

# Union Avenue

#### **KEEPING MEMBERS UP TO DATE**

## **November Worship**

NOVEMBER 4 9:30a.m. Worship

Faithfulness Pastor Doug Dent

NOVEMBER 11 9:30a.m. Worship

Wisdom Pastor Doug Dent

NOVEMBER 18 9:30a.m. Worship

Heaven and Hell Pastor Doug Dent

NOVEMBER 25 9:30a.m. Worship

Persistence in Prayer Pastor Doug Dent All Saints' Sunday

Matthew 24:43-25:30 The Wise and Evil Servants Lord's Supper

> Luke 16:1-13 The Unjust Steward

Luke 16:19-31 The Rich Man and Lazarus

> Luke 18:1-18 The Poor Woman and the Judge

#### NOVEMBER 2018

Dates to Remember FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2 8:00pm Sr High Lock-In

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 9:30am All Saints' Sunday

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11** 6:00pm Veterans Service at Bethel

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13** 6:30pm Ministry Nite

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15 Newsletter Deadline 6:30pm D&E meeting

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 10:30am Mission Dinner

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 No Kids/Youth Activities for Thanksgiving

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22 OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving Day

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23 OFFICE CLOSED

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30** 12:30pm Federated at Food Shelf

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1** 4:00pm Christmas Cantata



218-739-3227 | church@federatedff.org | www.federatedff.org

# Pastor's Pen





Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals your diseases, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

~Psalm 103:2-5

Thanksgiving is all about family and traditions and good food and football. I remember Thanksgiving weekends growing up, with a house filled with grandparents and cousins. It was a mini-stay-cation for my sister and me (not so much for my parents who hosted this saturnalia every year!) I can recall being up early in the mornings so that the turkey would be ready on time, and my uncle Larry bringing shrimp cocktail (which I hated) and my Grandmother bringing homemade cookies (which I loved). And it usually turned out that we had some invited guests (nonfamily) at the table. Good memories.

Thanksgiving is, of course, a time to remember God's goodness to us. It's a time to intentionally thank God for all the blessings God bestows on us. Which is why it's so vitally important to remember to pray before we tuck into the turkey and mashed potatoes! Praying before every meal is a good teaching moment for our kids, too; a reminder from who all our blessings flow.

Let me share a Thanksgiving Day prayer written by Walter Rauschenbusch (1861-1918):

Thanksgiving Day Prayer For the wide sky and the blessed sun, For the salt sea and the running water, For the everlasting hills And the never-resting winds, For trees and the common grass underfoot, we thank you. We thank you for our senses By which we hear the songs of birds, And see the splendor of the summer fields, And taste of the autumn fruits, And rejoice in the feel of the snow, And smell the breath of the spring. Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty; And save our souls from being so blind That we pass unseeing When even the common thorn bush Is aflame with your glory, O God our creator,

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

It is good to give thanks for the blessings we enjoy. Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Doug

In every thing, give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 1 Thessalonians 5:18







If you have questions, contact Bob Peterson by

Article from the Minnesota Conference of UCC Commentary

phone at 651-792-5262.

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of this two week trip. The deadline for registering is November 25, 2018. Please complete the form at (http://files.constantcontact.com/73d-71b6a001/23e3444e-e210-4574-a48d-6106bfe12222. *pdf*) and submit it as instructed at the bottom of the sheet. In order to encourage new people to volunteer for the mission trip, we have a grant to pay the cost of \$305 per week for each new volunteer. The only cost for new volunteers will be their cost to travel to Biloxi and back. That cost is estimated to be about \$200 per person for food, gas and motel room, based on 3 or 4 people carpooling together. Details about the MN Conference UCC trip are available at (http:// files.constantcontact.com/73d71b6a001/0e24653e-9aeb-4324-bf28-63f10b25884c.pdf)

During October, we were able to help 11 families or individuals from the local mission fund. We gave a total of \$700.00 for food, rent and utilities.

**BACK BAY** 

## **Mission Dinner**

Remember, our Mission Dinner is **November 18th** following the church service. The Dinner is a free will offering for either The Otter Angel Fund and/or the United Way Back Pack Program. The Otter Angel account is used by the School District to discreetly pay for a student's meal when the parents have not funded their child's meal card. The United Way supplies back packs to kids in need in the community. During the dinner, Mindy Christianson will share more about these important topics. Please join us in support of these programs.

## 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!

strengthening neighborhoods, seeking justice, transforming lives Established in 1922 as a ministry with the

poorest of the poor in Biloxi, Mississippi, Back Bay Mission is a highly regarded organization in the United Church of Christ. Back Bay Mission meets the urgent needs of those suffering from poverty and its effects while building pathways to social justice. The Minnesota Conference UCC is a partner with them in their work.

