The Spire

The Federated Church Newsletter

United Church of Christ 🥟 An Open and Affirming Congregation 🥟 A Creation Justice Church

SUMMER SUMMER SUMME SUMMER SUM

Join us this season for laughter, learning, and love as we celebrate all the ways God's light shines through our church family.

Whether you're playing, praying, serving, or simply soaking up the summer joy—there's a place for you here.

COME AS YOU ARE. BRING YOUR SUMMER SPIRIT.

In the Interim...

"Be Still and know that I am God." – Psalm 46:10

Dear Friends,

As I sit to write this article, the birds outside my window are serenading me with a rousing concert of their finest works in the pre-dawn light. The breeze wafting in is pleasant with just the slightest hint of humidity that carries the promise of the warm day that is to come. In this space, pregnant with the wonders of God's creation, it is difficult to focus. My mind wants to wander, to linger on the multitude of voices making up the bird choir. I want to sit and stare out the window as the sky changes moment by moment, a kaleidoscope of brightening color spun by the hand of God.

Perhaps because it's a time of vacations, perhaps because, no matter how old we are, we remember the languid, carefree summer afternoons of our youth, for me no other season evokes such an awareness of surroundings, a willingness to stop, breathe, and discern the presence of God. Somehow, no matter how busy my days, in the summer things just feel a little lighter, time moves just a titch slower, and I take more time just to be, to reflect and discern.

This month, whether life takes you to some exotic vacation locale or just to a quiet corner of your own backyard, I encourage you to be still for a while and reflect on the presence of God. Pause to take in the intoxicating sights, sounds and smells of God's amazing creation, then offer a prayer of thanks. Next ask for guidance, for how you might grow deeper in your relationship with God, how you might be called to be a part of what God is doing at Federated. Then just be still. Listen for God's voice. Close your eyes. Breathe slowly. Open your heart and your mind to receive what God offers. Take what is given and sit with it for a while.

Then act. Is God nudging you to take on a new role in the upcoming program year? Do it! Is God helping you to discern a particular gift? Share it! Are you being pushed to stretch and grow in some new way? Rise to the challenge! Wherever you sense the Spirit is pushing you, move in that direction.

There is much opportunity over the next many months to try new things and discern new ways of continuing to be a transformational community that reflects God's realm. As we prepare for the arrival of a new settled pastor in the months ahead, what part are you called to play? Be still and listen for God's guidance this summer.



Shalom,

Worship in July

Thanks to everyone who sent in questions for our "Ask the Pastor" worship series for this month! As promised, I will attempt to answer all of the questions that we will not be able to address in worship, but ask for your patience; it may take me a bit of time to get to everyone!

Here is a brief summary of what you can expect this month:

- July 6: Pastor Vicki will answer Houston Bower's question about the UCC's position on a ministry of resistance. Houston's inquiry draws on a piece that UCC President and General Minister, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, wrote on the topic. Her article can be found here: https://www.ucc.org/the-ministry-of-resistance/#:~:text=The%20church%20is%20a%20part,behalf%20of%20ourselves%20and%20others Vicki's sermon will be undergirded by the story of the Hebrew midwives who defy Pharoah in a brave act of resistance. Read Exodus 1:15-22 to prepare.
- **July 13:** Rev. Brian Bagley-Bonner will address the question of what the bible is and what impact it has on our lives. Is this just a collection of dusty old stories, the inerrant word of God, or an account of things that really happened thousands of years ago? And what does any of it mean in our twenty-first century lives?
- **July 20:** Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner will answer Maren Koepf's question seeking under standing of what Jesus meant when he said, "Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." Judy will help us to understand the role of wealth in a life of faith.
- **July 27:** Pastor Vicki will address Louise Rutkowski's question, "Do you believe that God has specific plans for people?" Louise notes that people often say that they believe that something was or wasn't part of God's plan for them. How are we to discern the difference between things to which God may be calling us and things that are the result of free will or random circumstance? Does God allow things to happen for some purpose we can't understand?

Join us throughout the month to hear your pastors struggle with some thorny questions you may have also wondered about. And, after the service, please feel free to share your own thoughts! See you in church!

