

## October Worship

Sunday, October 1 9:30am World Communion Sunday  
"Measuring What Matters: COMPASSION" Jeremiah 23: 1-6  
*Pastor Doug Dent*

Sunday, October 8 9:30am  
"Measuring What Matters: GENEROSITY" Mark 10: 17-31  
*Pastor Doug Dent*

Sunday, October 15 9:30am Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23  
"Measuring What Matters: MONEY"  
*Pastor Doug Dent*

Sunday, October 22 9:30am  
"Measuring What Matters: PROVISION" 1 Kings 17: 8-16  
*Pastor Doug Dent*

Sunday, October 29 9:30am Reformation Sunday  
"Reformation: The Holy Catholic Church" Mark 9: 33-37  
*Pastor Doug Dent*



## Dates to Remember

**Sunday, October 1**  
Communion

**Sunday, October 8**  
Pie Social

**Monday, October 10**  
6:30pm Ministry Nite

**Thursday, October 12**  
10:00am Sewing & Coffee

**Sunday, October 15**  
Newsletter Deadline

**Monday, October 16-20**  
Brianna on Vacation

**Wednesday, October 18-20**  
Doug on Vacation

**Thursday, October 19**  
6:30pm D&E Meeting

**Saturday, October 21**  
10:00am PMV Meeting in Willmar

**Sunday, October 22**  
Stewardship Sunday

**Sunday, October 29**  
10:30am Mission Dinner

**Wednesday, November 1**  
9:00am H4H Faith Build Day

**Sunday, November 5**  
All Saints' Sunday  
Communion



There they made Jesus a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. John 12:2

This Sunday we will celebrate World Communion with Christians all around the world, in many and diverse churches, from all denominations. The practice began at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA in 1933.

As I prepare for the worship service, I am drawn to contemplate the one piece of furniture that is the most essential piece in any dwelling, be it in one's home or the church: the table.

For me, it is the centerpiece of a home, the place of gathering, of feasting, of long conversations. It is a place of daily communion that transpires when family and friends pull up a chair and sit across from one another, break bread, and share their lives. I have many fond memories around our table: of holiday feasts, of deep conversations, of laughter and tears, of games played, of work done, of crafts made.

What is it about the table? Tables give us space apart from one another to remain individuals, and yet, a table draws us ever closer to one another through storytelling, through laughter, through sharing burdens. A table is a level playing field both visually, literally, and metaphorically.

In the Bible, the table is a symbol of family, community, and faithful presence. It is a symbol of our deep desire to be known and be loved. It is a symbol we see throughout Scripture as a place where God dwells with and provides for God's people. God sets a table for us and joins us around it. Some of Jesus' most important moments with his disciples happened around a table.

Tables are all about hospitality. God always provides enough food to go around. Every meal is the Lord's supper, cooked and baked with gratitude, served with love. At the table we are given sustenance to go forth into the world and bring the gospel of generous grace to others because in small way, we experienced that kind of generosity around our own table.

As we come together to celebrate World Communion may we envision our brothers and sisters in Christ from around the globe sitting at all kinds of tables. May we be awakened to their plights as they continue their faith journey through many diverse wildernesses. And may each one of us see our own tables, both in church and in our homes, as the Lord's, where we willingly nourish one another's body and soul.

In Him, the Bread of Life,

Pastor Doug



## 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

**LOCAL**  
*Mission*



# Church News

## Church Office

The church office hours are from 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12pm on Fridays.

## Sewing & Coffee

Join us the second Thursday of every month for sewing and coffee in fellowship hall at 10am. Bring any kind of craft or just come for coffee and good fellowship on October 12th.

## Brianna's Vacation

Brianna is taking vacation from October 16th-20th. If anyone is available to help in the church office from 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12pm on Friday that would be great. If you can even help on Monday and Tuesday that would even help.

## Pastor Doug

Pastor Doug will be out of the office on October 18th and 19th.

## Wednesday Activities

No Kidz Club or youth activities on Wednesday, October 18th.

## Federated Church Food Shelf Day

Federated church volunteers the Friday after the fourth Sunday each month at the food shelf from 1-4pm. The next Friday will be October 27th.

## Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

No Adult Bible Study with Pastor Doug on Sunday, October 29th.

## Remind

If you would like to receive text updates from Federated Church, please text the message @ **federated** to the number **81010**. Now that activities have started this is a great way to stay in touch if you are away from your email. Please let me know if you need help with this.

