

November Worship

NOVEMBER 1 9:30a.m. Worship **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

"The Cooperative Imperative"
Pastor Doug Dent

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Celebration of The Lord's Supper

NOVEMBER 8 9:30a.m. Worship

"Walking on Sunshine"
Pastor Doug Dent

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

NOVEMBER 15 9:30a.m. Worship

"Servant Eyes"
Pastor Doug Dent

Psalm 123

NOVEMBER 22 9:30a.m. Worship **CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**

"Recognizing Jesus"
Pastor Doug Dent

Matthew 25:31-46

NOVEMBER 29 9:30a.m. Worship **1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

"Please Visit!"
Pastor Doug Dent

Isaiah 64:1-9



Dates to Remember

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

6:30PM MINISTRY NITE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

VETERANS DAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

1:00PM FEDERATED CHURCH BOWLING DAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

6:30pm D&E Meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

NO KIDZ CLUB OR CONFIRMATION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

**THANKSGIVING DAY
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED



"This is what the LORD says: Do what is just and right." Jeremiah 22:3

We are once again in a contentious election season, with just a week until election day. The television pundits talk endlessly about the issues. Journals and blogs stress the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates. Each day the mail brings more political postcards and reminders to vote.

As we approach election day, I am going to share some insights from David Platt's new book, "Before You Vote: Seven Questions Every Christian Should Ask" (Radical, Inc, 2020). Platt's overarching theme is about "stewarding" our vote. Remember, in the Bible, a steward is someone who takes charge of another person's property and cares for it as if it were his/her own. A steward is supposed to nurture it, increase it, prosper it.

God made us stewards of government. God is the Supreme Creator of all, Sovereign Ruler over all, and Righteous judge of all. But God gave dominion – or entrusted authority – to humans who have the unique capacity to relate to God and to reflect God's rule in the world. God gives us the responsibility to oversee the world in ways that align with God's Word and accords with God's character.

God created all people equally in God's image, and God requires us to do justice so that every single person might flourish in the world. God delegates to us the responsibility for protecting each other. One of the ways we do this is through our government. By God's grace, we have a voice in who leads (or does not lead) us. God gives us a say in how laws are created and how justice is carried out in and through our country. Our votes collectively shape our government and our nation.

While there is no direct command from God to vote in an election, there are clues as to how we might best steward our vote.

- Reflect God's just government by working to promote good, punish evil, and protect all people from harm. (Genesis 1:27-28; 9:1-7; Psalm 8:5-8)
- Subject yourself to and support government for the flourishing of all people (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17)
- Do justice – that which is right for all people as exemplified in the character of God and expressed in the Word of God. (Jeremiah 22:3; Micah 6:8)
- Pray and work for the welfare of the community/nation in which we live. (Jeremiah 29:7)
- Love God and love our neighbors as ourselves. (Matthew 22:37-40)
- Steward any responsibility we have in governance for the good of all people affected by our government. (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17; Daniel 4:27)

In other words, when you go to the polls next week, make the stewardship of your vote the overflow of radical trust in God, God's Word to you, God's Spirit in you, God's rule over you, and God's reign not only in our nation, but over all nations.

We will not always agree on the issues or vote for the same candidates, but we can all steward our vote in a way that honors God. Or, as the apostle Paul put it: "May God grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 15:5-6).

Whatever the outcome of this election, we are called to be God's people and to act as God's people by honoring God and loving one another.

Blessings,
Pastor Doug



Happy Autumn, or shall I say winter? As I reflect on the first several weeks of Federated Church children and youth activities it is snowing heavily and looking more like Christmas time than late Autumn. Ah, Minnesota! God certainly keeps things interesting!

I am happy to report that the initial fall programming for our children and youth is going quite well! With all of the challenges we are facing in our current circumstances, I truly didn't know what to expect or hope. It is great to see our faith community coming together to continue learning and growing together! Our theme for Sunday school and Kidz Club is "Who is God?" and focuses on understanding the attributes of God.

