

The Union Avenue News

www.federatedff.org

church@federatedff.org

January 2015

HOP INTO SPRING

The snow and colder weather have just begun – however for many of us, it's time to start planning the annual Federated Church Salad Luncheon and Bake Sale for 2015.

The salad luncheon and bake sale date is Thursday, April 9th from 11AM-1PM. This year's theme is *HOP INTO SPRING*.

There will be a meeting on Thursday, January 8th at 11AM in the fellowship hall. Several of the same people have offered to help plan this event and would encourage you to come join us. It truly is a fun event – everyone is welcome. 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.



Annual meeting

The annual meeting of the congregation is on Sunday, January 25th. We will have one worship service that morning at 10AM, followed by lunch and the meeting at 11AM. Childcare will be provided. Please plan to attend!

The Fellowship Committee to host a Mystery Dinner

Date & Time: Sat. Jan. 24, from 6:00PM to 10:00PM.

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Proceeds go toward the meal and fund raising for some new kitchen items.

Limits: Space is limited to 33 guests/characters - ADULTS only

Sign up by: Jan. 13 or first 33 guests. Please call the church office to sign up.

This event is hosted by the Fellowship Committee.

Murder at Sea is a murder mystery game set at the start of the First World War. Britain and France have just declared war on Germany. The setting is the ship, the SS Libertania, sailing from New York for Southampton, England in 1914.

Everyone who attends is given a character with goals and objectives that they must complete by the end of the evening. Join us for an evening of dinner and entertainment as we try to solve the mystery of whodunnit!



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #285
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Time Sensitive
Information
Please deliver by
Dec. 31st

Worship Schedule

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

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.

Ministry Nite

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

Reminder: Committees do not meet in July

Other Meetings

Men's Bible Study meets every Monday at noon in the parlor.

Women's Bible Study meets every Thursday at 10:30am in the parlor.

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



New Year's Day is traditionally a time for making resolutions. I stopped making them years ago because I never keep them. And then I get depressed because I didn't keep them. Then I found this list of twenty "tips" to make the new year more positive.

1. Stay Positive. You can listen to the cynics and doubters and believe that success is impossible or you can know that with faith and an optimistic attitude all things are possible.
2. When you wake up in the morning complete the following statement: My purpose is _____.
3. Take a morning walk of gratitude. It will create a fertile mind ready for success.
4. Instead of being disappointed about where you are think optimistically about where you are going.
5. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a college kid with a maxed out charge card.
6. Transform adversity into success by deciding that change is not your enemy but your friend. In the challenge discover the opportunity.
7. Make a difference in the lives of others.
8. Believe that everything happens for a reason and expect good things to come out of challenging experiences.
9. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip, energy vampires, issues of the past, negative thoughts or things you cannot control. Instead invest your energy in the positive present moment.
10. Mentor someone and be mentored by someone.
11. Live with the 3 E's. Energy, Enthusiasm, Empathy.
12. Remember there's no substitute for hard work.
13. Zoom Focus. Each day when you wake up in the morning ask: "What are the three most important things I need to do today that will help me create the success I desire?" Then tune out all the distractions and focus on these actions.
14. Instead of complaining focus on solutions. It's the key to innovation.
15. Read more books than you did in 2014. I happen to know of a few good ones.
16. Learn from mistakes and let them teach you to make positive changes.
17. Focus on "Get to" vs "Have to." Each day focus on what you get to do, not what you have to do. Life is a gift not an obligation.
18. Each night before you go to bed complete the following statements:
 - I am thankful for _____.
 - Today I accomplished _____.
19. Smile and laugh more. They are natural anti-depressants.
20. Enjoy the ride. You only have one ride through life so make the most of it and enjoy it.

I like this list of "tips" better than a list of resolutions, because these are things I can work on a little each day to change my attitude and perspective and life trajectory.

I invite you to try these things with me in 2015.
Blessings (and good luck!),
Pastor Doug



Newsletter

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.



Doug Snaza. Director of Christian Education

Jr/Sr High

During the month of December, the youth group volunteered at The Welcome House, talked about angels, and had a Christmas party complete with caroling at The Village Co-op and a white elephant gift exchange. At the end of December, several youth and their fearless leaders (Doug Snaza, Lucy Donaldson and Caitlyn Nygard) left for a mission trip to the House of Hope in Zacapa, Guatemala. Please remember them in prayer as they travel home and head back to school the first few days of January.