## Coffee Hour

Women's: Tuesdays at 10am  
Men's: Friday's at 10am



## Women's Bible Study

Our women's Bible study began Paul's letter to the Philippians after a summer break. This epistle to Paul's beloved church in Philippi focuses on finding joy, even when our circumstances are FAR from good. We are a welcoming group of people seeking God's truth and meaningful fellowship.

Karen is considering a Monday early-evening Bible study on the book of Revelation. It would likely begin November 6, running from 6:30-8:00 pm each week. There have been requests over the years to "redo" the study of this particular book of the Bible, and with current events, it is probably great timing. More information will be forthcoming, but I wanted to mention that this is in the works!

## Sunday Morning Bible Study

Join Pastor Doug for adult bible study after worship at 10:30am. We are studying Measuring What Matters through October 22. 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.





# Christian Education and Youth Rev. Karen Anderson

We are well into our fall schedule already, and it's been GREAT so far! We have new and returning children and youth, as well as wonderful volunteer leadership, coming together to learn God's word each week!

## Kidz Club

Kidz Club began on September 13th and will run through December 20th, with the weeks of October 18th (MEA) and November 22nd (Thanksgiving) off. Our theme for the fall is "Jesus, Our Savior and Friend." Each week we hear a Bible story, learn some songs, do a fun craft, and play in the gym. We invite all children grades K-6 to join us for this special time together.

## Sunday School

Sunday school began on September 17th after worship. We have classes for k-6th meeting in the Christian Education wing (k-1st-Jona Brown and Madalyn Dent, 2nd-4th Kristian Fransen and Sam Ebert, 5th-6th Karen Bush, and Karen Anderson Dent. Our theme this fall is "The Fruit of the Spirit". Our older youth class meets in the Narthex with Hollis Davenport. They will be tackling the connection between faith and science. It should be a time of great discussion. Come join us for learning and fellowship!

## Youth Group

Senior high youth group began on September 13th and runs throughout the year with school/holiday-related breaks. We always start the year polling people on the topics they most want to cover, and then the discussions are developed out of that survey. We will also be doing various service projects such as Care Packages for our newly graduated seniors in college, Boxes of Blessings, and other community-based missions.

## Confirmation Retreat

We kicked off our year with the Confirmation Retreat the weekend of September 22nd-24th at Clearwater Forest Camp. I think everyone was ready to get away and enjoy the outdoors together on a beautiful weekend! The theme was "Jesus—Divine Man of Mystery" and we looked at Jesus

through new eyes and recommitted ourselves to be His disciples. It was an incredible weekend and I pray that everyone came away with wonderful memories and new ideas. I want to say a HUGE THANK YOU to our fearless adult leaders, who braved the challenges of teenage angst and energy! Thank You to Hollis Davenport, Madalyn Dent, Becca Michael, Barb LaPlante, and Molly Stoddard. It could NOT have happened without their generosity of spirit, love, and time.



Confirmation classes are underway! We have 21 students in grades 7-9 this year. They are a lively and thoughtful group. Hold them in your prayers as they prepare to become full members of our congregation.

7-8th grade meets on Wednesdays, from 4:30-5:30 PM. Students may come on the bus from school at 3:30 for a snack and gym time before class.

9th grade meets on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 PM. Students may come on the bus after school and help with Kidz Club or do homework.

All students and families are invited to join us for supper at 5:30 PM.

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*Christian Education and Youth*







In recent weeks, I have been drawn to and inspired by poetry written by theologians, especially poem blessings written by Jan Richardson. Here is one her of blessings that has touched my heart and soul as we adjust to changes that come with a new routine and schedule in the fall. May you find a blessing in it as well. Blessing in the Chaos - By Jan Richardson



To all that is chaotic in you,  
let there come silence.

Let there be a calming  
of the clamoring,  
a stilling of the voices  
that have laid their claim on you,  
that have made their home in you,



that go with you even to the holy places  
but will not let you rest,  
will not let you hear your life  
with wholeness or feel the grace  
that fashioned you.



Let what distracts you cease.  
Let what divides you cease.  
Let there come an end  
to what diminishes and demeans,  
and let depart all that keeps you in its cage.



Let there be an opening  
into the quiet that lies  
beneath the chaos,  
where you find the peace  
you did not think possible  
and see what  
shimmers within the storm.



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## Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys

The Presbytery of MN Valleys will meet on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at First Presbyterian Church in Willmar, MN (10AM-3PM). At this meeting, Pastor Doug Dent will be installed as the Moderator of the Presbytery for 2024. Members of the congregation are invited to attend. Lunch is provided. Please let the church office know if you plan to attend so we can order a lunch for you.



