

## April Worship

April 2	9:30am	Palm Sunday Luke 19:28-40
<b>"Palm Monday"</b>		
Pastor Doug Dent		
<i>A Celebration of The Lord's Supper &amp; the Sacrament of Baptism</i>		
April 6	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Matthew 26:14 - 27:66
<b>"Betrayal in Our Blood"</b>		
Pastor Doug Dent		
<i>A Celebration of The Lord's Supper</i>		
April 7	7:00pm	Good Friday Psalm 22:1-15
<b>"Separation Anxiety"</b>		
Pastor Doug Dent		
April 9	9:30am	Easter Sunday Matthew 28:1-10
<b>"The Toughest Commandment"</b>		
Pastor Doug Dent		
April 16	9:30am	1 Peter 1:3-9
<b>"A Little Encouragement"</b>		
Pastor Doug Dent		
April 23	9:30am	Luke 24:13-35
<b>"Well-Known Christians"</b>		
Pastor Doug Dent		
April 30	9:30am	Psalm 23
<b>"Everything Happens So Much"</b>		
Pastor Doug Dent		



**SUNDAY, APRIL 2**  
Palm Sunday w/ Communion  
Church Potluck

**MONDAY, APRIL 3**  
1:00pm Grief Study w/ Pastor Ali

**THURSDAY, APRIL 6**  
Maundy Thursday  
7:00pm Worship w/ Communion

**FRIDAY, APRIL 7**  
Good Friday  
Church Office Closed  
7:00pm Worship

**SUNDAY, APRIL 9**  
Easter Sunday

**MONDAY, APRIL 10**  
11:30am H4H Family Selection Cmte.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 11**  
6:30pm Ministry Nite

**THURSDAY, APRIL 13**  
10:00am Sewing & Coffee

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15**  
Newsletter Deadline

**TUESDAY, APRIL 18**  
7:00pm PMV Meeting by Zoom

**THURSDAY, APRIL 20**  
6:30pm D&E Meeting

**SUNDAY, APRIL 23**  
10:30am Sr. Brunch

**FRIDAY, APRIL 28**  
1:00pm Federated Food-Shelf Day

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29**  
1:00pm Bev Lambert Funeral @ Federated



"Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart, one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." Romans 10:9-10

For Christians, Easter represents Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection is proof He is the Son of God, and it is the reason we can find hope in an eternity spent with Him. During Easter, we celebrate what we believe to be the greatest moment in history.

Before celebrating Easter Sunday, however, many observe Good Friday. On this day, we remember how Jesus was persecuted and put to death. Jesus was crucified and took on the sins of the world, even though He was blameless. Because of this, many people wonder how this day could possibly be referred to as "good."

To understand the good news of the gospel, we must first understand our sinful nature and our need for a Savior. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Without Jesus, we are hopeless. Our sinful nature causes us to fall short of God's glory, and the punishment we deserve is death.

But there is good news! While Jesus suffered a terrible death, it was God's plan to save us from our sins. Because Jesus conquered death, this made a way for all who believe in Him, and He reigns for eternity. If we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus, we can receive forgiveness and salvation.

We are not meant to keep this good news to ourselves. Jesus died for the sins of the world, and the gift of salvation is available to all who believe. As Christians, we are called to tell others about God and God's great love for us.

Mark 16:15 says, "Jesus said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.' " In this passage, Jesus is talking to His disciples after they had not believed Mary when she told them of His resurrection.

During this season, I encourage you to share the joy of Easter with others. Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and reflect on the sacrifice He made on the cross. In telling others of His goodness, we can bring Him glory.

In this season of rebirth, may you feel your faith renewed and your heart made new with the hope Easter brings!

Christ is alive! Hallelujah!  
Pastor Doug Dent



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## Easter Prayer

Lord God, you loved this world so much that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, every day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen. - Maria Miriam

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



# Christian Education and Youth

Rev. Karen Anderson

Hallelujah! Easter is just about here! All of us probably find it hard to believe with the snow and the cold surrounding us! Don't we all envision a wonderfully green, flowers-blooming celebration of Our Savior's Resurrection? Ahh, I guess we should know that Minnesota doesn't promise THAT kind of Easter every year. We can hope for a warm-up and spring eventually, as God is faithful in all His promises to us. We have much to look forward to during the month of April and beyond here at Federated Church!

