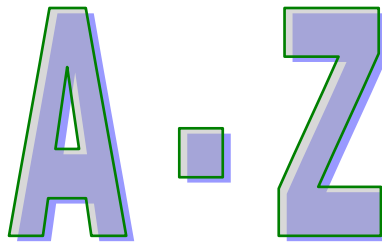


***El Dorado County
Federated Church***



***Guide to
Mission Connections***

***OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVING
OTHERS IN YOUR CHURCH, YOUR
COMMUNITY, YOUR NATION, AND
YOUR WORLD***

***Mission Connections
Ministry Team***

NOVEMBER 2017

***Mission Connections Ministry
Team of Federated Church***

The Mission Connections Ministry Team
has this focus:

*“We communicate, raise awareness, and invite
the people at Federated to connect with Christ’s
community locally and throughout the world.”*

We generally meet the 2nd Tuesday of each
month from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the Health
Ministry or Fireside Room. Please check the
weekly announcements or contact Wendy West
at 626-5078 for more information
or an update on meeting time or location.

A **Little Help** provides backpacks full of food to needy Sierra Elementary School children. Needs include donations of lightweight, non-perishable, nutritious snack food (raisins, breakfast bars, etc.) Backpacks are generally filled the third Tuesday of the month. A schedule is on the *Little Help* trunk (by the front office), where you can place your donations. [Kate Evans - 344-7554]

A **lternative Christmas** is the market place at Federated that helps celebrate Christ's birth through meaningful gift giving. From buying a goat for a family in Chile, to supporting the Nomadic Shelter, this is a *different* giving experience. Your family can choose to make your Christmas *alternative*, developing new gift traditions that will help people in our community and around the world with basic needs. [Wendy West - 626-5078]

B **e a disciple of Jesus** in your thoughts and your works.

C **amp Harmony** is our summer week of fun for kids going into Kindergarten thru 6th grade. A variety of music, games and crafts are offered to help the children learn about Jesus. Concluding this week in 2016 was a "concert on the green" at Gold Country Retirement Community as well as a Camp Harmony Worship Service on Sunday at 10 AM. Contributions, youth counselors, and helpers of all ages are invited! [Jodie Regan or Gabriel Silva - 622-0273]

C **hildren's Mission** is an annual giving project that begins on Easter Sunday. The Children's Minister and the children, with guidance from the Mission Connections team, choose one or more recipients, from local to global. They present a creative 4-week campaign that includes handmade crafts and food, singing and educational messages, all focused on the project. Since it began in 2007, Children's Mission has raised over \$45,000 for the good of people in need. [Jodie Regan - 622-0273 #17]

D **isaster Relief** contributions can be donated through both of our denominations: United Methodist - <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Programs/Disaster-Response> and Presbyterians - <https://pda.pcusa.org/>


E **arthKeepers** works to take action to educate and connect our community to secure the future of a living environment. Through information, announcements and opportunities for greening our world, our church and our homes, we work to promote our environment. [Carolyn Bush - 391-6846]

Emergency Help is given for local individual unmet needs through the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. [Kate Evans - 622-0273]

Federated Church Women (FCW) is an inclusive caring community of women of Federated Church, whose purpose is to support the church in its service to the community and the world, including college scholarships. FCW women gather monthly in small groups (circles) for fellowship and Bible study, and as a combined unit for a monthly luncheon & program. [Linda Gates - 644-5695]

Federated Farmers Market offers tables overflowing with fruits, vegetables, flowers and herbs in the summer months. Gardeners donate extra bounty from their gardens and shoppers enjoy the farm fresh tastes. Donations support SHARE. and local Connections mission projects. [Linda Gates - 644-5695]

Federated Preschool provides loving and accredited child care on our site. Our children would love to have you read to them, play with toys, or simply give them a hug! Your extra hands are always needed. [Jeni Jinkerson - 622-5226]

 **Old Country Retirement Community and Health Center** hosts monthly gatherings of FCW's Naomi Circle at both the apartments and the Health Center. We share Bible study, singing, prayers, and communion. [Carol Olmstead - 295-5561].

