

April Worship

APRIL 1 9:30a.m. Worship **EASTER**

The April Fool John 20
Pastor Doug Dent *Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

APRIL 8 9:30a.m. Worship **BAPTISM OF WELLS SIVERTSON**

Risus Paschalis (Easter Laughs) Acts 4:32-35
Pastor Doug Dent

APRIL 15 9:30a.m. Worship

Favorite Child 1 John 2
Pastor Doug Dent

APRIL 22 9:30a.m. Worship **SENIOR BRUNCH**

Augmented Reality Acts 4:5-12
Pastor Doug Dent

APRIL 29 9:30a.m. Worship **GIDEONS**

Between Cassandra and Pollyanna Psalm 22
Pastor Doug Dent



Dates to Remember

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

30 Days of Biking
EASTER SUNDAY
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

11am-1pm Salad Luncheon

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

6:30pm Ministry Nite

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

10:30am Cake Auction
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

6:30pm D&E

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

9:30am OGHS offering
10:30am Senior Brunch

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

6:00pm Human Trafficking Awareness
Event #3 (Men as Peacemakers)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

LAST SESSION OF KIDS CLUB
6:00pm Survivor Speaker at M-State

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

12:30pm Federated at Food Shelf

SUNDAY, April 29

9:30am Gideon's



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Now what do we do? Our Lenten Journey is over. We traveled to the Upper Room on maundy Thursday with Jesus and his disciples. We heard Jesus say those still powerful, effective words: "This is my body broken for you" (Mt. 26:28). We traveled to the foot of the cross on Good Friday and heard Jesus utter a lonely cry of abandonment, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me" (Mk. 15:34)? We heard the words of finality that Jesus spoke with his last breath, "It is finished!" (Jn. 19:30), paying in full the price for our sin which separates us from God. And we traveled to the empty tomb to witness the story of the women who found it empty. We heard the words of the angel at the tomb, "He is not here, but has risen!" (Lk. 24:6). The final, culminating Day of Resurrection is over. Now what do we do?

Easter is more than just one day. Easter is an "every Sunday" celebration during which we come together to receive the fruit of the cross and resurrection of Jesus, the forgiveness of sins and the certainty of eternal life with God. Easter is also an "every day" celebration in which we live each day trusting in God through Christ, knowing that Jesus is "the resurrection and the life" (Jn. 11:25) for us.

So, what do we do as we go forth from the empty tomb? We should follow the example of the women who found the tomb empty. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James "remembered the words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest" (Lk. 24:8-9). They went forth from the tomb changed by the resurrection of Jesus. They went forth from the tomb to bring an "every day" witness of God's power over sin, death, hell, and evil to the world.

And where do we go once we leave the empty tomb? We should follow the example of the disciples. After Jesus walked through locked doors and appeared to the eleven disciples and showed himself to Thomas, seven of the eleven went back to their fishing business (Jn. 21:1-14). They returned to their vocations and took the witness of the resurrection with them. They lived in the joy of the resurrection of Jesus while carrying out their ordinary, daily labors and responsibilities.

The women and the disciples were "every day" witnesses, participating in the resurrection of Jesus wherever they happened to be. As those who profess Jesus resurrected, as those who are baptized and believe, we have the hope of eternal life and the joy of the resurrection living inside of us. And like the women and the disciples, we have vocations to which God calls us. Most of us do not rely on fishing for a living, but we are called to "fish for people" (Mt. 4:19), to cast the good news about Jesus on the waters so that others may be drawn to him and to God's salvation. Each of us is a husband or wife, a father or a mother, a son or a daughter, a colleague, a friend, a neighbor: each of these callings comes with a set of duties and responsibilities. As Christians, forgiven and redeemed by God's grace, we can wrap these daily duties and responsibilities in the joy, love, peace, and forgiveness of Jesus. And when we do, others will notice and God will bless our faithful work by giving us opportunities to "tell all these things to all the rest" (Lk. 24:9).

Now, we go forth from Easter Sunday and the celebration of the empty tomb to live as God's children, loved, restored, set free in Christ. Now we go forth empowered by God's Spirit living and active within us to live in the joy of the resurrection as "every day" witnesses.

Easter Blessings,

Pastor Doug



Guatemala Mission Team

The newly formed Guatemala Mission Team held our first fundraiser on March 14th during the Lenten speaker and dinner series. It was a great success with all-hands-on-deck throughout the evening! The team would like to thank the Federated Church family for their support of the youth—we are on our way to reaching our goals! Please pray for the mission team as we continue to work together to make this trip a positive and faith-growing experience.

Our next event will be a cake auction on April 15th during the Fellowship Hour. We have some GREAT cake makers lined up to bring their specialty items—so be prepared to out-bid your fellowship church members! After this event, we will be going out into the greater community at restaurants for some fundraising events—dates TBD.