# Committee News

## Worship Committee

Praise Team Rehearsal

The praise team practices on Tuesdays at 6pm.

Bell Choir Rehearsal

The Bell Choir practices on Tuesday nights at 7:30pm. If you are interested in joining, please contact Tessa Nord at 218-205-8627. The bells will play during worship on Sunday, October 15th.

Choir Rehearsal

The Choir practices on Wednesday nights at 7pm. If you are interested in joining, please contact Jack Raaen at 701-367-0021. The choir will sing during worship on Sunday, October 8th.

## Fellowship Committee

Pie Social

The annual Pie Social will be held after worship on Sunday, October 8th. If you would like to donate a pie the Fellowship Committee will have sign-up sheets during worship on Sunday, September 24th and Sunday, October 1st. All pies can be brought that morning or dropped off in the kitchen at the church prior to the event. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 218-739-3227.

## Mission Committee

Mission Brunch

Mark your calendar for the Mission Committee's much-anticipated Mission Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 29, following the regular church service. Delicious egg bakes, muffins and fruit are on the menu, and proceeds from a free-will offering will support Pillars of Friends and Allies Project Corp. This non-profit, based in Dalton, aids Afghan families who were allies of the United States and, following the U.S. departure from Afghanistan in 2021, became targets of the Taliban. (You can read more about Pillars at [www.friendsandalliesproject.org](http://www.friendsandalliesproject.org))



## Deacon & Elders

The Deacons & Elders met on September 21, 2023, to:

- Review the financial reports
- Receive a report on the Pastor's sabbatical
- Revise membership rolls due to deaths
- Invite the Presbytery of MN Valleys to hold its October 19, 2024, meeting at Federated Church
- Recognize Bill Nead for his service to the church
- Reviewed the Pastor's community and denominational commitments, which include:
  - Fergus Falls Clergy Association
  - Habitat for Humanity - board of directors and Family Selection Committee
  - Jail Inc. - board of director
  - Mill Street Bible study team
  - Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Camp - board of directors and Personnel committee
  - Presbytery of MN Valleys - moderator, Presbytery Life committee, Leadership Team, Presbytery chairpersons
- Approve expending \$10,000 from unrestricted endowment funds as Heritage Grants to the community
- Received reports on committee work from Board of Managers, Missions, Nominating, Personnel Stewardship, and Worship Teams

## Heritage Grant Applications

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.



# Greeters

**Sunday, October 1st**  
9:30am  
Molly Stoddard & Matt Solin

**Sunday, October 8th**  
9:30am - *Pie Social*  
Landon Link

**Sunday, October 15th**  
9:30am  
Skip & Char Zielin

**Sunday, October 22nd**  
9:30am  
Mary Jones Olson & Dave Loeks

**Sunday, October 29th**  
9:30am - *Mission Dinner*  
Connie Seltz & Bev Richter

**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.



## Village Co-op

Join Pastor Ali and Pastor Doug for coffee at the Village Co-op on Tuesday, October 24th at 2pm in the Great Room.

## H4H Faith Build Day

Join us on Wednesday, November 1st from 8:45am-3pm for Federated Church Habitat Faith Build Day. No building experience is required, and everyone can help make a difference.



## 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](mailto:church@federatedff.org)  
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



## Ministry Nite:

**October 10 - 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

### General Fund Report

Revenue	\$23,106
Expenditures	\$34,887

### Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted	\$252,480
Actual Received	\$262,637

## Grocery Receipts

### THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

#### Service Food

September	N/A
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## 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 October 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.

## October Birthdays

10/00 Thea Undseth	10/25 Tyler Harthun
10/01 Dorothy Porter	10/26 Jon Steinbrenner
10/01 Tami Collins	10/26 Viktor Gustafson
10/01 Zayne Weinrich	10/27 Carol Rose
10/02 Terry Haas	10/27 Jim Wolters
10/03 Evan Westra	10/28 Joshua Whipple
10/04 Tanya Sundberg	10/28 Ivy Iverson
10/07 Doris Enderson	10/28 Stephanie Hoff
10/07 Grant Davenport	10/29 Beatrice Schierer
10/13 Kym Christiansen	10/29 Tessa Nord
10/13 Madison Weinrich	10/31 Jack Cooper
10/16 Kathy Zimmerman	
10/16 Heidi Lien	
10/19 Phil Kugler	
10/21 Dennis Bowman	
10/23 Drew Johnson	



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

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