

# The Union Avenue News

[www.federatedff.org](http://www.federatedff.org)

[church@federatedff.org](mailto:church@federatedff.org)

March 2014

## BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY

Celebrate your birthday with Federated friends March 16th during fellowship hour. After you have had one piece of cake move to another table to enjoy more cake and fellowship.



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## SPECIAL MUSIC

Come and enjoy the music of the Hillcrest Choir! They will be singing at the 9am service on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.



**Softball Team Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction Fundraiser**  
Sunday, March 30 from 9:30am-11am. If you have an item to donate to the silent auction, please contact Dennis Bowman at [ffbowman@prtel.com](mailto:ffbowman@prtel.com) or 998-0717.



## Worship Committee

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2014, and we will begin this season of study and introspection with worship at 7PM, including the imposition of ashes.

Our Wednesday Lenten services (5:30 PM) and suppers (6PM) begin on March 12, 2014 and run for five consecutive Wednesdays. Come and hear your friends share their faith stories, and join us for a hearty and delicious supper provided by our Men's Club.



## Christian Education and Youth Committee

We are ready to begin our journey with Vibrant Faith Ministries (VFM) after a successful weekend seminar and discussion with David Anderson from VFM. We have resources available in the office to read if you are interested in finding out more about VFM. We will be looking at incorporating more cross-generational activities, having more caring conversations, and purposefully using devotions, rituals, and traditions.

## Prayer for the week of March 2nd

Lord, help us to pay attention to your Word so that faith shines forth from our hearts. Amen. (2 Peter 2:19)

## A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus bring you peace when you are afraid. May you listen to him and look to him, now and always. Amen.

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

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Time Sensitive  
Information  
Please deliver by  
February 28th

#### 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 Nite

Committees meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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



Lent is in the air! The fast pace of your life may seem to leave little time and energy for the traditional Lenten practices. But you can weave moments of spiritual awareness and service into even the busiest of schedules. The trick is to see Lenten practice as part of, rather than in addition to, each activity of your ordinary hectic day. The three foundational practices of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Here's how to think about them in a new way:

### Praying Daily

If you make a habit of saying a little prayer whenever someone irritates you, cuts you off in traffic, or makes life difficult; when someone does you a favor, you experience great and friendly service, or when something joyful happens to you—you will soon find yourself praying your way through the day. Try this simple practice and you will be observing the Catholic Church's call for greater prayer during the Lenten season. You will also find that this habit makes your life flow smoother, your self more centered, and your Spirit more aware of God's presence.

### A Different Type of Fasting

There are many ways to fast. Why not fast from criticism, gossip, judging others, or passing on rumors? Why not abstain from unwarranted fear and anxiety? You can also tell that inner voice inside your head that criticizes you to abstain from eroding your ability to be the confident, blessed person God calls you to be. These are beautiful ways to observe the Lenten call to fasting and abstinence. In the book, *Praying Lent*, the authors offer suggestions on different ways to fast during Lent.

### Give of Yourself

Daily life also offers countless opportunities to give of yourself to others (alms), and most don't involve dipping into your wallet. Give encouragement to the doubting, give a word of praise to the insecure, show kindness to someone who could use a friend, and offer a word of thanks to those whose service of others often goes unappreciated. Give the gift of your attention to someone who simply wants to be noticed. Tell your children stories about people whose values you admire when you gather at mealtime. Don't be stingy with your smiles—give them freely to everyone you meet. And most important, give your love to those close to you. Hug them, hold them, and tell them what they mean to you. In this way you open your heart to God and others.

So no matter how busy you are in life, with some greater awareness and new perspectives you can consciously pray, fast, and give of yourself this Lent — and you will be ready to celebrate when a joyful dawn breaks upon you Easter morning.

