

## August Worship

August 6 9:30am *A Celebration of The Lord's Supper*  
Elder Kathy Terpstra Matthew 14:13-21

August 13 9:30am  
Praise Team Hymn Sing Psalm 98

August 20 9:30am  
"Forgiveness, Family, Fate" Genesis 45:1-5  
The Rev. John Lindholm

August 27 9:30am  
"Compassion is Love in Action" Luke 5:17-26  
The Rev. Candace Adams



## Dates to Remember

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 3**  
10:00-2pm Skip Zielin In The Office

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 4**  
Church Office Closed  
10:00am Men's Coffee Hour

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 6**  
Communion

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 8**  
6:30pm Ministry Nite

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 10**  
10:00am Sewing & Coffee

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 12**  
12:00pm Brian Hugli Funeral

**MONDAY, AUGUST 14**  
11:30am H4H Family Selection Cmte.  
Meeting

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 15**  
Newsletter Deadline

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 24**  
2:00pm Presbytery Clerk Meeting

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**  
Pastor Doug & The. Rev Karen Ander-  
son Return from Sabbatical

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**  
Labor Day  
Church Office Closed

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**  
Rally Day  
Choir Sing



## Measuring What Matters

We are stewards of everything. Stewardship is what God wants us to do with everything God gives us: the overflowing abundance of time, talent, opportunities, relationships, location, and resources. We are bombarded with invitations to measure ourselves against a variety of other standards set by the world. We receive thousands of messages daily which tell us we are not good enough, smart enough, rich enough, pretty enough, or capable enough to succeed in life. "Measuring What Matters" is about evaluating our life, our faith, and the use of our resources according to the values of God's Realm. This study explores our allegiances, our faith, our compassion, our use of money, our generosity, and our belief that God provides what is ultimately necessary for living a faithful life. This is stewardship as discipleship, partnering with God through the mission and ministries of the local church to change the world.

## Misbehavin' Monarchs: Exploring Biblical Kings of Questionable Character

Based on the book by Barbara J. Essex © 2006  
The history of Israel's kings is checkered at best. Some were good kings, faithful to God and God's ways, and Israel prospered. Others were terrible kings, preferring to go their own way with disastrous results for God's people. Of the over 40 men and one woman who served as monarchs, we will study eight: Saul, David, Solomon, Rehoboam, Jeroboam, Athaliah, Hoshea, and Zedekiah. We will consider their faithfulness to God, their shortcomings and failures, the women, prophets, and politicians who influenced their decisions, the historical context of the era, and the outcome of their reigns. There are good (and bad) leadership lessons to be learned from their stories.



## Faith Among the Faithless: Learning from Esther How to Live in a World Gone Mad

Based on the book by Mike Cospers

Can Christianity survive a secular age?

Can Christians live without compromise in an increasingly hostile society?

What if a Christian gives in to society's vision and values?

Mike Cospers answers these questions by pointing out the parallels between our world and the story of Esther. A tale of sex, ego, and revenge, the book of Esther reveals a world where God seems absent from everyday life: a world not unlike our own. The story of Esther is a brutal saga of people assimilated into a pluralistic, pagan society, embracing its standards. Yet when threatened with annihilation, they find the courage to turn to God in humility. This is a call to spiritual awakening and to faith in an age of malaise and apathy. This is an invitation to remember the faithfulness of God who, even in dark times, may be hidden but is never absent.

Adult bible study meets in the parlor on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. We will meet starting Sunday, September 17. All are welcome!





# Committee News

## Ministry Nite

Just a reminder that Ministry Nite is Tuesday, August 8 at 6:30pm. Please send all meeting minutes to the church office.

## Committee Chairpersons

To assist the Stewardship Team with their fall campaign, we are requesting your budget information be submitted by September 1, 2023. Thank you for putting this on your next meeting agenda. If you need me to email you again what you were budgeted for 2023, please let me know.

## D&E

D&E will not be meeting the month of August. They will meet again on Thursday, September 21.