Upcoming Events:

7th	3:30PM Jr High Youth Group & Confirmation 6:30PM 9th Grade Confirmation 7:30PM Youth Group
14th	3:30PM Jr High Youth Group & Confirmation 6:30PM 9th Grade Confirmation 7:30PM Sr High Youth Group
19th	Noon 8th-12th Skiing/Snowboarding @ Andes
21st	3:30PM Jr High Youth Group & Confirmation 6:30PM 9th Grade Confirmation 7:30PM Sr High Youth Group
23rd—25th	5PM Snow Camp for 7th—12th grades
28th	3:30PM Jr High Youth Group & Confirmation 6:30PM 9th Grade Confirmation 7:30PM Sr High Youth Group

Snow Camp is coming up January 23rd—25th. If you are interested in going and you are in junior or senior high, register at www.clearwaterforest.org as soon as possible! We will leave from the church at 5PM on Friday, and return by 2PM on Sunday. If you have any questions about registering, please call the camp directly—218-678-2325.



The youth group is going skiing/snowboarding at Andes on Monday, January 19th, Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The church will pay for all of the lift tickets for youth! Youth are responsible for the cost of rentals and food (or bring your own!). Ski rental is \$14, and snowboard rental is \$24. If you are interested in going, please let Doug Snaza know by Friday, January 9th. This is for 8th – 12th grades! We will carpool from the church at 12pm, and plan to be back at the church by 8:45-9:00pm.

KIDS

The Advent workshop was a great time for families to come and create together in preparation for the Christmas celebration. Thank you to everyone who helped with crafts, baked cookies, and assisted with the afternoon.

Kids Club will start back up on January 7th and run for 6 weeks through February 11th. We will look at the Fruits of the Spirit, and how, as we walk in the Spirit, we may grow these fruits and use them in our lives.

Upcoming Events:

7th	3:30PM	Kids Club
14th	3:30PM	Kids Club
21st	3:30PM	Kids Club
28th	3:30PM	Kids Club

Sunday School

We are still in need of nursery attendants for Sunday mornings (8:30am—noon), Ministry Nite, and special services. In the meantime, we are asking for volunteers to help in the nursery on Sundays. The sign up sheet is next to the nursery door. If no one is signed up for a particular day, the nursery will be open, but we ask parents to stay with their children.



Prayer Partners

Studies show that one of the keys to quality youth development is for young people to receive support from at least three non-parent adults in their lives. Would you like to invest in the life of one of our youth by being a Prayer Partner? Youth K-12 will be creating a short bio to hang up in the Narthex along with a photo. If you are interested in being a Prayer Partner with any of the youth, please fill out the short bio form and submit it, along with a photo, to the church office. It will be hung up in the Narthex next to the youth you are partnered with.



Worship at The Federated Church

January 4, 2015 9AM and 11AM	"The Undefined" Daniel 1 Celebration of the Lord's Supper (both services)	The Rev. Douglas Dent
January 11, 2015 9AM and 11AM	"When the Bottom Falls Out" Daniel 2	The Rev. Douglas Dent
January 18, 2015 9AM and 11AM	"Faith in the Furnace" Daniel 3	The Rev. Douglas Dent
January 25, 2015 9AM and 11AM	To be announced...	The Rev. Douglas Dent
February 1, 2015 9AM and 11AM	"Me with You" Daniel 4 Celebration of the Lord's Supper (both services)	The Rev. Douglas Dent

Special Sundays! One Sunday each month we will worship together at 10AM and celebrate a special event in the life of our faith family. Please mark your calendars – you won't want to miss this!

January 25th	Annual Meeting of the Congregation	Brunch following worship
February 22nd	Confirmation Sunday	Reception following worship
March 29th	Palm Sunday	Coffee hour following worship
April 26th	Senior Brunch	Brunch following worship
May 17th	Ice Cream Social	Sundaes following worship

New Member Bio

Ruth Aulds spent her first 20 years in Park Ridge, a suburb of Chicago, and moved to Austin, Texas, in 1963, where she met and married her husband, Tony. They remained in the Austin area, following his graduation from law school. After his death, she came to Fergus Falls at the invitation of her sister, Sue Doering, and her family. (Sue and her husband, Al, have lived in Fergus Falls for the past 10 years, having moved here from the Cities following his retirement from 3M.) Though Ruth left many friends (and her horses) in Texas, she is enjoying Fergus Falls and the activities found in the many surrounding communities. Shortly after arriving in town, she became a member of The Federated Church. Ruth lives in the Village Coop of Fergus Falls and is looking forward to experiencing her first MN winter. After all, she did grow up in The Windy City and remembers some memorable winters there - in her youth!



