

# Fact Sheet

## Historical context of FLC

In 1999 members of the Federated Church congregation committed \$4M+ to a visionary space for the future of the church. That building and the building at 76 Bell Street have no mortgage expense remaining.

At the 2020 Annual Meeting, the congregation voted 153 to 26 in favor of supporting the partnership between the CLC and the Federated Church (3 weeks before the COVID shutdown)

A management agreement between the church and the CLC was developed and signed by both parties in April 2021.

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## What the CLC agreed to:

- » A management agreement defining terms that the CLC lifts all of the daily costs of the FLC from the Federated Church by covering all utilities, insurance, and repairs while the Federated Church covers replacement expenses.
  - » Providing staffing for building management
  - » Maintaining grounds and memorial gardens
  - » Paying the church an additional amount of \$20,000 in 2023 and \$30,000 in 2024
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## What the CLC has accomplished so far:

- » The CLC accomplished all the commitments listed above
- » The Federated Church is recognized by National and Heartland UCC as a leader in reimagining “church” by their use of the FLC property and CLC management model to extend a community-facing emphasis
- » CLC paid for the following FLC Improvements:
  - New lighting, roof repairs, patched & painted interior walls, enhanced grounds and gardens, weather-stripping, repairs on dishwasher, new garbage disposal, garage door opener in pole barn, repaired heating units, freezer repairs, insurance claims, well pump repair, installation of LED lighting in gym and gallery (youth room) and classrooms, filling potholes, fire circle benches repair, trail maintenance
- » Getting the FLC operational from being shuttered and unmaintained
- » Aligning facility uses with Federated’s values while elevating outreach to the 300 to 500 members of the community using the FLC every month
- » Evolving CLC leadership from a volunteer Executive Director to a part time ED to a full time ED, Employing a full time executive director and two contract employees at fair living wages
- » Developing a 7-member Board of Directors diverse in expertise and representation
- » Implementing frameworks for curating programs & projects among prominent as well as uncommon stakeholders to engage communities across Northeast Ohio
- » Amplifying diverse voices and empowering communities historically silenced or dismissed
- » Additionally, the CLC has increased the FLC’s value to the goals of Federated’s VAP...
  - Augmented what the church can accomplish in community outreach
  - Enhanced church and community touch points and impact with:
    - ✦ The Federated church still uses the FLC for SPIFFY (youth service projects), Family Ministries, Trinkets and Treasures (Federated fundraiser), Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM) leadership retreat, and Worship With Nature, Women’s retreat, National UCC picnic, storing the church’s truck, their salt, snow removal equipment, using dumpster for Federated, parking trailers, and parking for Primetime bus trips
    - ✦ Environmental sustainability on property (less mowing, bee hives, transforming gardens to native, increase the tree canopy with more than 100 trees planted at the FLC by WRLC, Master Gardeners, Hand2 Hand, Methodist Church, SPIFFY, SJAM, Federated Family Ministries, and other dedicated individuals

- ✦ Community-facing programs/events including Meals on Wheels, distribution point for Fresh Fork Community Supported Agriculture, World Labyrinth Day, University Hospitals, YMCA summer camp, community dances, & sports groups
- Annual programming including 4 forum series (Our Nature, Deep Roots, Welcome Kettle, Prism), accessibility walk/run, Fall Festival Epic Leaf Party, and Annual Gala
- Hosting world renowned authors around topics of climate change (Doug Tallamy, Alexander Repenning, Kristen Ohlson)
- Winning grants for programming and property improvements
- Cultivating curiosity around social issues with innovative programming and problem-solving toward a just world
- Restored relationships with Bainbridge Zoning Board of Appeals, Boy Scouts of America, and Meals on Wheels

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### Community Partners include:

Akron Parks Collaborative	Food Strong	OIA Ohio Immigrant Alliance
AMIS Americans Making Immigrants Safe	Friends of Elizabeth Park	OSU Master Gardeners
Avonlea Gardens & Inn	Friends of Lower Lake	Portage Soil and Water
Big Love Network	Geauga Soil & Water	Portage Trail Group Sierra Club
CEVEC Cuyahoga East Vocational	Good Life Ambassadors	Power of Harmony
Cleveland Metroparks	Good Nature	Remember Love Recovery Project
CLEVELOT	Greenbook Cleveland	Rescue Village
Columbus Crossing Borders Project	Hand2Hand	Rust Belt Riders
Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Parks	Heartland Conference	SAQM Sacred Ally Quilt Ministry
County Reentry Coalitions	Holden Forests and Gardens	Shaker Forest School
Courage to Caregivers	Kelly's Working Well Farm	Solon Community Living
Cuyahoga Board of Developmental Disabilities	LEAD Pollinators	South Street Ministries
Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District	Living Water Association	Summit Metroparks
Educational Consortium	McFadden Bushnell LLC	Summit of Sustainability Awards (SoSa)
First Church of Oberlin	Native Landscaping & Gardens	Tranquil Path
Fare Cleveland	NEO Master Rain Gardener Program	University Hospitals
Food Shed	New Avenues to Independence	USCRI US Committee for Refugees & Immigrants
Foundation for Geauga Parks	Ohio Department of Natural Resources	West Creek Conservancy
	Ohio Innocence Project	Western Reserve Land Conservancy
	Ohio Prairie Nursery	

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### What the CLC aspires to do in the next five years:

- » Projects to reduce monthly overhead costs of the FLC and carbon footprint
- » Donation from Kichler Lighting of 25+ energy efficient fixtures
- » Solar arrays and EV charging stations serving the community
- » Expanding our reach with local collaborations
- » Grants written for sensory trails, storm runoff mitigation (rain gardens) pollinator gardens, a monarch corridor, community-sponsored gardens)
- » Growing the outreach and programming throughout northeast Ohio
- » Identify a paint manufacturer donor to supply siding paint for volunteers to paint the siding
- » Research Church Building and Loan Fund financing for capital improvements with low interest loans
- » Continue to be a solution-making organization for social and environmental justice