



FEDERATED NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Souper Bowl of Caring - *February 7th, 2021*
- ◆ Ash Wednesday - *February 17th, 2021*
- ◆ Annual Congregational Meeting - *February 28th, 2021*



From the Pastor's Desk

Looking back at 2020, it is somewhat hard to believe that year is over. It would be an understatement to say that 2020 was a challenging year. For that reason, I am thankful for our church and the ways we got through it together.

Last year began on a promising note. It was not only the start of a new year but also a new decade (i.e., the 20s). In addition, there was the significance of 20/20 being the measure of great eyesight; maybe it would be the year to see clearly how God is leading us. We had an All-Church Book Read with Henri Nouwen's *Reaching Out*. We also began the year fundraising for the summer youth mission trip.

It seemed like the world came to a halt in the middle of March. I was on vacation March 10-15 (to coincide with spring break for Columbus Public Schools) and we were supposed to have the UCC Associate Conference Minister come and preach at Federated Church on March 15th. With the urging of our denominations, our Governing Council decided to cancel that Sunday's worship service.

There was abrupt change. After an extended spring break, schools were operating remotely. We were learning new concepts like 'social distancing' and having to wonder if we had enough toilet paper. Our church also made changes. Office staff alternated working from home and church office. Church meetings were held on Zoom. And worship services were pre-recorded (usually on Friday morning) for online viewing and Spectrum local broadcast. In the midst of sudden changes, it felt good to provide something familiar with our recorded worship services resembling what had been done pre-pandemic.

There was uncertainty with how long the pandemic would last. For our church (like other churches), it was a question of how long do we not gather for in-person services. Our Governing Council had numerous discussions and asked the Worship & Music Committee to serve as the task-force for how we would re-open to in-person worship services. I would like to thank all the members of our Worship & Music Committee for their painstaking work in providing a guideline for us to safely gather again.

Numerous events and activities in 2020 were cancelled, including Children's Sunday, Vacation Bible Camp, Garage Sale and the Youth Summer Mission Trip. While we did not cancel Easter Sunday, it was not the same being in an empty sanctuary for that service – which would usually have a full sanctuary. Thus, it was a welcome relief to have our in-person services resume on July 9th (Thursday evening) and 12th (Sunday morning). ...

From the Pastor's Desk (continued)

Our church was not the first in Columbus to re-open (we wanted to make sure we could do so safely). We were also not the last to re-open. I am aware that there are still churches that have not returned to in-person services – mainly in larger cities where gatherings entail higher risks. In situations like the COVID-19 pandemic, I am thankful for our Presbyterian and UCC polity in that it is not the pastor who solely makes major decisions. Rather, we have a council of church leaders who work together. I thank last year's Governing Council members, especially our church president, Marcia Grant, for leading us through a challenging year.

Federated Church has been responsive to the need for change. While local authorities gave the green light for in-person gatherings and our Governing Council approved re-opening our worship services, it was apparent that some people would not feel comfortable being back in the sanctuary. Similar to other churches, our in-person worship attendance has been about 30-50% of pre-pandemic numbers. I would like to acknowledge Tim Rathje for getting us ready to live-stream when our in-person services resumed. Tim also set up high definition cameras to improve the video quality of our recordings. Fortunately, we have a team of volunteers who have learned to operate the new equipment and make our worship services available beyond our sanctuary.

Being able to identify areas for improvement has been a major role for the Worship Planning Team (Bob Arp, Brenda Sand, Lee Augustin, Tim Rathje and me). We meet each week to evaluate the preceding week's services and prepare for upcoming week(s). Having this team has been tremendously helpful; thank you Bob, Brenda, Lee & Tim.

