



FEDERATED NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

**3rd Quarter Contribution Statements
are now available!**

- ◆ Oct. 1: World Communion Sunday
- ◆ Oct. 15: Children's Sabbath
- ◆ Oct. 19 & 22: Recognition of New Members
- ◆ Oct. 22: Sunday Funday
- ◆ Oct. 26: Trunk or Treat
- ◆ Oct. 29: Fall Congregational Meeting After Service

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. November 2023 Newsletter deadline will be October 20th, 2023.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK - OCTOBER 2023

Looking ahead to October, it feels like a transitional month. While most days will be moderate in temperature, there might be very warm days that remind us of summer as well as possibility of snow as hint of approaching winter. Personally, I enjoy the changes in weather. I am reminded that change is a normal part of life. Each day is unique in what it offers.

Here are some special events happening in the month of October:

- **October 1 (and preceding Sept. 28):** We will be celebrating World Communion Sunday. On the first Sunday of October each year, we have this occasion to be reminded that the church is bigger than our congregation. We are a small part of the worldwide “Body of Christ”: all Christians are connected in Christ. Interestingly, this annual celebration began in 1933 by Rev. Hugh Kerr of Shadyside Presbyterian Church (Pittsburgh, PA). According to Presbyterian Outlook, the goal of World Communion Sunday was “to bring churches together in a service of Christian unity – in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information, and above all, to know how important the Church of Jesus Christ is, and how each congregation is interconnected one with another.” Whether you are participating in-person or online, I hope you will feel encouraged as a member of the worldwide church.
- **October 8:** There will be an anniversary reception with cake and coffee for Chris & Laretta Dixon in the fellowship hall from 2:00-4:00pm. All are welcomed (more info on page 9).
- **October 15 (and preceding Oct. 12):** We will be observing Children’s Sabbath to recognize the needs of children around the world. Our Christian Education Director, Brenda Sand will be preaching at Thursday evening and Sunday morning worship services. There will be a fundraiser for Operation Education Nairobi to provide support for school fees in Kenya following Sunday service.
- **October 19 & 22:** There will be a Recognition of New Members in our worship services. We have three members who joined in 2022: Tyrone & Megan McHugh and Patricia Blocker, along with six new members for 2023: Michael & Taylor Irby, Joe Chin, Stephanie Johnson, and Jeff & Marie Bruegger. Please join us in welcoming new members to our church.
- **October 26:** Membership & Growth Committee is organizing Trunk or Treat in our church parking lot in coordination with the downtown business association. We ask for your help with decorated car trunks and/or candy donations. More details (including time) will be provided in coming weeks.
- **October 29:** Fall Congregational Meeting will be held after the Sunday morning worship service. This used to be a very brief meeting with the election of officers. Since last year, the annual budget has been moved up to the fall meeting (instead of Annual Meeting in late February). This year, we have proposed revisions to our church constitution that needs congregational approval. There will be packets of information for the Fall Meeting (including Slate of Officers, 2024 Budget and “Amended and Restated Constitution” alongside the previous version from 2018). Absentee voting will be available through church office.

May the month of October be filled with God’s blessings for you all.

Grace and peace,

Edward

GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

Happy Fall. I would like to remind and encourage you to attend the Federated Church Fall Meeting on Sunday October 29th following the church service. This is the meeting when we discuss and vote on the budget for the 2024 year; vote on nominated members for committees, Order of St Andrew, and Governing Council. We will also be voting on the recommended changes to the Federated Church Constitution. Copies of the Constitution and revisions are available through the church office- information is being put together to be distributed to members.

The Governing Council met Tuesday Sept 26. Here are the highlights:

1. Marv Zoucha and Adam Elm from Schumacher provided information on options for annual financial review. Finance and Property Committee will investigate these options and make a recommendation to the Governing Council.
2. Wayne McCormick presented the suggested revised Federated Church Constitution from the Constitution Task Force and answered questions. Most of the changes were made for clarity, vocabulary consistency, and to reflect the single pastor status we currently have.
3. Wilma Arp, from Finance & Property Committee, provided an update on the renovations to the Education Center and presented a motion for approval for the next phase of renovations. A huge thank you to Wilma, Marv Zoucha, and Tim Warren for the all the volunteer hours put in to oversee this project.
4. The following motions were approved:
 - a. Revised Constitution approved to go before the Governing Body (Federated Church members) for approval. This will be voted upon at the fall meeting, October 29th.
 - b. Education Center renovation approval of \$44,374.00 for painting, flooring (carpet hallways & classrooms, and flooring for bathrooms), and plumbing.
 - c. Approval for requested membership drop from rolls.
 - d. Approval for new member requests.
 - e. Approval for Federated Church to participate in PC(USA) Board of Pensions' retirement savings plan which will be available for all staff at no cost to Federated Church.
 - f. Approval of Pastor's updated Terms of Call.

