

August Worship

Date	Preacher
August 5	Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Mahan
August 12	Dr. John McKay
August 19	Chaplin Deb Forstner
August 26	Pastor Doug Dent (Worship In the Park/Blessing of the Animals)



Dates to Remember

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

National Night Out

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

9:30am Worship At Federated Church

10:00am Worship At Western
Presbyterian Church

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

6:30pm Ministry Nite

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

6:00pm Jr and Sr High Youth Game Night
at Dent's House

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

11:00am Taste of Haiti Fundraiser

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

7:00pm Jr and Sr Youth Bonfire at Sadie's

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

6:30pm D&E Meeting

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

9:30am Worship In The Park
(Blessing of the Animals)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 Office Closed (Labor Day)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

9:30am Rally Day

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

10:30am Sunday School Starts



Read: Romans 3:21-26

Do you expect to go to heaven? On what do you base your hope? Your good deeds or the cross of Jesus? Many believe that God in His mercy will forgive all people whose good deeds outweigh their sins. But the gospel of Christ is totally and blessedly different.

The message of the cross offers forgiveness to everyone, with no consideration whatever of merit. It repudiates the common belief that our good and bad deeds will be weighed to determine our eternal destiny.

It was on the cross that a sin-canceling atonement was made by the Savior, Jesus Christ. Now full and free forgiveness is granted to anybody and everybody on the basis of faith alone. All calculation of merit is excluded. All weighing of good deeds on a scale is ruled out.

The demands of God's perfect justice were met when our substitute, Jesus Christ, bore our sin on the cross, suffered our penalty, and paid our debt (Rom. 3:24). It was because of God's great love that He saved us. Titus 3 says, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us" (v.5).

So what are you depending on—good deeds or the cross? Trust in Christ today for forgiveness of your sin.

Tears unavailing, no merit had I;

Mercy had saved me, or else I must die;

Sin had alarmed me, fearing God's face—

But now I'm a sinner saved by grace. —Gray

By Vernon Grounds

May 24, 1998

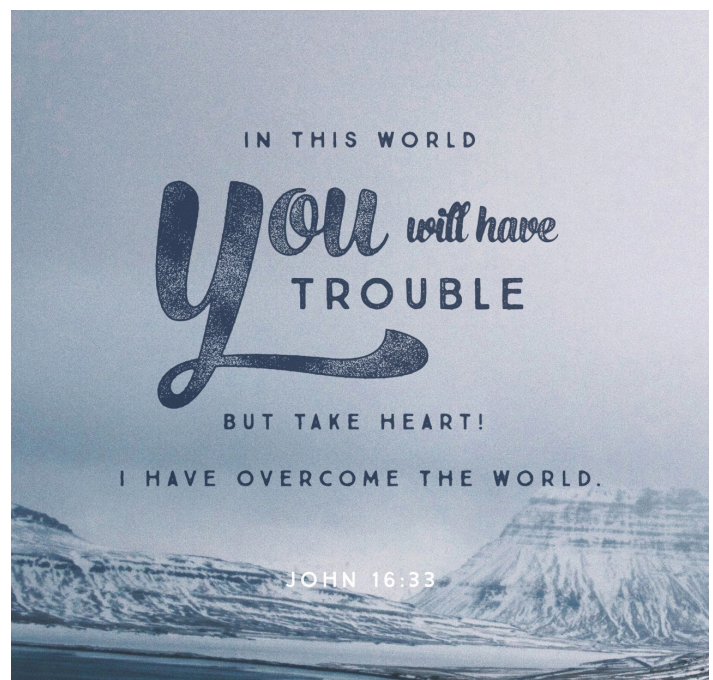
<https://odb.org/1998/05/24/good-deeds-or-the-cross/>



Pastoral Care

Rebekah Meder

I stumbled across this verse recently while scrolling through my social media feed. It struck me because trouble is a common experience. Just as some are anticipating fall to come and we see the changing of the wheat in the fields, there are seasons in our lives. There are seasons of happiness, sadness, grief, struggle, seasons of questionings and hardship. All we want is a steady season that we can anticipate. But, with the help and guidance of our heavenly Father we just KNOW. Know that He is with us. Know that our faith family is praying for each other. Know that He hears us even when we do not have words. Know that we are not alone. Know that He has overcome the world. Blessings to you as we go through these seasons together in His name.



