



FEDERATED NEWSLETTER

April 2025; Volume 59; Issue 4

Upcoming Events



April 6 - Easter Flower orders are due

April 8 - Troop 212 PANCAKE FEED, 4 p.m.

April 12 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast

April 13 - Palm / Passion Sunday Service

April 17 - Maundy Thursday Service

April 18 - Ecumenical Good Friday, Noon

Grace Episcopal Church

Office closes at noon

April 20 - Resurrection of the Lord / Easter

April 27 - Jazz Sunday

MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTOR'S NEWS

The season of Lent offers us an opportunity to explore a different variety of challenging, and thought provoking music selections. Lenten music tends to lean into minor modes and more complex harmonies, evoking a deeply emotional response from the listener. I often hear Lenten music described as “depressing” or “dark”; while these are not necessarily inaccurate descriptions, I would invite you to ruminate on the message, the way the music lets it settle, the emotion it creates about the Cross, the Crucifixion, sacrifice, and ultimately our salvation. It is a not-so-subtle reminder of the Grace that has been bestowed upon us; for which we are eternally grateful. Our Maundy Thursday service will include meditative Taizé songs, allowing more opportunity to connect our spirituality with music.

There are great things happening musically for Easter as well! Palm Sunday will feature children's bells again, as well as a wonderful spiritual anthem by the Chancel Choir. On Easter Sunday the anthem will include Chancel Choir, Bells of Joy, a Brass ensemble, and our pipe organ to celebrate: The Day of Resurrection!

April is also Jazz Appreciation Month, a subject that is particularly dear to me, and I hope you'll take a little time this month to enjoy some good jazz music! The genre is always evolving, but maintains deep roots in tradition as well, much like we do here at Federated Church. April 27th is Jazz Sunday, featuring members of the Columbus Jazz Orchestra, as well as our Chancel Choir this year. We're all excited to be exploring new opportunities to celebrate, and praise through this music ministry at Federated!!

In Christ,
Stuart Gausman, Director of Music Ministry

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

March 25, 2025 Governing Council Meeting

Pastor Edward requested that we celebrate Communion on Easter Sunday as well as the first Sunday of April. Your Governing Council approved his request.

Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation will have a representative at our church on March 27th to meet with us about the organ grant.

Children's Sunday & Potluck will be held on March 30th.

Georgia Behlen, GC President

FEDERATED WOMEN

SYNOD GATHERING JUNE 12-15, 2025

WATERTOWN, SD LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

PLAN TO REGISTER EARLY!

Registration will soon be open for PW's 2025 Synod Gathering, which will be held June 12-15 in Watertown, SD. Join Presbyterian women from around our Synod in learning about rejoicing in and embodying what it means to "Let your Light Shine," as guided by Matt. 5: 14-16.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Elona Street Stewart will be our worship leader. She serves as our Synod Executive and has been part of PW for more than 30 years. She was honored as a PW Woman of Faith in 2010 and was co-moderator of the 224th General Assembly in 2020. Rev. Kristi Holler will be our music director. She is currently the pastor at Emanuel Presbyterian Church in Marion. Ferd Cloud will be our art designer. She is a Native American artist and member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota Tribe who lives in Granite Falls, Minn.

FULL REGISTRATION, \$150

It's the event you've been waiting three years to attend. It begins with dinner on Thursday and ends with morning worship on Sunday. A full registration is your ticket to community, learning and worship with PW sisters from across the region. It includes meals, even morning and afternoon snack breaks; up to eight workshops from inspiring leaders; two group presentations; shopping; a program book; book groups and mission opportunities; guest speakers; a Gathering choir; and so much more!

SINGLE DAY REGISTRATION

Enjoy the day's plenary sessions, provided meals of the day, and select from the day's programming options, up to four workshops.

PRE-GATHERING EVENT, \$10 WITH FULL REGISTRATION, \$35 FOR ALL OTHERS INCLUDES THURSDAY EVENING RECEPTION

A pre-gathering event will occur Thursday when we meet in the lobby at 8 a.m. to carpool to the Lake Traverse Reservation. A full day of tours, speaker, and special events are planned, including a lunch hosted by our Dakota Presbytery PW sisters.

PROGRAM BOOK ADS, STARTING AT JUST \$50

Now is the time to purchase your group/individual ad for the program book. A full page ad is just \$150. (Think of it as \$50 per year to tell someone how much you appreciate them every triennium.) A half-page ad is half the price at \$75. And a quarter-page is only \$50.