May God bless your Lenten journey!  
Pastor Doug

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Minnesota FoodShare coordinates an annual campaign each year during the month of March involving more than 4,000 congregations across the state. Money and food collected here at The Federated Church during March goes directly to the Fergus Falls Community Food Shelf. Both money & food collected will be matched to a



**GRANDMA'S COOKIE JAR**  
**The Federated Church Salad Luncheon**  
**And Baked Goods Sale**

**Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 \*\*\* 11AM to 1PM**  
**Tickets - \$6.00**



Plans for this year's salad luncheon and bake goods sale are moving ahead. There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 11AM in the fellowship hall to finalize details.

Decorations this year: **Cookie Jars!** Starting March 24<sup>th</sup>, cookie jars can be left at the church office to be picked up following the luncheon.

Members of The Federated Church play a key role in making the Salad Luncheon happen! We need salads, bread, baked goods for the sale, cookie jars for decorations, and volunteers to help.

If you would like to:

donate a salad, contact either Jan Nelson (736-7324) or Arlene Worner (739-9467)

donate rolls or garlic toast, contact Bonnie Bergerud (736-5723)

donate baked goods for the sale, contact either Carol or Deb Rose (739-9582)

share cookie jars for decorations or help with the luncheon, contact Janet Knapp (736-5711).

**Start spreading the news! Tell all your relatives, neighbors and friends! The proceeds for this year's event will go to The Federated Church Mission – "Feed My Sheep." This is your chance to pay only \$6.00 for an all you can eat salad luncheon, shop the bake sale, and know the money made will be helping to feed and care for our own community. Please make that special effort to attend – you will be glad you did.**

**Share your bread with the hungry and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them.**  
**Isaiah 58:7**

**Parish Nursing Notes – Connie Seltz, Parish Nurse Coordinator**

Federated's own Jess Steinbrenner is the Alzheimer's Association Program Manager. She has alerted us to the beginning of an Alzheimer's Support Group on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Following the initial meeting the group will meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month in the Fergus Falls Public Library-Meeting Room from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. **No pre-registration is needed.** The support group is a "safe place where people can feel free to share in confidence their ideas, struggles, and hopes." The facilitator will be Nancy Voss, Otter Tail County Coordinator on Aging. A support group is proven to be a great place to find current information, education, friendship, and support. If you have questions, call Nancy at 998-8340 or Jess at 998-3603.



**Board of Managers – Skip Zielin**

We are no longer accepting donations for the Relay for Life rummage sale or any other rummage sale. Please bring further items for donation to the Goodwill or The Salvation Army. Thank you!



**Cabin Fever Reliever—Rescheduled to March 9th**

Come join us for an afternoon of cross-country skiing at Spidahl's Ski Gaard. We'll gather in the fellowship hall after the 11AM service on March 9<sup>th</sup> for a potluck lunch. Bring a side dish or dessert to share; the Fellowship Committee will provide sloppy joes. After lunch, we'll drive out to Spidahl's for cross-country skiing. Cost of equipment rental is \$6 +tax for those over 12; free for 12 and under. Trail fee is \$6 +tax for those over 12; \$5 +tax for 12 and under. We need to give Spidahl's an estimate of how many people are coming, so please sign up on the sign-up sheets located on bulletin boards around the church. Feel free to invite and sign up friends to join us!

## Worship at The Federated Church

March 2, 2014 9AM and 11AM Confirmation Sunday	"Sermon on the Mountain Dew" Psalm 133; Philippians 2:1-11 Celebration of the Lord's Supper (9AM and 11AM)	The Rev. Douglas Dent
March 5, 2014 7:00PM Ash Wednesday	"Alarm Fatigue" Joel 2:1-2; 12-17 Imposition of Ashes	The Rev. Douglas Dent
March 9, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"#6 - When Unsure, Step By Faith" Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14	The Rev. Douglas Dent
March 12, 2014 5:30PM	Wednesday Lenten Service	Molly King
March 16, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"#7 - Envision God's Presence" Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14	The Rev. Douglas Dent
March 19, 2014 5:30PM	Wednesday Lenten Service	Cindy Holte
March 23, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"#8 - Trust God to Deliver" Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14	The Rev. Douglas Dent
March 26, 2014 5:30PM	Wednesday Lenten Service	Karen Bush
March 30, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"#9 - This Crisis Will Build Faith" Red Sea Rules – a sermon series on Exodus 13-14	The Rev. Douglas Dent

