

The Federated Messenger

August 2025

“Meet Our New Youth Pastor”

by Kendall Hunter

Hey everyone! I would like to start by telling you how honored I am for the opportunity to serve here at the Federated Church. Before starting here, I most recently served as the multicultural and international student coordinator for Grove City College. I've worked in higher education, secondary education, pastoral ministry, and coaching over the last ten years, so I'm looking forward to bringing what the Lord has taught me into my youth ministry role here.

I grew up in McKeesport, PA, which is just outside of Pittsburgh. My grandfather was the long-time pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church in the North side neighborhood of Pittsburgh, so ministry was a large part of our home. I remember the late-night phone calls, prayer meetings, hospital visits, and all the other responsibilities my grandfather carried as a pastor.

When I graduated from McKeesport High School, I decided to attend Westminster College to play basketball and study Public Relations. I quickly found out that I wasn't as talented or as smart as I thought. After attempting to do things my way in my first 2 years of college, I had no identity and no direction, which is exactly where the Lord needed me. Between my sophomore and junior year of college, the Lord gripped my heart through the witness of an old friend who had recently accepted Christ, and my entire perspective changed on what I knew a Christian to be.

After graduating from Westminster in 2014, I accepted a position in the admissions office at Geneva College. I questioned why the Lord would send me to another school when a position was supposed to open at my alma mater, but again, He showed that His plans are much better than my own. In the fall of 2014, I met a pretty girl named Becca playing pick-up basketball with some friends. We talked for a while after the games were finished and exchanged numbers. That day began a friendship that has since turned into an almost 10-year marriage. On November 28, 2015, we got married at Becca's home church... the Federated Church. Little did we know that the Lord would call us to come back a decade later.

Life is a lot different for us today than it was then. We now have three children; Eli is 8, Titus is 6, and Leah is 4. Eli is our wildlife expert. You can ask him about almost any animal (especially birds) and he'll probably have a fun fact for you. Titus is our wild card as the middle child. Our family may be biased, but we think he's one of the funniest kids you'll ever meet. And Leah is the princess of the bunch. You may catch her singing a song from a Disney princess movie soundtrack at any given time.

We have been blessed to be a part of the extended Federated Church community for several years and we celebrate the chance to serve alongside our Federated Church family!



Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch

by Joseph Preston

What a great summer to have a new pool! It has been a hot summer and lots of campers are enjoying the renovated pool. We are so grateful that God allowed us to finish the project in time for summer camp! All work completed to date has been paid in full. The only things that we are hoping still to do are some upgrades to some safety equipment and installing an off-season pool cover to better protect the new pool. We also enjoyed our first baptism service in the newly renovated pool during Fairview Bible Church's PA Youth Camp, where 11 young people were baptized!



Summer camp has been very enjoyable as campers learn to be Trained by God's Grace - to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this world – while we study Titus 2:11-14. Our camp speakers have all been excellent and it is always exciting to hear that campers are trusting in Jesus for the first time or making decisions to follow Jesus more closely because of their time at camp. The staff's testimonies at each meal and evening meeting have all been very meaningful as the staff share with each other and with the campers about what God has been teaching them this summer.

Erie Gives is on August 12 and this year you can give online at www.eriegives.org for the full 24 hours of that Tuesday. You can also fill out a form at www.eriegives.org and send it in with a check before August 12. Erie Gives is a great way to give to WLD Ranch since we receive "bonus bucks," an extra gift through the Erie Community Foundation. Your gifts will be used for ongoing ministry needs, which may also include upcoming projects such as the pool cover. If you'd rather give directly to a project such as the pool fund or summer camp scholarships, please make a gift directly to WLD Ranch through church, by mailing a check, or online at wldranch.campbraingiving.com.

Springfield Senior Center

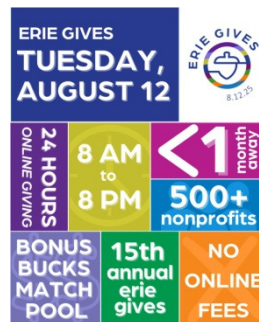
Tuesday, August 12

Springfield Senior Center will meet in the Family Center at **9:45 a.m.** Pastor Allen Thorpe, Albion Assembly of God Church will have devotions.



"The Lady Auctioneer" Tammy Loucks, will lead us in an exciting auction and explain the process and share stories. If you are able, bring something to be auctioned such as baked goods, veggies from your garden, or anything you have. And bring some money in case you would like to participate in the auction! (*All proceeds will benefit the Senior Center Fund*) A delicious lunch will be served at Noon. Come enjoy fellowship and fun all for a \$3.00 donation.

Come enjoy a terrific day!



Erie Gives Day is August 12, 2025, a 24-hour event dedicated to raising funds for local nonprofits in Erie. Go to eriegives.org to donate. ALSO...

Please support the Kairos Prison Ministry, SCI Cambridge Springs, during Crawford Gives! From August 12th – August 15th.

Go to <https://crawfordgives.org> and scroll down to Kairos Prison Ministry, SCI Cambridge Springs





OCC SHOEBOXES

Last month we learned about one of the three main focuses of Operation Christmas Child: Evangelism. This month we look at the second focus: **Discipleship**. Following the outreach event where the boxes are distributed after the Gospel has been presented, the children are offered a discipleship course called "The Greatest Journey." This is a 12 week class where the children are engaged in learning about following Jesus and telling others about Him. At a graduation ceremony, they receive a certificate and a colorfully illustrated New Testament in their own language. Over 50 million children have been disciplined through the Greatest Journey.

Lives of not only the children but their families have been changed through Operation Christmas Child's outreach programs.

