

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 2nd Ash Wednesday;
 Ecumenical Service at First United Methodist
 - March 4th World Day of Prayer
 - March 13th Youth Sunday Funday
- March 13th Daylight Savings Time Begins (clocks 'spring' ahead one hour)
 - March 31st Easter Flower Orders due
 - April 10th Palm/Passion Sunday
 - April 14th Maundy Thursday
- April 15th Good Friday (Office Closes at Noon)
 - April 17th Easter Sunday
 - April 18th Office Closed
 - April 24th Jazz Sunday

March 2022; Volume 56; Issue 3

From the Pastor's Desk

There is a quote that comes to mind when I think about the easy-yet-hard task of understanding the Scriptures. St. Augustine is considered to have said, "The Bible is shallow enough for a child not to drown, yet deep enough for an elephant to swim." Like a child, we can read the Bible without being overwhelmed. There is a common thread of God's love throughout 'The Book,' albeit difficult to see in some biblical stories.

The Bible can also be the object of immense study. To be more accurate, biblical scholars usually focus on one or few books of the Bible to thoroughly study. Like elephants, they cannot 'get to the bottom' of the Scriptures. There is always more to learn in the Bible. Part of this is that God continues to speak to us through God's Word.

I am thankful for everyone who joined last year's Bible reading challenge with our all-church book read, The Year of the Bible by James Davison. Kudos to all who completed the challenge; they are listed below (if we missed anyone, please inform office staff or me). For those who began but did not finish, I encourage you to continue – maybe at a slower pace, like one chapter per day. If there is anything I can do to help you finish, please let me know. If you did not participate in last year's challenge, please read the comments made by those who completed. My hope is that you will be inspired to read the Bible in its entirety.

We don't have to become elephants, but it would be good to explore what is in the Bible.

Grace and peace, Edward

Those who have read the Bible during the All Church Book Read include:

Marilyn Abrego
Donna Augspurger
Fred Bellum
Katie Claus
Rae Fulton
Andree Hoeman
Sharon Kuncl
Wayne McCormick
John McPhail

Barb Olson
Barb Sanderson
Harold Stevens
Rogalyn Stevens
Bob Trautwein
Judy Trautwein
Marilyn Vrana
Ben Vrana

Bible Reading Thoughts and Sharing

I finished the Bible reading at the end of the year. I got started on January 21 and decided to stay on that schedule I could never have imagined that I would actually read the entire Bible, but with the guidance of Pastor Edward, I was able to do the "impossible". Thank you Pastor for bringing this program to us and providing your leadership,.

~Wayne McCormick

I found Davidson's monthly schedule helpful in completing the goal of reading of the Bible in one year. It was a challenge for me to stop reading in the middle of a story, so each month I read through the Old Testament sections followed by the Psalms, then New Testament selections. Pastor Edward introduced us to bibleproject.com. This website provided illustrated overviews for each book of the Bible. They helped me to anchor the time and place for the book I was reading and enhanced my understanding of the role that people played in bringing about God's purpose.

Many messages of the Spirit came through my reading of the Word and often a passage would come to mind that met my needs in that moment. With God's help, I'll keep reading and learning of His purpose in my life.

~Barb Sanderson

Reading the entire Bible was something that I never thought I would be able to do, even though I had always wanted to learn more. I appreciate having had the opportunity to accomplish this because of the encouragement of the church. I've now started to read the Bible for the second time.

~Marilyn Abrego

I began reading the Bible February 1, 2021 using the New Revised Bible. I had not read the entire Bible before so it was a learning experience for me particularly reading all the violence in the Old Testament. Often toward the end of the month I was behind a few days and caught up. I appreciated that the recommended reading included the New Testament and usually psalms. I am glad we were encouraged to do this project as without the church offering us the opportunity and support I doubt I would have chosen to do it.

~Sharon Kuncl

Ben and I read the Bible through together using the Daily Walk Bible, NIV version. We managed to stay on schedule starting on January 1st and usually read it aloud, taking turns reading, during breakfast each morning. Even though we'd both read the Bible through before we were surprised at how much we didn't remember from characters and events in the Old Testament. It was an uplifting and enlightening experience for us.

~Marilyn Vrana

Governing Council Meeting, February 22nd

The February meeting of the Federated Church Governing Council was held on February 22, via hybrid Zoom. Members present, either on-site or via Zoom, were Jesse Abrego, John McPhail, John McClure, Renee Norris, Alison Wagner, Mark Weeder, Rev. Edward Yang, VP Julie Graham, and President Wayne McCormick. Absent were Donna Augspurger, Mimi Ernst, and Katie Claus.