There is a Back Bay Mission Trip for Minnesota Conference UCC volunteers planned for January 27 through February 9, 2019. Although Biloxi suffered no major damage when Hurricane Gordon came ashore, there were still individual homes which were affected by the winds and rain. There are still over 50 homeowners needing help. This is a great opportunity for churches that have members that are interested in a mission trip but have no such opportunity through their local church.

You can volunteer for either week or both weeks









We are well into our 2018-2019 year with Kids Club, Confirmation, Youth Group, Women's Bible Study, and Sunday School—in this "Year of Jesus"! Highlights from each group include:

**The Kids Club** participants take time each week to share ways they have individually performed "Acts of Random Kindness." The number of acts continues to increase, and everyone is encouraged to look for ways to show the love of Jesus.

During our time together the Kids Club youth hear about the miracles of Jesus—with one boy exclaiming, "This is so cool!"

**Confirmation youth** spent a great weekend at Clearwater Forest to kick-off the year, and spend time each week getting into the Word of God, understanding God's love for them, seeking ways that God is calling them to serve, and exploring the plight of Christians around the world.



**In youth group**, made up of 9th through 12th grade students, we discuss issues of the day from a Christian worldview as well as find time for games and fellowship. The group is really coming together and forming a supportive network for each other.

The older youth chose to talk about topics such as demons, evil, and other "scary" things during the month of October—it is always a revelation to learn that the Bible is filled with the supernatural! And it is a good reminder that our God is greater than the darkness of this world.

Several youth group members had fun

activities this autumn such as soccer, swimming, cross-country, and many play in the marching band. If you see our kids out and about, make sure they know that their church family is proud of their efforts! Otters worthy of note: Dove Schierer was part of the Homecoming Court, Anders Anthonisen-Brown was co-captain of the JV soccer team, Ella Childs was co-captain of the girls swimming team, and Emily Nuss came in first in at least one cross-country race—and this is her first year! Piper Andrews and Sterling Andrews both played on their respective Otter varsity soccer teams—almost ALL of every game! We have youth in so many sports, music, and special activities—make sure to go see them if you can! If your youth has a sport/art/music highlight, please let us know so that we can celebrate them!

Madalyn Dent and Natalie Vogel will be dancing in the Fergus Falls School of Dance "Dance and Dessert" show during the weekend of December 1st-2nd. Come see them perform!

**The Guatemala Mission Team**, made up of 11 youth and 9 adults, held two big fundraisers in October and have also begun meeting to talk about expectations and information regarding travel in Guatemala for mission work.

**Our Sunday school** youth meet each Sunday morning at the beginning of class to share prayer concerns and joys, as well as sing a song together. The K-1st kids, with teachers Madalyn Dent and Jona Brown, are in the process of getting a new and improved classroom! The 2nd-3rd grade class has exciting new teachers: Rebekah Meder, Sammy Ebert, Karen Bush and Karen Anderson-Dent write down discoveries about Jesus each week, and ends with fun and challenging trivia!

(Continued on page 5)



Steve and Carri Thompson continue to meet monthly on the first Sunday of the month with our youngest children and their parents for a special Sunday School class in the youth room.

## Upcoming events to highlight:

•Our first senior high lock-in of the year is set for Friday, November 2nd from 8pm to 8am! Let's have some fun and celebrate after the Harvest Dinner!

•Kids Club and Sunday school kids (K-6) will receive letters and information about our 2018 Christmas pageant. We begin practice during both meeting times after Thanksgiving weekend! •There will be no Kids Club, confirmation, or youth group on Wednesday, November 21st due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

•The Christmas pageant is set for December 16th during our 9:30am worship service. The kids always do a great job sharing the story of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ!





## Church News

### Thank You To:

Janet Knapp for her extremely generous gift of \$50,000 toward the air conditioning project at Federated Church. This is something Jim and Janet discussed doing together, and we are delighted and grateful that Janet fulfilled this dream. Janet is the coolest! (Pun intended.)

Board of Managers is currently accepting bids from contractors for air conditioning the sanctuary, fellowship hall, and kitchen areas. We will need to upgrade our electrical source to accommodate the new demand, so additional funds may yet be needed. If you'd like to help fund this project, please talk to Pastor Doug.

## Women's Bible Study

Our women's Bible study meets each Tuesday at 11:15am. Several women gather in the narthex to spend time in the Revelation of Jesus to the Apostle John; and in doing so, we find blessing and encouragement found in this "controversial" book of the Bible. Please consider joining us—you will be blessed! -Karen Dent

## **Veterans Service**

Honor our veterans at a special service, Sunday, Nov 11th 6pm at Bethel Church in Fergus. The speaker for the evening is Eric Marts (son of Yvonne Marts). Listen to his story about his 20 years of service in the U.S. Army Infantry. The service will also include patriotic music by the Carlisle Band and Hillcrest Academy Vocalise. A reception will follow the program.

### Village Co-Op

Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy some fellowship at the Village Co-Op Tuesday, Nov 20th at 1:30pm.