This month we are asking for school supplies to be brought in for our packing party. **We**

are collecting the following items: pencils, pencil sharpeners, pens (black & blue) scissors (blunt tipped), erasers, crayons, colored pencils, notebook paper, spiral notebooks and drawstring backpacks.

School supplies are so important to include in our boxes. Children around the world have been so excited to receive them. Luis Gonzales was raised by a single mother in the ghetto of Panama. He said, *"I know what it is like to not have enough money for basic school supplies."* One day, Luis received a gift-filled shoebox filled with the school supplies he needed. *"My shoebox gift gave me an opportunity to pursue an education and taught me to never lose hope. These gifts can truly impact a child's life forever,"* said Luis.

Recipient sisters Shanika and Sherika who grew up in rural Jamaica received notebooks and pencils in their boxes at age 8. *"Before this our father cut a notebook and pencil in half so we'd have school supplies."*

Thank you for faithfully donating items so this fall we can send 500 shoebox gifts around the world and give 500 children the opportunity to hear the Gospel.



Our next work session will be on **Tuesday, August 26th from 1-3 PM** in the church dining room. Hope to see you there!

Be sure to Save the Date for the Church-wide Packing Party: Monday, October 13th in the Family Center



A service of baptism will be held at Raccoon Park Sunday, August 10 at

6:00 PM. If you would like to be baptized, please plan on attending a class **TODAY, Sunday, August 3** in the Prayer Room at 9:45 AM or see Pastor Ed.

Father & Daughter Camp Out August 29-31

Join us at Creekside Campsite in Kingsville, Ohio for the Father & Daughter Camp Out! Come enjoy campfires, swike, great food, 4-wheeling, hiking, and fun fellowship. Pick up a form in the Welcome Center and turn it in with payment by **August 17th**.

We have a couple ways to give electronically:

Text "GIVE" to 814-402-8798 or by following the link from our website www.fedchurch.net



August 2025



Adult Classes

◆ **Celebration Class** – All are invited to this class for people celebrating their “mature” years in the church dining room for prayer and Bible study on the current sermon series.

- ◆ **Men’s Class** – Studying 1 Peter, led by Pastor Rick, Bob Pettis and others. Meet in the Family Center Rooms 10/11
- ◆ **Ladies Class** – Studying the book, “Your Story Has a Villain” by Jonathan Pokluda, led by Suzanne Barton, Room 10 in the church basement.
- ◆ **Faith Chapel Ladies Class** –following an inductive study on Romans led by Christina Corbett. All ladies welcome!
- ◆ **Sanctuary Class** – a verse by verse study of the book of Proverbs, led by Jerry Hills in the sanctuary.
- ◆ **Kingdom Bound Class** – studying the current sermon topics, led by Andy Ward in the church basement, Room 29.
- ◆ **College & Young Adult Class** – Family Center Room 12, exploring what the Bible says about topics relative to life, led by Mike and Cheryl Anderson.
- ◆ **Good News Class** – Family Center, Rooms 6 & 7, studying a book of the Bible with Seth Huntley and Sam Ring leading.
- ◆ **Couples Class** – for married and engaged couples, led by Rick Fails, Jamie Greig, and Melissa Pratt in Room 31 in the church basement, studying the book of Numbers.
- ◆ **Heart and Soul Class** – led by Paul Burgess in Room 28 of the church basement, studying a book by David Jeremiah, “The Great Disappearance”.
- ◆ **The Upper Room Class** – led by Pastor Mal Beall and Paula Adams. Open to Young Adults both single and married. Meeting in the big room upstairs in the church and studying a variety of topics.



Kids Church is for children 4 years old thru 5th grade in the Family Center. The children should be signed in at the Family Center desk by a parent/caregiver before services and promptly picked up afterward.

Infant and Toddler care: During the 8:15 a.m. service, unsupervised Infant/Toddler rooms are available for families to use. Also, there is a nursing mother’s room available during both services at the back of the sanctuary. Infant and Toddler care *is* available during the 11 a.m. service in the Family Center. **MORE VOLUNTEERS** are needed to care for the children. If you can help, please contact the Church Office.



Are you filling up your boot? Grab a boot, fill it up with any change (or other!) that you have lying around and **return it to the church by August 24th**. This will help

the WLD Ranch purchase sports equipment.

Sunday, September 7th will be a special day as we will have a Pastoral Installment Service in the Family Center at 10:00 a.m. A Family Feed will follow. There will be no Sunday School this day.



THE FRUIT
....OF THE SPIRIT....
IS LOVE
JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE
KINDNESS
GOODNESS
FAITHFULNESS
GENTLENESS
AND SELF-CONTROL
GALATIANS 5:22-23

The Federated Church



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY	SAT.
					1	2
3 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School Baptism Class in Prayer Room	4 7 PM Men's Bible Study	5	6 10 AM Golden Circle 7 PM Prayer Meeting	7 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	8	9
10 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School COMMUNION 6 PM Baptism at Raccoon Park	11 7 PM Men's Bible Study	12 9:45 AM Senior Center 6:30 PM Elders & Deacons Meeting	13 10 AM Golden Circle 7 PM Prayer Meeting	14 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	15	16
17 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School	18 7 PM Men's Bible Study	19	20 10 AM Golden Circle 7 PM Prayer Meeting	21 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	22	23
24 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School	25 11 AM Mobile Food Pantry 7 PM Men's Bible Study	26 1-3 PM OCC Workday, Church Dining Room 	27 10 AM Golden Circle 7 PM Prayer Meeting	28 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	29	30
31 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School					Father & Daughter Camp Out through August 31st	