Contact Synod PW Treasurer, Terri Sherman for more information at terrisheran99@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!

Children & Youth Ministry

Fdnhggdu##

4/6

Sunday Funday

5th-12th Grade

Egging Event

11 am-2 pm

4/6

Fed @ Fed

9th-12th Grade

4-6 pm

Federated Kitchen

4/13

Palm Sunday

P-6th Grade

9 am Practice

10 am Kids' Bells Perform

4/20

Easter Sunday

No Ed Hour

10 am Worship

11 am Egg Hunt

ASH WEDNESDAY



Several youth met at St. Luke's church on March 5th for our annual, ecumenical Ash Wednesday service.

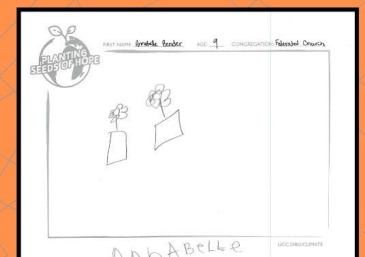
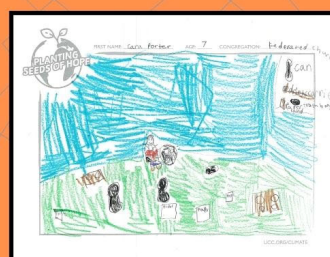
FED @ FED



Jambalaya
Hush Puppies
Bread Pudding
were on the menu for our March Fed & Fed. While we prepared our meal we listened to Jazz music and talked about the history of Mardi Gras. Join us 4/6 for our next Fed @ Fed!

HAPPY
MARDI
GRAS!

CLIMATE HOPE ART CONTEST



Three of our children submitted artwork for the Climate Hope Art Contest sponsored by the United Church of Christ. Thank you, kids, for sharing your vision for the future of our world.

Children & Youth Ministry

FLOWER SALE



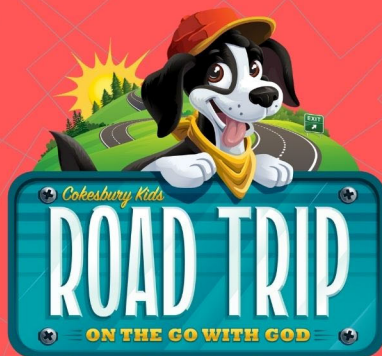
The youth will be selling roses on Mother's Day, May 11th, following worship. Funds collected will be used to support youth mission trips.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

June 2nd - 6th
Federated Church

Save the Date!

Registration Opening Soon!



Volunteers Needed!

Please contact Brenda Sand for more information about volunteering for VBC!

TRIENNium



In July, the Presbyterian Church (USA) will welcome thousands of its high school age youth to Louisville, Kentucky for four days of worship, recreation, bible study, outreach and faith formation. Most programming and meals will be held at the Kentucky International Convention Center with all participants housed at nearby Triennium hotels. We will most likely depart late at night on July 27th and return late on July 31st.