Mark Weeder, representing the Finance and Property Committee, presented the Financial Reports. He also presented a quote from Applied Connective, which included replacement computers for the office, for a new phone system, and includes setup of the computers, setup of the phones, transfer of programs and data to the new computers, hookup to the internet provider (to be selected). The phones will be Voice over IP, but will include one landline for the elevator emergency phone.

The council acknowledged and received the emailed Standing Committee Minutes and the Pastor's written report.

The following motions were made and approved:

- -To approve the January Governing Council meeting minutes.
- -To receive the financial reports.
- -To approve the purchase of new telephones and computers
- -To approve 5 days of vacation, including one Sunday, for March 14-20 for Rev. Yang
- -To approve the 2022 Congregational meeting agenda
- -To approve the 2022 Congregational meeting ballot as adjusted
- -To approve the 2021 Statistical report to the Homestead Presbytery
- -Approved Julie Graham as the Governing Council Commissioner for the Homestead Presbytery

Other items discussed were:

- -The Youth Ministry Committee announced that the Youth Triennium has been cancelled for 2022.
- -Church staff evaluations were discussed and will be scheduled in March, and will be completed by the Pastor and members of the Personnel Committee. The Pastor's evaluation will be completed by the Governing Council sometime in the late fall timeframe.
- -The original Federated Church building was dedicated on Palm Sunday, April 9, 1922. We will acknowledge the 100th anniversary on Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022. Looking for volunteers to assist.
- -Discussed a form for submitting committee motions
- -Discussed multi uses for the library
- -Discussed Ex-Officio committee members (staff) voting

Submitted by Wayne McCormick, President

Global Passion Ministries- Nebraska, Puerto Cabeza Nicaragua. January 20-30, 2022

Thank you all for your support and prayers as the 2022 medical mission team traveled to Puerto Cabeza Nicaragua. This was my first medical mission with Global Passion Ministries. We had a team of 10 from the States that met up with the medical team from Nicaragua. The medical team in just 5 days completed 74 minor surgeries and 23 major surgeries. It was an awesome experience to be working with a great team of volunteers and medical professionals in Nicaragua. While there, the volunteers were able to provide comfort, support and prayer to the families and children receiving surgical procedures. We helped unpack and organize surgical/medical equipment in preparation for the week's activities. We cleaned, set-up and decorated the area to be used as a recovery room. We lead morning worship and ran errands. Some helped in the operating room with organizing and scrubbing surgical equipment or assisting the doctors and nurses.

We also had opportunities to serve in the community. We spent time at the Feeding Stationa volunteer run food service program providing worship and lunch to the local Miskitu community school and orphanage children. We were also able to paint a remodeled suite in the orphanage and repair playground equipment. The 2019 hurricanes that went through Nicaragua destroyed the building at the hospital known as the Hilton. This was a building that provided families from outside of Port a place to stay while they waited for the day of surgery. The Hilton had been rebuilt- with upgrades- but still there was work to do. Porch railings, shutters, hooks, and bedframes were built by mission volunteers. Children received new dresses and shorts sewn and donated by people here at home in Nebraska. Bubbles, crayons, sidewalk chalk, sticker Bible stories and fingernail polish were all part of the children's ministry team. The puppets, which always seem to end up in my luggage, helped the children and families smile, laugh and sing together as they waited for surgery. Providing life changing surgeries to people who are marginalized is miraculous in today's world. I am honored to be a small part of something that is bigger than myself and lead by God's hands. It is for His Glory that we work together, pray together, serve together, and make friends with those who are different from us- to make a difference in someone's life for the better.









-The Global Passion Ministry Team





Rescue Mission Meal

The confirmation class made a meal for the Columbus Rescue Mission in February. While delivering the meal, students received a tour of the existing facility and learned about the purchase and renovation of a new facility. Thank you to the students and their mentors who participated in the making of this meal.

Mount Crescent

The annual youth group ski/snowboard trip continues to be a favorite event for our youth. This year 18 made the trip to Mount Crescent in Iowa to tackle the slopes. The snow was icy, but that didn't deter our new skiers. Their perseverance paid off as they made trip after trip down the hill! We finished off the day with a trip to Dairy Queen for Blizzards.



Souper Bowl of Caring

Thank you to the congregation of Federated Church for your support of the Souper Bowl of Caring! With your help, the youth collected 209 lbs of food and \$1,106 for the Platte County Food Pantry.

