

# **Union Avenue**

THE SUMMER EDITION

JUNE/JULY 2022

## June/July Worship

Pentecost Sunday, June 5 10:00am

"Powerhouse" Acts 2:1-21 Pastor Doug Dent A Celebration of The Lords Supper

Trinity Sunday, June 12 10:00am

"Hyperlinks of Faith" Romans 5:1-5

Pastor Doug Dent

We will worship in Kirkbride Park today!

10:00am

Sunday, June 19 10:00a "The Bible Under the Circumstances" Psalms 42 and 43 Pastor Doug Dent

10:00am

Sunday, June 26 "Problematic Predictions"

Pastor Doug Dent

Luke 9:51-62

# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

"And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."
2 Corinthians 6:18

#### **Dates to Remember**

Sunday, June 5 Communion

**Thursday, June 9** 10:00AM Sewing & Coffee

Sunday, June 12 9:45AM Sing-A-Long W/ Praise Team 10:00AM Worship In Kirkbride Park Muffins For Mission

Tuesday, June 14 6:30PM Ministry Nite

Wednesday, June 15 Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, June 16 6:30pm D&E Meet

Sunday, June 19 Father's Day

Sunday, June 26 9:45AM Sing-A-Long W/ Praise Team

Sunday, July 3 Communion

Monday, July 4 Independence Day (Office Closed)

Sunday, July 10 9:45AM Sing-A-Long W/ Praise Team 10:00AM Worship In Kirkbride Park

**Thursday, July 21** 10:00AM sewing & Coffee

Sunday July, 24 9:45AM Sing-A-Long W/ Praise Team



Ah... summertime. We are venturing forth to find places of refreshment and renewal. By land, air, and sea, people are going to the lake, the mountains, and making family visits that were delayed because of COVID-19. We are more than ready for a change of scenery and some time away.

In his earthly life and ministry, Jesus frequently took time away from his busy schedule of preaching, teaching, and healing. He sought out quiet time when he could be alone with his heavenly Father to reflect, think and pray. "And he [Jesus] said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat" (Mark 6:31). I think those same words could describe very well our own modern lifestyle. We tend to be too busy, frantically rushing here and there, and so we meet ourselves coming and going. Frequently, we have "no leisure even to eat," and so we resort to eating on the run in our cars. Sound familiar?

For many, the summer months afford us the opportunity to "come away to a deserted place... and rest a while." Taking time out to be renewed and refreshed is not just nice, it's necessary for health and well-being. The demands of work, home, and family can at times make us feel like we are in a vice, and the pressure continues to increase. There is lots of research that identifies the cause-and-effect relationship between chronic, ongoing stress and health-related issues such as hypertension and heart disease. It is critical to get away in order to rest and be restored in body, mind, and spirit.

The Third Commandment is all about doing just this: "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8; Deuteronomy 5:12). Based on God's resting after the work of creation (see Genesis 2:2-3), this commandment is a reminder to us that God invites us to step away from our work so that we might be re-

created. In fact, the word "recreation" is a union of two words: "re," which means to "do over," or "repeat," and "create," which is "to bring into being." God, who brought us into being, desires that we be re-created through rest and relaxation on a regular basis. "All work and no play make Johnny a dull boy," so goes the old saying. It also makes Johnny irritable, exhausted, unable to focus and enjoy God's gift of life. The Lord invites us to a better way.

The purpose of the sabbath (literally, "to rest" in Hebrew) was to provide God's people with an opportunity to rest as well as worship. This was to be a reminder to them that in their enslavement in Egypt, there was no day of rest. Slaves did not enjoy such a privilege. With the Exodus event, God's people were set free and were commanded to observe this day of rest. Martin Luther, in his Small Catechism, explains the Third Commandment in this way: "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and his Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it." Interestingly, Luther makes no mention at all of resting, but only of worship. The twin concepts of rest and worship are at the heart of the Third Commandment, and I believe those concepts are needed now more than ever by all of us today.

In these days of summer vacation and travel, I encourage you to reflect on the words of Jesus in another part of Scripture: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:28-30). Our Lord Jesus Christ invites us to find our rest in him. May it be so with you.

Blessings, Pastor Doug



## Our New Executive Presbyter: The Reverend Beth Buckwalter-Miller

The Presbytery of MN Valleys welcomes the Reverend Beth Buckwalter-Miller as the new Executive Presbyter for Minnesota Valleys Presbytery.

