



FEDERATED NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

- ♦ Lenten Lunches at 12:10pm at First United Methodist on Wednesdays throughout March
 - ♦ March 5 - 4pm Service for Wholeness and Healing
 - ♦ March 12 - Daylight Savings Begins (Spring Ahead)
 - ♦ HOLY WEEK (service times on page 7):
 - ♦ Palm Sunday - April 2nd
 - ♦ Maundy Thursday - April 6th
 - ♦ Good Friday - April 7th
 - ♦ Easter Sunday - April 9th

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 2023 Newsletter deadline will be March 20th, 2023.

PASTOR'S REPORT: LENTEN DEVOTION ON ISAIAH 40 : 11

He will feed his flock like a shepherd.

He will carry the lambs in his arms,
holding them close to his heart.

He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young. (New Living Translation)

As a young Christian, I learned that God is with us. Yet I wondered what that meant since we cannot see God. There were times when God's presence felt distant, and I wondered, "God, are you really here?" This was especially true during the year I spent in Kenya, Africa. While there was excitement with graduating from college and preparing for next stage in life, there were difficulties with being far from home and not always seeing eye to eye with the missionary I was supposed to be assisting.

I did not have family or friends to turn to. I had to rely more upon God, which (looking back) was a blessing. One day, while reading Isaiah 40, I was struck by verse 11. It speaks of how God is like a shepherd - similar to the 23rd Psalm ("The Lord is my shepherd..."). The statement that really surprised me was how God carries us close to God's heart. It describes how God is not only with us but also lovingly embracing us. With this verse, I could picture being picked up and carried close to God. Then the difficulties I faced felt less overwhelming.

As you continue in this season of Lent, I hope you will be encouraged to know that God is carrying you. May you feel that loving embrace close to God's heart.

Gracious God, we thank you for your unfailing love. Help us to grow closer to you as we recognize that you are always close to us. Amen.

NEW CUSTODIAN AT FEDERATED!

Mark Baumann is our new custodian at Federated Church! He will be working part time, approximately 30 hours per week, due to his full time job at BD. He has four children from ages 18 to 9 and is a very devoted father. He is also a caregiver to his father. On his 'spare time', he can be found camping and attending concerts when he has down time, too.

The Personnel Committee sifted through a number of resumes and applications in December and, with the help of the office staff, found three potential candidates for the position. After interviewing the three, the committee offered Mark the position. He gratefully agreed and started working on January 16th.



PIPE ORGAN TASK FORCE UPDATE

The Pipe Organ Task Force held a Town Hall Meeting Presentation (Q & A Forum) on February 12th, 11 congregants attended. They then met and concluded that a survey would help figure out the best route as to the updating of the Moeller Pipe Organ. The survey was printed and handed out at the Annual Congregational Meeting, February 26th. The Task Force will meet on March 12 to discuss the outcome of the survey and their next plan of action. A copy of the survey is below. If you would like, you can send in the survey to the church office to have your opinion considered.

Congregational Survey – Distributed at Annual Meeting February 26, 2023

The following survey has been created to assist our Governing Council with a decision about our pipe organ. For each of the following questions, respond from 1 to 3 with 3 being the strongest or most likely. Each member of Federated is invited to respond individually. Members are kindly asked to **return this survey by March 12, 2023**.

1. Music is an essential part of my worship experience with God. 1. 2. 3.
2. Organ music is an essential part of my worship experience with God. 1. 2. 3.
3. I would support: (Circle one or more) A. B. C. D. E. F.
 - A. Make ongoing repairs as needed to our existing pipe organ \$???,???
 - B. Refurbish our existing pipe organ in a series of phases \$350,000 est.
 - C. Create an entirely new pipe organ using some existing pipes \$935,000 est.
 - D. Replace our pipe organ with an electronic organ \$45,000-\$65,000 est.
 - E. Create a "hybrid" organ using electronic organ with some existing pipes \$275,000K est.
 - F. None of the above
4. I would financially contribute to this project 1. 2. 3.

Please use reverse side for comments.

Your signature optional.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Thank you, Federated Church, for supporting the youth in the Souper Bowl of Caring food drive. Together we raised \$1,023.88 and collected 242 lbs. of food for the Platte County Food Pantry.