Looking back on 2020, there are many people to thank. While some have been mentioned, there are countless more that I appreciate. Rather than trying to cite names – which makes me concerned that I will forget to mention some – I will mention groups for my appreciation. I thank our church staff and leaders for the ways they stepped up to new challenges. Our Governing Council held additional meetings to address more issues. Our standing committees had to put some ideas on hold while learning to take care of new concerns. There were two special committees that dealt with our church in transition: Mission Study Committee and Staff Planning Committee. I thank the participants of the weekly Lectionary Bible Study for their input which has been helpful in sermon preparation. I thank the financial contributors to our church's ministry; we concluded the year in the positive while keeping our staff intact. I thank all who have joined us back in the sanctuary for in-person services, as well as those who have stayed connected remotely (via online and local broadcast). I thank God that we made it through 2020.

Grace and peace,
Edward

Children's Ministry

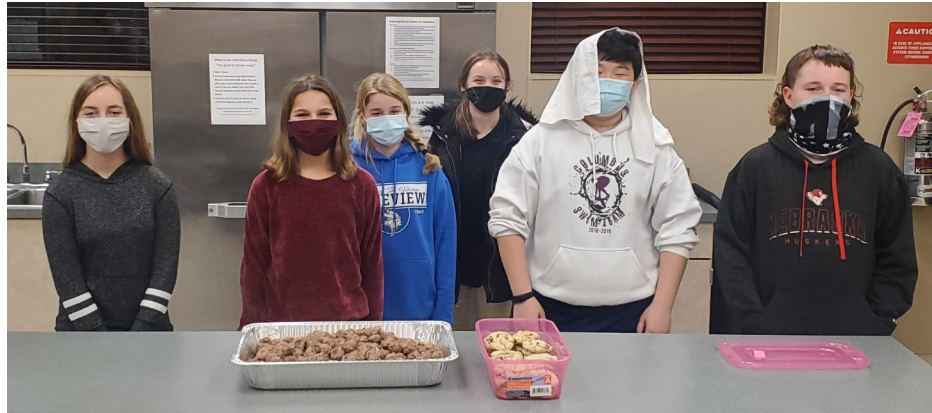


EDUCATION HOUR

FEDERATED CHILDREN CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE BIBLE THIS SEMESTER, WITH STORIES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT. ON FEBRUARY 21ST, THE CHILDREN BEGIN A LENTEN CURRICULUM AND WILL START BELL PRACTICE. THE CHILDREN WILL SHARE THEIR MUSIC WITH THE CONGREGATION ON PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 28TH.

Confirmation

RESCUE MISSION MEAL – THE CONFIRMATION CLASS MADE SPAGHETTI, MEATBALLS, SALAD AND COOKIES FOR THE COLUMBUS RESCUE MISSION IN JANUARY. WAY TO BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST!



Youth Ministry (7TH – 12TH GRADE)

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH (SUPER BOWL SUNDAY) THE FEDERATED YOUTH WILL BE COLLECTING CANNED/BOXED FOOD & MONEY FOR THE PLATTE COUNTY FOOD PANTRY AS PART OF THE **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING PROGRAM**. FOLLOWING WORSHIP THAT SUNDAY, THE YOUTH WILL DELIVER THE ITEMS COLLECTED TO THE FOOD PANTRY.



THEN IT WILL BE TIME FOR OUR FIRST **YOUTH SUNDAY FUNDAY!** MONTHLY SUNDAY FUNDAYS WILL REPLACE WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH CLUB. SUNDAY FUNDAYS WILL INCLUDE LUNCH AND A FUN ACTIVITY.

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

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.

Meals on Wheels



Meals on Wheels - Feb. 15 - 19.

We now have 8 routes to fill. We love our volunteers!

Coordinator is Renee Bellum

402-563-2441 or 402-276-2454.

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 easy 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.

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



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.

