

The Union Avenue News

www.federatedff.org

church@federatedff.org

September 2014

A Concert for Carol



Carol Andstrom, the organist for The Federated Church and a local musician of reknown, recently suffered the loss of her car in an automobile accident.

To make ends meet, Carol works several part-time jobs at local churches and assisted living residences. She depends on her car to get to those jobs.

Carol gives so much of herself to all of us through her music: we would like to give something back.

Join Carol's friends as they present a musical concert in her honor on Sunday, September 21, 2014 (3PM) in The Federated Church sanctuary.

Free will offering to help pay Carol's expenses.

Donations to *The Federated Church* with *Carol* on the memo line
Light refreshments to follow.

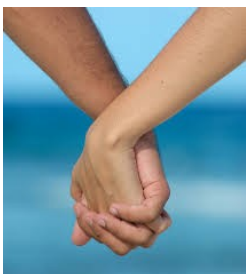
2014/15 Classes at Federated

Making Your Children Mind without Losing Yours

How to bring out the best in kids by doing what is best for them

October 26 through November 30, 2014—Sundays, 5-7 PM

This six session course is for parents who want to raise happy, healthy, hard-working and honest sons and daughters. We'll begin each session with a light supper followed by a DVD presentation and time for discussion. Cost is \$10 per person. Childcare provided.



Balanced & Blessed

Experiencing marriage the way it's meant to be

February 15 through March 29, 2015—Sundays, 5-7 PM

This seven session course is for anyone – married or single – who wants to learn the skills needed to nurture healthy relationships. We'll begin each session with a light supper followed by a DVD presentation and time for discussion. Cost is \$10 per person. Childcare provided.

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

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Time Sensitive
Information
Please deliver by
Aug. 31st

Worship Schedule through Sept. 7th

10:00am Blended Worship
11:00am Fellowship

Worship Schedule Starting Sept. 14th

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

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



The first word for Christians was not "Christians" but "disciples." Newcomers to the faith saw themselves in relationship to the risen Lord Jesus in some way similar to the relationship of the first disciples to the earthly rabbi Jesus. A disciple learns by hearing his Master and doing like his Master. This is explicitly commanded by Jesus in John 13: *"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I your Lord and Teacher have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set an example that you should do as I have done for you."*

But the New Testament gives us a more thrilling and dynamic definition of a disciple and the cost that follows. Take for example the parable of the soils in Matthew 13. How do we distinguish a disciple from a "learner?" Matthew 13:23 says, *"[The disciple] indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."* A disciple is, by nature - by definition! - a multiplier. Disciples are not merely learners, but fruit-bearing disciple-makers; they multiply themselves.

As we should expect, whenever the New Testament explains discipleship, it immediately warns us of the cost. Being a follower of Jesus can split up your family, threaten your life, or call you to radical sacrifice of your job, finances, desires, hopes, and reputation.

However, the cost comes after a promise. When Jesus tells his disciples to *"sell your possessions, and give to the needy"* (Luke 12:32), he does so after a very important assurance: *"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* In Jesus' day, they didn't have banks, savings, or CDs. Their net-worth was found in their possessions. Jesus is saying, if you are my disciple, you should be able to radically give, even if it means dipping into your savings.

But notice the order. Jesus doesn't say, "Sell everything, give to the poor, and God will give you his kingdom." It's the exact opposite. Disciples can be radical in their giving *because they've already been given the kingdom*. Christ became poor, so his disciples might become rich (2 Cor. 8:9), and out of infinite riches, disciples become generous.

As we consider our own discipleship, we need to remember that giving is an important part of following Jesus. Giving of our time, talent, and treasure is a tangible expression of our belief that we already belong to God's Kingdom and of our faith in God's ability to provide for us.

Please consider deepening your discipleship by increasing your gifts to our congregation.

Blessings,
Doug

Consecration Sunday is October 19, 2014.

To "consecrate" something means to declare it sacred or holy. It can also mean to set something aside for a special purpose. This year our stewardship campaign is about consecrating our lives and our resources to the service of God. So we are setting aside Sunday, October 19, 2014 as the day to rededicate ourselves to God's holy calling.