PCUSA Youth Triennium

Through the Homestead Presbytery, we have received notice that the Triennium, in-person event, has been cancelled. We are currently researching other mission trip and camp options and will be in contact with students and parents soon.

Vacation Bible Camp

Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible Camp! Mornings, June 6 – 10th at Methodist Church. Check future newsletters for details.



Calendar of Events

March 13 – Youth Sunday Funday
11am – 2pm (5th – 12th grade)
April 10 – Palm Sunday/Children's Parade/
Bells (All children – 5th grade)
April 17 – Easter
Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 am
(No Education Hour)
May 1 – Confirmation Sunday
May 8 – Mother's Day Flower Sale
(Youth Fundraiser)
May 22 – Graduation Sunday

Lenten Family Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Ash Wed Service at First United Methodist 7:00 pm	Compliment someone who isn't expecting it.	Memorize Psalm 25:4	Enjoy nature as a family. Thank God for His creation.
1st Sunday of Lent Collect change throughout lent for One Great Hour of Sharing.	Pray for good things for someone that has been unkind to you.	Do something healthy to take care of the body that God gave you.	Fast from sweets and candy today.	Surprise someone by doing a chore or task that they normally do.	Write a thank you note to someone who has been a good influence in your life.	Thank God for your gifts and talents.
2nd Sunday of Lent Read from the Bible as a family.	Memorize John 16:33	When you hear a siren pray for rescue workers and their patients.	Make a list of things for which you are grateful.	Pray for the world and its leaders.	Focus on sharing today.	Put a bag of items together that are still nice, but you don't use anymore to donate.
3rd Sunday of Lent Make a meal together as a family.	Pray for the sick and lonely.	Say something kind to a friend or your sibling.	Use manners like "please" and "thank you" as many times as you can today.	Send a card or note to someone to show them extra love.	Memorize Micah 7:7	Make a meal, snack or treat and share it with a friend or neighbor.
4th Sunday of Lent Donate a bag of food to a food pantry.	Invite the Holy Spirit into your life to help you make decisions.	Pray for frontline workers.	Chat with someone with whom you don't usually talk.	Listen to Christian music while doing a task.	Do a craft or piece of art to prepare for Easter.	Call a friend whom you haven't spoken to in a while.
5th Sunday of Lent Watch a movie together as a family.	Offer to help a family member do something.	Pray for your pastor, Sunday School teachers and church elders.	Do a random act of kindness for someone that doesn't expect it.	Focus on doing your neatest work during learning.	Clean up a mess that someone else made without being asked.	Do something to help the earth.
6th Sunday of Lent Host a family game/puzzle night.	Cooperate without complaining.	Begin you day with prayer.	Lead grace at dinner.	Maundy Thursday Attend Maundy Thursday worship at Federated 6:30 pm.	Good Friday Fast from screen time.	Holy Saturday Help someone without being asked.

February Joys & Concerns

- Pray for Bob Smith and family as he was taken off life support on Friday, February 4th.
- Pray for the family of Bob Smith,
 husband of Glynette. Bob passed away
 February 9, 2022. Services are pending.
- Pray for Paula Timperley as she deals with multiple illnesses.
- Pray for the family of Jama Rosekrans who was the daughter of James & Eileen Rosekrans. Jama passed away January 27th. Arrangements are pending.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Evelyn Hilgert, mother of Brenda and Bill Berry. Evelyn passed away January 28th. Services were held February 2nd at Immanuel Lutheran and Roselawn Cemetery.
- Please pray for Myla Bender, great granddaughter of Sharon Kuncl, who is currently at Children's Hospital with critical potassium numbers, is going through dialysis and being treated for pneumonia.
- Please pray for Myla Bender, great granddaughter of Sharon Kuncl, who has been discharged from Children's Hospital and is at home recovering.
- Chancel flowers are in loving memory of Carolyn Irby and Cynthia Irby from husband and father, Bill Irby.
- Congratulations to Ryland Prokopec who was named the Class A - Boys State Bowling Champion this week.
- Homestead Presbytery: **Panama**The Lord is alive and well in Panama! We continue to seek new ways to creatively work in, through, and around the pandemic. We crave your prayers for patience, imagination, and the ability to continue to adapt and live in the moment. We are keeping all of you, our Presbytery, in prayer as well.
- Homestead Presbytery: Pawnee City
 The Pawnee City Presbyterian Church lost
 of its oldest members this last year with