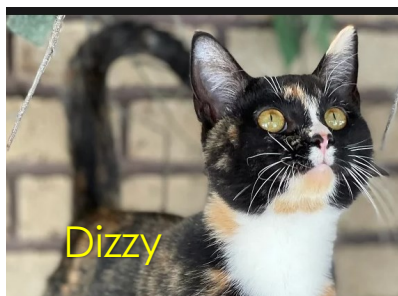
You can call 402-562-5683 to meet your future pet! Regular needs include: Clumping cat litter, Clorox, Pine Sol, Copy Paper, Dog & Cat Toys, Collars & Leashes, Paper Towel, Old Towels/Washcloths/Blankets, Gently Used Pet Supplies, Gift Cards from Grocery, Hardware and Farm Stores.



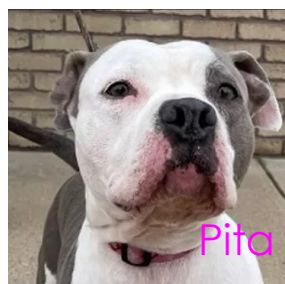
They have a number of animals available, including Hero, Dizzy, Pita and Cade.



Hero



Dizzy



Pita



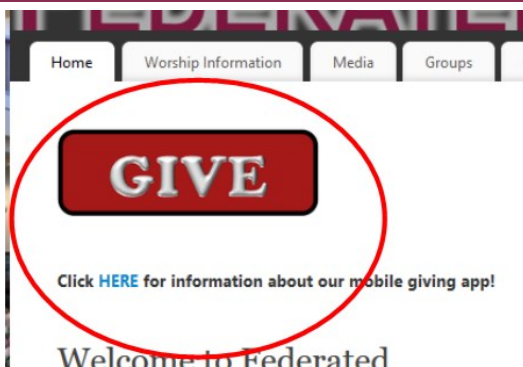
Cade

Finance at a Glance

Income - December 2020	
Contributions, Etc.	\$40,292.36
Contributions	\$40,090.50
Rent	\$200.00
Miscellaneous Income (fee for online giving paid)	\$1.86
Memorials	\$875.00
Unrestricted	\$875.00
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$32,772.45
Christmas Joy	\$530.00
Platte County Food Pantry	\$100.00
Ghana	\$20.00
Poinsettias	\$301.00
Youth Fund	\$91.45
Continued Education - Associate Pastor	\$750.00
Future Year/Pre-pledge	\$30,415.00
Operation Education Nairobi	\$20.00
Pastor's Discretion Fund	\$500.00
Helping Hands - Non-Members	\$45.00
Interest Income:	\$7.37
Memorial	\$0.00
Checking	\$0.00
Savings	\$7.37

Expenses - December 2020	
Annual Budget Expenses:	\$28,974.97
Utilities	\$3,038.91
Other Budgeted Expenses:	\$25,936.06
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$2,788.34
Christmas Joy	\$495.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1.34
Doane College	\$20.00
Platte County Food Pantry	\$100.01
Habitat for Humanity	\$130.00
Operation Education	\$570.00
Helping Hands - Non-Members	\$220.01
General Savings (IRS 2019)	\$1,251.98
Memorial Fund:	\$0.00

Easy Online Giving Options Available



Give online for a quick and easy way to contribute without leaving the sanctity of your home!

Three options are currently available:

- 1) Online Giving - press the "GIVE" button on the website
- 2) Mobile app - click the 'here' link underneath the "GIVE" button for instructions
- 3) ACH transfer - call Chrissy at the church office for information.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Anita Kaspar, Beth Millard	2/1	Bruce Gartrell	2/18
Alison Wagner, Rogalyn Stevens	2/3	Mike Jeffrey	2/19
Cola Hahn	2/4	Pete Bennett	2/20
John Lohr	2/11	Jane Ellefson, Marcia Dewald	2/21
Clark Grant	2/12	Clete Arasmith	2/22
Linda McPhail	2/13	Cindee Wachter	2/24
Cindy Wunderlich, D'Ete Haldiman-Kluck	2/14	Mike Slizoski, Chuck Scheuneman	2/26
Megan Graybill	2/17	Bob Arp	2/28

If you see a mistake or a birthday missing, call the church office so we can get the correct information.

