

# FEDERATED NEWSLETTER

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ♦ December 10th - Poinsettia Orders Due
- ♦ December 12th - Children's Christmas Pageant
- ♦ December 16th - Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service
- ♦ December 19th - Lessons & Carols Service
- ♦ December 23rd - No Service
- ♦ December 24th - Christmas Eve -5pm Family Service  
-8pm Candlelight, Communion & Carols Service
- ♦ December 25th - MERRY CHRISTMAS!  
- No Christmas Dinner
- ♦ December 27th - Office Closed
- ♦ December 31st - End Of Year Deposits Due by 11am &  
Annual Committee & Staff Reports Due
- ♦ January 3rd - Office Closed

## From the Pastor's Desk

Christmas decorations are going up. Radio stations are playing carols. Gifts are being wrapped, while Christmas letters are being written. We are now in the season of advent. For the most part, it is a joyful time of the year.

Yet, I am reminded that it is also a painful time. Got an email just yesterday from the Columbus Community Hospital titled, "Mental illness and suicide rates increase as the holiday season approaches." It mentioned the concerning rise in bankruptcy for farmers and ranchers. If you know of families that are going through these difficulties, here are phone numbers that were shared: "To reach someone on a free, confidential 24/7 line, call 1-833-FARM-SOS (1-833-327-6767). You can also call the Rural Response Hotline at 800-464-0258 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-8255."

End of year holidays can be very difficult because of the numerous reminders of loss, especially the loss of loved ones who are no longer at what are meant to be festive gatherings. Being mindful of this grief (as well as other forms of loss, such as employment, physical/mental ability or sense of purpose), we will be hosting a Blue (because the holidays can make some feel blue) Christmas service on December 16th (Thursday), 6:30pm with our ecumenical partners (First United Methodist, Grace Episcopal and St. Luke's United Church of Christ). Anyone is welcome to join this service as we bring our laments before God. If you need someone to talk with about your grief, please know that I can be a listening ear. You do not have to grieve alone.

I would like to share with you words from Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, a contemporary hymn writer:

### **How Can We Sing a Joyful Song?**

O WALY WALY 8.8.8.8 ("Though I May Speak")

How can we sing a joyful song?

O God, our sorrows hem us in.

When pain and grief seem all too strong,

How can we sing a joyful hymn?

The world around finds songs to sing

Of laughter, mirth and happiness,

But these sound false and even sting

When what we feel is deep distress.

And yet, O God, we dare to sing

For in our grief, we're not alone.

You love this world and entered in

By sending us your only Son.

You sent us hope - Emmanuel!

O God-with-us, you bore our pain.

And so we sing, for all is well!

In Christ, we will be whole again.

Grace and peace,  
Edward

# Children & Youth Ministry

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Federated Church's Annual Children's Christmas Program will be held during worship on Sunday, December 12th. This year's Christmas Program is a collaborative effort featuring H.I.S. Puppet Ministry, Federated Children Bell Choir and Federated Sunday School Students. All are invited to come and enjoy a "Cowboy Christmas!"

## Calendar of Events

**Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

### Christmas Program Rehearsal

10:30 - 11:30 in the Sanctuary

With lunch following in the Fellowship Hall  
Preschool-7<sup>th</sup> and H.I.S. Puppet Ministry

**Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

### Christmas Program

9:00 am Practice during Sunday School

10:00 am performance during Worship  
Preschool -7<sup>th</sup> and H.I.S. Puppet Ministry

**Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

### Youth Sunday Funday - Christmas Party

Following Worship in the Fellowship Hall  
Food, Minute to Win It Games & Prizes

Bring a \$5 White Elephant Gift  
Middle and High School Students

**Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

### Christmas Eve Service

5:00 pm Family Service

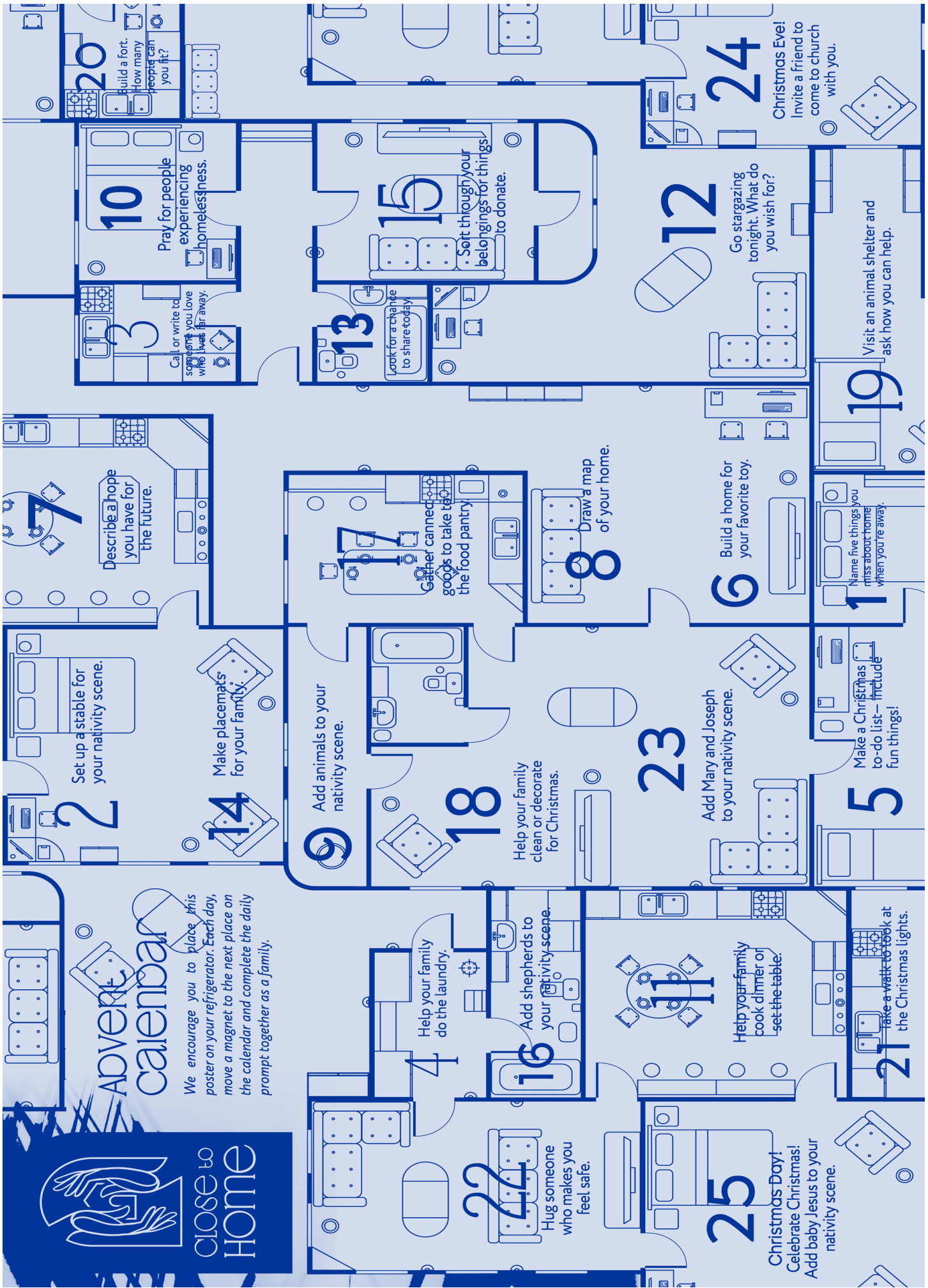
8:00 pm Communion and Candles Service

## YOUTH SUNDAY FUNDAY

Federated youth gathered in the kitchen on November 7th for cookie baking and fellowship. The youth baked six dozen "Reindeer" cookies which were donated to Federated's Cookies and More fundraiser. Thank you to all the kids who participated and those who helped the night of the fundraiser! Way to be the hands and feet of Christ!







# Advent calendar

We encourage you to place this poster on your refrigerator. Each day, move a magnet to the next place on the calendar and complete the daily prompt together as a family.