We will have one worship service that morning (10AM), followed by a congregational brunch (11AM). Designated Executive Presbyter Rick Carus from the Presbytery of MN valleys will be our guest preacher that day; he will speak to us about being good and faithful stewards in God's kingdom.

This is a different kind of stewardship campaign, designed to foster discipleship, not just reach a financial goal. We will not be sending you a pledge card; instead we will provide an Estimate of Giving card at the brunch on October 19th. We will be asking each household to make an increase in their pledge as a sign of their discipleship and their renewed commitment to God's missions and ministries at The Federated Church.

Your participation is critical. We pray that you will join us on October 19th as we celebrate our past and commend ourselves to God's future.





Doug Snaza. Director of Christian Education

Jr/Sr High

Senior High youth group will start September 17th, from 7:30-9:00pm. We will have service opportunities again this year on the first Wednesday of each month; the whole church family is invited to join us on these evenings!

Note: No youth group on the following Wednesdays: 10/15, 11/26, 12/24, 12/31, 2/25, 3/25

September Events:

Sun., Sept 14th	noon	Confirmation Info meeting
Wed., Sept. 17th	7:30PM	Youth Group starts!
Weds., (20th, 27th)	7:30PM	Youth Group
Fri-Sun Sept. 19-21		Confirmation Retreat
Wed. Oct. 1st	3:30pm	Jr High Youth Group and Confirmation
Wed. Oct. 1st	6:30pm	9th Gr. Confirmation

Confirmation

Pastors Doug Dent & Karen Anderson-Dent

Info Meeting: Sunday, September 14, 2014, Noon, in the choir room.

Retreat: The annual confirmation retreat at Clearwater Forest camp is September 19-21, 2014. Register your student online at www.clearwaterforest.org. Cost for the retreat is \$95 (\$45 from parents, \$50 from Federated Church). We'll send out a packing list via email soon!

Classes: Confirmation classes begin October 1st! 7th and 8th grades meets right from school (3:30 – 5:30 PM). 9th grade meets from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Teachers: Connie Seltz and Doug Dent (7th Grade). Jim Worner and Karen Anderson-Dent (8th Grade). Erika Mariotti, Maren Hatling, Jordan Schiefert and Doug Dent (9th Grade).

Confirmation

KIDS

Sunday School

Sunday school will officially start September 14th at 9:45am. Before that, there will be a Blessing of the Backpacks on Rally Day, September 7th. We encourage everyone who is in school (pre-K to College and beyond) to bring their backpacks to the 10AM worship service on the 7th to receive a blessing for the coming school year. Fourth Graders will also receive a bible at that time. Sunday school registration forms for ages pre-K through 6th grade are available outside the church office. Please return these to the church office once completed.

September Events:

Sun., Sept. 14th	9:45AM	Sunday School starts!
Wed., Sept. 17th	3:30PM	Kids Club starts!

Kids Club

The fall session of Kids Club will be on Wednesdays, September 17th through November 19th. Kids 1st through 6th grade are invited to come to The Federated Church after school, from 3:30-5:30 for an afternoon of games, crafts, a snack and a lesson. Registration forms are available outside the church office.

There will be no Kids Club on October 15th for MEA.

We would love to have more people involved with the children at church! If you would like to help out with crafts, food, music, or just being present with the children and being a role model, please contact the church office.



Worship at The Federated Church

September 7, 2014 Rally Day! Communion 10AM	"Our State on Union" A snapshot of our vision for the future Deuteronomy 11:18-21; 2 Corinthians 3:1-6	The Rev. Douglas Dent
September 14, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"The Christian Textbook" Textbooks can be confusing, especially when the subject is math. Is it any easier teaching morals? The Apostle Paul gives it a try.	The Rev. Douglas Dent
September 21, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"What Have You Got in the House?" Everyone has something to give to God. 2 Kings 4:1-7	The Rev. Douglas Dent
September 28, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"Not as an Exaction" Giving is about discipleship, not just paying our dues. 2 Corinthians 9:1-7	The Rev. Douglas Dent
October 5, 2014 9AM and 11AM	"Hilarious Giving" Giving <u>can</u> bring joy! 2 Corinthians 9:6-15	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!