Women's Ministry

Circle No Circle meeting until September.

Sit & Stitch Continues on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM in Room 340. All are welcome! Come learn to knit or crochet and help create prayer shawls or little prayer squares. We have plenty of yarn and needles, and it's a wonderful time for fellowship.

Helping Hands Not meeting in July, but we're proud to share that we have 97 cancer pillows ready to deliver to Hospice of the Western Reserve.

Loaves & Fishes If you love to bake, Loaves & Fishes is always looking for volunteers to donate baked goods. Loaves & Fishes meets on the last Sunday of the month when Jim Sherman serves lunch at St. Paul's. If you'd like to contribute, please let us know!

If you would like to join any of these activities, all are welcome... just drop in! For more information contact Lynne Kessell, <u>lynnekessell@gmail.com</u>.



Save the Date: Annual All-Church Picnic

Sunday, August 10th, 11:30 AM at the Family Life Center

Mark your calendars now for one of the highlights of our summer—Federated's All-Church Picnic! This annual gathering is a time to relax, connect, and celebrate all the good things happening in our community.

After worship at The Family Life Center, we'll head outside for an afternoon full of food, games, and plenty of fun for all ages. There will be delicious picnic fare, activities to keep

kids and adults entertained, and even a friendly (but competitive!) kickball game—so don't forget to bring your A-game!

More details will be shared soon, but for now, be sure to save the date and plan to stay after worship. We look forward to spending this wonderful day of fellowship with our Federated family!



Get Connected

Realm Trainings Available

Did you know Federated Church uses Realm as our online hub for communication, event registration, giving, and more? Whether you're new to Realm or want a refresher on how to make the most of this helpful tool, we're here to help!

Upcoming Realm Training Sessions

Join us for one of these in-person drop-in sessions:

- Tuesday, July 29th, Noon–3 PM, Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, August 3rd, 11:30 AM–1 PM, Room G30

During these times, we'll help you:

- Set up or update your profile
- Register for events
- Find church directories
- Manage your giving and pledges
- Access groups and communications

Feel free to bring your devices you will be using to access Realm!

Additional Options

Can't make these dates? No problem—one-on-one or small group trainings are also available by appointment, either in person or virtually via Zoom.

Ready to Get Started?

If you'd like to learn more or schedule a training, please contact Brooke Strong at **bstrong@fedchurch.org** or call the church office at **440-247-6490**.

Realm is a simple way to stay informed and connected with your Federated family. We'd love to help you feel confident using it!

federated





The Generosity Commission invites ALL of you to sign up for the Federated's Fall Follies Variety Show & Celebration of Talents.

This event will take place on September 21st at the Family Life Center from 4:00-6:00pm.

You are invited to showcase your talent on stage... you can bring in a piece of your art...you can bake the best brownies in the world. We want you to do you!

If you are interested in participating, please sign up using this link <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/</u> d/1xrzvyFfTmN66A6_7H5Ikcr9cLqGE_c51XPIKHn7cosQ/edit

Please contact Thea Mozingo <u>tmozingo@fedchurch.org</u> with any questions!

Christmas in July A special offering of the United Church of Christ





The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, to our lowerincome retirees

The Offering will be collected on July 20, 2025. (We collect this in July because of Federated Church's Christmas Eve Offering tradition.) Thank you for prayerfully considering a generous gift to this special UCC Offering.

How to prepare pill bottle donations for shipments of medical supplies:



Sort bottles by color and type



Remove labels, leaving no glue or residue



Wash bottles and lids in very hot water and dish soap



Rinse and dry thoroughly



Replace lids on clean, dried bottles



Place clean, recapped bottles in large resealable bags marked 'Clean Bottles'

We have started a collection for clean, empty pill bottles. Recyclers in our area are not accepting them at this time and this is a great way to keep them out of the landfill. There is a collection bin behind the Angel Desk!