## Storage Shelving Project Finished!

Thanks to Tim Rathje, Gene Hahn, John and Anita Hahn, the storage area has another set of storage shelves provided by Federated Women. These shelves are for Federated Women's fundraiser supplies and permanent records only. The other two sets of shelves have many tubs that are labeled, but some are not. If your committee or organization is storing items on these shelves, please make sure they are "current" and not from years past and will never be used again.

## November Joys & Concerns

- ◆ Pray for Rebecca Timperley who is experiencing setbacks with leg bone not regenerating. Please lift Rebecca and Paula up in your prayers.

- ◆ Pray for the family of Deanna Tiedtke (cousin to Brenda Sand & niece to Rogalyn Stevens). Deanna was in a fatal automobile accident.

- ◆ Pray for Beryldean Lauterbach as she recently had part of her colon removed. Thankfully, her pathology report came back cancer-free.

- ◆ Congratulations to Megan and George Dean who welcomed a son, Dylan Tate, on October 29th, 2021. Grandparents are James & Beth Sharpe, Great-Aunt is Mary Sharpe.

- ◆ Pray for Leroy Kallweit who is currently hospitalized due to an infection.

- ◆ Pray for Marlyn Wurdeman who is currently in the hospital due to shortness of breath.

- ◆ Pray for Irene O'Brien Dare who recently fell and is in isolation.

- ◆ Pray for the family of Irene O'Brien Dare who died November 21, 2021. A public visitation was held on Friday, November 26th at Gass Haney. A private family funeral will be held due to COVID concerns.

- ◆ Pray for the family of Dale Dannelly, who died Nov. 4th. A Celebration of Life was held at Gass Haney Funeral Home on Nov. 9th.

- ◆ From Homestead Presbytery: Lincoln Fourth: Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln Fourth congregation. May the continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.

- ◆ From Homestead Presbytery: Lincoln First: Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln First congregation. May the continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.

- ◆ From Homestead Presbytery: Lincoln Heritage: Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln Eastridge congregation. May the continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.

## Federated Church's Helping Hands Funds

Federated's Helping Hands funds helps individuals and families in our community with things like food, fuel, utilities and rent. So far, in 2021, we have helped 12 with fuel, 10 with rent, 2 with utilities, and 4 with food.

We also assisted a Federated Family with the purchase of a wheelchair. Total given to those in need: \$3,030.53. Total donations to the funds: \$2,725.00.

## Social Concerns and Missions Committee Donations

The Social Concerns and Missions Committee is asking the congregation to participate in the monthly donations to the following agencies. There will be a box in the Narthex to collect these donations. Thank you for your help!



### October-November-December

Mittens, gloves, caps, hats, and scarves to be put on an "Angel Tree" in the Narthex and delivered to the Rescue Mission

Submitted by Katie Claus

## 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, pancake syrup, crackers, tuna, rice, flour, sugar.



This is not an all inclusive list, any non-perishable food items are needed.

## Rescue Mission Meals for 2021

Many thanks to all the volunteers who signed up to provide meals to the Rescue Mission! We have each week filled and accounted for the remainder of the year!

Columbus **RESCUE** Mission

## Meals on Wheels



All volunteers need to have their COVID vaccine cards verified by the Columbus Hospital. Questions call Angie at Columbus Hospital. (402)562-3365.

## 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, paper towels and men's deodorant.

## Mission Heart, Inc.



Mission Heart, Inc. is located at 412 "G" Street in Central City. For more information, go to: [missionheartworld.weebly.com](http://missionheartworld.weebly.com)

Some donation suggestions include:

Clothing items, Linens (bedding, towels, washcloths), School supplies (pencils/pens, notebooks, crayons, etc.), Baby items (furniture, cloth diapers, blankets, toys, clothes, bottles/cups/spoons, Sewing supplies

(batting, bias tape, thread & material - flannel, cotton, polyester, fleece), Medical supplies (walkers/crutches, glasses, hearing aids, braces, slings, blood pressure cuffs, wheelchairs, stethoscopes, thermometers, etc.), O.T.C. medications (chewable vitamins - adult & child, iron pills, Vitamin B6, Pre-natal vitamins, first-aid creams), Gallon-sized or Quart-sized zipping bags, Empty pill bottles, Travel-sized soaps, shampoos/conditioners & lotions

## 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: Clumping Cat Litter, Clorox, Pine Sol, Paper Towels, Old Linens, Stamps, Copy Paper, Dog & Cat Toys, Collars & Leashes, Wet Cat & Dog Food, Kitten Food and Milk Replacer, Gift Cards from Grocery, Hardware and Farm Stores.