Health Ministry is supported by a team of volunteer nurses and a coordinator, focusing on the care of the spirit as well as the promotion of holistic health and the prevention of illness. Team members make home and hospital visits to congregation members who are ill or in crises, facilitate groups to support members who are grieving or battling cancer, and promote health with the PATH exercise class, Blood Pressure Sunday, and community resource information in the weekly bulletin. [Tish Langston - 903- 6567]

HELP (Housing Emergency Lodging Program) provides a roof and assistance to get back on your feet when everything seems hopeless. Life can get scary when you do not have a home and have children who need to go to school the next day. Opportunities for volunteers are two-fold: either as a *Mentor* to families housed in the *HELP* house, or as a *Placement* person, who secures a motel room for one or two nights. [JoAnn LePere - 676-7181]

HELP Walk raises money for emergency housing for homeless families and individuals. We walk through the downtown Placerville area on the bike path in October of each year. It is an ecumenical and community effort. Become a recruiter, sponsor, or walker! [Mary Hill-Hughes 622-8342 or Doris Henke 622-0187]

Homeless Nomadic Shelter, provides sleeping space in a variety of West Slope churches during the winter months. Federated volunteers staff weekly overnights and breakfasts each Saturday/Sunday from November through March. Additional volunteers and donations of snacks and breakfast goodies are appreciated. [Schelly Cartee - 344-0270]

International connections and global partnerships are part of the Federated family around the world. We support:

- **Congo:** *Jeff and Christi Boyd* support education and hunger programs in Cameroon, the Congo and Rwanda.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:**
 - *Larry Sthreshley* coordinates health for the urban poor through *Health for All* in Kinshasa.
 - *Rev. Jean Ntita Muamba* coordinates educational support for the *Education for Kinshasha* program.
- **Dominican Republic** - *the Graner family* serves in partnership with *Iglesia Evangelica Dominicana (IED)*
- **Mexico:** see "M" for Mexico.
- **West Angola:** We partner with other Methodist churches to rebuild schools, libraries, churches, clinics and a model village after 26 years of civil war.

These missions are supported through our personal prayers and congregational giving. Would you like to write or e-mail to help keep the lines of communication open between our congregation and our partners? [Leslie Bush - 644-1154]

Islamic Connections are fostered because Federated Church maintains cordial and supportive relationship with two mosques: the Salam Islamic Center in Sacramento and the Muslim Community of Folsom. We support MCF's "Open Doors" project to welcome Syrian refugees who resettle in the Sacramento area. [Jason Hall, 957-1320 or Bob Olmstead, 295-5561]

Just Coffee ("Cafe Justo") which is sold most Sunday mornings, goes beyond "fair trade." The Mexican farmer's co-op founded by Frontera de Cristo Presbyterian Ministry (see p. 6) owns the whole process of growing, roasting, and selling. They also have a coffee house ministry to youth in Agua Prieta, Sonora. [Janet and Valerie Chelseth 916-704-3951]

Juvenile Service Council brings together a group of adults who care about the kids in Juvenile Hall and want to show them that “there are other ways.” The twice-a-month gatherings at Juvenile Hall include music, crafts, games, speakers and food, which are remembered by many youth as a turning point during their troubled times. An application process is necessary to volunteer on-site. [Jerry Homme - 626-8646 or Vivian Carpender - 622-3769]

Local opportunities in the community are open to all! Many Federated folks and friends are involved in the following organizations:

- *CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)* - Don Vanderkar (622-1092)
- *El Dorado Habitat for Humanity* - Sally Long Johns (306-0821)
- *Hangtown Haven* - Don Vanderkar (622-1092)
- *New Morning Youth and Family Services* - Carl Hagen (622-1231)
- *Salvation Army* - Becky Bell (672-1892)

Mexico Missions are organized locally and through border and international organizations:

- **Youth Mission Trip** partners our youth with the Brentwood Presbyterian Church's youth and Amor Ministries (www.amor.org). Youth and adult volunteers head to Mexico to help build homes for poor families during the week of Spring Break. This is an opportunity for young people to put service and generosity into practice. It is also an opportunity for folks to travel outside of the United States and experience a different cultural reality. [Jim Hughes - 622-8342]
- **Frontera de Cristo** is a bi-national Presbyterian ministry supporting the border communities of Agua Prieta, Sonora and Douglas, Arizona. They sponsor a Migrant Resource Center, Café Justo Coffee Farmer's Co-op, and CREDA drug rehab center, and respond to other community needs. They invite groups and individuals for short or extended working/learning visits. Federated Church financially supports the work of missionaries Mark Adams and his wife Miriam Maldonado there, and sells Café Justo Coffee every Sunday. [Bob Olmstead - 295-5561]
- **Companeros en Mision** focuses on building and strengthening faith understanding and relationships among people on both sides of the border in the states of Sonora, Mexico

and Arizona, USA. They work through five small Presbyterian mission churches in Sonora and coordinate visiting short-term mission teams which focus on three goals: 1) Building faith, 2) Building understanding, and 3) Building relationships on both sides of the border. [Gwen Upshaw - 622-3747]

