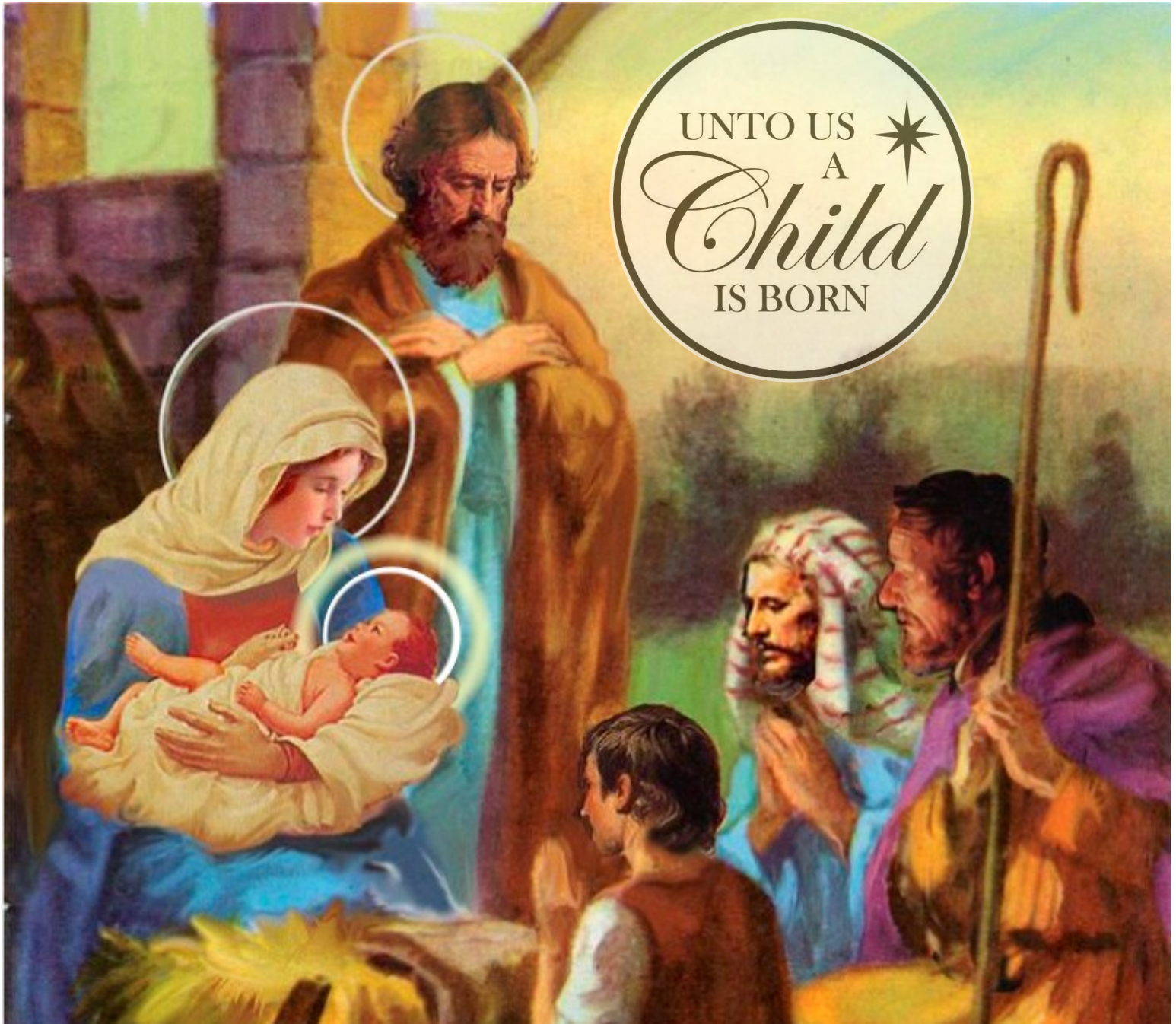




FEDERATED NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS

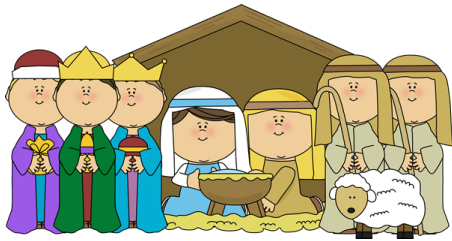
December 12

Blue Christmas
at Federated 6:30pm



December 15

Christmas Pageant
and Caroling



December 24

Family Service 5pm

Choir and Communion 8pm



December 25

Christmas Day
Church office closed

December 31

New Year's Eve
Deposits due before Noon

January 1

New Year's Day
Church office closed



As continuation of sharing my experience from Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), here's my fourth reflection:

