

August Worship

August 4 9:30am
"Jesus' Miracle Diet" John 6:24-35
Pastor Doug Dent

A Celebration of The Lord's Supper

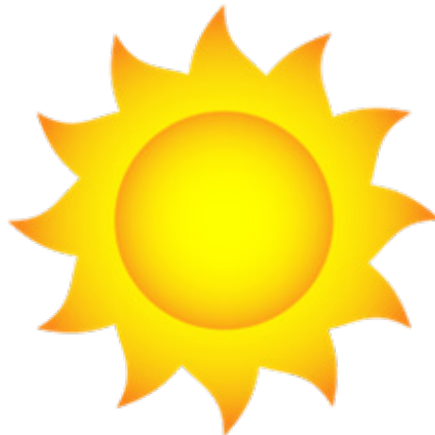
August 11 9:30am Worship in Kirkbride Park
"Thanks for Everything" Ephesians 5:15-20
Pastor Doug Dent

Blessing of the Animals

**Note: Live-streaming is not possible from the park.
The worship service will be available on YouTube
later Sunday afternoon.**

August 18 9:30am
Heaven Bound Trio

August 25 9:30am
Chaplain Pete Konrad & Jail Inc.



Dates to Remember

Sunday, August 4
Communion

Wednesday, August 7
9:00am-3:00pm Federated H4H
Build Day

Sunday, August 11
Blessing of the Animals
9:30am Worship in Kirkbride
Park

Tuesday, August 13
6:30pm Ministry Nite

Sunday, August 18
9:30am Heaven Bound Trio

Sunday, August 25
9:30am Chaplain Pete Konrad

Sunday, September 1
9:30am Teen Challenge

Monday, September 2
Labor Day
Church Office Closed

Sunday, September 8
Communion
Rally Day



I can see them out my window: birds! And they are at it again. They are building a nest in my dryer vent. They did this last year, only I didn't realize what was happening. All I knew was that my dryer was hot enough to melt buttons, and yet my clothes never got dry! One day a crew came to clean out the vents throughout the complex where I live, and the bird's nest was discovered. Mystery solved! They explained to me that what dries your clothes is a combination of heat and air flow. Without the air flow, clothes get incredibly hot, but they don't dry.

I have been thinking about this vent blockage as I consider the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. You may remember that the Old Testament word for Spirit is Ruach, which literally means wind. The Spirit blows through our lives. Is it possible that we can "build nests" that block the air flow? I wonder.

I think of the nest of the traditions we love. They can be beautiful memories we cherish, or they can become so set in stone and unchangeable that they block the flow of the Spirit. We have no room for anything new. I think about the decisions we make about where we are going to live or even what we are going to eat as another nest. While sometimes those decisions make great sense for a certain season in our lives, if they get wedged into our psyche in a way that can never be altered, they can end up blocking the flow of the Spirit when change is needed.

I like to see a bird build a nest high in a tree! Sheltered from the rain by plenty of leaves and branches, above the reach of most kinds of trouble, but with the rocking wind and plenty of air it seems like the perfect place for a baby bird to grow and one day learn to fly. In our Christian life, we too do best with a faith that soars through the treetops, and is open to the movement of the Spirit, the very breath of God. When we can be budged from our status quo, when we are able to say, "Change is possible!" And when we dare to spread our wings and ride the currents of God's love, we are positioned for a Spirit filled, Spirit energized, Spirit-led adventure!

Together in Christ,
With courage, devotion and good spirit as a colleague,
Rev. Beth Buckwalter-Miller
Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of MN Valleys





Summer is in full swing! I pray you are all enjoying time with family and friends in the beautiful outdoors! Our summer started off with a fantastic Vacation Bible School week! We had 27 participants and 19 older youth leaders, along with eight adult volunteers! It was a fun-filled, active week focused on our "God of Wonders"! We studied a Bible story each day that featured different heavenly bodies: the sun, the moon, the stars, the planets, and the earth. Every story revealed both the incredible beauty of God's creation and the unmatched power of God to control and use these heavenly bodies for His purpose. It is my hope that everyone involved in VBS found themselves looking up into the skies-both day and night-with awe and wonder for our brilliant God! We made inspired crafts, learned some new songs, played lots of games, and enjoyed each other's company. We had such a successful week of worship, learning, and fellowship!

Our middle school and senior high youth played a big part in Vacation Bible School. We had tremendous young people excited to lead small groups and our gym activity time. Our adult volunteers designed unique crafts that tied to the story of the day. And, of course, we did our annual tie-dye t-shirt day. On Tuesday, our student leaders stayed after to help fill Boxes of Blessings, a mission project that we do annually during VBS. On Thursday, all our volunteers went out to eat at Fiesta Brava as a "Thank you!" for your time and love!

Our youth groups have had a bowling day and a lake day so far this summer. Looking ahead, we have a mission day-August 1 from 9am-noon at the Lake Region Community Garden to help with harvesting. If you haven't visited this great community mission you need to make plans to see it. What an impressive and meaningful project for the Fergus Falls community. We go there annually to support the work. Later in August we will have a game night at the Dent home (date to be finalized by text!).