January Service Group Group #10

Kym Christiansen
Doris Enderson
Gail Green
Terry and Cheryl Harrington
Gerri Hilden
Jim and Janet Knapp
David and Mary Lundeen
Millie Pearson
Paul and Bev Richter
Mark and Sheila Rodning
Heather Rundquist
Wade Ugstad
Randy and Marian Wasvick
Perry and Peg Werner
Linda Wolfe

February Service Group Group #1

Mark and Tami Anderson
Jim and Robin Andrews
Erik Anthonisen and Marna Brown
Dennis and Bonnie Bergerud
John and Tami Collins
Nathan and Stephanie Hoff
Jeff and Jo Kohlhasse
Norma Loomer
John and Eunice MacFarlane
Nick and Erika Marriotti
Jay and Cindy McDougall
Chad and Elizabeth Nelson
Roger and Jane Nelson
Jerry and Jodie Nuss
Clayton and Terri Skretvedt
Doug Sperling

Greeters and Coffee Hosts

January 2015

Sunday, January 4th

9AM— Gail Green & Gerri Hilden
11AM— Perry & Peg Werner

Sunday, January 11th

9AM— Randy & Marian Wasvick
11AM— Linda Wolfe and Millie Pearson

Sunday, January 18th

9AM— Wade Ugstad
11AM— Jim & Janet Knapp

Sunday, January 25th

10AM— Paul & Bev Richter



**S
E
R
V
I
C
E**

****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.**

Condolences to...

- ✦ Marian Wasvick on the death of her aunt, Patsy.
- ✦ The Rundquist family on the death of Tim.

Thank you to...

- ☺ Thanks for all the food, hugs, phone calls and visits, and meals in the time of our loss of Jim.
— Donna and Matt Solin

Happy Birthday...

- ◆ Mary Anderson is turning 90! There will be an open house birthday party on Feb. 1st at Pioneer Care from 2-4PM. Everyone is invited!

January Birthdays

Wayne Link 01/01
Geraldine Hilden 01/02
Megan Grover 01/03
Arlene Worner 01/04
Walter Gondrez 01/06
Bill Borowski 01/08
Janie Lee 01/08
Ella Sundheim 01/09
Ruby Whipple 01/10
Roxane 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
Karoline Gustafson 01/20
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!

Ministry Nite!

January 13th is Ministry Nite. 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 Nite. Reminder: Committees do not meet in July.



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. Each spring, members of the bible study choose the topics; then Pastor Doug spends time researching and preparing. Here is the lineup for 2014-2015:

- Jan. 4th What is Heaven Like?
- Feb. 1st Does Hell Exist?
- Mar. 1st Simplicity as Spiritual Discipline
- Apr. 12th The Book of Revelation (Date changed due to Easter!)
- May 3rd James, the Brother of Jesus



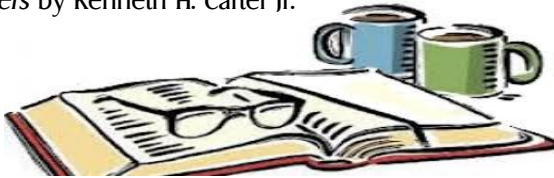
Sunday Morning Bible Study - Pastor Doug Dent

Sunday Morning Bible Study, led by Pastor Doug, meets in the Parlor on Sunday mornings at 10AM. All are welcome!

Jan. 4th – April 26th Daniel: A Christ Centered Approach (12 weeks) (No class on Jan. 25th, Feb 8th or 22nd, Mar. 29th or Apr. 5th)

Men of the church!

Join us Mondays at noon for prayer and bible study in the church parlor. All are welcome. Starting in January, we will be reading and discussing the book *Pray for Me: The Power in Praying for Others* by Kenneth H. Carter Jr.



Women of the church!

Join us Thursday mornings at 10:30AM for prayer and bible study in the church parlor. All are welcome. We are currently studying starting in January, we will be reading and discussing the book *Pray for Me: The Power in Praying for Others* by Kenneth H. Carter Jr.