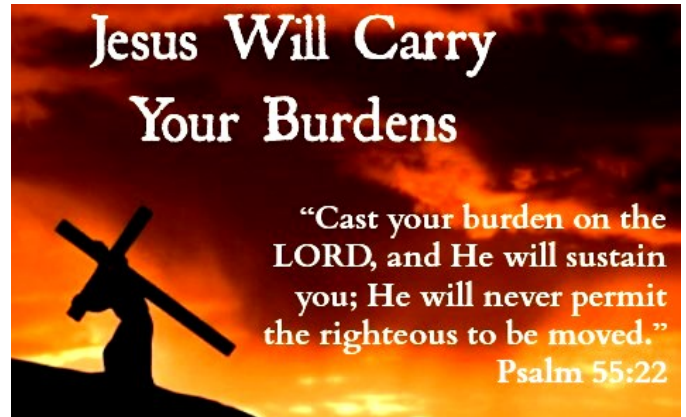
HEALING – What does it mean to pray for healing? There were numerous occasions during week 4 of CPE to pray for someone's healing. Sometimes, I offered to pray. Other times, a request was made on behalf of a patient. Although I knew the words came out of my mouth as I prayed for God to heal a particular person, I did not really understand what I am asking for. Was I praying so that the illness or injury would simply disappear (as though it never happened)? Or was I praying that the person would be able to overcome whatever the illness/injury might be? Or maybe something else?

I also learned how healing can come in the form of sharing people's burdens. A nurse in CCS reminded me of the importance of a chaplain's work. She shared about a patient that she had been taking care of physically. The nurse noticed that the patient and his wife were burdened by the information that they each held within. Each member was worried about what might happen to the patient during a critical point of his treatment. At the same time, neither wanted to overburden the other with more worries.

Therefore, they were stuck in a dilemma: either they share their concerns with one another with the risk of further burdening each other or they hold in their concerns with the risk of overburdening oneself. The nurse shared how the chaplain has a vital role of carrying some of these burdens and thereby overcoming this dilemma. With this family, I've met them regularly for several days. While they have shared some prayer concerns, it seems like we don't have a deep enough relationship for them to feel comfortable sharing their burdens.

But helping to carry people's burdens does not require deep relationship or much time. Friday morning of week 4, I joined chaplain K in an emergency room where a six-year-old girl lay dead in the arms of her mother. I watched as the Catholic priest performed Last Rites on this child. The room was filled with tears of sorrow. While some of my tears were for the little girl that I never met, they were also for my children particularly my six-year-old son who I fought with that morning to get ready for school. In the viewing room, I learned more about the girl who passed away. We had a farewell service for her. Along with reading Scripture, there was a time for people to share their memories. Family and friends shared about the joy and laughter that she brought them. She loved to be hugged. She also did many silly things, such as eating rabbit poop thinking it was chocolate. Along with chaplain K and nurse S, we felt that we helped the girl's family in their process of healing.

For much of the weekend, I felt haunted by images and thoughts about the girl I never knew. Saturday, tears started forming as I watched children performing in a taekwondo demonstration. I'm not sure if the tears were because the children seemed precious or because I thought about the girl who died and would never have an opportunity for these types of activities. When my family and I walked back to our car after the taekwondo tournament, we saw rabbits on the field. My children talked about how cute they look; I thought about chocolate poop.



I think about the experience of placing my hand on the deceased girl's head while speaking a prayer of commendation from the Book of Common Worship (see below). It was an amazing and humbling experience. In some ways it felt unreal; it was like a dream. It's getting harder to believe it actually happened. I wonder if this is part of my own healing process: to forget that memory (as though it never happened). Or is it possible for me to carry that memory and find healing from it?

Prayer of Commendation

[Name], our sister/brother in the faith,
we entrust you to God who created you.
May you return to the one who formed us out of the dust of the earth.
Surrounded by the great cloud of witnesses beyond all time and space,
may Christ come to meet you
as you go forth from this life.