### Mission Committee

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

The Federated Church will be delivering Meals By Wheels March 24<sup>th</sup> through April 4<sup>th</sup>. There are now five routes a day, serving approximately 60 people. Contact Jo Schmidt (739-9497) if you would like to help.



### Newsletter Deadline

Articles and announcements for the monthly newsletter are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> 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.



# S E R V I C E

## March Service Group (Group #10)

Kym Christiansen  
Delores Duncan  
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  
Tim and Heather Rundquist  
Wade Ugstad  
Randy and Marian Wasvick  
Perry and Peg Werner  
Linda Wolfe

## April 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 Kohlase  
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 and Marsha Sperling

## Greeters and Coffee Hosts March 2014

### Sunday, March 2nd

9AM— Kym Christiansen

11AM— Jim & Janet Knapp

### Sunday, March 9th

9AM— Paul & Bev Richter

11AM— Perry & Peg Werner

### Sunday, March 16th

9AM— Randy & Marian Wasvick

11AM— Terry & Cheryl Harrington

### Sunday, March 23rd

9AM— Gail Green & Gerri Hilden

11AM— Tim & Heather Rundquist

### Sunday, March 30th

9AM— Mark & Sheila Rodning

11AM— Millie Pearson

**\*\*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...

- ▶ Sam Nelson on earning his Eagle Scout award.



## Thank you to...

- ☺ Everyone who donated money and supplies for the House of Hope Mission Trip.

## March Birthdays



Char Zielin 03/01  
Douglas Becker 03/02  
Lisa Becker 03/02  
Brian Rodning 03/02  
Benjamin Nuss 03/02  
Grace Saurer-Olson 03/02  
Gabe Dean 03/06  
Matthew Orcutt 03/06  
Mark Anderson 03/08  
Jim Behrends 03/11  
Karen Anderson 03/12  
Carol Andstrom 03/14

Robert Flom 03/15  
Ross Stone 03/17  
Cindy Holte 03/17  
David Whipple 03/18  
Kayla Dean 03/18  
Marian Wasvick 03/19  
Martin Anderson 03/19  
Willow Sundheim 03/19  
Betty Larson 03/20  
Cayden Hendrickson 03/20  
Bonita Stock 03/23  
Madalyn Dent 03/25

Skip Zielin 03/26  
Terri Skretvedt 03/26  
Cleo Langseth 03/27  
Vanessa Whipple 03/28  
Ryan Truax 03/28  
Robert Hansen 03/29  
Tanner Johnson 03/29  
Dolores Duncan 03/30  
MacKenzie Meis 03/31

*We apologize if we missed your birthday! Please email your birthday information to [church@federatedff.org](mailto:church@federatedff.org)!*

## House of Hope Mission Trip (February 2014)

Eleven members of our church and community traveled to Zacapa, Guatemala in February to work with the House of Hope Orphanage. During the week, team members played with the kids, shared their faith stories, visited three villages where they distributed food and performed a drama, helped pour concrete and paint at the House of Hope. We ate delicious food, we worked hard, we played joyously, and we slept well.

The House of Hope is not a traditional orphanage: the kids assigned to HOH live there until they are 18 and are not adopted out. The HOH seeks to provide a nurturing and Christian environment, and offers a variety of educational opportunities including bi-lingual teaching and a trade school (carpentry, metal work, and electrical skills).

Anyone wishing to participate in the next mission trip is invited to speak to Pastor Doug.  
The next HOH Mission Trip will be February 7-14, 2015.