## Church Softball

Church Softball playoffs start on Tuesday, August 8.

## Choir

The choir will start practice on Wednesday, August 30 at 7pm. The choir will sing on Rally Day during worship.

## Fellowship Committee

Rally Day is on Sunday, September 10 at Federated Church at 9:30am. We will have blessing of the backpacks and K-4 grade will receive bibles. The fellowship committee will be serving pull pork sandwiches, homemade baked beans, coleslaw, and chips. We will have activities, games, and prizes.

## 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 2023. 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, 2023. Information and application forms are available on the Federated Church website ([www.federatedff.org](http://www.federatedff.org)). Click the "Resources" tab (top right) "Heritage Grants". Contact Pastor Doug at 218-739-3227 if you have questions.







What a fun, busy summer we have had so far! I hope you have all had a wonderful time enjoying our beautiful Minnesota weather. I have been on sabbatical since July 15, and I am looking forward to kicking off our programs in September. These are some dates to get on your calendars as we gear up for the fall.

## Kidz Club

Kidz Club will start back up on Wednesday, September 13 from 3:30-5:30pm. We will have bus transportation available from Kennedy School so look for Pastor Doug. We are excited to gather each week for fun, fellowship, and learning with our K-6th grade students. Families are welcome to join us for dinner at 5:30pm.

## Sunday School

Sunday School will start back up on Sunday, September 17 after worship at 10:30am. We have classes for Pre-K through high school, as well as Adult Sunday school. All are welcome!

## Confirmation Retreat

The confirmation retreat will be held Friday, September 22-24 (Friday through Sunday) at Presbyterian Clearwater Forest. This retreat is for all 7th-9th grade students in our confirmation class/youth group. This is a great way for everyone involved to start off the fall.

## Confirmation Class

Confirmation will start back up on Wednesday, September 20 from 4:00-5:30pm for our 7th-8th grade class. Our 9th grade class will meet from 6:30-7:30pm. Our confirmation class/middle school youth group is a time for deeper learning as well as games and fellowship. All students in this age group are welcome and we love it when friends join.

## Senior High Youth

Our senior high youth group will start back up on Wednesday, September 13 from 7:30-9:30pm for our regular gatherings. Our senior high youth group, made up of youth in grades 9th-12th, meet weekly to create a space for exploring issues of faith. We tackle current issues, theological themes, and lots of other interesting topics. We love it when friends join our group as well!

We are so looking forward to seeing everyone regularly each week starting this fall. More details are to come in our next newsletter and in the weekly memos.

God's blessings to you all as we take time to rest in His glory with these last beautiful days of the summer season!

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*Christian Education and Youth*



# Vacation Bible School 2023



Bugs biting and mosquitoes buzzing, grills cooking, sprinklers running, fruit ripening, ice cream melting, and baseball bats cracking. We feel summer in our bodies, feel summer on our skin, taste and smell summer, see and hear summer. These months teem with life. Considering that God, the Creator, invented summer, there's theological truth here, and a spiritual invitation.

What can summer help us learn, or grasp, or experience with our bodies about God and truth that are easier to forget in cooler, quieter days? What spiritual value lies in the early morning sunshine, or in the onslaught of weeds in my garden?

God is the Creator and our story began in a garden. God saved and redeemed this world not primarily through ideas or doctrine, but by taking on a body in Jesus and walking and talking with us and using tangible things like bread and wine and water and fish to teach us about God's relationship with us.

Summer is a time that we can learn about the kingdom of heaven through things we can taste and smell, see and touch. Here are ideas for this last month of summer to do just that!

- **Breathe.** Take in a deep breath and remember that God's breath sustains us. Exhale and surrender into God's presence. Whether your summer is more vacation or chaos, prayerful breathing reminds us that our life is in God.
- **Step Outside.** Find time to step outside. This is the world God made, the world God joined us in. How do you see God's handiwork here? What does this tell you about God?
- **See and Hear.** Spend some time doing nothing but seeing and hearing. Soak in what God made and what God is doing here and now.
- **Taste and Smell.** Stop and smell some flowers today. At mealtimes, don't just eat and drink: Taste. Smell. Savor. There's no time like summer to practice enjoying what's in front of us each day.