You can contact Cheryl Johnson with any questions at cherjohnson99@yahoo.com



We would love to have you join us for one or all of the upcoming Primetime events! You do not need to be a member of the church to join us. Church members can sign up on REALM. Feel free to sign up by contacting Thea Mozingo at tmozingo@fedchurch.org or by calling 440-247-6490

Upcoming Events

July 10th Noon-2:00pm Primetime Picnic

Food, FUN and Bingo at Frohring Meadows We will provide the burgers, hot dogs and cupcakes! Please bring a side to share-sweet or savory. Cost is \$10 per person and can be paid there. Please sign up on REALM or contact Thea Mozingo at tmozingo@fechurch.org to RSVP so we have accurate counts for food. Looking forward to seeing you there!

July 15th 5:30-7:30 Widows Dinner Out

Join Primetimers and friends as they enjoy dinner out at The Welshfield Inn-14001 Main Market Rd, Burton, OH 44021. Please RSVP on REALM or by contacting Thea so we can make a reservation for the correct number. Feel free to invite friends.

(All Church) Federated Goes to the Lake County Captains-July 18th 6:00-8:00pm

Join us in the Pavilion for a picnic, baseball, fireworks & our choir singing the National Anthem! Tickets are \$15 and include dinner (under 2 free).

Gates open at 6:00pm - dinner is served at 6:30 and game starts at 7:00pm. You can sign up on REALM or by calling the office 440-247-6490.

August 28th 10:30-3:30 Primetime Cruise on the Lady Caroline

\$56 per person-details on REALM.

Federated Church 76 Bell St Chagrin Falls OH 440-247-6490 www.fedchurch.org



FEDERATED CHURCH PRIMETIME NEWSLETTER



JULY 2025

Primetime Goes to the Guardians







live your faith



Federated Church 76 Bell St Chagrin Falls OH 440-247-6490 www.fedchurch.org







Generosity Corner

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Family Life Center Capital Campaign



Watch Your Mailbox!

All members will be receiving information about the Family Life Center Capital Campaign in the next week.

This campaign runs through the beginning of September. Funds raised will be put into a designated fund. This fund will be used for major maintance and capital upgrades to the Family Life Center over the coming decade. Please contact Thea with any questions at tmozingo@fedchurch.org







This month the Generosity Spotlight is on YOU. We give thanks for every member of this amazing faith family!

This past spring we had a Leadership Retreat with members of staff, the commissions and church council. The word of the day was ENGAGEMENT. The call for all of us was to figure out ways to both be personally engaged and to create opportunities for you to be engaged and involved.

You have the most fabulous servant hearts, hands, feet and voices. We are committed to making sure that you have ways to share your time and talents within the walls of the church, in the surrounding community and out in the wider world.

Thank you to all of you who have: Donated to a collection drive Worked tirelessly on the TNT sale Shared your talents with wee ones at Vacation Bible School or in Church School Baked cookies for Memorials Made coffee and plated cookies for Sunday Morning Fellowship Hour Cleaned, baked, served and hosted during Holy Week Participated in worship Sung in the choir Moved tables and chairs and then moved them back again Helped with all of the moving parts of a Performing Arts Concert Worked the Angel Desk Made sure our Livestream goes live every week Helped with Wondrous Wednesdays and Loaves & Fishes Stitched pillows, knitted prayer squares and filled bags with Sit & Stitch, Helping Hands and Circle

These are just some of the dozens of ways that you have given of yourself and your time. You are making a difference in this world just by being YOU and we are so grateful for all of the YOUs out there.

Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

Generosity Corner

<mark>Ope</mark>n House

Come see all of the great th<mark>ings our F</mark>LC has to offer!

We will have a food truck and sweet treats!

JULY 20TH NOON-2:00PM

Join Us at the Family Life Center



When was the last time you visited the Family Life Center?

Come join us on 7/20 from Noon-2:00pm to explore the building, the labyrinth, the playground and the grounds. You can grab lunch at the food truck. The church will be providing some sweet treats.

See you there!



the cost of

diapers



Join us while we make a difference in the lives of our youngest neighbors! We have a Diaper Bank Bin in the Lobby to collect diapers for local families in need. Thank you for all you do!

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Summer Pick-Up Choir Sunday, July 20th

National Diaper Bank

All singers are welcome to join us for our annual summer pick-up choir on Sunday, July 20th! Whether you've sang for years with the choir, are interested in joining the choir, or just want a fun new perspective for a Sunday morning service, you are welcome to sing with us!