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 June and July we were able to help 6 families or individuals through the local mission fund. We gave a total of \$1,100 for food cards, rent and utilities. (Federated raised \$800 of these funds for one individual connected to the Church)

LOCAL
mission

Taste of Haiti Fundraiser: Haiti Mama



What is Haiti Mama?

Founded by Tausha Pearson 4 years ago, Haiti Mama works to reunite and rehabilitate families through community based social work in Haiti.

"When Tausha first went to Haiti, she and Haitian social workers found themselves at various orphanages. As they spent time talking with

different kids from different orphanages, they were astonished to find 80% of these children had living family members they could remember. This led them to wonder why children were in orphanages rather than with their family. This is what sparked the mission of Haiti Mama."

-Talía Pearson (Tausha's sister)

The Fundraiser

Come to Federated Church, Friday, **August 17th from 11am-2pm and 5pm-7pm** to support the mission of Haiti Mama. At the fundraiser, people will have the opportunity to try a traditional Haitian meal: Chicken, Pikliz, Beans and Rice. The fellowship hall at church will also provide opportunities to learn more about Haiti Mama's mission and vision. There will also be an opportunity to purchase hand made metal art which provides education and employment to 10 boys in Haiti Mama's metal art program.

We look forward to experiencing a "Taste of Haiti" with you!



A Note From Sadie: Synod School

Hi Church Family!!! When the newsletter gets to you I will have returned from Synod School. I was able to get the opportunity to travel down to Storm Lake, Iowa at the end of July to attend our Presbyterian Synod School. I'm excited and nervous at all the same. We attend

school on the Buena Vista University campus. We live in dorms for the week. I get to dive into my faith all week long. This opportunity wouldn't have happened without the help of Pastor Doug and Karen and D&E helping ok funds. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am excited to come back and share what I have learned and to put it to use with our youth and the daily work going on at church. Thank you!! Thank you!!



Youth Group News

What a great summer we've had so far! And busy, too! The middle school and high school youth had a lot of activities during June and July, including a great fundraising event at Union Pizza, an awesome trip to Valleyfair, a rich and full week helping at Vacation Bible School, lake days, and a game/airsoft night at our home. We have had so much fun getting together, and look forward to doing more in August! While Vacation Bible School was on, one of our guest counselors from Clearwater Forest commented that our older youth had a unique vibe—they genuinely seem to enjoy interacting with our younger kids at the church, and they really love hanging out with one another. I am so proud of all of them—they are an extraordinary group of young people!

Plans are being made right now for our fall/winter schedule. If you are interested in being a part of the group or as an adult would like to be involved, please contact Karen at kmad@prtel.com! We love encouraging intergenerational fellowship and learning for our church family—we grow better together!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School 2018 was a HUGE SUCCESS! We had 40 participants, 11 youth leaders, and 7 adult volunteers, which added together made for an incredible week of learning, fellowship, music, and great food! I can say with confidence that this was by far the most enjoyable VBS I've led or participated in—EVER! Having our older youth reaching out and connecting to our younger kids and visitors made my heart just sing—the Clearwater Forest counselors told me again and again what a great crew it was and how special Federated Church was to them! We are the “top” church for counselors to work with, and that means an awful lot! It couldn't happen without our volunteer support—through time, snacks, housing, food, and energy. We spent each day learning and singing about God, as well as fun games and crafts—we even had a much-needed water day in the park! Throughout the week we took our “Noisy Offering” and by the end raised almost enough for one whole stove—simply with small change from home for the most part. Everyone together shared a little, and that little will make a huge impact in some family's life in Guatemala!

