

The Union Avenue News

www.federatedff.org

church@federatedff.org

January 2014

Annual Meeting January 29, 2014

The annual meeting of the congregation will be on Sunday, January 26, 2014 at noon in the fellowship hall. See page 4 for more information.



Youth Group Pool Party

We will kick off a new year of youth group with a pool party on Sunday, January 5th! Jr. & Sr. Highers—meet in the church parking lot to leave by 5:45pm, or meet us at the AmericInn at 6pm. We will have food, so come hungry!

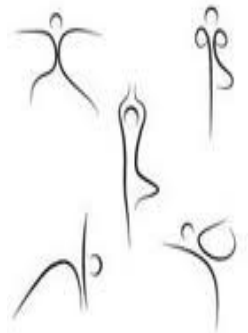


Happy New Year



Thanks to Skip Zielin who is now serving as our maintenance person! Skip is a volunteer, so it's all eyes and hands on deck! If you see something in need of attention, please complete and submit a Maintenance Request form (available in the main office and kitchen). Thanks!

Try something new in the New Year! Yoga is Sundays at 3pm in the lower gym. Yoga is a gentle way to increase strength and flexibility while reducing stress. Jen teaches classes at the YMCA, including an occasional Senior Citizen Yoga class. She is excellent at adapting the class for any fitness level. Questions and more information--Jen Jensen @ 736-7017 or [Fit & Flow Yoga](#) on Facebook.com



Federated Church
224 N. Union Ave.
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

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Time Sensitive
Information
Please deliver by
December 31st

Worship Schedule

9:00am Contemporary Worship
9:45am Education Hour
10:00am Fellowship
11:00am Traditional Worship

Nursery available from 8:45am-11:00pm

First Sundays of the Month

Communion served at each service.

Blood Pressure clinics held during the Fellowship hour by the Parish nurse.

Know your Neighbor Sunday Name tags distributed before each service.

First Sundays with Pastor Doug. From October to May, Join Pastor Doug the first Sunday of each month for an in depth look at some exciting and eclectic topics.

Wednesday Weekly Meetings

3:30pm Kids Club
4:00pm 7th/8th Grade Confirmation
5:30pm Dinner
6:00pm Handbells
6:30pm 9th Grade Confirmation
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30pm Youth Group
8:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Ministry Night

Committees meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.

Reminder: Committees do not meet in July

Other Meetings

Deacons & Elders meet the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm.

Stephen Ministry meets the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm.

Call the Church office if
you have any questions!
218-739-3227



Growing together in God's love...
From generation to generation.

Come as you are...
Visitors expected

The Federated Church is
a joint ministry of
The Presbyterian Church (USA)
and
The United Church of Christ



On New Year's Day, 1929, Georgia Tech played UCLA in the Rose Bowl. In that game a young man named Roy Riegels recovered a fumble for UCLA. Picking up the loose ball, he lost his sense of direction and ran sixty-five yards toward the wrong goal line. One of his teammates ran him down and tackled him just before he scored for the opposing team.

The strange play came in the first half. At half-time the UCLA players filed off the field and into the dressing room. As others sat down on the benches and the floor, Riegels put a blanket around his shoulders, sat down in a corner, and put his face in his hands.

A football coach usually has a great deal to say to his team during halftime. That day Coach Price was quiet. When the timekeeper came in and announced that there were three minutes before playing time, Coach Price looked at the team and said, "Men, the same team that played the first half will start the second."

The players got up and started out, all but Riegels. He didn't budge. The coach looked back and called to him. Riegels didn't move. Coach Price went over to where Riegels sat and said, "Roy, didn't you hear me? The same team that played the first half will start the second."

Roy Riegels looked up, his cheeks wet with tears. "Coach," he said, "I can't do it. I've ruined you. I've ruined the university's reputation. I've ruined myself. I can't face that crowd out there." Coach Price reached out, put his hand on Riegels's shoulder, and said, "Roy, get up and go on back. The game is only half over."

Riegels finally did get up. He went onto the field, and the fans saw him play hard and play well. All of us have run a long way in the wrong direction at times. But remember, because of God's mercy, the game is only half over.