Simply meet at 9 am in the sanctuary on July 20th! That's all! Music can be sent in advance. There are also two optional rehearsals available for you to attend: Sunday, July 13th (11:30 am-Noon) and Thursday, July 17th (7-7:30 pm). The rehearsals are not required.



Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation

Social and Environmental Justice (SJAM) News

The mission of the Social Justice Advocacy Ministry is to be a voice and witness to God's love for all people and creation and to advocate for justice for those who are marginalized, discriminated against and denied their inherent rights as children of God and citizens of our nation and world. We strive to become well informed, provide opportunities to educate ourselves, balanced with opportunities to take action. Live Our Faith!

To learn more, please contact sjamfedchurch@gmail.com

Next SJAM Meeting: Sunday, August 17th (Please note – NO JULY MEETING)

at 11:30 at Bell Street in Lower Level Meeting Room Or join by Zoom using this link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83595558354?</u> <u>pwd=U1VxZU5SZONjcEVkbEcxeXpsbVIWdz09</u>

BE THE CHURCH WITTE CHURCH
Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Embrace diversity. Reject racism. Forgive often. Love God. Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources. Enjoy this life.

Racial Justice- Events of Intrest

- Join us on July 12, Bus Trip To Underground Museum in Cincinnati, -sponsored by the United Methodist East Ohio Conference To learn more, view the schedule and register, visit: <u>https://eastohio-reg.brtapp.com/UndergroundRailroadMuseum</u>.
 -Contact Darlene Nichols if you are interested in going: darnichols10@gmail.com
 - The Ida B. Wells Foundation is hosting a book signing on July 19, 2025, at the Baseball Heritage Museum at Lexington Avenue. 2-4 pm. The book, about Ida B. Wells, is entitled <u>Radical Advocate: Ida B. Wells and the Road to Race and Gender Justice.</u>

Book Discussion and Movie

Discussions are taking place on the book "Decolonizing Palestine" by Mitri Raheb in preparation for the movie screening of "Where Olive Trees Weep" See flyer for details.

Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

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"Where Olive Trees Weep offers a searing window into the struggles and resilience of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. It explores themes of loss, trauma, and the quest for justice."

Federated Church's Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) invites you to a screening of this important documentary.

Wednesday, August 20th 7:00pm Family Life Center - 16349 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls Free admission - Donations welcome Please RSVP to sjamfedchurch@gmail.com



SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY MINISTRY federated *act* A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation

Banned Books

SJAM is collecting banned books to make available in our library. If you would like to donate, you can find information on banned books at <u>https://www.ala.org/bbooks</u>

Attached is a list of what we have, so if you would like to donate one, please choose something we don't yet have. Thank you so much! Email Darlene Nichols (<u>darnichols10@gmail.com</u>) with any questions.

Also, plans are in the works for a "Banned Books Bingo" night in August. Stay tuned!

Donated List of Banned Books

1. The Breakaways	Cathy G. Johnson		
2. Understanding Identity	Emily Chiariello		
3. Eggs	Jerry Spinelli		
4. Where the Red Fern Grows	Wilson Rawls		
5. Susie Q Fights Back	Jane Cutler		
6. The Dream and the Struggle: Separate But Not Equal	Jim Haskins		
7. The Color of Water	James McBride		
8. The Perks of Being a Wallflower	Stephen Chbosky		
9. Are You There God? IT's Me, Margaret	Judy Blume		
10. Forever	Judy Blume		
11. The Bluest Eye	Toni Morrisonj		
12. Girls Like Girls	Hayley Kiyoko		
13. Becoming Nicole	Amy Ellis Nutt		
14. Beloved	Tony Morrison		
15. A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo	Marlon Bundo		
16. Pride, The Story Of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag	Rob Sanders		
17. The School is Not White, A True Story of the Civil Rights Movement Curtis James			
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Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation

July Environmental Tip of the Month

Caring for the Earth - Natural Weed Management

Avoiding toxic chemicals in the yard and garden is one more way we can help protect people, plants, animals, and the planet.

Controlling weeds takes a multi-pronged approach.

