

# Family *Times*

## “We Are The Church” by Linda Thompson



The 193<sup>rd</sup> Congregational meeting of the Federated Church was held at 4:00 on Sunday, February 21 in Trimmer Hall. There were over 50 Federated faithful in attendance. During my President’s Report I focused on how WE are the Church by recognizing the nearly fifty lay leaders who serve on the Boards of Christian Education, Trustees, Endowment, Deacons, Missions and the Congregational Council. Federated Church is blessed to have many wonderful lay leaders who are committed to discipleship, stewardship, long range financial planning, fellowship, missions and governance. Those in attendance at the Congregational meeting also demonstrated through their lively and thought provoking discussion that, in a congregational church, WE are called to wrestle with the difficult and sometimes messy work of church governance.

David Mills provided a State of the Church report which highlighted Federated’s commitment

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## Lenten and Easter Specials

**Palm/Passion Sunday (March 28):** Special Chancel Choir presentation of “Here is Love” at 9:45 am in traditional worship

**Holy Week (Wednesday, March 21, Thursday, April 1 and Friday April 2)** From the Garden to the Tomb, A Walk with Jesus. 5-7:30pm each day.

### Easter Sunday (April 4):

- SonRise Service at 8:00 am
- Breakfast at 8:45 am
- Children’s Egg Hunt at 9:15 am
- “Classic” Worship with Baptisms at 9:45am
- Reception to greet newly baptized. All welcome.

## Men’s Coffee

Join our Federated men as they



get together again on Tuesday, March 2, at Westminster Village for a

time of good fellowship, national politics, stories of the past, and whatever you wish to add.

The Men’s Coffee is held each month on the first Tuesday at 9am.

## “Who We Are”

*A “family of faith” that is united in Christ, diverse in opinion and committed to love.*

## “What We Do”

*Federated Church is called to enable all to enter into God’s sacred space that is framed by community celebration, personal discipleship, Spirit-driven ministry and authentic companionship.*

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# “We Are The Church”

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to growing the church through building relationships. He highlighted the importance of receiving points of contact from new attendees and following up with a personal contact. In addition, Federated will be encouraging relationship building by increasing the number of small group offerings. GO Groups, an updated version of Federated 101, will begin in March.

The Chair of Nominations, Sharon Williams, nominated Donna Depew to fill the position of Treasurer Elect. The Treasurer position is a three year term which involves a high level of commitment to the management of Federated's finances including compiling and filing financial reports and attending monthly Trustee and Congregational Council meetings. Many, many thanks to Donna for making this commitment to our church.

The Chair of the Board of Trustees, Ed Eiler, discussed the proposed revised 2010 budget. There is a long term challenge before the church to bring expenses and revenue more closely into alignment. In the short term, the revised budget priorities were met through transfer of funds within the existing accounts and using the unex-

pected carry-over funds.

The Congregational Council moved to suspend the Sunday Alive service as of 2/28 while a search was made to find a core group of people who were passionate about contemporary style worship. After a great deal of discussion, the congregation decided to delay suspension of Sunday Alive until after May 30. In the meantime, a committee of lay people passionate about contemporary style worship will be formed to review this service, to propose changes, to recruit a core group of attendees, and to locate funding for continuation.

Finally, there was a short discussion on the current status of the Strategic Plan. Carolyn Jones reminded those present that a Strategic Plan evaluation report was provided at the November Congregational meeting. Components of that report are being shared with the appropriate boards and staff. The input from these folks will be reviewed by the Congregational Council.

**WE are the church and WE will lead Federated forward focused on WORSHIP, DISCIPLESHIP, AUTHENTIC COMPANIONSHIP and MINISTRY and MISSION.**

## GO Federated Groups Get Going

What is a Federated Church?

This is one of the most frequently asked questions about our church family.

- It is a spiritual home base for over two hundred and forty families.
- It is a congregation with more than one denominational partner.
- It is a collection of individuals hailing from thirty-four Christian faith traditions.

And yet it is more. Perhaps the best path to understand our unique and yet inclusive way of being a community of faith begins at GO Federated, a three week seminar that provides participants with an overview of what Federated Church is and what it is

seeking to do.

If you are new to the Federated family and would like some help getting oriented and a chance to make new faith-enhancing relationships, then come be apart of the next GO group.

In March all GO Federated sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at 624 Essex Street in West Lafayette. Be sure to put the following dates on your calendar.

- **Tuesday March 2**
- **Tuesday March 9**
- **Tuesday March 16**

Child care is provided for all GO Federated sessions.

# March 2010

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

	1 Staff @ 1:00 pm	2 Ladies Bible Study @ 8:30 am  Men's Coffee @ 9:00 am  C.E. Board @ 6:00 pm	3 Books & Coffee @ 10:00 am  B. & B. Café @ 5:30 pm  Choir @ 7:00 pm	4 Book Study @ 10:00 am  Praise Band @ 7:00 pm	5 Line Dancing @ 12:30 pm	6
7 Voyagers @ 8:30 am	8 Staff @ 1:00 pm  Deacons @ 6:00 pm	9 Ladies Bible Study @ 8:30 am  Trustees @ 6:30 pm	10 B-day Luncheon @ 11:30 am  B. & B. Café @ 5:30 pm  Choir @ 7:00 pm	11 Book Study @ 10:00 am  Mission Board @ 6:00 pm  Praise Band @ 7:00 pm	12 Line Dancing @ 12:30 pm	13
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins  Voyagers @ 8:30 am	15 Staff @ 1:00 pm	16 Ladies Bible Study @ 8:30 am  Con..Council @ 6:30 pm	17 B & B Cafe @ 5:30 pm  Choir @ 7:00 pm	18 Book Study @ 10:00 am  Praise Band @ 7:00 pm	19 Line Dancing @ 12:30 pm	20 First Day of Spring
21 Voyagers @ 8:30 am	22 Staff @ 1:00 pm	23 Ladies Bible Study @ 8:30 am	24 B & B Cafe @ 5:30 pm  Choir @ 7:00 pm	25 Book Study @ 10:00 am  Praise Band @ 7:00 pm	26 Line Dancing @ 12:30 pm	27
28 Palm/Passion Sunday  Voyagers @ 8:30 am	29 Passover Begins @ Sundown	30 Ladies Bible Study @ 8:30 am	31 Lenten 'Walk with Jesus' 5-7:30pm  Choir @ 7:00 pm			