The start of a new year is the perfect time to start fresh, start over, start again, and start doing things differently. Most importantly, it's the right time to start letting go of our mistakes. If we hold on to the sins of the past tightly, it means our hands aren't open to receive the future God plans for us. Don't mark your iniquities; God sure doesn't!

*"If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared."*
Psalm 130:3-4

Blessings on this new year and all its possibilities.
Pastor Doug



Thank You to:

- ◆All who helped with the Salvation Army lunches in October-December. You're awesome!
- ◆Karen Hauck, Doris Enderson, John Hatling, Carol Andstrom, Gloria Ronning, Molly King and all the Federated musicians for the glorious Ring & Sing concert.
- ◆The Decorating Angels who made our church look so good during the Christmas season.
- ◆Janet Knapp for the new Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation banners.
- ◆The Federated Church for the palm cross given as a Christmas gift, and for the many prayers.— Altha Schmidt

Vibrant Faith Ministries Training

February 8th-9th—at The Federated Church

We are excited to announce that we are partnering with Vibrant Faith Ministries to tailor our Christian education opportunities to better suit the needs of the church and the world we live in. According to their website, the mission of Vibrant Faith Ministries is to be "a catalyst for Christian congregations, communities and households striving to practice vibrant faith in a dynamic world." David Anderson will come Saturday, February 8th to hold an all-day session and will speak to the whole congregation on Sunday, February 9th about Vibrant Faith. We encourage everyone to participate and take this journey with us! If you have any questions about Vibrant Faith, or about the upcoming training sessions, feel free to peruse their website or give Doug Snaza a call at church during office hours. The VFM website is <http://www.vibrantfaith.org/index.html>.



Youth Group Doug Snaza

Kids Club Doug Snaza

Kids Club will start again on January 8th. We will be serving dinner for families that wish to stay and eat together with us in the fellowship hall. We will have a sign-up in the Narthex for those interested in helping provide the meals. There will be two slots per Wednesday so you are able to join with another family or individual to provide the meal.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 5th	Pool Party (see front page)
Jan. 8th	regular Wednesday evening activities resume
Jan 24th—Jan. 26th	Snow Camp
Feb. 8-9th	Vibrant Faith Ministry Training open to the whole church



Snow Camp

Snow Camp is coming up the weekend of January 24th. If you are interested in going and you are in junior or senior high, you need to register at www.clearwaterforest.org as soon as possible!

The Advent Workshop saw many busy hands making crafts and decorating cookies this year. There was hot cider to be had and glitter aplenty. Thank you to everyone that was involved in setting it up and thank you to everyone that participated. Looking forward to next year's Advent Workshop already!

Thank you to all the children that were in the Christmas Pageant this year. It was wonderful and we are blessed to have such an amazing and talented group of children here!

House of Hope Youth Trip 2014

The youth going to Guatemala sold Lindt chocolate as a fundraiser in December. The chocolates will be delivered by the end of January, just in time for Valentine's Day.

Confirmation

**Pastors Doug Dent &
Karen Anderson-Dent**

Confirmation Sunday is March 2, 2014 at 11AM. Please continue to pray for our confirmands as they finish this phase of their faith journey.



Worship at The Federated Church

January 5, 2014

9AM and 11AM

“The Wise Still Seek Him”

Matthew 2:1-12

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper (9AM and 11AM)

The Rev. Douglas Dent

January 12, 2014

9AM and 11AM

Baptism of the Lord

“#1 - God Wants You Where You Are”

Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14

The Rev. Douglas Dent

January 19, 2014

9AM and 11AM

“#2 - God’s Glory, Not Your Relief”

Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14

The Rev. Douglas Dent

January 26, 2014

9AM and 11AM

“#3 - Keep Your Eyes on the Lord”

Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14

The Rev. Douglas Dent

February 2, 2014

9AM and 11AM

“#4 - Pray!”

Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper (9AM and 11AM)

Installation & Ordination of New Officers (11AM)

The Rev. Douglas Dent

February 9, 2014

9AM and 11AM

“Vibrant Faith Ministries

Commissioning of House of Hope Mission team (11AM)

David Anderson

February 16, 2014

9AM and 11AM

Guest Preacher

February 23, 2014

9AM and 11AM

“#5 - Give God Time to Work”

Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14

The Rev. Douglas Dent

Newsletter Deadline

Articles and announcements for the monthly newsletter are due on the 15th of each month. Please send them in electronic form (email) whenever possible. The church staff reserves the right to edit articles for content and space.



January Service Group (Group #8)

Virginia Adams
Carolyn Anderson
Ken/Ruth Anderson
Brent/Tara Barry
Cy Grover
Terry/Jeanette Haas
Kurt/Sonja Johnson
Brad/Barb Meder
Pam Phillips
Jon/Jessica Steinbrenner
Evan/Tanya Westra

February Service Group (Group #9)

Dale Anderson
Mark and Lisa Becker
Kirk and Marcie Hexum
Tim and Desta Hunt
Wayne and Patty Link
Chuck and Linda MacFarlane
Lynn Oxley
Mae Reich
Ben and Tessa Schierer
Jo Schmidt
Perrie and Lucille Sheldon
David and Molly Stoddard
Beth Strom
Matyas Sundheim
Gail Welle
Jim and Arlene Worner

Greeters and Coffee Hosts January 2014

Sunday, January 5th

9AM ~ Terry & Jeanette Haas

11AM ~ Kurt & Sonja Johnson

Sunday, January 12th

9AM ~ Pam Phillips & Cy Grover

11AM ~ Jon & Jessica Steinbrenner

Sunday, January 19th

9AM ~ Brad & Barb Meder

11AM ~ Evan & Tanya Westra

Sunday, January 26th

9AM ~ Brent & Tara Barry

11AM ~ Carolyn Anderson &
Virginia Adams

FEDERATED CHURCH

****Reminder, you are also the coffee hosts for that Sunday. If you are unable to do it the Sunday you are assigned, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement.**

Congratulations to...

- ▶ Don & Maryjane Westra on their 40th Wedding Anniversary on Dec. 29th
- ▶ Skip & Char Zieline on the birth of their granddaughter Vivian Grace.
- ▶ Kathy Gilbert on the birth of her grandson, Seth Edward.



Our Condolences to...

- ❖ Cheryl Harrington on the death of her mother, Berdelle Kragnes.
- ❖ The Rose family on the death of Duane's sister, Valjean.



January Birthdays



Wayne Link 01/01
Geraldine Hilden 01/02
Megan Grover 01/03
Arlene Worner 01/04
Walter Gondrez 01/06
Jim Solin 01/07
Bill Borowski 01/08
Janie Lee 01/08
Ella Sundheim 01/09
Ruby Whipple 01/10

Roxanne Nereson 01/10
Cheryl Harrington 01/10
Tori Bult 01/10
Chloe Beske 01/14
Dana Schlepp 01/15
Mark Rodning 01/16
Bob Wolfe 01/16
Norma Bell 01/18
Judy Friedrich 01/21
Molly McDougall 01/23
Brian Malchert 01/24

Vivian Whipple 01/25
Pam Phillips 01/25
Dale Anderson 01/25
Shelby Tabbutt 01/26
Robert Dent 01/27
Mary Anderson 01/29
Linda Wolfe 01/30
Gladys Carlson 01/31
John Collins 01/31
Beth Schlepp 01/31
William Haas 01/31

We apologize if we missed your birthday! Please email your birthday information to church@federatedff.org!

Salad Luncheon and Bake Sale 2014

It is that great time of year once again...it is time to start planning
The Federated Church salad luncheon!

The theme will be: "Grandma's Cookie Jar"

The salad luncheon and bake sale date is: Tuesday, April 8th * 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

We will meet on Thursday, January 9th at 11 a.m. in the fellowship hall to start our planning. Several people from past years have offered to help plan this event, and we welcome any one else to come join us. It is a great way to meet and visit with other members of the church. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like to help in some way, please contact Janet Knapp - 736-5711



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Upcoming Events

Deacons and Elders

New Officer Training

Training for new elders and deacons will be on **Saturday, January 25, 2014** (9AM-1PM).