Thank you to all Governing Council Members and Committee Members for your dedication, hard work, insight, and spiritual leadership. The work of the Lord is done through many hands, hearts, and prayers.

Remember to turn in your stewardship pledge cards, volunteer to be on a Federated Church committee and attend the Congregational Meeting on October 29th.

Julie Canaday Graham

REPORT FROM TOGO, AFRICA MISSION GROUP

On August 12, 2023, a 5-member mission group from Nebraska departed for Togo, Africa. Team members were Dr. Coleen Stice (retired plastic surgeon from Omaha, NE), Dr. Roalene Redland (retired general surgeon from Omaha, NE), John Novotny & Bill Royer (both of Columbus, NE) and Bill's son-in-law David Krymuza (from Omaha, NE). The team first entered Togo through its capital city of Lomé, and then drove approximately 1.5 hours north to the Agbelouve area, where there was a remote rural acreage (approximately 80 acres) that has been donated by a local Togolese high ranking government official, for the purpose of creating a medical clinic, with staff and guest housing (a rural medical campus of sorts). This would help serve some of the most underserved residents in that area of Togo, where the average annual income is equivalent to about \$800-\$900 US dollars.

The purpose of the trip was primarily 3-fold: 1) Finish setting up and organizing a medical clinic procedure room, 2) repair and maintenance of a tractor and 3) repair of a previously installed "Salama" stove flue in a nearby village.

As with any mission effort, it is rare that any project is "completed" on a given trip, which was the case with this trip. The medical clinic was just short of one item, and that was a working autoclave (instrument sterilizer). The tractor project was just short of a properly working hydraulic valve. Both the autoclave and hydraulic items are being worked on, and should be resolved in the near future by other mission groups. The Salama stove flue was successfully replaced in a nearby village to the medical campus.

The team returned on August 21, 2023, and they want to thank the Federated Church and its members for their prayers and support of the trip.

Below are a few photos of the trip.



From Left to Right:

Dave Krymuza
Bill Royer
John Novotny
Dr. Coleen Stice
Dr. Roalene Redland
Kouami Kouadwo
(Local contact)



Farmall 460 diesel tractor needing repair.



Some of the medical staff at the clinic with Dr. Coleen Stice



Tractor after most repairs were made.



Repaired Salama stove in nearby village, and typical housing in rural Togo.



Organizing some of the medical supplies in the clinic.



Inside one of the medical exam rooms in the clinic.



A local school near the medical clinic campus.



A local church near the medical clinic campus.

Ed Hour Kick-Off Events

The return of Education Hour was celebrated with a hot dog lunch and ice cream social following worship on Sunday, September 10th. Thank you to the Christian Education and Youth Ministry committees for hosting this event. Special entertainment was provided by Eliot Yang, who agreed to be “pied in the face” by student Meredith G. Meredith used her seed store points to purchase this prize. Thanks to Eliot for being such a good sport!



Horn T Zoo

Horn T Zoo hosted a petting zoo in the church parking lot on Sunday, September 17th as part of our return of Ed Hour celebration. The kids had a great time interacting with God’s amazing creation!



Upcoming Events

10/15
Children’s Sabbath
(Service project during Ed Hour)

10/22
Sunday Funday
(Grades 5th – 12th)

10/26
Trunk-or-Treat

11/12
Sunday Funday
(Grades 5th – 12th)
Cookie Baking

SOCIAL CONCERNS & MISSIONS COMMITTEE COLLECTIONS & EVENTS

In October, November, December we will be collecting new items - gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats for the Angel Tree. Watch for these items to go on sale! Summer is a good time to stock up.

"The Son of Man did **not** come to be served, but to serve," Matthew 20 : 28

Social Concerns and Missions Committee

ATTENTION SINGERS AND RINGERS!

We are excited that the new season for Chancel Choir and Bells of Joy is just beginning! Rehearsals started on Wednesday, September 6 for both groups, but we would still love to have you join us. Bells of Joy rehearsal starts at 6:30 in the sanctuary, and Chancel Choir rehearsal starts at 7:30 in the choir room. The music ministry at Federated is an important part of our worship experience, and we are in need of members for both groups; no prior experience is necessary! Please contact Stuart Gausman, or the church office for more information. We are looking forward to another wonderful year in the Music Ministry of Federated Church!

S.A.L.T. ADULT SUNDAY CLASS

“Study and Learn Together”

Who: All adults!

When: 8:45 a.m. (So choir members can come!)

Where: Fellowship Hall

Come join us! Besides goodies and coffee, we have good discussions and great interaction. This year's curriculum will be:

Video series (every other week): **In the Footsteps of the Savior** by Max Lucado. The videos are always interesting and informative.