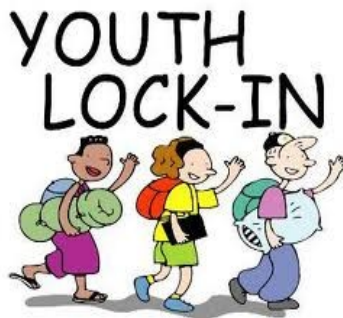
The House of Hope is our Mission initiative for 2014, so be watching for ways that you can help support this important ministry to the people of Guatemala.



*Doug Snaza. Director of Christian Education*

### Jr/Sr High Youth Group

It's time for another lock-in! We will have a Jr & Sr High lock-in Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> from 9pm until 10am Saturday morning. Bring a snack to share and we will provide breakfast.



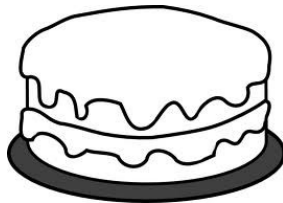
### Kids Club

Kids Club was a huge success through January and February, thanks in large part to our helpers Maren Hatling, Char Zielin, Colleen Kennedy, Terry Harrington, Tiny Macheel (a tremendous help with dinners!), and everyone else that helped when they could. Thanks to everyone that brought a snack or provided dinner for the children and families!



### House of Hope Youth Trip 2014

The annual cake auction is coming up! On March 9<sup>th</sup>, there will be cake! Join us at 10AM in the fellowship hall to bid on cakes and help support the youth going to Guatemala in December!



### Confirmation

*Pastors Doug Dent & Karen Anderson-Dent*

Sunday, March 2, 2014 is Confirmation Sunday (11AM).

Please pray for our confirmands – Dan Anderson, Jaden Brown, Janie Lee, Abby MacFarlane, Paige Westra, and Amanda Woessner - as they complete their course of study and embark on this new phase of their faith journey.



### Stewardship Report

*Gary Nelson and Greg Truax*

#### General Fund Report—January

Revenue—\$44,914

Expenditures—\$47,347

#### Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted — \$25,285

Actual received—\$22,686

#### 2014 Pledge Drive

Status as of January 30, 2014

\$290,418



Service Food Receipts for January  
2014 – \$20,391.57

SunMart Receipts for January  
2014 - \$2,707.29

Thanks so much for bringing in the receipts. Thanks to those who bring in receipts that are lying flat and paper clipped or in bags. It makes my volunteer job a bit easier.

-Kathy Zimmerman

### 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:

March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Job
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Who is the Antichrist?



### Sunday Morning Bible Study - Pastor Doug Dent

#### *An Acceptable Fast: A Lenten Study*

March 2nd—April 6th(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.



#### *Great Themes of the Bible: What Does the Bible Really Say?*

April 27, - May 18, 2014 (4 weeks)

This study suggests that four major themes are to be found in the Bible that tell us about God and God's role in our lives. First, God is with us; we are not fugitives wandering the earth bereft of larger meaning. Second, God is most concerned not with kings and human power but with "the least of these my brothers and sisters." Third, God loves us; at the center of the creation is a heart of compassion. And fourth, God is always bigger than we think; our minds are repeatedly too small to fathom the enormity of God's mind and heart.

### Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 9:30AM. We will be using a Women of Faith study *A Time for Everything – Discovering the Beautiful Rhythms of Life*. We will meet every Thursday, except the 2nd Thursday of each month (Christian Women's Club meeting). Contact Anne Worner at 736-6082 for more information.



### Men's Bible Study

Men of the church! Join us Mondays at noon for prayer and bible study in the church parlor. Currently we are studying "God's Reluctant Leaders" by focusing on the stories of Jonah, Gideon, and Moses. Later this spring we will study Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. All men are welcome.



### Ministry Nitel

March 11th is Ministry Nite. Please email your minutes to [church@federatedff.org](mailto: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.