- the oldest being 99 and still living at home. None were from COVID. We ask for you to pray with us in trying to get the younger generation to attend church services to help make our church like what it use to be. Pews full. Babies crying. Sunday School for both kids and adults.
- Homestead Presbytery: Pender The United Church of Pender thanks you for your prayers. We as a church, as everyone has, been challenged by the pandemic and its ongoing health concerns, financial concerns, and burdens on our members and community. We have weathered the storm pretty well with a strong ministry with the Covenant Church, the community food bank, located in our church, remains a strong resource for our local community, and soon we will be confirming five students as they continue on their church journey. Our glass is always half full and we care about each other and praise the Lord that we have been able to worship and grow toaether.
- Homestead Presbytery: Call to Prayer for a peaceful solution between Ukraine and Russia:

As tensions continue to rise, as soldiers on both sides of the conflict prepare, as mothers and fathers pray, let us pray for peace. Let us pray for the governments of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, the United States and the European Union to seek all avenues for a peaceful resolution to the current tensions. And may we soften our own hearts and words in our own communities to de-escalate the tensions that consume our world. Lord, be with us, we pray. Teach us to be your peacemakers. Amen.

Here are a couple of simple ideas to include those who find walking a challenge:

- Give a mile credit for every 20 minutes of physical activity a person performs. This can include performing therapy motions, or maybe armchair aerobics for those who have knee or hip problems or are wheelchair-bound.



Did you know walking is mentioned over 200 times in the bible?

- Offer credit for those who do personal work to keep themselves mobile and in better shape. This doesn't need to be a workout, but could include practicing proper physical mechanics to get up from a chair or from the bed, or using simple activities at home to increase or maintain a good range of motion. You can individualize this to help people earn their "miles."
- Have people practice spiritual disciplines, such as:
- Prayer Participants could earn a mile for every 15-20 minutes of time they spend in prayer. Prayer is a privilege and it is powerful. Some of this time could be spent in thanking God for sending Jesus to take His own difficult walk to Jerusalem to fulfill His calling to save sinners.
- Writing a letter to missionaries This is a wonderful way to encourage our missionaries! It's also a great way to encourage parishioners to bless the missionaries you support, assuring them they are remembered as they serve.
 You can determine the "miles" credited — maybe a mile per page written, or a mile for every 15-20 minutes writing.
- Other spiritual disciplines, such as intentional fellowship encouraging other Christians, time spent reading the Bible, and volunteering, could also be encouraged to earn "miles."

The bottom line is this: we want to include everyone who would like to participate. This is not only for physical exercise, but also for spiritual exercise. Reflecting on what God has done for us is a practice every person should engage in, and this is a small way to do that.

PLATTE COUNTY		
LIFESTYLE		
COALITION		

Name:	
Date:	
Miles:	

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.

In January, we helped a family with fuel.

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.

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



Another Thank You to February volunteers. As I prepare this on Valentine's Day I send HEART-FELT appreciation to Federated's dedicated & willing members and at times non-members. Our next week of service will be April 18-22. Kathy Leischner will be coordinator (402-276-7415 or 402-564-2990). A big thank you to Jean Royer for coordinating since 2009 and driving some years before that.

Mission Heart. Inc.



Mission Heart, Inc. is located at 412 "G" Street in Central City. 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.), <u>O.T.C. medications</u> (chewable vitamins - adult & child, iron pills, Vitamin B6, Pre-natal vitamins, first-aid creams), <u>Gallon-sized or Quart-sized zipping bags, Empty pill bottles, Travel-sized soaps, shampoos/conditioners & lotions</u>

For more information, go to: missionheartworld.weebly.com

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 the ones pictured below.







Finance at a Glance

Contributions - January 2022				
General Funds (Checking):	\$39,718.93			
Contributions (2022)	\$39,618.93			
Contributions (2021)	\$100.00			
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$342.10			
Doane College	\$20.00			
Hastings College	\$20.00			
Triennium - Book Sale	\$207.10			
Building Maintenance	\$45.00			
Landscaping	\$50.00			
Pre-Pledge (2022)	\$44,510.00			
Memorials	\$1,145.00			
Unrestricted	\$1,145.00			
Interest Income:	\$10.01			
Savings	\$10.01			

Expenses - January 2022				
General Fund Expenses:	\$26,606.01			
Utilities	\$3,878.68			
Other Budgeted Expenses	\$22,727.33			
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$2,217.72			
Poinsettia Fund	\$540.00			
Youth Fund	\$132.26			
Building Maintenance	\$1,505.00			
Helping Hands - Non-Members	\$40.46			
General Savings	\$44,510.00			
Memorial Fund:	\$0.00			