There are some important dates to highlight as we move to autumn:

- September 10: Women's Bible study will begin again at 11:15am in the parlor. We will be studying Paul's Epistle to the Colossians.
- September 11: Kidz Club kicks off after school with bus transportation from Kennedy! We will be studying the life of Joseph-the amazing man God used to save the Israelites.
- September 11: Senior High youth group begins at 7:30 pm. We look forward to seeing everyone again each week! September 15: Confirmation meeting after worship.
- September 18: Confirmation begins, with 7th-8th grade students meeting after school (bus transportation provided) and 9th grade students meeting at 6:30.
- September 20-22: Our annual Confirmation Retreat at Clearwater Forest. We will be studying the story of Joseph to see what his life can tell us about God's providence for each of us.

Christian Education and Youth



Church News

Church Office

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

Pastor Doug's Vacation

Pastor Doug will be on vacation starting Monday, August 12 and will return on Tuesday, September 3. The Heaven Bound Trio will lead worship on Sunday, August 18 and Chaplain Pete Konrad will lead worship on Sunday, August 25. The Teen Challenge will lead worship on Sunday, September 1.

Brianna's Vacation

Brianna has some vacations days set for September. If you are willing to help in the office answering phones that would be great. Brianna will be out of the office on Wednesday, September 11 - Wednesday, September 18. The office hours would be Monday-Thursday 10am-2pm and Friday 9am-noon. Thank you for giving your time so I can have some time off.

Kids Club Snack and Supper

It won't be long before Kids Club starts up again in the fall. Every year, our wonderful kitchen ladies serve snacks and supper for the kids. If you would like to donate towards Kids Club meals, you can drop your check off in the church office or in the offering with Kids Club meals in the memo line. Thank you!

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 you!

During June and July we were able to help 8 families or individuals through the local mission fund. We gave a total of \$599.49 for food cards, rent and utilities.

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 will be giving 32 boxes to the cancer center this summer. Thank You!

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, August 2.

Coffee Hour

Women's - Tuesdays at 10am

Men's - Fridays at 10am

Fellowship Hour - Sundays at 10:30am





Committee News

If your committee is having an event at the church during fellowship hour, please stop by the church office the week prior to the event to pick up instructions for opening and closing the church from Brianna. We will have a key, alarm code and check list for you.

Blessing of the Animals

Bring your fuzzy, furry, feathered, and finned friends to worship on Sunday, August 11 in Kirkbride Park at 9:30am. We will bless each one in turn.

Mission Committee

Muffins for Mission - August 15

Here's your chance to enjoy muffins (or donuts!) and help a good cause!

The Mission Committee will provide the treats, and your freewill offerings will benefit Boxes of Blessings. "Boxes," provide a packet of comfort care items for patients receiving treatment at Lake Region Hospital's Cancer Care Center.

The committee will be matching donations up to \$100, so your contributions will go even further! Thanks to all for your ongoing support of Federated Church's mission projects.

Fellowship Committee

Rally Day will be at Federated Church on Sunday, September 8 after worship. More details to come in the weekly memos and September newsletter.

Ministry Nite & D&E

Ministry Nite will meet again on Tuesday, August 13 at 6:30pm. D&E will not meet in August.

Worship Committee

Worship will be held in Kirkbride Park on August 11. Worship will be at 9:30am and will not be live-

streamed but will be available later in the day on YouTube.

Bell Choir

The bells will start rehearsal on Wednesday, September 4. If you have any questions, you can contact Tessa Nord at (218-205-8627). All are welcome to join!

Choir

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). A date for starting up rehearsal is TBD.

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 2024. 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, 2024. 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.



VBS Photos



Greeters

August 2024

Sunday, August 4

Worship @ 9:30am w/ Communion
Matt & Donna Solin

Sunday, August 11

Worship @ 9:30am - Worship in Kirikbride Park
& Blessing of the Animals
TBD

Sunday, August 18

Worship @ 9:30am - Heaven Bound Trio
Dave & Tessa Nord

Sunday, August 25

Worship @9:30am - Chaplin Pete Konrad & Jail Inc.
& Muffins for Mission
TBD

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: August 13 - 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. Church committees do not meet in July.

Stewardship Report

General Fund Report	
Revenue	\$29,718
Expenditures	\$39,272
Year to Date Pledge Offering	
Budgeted	\$202,024
Actual Received	\$215,886

Grocery Receipts THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food	
June	\$6,361.33

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	Bonnie Gondrez	08/27	Holden Stenstrom
08/12	Taylor Thomp son-Eckhoff	08/29	Connie Seltz
08/13	Joan Ebbighausen	08/29	Tessa Schierer
08/13	Emma Runningen	08/30	Renee Larsen
08/14	Kim Dean	08/31	Emma Barry
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.

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