Youth Ministry Book Sale

Our annual book sale continues in the Narthex. We have LOTS of books available, so please come and shop! The free-will donation collected will go to support the youth summer mission trip.

Youth Sunday Funday

Seven youth, accompanied by Pastor Edward and Brenda, road-tripped to Lincoln to attend worship at Eastridge Presbyterian Church. After worship, we were treated to food and games with Eastridge's youth group. The fellowship was fantastic and new friendships were formed. Plans are in the works to join together for a youth mission trip this summer.



Our trip to Lincoln also included a stop at Hurts Donuts, a visit to Haymarket Park and a Husker basketball game which ended in a thrilling, overtime win, against Maryland.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Fish banks will be passed out to the children on February 26th. Children are encouraged to collect change in their banks throughout the Lenten season, returning them on April 2nd as part of our Palm Sunday celebration. Additional banks are available in the church office.

Calendar of Events

March 26th

Youth Sunday Funday

(Following worship in the Fellowship Hall)

April 2nd

**Palm Sunday Parade, Children's Bells
Return Fish Banks**

April 9th

Easter Sunday

Egg Hunt following worship
(No Education Hour)

April 30th

**Youth led worship, 5th Sunday Potluck,
Bounce Houses and Games**

May 14th

Mother's Day Flower Sale

May 21st

Graduation Sunday

(Last week of Ed Hour)

Vacation Bible Camp

Details Coming Soon!

Lenten Family Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<u>Ash Wednesday</u> 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.
<u>1st Sunday of Lent</u> 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.
<u>2nd Sunday of Lent</u> 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.
<u>3rd Sunday of Lent</u> 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.
<u>4th Sunday of Lent</u> 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.
<u>5th Sunday of Lent</u> 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.
<u>6th Sunday of Lent</u> Host a family game/puzzle night.	Cooperate without complaining.	Begin you day with prayer.	Lead grace at dinner.	<u>Maundy Thursday</u> Attend Maundy Thursday worship at Federated 6:30 pm.	<u>Good Friday</u> Fast from screen time.	<u>Holy Saturday</u> Help someone without being asked.

Lenten Lunches

**COME ENJOY A SIMPLE MEAL,
FOLLOWED BY A TIME OF
WORSHIP AND OPEN
CONVERSATION WITH OUR
FELLOW COMPANIONS IN CHRIST.**

**WEDNESDAYS
THROUGHOUT MARCH
AT 12:10PM**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL
2710 14TH STREET**

**April 2nd - Palm/Passion Sunday Service at
Federated Church 10:00am**

**April 6th - Maundy Thursday Service at
Federated Church 6:30pm**

**April 7th - Good Friday Ecumenical Service at
Grace Episcopal at Noon;
Church office closes at Noon**

**April 9th - Easter Sunday Service at
Federated Church 10:00am**

April 10th - Office Closed

Easter Flowers Order Form

<u>Flower & Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lily \$10.00		
Mum \$15.00		
Begonia \$20.00		



DONORS NAME: _____

TO GOD'S GLORY AND IN MEMORY OF: _____

TO GOD'S GLORY AND IN HONOR OF: _____



PLEASE ORDER FLOWERS BY MARCH 25TH.
EASTER FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO GOD'S GLORY,
AND MAY ALSO BE DESIGNATED AS A MEMORIAL
AND/OR GIVEN IN HONOR OF SPECIAL PERSONS.
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO FEDERATED CHURCH. PLEASE
NOTE 'EASTER FLOWERS' ON THE MEMO LINE.



WALK TO JERUSALEM

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

One of the most important things we can do for our bodies is to be active. For most of us the simplest form of activity is walking.

Join us as we embark on 'The Walk to Jerusalem', an imaginary walk from Columbus to Jerusalem, Israel. 'The Walk to Jerusalem' encourages us to increase physical activity by walking, spiritual growth with weekly devotionals and cultural awareness as we learn about geographical locations we've collectively walked to as a parish each week.

Dates: February 12 - Easter

If you are limited in your ability to walk or don't have a device to track the amount of miles you walk weekly, you can track your activity in minutes with 20 minutes of any activity equaling one mile.