We are excited to report that our Gaga Ball, or Octoball, Court arrived on March 22, at which time it was promptly assembled by our middle school guys and with the leadership of Hollis! It is so great to have this super-fun game set up for all our children's and youth ministries. We anticipate many hours of action in the future! Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to this wonderful addition to our game options.

## Kidz Club and Sunday School

Our Wednesday after-school ministry for K-6 will be continuing until the end of April, with our last day being April 26. We are having a great time learning more about God's Story each week and spending time together, and so coming to an end will be hard. Our Sunday school classes for K-12th grade run through May 14. We plan to finish out our winter/spring topic of the Ten Commandments and end with the Ice Cream Social. Luckily, we have Vacation Bible School to look forward to on June 19-23, which will arrive very quickly.

## Middle School Youth Group

With the completion of the confirmation, our 7th and 8th grade youth have the opportunity to participate in the middle school youth group. This group meets on Wednesdays after school through May 10. We take this time to have some more "traditional" youth group gatherings with fellowship, service projects, and fun learning. We are currently hoping to assist our Meals by Wheels drivers on the two Fridays we are com-

mitted to in April as a special service activity. Parents will be receiving information about this opportunity.

## Senior High Youth Group

Our senior high youth group continues to grow even as their school year is ending. Each week we seem to add a few new faces, with friends inviting friends and people choosing to return. It is such a great group, and so it is sad to think that we will be losing several members to graduation and moving away. Our gatherings will continue into May as concerts and school activities allow. Our summer schedule for both senior high and middle school youth groups is in the works. Our Senior Brunch for graduating seniors is to be held on Sunday, April 23, after worship in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and celebrate with our seniors and their families.

## Women's Bible Study

Our women's Bible study continues to meet each Tuesday at 11:15am in the parlor, and we are still working our way slowly through John's epistles. We are finding there is so much to learn within each chapter, we are enjoying the process of allowing our group to move slowly and let the Word speak to us.

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*Christian Education and Youth*





## Church Office

The church office hours will remain the same in April. Phones and emails will be answered from 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12pm of Fridays. The Church office will be closed on Good Friday, March 7.

## Easter Flowers

If you ordered Easter flowers they can be picked up following the Easter Service on Sunday, April 9. Those with a (T) by their name ordered a tulip; those with an (L) by their name ordered a lily; those with an (H) ordered a hyacinth.

## Grief Study Lead By Pastor Ali

Pastor Ali's grief study group meets on Mondays from 1-2:30pm at Federated Church. The group will not meet on April 10, but they will meet on April 17 to finish the last class.

## Federated Food Shelf Day

Federated Food Shelf Day is the Friday after the 4th Sunday from 1-4pm. They will meet next on Friday, April 28. If you have questions about the dates, contact Brianna in the church office

## Out Of The Office

Brianna will be out of the office on May 4, 5, 8 and June 1, 2 and 5. If someone is willing to be in the office on Thursday and Monday from 10am-2pm and Friday from 9am-12pm to answer phones please let Brianna know.

## 2023 Synod School

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies is hosting Synod School from July 23-28, 2023 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](http://www.lakesandprairies.org).

## Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys

The Presbytery of MN Valleys met on Saturday, February 18, 2023, at the First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls, MN. At this meeting, the Presbytery:

- Celebrated the retirement of Commissioned Lay Pastor Gordy Pennertz (Litchfield, MN).
- Voted on constitutional amendments issued by the General Assembly.
- Learned about the "Church-on-Wheels" initiative in Brainerd, MN, and led by the Rev. Dr. Candace Adams, which will be a mobile worship team leading worship in jails, group homes, 12-step meetings, and at youth events.
- Received reports from the Stated Clerk and Executive Presbyter.
- Received an update on Okoboji Camp and Conference Center.
- Received a report from Ken Green on changes at the Board of Pensions.