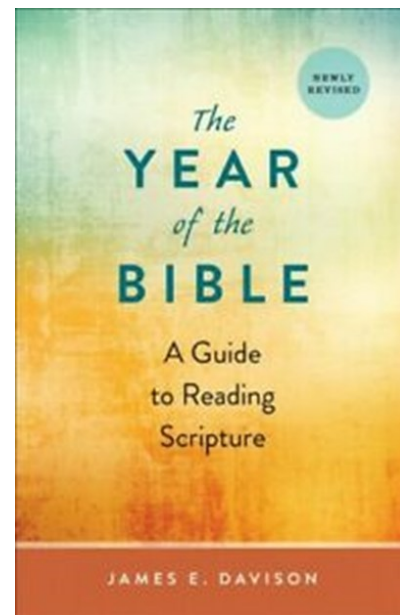
FEBRUARY 2021

1	Genesis 1 □	Genesis 2 □	Matthew 1 □
2	Genesis 3 □	Genesis 4 □	Matthew 2 □
3	Genesis 5 □	Genesis 6 □	Matthew 3 □
4	Genesis 7 □	Genesis 8 □	Psalm 1 □
5	Genesis 9 □	Genesis 10 □	Genesis 11 □
6	Genesis 12 □	Genesis 13 □	Matthew 5 □
7	Genesis 14 □	Genesis 15 □	Psalm 3 □
8	Genesis 16 □	Genesis 17 □	Matthew 6 □
9	Genesis 18 □	Genesis 19 □	Matthew 7 □
10	Genesis 20 □	Genesis 21 □	Matthew 8 □
11	Genesis 22 □	Genesis 23 □	Psalm 5 □
12	Genesis 24 □	Genesis 25 □	Matthew 9 □
13	Genesis 26 □	Genesis 27 □	Matthew 10 □
14	Genesis 28 □	Genesis 29 □	Psalm 7 □
15	Genesis 30 □	Genesis 31 □	Matthew 11 □
16	Genesis 32 □	Genesis 33 □	Matthew 12 □
17	Genesis 34 □	Genesis 35 □	Genesis 36 □
18	Genesis 37 □	Genesis 38 □	Psalm 9 □
19	Genesis 39 □	Genesis 40 □	Matthew 14 □
20	Genesis 41 □	Genesis 42 □	Matthew 15 □
21	Genesis 43 □	Genesis 44 □	Psalm 10 □
22	Genesis 45 □	Genesis 46 □	Matthew 16 □
23	Genesis 47 □	Genesis 48 □	Matthew 17 □
24	Genesis 49 □	Genesis 50 □	Matthew 18 □
25	Exodus 1 □	Exodus 2 □	Psalm 11 □
26	Exodus 3 □	Exodus 4 □	Matthew 19 □
27	Exodus 5 □	Exodus 6 □	Matthew 20 □
28	Exodus 7 □	Exodus 8 □	Psalm 13 □

Due to the book (shown below) beginning the year in January, and the All-Church Book Read starting in February, the timeline will be altered. A copy of each month's timeline will be available in print in the office, in the Newsletter, on the website, and in the weekly bulk email, which will link to Facebook.

Federated Church : Year of the Bible

"This popular, comprehensive Bible-reading program for individuals and group study offers a sweeping introduction to biblical themes and concepts. Complete with a detailed reading schedule for every day of one year, *The Year of the Bible* leads participants to a better understanding of Scripture and a greater sense of community within the church. Newcomers to Scripture and longtime Bible readers alike will find their Christian faith enhanced and feel a sense of accomplishment from reading the Bible in its entirety. *The Year of the Bible* is suitable for participants in a congregational program or anyone who wants a well-designed program to read through Scripture in the course of one year." (from back cover)



