexandria**

The Alexandria Presbyterian church seeks prayers for our upcoming Bible School which serves not only children who are part of our church family, but children from the community who worship elsewhere or may not have church homes. We appreciate prayers for our community library story hour program, as well as for the volunteers who make it happen. We ask for prayers for our local fire and EMS providers, also volunteers who are ready to help those in need. Please pray for our Sunday School which will resume in the fall, and the children it helps to learn about the Lord.

• **UCC Living Waters Association: Ralston UCC** (Ralston, NE 68127)

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

- Pray for the family of Donna Doolittle, former member and employee of Federated Church. Donna passed away on August 16, 2026. Her funeral was Friday, August 21 in Gretna, NE.

Come Make Music With Us!

Our Music Ministry regular season is about to begin, and new members are always welcome! If you've ever thought about singing with the Chancel Choir or ringing with Bells of Joy, this is a great time to come see what we're all about. No audition or prior commitment is necessary, just come give it a try!

First Rehearsals are Wednesday, September 9:
Bells of Joy Handbell Choir 6:30 p.m. • Sanctuary
Chancel Choir 7:30 p.m. • Choir Room
Come join us for music, fellowship, and the joy of helping lead worship. We'd love to have you!

Upcoming Events:

September 6 - Dedication of Bench (Roberta Saalfeld)

September 7 - Office Closed for Labor Day

September 13 - Education Hour Kickoff with Potluck

Thank you to the Federated folks for their generous donation of water for the Habitat for Humanity build this year. They now have all the water they need. No need to bring more. Thank you.