Pastor Doug attended this meeting in his new role as Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery, and participated in communion, supervised the voting, and led prayers.

## Coffee Hours

Women: Tuesdays, 10am

Men's: Fridays, 10am

**JAIL, Inc.**  
PO Box 164  
Fergus Falls, MN 56538  
Jailinc.org  
prkondradredeemed@gmail.com  
218-517-0437

**JAIL, Inc.**  
Justice Abounds In Love

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**Sunday, April 23**  
4:00 p.m. Coffee & Cookies  
4:30-5:30p.m. Service

Hosted by:  
**New Creation Church Lutheran Church**  
295 Coney Street  
Perham, MN 56573

Bulletins donated by Midwest Printing







Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

The year 2023 marks 250 years of singing the beloved hymn “Amazing Grace.” It has been sung in churches and at funerals. It is a civil rights anthem, a civil religion anthem, a folk song and a pop culture icon. It has been featured on numerous TV shows and movies and it gave expression to America’s grief after several different national tragedies and has spoken to our personal tragedies. It has been covered by numerous musical artists and there are many books, blogs and articles about this hymn.

It has been used as the first utterance of faith, the last words at death’s door, sung when all other memories have faded to dementia and as a joyful benediction. But why this hymn? There are others that express the theme of grace, others with deep theological truths and others that are easier to sing. And yet “Amazing Grace” has survived the test of time as the most popular and successful hymn.

Of course, to have a definitive answer about why this hymn occupies this place in our hearts, our faith, our history and our country is impossible after 250 years. But I think it is because it speaks to so many situations. It has the power to touch the whole of human experience and give people the words they need. It unifies people. It isn’t just a song of the past that we sing out of tradition. It is a song that propels us forward—remembering how grace has brought us this far, but will also lead us home. The truth of the words of God’s grace for us all resonate across boundaries of time and culture and beliefs. In this hymn, each of us finds our story. In this hymn, each of us finds the languages of our stories and experiences of life and faith.

One of the joys of doing pastoral care and visitation is I get to hear those stories and the ways that God’s grace has brought you safe this far and continues to lead you. So what is your story of Amazing Grace? Where have you been found? Where has God’s grace provided for you from first to last? How is there grace enough for you and all your life contains?

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## 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.

**LOCAL**  
*Mission*



# Committee News

## Mission Committee

Try your hand at delivering Meals by Wheels

Are you a bit intimidated about volunteering as a driver for Meals by Wheels? We can help!

The Mission Committee is recruiting volunteers to fulfill Federated Church's commitment to deliver Meals by Wheels on April 17-21 and 24-28. We have many dedicated volunteer drivers, but we need to grow that group.

To help new volunteers feel more comfortable, we are offering to pair "rookies" with experienced drivers.

Are you willing to help? Meal pick-up is at 11 a.m. on delivery days, and routes are typically done in about an hour. If you're a prospective volunteer who'd like to ride along with one of our regular drivers, please contact Patty Shol at 218-205-5768 or [mpshol@yahoo.com](mailto:mpshol@yahoo.com).

Contact Patty, too, if you've driven in the past and can help out once again. As you know, the Meals by Wheels volunteers are very much appreciated by those who receive the meals you deliver!



## Fellowship Committee

Softball Pancake Breakfast

Join us on Sunday, April 30 after worship for our annual Softball Pancake Breakfast and Auction. During breakfast we will auction off donated items. If you have something that you would like to donate, please drop it off in the church office or contact Dennis Bowman at (218-332-0776).

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## Let's Start A Craft Ministry!

Many of the members of our churches are involved in arts and crafts and use their talents to bless others. We can learn from each other! Let's Begin with a Greeting Card Ministry. Send paper hugs by tapping into your creative spirit and spend time in fellowship!

Instructor: Mary Koch (Cambria Presbyterian Church, Cambria MN) will share about her card ministry. Make and take four greeting cards. All of the materials will be provided. No experience needed.

When: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Time: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Capacity: 20 people

Cost: \$25.00, includes all materials needed, a morning treat and lunch.