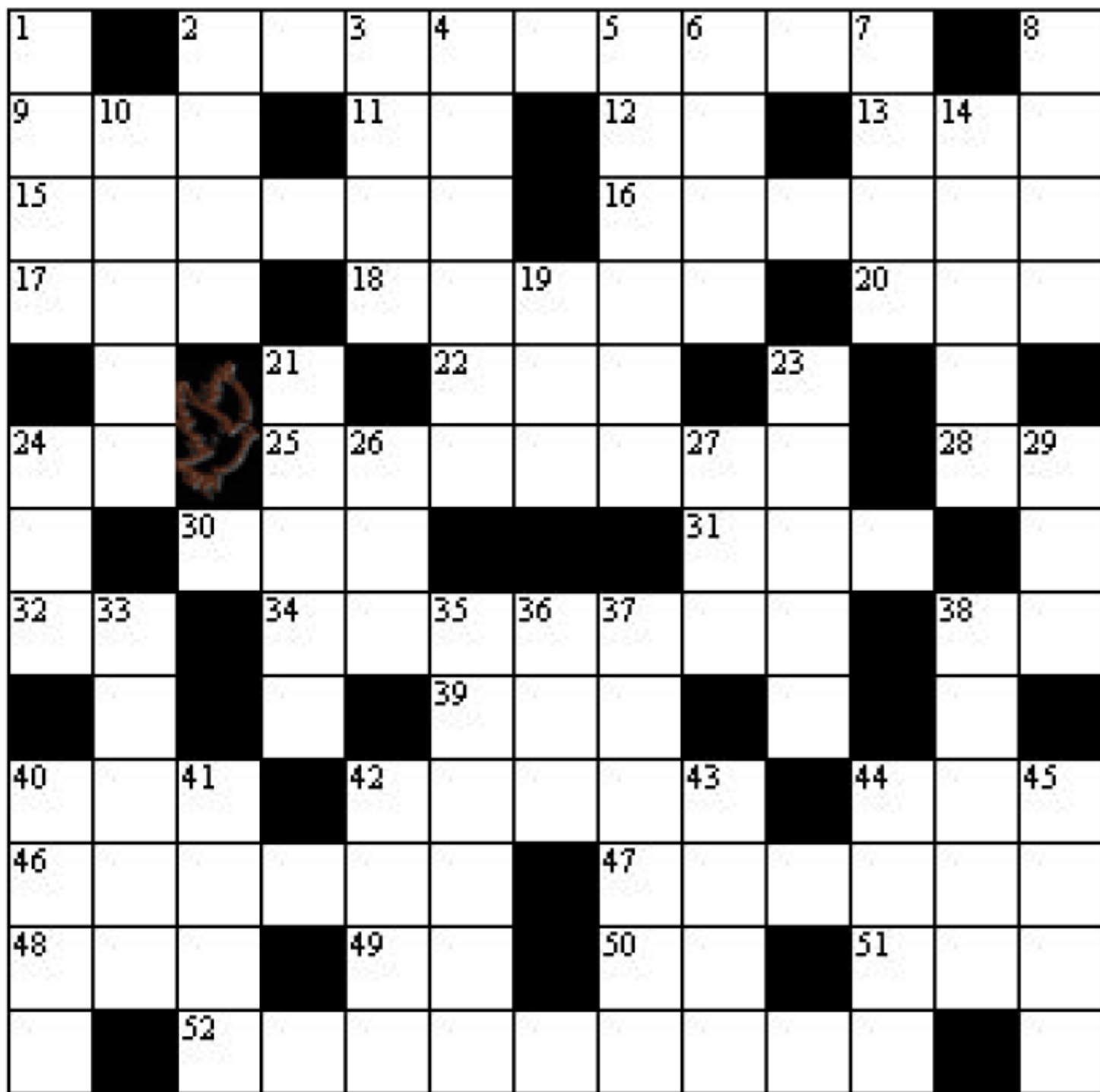
2021 Committee Chairs and Meeting Days/Times

In the table below you can find the 2021 Chairperson 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.

