

October Worship

OCTOBER 6 9:30a.m. Worship **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

FOCUS: Courageous Mission and Service TBA
Pastor Doug Dent *Celebrating the Lord's Supper And Home Communion*

OCTOBER 13 9:30a.m. Worship **NEW MEMBER SUNDAY**

FOCUS: Unconditional Hospitality TBA
Pastor Doug Dent

OCTOBER 20 9:30a.m. Worship

FOCUS: Strategic Faith Development TBA
Pastor Doug Dent

OCTOBER 27 9:30a.m. Worship **REFORMATION SUNDAY**

I Can Christian Today 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Pastor Doug Dent



Dates to Remember

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

11:15am Women's Bible Study Starts

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

7pm Breathing With God Study Starts
(Please RSVP to Join this Class)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

6:30pm Ministry Nite

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
10am Coffee at Pioneer Care

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

No Kids or Youth Activities (MEA)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

1pm Coffee at the Village Co-op

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

10:30am Pie Social

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



Robert F. Smith, the Founder, CEO & Chairman of Vista Equity Partners (a venture capital firm) gave the commencement address at Morehouse College (Atlanta, GA) last May. During his speech Smith, a billionaire, pledged \$40 million dollars to pay off the student debt of the graduating seniors. David A. Thomas, president of Morehouse College, calls this a "liberation gift" that will be "life-changing" for these students. I doubt any of the students will remember anything Smith said, but I'm, quite sure they will forever remember his generosity and his life-affirming gift.

Our God also offers us liberating and life changing gifts. In Jesus Christ we have the remission of our sins and the chance to live new and better lives. We have hope for a brighter tomorrow and the promise of a world where peace and justice reign.

How do you put a value on such gifts? What is hope worth? What is freedom worth? Such gifts are inestimable. Such gifts are exactly what the world desperately craves. God's church is still the only place to obtain these gifts. No other source can offer us the freedom, hope, and love that God offers us in Jesus Christ.

The mission of the church – God's mission – is to make sure that every person knows they are loved and valued. Our value extends far beyond what we can produce in a lifetime. Our value far outstrips our meager skills. Our value is far and away the gift of God's grace.

Since this is stewardship month, I must ask: what value do you assign to God's grace? As you consider your pledge to our congregation, think of God's mission for us. How might we tell of God's love and grace and hope more successfully if you made a pledge this year? How many more people might be reached through one of our compassion ministries if you increased your pledge? How might the needs of our community be met if you made a "liberation gift" like Robert Smith?

None of us has Smith's resources, but Mike Shol really challenged us to make small changes that can have a big impact. Mike pledged to cut down on his chewing tobacco habit and to use some of the money he saves to raise his pledge for 2020. Such a change will not only make a huge difference in Mike's life and health but will also benefit the Fergus Falls community through our congregation's increased ability to reach out in Christ's name.

Mike's challenge is one we can all manage. We had 83 households pledge last year.

- If each household skipped one coffee drink each week (\$5) and pledged it to the church, it would mean an additional \$21,580 for programs and services.
- If each household waived one meal at a restaurant each month (\$40) and pledged it to the church, it would mean an additional \$39,840 for programs and services.
- If each household cut out one tank of gas each month (\$60) and pledged it to the church, it would mean an additional \$59,760 for programs and services.

These are changes which are easily managed and which yield great dividends. Help us spread the good news about God's liberating gifts for the world. Make your pledge today!

Thank you for continuing to support Federated Church's mission and ministries.

- Pastor Doug



20^{IN}20

FOCUSING ON DISCIPLESHIP



Meet a Member: Pam Phillips



I have been a member of Federated Church and the choir for many years. I live in Fergus Falls and also have a little cabin on Otter Tail Lake. I grew up in northeastern South Dakota and after high school attended one year at SDSU. I worked in Sioux Falls and decided to go back to school and chose Fergus Falls Community College, now M-State.

My family consists of two beautiful daughters, Nicole and her husband, Wes, and Jessie and her husband, Gabe. I have a Grand-puppy, Stanley and a new Grand-piglet, Moku. My brother, Dave lives in Florida and my sister, Kathy lives in Fergus Falls. I am also blessed to have a loyal partner, Tom. He makes life fun!

My hobbies consist of photography and scrapbooking. My pastimes are spending time with family, lunches with friends, time at the lake, watching sports, feeding the birds, and traveling, all making memories to scrapbook.

I retired from the college and continued to be involved after retirement by serving on the Foundation board for three years. One of my joys is an endowed scholarship I started called the Pam Phillips Spartan Spirit Award which is given

each year to a sophomore with Spartan spirit. I continue to be involved as a member of the Spartan Booster Club. I have been to Guatemala 3 times and plan to go again in 2021.

My favorite Bible verse is Psalm 121. It's my favorite verse because at my parents and brothers graves, you can look to the west and see the hills and I know God is watching over me. I also feel God close to me when in the mountains of Guatemala.