Amusing Notes from Nominating

By Rick Schara, Nominating Committee Chair

Those of you who know me, know I love a good laugh!

So I'm sitting on our church's Deacons and Elders group last winter when members were asked to volunteer for the committee of their choice. I was indifferent (again, if you know me...) and because I didn't raise my hand, the last committee to be filled was the Nominating Committee.

Hey, no big deal! You sit idly by until late fall when you simply ask people to fill committee posts and voila! You're done!! Plus I had Cindy, Jean, Karen, and Marianne who all volunteered to help fill the committee posts! What could be so hard?

YIKES! It's VERY HARD to fill the committees!!! Big realization... and yet I should have known better.

There are truly valid reasons why someone can't serve on a committee; I've been around long enough and part of many groups and causes to understand the challenges of getting volunteers. And yet the need doesn't go away. Can YOU take a chance and join?

So a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has volunteered to participate in one of the committees that make our church hum! THANK YOU to everyone already on a committee and everyone who said YES to the call and everyone who has ever served!!

NOW comes the tough part! We still have OPENINGS! Here's a quick rundown on some of what we need:

STEWARDSHIP – 6 SPOTS!! This is the toughest committee to fill. We have one 1-year term, two 2-year terms and three 3-year terms. (Wow, how ironic!) PLEASE PLEASE CONSIDER!!

We still have needs for people on BOARD OF MANAGERS, CHRISTIAN ED, MISSION & D&E.

We've attempted not to ask people whose committee assignment ends this year; but we would gladly accept you!! Please let the church office know, or call me at [218-739-2832](tel:218-739-2832) any evening. Or talk to Marianne S., Cindy D., Jean B. or Karen H. as we all will be asking for your help after the holidays!! If you can help us get these committees 100% filled, I will bring a special treat for the first meeting!

Yes, those of you who know me, also know I love to eat!!

Parish Nursing Notes – Connie Seltz, Parish Nurse Coordinator

Jodie Nuss, Primary Care Nurse Director at Lake Region Healthcare, informed me that LRHC received certification as a Health Care Home (HCH) from the MN Department of Health. This is good news for our health community as it provides opportunity for a new personalized service. Kristin Bitz is the Health Care Home Coordinator.

The Care Coordinator:

- Will provide a check in with patients between appointments.
- Is available to help answer any questions that may arise that a doctor's visit may not be necessary for.
- Will have the goal of keeping the patient healthy and out of the hospital or ER for un-necessary visits.
- Will be able to provide additional education to help clarify any confusion with treatments ordered.
- Will work with the HCH team to help the patient to be the healthiest he or she can be.
- Will spend time with the patient to explain the health plan.
- Is willing to attend appointments with the patient to be a second set of ears and reinforce what the doctor has said.

Participation in this service is voluntary. Medicare, Medicaid and Medical Assistance provide coverage for the services. For more information call Kristin @ 739-6788.



The Federated Church's Annual Chili cook-off was on Sunday, December 7, 2014. This year's winners were Connie Seltz—judge's choice and Doug Snaza—people's choice. Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to everyone who brought chili and came to enjoy this fun annual event!

February Fun Nights!

The weather is cold, but the fellowship is warm.

Bring friends and family to join in the fun.

Free! No RSVP needed!

Bring your favorite board games and a snack to share.

Teach old friends some new tricks!

Fridays in February 6:30-9PM

Questions? Call Dennis Bowman—998-0717

A huge thank you for the response to providing Christmas gifts for the kids at House of Hope. All the tags were gone from the tree the week after we announced it! We were able to send Christmas gifts for all the kids with the team in December, and had more people willing to help than we had presents to buy. Thank you!



Stewardship Report *Millie Pearson and Greg Truax*

General Fund Report—as of October 31 2014

Revenue—\$33,485

Expenditures—\$31,077

Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted —\$275,356

Actual received—\$278,134



Thank you for your continued generosity with the Local Mission Fund! As always, funds go out as quickly as they come in. Donations can be put in the offering plate with *Local Mission Fund* in the memo line or dropped off in the church office.

Local Mission Fund Report

November
12 families or
individuals helped
with \$800
towards food, rent or
utilities

As of Dec. 28th
12 Families or
individuals helped
with \$817
towards food, rent
or utilities