

April Worship

April 7 9:30am

"Favorite Child"

Acts 4:32-35

Pastor Doug Dent

A Celebration of The Lord's Supper

April 14 9:30am

Choir Sings

"A Bible Verse for Jonah"

Psalm 4

Pastor Doug Dent

April 21 9:30am

Bells Play

"The Good Shepherd Brand"

John 10:11-18

Pastor Doug Dent

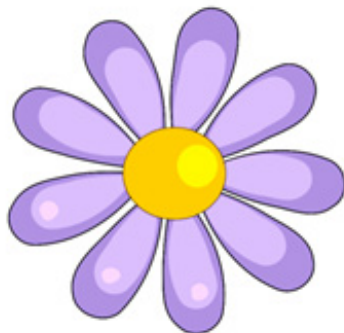
April 28 9:30am

Bells Play

"A Whole New Ballgame"

1 John 4:7-21

Pastor Doug Dent



Dates to Remember

Monday, April 1

Church Office Closed

Sunday, April 7

Communion

Church Directory Photos

10:30am Pre-K Sunday School w/
Parents

Tuesday, April 9

6:30pm Ministry Nite

Sunday, April 14

Choir Sings

10:30am Softball Pancake Break-
fast

Tuesday, April 16

Church Directory Photos

Thursday, April 18

6:30apm D&E Meeting

Sunday, April 21

Bells Ring

10:30am Sr. Brunch

Sunday, April 28

Bells Ring & Choir Sings

Church Directory Photos

Saturday, May 4

Church Directory Photos



But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. Acts 2:24

Friends, "We are an Easter People, and Alleluia is our song."
Those words, attributed to St. Augustine, explain who we are as Christians.

We have been through the grave and been reborn to new life in Christ.
And so, we sing "alleluia!"

In the letter to the Hebrews it says: "For the sake of the joy that lay before him, [Jesus] endured the cross" (12:2). Jesus knew what was coming, and through faith, so do we. The sufferings of this world are nothing compared to the glories that are to come for those who believe in Jesus.

Through the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the chains of sin and the power of death are defeated. The gap between God and humankind is closed, our wounds are healed, and our destiny moved from punishment to glory.

We are joyful because we are hopeful. Our hope is not based on fantasy or "wishing," but on what God has already done for us through Jesus at Easter.

We are all united, not because of location, nationality, or socioeconomic status, but because of our common need for a Savior – and the joy that comes from being saved.

We are an Easter people because our story does not end in the grave, but in the throne room of heaven.

I wish you the joy of the Easter season, O Easter people!
Pastor Doug Dent

The Federated Family Thanks You...

Pastor Ali Haugerud for being our Director of Pastoral Care. Your compassionate and Christ-like care for our congregation and community is appreciated. We wish you well in your new ministry. You will always be part of our Federated Family.

Tara Johnson for being our bookkeeper. We're grateful for your commitment to our church family and for your invaluable assistance in putting our financial records in order. We wish you the very best in all your endeavors.

The Federated Family Welcomes...

David Krieser-Koll as our new bookkeeper. David has over three decades of experience in office management. We are thankful for David's willingness to do our books. Stop by the office and meet David. Give him a warm Federated welcome.



Christian Education and Youth

Rev. Karen Anderson

Here we are in April! It is hard to believe that we are already this far into the year! We have had a wonderful rich and busy year in our children's and youth programs. As we look ahead to warmer weather and all the blessings of springtime, we have some important events and dates to share with you.

Senior Brunch--Sunday, April 21

We will be celebrating our graduating senior high school students with our annual Senior Brunch. We will be serving a variety of brunch items right after worship in Fellowship Hall. Our graduating seniors are Harvey Beske, Nevaeh Konrad, William Nuss, Fiona Rundquist, and Kellen Stenstrom.

EVERYONE is invited and welcome to attend this church family celebration!

Kidz Club—last day Wednesday, April 24

Kidz Club will continue to meet during the entire month of April, with our last day set for April 24. We have had a GREAT year with lots of wonderful kids and volunteers of all ages. We have covered the life and ministry of Jesus during the 2023-2024 year. Our kids are so creative and enthusiastic! It is our hope that they have gained a deeper knowledge and relationship with our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Middle School Youth Group—Last day Wednesday, May 15

Now that confirmation is over for the season, we set aside Wednesdays after school at 3:30pm for youth group. We will continue to meet March, April, and through mid-May for our middle school youth to have some regular "youth group" gatherings. It is so much fun to spend time with these awesome young people! We hope to do some special activities as well like assisting with Meals by Wheels.

Senior High Youth Group

Our senior high youth group will continue to meet Wednesday evenings through May. We will take a few evenings off due to concerts and end-of-year school activities. We usually keep in touch through text messages to stay on track! Our last day is INTENDED to be May 29, but as we get closer the date will be determined.