Every other week: **Today's news---Exploring relevance to our faith**

News is inevitable--whether it be good or bad. We'll look at the latest news events (no political discussions, though) and talk about linking our Christian faith and wisdom from the Bible to today's news. We will be sure to have stimulating discussions as we share our questions, opinions, and insights with each other.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! COME JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS!

USHERS/ LITURGISTS & ATTENDANCE REPORT SEPTEMBER 2023

Ushers : Sharyn Beard, Sue McClure, Bill Royer

Liturgists : Alison Wagner, Katie Claus, Beth Sharpe, Nicole Miller

Average Attendance :

Thursday Service - 20

Sunday Service - 102

Online - 89

Weekly Attendance - 213

JOYS & CONCERNS FOR JUNE 2023

- ♦ Congratulations to Dr. Tyler Curry and Allison Seufert, they were married in Omaha on August 19th. Tyler is the son of John & Deb Curry.
- ♦ Congratulations to Jake Gotschall (son of Jeff & Tammi Gotschall) & Samantha Challburg. They were married on August 26, 2023 in Sisters, Oregon. The couple lives in Bend, Oregon.
- ♦ Congratulations to Jonathan Philip Strevey and Hannah Le who will be married on September 16, 2023 in Colorado. Jonathan is the son of Sara Dixon Strevey and grandson of Chris & Laurretta Dixon.
- ♦ Happy 70th Anniversary to Chris & Laurretta Dixon. Join the Celebration on October 8th from 2pm to 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. No gifts, no cards, just your presence.
- ♦ Pray for the family of Ina Gay, mother of Tammy & Tom Hempstead. Ina passed away on Saturday, August 26 in Lincoln. A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.
- ♦ Pray for the family of Jeff Olson, brother of Jeanne Johnson and Barb Olson, who passed away on Thursday, August 24th in Lincoln, NE.
- ♦ Thank you for sending card, thoughts and prayers to us in the loss of our brother, Henry, who passed away on Monday, August 21st. Sincerely, Jesse and Marilyn Abrego.
- ♦ Pray for Terry Norris who had knee replacement surgery a month ago and had to undergo another procedure recently.
- ♦ We would like to thank you for all the kind words, prayers, cards, and gifts since Brendon's accident. Having the support and love of our church family has been a huge comfort to us all. We welcome you to continue to pray for healing as Brendon regains his strength and resumes life. ~ Tim, Val and Brendon Rathje
- ♦ Pray for Jan Pickrel who is recovering from a minor procedure.
- ♦ Pray for Brian Marker, son of Steve & Jackie Marker, who will need heart surgery.
- ♦ Pray for Bill Irby and his family. Bill was recently placed on hospice.
- ♦ Prayers for Ben & Marilyn Vrana, who are both recovering from COVID.
- ♦ **Homestead Presbytery: Lincoln First**
Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln First 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: Lincoln Fourth**
Continued prayers for all at Fourth as we continue to discern and embrace Gods will for our congregation as we acknowledge 116 years of ministry in the University Place Neighborhood. We dedicated a new 12ft cross in our grounds on World Communion Sunday to celebrate this milestone. We are continuing to enhance our Worship and Evangelism efforts through outreach and partnership. We are excited to partner again with A Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln through their Streets Alive efforts in bringing over a thousand people to the UPCO area at the end of September for the second consecutive year. We are also humbled to have served almost 1000 through community use of our building this summer. We are thankful for Presbytery prayers as we discern how God calls us to be good stewards of our resources and are excited for the year ahead!
- ♦ **Homestead Presbytery: Lincoln Good Shepherd**
Gracious God, I lift up the work and worship of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, asking for Your continued guidance and blessing. As they continue to facilitate and serve as a depot for the CWS Gift of the Heart Kit Mission, may their

JOYS & CONCERNS FOR JUNE 2023 CONTINUED

hands be an extension of Your love, providing relief and solace to those in need. Empower and direct their ministry teams to achieve their goals for 2023, ensuring that their upcoming service day at Camp Calvin Crest becomes a testament of our commitment to building community. Let the seeds of Your Word take deep root in their hearts, growing each member spiritually, that they draw closer to You and reflect Your love. Let them serve You God and neighbor with love, joy, humor, and dedication. Through the power of Your mighty Holy Spirit, in the strong name of Jesus, I pray. Amen.

♦ **Homestead Presbytery: Lincoln Heritage**

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

♦ UCC Living Waters Association:

- Pierce UCC, 68767
- Plainview First Congregational UCC, 68796
- Ralston UCC, 68127
- Scribner First Congregational UCC, 68057



Chris & Laurretta Dixon will be celebrating their 70th Anniversary on October 8th from 2pm to 4pm at Federated Church in the Fellowship Hall. They are requesting no gifts or cards, just your presence please.