There are 7,536 miles between Columbus and Jerusalem. Each mile reported will be one closer to reaching our destination!

This intergenerational walk is available for all to take part in.

Your church leader will be sharing more information on the walk soon.



For more information contact:

Kathy Zywiec

402-564-2812

fcstaff@federatedcolumbus.org

JOYS & CONCERNS FOR FEBRUARY 2023

♦ Pray for Bill Puckett, son of Gary Puckett, who is scheduled to have throat surgery on February 20th.

♦ Congratulations to Thomas & Lindsey Bowman, who welcomed daughter, Ramona Fione, born February 1, 2023. Grandparents are Susan Dixon & Dave Bowman, Great-Grandparents are Chris & Laretta Dixon.

♦ Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Carolyn Irby from her husband, Bill Irby.

♦ The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of J.R. Curry by his parents, John and Deb and family. J.R. would have turned 39 on February 17th.

♦ Congratulations to Evan & Elizabeth Dewald, who welcome son, Tripp Edward, born on February 12th. Grandparents are Steve & Marcia Dewald.

♦ Congratulations to Thomas & Lindsey Bowman, who welcomed daughter, Ramona Fione, born February 1, 2023. Grandparents are Susan Dixon & Dave Bowman, Great-Grandparents are Chris & Laretta Dixon.

♦ Pray for Bill Puckett, son of Gary Puckett, who is scheduled to have throat surgery on February 20th.

♦ **Homestead Presbytery: Schuyler**

The First Presbyterian Church of Schuyler requests prayers that God continues to care for our members; physical and spiritual needs as well as the needs of those in the community who we strive to serve in Christ's name. We recently had our 67th Annual Pancake Supper on January 25th that raises funds to pay for our children to go to camp at Calvin Crest.

♦ **Homestead Presbytery: Primrose**

Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Primrose 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: Steele City**

As a small congregation, we continue to enjoy our partnership with Wymore, through joint services and activities. Sadly, our sister church of Mission Creek had to close their doors, but we hope to maintain those personal relationships. We also look forward as a congregation to opportunities of outreach in our small community. Christmas Eve provided a recent occasion in which families in the community joined in our worship. Pray that we rise to the task of loving our neighbors and offering the hand of Christ.

♦ **Homestead Presbytery: Tekamah**

Our youth program is busy and the young people enjoy the activities. They also deepen their faith and learn about living God's love in their world. Our prayer is that we can continue to encourage them in their faith and find ways of reaching out beyond the group we have.

♦ **UCC Living Waters Association: Newcastle Congregational UCC (Newcastle, NE 68757)**

♦ **UCC Living Waters Association: Norfolk First Congregational UCC (Norfolk, NE 68701)**

♦ **UCC Living Waters Association: Omaha Countryside Community Church UCC (Omaha, NE 68114)**

♦ **UCC Living Waters Association: Omaha First Central Congregational UCC (Omaha, NE 68131)**

H.I.S. PUPPETEERS



HEY, Puppeteers and Puppeteer wanna-bes!!!

Let me know if you are interested.

Please contact the church office for Julie's contact information.

RESCUE MISSION MEALS 2023

Remember to sign up for 2023 with Katie Claus.

Please contact the church office for Katie's contact information.

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.



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!

Federated's Helping Hands funds helps individuals and families in our community with things like food, fuel, utilities and rent.

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

FUNERAL COMMITTEE 1

Co Chairs: Shirley Johnson, Roland & Jeannie Johnson, Bill & Jean Royer, Tim & Chris Warren

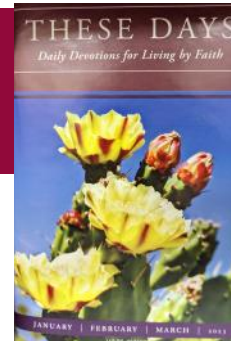
Committee Members will be contacted by the Co-Chairs

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Men's Fellowship Group will be meeting Saturday, March 11th at 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Men of all ages welcome!

FIRST QUARTER *THESE DAYS* 2023 NOW AVAILABLE

These Days first quarter booklet is now available in the office and the Narthex



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.