Adult Bible Studies

Our women's Bible study and Revelation Bible study will continue to meet through the spring and maybe the summer months. Our women's group, which meets on Tuesdays at 11:15am, is wrapping up the study of 1 Samuel, and we will soon discuss our next book of the Bible to dive into. The Revelation Bible study group is working its way through this complex and fascinating book of prophecy each Monday at 6:30pm.

Christian Education and Youth





Church News

Church Office

The church office hours in April are from 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12pm on Fridays. The church office will be closed on Monday, April 1 for Brianna to have the day off.

Coffee Hour

Women's - Tuesdays at 10am
Men's - Fridays at 10am

A-V Help Needed

We need persons willing to learn how to operate the sound and video systems for worship. Both our A-V Techs will be away on Sunday, April 21, 2024. Training will be provided. Pay is \$15/hour. High school students are welcome to apply. Anyone interested should contact the church office at 739-3227 or church@federatedff.org.

Retirement Party

Dale Anderson will be retiring after 45 years of service from Dak-Farmers' Cooperative Breckenridge. A retirement gathering will be held on April 14 from 2-5pm at the Breckenridge United Methodist Church. 910 Main St.

Federated Food Shelf Day

Federated Food Shelf Day is the Friday after the 4th Sunday of every month from 1-4pm. They will meet next on Friday, May 3. If you have questions about the dates, contact Brianna in the church office.

Boxes of Blessing

As a part of the caring ministry of Federated Church, we give "Boxes of Blessing" to the Cancer Center for those who are receiving treatment there. These boxes are packed by the youth group and delivered to the center by Federated staff regularly. In consultation with the doctors and the nurses who work directly with the patients, the boxes contain items that will be helpful to people as they begin their journey with treatment. We include lotions, chapstick, hand sanitizer, a word search book, a water bottle, socks, a back scratcher, a notepad, chewing gum, lemon drops, an eye mask, and earbuds. Most importantly, we

want all those who must walk through the doors of the Cancer Center to know that they are not alone, so most importantly, these boxes are a tangible sign of our prayers and presence with those who are facing a difficult time in their lives.

If you would like to contribute to this caring ministry, please write "Boxes of Blessing" in the memo line of your check. Thank you!

2024 Synod School

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies is hosting Synod School from July 21-26, 2024 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.

UCC-MN Conference Annual Meeting

UCC-MN Conference Annual Meeting – June 2-8, 2024, at St. Benedict's College, St. Joseph, MN
Federated Church is invited to send a delegate to the UCC-MN Conference's Annual meeting. Anyone wishing to attend all, or a portion of this meeting, may contact Pastor Doug. There will be both online and in-person portions to this meeting.

June 2 (6:30-8:00 PM) – Panel discussions; online only

June 3 (6:30-8:00 PM) – Compensation guidelines; online only

June 4 (6:30-8:00 PM) – Resolution hearing; online only

June 5 (6:30-8:00 PM) – Budget hearing; online only

June 6 (9:00 AM – 3:00 PM) Clergy Anti-Racism (and) Power & Boundary Training; in-person only

June 7-8 (9:00 AM - ??) – Annual meeting, plenary sessions, workshops, exhibits.

Note: The annual meeting will be available online and in-person, but voting will only be available in-person.





At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” So often, we hear these words and we think that we need to go somewhere exotic and convert people to Christianity. While that may be one element of this command of Jesus, I think it is much simpler than that moving across the world. This is a command to tell our story and God’s story right in our own neighborhoods and communities. This is an invitation to tell and share about the God of love that we know, the God that invites us into an amazing story that isn’t just something from the past, but something that is happening here and now in our lives.

Each day is a new day, thanks to the Spirit of God in our midst. God’s work in Jesus is the prime example of God’s continuing creative and redeeming work among us and despite us. Our God is not merely a God of history, performing mighty acts only in Biblical times, but a powerful on the move God of the present and the future. The story we tell is about how this God has chosen us and loves us and continues to work in us and our world today.

The story we share has the basic truth of God’s love. God loves us enough to be the Creator who created the whole universe and every creature, including you and me. God loves us enough to be the Redeemer who has saved and redeemed the world from sin and separation so that we might be joined to that love forever. And God loves us enough to be the Spirit and guiding force at work in us—inspiring, strengthening, guiding, advocating, and illuminating us in our living now.

It is time for a new chapter in my story as I follow God’s call. As some of you may have already heard, I am no longer serving as the pastor at Hope Lutheran in Fergus. I will be accepting a full-time call at an area ELCA congregation (still waiting for the final paperwork before an official announcement). Due to the increased demands and time commitment of my new role, I am no longer able to serve as the Director of Pastoral Care at Federated Church. My final day as a part of your staff will be April 30th.

