

April Worship

APRIL 7 9:30a.m. Worship	GIDEONS
Breakthrough! <i>Pastor Doug Dent</i>	Isaiah 43:16-21 <i>Lord's Supper</i>
APRIL 14 9:30a.m. Worship	PALM SUNDAY
Palm Monday <i>Pastor Doug Dent</i>	Luke 19:28-40
APRIL 18 7:00p.m.	MAUNDY THURSDAY
Passover Seder <i>Pastor Karen Anderson</i>	
APRIL 19 7:30p.m. Wor	GOOD FRIDAY
Capital Crime <i>Pastor Doug Dent</i>	Isaiah 52:13-53:12
APRIL 21 9:30a.m. Worship	EASTER SUNDAY
Flash Non-fiction <i>Pastor Doug Dent</i>	1 Corinthians 15:15-20
APRIL 28 9:30a.m. Worship	PALM SUNDAY
Palm Monday <i>Pastor Doug Dent</i>	Luke 19:28-40

*Don't be afraid, I know you are looking for Jesus Who was crucified. He is not here! For He has been resurrected, just as He said.
Matthew 28:5-6*

Dates to Remember

- TUESDAY, APRIL 2**
11:00am Salad Luncheon
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3**
5:30pm Lenten Service
- TUESDAY, APRIL 9**
6:30pm Ministry Nite
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10**
5:30pm Lenten Service
- SUNDAY, APRIL 14**
9:30am Palm Sunday
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
- THURSDAY, APRIL 18**
7:00pm Maundy Thursday
- FRIDAY, APRIL 19**
7:00pm Good Friday
- SUNDAY, APRIL 21**
9:30am Easter Sunday
10:30am Easter Egg Hunt
- SATURDAY, APRIL 27**
7:00pm Mystery Prom Night
- SUNDAY, APRIL 28**
10:30am Sr. Brunch



In some stories, hope is wrapped up in the obvious and tangible elements of the plot, but other times hope is revealed through a surprise ending or a twist — giving new life to the story in foreshadowed glory.

The Easter story is a vivid example that things aren't always as they seem. In a way, Easter is a celebration of the greatest story twist in history, one that's so subversive it changes everything for all time.

It's easy to gloss over the Easter story (we've heard it so many times) and forget the surprise and shock of the resurrection. It's easy to read through the Gospels without that "aha" moment it really delivers.

We have the privilege of reading the resurrection into the teachings of Jesus (because we know how the story ends), but for the disciples, the moments before the resurrection were steeped in fear, darkness, and confusion. For the disciples, the resurrection provided an incredible twist that made the story come alive in a new way ... past experiences began to make clarion sense. It changed everything.

Eugene Peterson explains it like this in his book *Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places*: "The Christian life begins as a community that is gathered at the place of impossibility, the tomb."

The scandalous plan of God, revealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus, reveals to us that what we see is not all there is. Easter tells us that a man convicted is not really guilty, that a cruel instrument of torture and death is really a symbol of remarkable hope and grace; it also tells us that an empty tomb is what we should have expected all along.

On the surface, the story of Easter reveals a plot by the religious leaders of Jesus' day to take down a rebel once and for all. As Jesus is handed over to the authorities, the picture that's painted is that Caesar is king, his kingdom rules, and the Roman cross will have the last say.

The path to the cross was a willing conviction accepted by God in the most subversive act on Earth: a conspiracy to take on the sin of the world and launch a counter-kingdom that would overthrow every worldly empire. Not by violence or brute force, but by love and sacrifice, through Christ.

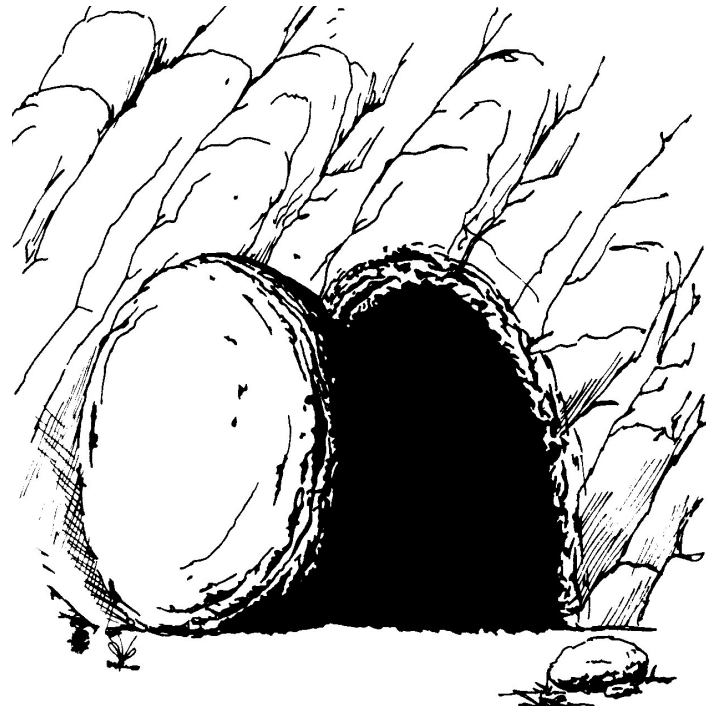
Colossians tells us that with each step, Jesus made a public spectacle out of the pseudo powers and authorities and that, with the cross, he was triumphant. What looked like defeat was actually ultimate victory.