Here are some things to try:

- Hand pull weeds from the roots while young, before they flower and go to seed.
- After beds are weed free, mulch with 2-3" inches of material such as wood chips, straw, cardboard, or newspaper to block sunlight and prevent weed seed from germinating.
- Water just the desired plants at the base and let in-between soil dry out more.
- Use corn gluten as a pre-emergent on lawns in the spring (20 lb per 1000 SF lawn,

waiting 5 days before watering or rain; not advisable for use in gardens.)

• In cracks and sidewalks, pour boiling water directly on weeds, or brush leaves with

commercial strength vinegar. Repeat in 7-10 days.

One university experimented with a solution of vinegar, salt, and dish liquid for weed control, but it was found to have limited effectiveness and was nearly ten times as toxic as Roundup. Remember that all chemicals (even "natural" ones like acid) remain in the soil for a long period of time, affect all living things in the soil, and eventually end up in lakes and streams.

In the end we may decide to co-exist with a certain level of weeds in order to live more in harmony with the environment that sustains us.

For more information on weed control strategies, go to lowa State U. Extension at <u>https://yardandgarden.extension.iastate.edu/how-to/managing-weeds-landscapes-gardens-and-lawns</u>



Youth & Family

Dear VBS Families,

Thank you for an incredible week at Vacation Bible School! We are still buzzing with excitement from all the fun, learning, and new friendships made.

We absolutely loved exploring our green, creation-care theme with your children, inspired by the Parable of the Sower. We shared miles of smiles and enjoyed memorable moments, including:

- There is no planet B! We learned from our NASA special guest about how difficult life on Mars would be! Motivating us to look after planet earth!
- We became wildlife detectives as we learned from Geauga Park District about what plants and animals we can observe and protect in our own backyards!
- We reused and recycled materials to make cards with comforting messages for Ciera the therapy dog to take on her hospice and hospital visits.
- We learned that milkweed is the only plant that monarchs eat to fuel their incredible life cycle and journey!
- We grounded ourselves with prayer, yoga and mindfulness, walking on the labyrinth and trails.
- We embraced the powerful message of the Parable of the Sower with daily seed planting, story telling, readers theater, and song.
- We had a blast with creation care challenges from butterflies flying to milkweed relays, nature • scavenger hunts, and collaborative crafting projects.
- We learned about composting from real chickens and their owners! We may have enjoyed the chicken dance too!
- We used the eggshells the chickens left with us to add to the soil as we planted 5 trees on the FLC property!

Our daily green goodies snack time was a delicious highlight, reminding us to nourish ourselves and our planet, minimize waste and recycle and compost where possible.

It was truly inspiring to see your children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning how to be good stewards of the Earth.

Thank you to everyone who donated supplies and materials. Also a special thank you to our volunteers:

Mike Quintin Polly Manke Nora Wagner Milka Begovik Ruby Wiley Thea Mozingo Lena Wright Gay Quintin

Terry Rounds Rebecca Wright Laura Reed

Morgan Graves Darlene Nichols Anne Murphy Sunny Doxey

Maren Kopef Jake Magalski Allan Garland Geauga Park District



Youth & Family

Although VBS is over, the fun doesn't have to end! We have some exciting opportunities for families to stay connected and continue enjoying <u>summer fun at the Fed</u>:

VBS Reunion!

When: Sunday, July 13th. We will begin in the sanctuary and head to Sunday school following the children's moment.

What: Join friends and volunteers as we reconnect, share memories, celebrate our VBS week, and launch our summer read along!

• Lake County Captains Baseball Game!

When: Friday, July 18th, 7PM gametime.

What: Join us for a fun evening at the ballpark as we cheer on the Lake County Captains with a picnic, ballgame, fireworks and the Fed choir singing the National Anthem! We'll have a block of seats for our church family. Tickets are only \$15 and include dinner! Register at Fedchurch.org/events.

• Summer Pool Party!

When: Saturday, July 27th, 5-8 PM at the Wembley Club.

What: Cool off and have a splashing time at our pool party! It's a great opportunity for kids and adults to enjoy some summer fun and fellowship. Includes picnic dinner and lifeguards on duty! Register at Fedchurch.org/events.