My family and I will continue to live in Fergus Falls, so I may see you from time to time in the grocery store, restaurants, or coffee shops and when that happens, please say hello! I have deeply enjoyed getting to know many of you, working alongside your incredible staff, and being a part of this caring ministry. Thank you for welcoming me into your congregation, your homes, and your lives. Thank you for telling me your stories, and for the time that our stories intertwined for a bit. You all will remain in my prayers, and I trust God will continue to do amazing work through Federated Church. There are still more stories to be told!

May we always look for how God’s story is alive and active in our lives and how God joins our stories together for the good of the world.

God be with you,
Pastor Ali



Committee News

Worship Committee

Worship In the Park will be on the 2nd Sunday in June, July, and August. Join us on June 9, July 14, and August 11 at 9:30am. Worship will not be live streamed these Sunday's but will be available to watch later in the day.

Bell Choir Rehearsal

The Bell Choir practices on Wednesday nights at 6pm. If you are interested in joining, please contact Tessa Nord at 218-205-8627. The bells will play during worship on Sunday, April 21.

Choir Rehearsal

Choir Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. If you are interested in joining or know someone who might be interested, please contact Jack Raaen at 701-367-0021 or by email: jackraaen@yahoo.com. The choir will sing on Sunday, April 14.

Fellowship Committee

Softball Pancake Breakfast

Join us on Sunday, April 14 after worship for our annual Softball Pancake Breakfast and Auction. During breakfast we will auction off donated items of value. If you have something that you would like to donate, please drop it off in the church office or contact Dennis Bowman at 218-205-8147.

Softball

Federated Church is recruiting players for the Federated teams. Players of any skill are accepted. Federated will play on Tuesday evenings from mid-May to early August. Contact Dennis Bowman for more information at 218-205-8147.

Mission Committee

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing gives us the opportunity to join with congregations worldwide to share God's love with neighbors in need. Donations

to One Great Hour of Need supports projects in more than 100 countries, providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. Our church's Mission Committee will be matching your donations of up to \$300 for the campaign. Watch for informational flyers in your bulletins during April and donation envelopes in the pews. Thank you for supporting One Great Hour of Sharing.

Church Directory

We hope you will be part of our new directory. To schedule your photo shoot, go to <https://www.federatedff.org/directory/> or call Brianna at the church office 218-739-3227. Additionally, members will be available in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour to help you make reservations.

Photo dates are:

- Sunday, April 7, 2024 10:45 AM – 3:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 16, 2024 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Sunday, April 28, 2024 10:45 AM – 3:00 PM
- Saturday, May 4, 2024 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

The directory site is hosted by Instant Church Directory which will allow us to keep the information current and to offer helpful features like a phone app.

Please note, we are taking photos "in house," not through a professional directory company. There will be no sales pitch and we will not be able to offer you copies of your photo. If you choose to submit your own photo or do not wish to participate in our directory, please go to the website or call and make your preference known.

All Federated members and friends are welcome. Call 218-739-3227 if you have any questions!



Greeters

April 2024

Sunday, April 7
Worship @ 9:30am w/ Communion
Ben & Tessa Schierer

Sunday, April 14
Worship @ 9:30am
Carolyn Anderson

Sunday, April 21
Worship @ 9:30am
Mary Jones Olson & Dave Loeks

Sunday, April 28
Worship @ 9:30am
Jona Brown & Connie Seltz

REMINDER: Greeters are responsible for handing out the bulletins, taking worship attendance, and passing the offering plate. The worship attendance sheet can be dropped off in the offering plate. If you are ever interested in greeting a certain Sunday, please let Brianna know in the church office. Check your email for reminders on greeter duties.



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.

Ministry Nite:

April 9 - 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.

Stewardship Report as of 3/31/24

General Fund Report	
Revenue	\$27,340
Expenditures	\$35,707
Year to Date Pledge Offering	
Budgeted	\$67,343
Actual Received	\$83,164

Grocery Receipts

THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food	
March	\$11,820.68

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

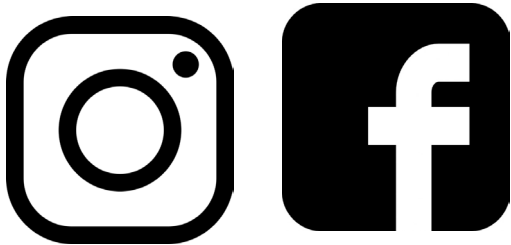
224 North Union Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Time sensitive information
Please deliver by 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.

224 N. Union Avenue, Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Phone: 218-739-3227 | email: church@federatedff.org