As we celebrate Easter, we are reminded that life with God is full of surprises. The weak are made strong. The poor are made rich. The hungry are filled. The sinners are made worthy. The dead arise to new and everlasting life. As an Easter people, we should expect these plot twists and live into the promised future God has for us.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

May the blessings of Easter last you a lifetime!

- Pastor Doug



Welcome Into The Church



On February 3rd, 2019, we welcomed New Members into the Federated Family. Pictured left to right: Mark Davenport, Hollis Davenport, Mellisa Davnnport, Don Davenport and Jacki Knapp-Raaen. Not pictured: Paula



On March 3rd, 2019, our seven confirmation students professed their faith on Confirmation Sunday!

Pictured in the back row: Tayton Tawell-Preston and Grace Olson. **Pictured in the front row:** Zayne Weinrich, Dove Schierer, Pastor Doug, Benjamin Rundquist and Shelby Tabbut. **Not Pictured:** Anders Antho-nisen-Brown.

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 5 families or individuals from the local mission fund. We gave a total of \$250.00 for food.

LOCAL
mission

Easter Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, I rejoice and rejoice continually in Your glorious and triumphant victory over death. For Your victory is my victory. Help me to live by it, in it, and for it. I am grateful to my depths - grateful forever. Amen. - Selwyn Hughes

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/easter-prayers-celebrate-resurrection-day-victory.html>



March has been a whirlwind here at church, as it probably has been everywhere! Even with a Sunday off for bad weather, it seems like it can't be April already!

We have some things of note to highlight this month, including:

- **Kids Club** will continue to run during the month of April. We will NOT MEET on April 17th due to the busy-ness of Holy Week. Our last day of Kids Club is April 24th.
- **Middle school youth group** is going strong and will continue to meet through May 8th, but we will not meet on April 17th due to Holy Week.
- **Senior high youth group** will continue to meet until May 8th, but we will not meet on April 17th due to Holy Week.
- **The Senior Brunch** celebrates the milestone of our high school graduates. Join us in Fellowship Hall on April 28th at 10:30 am after worship for brunch and fun!
- **Camp scholarships** will be determined at the June Christian Education committee meeting, so be sure to turn in your child(ren)'s application(s) to the church office by May 15th. First priority is given to members or children of members, but we usually are able to include other children who would like to go to camp as well!

Guatemala Mission Trip Highlights:

It doesn't seem possible that it is already April and our mission trip is long over! Our group left on February 16th in the wee hours of the morning and made it to the House of Hope in Zacapa for a late supper. We were greeted by all the kids at the orphanage with a welcomed meal and VERY HOT WEATHER! It was over 100 degrees that day, and the next several days as well! It was quite a contrast to the below zero weather we left behind in Minnesota!

We went to church the first day and spent the rest of the day getting familiar with the House of Hope, the kids, and the temperature. There was a lot of fun with soccer, basketball, and brand new puppies that needed care. Greg provided the group with a tour of the compound and his vision and hopes for the future of House of Hope. His work is inspirational, and the kids who live there are so

blessed to have the opportunity to learn and grow and be joy-filled. He deserves and needs our continued prayers for the work he and his wife, Sarita, and the rest of the staff do with the children and youth. It is truly a spirit-filled place of restoration and hope!

Over the next several days, we worked at the House of Hope on various projects, including clearing debris and sorting various useful building materials, tearing down a water tower (which we did not finish), painting a carport, building a retaining wall, and making curtains for one of the team houses (18 sets in all!) We broke into different teams so that we could tackle the projects more efficiently, and we made sure to take a lot of breaks for water and rest due to the heat.



We visited two villages on separate days to install the stoves donated by church members and Ferguson Falls community members. The first village we visited was a little under two hours away by mountain road, which our kids experienced on the backs of trucks (Thank you to Ben Schierer for your willingness to drive on those switchback mountain roads!) The work was hard but extremely rewarding knowing that the families we were able to bring stoves to would have healthier lives.