Fddhggu#

5/4

Confirmation Sunday

9 am Pictures in

Sanctuary

10 am Confirmation

Service

During Worship

11 am Reception

During Café LaFed

5/4

Fed @ Fed

9th-12th Grades

4-6 pm

Federated Kitchen

5/11

Mother's Day Flower

Sale

9 am Prep Flowers

11 am Sell Flowers

5/18

Graduation Sunday

9 am Breakfast

Graduates, Parents

and Jr/High School

Students

10 am Worship

11 am Cake Reception

During Café LaFed

5/18

Teacher Recognition

Last Week Ed Hour

June 2nd-6th

Vacation Bible Camp

Federated Church

JOYS & CONCERNS FOR MARCH 2025

- ◆ Congratulations to Grant & Taryn Gotschall, as they welcome Miller Lea, born on February 13th. Miller Lea is the granddaughter of Jeff & Tammi Gotschall.
- ◆ Pray for Operation Education Nairobi mission team: safe flights, airport connections and drives to destination and back; easy check at customs with the extra bags of gifts, clothes and crafts for families; stay healthy throughout the trip (March 6-17); approval from Kenyan government for NGO status to open bank account in Nairobi; for teachers, administrators, students and their families; God's guidance to people the team can share stories, encourage in faith and offer blessings. "We thank our Federated Church family for your prayers, blessings and support. We work for the Lord's Glory."
- ◆ Pray for Annette Griffith's brother, Michael Palik and (his wife) Robin. Doctors informed Michael that tumors have grown and spread. Michael and Robin live in Arkansas.
- ◆ Thoughts and prayers for Karen Senften. She had to put her dog and companion, Wilson of 14 years, to sleep on March 1, 2025.
- ◆ Pray for Gail Wurdeman, as she recovers from a fall she had on March 1st.
- ◆ Pray for Michelle Bellum Goedeken and her family. Michelle's husband, Loren passed away on Monday, March 10th in Hebron, NE. Services are Friday, March 14th at the Methodist Church in Hebron.
- ◆ Pray for Annette Griffith's family. Her brother, Michael Palik, passed away March 13. Michael lived in Arkansas with his wife, Robin.
- ◆ Congratulations to Kevin Kallweit, he was recognized as the Outstanding Area Farmer, at the Chamber of Commerce Rural Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, the 18th.
- ◆ Congratulations to Alex & Liz Wachter who were married in Waterloo on March 8, 2025. Alex is the son of Rod & Cindee Wachter.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Dennis Davis. Dennis is the brother-in-law of Randi and Doug Williams. He was diagnosed with cancer and is starting chemotherapy.
- ◆ Pray for Marilyn Vrana, she is having knee replacement surgery.
- ◆ Pray for Kathy Leischner as she recovers from hip surgery.
- ◆ Pray for Jeane Miller as she recovers from a fall and broken bones.

ATTENDANCE MARCH 2025

Ushers/Liturgists & Attendance Report

Ushers: Bill Royer, Mark Hegi, Tim Warren, Hadley McHugh, Theo Weeder

Liturgists: Stuart Gausman, Riley Gausman, Marilyn Abrego,
Nicole Miller, Confirmants

Average Attendance (excluding March 27 & 30):

Thursday Service: 14

Sunday Service: 101

Online: 291

Weekly Attendance: 406

HOMESTEAD PRESBYTERY & UCC LIVING WATERS PRAYERS MARCH 2025

♦ Homestead Presbytery: **Craig**

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

♦ Homestead Presbytery: **Dunbar**

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

♦ Homestead Presbytery: **Fairbury**

We request prayers for our confirmation students have formed a group called Mission Possible whose mission is to provide reliable vehicles to local families in need. They gave away their first car last year and are poised to give away two more very soon. Also, our church and community are exploring the possibility of constructing a food and clothing pantry to combat food insecurity and poverty in our town and surrounding areas.

♦ Homestead Presbytery: **Falls City**

Please pray for the community of Falls City and the members of the Falls City congregation. Our last worship service will be Sunday, March 30. We are planning a day of worship, memories, joys and tears. Our congregation was organized in 1866 and it is very hard to accept that we can no longer continue as a viable church. We have been supporters of Falls City during all that time and we hope to continue some programs. Our Community Diaper Closet will continue with the same volunteers and will be located in the First Methodist Church building. We plan to volunteer for the July Bloodmobile

canteen and to host a community bagpipe concert during the annual Cobblestone Festival. We hope members of Homestead Presbytery will join us on March 30 for worship, dinner and a reception. We ask for your prayers as we remember our history and look forward to our new church homes.

♦ Homestead Presbytery: **Fremont**

Fremont Presbyterian Church is asking for prayers in our search for a pastor. Our Interim Pastor has accepted another call. Also, prayers for the general health of the church would be very much welcome. Although we are seeing progress in the clean-up, our building is still suffering the effects of a car crash and fire in November 2023. We are hoping that soon the entire building will be back to pre-crash state. During the reconstruction, a task force has been focused on developing a childcare center. This is part of the 2025 Mission Strategy - in addition to volunteers serving at two Fremont elementary schools, providing dinner at the local homeless shelter (Care Corps) and a program for at-risk youth (Aspire for Greatness) once a month, as well as ongoing support for Calvin Crest Camp. We will continue to host the Summer Lunch Program along with the Backpack Program, both having started in 2012.