September 7th	Rally Day!	Picnic following worship
October 19th	Consecration Sunday	Brunch following worship
November 9th	Mission Dinner	Brunch following worship
December 28th	Christmas Sunday	Coffee hour following worship
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



HOUSES OF HOPE
INTERNATIONAL

The youth going to House of Hope in December will be hosting two fall fundraisers: a Silent Auction that will run from September 14th through the 28th, and a Harvest Dinner tentatively planned for November 1st. Child-care will be provided during the dinner.

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.

September Service Group (Group #6)

Dennis and Jean Bowman
Dennis and Lu Echelberger
Paul and Tina Eckhoff
Cindy Holte
LoveEll Hultin
Karen Johnson
Ross and Lisa Johnson
Jan Knackendoffel
Bev Lambert
Gary and Roxane Nereson
Gene and Dorothy Porter
Al and Connie Seltz
Art and Lee Syverson
Gerry and Anne Worner
Vern and Joyce Youngren

October Service Group (Group #7)

Mike and Amy Donoho
Joel Enderson
Jean Giles
Walter and Bonnie Gondrez
Karen Hauck
Loren Johnson
Craig and Rebecca Jorgensen
William and Peg Kalar
Patty Lindholm
Mike and Michelle Loomer
Yvonne Marts
Ed and Ingrid Morgan
Gary and Karen Orcutt
Ross and Marianne Stone
Shannon Wilson

Greeters and Coffee Hosts

September 2014



Sunday, September 7th

10AM— Gene & Dorothy Porter
Coffee Hour—Rally Day Celebration

Sunday, September 14th

9AM— Dennis & Jean Bowman
11AM— Paul & Tina Eckhoff

Sunday, September 21st

9AM— Al & Connie Seltz
11AM— Gary & Roxane Nereson

Sunday, September 28th

9AM— Jan Knackendoffel and LoveEll Hultin
11AM— Dennis & Lu Echelberger

SERVICES

****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...

✦ friends and family of Jan Stenger.

September Birthdays

Lucinda Dix Echelberger 09/04

Gene Porter 09/05

Teri Nygaard 09/05

Doug Sperling 09/05

Alex Jensen 09/05

Wade Ugstad 09/06

Lucille Sheldon 09/07

Mark Becker 09/07

Erika Marriotti 09/08

Iona Saunders 09/08

James Underdahl 09/10

Janice Borowski 09/12

Jessica Verhelst 09/12

Dorothy Sperling 09/13

Makiya Cavalier 09/13

Nicole Verhelst 09/14

Troy Anderson 09/14

Erin Smith 09/14

Max Wolfe 09/14

Peg Kalar 09/16

Chad Nelson 09/17

Lizzy Link 09/18

Amy Underdahl 09/18

Bill Ressler 09/19

Paige Undseth 09/19

Leo Schierer 09/19

Donna Ohe 09/20

Eleanor Carlisle 09/20

Russell Larsen 09/23

Gail Green 09/24

Wesley Beske 09/25

Jean Bowman 09/25

Hal Collins 09/26

Amanda Mandelke 09/26

Tim Hunt 09/27

Christopher Anderson 09/28

Carolyn Anderson 09/29

Ben Schierer 09/30



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

Receipts Update:

Thanks for bringing in grocery store receipts. From May 13, 2014 through August 9, 2014, the amount for SunMart is \$4,266.28 and Service Food is \$15,502.99.

-Kathy Zimmerman



Parish Nursing Notes

Connie Seltz, Parish Nurse Coordinator

From time to time, I plan to invite healthcare professionals to write about a topic of interest to them and, hopefully, to you. Our own Lu Echelberger, OTR, has written this article on container babies. This is part one of the article; part two will be published in the October newsletter.

Container Babies by Lu Dix Echelberger

I am an occupational therapist and I've worked intermittently with infants and children with special needs in the school system since I came to Fergus Falls in 1975. Between when I started working in the school system, back a 100 years ago and now, I've seen many changes. You would think that because of advances in technology and ability to get information, babies and young children would be smarter, more coordinated stronger and better behaved. WRONG! I am seeing infants and young children developing later, having increased clumsiness, behavior issues, and developing flat heads so they have to wear a helmet.