The home visits were very eye-opening for everyone. It is hard to truly know what it is like until you are actually THERE with the sights, sounds, smells, and best of all, the smiling kids and various farm animals scurrying around!

On our second village day, we didn't have to travel quite as far. About an hour away, we visited a village that we went to two years ago. We saw a few houses in which we installed stoves on that previous trip which was so heartwarming. The families we worked with in both (Continue to page 5)

villages were welcoming and gracious, allowing us to enter their homes in order to install the new stoves. This is no small task as we often have to cut a hole in their tin roof (if they had one) in order to fit the pipe that channels the smoke out of their home.



The children were especially interested in what these strangers were doing! At both villages, we spent time in worship after the day of work, with team members sharing faith stories. Needless to say, after experiencing worship in Guatemalan mountain villages (and worship in Zacapa on day one) our team could really appreciate our hour-long services back home!

A few special moments for all:

- When Nicholas lost one of his shoes in the out-house “hole” as soon as we arrived at our first village. He didn’t have to go shoe-less for long, as he found TWO shoes that were the right side and size within minutes of the lost shoe! The new shoe didn’t match his other shoe, but he was able to keep working and serving! God provides, and provides abundantly! Good thing, too. You DON’T want to walk around a village in bare feet!



- Relaxing in the volcanically-warmed hot springs after a hard day’s work on the way home from the village.
- Our ice cream adventure with the older House of Hope kids one evening.

- Riding in the back of trucks to get everywhere—that was a HUGE highlight for all the youth!
- Finding a scorpion in the team house!
- “Derping around” in the trees at the House of Hope looking for iguanas!
- Adult vs. youth basketball game—the adults SMOKED them!!!!
- Watching our dads play with the youngest kids at the House of Hope!
- Hearing Erik quickly ease into what seemed to the rest of us like fluent Spanish—with the kids, the people in the villages, shopkeepers, etc!
- Seeing our kids absolutely love the kids from the orphanage. It was an instant connection for both groups involved. Little kids attached to our older kids, older HOH kids talking and laughing with our kids; it was so precious to see those relationships grow during the week! Tears were shed on the last day. And ALL our kids want to go back!



- Our dads on the trip made it SUCH a special time! They were so engaged with the kids—ours and the House of Hopes, the mission, the work... The fellowship was wonderful, an unforgettable time for everyone involved. I’m sure they all felt as Doug and I always do when we leave; that we’ve “left” some of our kids behind at HOH.
- As we left, one of our youth said, “That was the BEST WEEK OF MY LIFE!” And that was the greatest memory of them all for me!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the trip possible through financial support, sacrificing time with family, and most of all, for the prayers said for our group throughout the week. The week was unforgettable with new friendships, gratifying work, deep fellowship, and witnessing that God is good. We hope to give more highlights and share pictures and memories during a fellowship hour at church in the next month or so.



Church News

Easter Services

Worship with us during this Easter season!
Palm Sunday Service: April 14th at 9:30am
Mandy Thursday Service: April 18th at 7pm
Good Friday Service: April 19th at 7pm
Easter Sunday Service: April 21st at 9:30am

Lent Services

Our last two Lenten services are April 3rd and April 10th at 5:30pm. Mary Ann Nead will speak April 3rd and Rebekah Meder will speak April 10th. Supper is served at 6:00pm after both services.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Both the PCUSA and the UCC collect OGHOS offering to aid with disaster relief nationally and internationally. Our area received relief funds from the OGHOS when the Red River flooded in 1997-1998 and again after the Wadena tornado in 2010. Sunday school and Kids' Club students will receive fish boxes early in March. These boxes are a way for kids and families to talk about service and to contribute to disaster relief. Federated Church will collect the OGHOS offering and the fish boxes during worship on Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019.

Coffee at the Village Co-Op

Join us for coffee and fellowship at the Village Co-Op Tuesday, April 16th at 1:30pm.

Easter Egg Hunt

After worship on Easter Sunday (April 21st), join us for a church wide Easter Egg hunt! Eggs will be colored coded by age group for ages 0-12! We may even hunt outside if weather permits!

Mystery Night: Livin' On A Prayer

Yes! We have rescheduled Federated's 80's Prom Mystery Night for Saturday, April 27th from 7pm-9pm. Bring on the big hair and the neon! We will enjoy appetizers and solve a fictional murder mystery together. Please RSVP with the church to receive your character in the mystery. Also, please specify if you would like to be a suspect. Cost is \$15 a person.



Sr. Brunch

On April 28th, we will congratulate and honor our graduating seniors with brunch during the fellowship hour at 10:30am.