*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
from whence cometh my help.*

*My help cometh from the LORD,
which made heaven and earth.*

*He will not suffer thy foot to be moved:
he that keepeth thee will not slumber.*

*Behold, he that keepeth Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.*

*The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon
thy right hand.*

*The sun shall not smite thee by day,
nor the moon by night.*

*The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil:
he shall preserve thy soul.*

*The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy
coming in from this time forth, and even for
evermore.*

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 September, we were able to help 7 families or individuals from the local mission fund. We gave a total \$350.00 for food.





New School Year:

The 2019-2020 year is off to a great start! By the time this newsletter reaches households, all child and youth activities will be in their second month. Sunday school, Kidz Club, confirmation, and senior high youth group are wonderful opportunities for friendships, fun, and learning to have a relationship with God! We have experienced adult volunteer support and awesome young people participating in these growing ministries!

Adult Ministries: Adults have opportunities for growth and learning too, with a Sunday morning class on "The Artist's Bible". This group will explore religious masterpieces with Pastor Doug, and study the Bible story each painting tells. Both women and men have Bible study groups that meet on Tuesday mornings—the men are studying Romans and the women are studying the book of Acts.

Kidz Club: Our theme this fall, "CATCH THE SPIRIT!" explores how the Holy Spirit guided and empowered the apostles to begin spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ to others. We will be learning about Christians around the world and crafts that celebrate different countries. Feel free to join us—we love meeting new friends!

Sunday School: We meet each Sunday morning as a group in the choir room to learn a song with Brian and share prayer concerns, and then we break into our classes. We are following the story of the apostles and their adventures of faith as they began to share the truth of Jesus Christ. Come check out our classes!

Confirmation: Our 7th and 8th grade students meet every Wednesday after school for class, and our 9th grade students meet every Wednesday at 6:30pm. We follow a three-

year plan which lays out the study of the Old Testament, the New Testament, and a final year which integrates biblical study along with theology and a deeper understanding of our journey of faith. Our annual retreat comes up on Oct. 4-6 and promises to be a joyful weekend!

Senior High Youth Group: Our 9th through 12th grade students meet each week on Wednesdays from 7:30-9:00pm in the youth room downstairs for games, thoughtful discussions, and topics pertaining to our Christian faith. We periodically do special events such as movies, lock-ins, and service projects, and sometimes we even gather for game nights at the Dents. We are always happy to include new friends, and enjoy incorporating new people and ideas to the group! Our youth are such a talented and busy group of individuals—you probably see them playing soccer, football, running cross-country, playing in the marching band, singing in the choirs, shooting hoops and pucks, and any number of other activities. If you see one of our Federated youth be sure to let them know you are proud of them! As a church family we encourage and support each other!



Welcome back to Sr. High Youth Group!





Church News

Music Rehearsals

Become a part of Federated's music ministry!
Praise Team Practice: Tuesdays at 6:00pm
Bell Practice: Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Choir Practice: Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes began on Wednesday, September 25th. We have 25 youth in classes this year! Please hold our youth in prayer as they study the Old Testament (7th grade), the New Testament (8th grade), and matters of faith (9th grade). Special thanks to our teachers: Karen Anderson, Doug Dent, Erika Mariotti, Mike Shol, and Jim Worner.

Youth will be on retreat at Clearwater Forest camp (Deerwood, MN) the weekend of October 4th-6th. Please pray for safe travels, fun times, time for learning, and good weather! Special thanks to our chaperones: Karen Anderson, Hollis Davenport, Jerry Nuss, Jordan Schiefert, Molly Stoddard, and Tanya Sundberg.



2018 Confirmation Retreat

Coffee Time

Starting in September, Federated will meet at Pioneer Care for coffee and fellowship the 3rd Tuesday of every month. We will gather in the Boardroom at 10am.

Meetings

Ministry Nite is Tuesday, Oct. 8th at 6:30pm
D&E is Thursday, Oct. 17th at 6:30pm.

Pie Social

Would it feel like fall without the taste of homemade pie? Our annual Pie Social is Sunday, Oct 27th at 10:30am. After worship, we will share some delicious slices of pie. We'll also auction some of them off during the event! If you would like to bring a pie, please sign up on a sheet found around the church. Sheets will be posted on the bulletins boards and in the fellowship hall.



Records Reconciliation

The Board of Deacons & Elders recently authorized a church-wide records reconciliation. In this digital age when contact information changes rapidly, we need to ensure that our information is correct. Over the next two months (September-October) you will receive either an email or a letter which indicates the information we currently have on file for you and your family.

Please review this information carefully. If any information is incorrect, please provide the correct information by return email or using the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Thank you for helping us update our information.





Committee News

Mission Committee

Save the date for the annual “mission brunch,” set this year for Sunday, Nov. 17, right after the 9:30am service. Egg and French toast bake are on the menu, and the speaker will be Federated’s own Pete Konrad, chaplain of the Otter Tail County Jail Ministry. In Pete’s own words, “When I go into the jail I don’t see criminals. I see God’s beloved children. We are not to judge, we are called to walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.” Proceeds from the brunch will benefit the Jail Ministry, and the Mission Committee will match donations of up to \$500.