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The annual meeting of the congregation will be on **Sunday, January 26, 2014** at noon in the fellowship hall. Once again, the Deacons & Elders will serve a light lunch before we meet to tackle the work of the congregation. Items on the agenda will include electing new officers, reviewing the Pastor's compensation, and approving the 2014 budget.

New Officer Ordination & Installation

New Officer Ordination & Installation will be on **Sunday, February 2, 2014** at the 11AM worship service.

New Chairperson Training

Training New Chairpersons will be on **Tuesday, February 11, 2014** at 6PM in the fellowship hall (30 minutes prior to Ministry Nite).



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Birthday Cake Sunday Fellowship Committee

Celebrate your birthday with Federated friends February 9th during fellowship hour. Sit at the table with your birthday month, and watch the parade of cakes. Then, enjoy a piece of cake with others born the same month as you. After you have had one piece of cake move to another table to enjoy more cake and fellowship.

Stewardship Report

Gary Nelson and Greg Truax

General Fund Report— November

Revenue—\$32,744
Expenditures—\$30,406

Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted — \$269,867
Actual received—\$264,760

2014 Pledge Drive

Status as of
November 30, 2013 -
\$266,018



Parish Nursing Notes

**Connie Seltz,
Parish Nurse Coordinator**

Making New Years Resolutions? Some like to live life on cruise control but others prefer to live life more deliberately. Whichever your style, consider counting your blessings every day and thanking the Giver of all good gifts. That's my very best advice for your good health and well being in 2014. God Bless.



First Sundays - Pastor Doug Dent

First Sunday Bible Studies are designed to be one-time, one-topic programs. We gather after worship for a light lunch and discussion (which is not always so light!). Each spring, members of the bible study choose the topics, then Pastor Doug spends time researching and preparing. There are brochures available in the narthex and in the hallway outside the church office with more information on each topic. Here is the lineup for 2014:

January 5 th	Christians and Patriotism
February 2 nd	The Declaration of Independence
March 2 nd	Job
April 6 th	Who is the Antichrist?
May 4 th	Is Torture Ever Justified?



Sunday Morning Bible Study - Pastor Doug Dent



The Spring Feasts of Israel: A Study of the Biblical Holidays and their Messianic Significance

January 5 – February 2, 2014 (5 weeks)

The festivals of ancient Israel are practiced today much as they were 5,000 years ago. Proscribed in scripture, the festivals remind the people that God is their sovereign, and that they are God's chosen people. These festivals also have some surprisingly Messianic overtones, pointing ahead to Jesus and the coming of God's kingdom.

An Acceptable Feast: A Lenten Study

February 9-March 16, 2014 (6 weeks)

Old Testament scholar and teacher Patricia Tull begins each session by exploring a key Lenten theme: gratitude, taking the long view, choosing well, accepting responsibility, welcoming the future, and trusting God in times of conflict. Each session ends with a meditation on how the text speaks to our modern situation.

Gospel in life: Grace Changes Everything

March 23 – May 18, 2014

(8 weeks – no class Easter Sunday)

This is a course on the gospel and how it is lived out in all of life—first in your heart, then in your community, and then out into the world. The course opens with the theme of city (your current home, the world) and closes the course with the theme of eternal city (your heavenly home, the world that is to come). In between, it addresses how the gospel changes your heart, changes your community, and changes how you live in the world.

Men's Bible Study

There will be an organizational meeting on Monday January 6, 2014 at noon in the church parlor to choose the topics for study this winter-spring.

Come one, come all!



Women's Bible Study

Women's Thursday morning Bible Study will start again on January 16th at 9:30am at The Federated Church. Contact Anne Worner for more information (736-6082)



Ministry Night!

January 14th is Ministry night. Please email your minutes to church@federatedff.org. If you are unable to attend, contact your chairperson. If your committee does not make a quorum, please schedule a time for your committee to meet before the next Ministry Night.