ON a side note, I received Greg Miller's missionary update letter recently, and wanted to highlight what he said about our team that went this past February. (Greg is the director of the House of Hope Orphanage and also runs a ministry where he trains and supports pastors in mountain villages.) He is quoted as saying:

"We had our second team (from Fergus Falls, MN,) the Federated Church, of the year come in

February and again, what a blessing. They installed eight stoves in two different villages, Plan Del Morro and Barrio Nuevo. In Barrio Nuevo, not one of the stoves was in an easy place to get to, we had to carry the pieces up and down the mountains to get to the houses. Praise God that the team was strong and the villagers helped us, we could have never gotten the stoves delivered if it wasn't for the help. It's such a blessing to watch the folks as their stove gets installed and be able to pray with them after it's installed."

The House of Hope also recently received the generous donation (from a church in the United States) of 99 solar panels which were installed shortly after we left. The hope is that these solar panels will eventually eliminate most electricity costs for the orphanage, which has multiple buildings and a large monthly utility bill. Greg and the rest of the people there, adults and kids alike, are finding multiple ways to become self-sufficient right at the site. Vegetables, fruit, and other nutritional plants (such as Moringa) are grown throughout the grounds, chickens are kept for egg-laying, and several manmade ponds provide tilapia for their own food as well as for a side income. It is an impressive venture that includes the older youth and allows them opportunities to help support the work at HOH.

Connect with Federated



If you would like to receive text updates from Federated Church, please **text the message @federated to the number 81010**.

Local Mission

Thank you for your continued generosity with the Local Mission Fund! Those who are helped by this fund are extremely grateful for the extra support they receive during tough times. According to our policy, we are able to help each family or individual three times during a 12 month period, with up to \$100 a time, depending on funds. We assist with food, utilities, rent, and, in emergency situations, a night at a hotel. Donations can be put in the offering plate with Local Mission Fund in the memo line or dropped off in the church office. Thank you!

During March, we were able to help 3 families or individuals place a roof over their head through the local mission fund. We gave a total of \$555.00 for two nights at the Super 8 and for an individual facing a difficult situation with rent.

LOCAL
mission



Christian Education and Youth Rev. Karen Anderson

This month I would like to highlight our upcoming events:

1. The senior high youth group will be helping out at the Food Shelf on Wednesday, April 11th at 7:00 pm.
2. The Guatemala Mission Team will be hosting a Cake Auction fundraiser on Sunday, April 15th at 10:30 am with Mike Shol as our emcee! Come have fun and bid on some great cakes!
3. We will be honoring our graduating seniors with a Senior Brunch on Sunday, April 22nd at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Come join in this annual church family celebration as we prayerfully wish our graduates Godspeed.
4. The last session of Kids Club will be on Wednesday, April 25th.
5. The senior high youth group will be attending a survivor's talk on human trafficking, Internet safety, and personal awareness on Wednesday, April 25th from 6-8 pm at MState College.

Youth Groups:

Both the middle school and senior high youth groups will continue to meet through Wednesday, May 9th at their regular times. I will be working with the youth to plan out our summer events and get those events to parents and kids ASAP. There is a request for a Valley Fair trip and an airsoft/nerf war by the middle school youth, and the senior high have expressed interest in hearing Clayton Jennings (a dynamic Christian speaker) in Minneapolis in mid-June. We hope to work out the details and make these events happen. Stay tuned for more information as we get it!

Kids Club and Vacation Bible School:

Our last official day of Kids Club will be on Wednesday, April 25th. It is hard to believe we are almost finished with our 2017-2018 Kids Club calendar year! Each session went so well, and I really think the kids learned a great deal throughout the year! We hope to put their knowledge to the test on Sunday, May 20th during the annual Ice Cream Social by holding a Youth vs. Adults

Bible Trivia Tournament! Grown-ups, get your Bible on! Between the kids and confirmation-aged youth, there is a lot of knowledge out there!

VERY VERY IMPORTANT!! Please remember that VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held during the week of JUNE 25th THROUGH JUNE 29th! We will meet from 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Friday, and in addition to the counselors from Clearwater Forest, we hope to have some of our older youth who are going on mission to be a part of the leadership that week. Letters of application were sent out in mid-March to older youth, and so we hope to see them there!



June 25th-29th

Note to Our Federated Youth from Sadie

Hey Fed Youth!!

Spring is Here!! Which means lots of spring sport events, concerts, performances, Seniors getting ready to graduate... I would love to share these events with our youth...cheer you on! So, I'm reaching out for you to send me dates for these activities that will be coming up. Please email or text me....carter.sadie@gmail.com or 218-639-2137

SUMMER will be here, before we know it! Halleluiah!! But also, everyone goes different ways and I would love for our youth to stay connected with Karen and myself. We have lots of ideas for the summer months...stay posted!