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.

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.

In 2023, Federated has assisted 7 people with rent,
26 families with fuel, 19 families with food
and a bus ticket for a veteran who wanted to be with his family.

This assistance has totaled \$1,657.68.

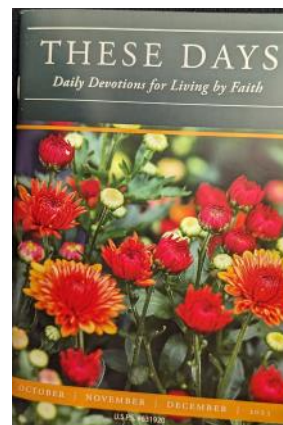
We have received donations totaling \$845.

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

FUNERAL COMMITTEE 2

Co Chairs: Steve & Marcia Dewald, Larry & Sue Mares,
Linda & Guy Wheatley, Barb Olson
Committee Members will be contacted by the Co-Chairs

Fourth Quarter
"These Days"
is now available



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,
pill bottles are accepted without labels

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

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, and paper towels.



KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL



Keep Columbus Beautiful is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful.

To find out more information go to <https://kcbne.com>

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: Clorox, Pine Sol, Paper Towels, Old Linens, Stamps, Copy Paper, Gift Cards from Grocery, Hardware and Farm Stores.

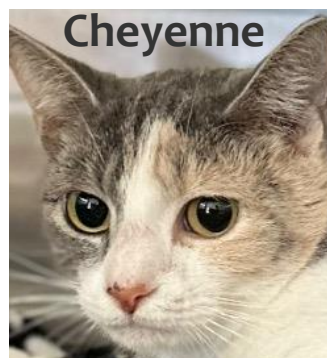
They have a number of animals available, including the ones pictured below.



Sunami



Kelci



Cheyenne



Zeppeli

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!

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 2023

Thank you for filling in all the 2023 slots for the Rescue Mission meals!
Rescue Mission Meals take place on the second Friday of the month.



The move of the Columbus Rescue Mission from 1471 25th Avenue to its current
location of 1112 15th Street has been completed. We are still in need of financial
donations to complete the work that must be done to finish painting, cleaning, etc.
at the new facility as we will be opening the women's rooms and the family rooms in
the very near future. If God puts it on your heart to make a donation or to volunteer
with the cleaning or painting, please contact the mission at 402-563-1096
and ask for Karen or Nathan.



Renee Norris	10/1	Linda Wheatley	10/22
Sue McClure	10/9	Jenna Mares	10/23
Ron Lambert, Steve McClure, Ellie Micek	10/11	Mark Hegi	10/26
Pat Anderson, Alex Garcia Lopez, Allie Gotschall	10/12	Margaret Trew	10/30
Steve Dewald, Sharon Kunch, Tim Rathje	10/18	Diana Gartrell, Bill Irby	10/31
Happy belated birthday to Roland Augspurger whose birthday was Sept. 17			

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



**Chris & Laretta Dixon
October 6, 1953**

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	Georgia Behlen, Alison Wagner	Will meet as necessary
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!

FINANCE AT A GLANCE AUGUST 2023

Contributions - August 2023	
General Funds (Checking):	\$34,655.31
Contributions	\$16,356.41
Misc. Income	\$602.00
Transfer from Savings	\$8,196.90
General Fund Savings Transfer	\$9,500.00
General Funds	\$6,182.00
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$8,506.82
Interest Earned	\$547.26
Neighbors in Need	\$25.00
Youth Fund	\$240.00
Landscaping -	\$3,000.00
Disaster Relief - Hawai'i	\$1,350.00
Multimedia Fund	\$3,000.00
Helping Hands -	\$70.00
Projects & Missions - Garage Sale	\$274.56
Memorials:	\$0.00

Expenses - August 2023	
General Fund Expenses:	\$34,763.62
Utilities	\$2,143.85
Other Budgeted Expenses	\$32,469.77
Rent (Wedding deposit reimbursed)	\$150.00
Designated Funds (Savings):	\$8,196.90
Building Maintenance (Keyless Entry System)	\$7,887.25
Narthex Furniture	\$201.15
Helping Hands - Non-Members	\$100.00
Youth Mission Trip Expense	\$8.50
Memorial Fund:	\$0.00

Income	\$31,647.23
Expenses	-\$42,960.52
Transfer for bills	\$8,196.90
Pre-pledge Transfer	\$3,500.00
Total	\$383.61

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

OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

During the Fall Congregational Meeting, October 29th, there will be a vote needed on changes/updates to Federated Church's Constitution. Copies of these changes are available. Please contact the office and let them know if you would like your copy electronically, mailed or you will pick one up!