UCC Living Waters Association:

- ♦ Plainview First Congregational UCC (Plainview, NE 68796)
- ♦ Ralston UCC (Ralston, NE 68127)
- ♦ Scribner First Congregational UCC (Scribner, NE 68057)
- ♦ Tilden Peace UCC (Tilden, NE 68781)
- ♦ West Point Trinity UMC/UCC (West Point, NE 68788)

S.A.L.T. ADULT SUNDAY CLASS



“Study and Learn Together”

Who: All Adults!

When: 8:45 a.m. (So choir members can come!)

Where: Education Center Room 4

Fun facts about salt:

- * Salt was once used as currency. During the Roman Empire and the Middle Ages, salt was a valuable commodity because it could preserve food. People would use salt as a method of trade and currency and would lick salt blocks to make sure they were real.
- * Pouring salt into shoes and letting it sit overnight can help absorb excess moisture and odors.
- * Sleep: Salt is a natural hypnotic that can help regulate sleep



If you think that information is interesting, just wait till you come to class!

Our structure is: one week we show an interesting video followed by discussion; the next week we discuss current news events (no political discussion, though!) and how these events relate to the Bible.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! COME JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY! Meet in the EC4

2 X 4 GATHERINGS - MEETING FELLOW CONGREGANTS

Thank you for your interest in the 2 x 4 gatherings.

Groups have been created and the schedule is set for 2025.

Please reach out if you have questions or would like to be involved.

The office can provide you a copy of the 2 x 4 schedule and all details.

Thank you, Nila Novotny, Chair of Membership & Growth Committee

SOCIAL CONCERNS & MISSIONS COMMITTEE COLLECTIONS & EVENTS

In April, May and June 2025 we are collecting paper towels and toilet paper for the Center for Survivors. There is a box for these items in the north entry off the parking lot. Thank you in advance for your help.

Social Concerns and Missions Committee

*"The Son of Man did **not** come to be served, but to serve," Matthew 20 : 28*

FUNERAL COMMITTEE 4

Funeral Committee 4 Co-Chairs: Sue & Steve McClure, Sharon Kuncl, Brenda Sand,
Rod & Cindee Wachter

Committee Members will be contacted by the Co-Chairs.

FEDERATED CHURCH'S HELPING HANDS FUNDS

Did you know... “In the spring of 1975 Federated Church hosted and helped organize the Helping Hands Organization of Columbus...”¹ This gathering collaborated the efforts of a number of community groups and created low-cost housing, as well as a number of other wonderful outreaches to our community. This is where our “Helping Hands” funds were started!



¹ Excerpt from ‘In Ministry Together; Federated Church - A Centennial History; July 2, 1014 - July 2, 2014’; pg. 38-39

COLUMBUS RESCUE MISSION

Federated Church delivers meals to the Rescue Mission the second Friday of each month. The new Rescue Mission is located in the old Mory’s Haven, on 15th Street and 12th Avenue. Meals should consist of a main dish, a salad or vegetable and bread or rolls. Dessert is not necessary but always appreciated. Suggestions include tacos, soup, sloppy joes, casseroles, spaghetti, lasagna, pizza, burritos, enchiladas, or whatever you’d like to take. Because you need to plan for 25 people, it is a good idea to pair up with someone.

The meal should be there by 5:00 p.m.

Sign up for 2025 now.

Please be a part of this important ministry and sign up in the Narthex!

Katie Claus, Chair of Social Concerns & Missions Committee

PLATTE COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

The Platte County Food Pantry, located at 3020 18th Street in Suite 13 (Old Hospital).

If you are in need of assistance, you can call at 402-563-4544. Some donation suggestions are: canned and boxed foods: soup, macaroni and cheese, ramen noodles, pasta and pasta sauce, veggies and fruits; staple food items: peanut butter, jelly,

Platte County Food Pantry
Columbus, Nebraska



BOOK SALE SUCCESS!

The annual book sale for the Youth Group raised \$709. this year. Thank you to everyone who helped organize and monitor this event. Thank you to all the individuals who donated books and made this event possible.

CENTER FOR SURVIVORS

The Center's needs often change due to shortages or surpluses of certain items.

Please call ahead if you have questions regarding needs, 402-564-2155.

At this time, the Center is in need and accepting donations for the following NEW personal hygiene products: shampoo, conditioner, liquid body wash, deodorant, makeup removing wipes, facial tissues, toilet paper, and paper towels.



KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL



Keep Columbus Beautiful is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful.