Bible Studies and Fellowship Groups

Men's Bible Study

MONDAYS 12pm

Men's Bible Study meets on Mondays at noon for one hour. They will be diving into a study of Revelation. All men are invited! Friends of Federated are invited, too!

Coffee Hours

Women: Tuesdays, 10am

Men: Fridays, 10am

Sunday Morning: 10:30am



Church News...

Home Communion

Home communion will be offered May 6th instead of April this year.

Condolences

To Anne Worner and family on the passing of her brother, Loren Peterson. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Many Thanks!

Dear Pastor Doug and the Federated Church Family... Thank you to all for the many kindnesses showered to me over the 12 years. The work was always a joy and I shall miss it. The Service of Recognition was beautiful and I treasure the words spoken. So many cards and hugs at the "Donut Hour" will remain in my heart forever!

The Generous gifts, the visa card and the stamps honor nursing are wonderful to enjoy and remember you by! Thanks! I'm much blessed!

- Connie Seltz

In March, we had the opportunity to help an individual in our community needing rent assistance. The individual was incredibly touched by your gifts, and they wanted to express a heartfelt "Thank You" to Federated and God for this blessing!

-The Federated Church

A BIG thank you to everyone who helped with the Lenten Suppers and Services. It would not have been possible without you!

Salad Luncheon

Federated's annual salad luncheon is Thursday, April 5th from 11am-1pm. Enjoy a delicious lunch, quilt raffle and bake sale. \$7 a person for lunch and \$1 for a raffle ticket. If you want to donate a salad, please contact the church office.

Worship Service Video and Audio Recordings

- Audio and Video recordings of worship services are available through the Church Office. These recordings are digital in the following formats: Video (.MP4) and Audio (.M3). If you would like a copy of either the video and/or audio you will need to provide your own Flash/Thumb Drive, 16 GB or larger. Please note that these recordings are not posted to the Federated Church website. Thank you!

Address Change: Ruby Whipple has moved to Pioneer Cottages, 1327 S Mabelle St. Homestead Bldg in Fergus Falls. (Visitors are welcome!)

What is a "Noisy Offering..." A noisy offering is a collection of loose change in a bucket—usually collected by the children—and aimed at a specific project. The Federated Church will be collecting a noisy offering on the first Sunday of each month beginning in May to purchase of "Olin Stoves" for mountain homes near Zacapa, Guatemala. During the past two years, mission teams have helped install these stoves which greatly reduce indoor smoke and improve the respiratory health of women and children. So be sure to collect your loose change or small bills to add to the "Noisy Offering" for collection on the first Sunday of each month! Let's see how this little bit can grow!



Events



Are you passionate about making a difference? If so, consider participating in Walk MS on May 6th at 11am to raise funds for critical research and services for those affected by MS. In Fergus Falls, walkers will start at M-State. For more information about this event, please visit <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/Get-Involved>

Federated Church would like to create a team of at least 4 people. Our Mission Committee will help fund the team if anyone is interested. Please contact the church office if you want to participate.



Pledge to ride your bike from April 1-30, 2018. "Join a community of joyful cyclists. Ride your bike every day in April and share your adventures online." Register for free at 30dob.com



You are invited to the 56th Annual Meeting for the Minnesota UCC Conference June 8-10. Held at the College of St Benedict in St. Joseph, MN, the conference will address this year's theme "In This Moment: Acting In Faith." Fellowship, food and song will be shared by all. Rev. J. Bennet UCC Minister and Executive Director of ACLU Ohio will speak about his perspective and interactions in the public square. All are invited to attend. If you would like to serve as Federated's voting delegate, please see Pastor Doug for details.



Committee News

Mission Committee

One Great Hour of Sharing is Sunday, April 22, 2018. Have you ever taught a child to fold their fingers inside their hands and say the rhyme, "Here is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors and see all the people?" The wiggling fingers teach children (and adults, too!) that the church is not the building, but the people gathered for worship and fellowship. There something else in this children's rhyme: as the child breaks open their hands to reveal the "people" they move their fingers back and forth, often as fast as they can. This simple move reminds us that the church is the energy and actions that share the love of Christ. When a disaster strikes, people give, volunteer, and pray so that those impacted receive help and hope: this is the church in action!

When poverty and violence cause hunger and people respond to the need and address its root causes: this is the church in action!

When injustice falls on those who are vulnerable, and people join hands with one another and lift their voices against the interests of power: this is the church in action!

emanating into the world sharing the compassion, justice, love, and peace of Christ. Through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the United Church of Christ join the movement of the Spirit into every corner of God's Earth.

We share, and church happens with women who were once trafficked for domestic labor and now own their own cooperative business.

We share, and church happens with people through land rights training and improvements to farming methods.