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Kenn Leischner	3/1	Heidi Klevemann	3/18
Cec Bartholomew, Dave Lange	3/3	Gene Hahn, Terry Norris	3/19
Connor Luedtke	3/4	Deb Gaeth, Sheri Melick, Gordon Specht	3/20
Robyn Bower	3/7	Bill Berry, Addilyn Ternus, Edward Yang	3/22
Sherry Miller, Wayne McCormick	3/8	Riley Gausman, Mitchell Norris	3/24
Tessa Klevemann, Beryldean Lauterbach	3/9	John Hahn, Larry Spence	3/25
Wilma Arp	3/10	Betty Garcia, Paul Sanderson, Charles Whitney, Gail Wurdeman	3/26
Sarah Bower, Jeannie Jensen	3/11	Megan Bower	3/27
Terry Schultz	3/17	Ardell Wurdeman	3/31

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

2022 Committee Chairs and Meeting Days/Times

In the table below you can find the 2022 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.

Committee or Group	Chairperson	Meeting Day/Time	
Christian Education	Renee Norris	2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm	
Endowment Committee	Donna Augspurger	Will meet as necessary	
Finance & Property Committee	Terry Norris and Mark Weeder	3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm	
Membership & Church Growth Committee	Jesse Abrego	2nd Monday of the month, 6:30pm	
Nominating Committee	To be determined	To be determined	
Order of St. Andrew	Laura Porter	1st Monday of the month, 5:15pm	
Personnel Committee	John McPhail	2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm	
Social Concerns & Missions Committee	Katie Claus	2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm	
Stewardship Committee	Elizabeth Grisham	To be determined	
Worship & Music Committee	Alison Wagner	1st Tuesday of the month, 7:15pm	
Youth Ministry Committee	John McClure	2nd Sunday of the month, 11:00am	
Foundation	Doug Williams, President	Quarterly	
Governing Council	Wayne McCormick, President Julie Graham, VP	4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm	

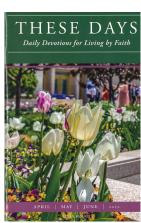
Reminder to all Chairpersons: If, for any reason, your meeting has been postponed, rescheduled, cancelled or changed to a different day of the month or time, please contact the office staff regarding the new schedule. Thank you!

Mystery Ties!



Anyone with information regarding this mysterious bag of men's neckties, please call or email the Church Office. This zippered bag showed up on the office counter Sunday, February 13th. We don't know where they came from, what we are supposed to do with them or who they are supposed to go to. Please help the staff with this mystery! Thank you in advance! (They are currently residing in the Lost and Found bin in the Coat Room!)

Second Quarter 2022 **These Days** is now available in the Narthex and Office!





Easter Flowers

Please **order flowers** by *March 31st*. Easter Flowers are given to God's glory, and may also be designated as a memorial and/or given in honor of special persons.



	Quantity	Total
Lily - \$10.00		\$
Begonia - \$15.00		\$
Mum - \$15.00		\$
Grand Total - due to church office by March 31st		\$

Plants purchased elsewhere are welcome. Please label it with your name.

Donor Name(s)	
To God's glory and in memory of _	
To God's glory and in honor of	

Please return this form and payment to church office by March 31st.

Make checks payable to Federated Church. Please note 'Easter Flowers' on the memo line.

FEDERATED CHURCH 2704 15th STREET PO BOX 564 COLUMBUS. NE. 68602-0564

March 2022 Newsletter

Spam Emails and Attachments

WARNING! There have been some unusual emails coming in recently claiming to be from Federated Church. DO NOT OPEN ANY ATTACHMENTS! We will NOT send you an invoice or any other document through email unless you specifically ask for it! Call the office if you have questions!

Decoding the Liturgical Color Scheme

Within the life of the church, color has long been used to give a visual indicator of what is happening in the life of the church. Whether it is a marking of the rhythm and movement of the liturgical season, or the noting of a special celebration within the life of the church. The colors that we use in worship, whether it is in the cloths covering the tables or the stoles that the Pastor and the choir wears, have deep meaning.

PURPLE = PREPARATION: Purple is the color that is used during our seasons of preparation: Advent and Lent. During both of the 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 nod to this as a reason why we use purple during these seasons.

~Worship & Music Committee

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. April 2022 Newsletter deadline will be March 20th, 2022.