The Rev. Beth Buckwalter-Miller holds a trio of impressive degrees: a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Colorado, a Master of Arts in Counseling from Colorado Christian University, and a Master of Divinity from Denver Theological Seminary. Beth believes these degrees uniquely prepared her "for the ministry by heightening (her) awareness of the needs we experience in body, mind, and soul."

Beth pastored The Presbyterian Church of Red Bluff in Red Bluff, CA since 2010, and prior to that she served as Associate Pastor, temporary supply at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Arvada, CO and Director of Children's Ministry and Adult Spiritual Formation. Her Presbytery experience includes the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, a Presbytery Task force for "Connectional Revitalization," and Presbytery Council for the Sacramento Presbytery. While at Trinity Presbyterian in Colorado, Beth served on the Committee on Ministry for the Denver Presbytery.

Beth is familiar with rural, agricultural society and small church ministry as she currently serves a rural church. She understands the dynamics of rural small churches, along with the struggles and challenges they face with their finances, lack of volunteers, and reaching younger families. Beth is collaborative, willing to learn and listen to the concerns of others. She is thoughtful, keeps positivity at the forefront and will bring a revived energy to our presbytery. Beth plans to travel around to meet every church in our Presbytery and spend time getting to know the people! Her deep commitment to her spirituality and longing to build personal relationships with pastors, staff and visiting churches will be a blessing to the members of our Presbytery.

The Rev. Beth Buckwalter-Miller begins her ministry with the Presbytery on June 1, 2022. She will be installed at the Presbytery meeting on June 7, 2022 (available by Zoom).



Happy, Happy 90th Birthday to Yvonne Marts! Wishing you a wonderful day of sweet music and celebration. If you'd like to drop a note or send a birthday wish her address is.

327 W. Adolphus Ave. Fergus Falls, MN 56537

#### **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.



www.federatedff.org





# Christian Education and Youth Rev. Karen Anderson

Hallelujah! Summer is here! After such a challenging winter everyone is ready for warm days and blue skies! Here at Federated we are looking forward to some fun activities over the summer months.

#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!** June 27-July 1 - 9:00am-noon "I SEE GOD!" Learning about God through creation!

We are excited to run VBS this summer for children ages Kindergarten through 6th grade. We plan to focus on different features we see around us and see how they exhibit God's nature and love for us. We will be exploring specific Bible stories that highlight these ideas, and we will be doing some great crafts, music, and games. Back by popular demand, tie-dying is on the docket as well as some new and unique plans. Several older middle school and high school youth plan to help each day, and we also have a growing list of adult volunteers. If you are interested in participating in some way, please contact the church office!

#### Middle School and High School Youth Group

We are sad to see our weekly meetings come to an end this school year. We have had a great time this spring and it's hard to believe that another season has come and gone. We will be missing our seniors come fall and we still have good memories to make this summer. We don't meet each week during the summer, and instead we try to get together for meaningful and fun activities a few times each month. We are looking forward to game nights at the Dent house, swimming gatherings at Pebble Lake, helping at VBS and the Lake Region Community Garden, campfires, a possible middle school lock-in, and lake days. The youth and I are still working out plans and dates. The schedule of events will be mailed to families of youth and upcoming activities will be noted in the weekly memos. We also tend to do a lot of our planning and communication by group texts, so our youth and parents can stay informed. If you

have any questions or want to get on the youth family mailing list, please contact the church office.

#### Camp Scholarships

Camp scholarships are available on a first-come, first-serve basis for all youth attending church camp this summer. We have a specific amount of money in the Christian Education budget that is ear-marked for scholarships. Once we know how many youths have applied for the scholarships, we will then divide the amount equally between them. We also have a \$75 scholarship available for each youth attending a Presbyterian camp, which is provided by the Minnesota Valleys Presbytery. The deadline to apply for camp scholarships is June 20th and families will be notified as to the amount at that time. Forms are available at the church office.



Christian Education and Youth









#### **Church Office**

The church office hours are from 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12pm of Fridays. The church office will be closed on July 4th.