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>	<i>Meeting Day/Time</i>
Christian Education	Renee Norris	<i>To be determined</i>
Endowment	<i>To be determined</i>	<i>To be determined</i>
Finance & Property	Marv Zoucha	3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm
Membership & Growth	Nila Novotny	2nd Monday of the month, 6:30pm
Nominating Committee	<i>To be determined</i>	<i>To be determined</i>
Order of St. Andrew ²	Laura Porter	1st Monday of the month, 5:15pm
Personnel	John McClure	<i>To be determined</i>
Social Concerns & Missions	Katie Claus	2nd Tuesday of the Month, 7:00pm
Stewardship	Roland Augspurger	<i>To be determined</i>
Worship & Music	Alison Wagner	1st Tuesday of the month, 7:15pm
Youth Ministry	Wayne McCormick	<i>To be determined</i>
Pastor Nominating Committee	<i>To be determined</i>	<i>To be determined</i>
Foundation	Larry Mares, President	Quarterly
Governing Council	Tim Warren, President Wayne McCormick, 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!

Bible Crossword No.1



Copyright 2008 © <http://www.Biblewordgames.com>

All Rights Reserved

"The majority of the words in the first 50 crosswords are from the King James Version in all others the majority of the words are from the New International Version" by Gary W. Watson puzzle maker and webmaster

<http://www.biblewordgames.com>

This Ebook is distributed by biblewordgames.com.

Permissions to duplicate and distribute these crosswords is granted for Christian organizations and church newsletters, newspapers, e-zines etc. as long as the puzzles are distributed in whole, without addition, subtraction or modification and as long as they are distributed without charge.

ACROSS

- 2** Is not this the ___, the son of Mary
(Mark 6:3)
- 9** And all that handle the ___, the mariners
(Ezek 27:29)
- 11** abbr. for each
- 12** Then J___l Heber's wife took a nail of the
tent (partial word) (Judges 4:21)
- 13** they shall no more ___ it as a proverb in
Israel (Ezek 12:23)
- 15** he said unto the ___ of his chariot, Turn
(1 King 22:34)
- 16** a smooth flat surface used to write on
- 17** kinsman, kinship, akin to
- 18** Resist the ___, and he will flee from you
(James 4:7)
- 20** seventh letter of Greek alphabet
- 22** abbr. for New International Version
- 24** Turn ye unto ___, saith the LORD of
hosts (Zech 1:3)
- 25** favourable opinion, high regard (plural)
- 28** sixteenth letter of Greek alphabet
- 30** neither shall ye touch it, lest ye ___
(Gen. 3:3)
- 31** at the north ___ of the salt sea
(Joshua 18:19)
- 32** abbr. For New Testament
- 34** To the ___ assembly and church of the
firstborn (Heb 12:23)
- 38** I will ___ down with thee into Egypt
(Gen 46:4)
- 39** abbr. for America
- 40** abbr. for attorney
- 42** supposed foretellers of future events
- 44** it shall be as the chased ___, and as a
sheep (Isaiah 13:14)
- 46** Thou art the anointed ___ that covereth
(Ezek 28:14)
- 47** Judah, keep thy ___ feasts, perform thy
vows (Nahum 1:15)
- 48** beverage made from leaves
- 49** wind direction
- 50** the great dragon was cast out, that ___d
serpent (partial word) (Rev 12:9)
- 51** abbr. for third book of O.T.
- 52** the rite or sacrament of marriage