Nighbors is committed to modeling Federated Church's stated commitment to welcome and include everyone, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation. Federated is a More Light (Presbyterian) and Reconciling Ministries (Methodist) church. [Linda Gates - 644-5695]



New opportunities always arise for responding to the needs of our world and community. Join the *Mission Connections Ministry Team* to help identify, plan and organize our congregation's response. [Wendy West - 626-5078]


Offerings that are dedicated as shown below allow us to make special gifts throughout the year in support of international denominational programs and special local programs:


- **One Great Hour of Sharing** (Palm Sunday)
- **Pentecost** (Pentecost Sunday)
- **Peacemaking** (Worldwide Communion Sunday in October)
- **Christmas Joy** (December)


Prayers is needed for those who are suffering in our church, our community and our world. *The Upper Room*, a monthly booklet with daily devotions, is available in the church Narthex.


Quietly serving our world is good, but we don't always have to do it quietly!


Resources are crucial for financially supporting or giving of your time to our seven international mission partnerships and our local and denominational outreach. A percentage of the congregational giving is designated for these projects. Help support the stewardship of this congregation. [Susan Taseff - 916-933-5499]

 **SHARE** is the food closet that is located at Federated Church. Fourteen churches in the community work together to feed families who are hungry and need food. Volunteers assist with sorting and distributing donations. The first Sunday of each month is *SHARE Sunday*, when food donations are encouraged. [Becky Bell (672-1892)]

 **Stewardship Team** promotes a lifestyle of caring - care for the earth, care for our families, care for the environment, and care for our church. When we take active intentional care of these aspects of our lives, we are acting as stewards for God - who is the Giver of all things. [Susan Taseff - 916-933-5499]

 **Tree of Kindness**, our Christmas giving program, touches the hearts and lives of local children who need shoes. Come to the Christmas tree in Price Hall from mid-Nov. to early Dec. to see how you can support this project by providing donations for bulk purchase of Payless Shoes gift cards or buying stocking stuffers. Lots of volunteer help and donations are needed to make this project a success. [Robin Stanley - 644-1631]

 **Two Cents a Meal** asks us to put 2 pennies in a container on the kitchen table for each meal we eat while we pray for relief for the hungry and thank God for the abundance of food that is available to us. Help feed the hungry at the Upper Room by bringing your pennies on the last Sunday of the month and adding them to the *2 Cents* container as you enter church. [Sara Munday - 644-9929]

 **Upper Room** offers a free dinner every day for the hungry in our community. Help cook and/or serve on the Federated Third Sunday of the each month. [Cyndy Salmon - 621-1898]

Witally important needs arise on a regular basis. Please consider contributing to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund for the use by the church staff in meeting individual emergency crises. [Kate Evans - 622-0273 #10]

Western Slope Health Center Worship happens monthly with the residents of this care facility. Old-time songs, stories, and hugs bring huge smiles of appreciation from the older adults who are unable to attend their own church services. Barbara Atkins says, "We would love to invite others to join us in the fun and have a meaningful experience." on the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. [Linda Gates - 644-5695]

Xtraordinary opportunities exist for serving in response to God's call to each of us. Come to a Mission Connections Meeting to learn how you can get involved.

Youth serve Native Americans through the *Sierra Service Project (SSP)*. Each summer, interested youth group members and other church youth and adult volunteers travel to various sites in Oregon, California, Nevada, and Arizona to help build homes and build communities. No construction experience is needed. Volunteers are equipped with tools and support to work on roofing, drywall repairs, and painting and a number of other areas. [Jason Hall - 957-1320]

Zephyr Point Conference Center, a lakeside gem on the eastern shore of Lake Tahoe, is home to many faith-related conferences and retreats, including our annual Federated Retreat. To see what else is offered there during the year, pick up a brochure in the Federated Church office or check online at www.zephyrpoint.org.