Autumn Beckons

With fall approaching, it is never too early to start thinking about Kids Club, Sunday School, Confirmation, and Youth Groups. I can assure you that plans are in the works for each fellowship/learning group!

If you are interested in being a part of any of these groups, either as a participant or as a leader/teacher, please contact Karen at kmad@prtel.com. I HAVE spoken to a few of you about Sunday School, but we are always looking for more people who feel the call to serve! If you are one of those people, we need you!

Dates to put on your calendar NOW for fall:

Wednesday, September 5th

Middle School/Senior High Pool party Skretvedt's 5-8pm

Sunday, September 9th

Rally Day!

Silent Auction Items on Display!

Wednesday, September 12th

Kids Club Kick-Off

3:30-5:30pm

Sunday, September 16th

Silent Auction for Guatemala Mission trip

Wednesday, September 19th

Confirmation Student/Parent mtg.

5:30pm

Friday Sept. 21st -Sunday 23rd

Confirmation Retreat at Clearwater Forest

Summer Sweets With Sadie

Hi Jr/ Sr High Youth!!

Summer Sweets With Sadie @ Dairyland!

August 9th @ 3pm!

See you there!

Valleyfair Trip



Visit page 6 to see more photos from this summer!

National Night Out

Coming right up is National Night Out, Tuesday, August 7. This is really a city-wide block party...in many neighborhoods at once. Instead of having one huge block party where residents convene, this is a grass-roots gathering. Plans have been in the works for several months, and by now the block captains have notified their neighbors of their area's block party. If you aren't sure whether or not you live near a block party, check on the Facebook page: National Night Out Fergus Falls, or email NNOFergusFalls@gmail.com.

This year is the 35th anniversary of National Night Out with over 38 million people across the country expected to participate. "We want to be inclusive and have a great turn-out in our community," said co-chair Jess Steinbrenner. The Fergus Falls Police and Fire Departments will visit each block party too. During your neighborhood block party lock your doors, turn on outside lights and spend an evening outside with your

neighbors. It is an opportunity to reconnect, have fun and CELEBRATE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD! National Night Out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Jess and Jean Bowman agreed to co-chair this year after a brainstorming session at Federated Church this winter when members clearly wanted to "do more" to make Fergus Falls a safe and friendly place to live.



Church News...

Church Softball

We would love to see lots of fans pack the stands on Monday nights. Let's cheer on our softball team. Go Federated!

New Service Group List

Due to changes in our congregation (adding new members, passing of members...) we have updated our service lists. Now, the service groups are more equal and have a longer rotation period for convenience of our members. Please note that the service group list does not guarantee certain months or seasons during the year. The list is meant to give everyone an equal opportunity at different months. The new list is on the back of the newsletter calendar. **We apologize if you are scheduled to serve 2 times this year.** Please understand we are trying to start over with our groups. If you have questions or concerns about this update, please contact the church office. Also, if you would like to be added to a service group, the church office can help find a group for you to serve with. Thank you!

Noisy offering update

For the next several months, we will continue to collect this fun offering of change and small bills during worship at the first Sunday of each month! Thank you to all who contributed!

Rally Day

September 9th here at Church! Updates to come so please remember to check your mail and email.

Western Presbyterian Church Service

You are invited to the Celebration Service of Western Presbyterian Church. On August 12th at 10am, Western will hold their final service. If you would like to attend, please RSVP at westernpresbyterian@yahoo.com.

Sun Mart Receipts

With the closing of Sun Mart, we can no longer accept Sun Mart receipts. However, we still accept Service Food receipts. Thank you!