# The Presbytery of MN Valleys will meet

Tuesday, June 7 via zoom from 9:00 – 10:30am

Tuesday, August 16 via zoom from 7:00-8:30pm

Saturday, October 8 in person from 10-3:00pm (location: St. Cloud)

Tuesday, December 6 via zoom from 6:30-8:00 pm

#### SummerFest

The Fergus Falls SummerFest is June 10 and 11. On Friday, June 10, events take place at the RTC from noon-9pm. On Saturday, June 11, events occur from 9am-6pm at the RTC. The parade is at 6pm on Saturday.



#### **Brianna's Vacation**

Brianna will be on vacation June 15-22. If anyone is willing to help in the church office on June 15 and 16 from 10am-2pm and Friday, June 17 from 9am-12pm let the church office know. If you are also able to help on June 20, 21, and 22 from 10am-2pm let the church office know. Thank you!

#### **Ministry Nite**

Ministry Nite will meet on Tuesday, June 14 at 6:30pm and D&E will meet on Thursday, June 16 at 6:30pm. Committees will not meet in July. We will meet again in August.

#### 2022 Synod School

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies is hosting Synod School from July 24-29, 2022 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, IA. This is a great event for anyone seeking a fun and faith-based learning experience during the summer. There are activities for children, teens, and families. The workshop catalogue and registration materials are available in the church office or www.lakesandprairies.org.

#### **Church Softball**

We would love to see lots of fans pack the stands on Tuesday nights. Let's cheer on our softball team. Go Federated! To see the schedule, check the bulletin boards.

www.federatedff.org



#### **Deacons & Elders**

- Thanked outgoing Treasurer Mark Rodning for his years of faithful service to our congregation.
- Elected Jerry Nuss to be the new Treasurer (effective June 1, 2022).
- Approved the baptisms of Rorey Kay Rodning and Lucas Alexander Cavalier.
- Noted with sadness the deaths of Pat Messer, Wayne Ronning, Carri Thompson, Tiny Macheel, Al Seltz and Lee Krueger.
- Welcomed into membership Roger and Carolyn Fransen.
- Approved the Board of Manager's request for memorial funds to purchase a new shade for the Praise Band window.
- Approved the 2022-2023 Stewardship theme: "Shining God's Light!"
- Approved hosting summer worship at 10:00am from June 5-September 11, 2022.

#### **Worship Committee**

This summer we will once again worship at 10:00am, beginning Sunday, June 5, 2022. We will worship in Kirkbride Park on the SECOND SUNDAY each month (June-September). So, pray for nice weather on June 12, July 10, August 14, and September 11 (Rally Day). Doughnuts will be served.

#### Sing-A-Long

Come early for worship and sing-a-long with the Praise Team to some favorite praise songs and hymns on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. We'll start singing about 9:45am. If you have a favorite song you'd like to sing, let us know.

# Heritage Grant Applications Now Being Accepted

The Endowment Committee is authorized by the Board of Deacons & Elders to offer up to \$10,000 in Heritage Grants from the income earned on unrestricted endowment funds in 2022. Funds may be designated for new projects or ministries within our church, support for charitable organizations in our community, or support for global missions focusing on education, nutrition, or spiritual development. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2022. Information and application forms are available on the Federated Church website (www. federatedff.org. Click the "Resources" tab (top right) "Heritage Grants". Contact Pastor Doug at 218-739-3227 if you have questions.



## Pastoral Care (Rebekah Meder)

While doing some digging this past week, not even knowing what I was looking for I came across a Directory and Cookbook from First Federated Church from 1927. It's 95 years old and it's filled with names, addresses, recipes, advertisements, two-digit phone numbers, special menus, and measurements. It's fun to flip through. Can you picture the Federated Aid Society? How about the Auxiliary ladies? The book is dedicated to those who "are aiming at greater perfection in the art of cooking". Interesting right? A common theme over the 95+ years is food. Food is comfort, it is healing, and it is welcome. Somebody passes away-friends deliver food. You move to a new neighborhood- you may be greeted with sweets. A new baby arrives- a hot dish arrives at your door. You meet for coffee and fellowship and there is sure to be a treat. With food comes great friendships and conversations. May we all continue to share our food with others....and, if you aren't a great cook come for the fellowship and friendship.