• Sunday School and Picnic at the FLC!

When: Sunday, August 10th, 10-11 AM at the FLC.

What: Worship and Sunday school at the FLC followed by an old fashioned all church picnic, fun games, and entertainment!

And to keep our "green" theme going all summer long, we invite you to join our Wednesday morning playgroup in Fellowship Hall at Bell Street, from 9:30 to 11:00 for kids from birth to age 11. Each week we have creation-themed activities aligned to our summer read along! I can't wait to see you for one, some, or all of our summer fun at the Fed!

Thank you again for sharing your children with us for VBS. We are so grateful for your family's participation and look forward to seeing you at these upcoming summer events!

Bright Blessings, Jannine Mason Children's Activities Coordinator





Second Sunday Summer Sunday School

June 8, July 13, August 10 at 10 AM Grades K–5 meet during worship for fun and learning.

Childcare available every Sunday for babies–preschoolers.

Save the Date!

July 18: Lake County Captains Game Gametime | 7 PM

Join us in the Pavilion for a picnic, baseball, fireworks—and the Federated Choir singing the National Anthem! Get tickets at: fedchurch.org/events. Tickets are \$15 and include dinner (kids under 2 free). Register TODAY at fedchurch.org/events



Summer Fun at the FED!



Summer Playgroups

Wednesdays | 9:30 – 11:00 am All Summer Long

Birth – Preschool

Playtime and "special event" days like:

- Bubble & Chalk Bash
- Animal Encounters
- Storytime with a Grandma
- Water Day & more!

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

Hands-on activities each week like:

- Scavenger Hunts
- DIY Art Station
- Creation Exploration
- Fun in the Kitchen

No Registration Required!

Visit: fedchurch.org/summeratthefed/



federated grow

FAMILY SUMMER READ ALONG

JOIN OUR

Families read 'The Lorax' together and learn all about caring for the environment.

Book Discussion Wednesday, July 16 at 6 pm

Families will read the book and explore ways to help re earth.

Lemonade Stand

Sunday, July 27 at 11:30 am Kids will raise money for environmental initiatives.

Movie Party Wednesday, July 30 at 6 pm Watch the movie and dress up in inspired outfits! Weekly handouts with Bible verses, lessons, and activities will also be provided!

For more information, contact Brooke, bstrong@fedchurch.org



Picture Directory Updates

The time has come, Federated Family, to update our member directory and your Realm Profiles! Our goal is to have it completed in time for Rally Day on September 7, 2025.

Please review and update your REALM profile as this will be the information that will go into the new directory. If you need help with your REALM profile, please stay tuned for dates and times for REALM clinics to help you review and update your information.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PICTURE DIRECTORY, YOU MAY GO INTO YOUR PROFILE UNDER PERSONAL INFORMATION AND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE SELECT <u>NO</u> UNDER "INCLUDE IN PICTURE DIRECTORY?"

This directory will have a Church "Family Photo Album" flair. We will gladly accept your favorite picture or you can contact Marty at <u>Pics@fedchurch.org</u>. She will arrange a time to take your photo at the church or at a local place of your choosing.

All pictures should be in a vertical format at a modest size (around 1 MB). Remember the focus is on you and not the big waterfall or mountain in the background!

Please submit photos with your first and last name, children's names and pets can be in the picture. Email subject line should be "Directory Photo".

If you have a question, please feel free to reach out to Marty at <u>Mculbert@fedchurch.org</u>. This Directory will be an expression of all the special people that make up our Church Family!

28 DAYS Connecting Women, Celebrating Unity

RSVP TODAY!

AUGUST 5, 2025 AT 6 PM 76 Bell St., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

28 Days is back! Please join us for our next gathering: **HerStories Across Generations!** This will be an evening dedicated to sharing the stories, wisdom, and experiences that connect women of every age and stage of life.

28 Days brings together women of all ages, races, backgrounds, and beliefs to share stories, explore current events, and build meaningful connections. It's more than a conversation—it's a celebration of the shared experiences that unite us as women in America.

Let's make history together by celebrating what it means to be women who thrive in solidarity and purpose.