Photos from Summer 2018



Lake Day at Loomer's



Singing at VBS



*Guatemala Fundraiser
at Union Pizza*



Valleyfair



Lake Day at Loomer's



Water Day at VBS



Business as usual

Service Groups

AUGUST SERVICE GROUP Group #1

Mark and Lisa Becker
 Dennis and Jean Bowman
 Dennis and Lu Echelberger
 Jon and Thea Fransen
 Craig and Rebecca Jorgensen
 Wayne and Patti Link
 Yvonne Marts
 Mary Jones Olson
 Ann Porter
 Melissa Saurer
 Al and Connie Seltz

SEPTEMBER SERVICE GROUP Group #2

Walter and Bonnie Gondrez
 Loran Johnson
 Anne Kalar
 William and Peg Kalar
 Patty Lindholm
 Michelle Loomer
 Ed and Ingrid Morgan
 Gary and Roxane Nereson
 Gary and Karen Orcutt
 Lynn Oxley
 Mae Reich

The **service groups have been updated**. Please read page 5 and look at the back of the church calendar for more information.

Greeters and Coffee Hosts

AUGUST 2018

Sunday, August 5th

9:30am Dennis and Lu Echelberger
 Al and Connie Seltz

Sunday, August 12th

9:30am Jon and Thea Fransen
 Mark and Lisa Becker

Sunday, August 19th

9:30am Craig and Rebecca Jorgensen
 Dennis and Jean Bowman

Sunday, August 26th

9:30am Worship In The Park
 Mission Committee

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.



Ministry Nite:

August 14 - 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. Reminder: Committees do not meet in July.

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

Sun Mart

June Total	\$12,017.00
Grand Total	\$96,809.00

Service Food

June Total	\$4,010.03
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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 August 1st

Condolences To: (From This Summer)

Gail Green on the passing of
her sister Gerri Hilden

The Whipple family on the
passing of Ruby Whipple

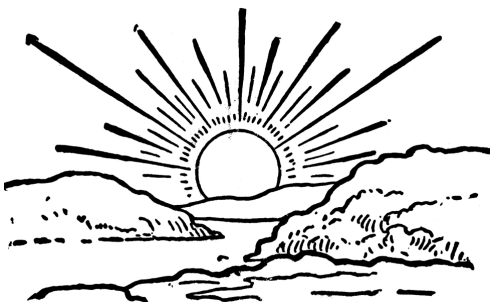
Tabbut family on the passing
of Wayne Tabbut

Thank you To:

Our VBS Volunteers! You are a
blessing to so many kids!

Best Wishes To:

Youth headed off to College



August

08/01	Rosemary Rundquist	08/17	Kathy Gilbert
08/03	Phyllis Behrends	08/18	Amanda Bopp
08/03	Joel Dulski	08/18	Alexis Griego
08/05	Barb Meder	08/20	Tyson Sperling
08/05	Ashley Lien	08/20	Paul Shol
08/08	Jerry Hendel	08/20	Darren Smith
08/09	Vern Youngren	08/22	Benjamin Kugler
08/10	Arthur Schlepp	08/23	Beverly Richter
08/11	William Kalar	08/23	Jane Nelson
08/12	Mary Pauline Haukos	08/26	Jen Jensen
08/12	Roger Nelson	08/26	Austin Barry
08/12	Clayton Skretvedt	08/27	Lynn Oxley
08/12	Bonnie Gondrez	08/27	Xyola Macheel
08/12	Gail Childs	08/27	Easton Eckhoff
08/12	Mallory Skogen	08/28	Lisa Shol
08/12	Taylor Thompson-Eckhoff	08/28	Connor Youngren
08/13	Joan Ebbighausen	08/29	Connie Seltz
08/13	Emma Runningen	08/29	Tessa Schierer
08/13	Michael Styve	08/30	Renee Larsen
08/14	Kim Dean	08/30	Kelsey Nygaard
08/15	Kyle Garrahan	08/31	Emma Barry
08/16	Virginia Adams		
08/16	Rachel Westra		



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

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