## Greeters

**JUNE 2022** 

Sunday, June 5 Jane Nelson & Gail Green

Sunday, June 12 Worship in Kirkbride Park Kurt & Sonja Johnson

Sunday, June 19 John MacFarlane & Gloria Ronning

Sunday, June 26 Glenn & Mary Bressler July 2022 Sunday, July 3 Mark & Sheila Rodning

**Sunday, July 10** *Worship in Kirkbride Park*TBD

Sunday, July 17 Ben & Tessa Schierer

Sunday, July 24 TBD

Sunday, July 31 Arlene Worner & Mary Lundeen

## Ministry Nite: June 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.

**REMINDER:** Greeters are also passing the offering plate for that Sunday. Check your email for reminders on greeter duties. Greeters are asked to refrain from contact (please do not shake hands or pass out bulletins). If you are uncomfortable worshipping in person or serving as a greeter, please let Brianna know. We understand the need for safety and respect your choice.

#### Women's Bible Study - Tuesdays at 11:15am

We are continuing to work our way through 1 Timothy, to be followed by 2 Timothy. Paul wrote these letters to his young friend and colleague Timothy as well as Timothy's congregation in the challenging city of Ephesus. Paul spoke words of encouragement for church leaders and guidelines for worship, leadership, and treatment of one another. His words still hold deep meaning and value for us today, especially as Christians living in an increasingly hostile world. We typically meet during June and most of July and take a break during the month of August.

#### **Adult Bible Study**

Sunday morning Bible study is on pause for the summer. We will resume our study in September.

#### **Coffee Hours**

Women: Tuesdays, 10am Men: Fridays, 10am Sunday Morning: 11:30am



## Stewardship Report

General Fund Report					
Revenue	\$27,434				
Expenditures	\$29,666				
Year to Date Pledge Offering					
Budgeted	\$121,532				
Actual Received	\$134,038				

# Grocery Receipts THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food
May \$20,105.17

### **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

Time sensitive information Please deliver by June 1st

## June Birthdays

06/01	Jerry Nuss
06/02	Cindy McDougall
06/03	Gary Snyder
06/03	Ken Garrahan
06/04	Shane Harthun
06/04	Ayla Hoff
06/05	Matyas Sundheim
06/05	Jackie Gondrez
06/05	Harrison Saurer
06/07	Loran Johnson
06/07	<b>Eunice MacFarlane</b>
06/09	Deb Tabbut
06/10	Kindree Ebert
06/10	Clyde Schlepp
06/10	Delaney Schara
06/12	Bonnie Bergerud
06/12	Danielle Anderson
06/12	Anna Schlepp
06/16	James Michael
06/17	Peg Werner
06/18	Kristen Kugler
06/18	Kathy Hatling
06/19	Marianne Stone
06/20	John Erickson
06/24	David Nelson
06/24	Jim Andrews
06/25	Mary Bressler

06/25	Melissa Saurer
06/25	Elizabeth Hatling
06/25	Melinda Wienbar
06/28	Yvonne Marts
06/28	Hannah Nelson
06/28	Kellen Stenstrom
06/28	Lucas Cavalier
06/30	Lisa Anderson
06/30	Erik Anthonisen



**July Birthdays** 

07/02	Jodie Nuss		
07/03	Cameron Haas	07/19	Bill Rodning
07/03	Rebecca Michael	07/19	Rebekah Meder
07/04	Steve Wienbar	07/21	Timothy Olson
07/05	Jeanette Haas	07/21	Gloria Ronning
07/07	Anne Worner	07/23	Hollis Davenport
07/09	Lori Kugler	07/23	Hayden Westra
07/09	Benjamin Rundquist	07/24	Kim Erickson
07/10	Jean McKenzie	07/26	Piper Andrews
07/10	<b>Hudson Steinbren</b>	07/27	Dominic Facio
	ner	07/28	Linda MacFarlane
07/11	Joel Enderson	07/29	Adam Schlepp
07/11	Charles MacFarlane	07/30	Wally Moe
07/11	Emma Michael	07/30	Mark Becker
07/11	Emily Nuss	07/30	Nash Wendland
07/12	Kristian Fransen	07/31	Ken Schuetze
07/13	Jacki Knapp-Raaen	07/31	Lorna McCabe
07/13	Fiona Rundquist	07/31	Jeremy Jensen
07/15	Jozee Lee		
07/16	Patty Link		
07/18	Mary Link		



07/18



**Dave Nord** 

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

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