We can't wait to see you there!

*Dinner and Childcare will be provided!



Find more information at fedchurch.org/events

Community Partners



Community Conversations to Plan Climate Resilience



Saturday, July 12th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Family Life Center: Geauga County Reimagining Community event <u>FREE! Register here</u> for participation and lunch.

We're bringing Geauga County residents together to talk about climate resilience, equity, and solutions rooted in care and collaboration **co-hosted** with the Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition, Ohio EPA and Ohio State University.

Planning for climate resilience is crucial because it allows communities and regions to anticipate and **adapt to the increasing impacts of climate change**, such as extreme weather events and rising sea levels. By proactively identifying vulnerabilities and developing strategies, resilience planning helps minimize potential harm to infrastructure, ecosystems, and populations, while also fostering sustainable development and equity.

As part of a larger series of regional conversations aimed at building a climate resilience plan for Northeast Ohio we are supporting the ongoing work of Ohio State University Extension, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

This **facilitated community conversation** is focused on increasing the resilience of coastal communities to extreme weather and other climate change impacts, including sea level rise and drought. It builds on longstanding efforts to address disproportionate impacts of extreme weather and flooding in the region while building capacity among communities of concern, while also gathering information from local residents.

The event is FREE, and all residents of Geauga County are encouraged to attend. Each participant will receive a \$10 stipend, an air purifier, and lunch. It's going to be a powerful space to listen, share, and shape a more just and resilient future for our region!

Come, join us in reimagining a more just and resilient Geauga County...and bring a friend!

News From our Mission Partner

St. Paul's Community Church

Outreach Happenings-We Have a Garden!

On May 31, 2025, volunteers from our collaborative faith community and Outreach gathered to clean up and prepare the garden bed for planting. It was a pleasant day, and we successfully cleared and repaired the fence around the garden, enhancing its curb appeal for the neighbors.

Just two weeks later, on June 14, 2025, our planting efforts culminated in the establishment of a vegetable garden that promises to provide fresh produce for Outreach and the community. Although it was a rainy day, we planted cabbage, collards, cucumbers, potatoes, peppers, and tomatoes.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, energy, and supplies. Your efforts have laid the foundation for a more unified community, and the results of your work will be beneficial to many.

As the garden continues to grow, we need additional volunteers and supplies to maintain and improve its functionality. Specifically, we are seeking assistance in rebuilding the garden bed box. Additionally, tomato cages or stakes and a trellis or support system for the cucumbers are needed to help the plants thrive.

We are also looking for volunteers to carry out weekly garden checks, focusing on tasks such as weeding and watering to keep the plants healthy and productive.

If you are interested in contributing to this meaningful initiative, please reach out to Deb at <u>outreach@stpaulscommunityucc.org</u>. Your support can make a significant difference in cultivating a vibrant and sustainable community garden.

Fun AT Federated!





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Fellowship Treats

Federated members take turns bringing treats for Fellowship Hour each Sunday, as scheduled by the Congregational Care Commission. Of course, anyone is welcome to bring treats at any time!

Please bring ready-to-serve treats in disposable containers. Healthy food choices are especially welcome. *Please no nuts*. Thank you for helping to make our Fellowship time delicious and enjoyable!

July 6– last names beginning with U, V, W, X, Y, and Z July 13– last names beginning with A and B July 20– last names beginning with C and D July 27– last names beginning with E, F, and G



Contact Us!

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CUERGY Vicki McGaw, Interim Pastor Judy Bagley-Bonner, Minister of Pastoral Care Administration Staff Beth Rutkowski, Senior Director of People and Operations Brooke Strong, Congregational Life Administrator Thea Mozingo, Director of Generosity * Susi Kawolics, Bookkeeper * Marty Culbertson, Director of Missions Jake Magalski, Properties, Maintenance & Grounds Lead Music Staff Joshua Konow, Director of Music Ministries * Marcia Snavely, Organist * Pat Haynish, Director of Children's Choir	f federated Hope to see you this Sunday! 10:00 AM
Children's Ministries Staff * Jannine Mason , Summer Children's Activities Coordinator	10:00 AM
* denotes part-time staff	In person and Online