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee spent the summer months preparing for our “Focusing on Discipleship” initiative. In the 20 months leading up to our 150th anniversary of worship and service to the community (May 2022), we are promoting 20 congregational goals in five key areas:

- Faithful Worship
- Open-hearted Generosity
- Courageou Mission & Service
- Unconditional Hospitality
- Strategic Faith Development

Stewardship Sunday is October 27th!



Bible Studies

Sunday Mornings: The Artist's Bible

Artists often find inspiration in the pages of scripture. Using the stories of God’s people, artists create beautiful images that evoke powerful emotions. Join Pastor Doug as we explore a different masterpiece each Sunday and the Bible story it portrays. All are welcome! Grab your coffee and a treat after worship and meet in the Parlor at 10:45am.

Leader: Pastor Doug



Breathing With God

Based on Pastor Doug Dent’s doctoral work, “Breathing with God” is designed to guide you through a time of self-discernment about your place in God’s greater purpose. How did God make me? What spiritual gifts do I have? How does my personality influence how I use those gifts? Where is God calling me to serve? Where is God calling our congregation to serve? Come

and discover how to breathe easier with God’s plan for your life!
We meet Mondays from 7-8:30pm in the Parlor. Please RSVP with the church office if you are interested in joining this group. *This six-session course meets Mondays, October 7, 14, 21, 28 and November 4 and 11, 2019. If we have enough interest, we may start a second group. Pastor Doug plans to run this course in the spring and fall of 2020 as well.*

Leader: Pastor Doug

Men's Bible Study: Romans

Men meet on Tuesdays at 10am in the Parlor to study the book of Romans. Please join us!

Women's Bible Study: Acts

Our Tuesday morning women’s Bible study will begin on October 1st at 11:15am in the narthex. We will go through the Book of Acts, which covers the work of the Holy Spirit through the apostles after Jesus’s crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension into heaven. Feel free to join us, we always welcome new students of the Bible!

Leader: Karen Anderson-Dent



Business as usual

Service Groups

October SERVICE GROUP Group #2

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

November SERVICE GROUP Group #3

Cheryl Anderton
 Jake and Karoline Gustafson
 Phil and Lori Kugler
 Phil and Mary Link
 Ken and Marjan Schuetze
 Darren and Erin Smith
 Bonita Stock
 Jan Swedberg
 David and Vivian Whipple

Ministry Nite:

October 8 - 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. Church committees do not meet in July.

Greeters and Coffee Hosts

OCTOBER 2019

Sunday, October 6th

9:30am Anne and Dave Weinrich
 and William and Peg Kalar

Sunday, October 13th

9:30am Michelle Loomer
 Ed and Ingrid Morgan

Sunday, October 20th

9:30am Patty Lindholm and
 Walter and Bonnie Gondrez

Sunday, October 27th

9:30am Greeting Only Gary and
 Roxane Nereson and Mae Reich

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	\$28,103.44
Expenditures	\$34,453.63

Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted	\$239,336.00
Actual Received	\$238,225.20

Grocery Receipts

THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food

August	\$1,122.39
--------	------------

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.





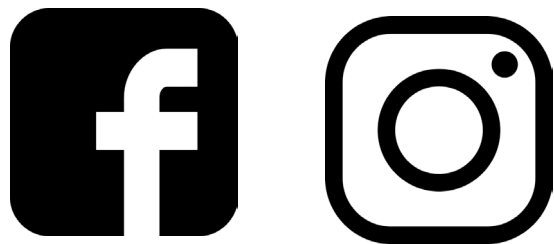
Federated
CHURCH

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 October 1st



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

October Birthdays

10/01 Dorothy Porter	10/19 Phil Kugler
10/01 Tami Collins	10/19 Courtney Meis
10/01 Zayne Weinrich	10/20 Nate Donoho
10/02 Terry Haas	10/21 Dennis Bowman
10/03 Evan Westra	10/23 Drew Johnson
10/04 Tanya Sundberg	10/25 Mary Moe
10/04 Don Westra	10/25 Tyler Harthun
10/07 Doris Enderson	10/26 Jon Steinbrenner
10/07 Grant Davenport	10/26 Viktor Gustafson
10/09 Jaden Beck	10/27 Carol Rose
10/13 Kym Christiansen	10/28 David Lundeen
10/13 Madison Weinrich	10/28 Joshua Whipple
10/14 Austin Nygaard	10/28 Alexis Nelson
10/14 Caitlyn Nygaard	10/28 Ivy Iverson
10/16 Kathy Zimmerman	10/29 Beatrice Schierer
10/16 Jo Kohlhase	10/31 Angelo Griego, Jr.
10/16 Heidi Lien	
10/17 LaVane Ugstad	
10/18 Louetta Hanneman Savoy	



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@federatedfff.org