They have a number of animals available, including Brynn, Dug, Rei, Puck and Algebra.





## Finance at a Glance

Contributions - October 2021		Expenses - October 2021	
<b>General Funds (Checking):</b>	<b>\$21,036.63</b>	<b>General Fund Expenses:</b>	<b>\$25,504.28</b>
Contributions	\$21,035.08	Utilities	\$1,912.41
Misc. Income	\$1.55	Other Budgeted Expenses	\$23,590.32
<b>Designated Funds (Savings):</b>	<b>\$2,495.00</b>	Misc. Expense	\$1.55
Ghana Partnership	\$25.00	<b>Designated Funds (Savings):</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
Youth Missions	\$20.00	Disaster Relief - Bucket Project	\$50.00
Organ/Piano	\$75.00	Operation Education	\$200.00
Landscaping	\$1,000.00	Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$400.00
Pre-paid Pledge (Future Year)	\$1,000.00	Helping Hands - Non-Members	\$350.00
Disaster Relief - Bucket Challenge	\$50.00	<b>Memorial Fund:</b>	<b>\$71.25</b>
Operation Education	\$200.00	*Undesignated/Kitchen Supplies - Cups, tea, sugar, and filters for Café	\$71.25
Office Furniture - Sale of Filing Cabinet	\$75.00		
Education Hour	\$50.00		
<b>Memorials</b>	<b>\$185.00</b>		
Undesignated	\$135.11		
Landscaping	\$50.00		
<b>Interest Income:</b>	<b>\$16.50</b>		
Savings	\$16.50		

## 2021 Annual Staff & Committee Reports

Just a reminder that reports are due in December. Please send your annual reports to [fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org](mailto:fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org). Thank you!



If you see a mistake or missing information on this page, call the church office so we can update our records.

John Curry, Malynn Knoepfle-Slivoski, Brenda Sand	12/2	Randy Kaspar	12/13
Joan Specht	12/3	Nancy Hegi	12/14
Julie Graham	12/4	Deb Rasby	12/17
Melanie Knoepfle	12/5	Cindy Hoadley	12/19
Ryland Prokopec, Lacy Ternus	12/6	Kathy Leischner, Marv Zoucha	12/20
Ethan Scheffler, Chris Warren	12/7	Margaret Nyffeler, Elena Perrin	12/21
Charlotte Lambert	12/11	Rosie Heinisch	12/23
Kay Castner	12/12	Elizabeth Miller, Barb Olson	12/29

## Homestead Presbytery “Bucket Challenge”

The Homestead Presbytery was challenging all churches in the Presbytery to fill buckets for Disaster Relief for those affected by hurricanes, floods and fires. If all our churches in Homestead rose to the challenge, they estimated that 500 buckets would be filled! The buckets to the left were donated to Social Concerns and Missions Committee, who oversaw the project. Three buckets were filled by our Women’s Circles. The McPhail family filled another. Through the donations of our church family, we filled ELEVEN



buckets! Three more than what Homestead Requested!

Good job Social Concerns and Missions Committee, Women’s Circles, McPhail and Federated Families! Way to go above and beyond!



## A HUGE COOKIES 'N MORE THANK YOU!

So many people came together to make this event a success! Thank you to the Yard Sign coordinator, the Advertising crew, the callers, the many people who worked the event, the office staff, the Yangs, the people who donated money, and of course the bakers, who brought beautiful cookies and candy. Special thanks to the Baking Day Crew, under the direction of Sue Mares and Barb Olson, the tree decorators Tim Warren and Cyndi Jarecke, and the overall decorators Tammi Gotschall and Jeanne Johnson. It was wonderful to work together for a common cause! Our total for the event came to over \$3500.00.