We share, and church happens with those whose homes are washed away by flood, as the arms of comfort wrap around them, and hands pick up 0 shovels to assist.

Church is happening right now, all around us, because we share Christ's love. Join us for One Great Hour of Sharing on Sunday, April 22, 2018 as we proclaim "This is the church in action" through our offering. The Mission Committee will match gifts up to \$500 in the church.





Business as usual

Service Group

APRIL SERVICE GROUP

Group #9
 Dale Anderson
 Mark and Lisa Becker
 Grant and Mariah Davenport
 Tim and Desta Hunt
 Wayne and Patti Link
 Chuck and Linda MacFarlane
 Bill and Mary Ann Nead
 Lynn Oxley
 Mae Reich
 Ben and Tessa Schierer
 Ross and Marianne Stone
 Beth Strom
 Ildi Sundheim
 Matyas Sundheim
 Gail Welle
 Jim and Arlene Worner

MAY SERVICE GROUP

Group #10
 Doris Enderson
 Joel Enderson
 Gail Green
 Terry and Cheryl Harrington
 Gerri Hilden
 Janet Knapp
 David and Mary Lundeen
 Millie Pearson
 Paul and Bev Richter
 Mark and Sheila Rodning
 Heather Rundquist
 Wade Ugstad
 Perry and Peg Werner
 Linda Wolfe

Greeters and Coffee Hosts

APRIL 2018

Sunday, April 1st

9:30am Sadie Carter and Tammy
 Carter and Matt Solin and
 Donna Solin and Vicki Quittschreiber

Sunday, April 8th

9:30am Ben and Tessa Schierer
 Chuck and Linda MacFarlane

Sunday, April 15th

9:30am Gail Welle
 Jim and Arlene Worner

Sunday, April 22nd

9:30am Ross and Marianne Stone
 Mary Anne Nead

Sunday, April 29th

9:30am Grant and Mariah Davenport
 Wayne and Patti Link

REMINDER: Greeters 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. Check your email for information on greeter and coffee host duties. Please add church@federatedff.org to your safe senders list. If you don't use email, please check the bulletin board in the narthex for the information.

The church staff wants to know...

We rely on you to contact us with your email, phone or address changes. If you are not receiving our emails, but would like to, please contact to church office. Also contact us for pastoral care or parish nursing needs. Please call 218-739-3227 or email church@federatedff.org

Ministry Nite:

April 10 - 6:30PM

Please email your minutes to church@federatedff.org. If you are unable to attend, please 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.

Stewardship Report

General Fund Report

Revenue	\$26,174.00
Expenditures	\$29,420.00

Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted	\$58,000.00
Actual Received	\$69,703.00

Grocery Receipts

THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Sunmart

February	\$1,430.00
Total as of 3/1/18	\$82,414.00

Service Food

February	\$6,497.27
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Newsletter Deadline

Articles and announcements are due the 15th of each month. Please send the by email whenever possible. The church staff reserves the right to edit articles for content and space.





224 North Union Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FERGUS FALLS, MN
PERMIT #285

Time sensitive information
Please deliver by April 2nd

Church "Signs" For Spring

Things that are not eternal are already out of date.
-C.S.Lewis

Spring.... God's greeting card.

Silly rabbit Easter is for Jesus.

Tomorrows forecast: God reigns and the Son shines

Spring has sprung. Will your faith blossom?

Even Jesus had a fish story.

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies those he called.

Gardening for God brings peas of mind.

Spring Forward with the Lord so you won't Fall back into sin

Everyone you meet today is on heaven's most wanted list.

Christ's return is near-- Don't miss it for the world!

April Birthdays

04/03	Breanna Stout	04/22	Siri
04/03	Sterling Andrews		Anthonisen-Brown
04/04	Kathy Truax	04/22	Joe Cooper
04/04	Sam Sundberg	04/22	Logan Stout
04/05	Mike Donoho	04/23	Sonja Johnson
04/08	Steve Lockhart	04/23	Jan Knackendoffel
04/08	Carri Thompson	04/24	Mike Shol
04/09	Emily Schlepp	04/25	Charles Ebbighausen
04/10	Lily Sundheim	04/25	Vaughn Ebbighausen
04/12	Kai Ebert	04/25	Brett Garrahan
04/12	Paul Eckhoff	04/26	Sheila Rodning
04/12	Al Seltz	04/26	Duane Tabbut
04/13	Preston Weinrich	04/26	Ed Morgan
04/14	Shane Garrahan	04/27	Jaden Brown
04/14	Matt Donoho	04/28	Millie Pearson
04/14	Anders	04/29	Carson Barry
	Anthoisen-Brown	04/30	Christa Beske
04/16	Abigail MacFarlane	04/30	Samuel Nelson
04/19	Reno Schierer		
04/21	Deb Ferguson		



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

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