May Christ, the Lord of glory,
who was crucified for you,
bring you freedom and peace.

May Christ, the High Priest,
who has forgiven all your sins,
keep you among his people.

May Christ, the Son of God,
who died for you,
show you the glories of his eternal kingdom.

May Christ, the Good Shepherd,
enfold you with his tender care.
May you see your Redeemer face to face
and enjoy the sight of God for ever.

Amen.

Here are some questions for your own reflection:

- What does healing mean to you?
- Have you ever asked God for healing (whether for yourself or someone else)? How was that prayer answered?
- Of the various roles for Christ described in the Prayer of Commendation, which is most comforting for you and why?

Please feel free to share your thoughts and/or questions with me, via email/text/call/in-person.

Grace and peace,
Edward



Children & Youth Ministry

Advent is a time to prepare for and anticipate the birth of Christ. Advent includes the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. This year Advent begins on December 1st. December can be a busy time for families with children's programs, parties, family gatherings, shopping, baking and wrapping. It can often feel like the true meaning of Christmas gets lost. Our family has found that having a set of Advent candles at the center of our dining table helps to keep our focus on Christ during the advent season. The internet has all kinds of ideas for making advent wreaths, but all one really needs is a fire resistant surface and five votive candles. At each meal, family members take turns lighting the appropriate candle(s): Week 1 - Peace/Week 2 - Hope/Week 3 - Joy/Week 4- Love/Week 5 - Christ. There is a multitude of ideas on Pinterest for family centered readings & activities to supplement your advent candle sessions. This daily bible verse reading plan would be simple and easy to include during your evening meal. However, it does not prevent fighting over who gets to light & blow out the candles! May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours! Brenda Sand - Interim CE Director

Children/Youth Special Events

12/14 - Saturday

Christmas Pageant Practice (K-5)

11:00 am - 12:00 noon

We will run through the program a couple of times and then have pizza

12/15 - Sunday

Christmas Pageant (K-5)

10:00 am (during worship service)

12/15 - Sunday

All Church Christmas Caroling

11:00 am (following worship)

Meet in the fellowship hall for pizza followed by caroling at area nursing/retirement homes.

12/18 - Wednesday

Youth Christmas Party (7-12 grade)

4:00 - 7:30 pm

*Bring a \$5 White Elephant Gift
Dinner and Games Provided*

12/29 & 1/5

No Sunday School

the Wonders of His Love AN ADVENT BIBLE READING PLAN:

Christ is coming

Day 1	Isaiah 9:2-7
Day 2	Isaiah 11:1-5
Day 3	Isaiah 7:10-14
Day 4	Micah 5:1-5
Day 5	2 Samuel 7:12-16

Christ is here

Day 6	Luke 1:26-33
Day 7	Luke 1:34-38
Day 8	Luke 1:46-55
Day 9	Matthew 1:18-25
Day 10	Luke 2:1-7
Day 11	Luke 2:8-12
Day 12	Luke 2:13-20
Day 13	Matt. 1:1-17

Christ will give

Day 14	Romans 6:20-23
Day 15	Galatians 4:1-7
Day 16	1 Timothy 1:15-17
Day 17	Titus 3:3-7
Day 18	Philippians 2:6-8

Christ will return

Day 19	John 14:1-6
Day 20	Daniel 7:13-14
Day 21	Revelation 1:4-7
Day 22	Revel. 3:20-22
Day 23	Revel. 22:12-13
Day 24	Revelation 22:16-17
Day 25	Revelation 22:20

READ DAILY
DEVOS + PRINT
THIS PLAN AT:

www.livingfreeindeed.com



Thank you, Federated Family!

{A note from the Wolfe Family}

Dear Federated Church Family,

Your love & support over the past year means so much to us. We can never say thank you enough for all of the care you've shown us through this difficult time. We are so blessed by your prayers & support.

Thank you!

Sincerely, Drew & Kristi Wolfe & family

P. D. A. Volunteers to Utilize Our Facilities

This month, **Governing Council** has approved the use of the facilities for the **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance volunteers** this next Spring. The volunteers will be helping with the damages from this previous Spring's flood. The **P.D.A.** has offered, in exchange for the building usage, to pay for a new refrigerator for the High School room, and ten air mattresses that can be used if our facilities are ever called upon to help people during future disastrous situations.