DOWN

- 1** but Aaron's rod swallowed up their ____
(Exodus 7:12)
- 2** ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his
master's ____ (Isaiah 1:3)
- 3** LORD shall smite Israel, as a ___ is
shaken (1 King 14:15)
- 4** a mother or father
- 5** he shall return no more, nor see his ____
country (Jer 22:10)
- 6** freshwater wild duck
- 7** he shall ___ them with a rod of iron: and
he (Rev 19:15)
- 8** second letter of Greek alphabet
- 10** I will ___ and pursue after David this
night (2 Sam 17:1)
- 14** And ___ over his head his accusation
written (two words) (Matt 27:37)
- 19** enter into competition, compete
- 21** off his head, and found it to ___ a talent
of gold (1 Chr 20:2)
- 23** David delivered first this ___ to thank the
LORD (1 Chr 16:7)
- 24** No ___ hath seen God at any time
(1 John 4:12)
- 26** Come and ___ the works of God
(Psalm 66:5)
- 27** abbr. for Master of Business Administration
- 29** Thus will ___ unto this place, saith
the LORD (two words) (Jer 19:12)
- 33** hypocrites! for ye pay ___ of mint and
anise (Matt 23:23)
- 35** Let him that hath understanding count the
___ of the beast (Rev 13:18)
- 36** if there be any praise, think on th ___
things (partial word) (Phil.4:8)
- 37** shall they give every man a ___ for his
soul (Exodus 30:12)
- 38** dwarf-like being
- 40** fifth book of N.T.
- 41** group of people working together
- 42** expel, eject
- 43** single
- 44** because thou didst ___ on the LORD, he
delivered them (2 Chr 16:8)
- 45** Let not thine heart ___ sinners
(Prov 23:17)

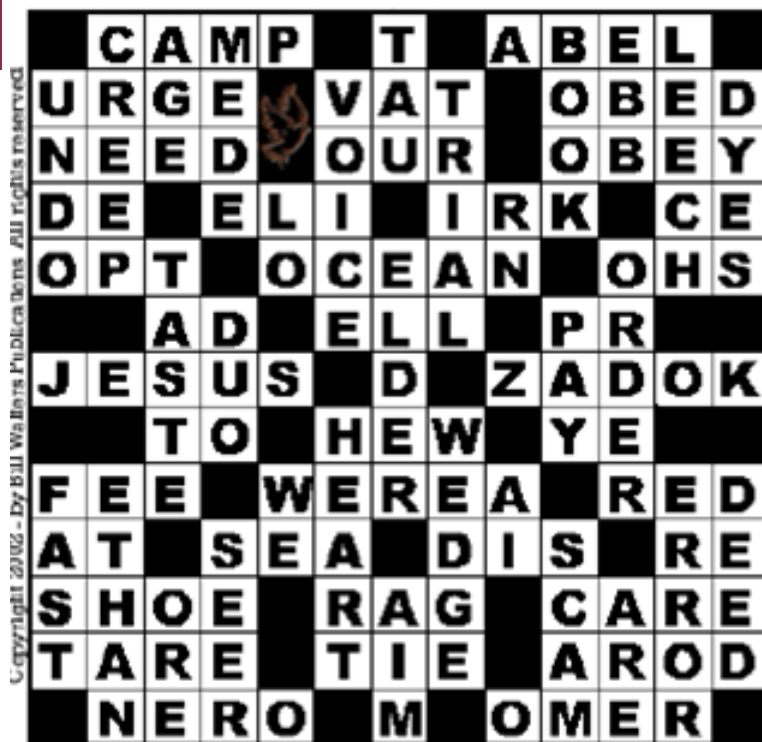
FEDERATED CHURCH
2704 15th STREET
PO Box 564
COLUMBUS, NE, 68602-0564

February 2021 Newsletter

February Communion Pick-Up and Curb-Side Delivery!

Communion elements will be available February 3rd through 5th, from the Narthex refrigerator by the church office. We will be doing a 'curb-side delivery' each of those days if you prefer. Call the church office when you are ready for your elements and we will bring them to you in the parking lot. Communion will be available during in-person service on February 4th and 7th.

January Crossword Solution



If you have articles, events or other information you would like included in the newsletter, you can email it to fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org. The deadline for submitting information for Newsletters is the 20th of the prior month, e.g. February 2021 Newsletter deadline will be January 20th, 2021.