Please, Donate Snacks  
to the Lafayette Urban  
Ministry  
After School Program

Due to the moving, storage, and renovation issues of our facility, we are in need of snacks for the children. The following items would be greatly appreciated:

Juice

Milk

Peanut Butter Crackers

Cheese Sticks

Fresh Fruit

Fresh small carrots

Cheese Crackers

Cookies

Nuts

Popcorn

Healthy sweet treats (graham crackers, animal crackers, granola bars, etc.)



## Contemporary Worship Planning

We need your creative juices!! At the Congregational Meeting on Sunday February 21, those present approved a motion to continue our Contemporary Worship Service through the end of May, and to invite interested persons to explore ways to build a critical mass of worshipers in that service. New enthusiasm was apparent as four persons volunteered to fund the musicians for one month each through the end of May. Continuation after May will depend on the actions and recommendations of this passionate group of persons who will brainstorm and plan marketing, special events, funding, lay involvement, and perhaps other options for this service.

Come to the kick-off planning meeting on Sunday March 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm. A light lunch will be provided to fuel our creative brainstorming. If you can't make the meeting but wish to join the task force to help promote this worship ministry, contact President Linda Thompson or Pastor Lisack.

## Church Women United Project



Throughout the month of February Church Women United will be accepting donations for local food pantries.

I remind you that monetary donations buy more food than can be bought at the super market. Thank you for writing checks to Federated Church and include "Food Pantry" on the memo line.

Thank you to the following volunteers who have assisted with this project. Katie Alliston, Esther May, Nola Dewitt, Ruth Nyquist, Barb Reif, Ann Georgeoff, Jillaine Shoop and Helen Crane.

Church Women United continues to distribute food for three meals a day for three days per person. A list of items may be found at the Blessing Basket in the narthex.

Contact Helen Crane with any questions you may have regarding this project.

## From the Garden to the Tomb: A Walk with Jesus

Based on the "Stations of the Cross" concept, the Federated youth and children are working with their leaders to create a multi-sensory Holy Week experience for all ages. Trimmer Hall and the chapel will be transformed into a moving and thought-provoking experience with a different station for each of 14 events, starting with the Garden of Gethsemane and ending at the tomb. Individuals, couples, and/or families will be offered the opportunity to explore their own relationship with Christ as they literally walk through the events of Christ's last week on earth and take time to meditate and pray on each one. To achieve a deeper spiritual experience, plan to spend about an hour completing the stations. Greeters will help ensure that each person has adequate uninterrupted time at each station. Come once or all three nights. Plan now to make this a part of your Holy Week experience. TIME: 5pm - 7:30pm March 31, April 1 & 2.

## Diaper Drive



The Federated Women's Ministry is collecting cloth diapers to be used in layette kits which will be sent overseas. Plain cloth diapers (not padded) are required. These diapers will be dried in the sun therefore the padded type is too thick and will not be sent. Please check the packaging carefully, as it is sometimes hard to distinguish between the regular and padded ones. The ones we need say "flat fold diapers". Feel free to place your donation in the appropriately marked basket in the narthex, or you can bring your donation to the March FWM luncheon at Westminster.

### Be A Link in the Prayer Chain

Help your church family benefit from the power of prayer as you receive, pray for, and refer on prayer requests. The Prayer Chain is seeking additional persons who want to join the Prayer Chain in this ongoing ministry. Contact Lavonna Kuhn at (765) 714-5153.





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*Get the Facts! Pick up your copy of the Strategic Plan Review Report at the literature rounder in the narthex.*

**Where individual belief and vibrant faith community meet!**

## Paint-A-Chair Project



Calling all people who can hold a paint brush: The Board of Christian Education will provide you with a sturdily made wooden chair (children's size). Use your imagination (and some latex or acrylic paint) to create your own chair art. Stripes or polka dots, murals or decoupage- anything goes. The chairs will then be auctioned off in May at our Pentecost Celebration. Chairs can be taken home, given as gifts to children or grandchildren, or donated back to the church. All funds raised will go towards the renovation of the yellow youth room. Questions? Ask Keith Johnson or Lisa Mills.

## Calling all for Lenten Cantata "Here is Love"

*"The Passion narrative is a story of power and struggle, of pain and disappointment, of betrayal and treachery. But most of all, it's a love story; the story of a Creator who loved the world so much that he gave his most precious possession to redeem it. At the center of the story is Jesus Christ, the expression of that love. This cantata tries to capture the wonder of that love as we watch how God's loving plan of redemption plays out in the events of Christ's final week on earth." So says Larry Shackley, the arranger of the Lenten cantata "Here Is Love."*

The Chancel Choir will present this cantata on Palm Sunday (March 28) during the 9:45am service. Rehearsals begin this week, on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. If you like to sing, please consider joining the choir for the Palm Sunday and Easter special music. Contact Pastor Lisack if you have questions about participating.