Funeral Committee 5 Information

Funeral Committee 5: *Co-Chairpersons: Elsie and Wendell Ita, Sherry Miller, Judy Temme, Judy and Bob Tupper*

Members: Jesse & Marilyn Abrego, Pat Anderson, LaRene Busler, Doris Busse, Jan Curry, Sid & Debbie Gaeth, Stuart & Kristen Gausman, Annette Griffith, Rodger & Elizabeth Grisham, Roger & Cathy Hare, Reuben & Denise Hughes, Jerry & Cyndi Jarecke, Mike & Ann Jeffrey, Brian & Heidi Klevemann, Jeanne Miller, Barb Olson, Kathy Orr, Max & Ashli Porter, Dwayne & Virginia Smith, George & Barbara Sturgill, Margaret Trew, David Veach

Funeral Committee 6 Information

Funeral Committee 6: *Co-Chairpersons: Chris and Tim Warren, Jeannie & Roland Johnson, Jean & Bill Royer, Shirley Johnson*

Members: Bob & Wilma Arp, Roland & Doris Augspurger, Lee Augustin, Lloyd & Kay Castner, Jon & Andrea Frey, Richard & Beverly Fry, John & Anita Hahn, Dorie & Pat Ivy, Gary & Sue Jacobs, Neil & Janice Jensen, Cliff & Jeannie Jensen, Coley & Nancy Kiser, Clark & Robin Lehr, Cindy Lisko, Janet Lyon, Terry & Beth Millard, Louise Moran, Mary Norton, John & Nila Novotny, John & Marilyn Petersen, Carrie Prokopec, Andrew & Elizabeth Purinton, Doug & Deb Rasby, Gary Robertson, Peg Rupprecht, Diane Scheidegger, Calvin & Alison Wagner, John & Brenda Wardman, Ardell & Marcene Wurdeman

Meals on Wheels

Thank you to Charlotte Lambert and the volunteers who delivered "Meals" October 21 - 25. Our next week of service is Dec. 23, 26, 27. We're still looking for new volunteers. It takes about one hour, one to five day commitment. If interested in delivering meals to the homebound, contact Renee Bellum 402-563-2411



Center for Survivors



We are reaching out to our amazing community and asking for donations of NEW simple clothing for children in crisis situations. Following is a list of what we need:
Boys and Girls new clothing: plain t-shirts, plain sweatshirts, leggings/sweatpants, shorts, underwear; sizes for both boys and girls will include: 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T, 6T, 7, 8, 9, 10-12

Platte County Food Pantry

We ask that you help support this ministry by bringing in the following items: Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Tuna, Macaroni & Cheese, All Soups, Spaghetti Sauce, Jell-O, Canned Vegetables, Cereal, Ramen Noodles, Pancake Mixes, Bar Soap, Applesauce, Canned Pasta, Diced Tomatoes, Dry Pasta, Canned Fruit, Tomato Sauce, Pudding, Saltine Crackers, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Pancake Syrup, Toilet Paper



Platte Valley Humane Society



The Platte Valley Humane Society is privileged to have a donation receptacle in the northwest entrance of the Federated Church.

Requested items are:

December: Kodak #30 Ink Cartridges (Black & Color), Copy Paper

B-I-N-G-O

Ladies: We are seeking names of who would like to be called IF and WHEN additional help is needed on 4th Wednesdays (2:00 - 3:00) Bingo. It would not be an every month call, but a 'just in case'. Prizes are always provided by the circles. The sign-up sheet is in the sanctuary. *Thanks for your help, PW Women*



Needlecraft Ministry's T-shirt Drive

The Needlecraft Ministry is again making diapers for Africa from T-shirts. Please donate good used adult t-shirts. They may be left in the church office. Any questions, please ask Louise Moran. Thank you!

Donate Pill Containers

The Chifundo Rural Health Center in Zambia can use your pill containers instead of buying new ones. Dr. Marjorie Heier said they are used as filler in a shipping container and then they are used for new prescriptions.

Bring your pill containers and put them in the plastic box in the narthex. Judy Trautwein and Pat Scheuneman (Marjorie's mother) will take them where they are supposed to go.

Thanks for recycling.
Judy Trautwein 402 564 5287

Monthly Open Prayer Time

On the 2nd Tuesday of each month, a time of prayer that is open to all, is held in our sanctuary from 11:30AM -12:30PM. Whether you are new to prayer or have practiced for years, you are welcome here. If you have questions or prayer requests please contact: Church office – 402-564-2812
Email - fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org or
Barb Sanderson – 402-910-3586 Email -
bjs.sanderson@gmail.com



Small Groups, Sign Up Today!