Some donation suggestions include:

Clothing items, Linens, School supplies, Baby items, Sewing supplies, Medical supplies, Over-the-counter medications, Gallon-sized or Quart-sized zipping bags, Travel-sized soaps, shampoos/conditioners & lotions, pill bottles are accepted without labels

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

KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL



Keep Columbus Beautiful is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. Their mission is to provide education and programs on litter reduction and recycling for the beautification of our community! To find out where and what you can recycle, go to <https://kcbne.com>

MEALS ON WHEELS



Make sure to sign up for 2023 Meals on Wheels Schedule!
Please contact Kathy Leischner,
402-276-7415, kathy.leischner@yahoo.com
if you can deliver for approximately one hour each day
during Federated's Scheduled week each month!

OPERATION EDUCATION NAIROBI



Operation Education Nairobi is now a
Local Benevolence and has been added to
the Federated Church Budget for 2023.
Watch bulletins and newsletters for
upcoming fundraisers and events!



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: 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 2023	
General Funds (Checking):	\$35,492.03
2023 Contributions	\$34,282.03
2022 Contributions	\$310.00
Rent	\$900.00
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$481.00
Christmas Joy	\$8.00
Doane College	\$50.00
Poinsettias	\$30.00
Youth Fund	\$128.00
Building Maintenance	\$150.00
Landscaping	\$110.00
Education Hour	\$5.00
Memorials:	\$625.00
Undesignated	\$625.00
Interest Income:	\$506.49
Savings	\$506.49

Expenses - January 2023	
General Fund Expenses:	\$35,087.71
Utilities	\$6,163.44
Other Budgeted Expenses	\$28,924.27
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$710.00
Poinsettias	\$570.00
Helping Hands-Non-Members	\$140.00
Memorial Fund:	\$113.85
Kitchen Supplies	\$113.85

Total Income: \$37,104.52

Total Expenses: \$35,911.56

Balance: \$1,192.93





Cec Bartholomew, Dave Lange	3/3	Heidi Klevemann	3/18
Connor Luedtke	3/4	Gene Hahn, Terry Norris	3/19
Noelle Carstens	3/5	Deb Gaeth, Sheri Melick, Gordon Specht	3/20
Robyn Bower	3/7	Bill Berry, Addilyn Ternus, Edward Yang	3/22
Wayne McCormick, Sherry Miller	3/8	Cyndi Jareki	3/23
Tessa Klevemann, Beryldean Lauterbach	3/9	Riley Gausman, Mitchell Norris	3/24
Wilma Arp	3/10	John Hahn, Larry Spence	3/25
Sarah Bower, Jeannie Kiser Jensen	3/11	Betty Garcia Lopez, Paul Sanderson, Charles Whitney, Gail Wurdeman	3/26
Mary Norton	3/14	Megan Bower	3/27
Terry Schultz	3/17	Ardell Wurdeman, Kathy Zywiec	3/31

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

USHERS - FEBRUARY 5 THROUGH 19, 2023

Ushers: Mark Hegi, John Lohr, Terry Norris, Bill Royer, Tim Warren,
Youth Ushers: Emma McHugh, Ellie Porter

2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEETING DAYS/TIMES

In the table below you can find the 2023 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 Committee	Pat Anderson	1st 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 & Growth Committee	Jesse Abrego	2nd Monday of the month, 6:30pm
Nominating Committee	Julie Graham	<i>To be determined</i>
Order of St. Andrew	Peg Meyer	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 Monday of the month, 5:00pm
Stewardship Committee	To Be Determined	4th Thursday of the month, 5:30pm
Worship & Music Committee	John Lohr and Sue McClure	1st Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm
Youth Ministry Committee	Parker Grant	2nd Sunday of the month, 11:00am
Foundation	Doug Williams, President	Quarterly/as Necessary
Governing Council	Julie Graham, President Alison Wagner, 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!

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

MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER

DECODING THE LITURGICAL COLOR SCHEME

Purple = Preparation Purple is the color that is used during our seasons 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 nod to this as a reason why we use purple during these seasons.

In some tradition, the color **blue** is used interchangeably with purple during the season of Advent.