Chris Warren and Katie Claus





# DECEMBER 2021

1	Ezekiel 1 ☐			John 21 ☐		
2	Ezekiel 2 ☐		Ezekiel 3 ☐		Psalm 119:97-120 ☐	
3	Ezekiel 4 ☐		Ezekiel 5 ☐		James 1 ☐	
4	Ezekiel 6 ☐		Ezekiel 7 ☐		James 2 ☐	
5	Ezekiel 8 ☐		Ezekiel 9 ☐		Psalm 119:121-144 ☐	
6	Ezekiel 10 ☐		Ezekiel 11 ☐		James 3 ☐	
7	Ezekiel 12 ☐		Ezekiel 13 ☐		James 4 ☐	
8	Ezekiel 14 ☐		Ezekiel 15 ☐		James 5 ☐	
9	Ezekiel 16 ☐		Ezekiel 17 ☐		Psalm 119:145-176☐	
10	Ezekiel 18 ☐		Ezekiel 19 ☐		1 Peter 1 ☐	
11	Ezekiel 20 ☐		Ezekiel 21 ☐		1 Peter 2 ☐	
12	Ezekiel 22 ☐	Ezekiel 23 ☐	Psalm 120 ☐	Psalm 121 ☐	Psalm 122 ☐	
13	Ezekiel 24 ☐		Ezekiel 25 ☐		1 Peter 3 ☐	
14	Ezekiel 26 ☐		Ezekiel 27 ☐		1 Peter 4 ☐	
15	Ezekiel 28 ☐		Ezekiel 29 ☐		1 Peter 5 ☐	
16	Ezekiel 30 ☐	Ezekiel 31 ☐	Psalm 123 ☐	Psalm 124 ☐	Psalm 125 ☐	
17	Ezekiel 32 ☐		Ezekiel 33 ☐		2 Peter 1 ☐	
18	Ezekiel 34 ☐		Ezekiel 35 ☐		2 Peter 2 ☐	
19	Ezekiel 36 ☐	Ezekiel 37 ☐	Psalm 126 ☐	Psalm 127 ☐	Psalm 128 ☐	
20	Ezekiel 38 ☐		Ezekiel 39 ☐		2 Peter 3 ☐	
21	Ezekiel 40 ☐		Ezekiel 41 ☐		1 John 1 ☐	
22	Ezekiel 42 ☐		Ezekiel 43 ☐		1 John 2 ☐	
23	Ezekiel 44 ☐	Ezekiel 45 ☐	Psalm 129 ☐	Psalm 130 ☐	Psalm 131 ☐	
24	Ezekiel 46 ☐		Ezekiel 47 ☐		1 John 3 ☐	
25	Ezekiel 48 ☐			1 John 4 ☐		
26	Daniel 1 ☐	Daniel 2 ☐	Daniel 3 ☐	Psalm 132☐	Psalm 133☐	Psalm 134☐
27	Daniel 4 ☐		Daniel 5 ☐		1 John 5 ☐	
28	Daniel 6 ☐		Daniel 7 ☐		2 John 1 ☐	
29	Daniel 8 ☐		Daniel 9 ☐		3 John 1 ☐	
30	Daniel 10 ☐	Daniel 11 ☐	Daniel 12 ☐	Psalm 135 ☐	Psalm 136 ☐	
31	Hosea 1 ☐		Hosea 2 ☐		Jude ☐	

## *Federated Church : Year of the Bible*

**Bible Reading Sharing & Discussion Group will meet  
on December 27th at 3pm in person and online.**

**Please see our weekly emails and Facebook posts for the Zoom information.**

**If this day and time does not work,  
please let Pastor Edward know what time works for you.**



FEDERATED CHURCH  
2704 15<sup>th</sup> STREET  
PO BOX 564  
COLUMBUS, NE, 68602-0564

## December 2021 Newsletter

*Wishing you*

**A VERY MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
and Happy New Year!**

**From the Federated Church Staff:**

Edward, Brenda, Chrissy, Kathy, Betty,  
Bob, Stuart, James and Antonio

If you have articles, events or other information you would like included in the newsletter, you can email it to [fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org](mailto:fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org). The deadline for submitting information for Newsletters is the 20th of the prior month, e.g. *Jan. 2022 Newsletter deadline will be December 20th, 2021.*