Pay at the door: Cash or checks payable to Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys.

Where: First Presbyterian Church

235 E 4th St., Redwood Falls, MN 56283

To register: RSVP to Deb Hess by email or call at [gmc1953dlh@aol.com](mailto:gmc1953dlh@aol.com) or 507.829.6411. Deadline to sign up is April 16, 2023

Come and share the day and get to know some of your fellow Minnesota Valleys Presbyterians and friends!



# Greeters

## March 2023

**Palm Sunday, April 2**

*Worship @ 9:30am*

Del & Kathy Zimmerman

**Easter Sunday, April 9**

*Worship @ 9:30am*

Mike, Patty & Paul Shol

**Sunday, April 16**

*Worship @ 9:30am*

James & Rebecca Michael

**Sunday, April 23**

*Worship @ 9:30am*

Glenn & Mary Bressler

**Sunday, April 30**

*Worship @ 9:30am*

Mary Jones Olsen & Dave  
Loeks

**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.

## Ministry Nite: April 11 - 6:30PM

Please email your minutes to [church@federatedff.org](mailto: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.

## Stewardship Report as of 2/28/23

### General Fund Report

Revenue	\$49,359
Expenditures	\$31,197

### Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted	\$63,120
Actual Received	\$88,862

## Grocery Receipts

### THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

#### Service Food

March	\$4,662.97
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## Let's welcome our new member Jane McLandress!

I grew up in Winnipeg, Manitoba and live with my husband Steve on Jewett Lake. We don't have children, but we have Oskar-a most spectacular little brown white Springer Spaniel who absorbs and gives back great portions of love. I have two brothers who live with their families in Winnipeg and Toronto. We are very close but don't see each other as often as we'd like.

I came to Minnesota in the early 90's and taught French and Spanish (elementary and high school) for about 20 years in Ferguson School District #544 and in the Brainerd-Nisswa area. I am now retired.

I am an avid cross-country skier, gardener, reader and extraordinarily skilled dog walker.

## 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 the church office. Also contact us for pastoral care needs. Please call 218-739-3227 or email [church@federatedff.org](mailto:church@federatedff.org)

## Newsletter Deadline

Articles and announcements are due the 15th of each month. Please send them by email whenever possible. The church staff reserves the right to edit articles for content and space.



# Federated CHURCH

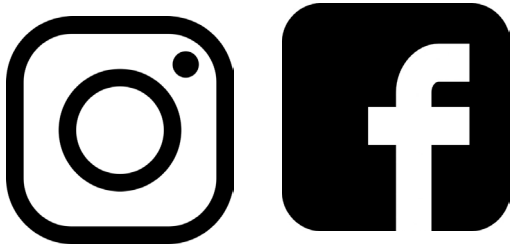
224 North Union Avenue  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Time sensitive information  
Please deliver by April 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

04/01	Owen Runningen	04/19	Paul Undseth
04/03	Breanna Stout	04/22	Siri Anthon-
04/03	Sterling Andrews	isen-Brown	
04/03	Graham Meder	04/22	Joe Cooper
04/04	Kathy Truax	04/22	Logan Stout
04/04	Sam Sundberg	04/23	Sonja Johnson
04/06	Troy Stenstrom	04/23	Jan Knackendoffel
04/08	Steve Lockhart	04/24	Mike Shol
04/09	Emily Schlepp	04/25	Charles Ebbighausen
04/11	Adalynn Eifert	04/25	Vaughn Ebbighausen
04/12	Kai Ebert	04/25	Brett Garrahan
04/12	Paul Eckhoff	04/26	Sheila Rodning
04/13	Preston Weinrich	04/26	Duane Tabbut
04/14	Shane Garrahan	04/26	Ed Morgan
04/14	Anders Anthon-	04/27	Jaden Brown
isen-Brown		04/28	Millie Pearson
04/15	Bella Rude	04/29	Carson Barry
04/16	Abigail MacFarlane	04/30	Christa Beske
04/16	Brenda Iacono	04/30	Samuel Nelson
04/19	Reno Schierer	04/30	Pete Konrad



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

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