Do you enjoy small group activities with people who like the same things as you? We want to build up our congregation by gathering people with similar interests. There are a wide range of groups already set up, and more can be added, if you have an idea. Do you like to go out to eat after Sunday worship? Join one of the Sunday Lunch Brunches!

Would you like to share your enthusiasm for the arts? The Arts Connoisseurs Group may just be for you!

Or are you one of those who has their nose in a book all the time? Bookworms Club! There are so many to choose from, so, don't be left out! Join one of the groups today and start enjoying time well spent with your Federated Family!

Go to our website, www.federatedcolumbus.org and you can find a link to the 2019 Small Groups document for more information.





MERRY
Christmas

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Education Hour 10:00am Worship Service	2 5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball Practice 5:15pm Order of St. Andrew Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 Meeting	3 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion 1:00pm Lectionary Afternoon Bible Study 6:00pm Consonaires Rehearsal 7:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279	4 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Lectionary Evening Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Club 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	5 5:00pm Special Olympics (5 on 5) Practice 6:15pm Order of the Arrow 6:15pm Scouts Roundtable 6:30pm Thursday Worship Service 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279	6 9:00am MOPS Steering Meeting 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	7
8 9:00am Education Hour 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	9 5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball Practice 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 Meeting	10 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion 11:30am Open Prayer Time 1:00pm Lectionary Afternoon Bible Study 4:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting 6:00pm Consonaires Rehearsal 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279	11 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Lectionary Evening Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Club 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12 5:00pm Special Olympics (5 on 5) Practice 6:30pm Ecumenical Blue Christmas Worship Service 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279	13 8:30am MOPS Meeting 5:30pm Scouts Lock-in 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	14 11:00am Pageant Practice
15 9:00am Education Hour 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	16 12:00pm BIG PALS-Little Pals 5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball Practice 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 Meeting	17 7:00am Tuesday Morning Book Discussion 1:00pm Lectionary Afternoon Bible Study 6:00pm Consonaires Rehearsal 6:30pm Finance & Property Committee Meeting 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279	18 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Lectionary Evening Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Club 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Circle 4 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	19 5:00pm Special Olympics (5 on 5) Practice 6:30pm Thursday Worship Service	20 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	21
22 9:00am Education Hour 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm El Buen Pastor Worship	23 5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball Practice 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 Meeting	24 5:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service 8:00pm Christmas Eve Service with Choir and Communion	25	26	27 6:00pm Latino Prayer Service	28
29 10:00am Worship Service	30 5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball Practice 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 Meeting	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><i>In order to make this calendar more effective and as correct as possible, please contact the church office to schedule events, meetings or groups. Thank you!</i></p> </div>			



If you see a mistake or missing birthday, call/email Chrissy at 402-564-2812 or fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org.

Daniel Eschliman, Grant Gotschall, Connie Hickey	12/1	Kaylee Dewald	12/15
John Curry, Malynn Knoepfle-Slivoski, Brenda Sand	12/2	Ellen Doughty	12/16
LaRene Busler, Joan Specht, Emberle Petersen	12/3	Deb Rasby, Jackson Winslow	12/17
Julie Graham	12/4	Cindy Hoadley	12/19
Melanie Knoepfle, Jacob Mohr	12/5	Kathy Leischner, Marvin Zoucha	12/20
Kathleen Lohr, Ryland Prokopec Gay Whitman, Lacey Lopour	12/6	Margaret Nyffeler, Elyena Perrin	12/21
Ethan Scheffler, Christine Warren	12/7	Shawna Thompson	12/22
Kay Castner	12/12	Rosie Heinisch	12/23
Randy Kaspar	12/13	Sally MacFarland	12/28
Nancy Hegi	12/14	Elizabeth Miller, Barbara Olson	12/29

H A P P Y B I R T H D A Y
JESUSCHRIST
 M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S T O U S A L L

Blue Christmas Service	Dec 12th
Christmas Pageant and Caroling	Dec 15th
Christmas Eve Services - Family Service 5pm Choir and Communion 8pm	Dec 24th
Christmas Day, Office Closed	Dec 25th

Merry
Christmas



DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

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