Easter Flowers

If you would like to purchase flowers for the Easter worship service, please contact the church office by April 5th. Lilies, Tulips and Hyacinths are \$14 each. When you contact the church office, please specify if the flower(s) is in honor or in memory of an individual. Flowers can be picked up following the Easter Service.

Graduation Bus

Pastor Doug's graduation is scheduled for Sunday, May 19, 2019 (3:00 PM) at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, MN. Many of you expressed interest in attending. If there is enough interest, we will reserve an Otter Tail Coach to do the driving. The cost will be just \$25 per person if we can fill the bus (50 people). The plan is to leave after worship (11:00 AM) and arrive at the church between 2-2:30 PM. The bus will stop for a meal somewhere on the way home later that day.

Please call Ada at the church office by May 1st if you would like a seat on the Graduation bus!

Minnesota Conference UCC Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting for the Minnesota Conference UCC is June 7th-8th, 2019. This year's theme is "Created for Connection: One Body, Many Members." If you would like to serve as Federated's voting delegate, please see Pastor Doug for details.



Thank You

To my friends at Federated Church:
Thank you so much for the cards and honorariums given to me. I certainly do appreciate it. I have tried to be the best of my ability as organist to praise God through music. I really enjoy playing the organ at Federated. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your organist,
Love, Carol Andstrom



Business as usual

Service Groups

April SERVICE GROUP

Group #9

Doug and Barb Becker
Jerry and Nancy Bogen
J. Pat and Tami Collins
Carol Hoivik
Jeremy and Jen Jensen
Jeff and Jo Kohlhase
Jean McKenzie
Chad and Elizabeth Nelson
Jerry and Jodie Nuss
Jake and Leslie Wendland

May SERVICE GROUP

Group #10

Carolyn Anderson
Ruth Aulds
Karen Bush
Cy Grover
Terry and Jeanette Haas
Kurt and Sonja Johnson
Amber Makovsky
Wayne and Gloria Ronning
Jon and Jess Steinbrenner
Evan and Tanya Westra

Ministry Nite:

April 9 - 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.

Greeters and Coffee Hosts

APRIL 2019

Sunday, April 7th

9:30am Jeremy and Jen Jensen and Doug and Barb Becker

Sunday, April 14th

9:30am Chad and Elizabeth Nelson Pat and Tami Collins

Sunday, April 21st

9:30am Jerry and Nancy Bogen Jerry and Jodie Nuss

Sunday, April 28th

9:30am Greeting Only Jeff and Jo Kohlhase and Jake and Leslie Wendland

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 needs. Please call 218-739-3227 or email church@federatedff.org

Stewardship Report

General Fund Report

Revenue	N/A
Expenditures	N/A

Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted	N/A
Actual Received	N/A

Grocery Receipts

THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food

February	\$2,644.27
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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.



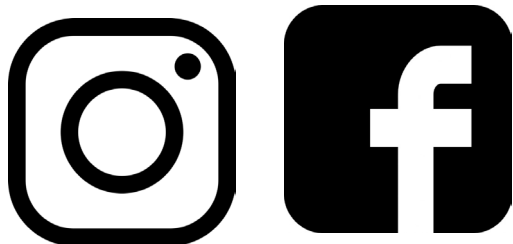
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Fergus Falls, MN 56537

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FERGUS FALLS, MN
PERMIT #285

Time sensitive information
Please deliver by March 1st




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



Follow Us On Facebook and Instagram
for photos, events and updates!

April Birthdays

- | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 04/03 | Breanna Stout | 04/22 | Siri Anthon-
isen-Brown |
| 04/03 | Sterling Andrews | 04/22 | Joe Cooper |
| 04/04 | Kathy Truax | 04/22 | Logan Stout |
| 04/04 | Sam Sundberg | 04/23 | Sonja Johnson |
| 04/05 | Mike Donoho | 04/23 | Jan Knackendoffel |
| 04/08 | Steve Lockhart | 04/24 | Mike Shol |
| 04/08 | Carri Thompson | 04/25 | Charles Ebbighausen |
| 04/09 | Emily Schlepp | 04/25 | Vaughn Ebbighausen |
| 04/10 | Lily Sundheim | 04/25 | Brett Garrahan |
| 04/12 | Kai Ebert | 04/26 | Sheila Rodning |
| 04/12 | Paul Eckhoff | 04/26 | Duane Tabbut |
| 04/12 | Al Seltz | 04/26 | Ed Morgan |
| 04/13 | Preston Weinrich | 04/26 | Jaden Brown |
| 04/14 | Shane Garrahan | 04/27 | Millie Pearson |
| 04/14 | Matt Donoho | 04/28 | Carson Barry |
| 04/14 | Anders Anthon-
isen-Brown | 04/29 | 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.

224 N. Union Avenue, Fergus Falls, MN 56537
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