To find out more information go to <https://kcbne.com>

MEALS ON WHEELS



Make sure to sign up for 2025 Meals on Wheels Schedule!

Thank you. Please contact Kathy Leischner

if you can deliver for approximately one hour each day during Federated's scheduled week!

ERNA R. BADSTIEBER PAWS & CLAWS ADOPTION CENTER

Paws & Claws Adoption Center (The Platte Valley Humane Society) is located at 2124 13th Street. The hours are Monday through Friday, Noon to 4:30pm, and Saturdays Noon to 3:30pm.

You can call 402-562-5683 to meet your future pet! Regular needs include: Clorox, Pine Sol, Paper Towels, Old Linens, Stamps, Copy Paper, Gift Cards from Grocery, Hardware and Farm Stores.

They have a number of animals available, go to <https://www.pawsandclawsne.org!>



Bruno



Darbi



Oliver

April Birthdays

Brenda Kallweit	4/02	Marcia Grant	4/17
Brian Klevemann, Jessica Sand	4/07	Guy Wheatley	4/20
Jan Pickrel	4/08	Mitchell Griffith	4/21
Lisa Perrin, Cara Porter, Ellie Porter	4/09	Loren Burnett, Anjel Garcia Lopez	4/23
Beverly Fry, Connor Hahn, Sue Mares	4/10	Alyse Wolfe	4/27
Kathy Morris, Clint Scheffler	4/11	Shelia Arasmith	4/28
Kathy Orr	4/13	Jude Graybill	4/29
Gary Sedlacek	4/14	Tom Gumm	4/30
Garrett Hahn	4/16		

If you see a mistake or missing information on the birthday list,

2025 PHOTO DIRECTORY BOOK

The 2025 Photo Directory Book will be coming soon.
We are waiting for the second proof to review.

SALAMA STOVE MISSION

John Novotny will be leading a team of welders (instructor and students) from the Central Community College-Columbus, to Togo, Africa, May 18-26, 2025. They will be installing the Salama Stoves (meaning “Peace” in Swahili) that have been on display in the church narthex in the past, and on the Federated float last year with Columbus Days. John has partnered with Dr. Coleen Stice (retired plastic surgeon from Omaha), and Central Community College-Columbus, to build these stoves, and now it is time to install them in the huts of the Togolese people. The same welders that helped built the stoves will be the one’s installing them. It is anticipated that about 12 stoves will be installed on this trip. The stoves will be installed in and around a small rural community named Agbelouve, which is about 40 miles north of the Capital City of Lomé. In the rural area near Agbelouve, there is a new medical clinic and small campus which will be used as the base location for the trip. Togo is a next door neighbor to Ghana, which the Federated Church has had a long standing relationship with over the past years.

Simultaneous to the welding team going, a 12 member Creighton nursing team will also be going to help finalize setup of the new rural medical clinic near Agbelouve. About 3 personnel from the Omaha Creighton campus, and 9 from the Phoenix, Arizona Creighton campus will be joining our group. While there, the nursing students will also get to see the stove installations as well, as a collaborative effort to learn how the stoves have major health benefits to those using them. The Salama stoves use about 10% of a normal open fire inside their huts, which helps with deforestation. The Stoves essentially eliminate skin burns while in use, as they are insulated like any oven. They also help to eliminate hazardous smoke and fumes that would normally be inside the huts with an open fire, as the smoke is routed to the outside with flues. Lastly, the stoves also provide a medium for cooking and clean hot water. The stoves are generally a life changing event for those who receive them.

The Federated Church community has been very generous and gracious in the past with donations to this project. This includes donations form the Women’s Fellowship, Cookies n’ More, Garage Sale, and many individuals from the church, and others. John and all those involved want to thank Federated Church and its members for their support and prayers for this project, and a safe trip.



Above: General view of this port of West Africa, next door neighbor to Ghana
To the right: Hut after the installation of a typical



OPERATION EDUCATION NAIROBI



Bill Royer, Jodi Krymuza (Bill's daughter,) Michelle Wiese, Jon Cooper, Julie Graham and Katie Claus went on a mission trip to Kenya March 6-17th. It was a wonderful trip in most ways but we did have some challenges.

We were able to meet many of our students, 13 of whom are supported by this congregation, and their parents. It was a joyful, deeply meaningful time. To witness the difference education makes in their lives is very moving.