## Youth Sunday School (7th-12th Grade)

Youth will continue to meet in the narthex Sunday mornings at 10:30am with Sadie! If you haven't come yet, we'd love for you to join the study! In Nov, we will talk about Holloween and Christianity, Having Faith as a Veteran (for Veterans Day) and Social Media and Being a Christian. We will not meet Nov 25th.

### Sunday School Room

Hooray! The K-1st Sunday School room is finished. The dividing wall was removed and the room is freshly painted. Now, we have a larger room for our K-1st graders. Thank you to Pete Konrad, John MacFarlane, Skip Zielin and Jona Brown for renovating the Sunday School room.





#### Worship:

Welcome, Brian Jensen, our new Director of Music Ministries! Brian begins his ministry with us on November 1st. He will dive right in leading the praise team and kid's music, and he will sing with the choir and ring with the bells to get the lay of the land. Please give Brian a warm Federated welcome when you see him!

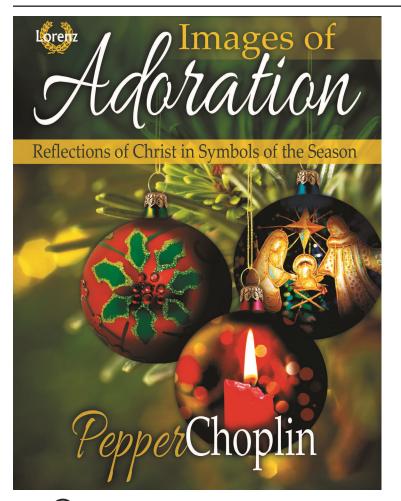
#### **Stewardship:**

The Stewardship Committee thanks you for your prompt response in getting your annual pledge in.

For those of you who haven't responded yet, if you have lost the forms or need help filling them out, let one of us on the Stewardship Committee know or stop at the office. We look forward to receiving your pledge and thank you in advance.



Brian Jensen



## Join us for the 2018 Christmas Cantata

Federated Church Saturday, December 1st 4:00pm

Enjoy to the sound of the season!

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# Business as usual

## Service Groups November SERVICE GROUP

Group #4

Charles Ebbighausen Vaughn Ebbighausen Terry Harthun Kathy Hatling Mary Ann Nead Gary and Jan Nelson Lavane Ugstad Wade Ugstad James and Amy Underdahl Steve and Melinda Wienbar

#### **DECEMBER SERVICE GROUP** Group #5

Wes and Lori Beske Carol Bischof Nic and Sammy Ebert John and Kim Erickson Bob and Barb Flom Kathy Gilbert Steve Lockhart and Donna Ohe Brad and Barb Meder Marcus and Rebekah Meder Wally and Mary Moe Steve and Carri Thompson

## Ministry Nite: November 13 - 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**

NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday, November 4th 9:30am Kathy Hatling and Mary Ann Nead

#### Sunday, November 11th

**9:30am** James and Amy Underdahl and Steve and Melinda Wienbar

#### Sunday, November 18th

Mission Dinner: Greeting Only 9:30am Lavane Ugstad and Wade Ugstad and Sadie Carter

#### Sunday, November 25th

**9:30am** Gary and Jan Nelson Terry Harthun



**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.

## Stewardship Report

General Fund Report	
Revenue	36,613.09
Expenditures	31,128.77
Year to Date Pledge Offering	
Budgeted	247,500.00
Actual Received	253,311.33

## Grocery Receipts THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food	
September	\$7,545.73

## 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.

## 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





224 North Union Avenue Fergus Falls, MN 56537

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Time sensitive information Please deliver by November 1st

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## **November Birthdays**

11/01 Sammy Ebert 11/02 Andrew MacFarlane 11/03 McKenzie Olson 11/04 Max Jensen 11/05 Paul Richter 11/07 Brandon Truax 11/07 Mike Walls 11/08 John MacFarlane 11/09 Lance Nygaard 11/10 Marna Brown 11/10 Ann Porter 11/10 Laurie Skogen 11/11 Bailee Griego 11/11 Mark Sundberg 11/12 Austen Tabbut 11/13 Bill Nead 11/14 Dennis Bergerud 11/14 John Lindholm 11/14 Erik Lindholm

11/14 Alexandria Haas 11/15 Karen Hauck 11/15 Rick Schara 11/15 Tommy Bowman 11/16 Terry Harrington 11/16 Charlie Schlepp 11/18 Donna Solin 11/19 Tessa Becker 11/20 Maury Skogen 11/22 Ross Johnson 11/22 Molly King 11/23 Landon Link 11/24 Brayden Aasen 11/24 Michelle Loomer 11/24 Katelyn Sperling 11/25 Elaine Snyder 11/26 Meg Garrahan 11/26 Franklin Schierer 11/29 Duane Rose 11/29 Erik Loomer



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 Phone: 218-739-3227 | email: church@federatedff.org