As an OT, I've attributed these changes as a result of our society going for the newest and best products, commercialism, overprotection as well as parents being so busy and on the go. Infants often go from one piece of equipment to another. Also, because of SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome), parents are told to put babies to sleep on their backs and have some "tummy time" each day.

As therapists, we have used the term "container babies" to explain the changes in infant development. When doing a little research, I see that it is not my imagination and it has been named "container syndrome". Container syndrome can result in delayed motor development, some infants develop flat heads and/or tight neck muscles. Also, social development is affected and ADHD can be a result of it. Some babies spend many of their waking hours in a containing device and don't get enough floor time to play. Floor time, where a baby is either placed on his tummy or back to play, is extremely important to help with strengthening his neck, back, tummy, arm and leg muscles. Floor time allows a child to explore her environment and provides essential sensory input, including tactile and visual information, which helps with development. Another direct cause of the "container baby" lifestyle is the increasing occurrence of plagiocephaly, or flatness of the head. Babies who are contained in the same position are at risk for developing flatness to one part of their head, which can lead to cosmetic deformities, facial asymmetry and torticollis, or the tightening of one side of the neck.

To be continued...



House of Hope Mission Trip (February 2015)

Anyone interested in participating in the House of Hope Mission Trip (February 7-14, 2015) should contact Mike Loomer or Pastor Doug as soon as possible. The team is forming now! Join us and get a respite from the Minnesota winter while ministering to God's people in Guatemala. The approximate cost for the trip is \$1500.



Stewardship Report Millie Pearson and Greg Truax

General Fund Report—as of July 31st

Revenue—\$27,783

Expenditures—\$30,845

Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted — \$176,995

Actual received—\$177,338

2014 Pledge Drive

Status as of February 28, 2014
\$290,418



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

July	As of August 25th
11 families or individuals helped with	8 Families or individuals helped with
\$650 towards food, rent or utilities	\$1950 towards food, rent or utilities

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. Here is the lineup for 2014-2015:

Oct. 5 th	Why Go to Church?
Nov. 2 nd	Appreciating Spiritual Gifts
Dec. 7 th	Parables of the Lost
Jan. 4 th	What is Heaven Like?
Feb. 1 st	Does Hell Exist?
Mar. 1 st	Simplicity as Spiritual Discipline
Apr. 12 th	The Book of Revelation (Date changed due to Easter!)
May 3 rd	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!

Sept. 14-21 st	Judaism (2 weeks)
Sept. 28 th – Nov. 16 th	The Fall Festivals of Judaism (6 weeks – no class Oct. 19 th or Nov. 9 th)
Nov. 30 th – Dec. 21 st	Held in God's Grace: an Advent Study About Waiting (4 weeks)
Jan. 4 th – April 26 th	Daniel: A Christ Centered Approach (12 weeks)
	(No class on Jan. 25 th , Feb 8 th or 22 nd , Mar. 29 th or Apr. 5 th)

Men of the church!

Men of the church! Join us Mondays at noon for prayer and bible study in the church parlor. We are currently studying the "I AM" statements of Jesus in John's Gospel.



2014 Mission Initiative

The Mission Initiative for 2014 is House of Hope in Zacapa, Guatemala. The House of Hope (Casa de Esperanza) is home to 26 children and youth. The aim of the House of Hope is to raise these children of God in a safe, loving, Christian environment, to educate them, and then send them out prepared for higher education or employment.



Funding for the House of Hope comes entirely from private donations. The need is great, the wish list is long. The Mission Committee has chosen to focus on school fees as our Mission Initiative for 2014. The House of Hope provides quality, Christian education through a combination of printed and online resources. The annual school fee for one student is \$330. Together, we can raise enough to cover the annual school fees for all 19 students – a total of about \$6300. We will be collecting donations all year long. As of August 25th, 2014, we have raised \$2,148.00—enough to send seven kids to school for the year!

We're looking for help with snow removal this winter for any snowfall 3" or under. It would require removal of snow from the sidewalks and front steps. \$20/time. Call the church office if you can help. There is a snow blower and shovels available at the church.



Ministry Nite!

September 9th 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.