We taught the kids at Glory Sanctuary church to make bags out of T-shirts, which was lots of fun.

We traveled by plane and by van to Kisumu, where we visited one of our students in boarding school. We went on to villages near Lake Victoria, where we met four more students and their parents. We witnessed a house being built for a woman who lost everything in the flooding. We visited folks who lived in the villages and we visited several schools.

It was a very busy trip, and deeply rewarding. Many thanks to the congregation for their support.

Katie Claus

2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEETING DAYS/TIMES

In the table below you can find the 2025 Chairperson(s) and meeting days and times for each committee. If you belong to a committee and have not heard from your chair, please contact them for information. If you do not have any contact information for them, you can call the office for assistance.

Committee or Group	Chairperson	Meeting Day/Time
Christian Education Committee	Pat Anderson	1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm
Endowment Committee	John Lohr	Will meet as necessary
Finance & Property Committee	Terry Norris	3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm
Membership & Growth Committee	Nila Novotny	1st Monday of the month, 6:30pm
Nominating Committee	Roland Augspurger	<i>To be determined</i>
Order of St. Andrew	Peg Meyer	1st Monday of the month, 4:30pm
Personnel Committee	Tim Rathje	2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm
Social Concerns & Missions Committee	Katie Claus	2nd Monday of the month, 5:00pm
Stewardship Committee	Linda Wheatley	Will meet as necessary
Worship & Music Committee	Bob Arp	1st Tuesday of the month, 7:15pm
Youth Ministry Committee	Max Porter	2nd Sunday of the month, 11:00am
Foundation	Doug Williams, President	Quarterly/as Necessary
Governing Council	Georgia Behlen, President Bob Arp, VP	4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm

Reminder to all Chairpersons: If, for any reason, your meeting has been postponed, rescheduled, cancelled or changed to a different day of the month or time, please contact the office staff regarding the new schedule. Thank you!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income - March 2025	
General Funds (Checking):	\$40,931.14
Total Donations & Contributions	\$40,931.14
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$2,318.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$25.00
Book Sale - Youth	\$709.00
Platte County Food Pantry	\$825.00
Youth Mission Trip/Fund	\$734.00
Habitat For Humanity	\$25.00
Memorials:	\$30.00
Undesignated Memorials	\$30.00

Expenses - March 2025	
General Fund Expenses:	\$21,488.74
Utilities	\$5096.06
Homestead Presbytery	\$459.27
UCC NE Conference	\$275.64
Living Waters Association	\$183.71
Insurance Board	\$7086.50
Office Expenses	\$809.26
Snow Removal	\$3091.50
Building Expenses	\$378.00
Landscaping	941.30
Book-keeping (setup, Feb. & March)	\$1,650.00
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$1,525.34
Youth Fund	\$655.15
A Place at the Table	\$25.00
Platte County Food Pantry	\$825.00
Helping Hands	\$20.16

INCLEMENT WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENT

In the event of dangerous weather during a church service, you will be instructed where to go for shelter at that time. If you are attending an event at the church outside of worship, please go to the Fellowship Hall to the storage area, or the restrooms right off the Narthex.

These areas are marked as Severe Weather Shelter Area signs.

FEDERATED CHURCH
2704 15th STREET
PO Box 564
COLUMBUS, NE 68602-0564

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APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

April 2025; Volume 59; Issue 4

DECODING THE LITURGICAL COLOR SCHEME

Purple = Preparation Purple is the color that is used during our season of preparation: Advent and Lent. During both of these seasons (the four Sundays before Christmas and the 40 Days before Easter, respectively), we are to dedicate ourselves for the preparation of our hearts and minds for welcoming Christ. Purple is also the traditional color of royalty, and so some give not to this as a reason why we use purple during these seasons.

White = Holiness We use white any time we are celebrating days that emphasize the divinity of Christ: Christmas, Easter, Baptism of the Lord, Christ the King, and so on. For the most part, if you find white paraments in the sanctuary, you are worshiping on a day that has great significance to our understanding of Jesus as God. Also, since white has come to symbolize holiness, it is also often used for the celebration of both sacraments (baptism & communion). You will also often see a pastor wear a white stole when officiating a wedding. Although there is no theological or liturgical reason, some pastors choose to do so as the colors white and black are so often associated with weddings. However, any color of stole is deemed appropriate based on the season.