



December 9, 2020

Dear Federated Family,

*"Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." (Isaiah 40:5)*

I like the familiar routines of the church year, especially during Advent and Christmas. Unfortunately, these are unusual times, and we are compelled to adapt once again.

### **In-Person Worship / Activities Suspended Through January 16, 2021**

With the high prevalence of COVID-19 cases in our area, we are moving to *virtual only* services and activities at Federated Church through January 16, 2021. Though we will not be together in person, we will still be celebrating Christ's birth – together.

We are planning a full schedule of virtual services (Wednesdays at 5:30 PM and Sundays at 9:30 AM) and Christmas Eve services (family-friendly at 5 PM and communion at 7 PM). We hope you will worship with us online.

We are also working on other ways we can praise God together – safely! Stay tuned...

Our local and state healthcare and church leaders advised this course, and the decision comes after careful and prayerful deliberation with D&E. We lead by example and make decisions in the best interest of our members, community, and public safety.

### **Online Worship and Notifications**

All our services are available online and may be accessed through the church website ([www.federatedff.org](http://www.federatedff.org)). Updates and announcements will be posted on the church website, Facebook, Remind (text 81010 to join), email, and the office phone message. If you have questions, please call (739-3227) or email us ([church@federatedff.org](mailto:church@federatedff.org)).

Under the "Updates" tab on the website you will also find an Advent devotion, and any new information about worship services and activities.

### **Christmas Eve Bags**

Each Christmas Eve bag contains everything you need for worship (glow sticks, objects for kids, communion kits). Call (739-3227) or email us ([church@federatedff.org](mailto:church@federatedff.org)) to reserve a bag. You may pick up your bag at the church office beginning Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> (M-Th, 10 AM – 2 PM; F – 9 AM – 12PM) or you may request delivery.

Until we can be together, I hope you will stay healthy, find the joy in celebrating the coming of the Christ child, and keep the spirit of Christmas alive in your homes and your hearts.

Blessings for your Advent and Christmas,

The Rev. Dr. Douglas Dent