God's work in our world is earthy and teeming with life. And today, at least for today, you and I are too.



## Church News

### Church Office

The church office hours are from 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12pm on Fridays. Skip Zielin will be in the office on Thursday, August 3 from 10-2pm and Friday, August 4 the office will be closed. .

### Sabbatical

Pastor Doug and The Rev. Karen Anderson will return from Sabbatical on September 3.

### Boxes of Blessings

During Vacation Bible School, our youth packed Boxes of Blessings for cancer patients in Fergus Falls. This ministry shows love and support to individuals battling cancer in our community. Each box contains items of comfort and necessity for cancer patients. Because of generous donations and volunteers, we were able to give 28 boxes to the cancer center this summer. Thank You!





# Community

## Habitat for Humanity Build Day

Federated Church had the opportunity to help with the Habitat for Humanity build day on Tuesday, June 27 from 9-3pm. Federated Church helped do the exterior framing. They had a very productive day and good fellowship. Thank you to everyone who participated in this wonderful event.



# Greeters

## Greeters and Coffee Hosts

**Sunday, August 6**  
9:30am w/ Communion  
Bev Richter & Cindy Spidahl

**Sunday, August 13**  
9:30am  
Matt & Donna Solin

**Sunday, August 20**  
9:30am  
James & Madilyn Michael

**Sunday, August 27**  
9:30am  
Dennis & Lu Echelberger

**Sunday, September 3**  
9:30am w. Communion  
Steve & Melinda Weinbar

**Sunday, September 10**  
9:30am - Rally Day  
Dave & Anne Weinrich

**Sunday, September 17**  
9:30am - Sunday School Starts  
Dennis & Jean Bowman

**Sunday, September 24**  
9:30am  
Skip & Char Zielin

**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.

Brianna is always looking for greeters. If you are interested in a certain month or a certain Sunday, please let me know. You can email me at [church@federatedff.org](mailto:church@federatedff.org) or call at 218-739-3227. Phones and emails will be answered Monday-Thursday from 10am-2pm and Friday 9am-12pm.

## 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](mailto:church@federatedff.org)

## Ministry Nite: August 8 - 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. Church committees do not meet in July.

## Stewardship Report

General Fund Report	
Revenue	\$ 36,416
Expenditures	\$ 36,209
Year to Date Pledge Offering	
Budgeted	\$ 189,360
Actual Received	\$ 217,049

## Grocery Receipts THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food	
June	\$3,040.78

## 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

Time sensitive information  
Please deliver by August 1st

## Connect with Federated



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

If you would like to Text "give", please **text the message give to 855-235-5961**. Click on the link to the setup page and enter your information.

## August Birthdays

08/01	Rosemary Rundquist	08/22	Benjamin Kugler
08/03	Phyllis Behrends	8/22	Rayna Rodning
08/05	Barb Meder	08/23	Beverly Richter
08/05	Ashley Lien	08/23	Jane Nelson
08/07	Natalie Fransen	08/24	Titus Christianson
08/07	Johanna Meder	08/26	Jen Jensen
08/08	Jerry Hendel	08/27	Lynn Oxley
08/09	Vern Youngren	08/27	Ryndel Vogel
08/10	Arthur Schlepp	08/27	Xyola Macheel
08/11	William Kalar	08/27	Easton Eckhoff
08/12	Clayton Skretvedt	08/27	Holden Stenstrom
08/12	Bonnie Gondrez	08/29	Connie Seltz
08/12	Tayler Thomp son-Eckhoff	08/29	Tessa Schierer
08/13	Joan Ebbighausen	08/30	Renee Larsen
08/13	Emma Runningen	08/31	Emma Barry
08/14	Kim Dean		
08/16	Rachel Westra		
08/17	Kathy Gilbert		
08/20	Paul Shol		
08/20	Darren Smith		
08/21	Paula Davenport		



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