Sunday School

Sunday school for grades K-12 began on October 4th with fully-(volunteer) staffed classes and a solid number of kids in each group. From week to week we see some new faces and some familiar ones, and our average for each class remains around four per group. So far our K-6 kids have covered stories showing how God is: HOLY, GUIDES HIS PEOPLE, GLORIOUS, and HEALS. Hollis Davenport continues to draw middle school and high school students to the narthex for fun and learning each week.

Kidz Club

Kidz Club began on October 7th with several volunteers and participants. We changed things up a bit by using the good weather to be outside when possible, and by doing more of our activities in Fellowship Hall. The kids and adults are adjusting well to the necessary safety changes. We are having fun discovering God's word. Our stories so far have explored ways in which God is: CREATOR, ALIVE, DELIVERER, and ALMIGHTY. Learning guides are available on the website if you are not able to join in person.

Youth Group

Senior high youth group meets each week in the youth room. We average ten people each week, which is a good number in that space. Topics we discussed: turning to God in the midst of chaos, how to talk with people who are skeptical about faith, and finding ways to live faithfully in today's culture.

Church News

Office Hours

The church office hours will remain the same in November until further notice. Phones and emails will be answered from 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12pm on Fridays. If you absolutely need access to the church building, please call ahead of time to make an appointment.

Adult Bible Study

Join pastor Doug for Adult Bible study after worship on Habakkuk during the month of November. You can join in person in the choir room or on ZOOM. A ZOOM link reminder will be sent out weekly. If meeting in person, safe protocols will be observed..

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible study meets each Tuesday at 11:30am by ZOOM. We are in the middle of the book of Daniel. Great discussions and support so far!

Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the poinsettia form and return it to the church office by November 29th, or contact the church to place your order.

As we move forward we plan to continue looking at current events and find how God is speaking to us through scripture about what we see. We also just enjoy hanging out and fellowshiping with one another.

Confirmation

Our seventh and eighth grade combined confirmation class is meeting by ZOOM due to the new hybrid school schedule, which complicates Wednesday transportation to the church for this age-group. It is great to see each other every Wednesday, but I can definitely say that we all look forward to getting the opportunity to be in-person! The ninth grade confirmation class meets every Wednesday evening in Fellowship Hall. It is hard to believe that this group is in their third and final year of studying about their faith in this way! Pray for them as they begin this important time of discernment in their lives.

Looking ahead to the coming months we hope to continue meeting and growing together. Plans are being laid out for new ways to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season, with the flexibility and grace needed to face our changing world. Blessings to all of you for your continued support through volunteering, showing up, and praying for the Christian Education ministries here at Federated! God's blessing to you as we approach this next season!

Mission Brunch

This year's Mission Brunch, normally hosted in mid/late November, will be postponed to the spring when we can host larger crowds to hear the message and support the mission. The Mission Committee is supporting MA-HUBE-OTWA's Community Action Homelessness program. It has various initiatives to help combat homelessness and we look forward to supporting them more next year in excess of what we were able to contribute from our committee this year.

Meals by Wheels

Federated Church is scheduled to deliver Meals-by-Wheels Monday-Friday, December 21-25 and 28 - Jan 1. No deliveries on Christmas Day or New Years Day. Drivers should gather at the Senior Center at 11:00am. It takes about an hour to deliver these meals. If you can help please contact Michelle Loomer at 218-731-2255

Fellowship Committee

Join us for Federated Church bowling day Saturday, November 14th at 1pm. We are only allowed to have **20 bowlers due to COVID**. If you are interested, please sign up with Brianna in the church office and pay in advance to reserve your spot. The event will cost \$10 for 3 games or \$25 for families. Snacks and drinks will be provided by the Fellowship Committee.



224 North Union Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FERGUS FALLS, MN
PERMIT #285

Time sensitive information
Please deliver by November 1st



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

Stewardship Report

General Fund Report

Revenue	\$30,777
Expenditures	\$34,117

Year to Date Pledge Offering

Budgeted	\$280,243
Actual Received	\$306,697

Grocery Receipts

THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food

October	\$6,084.97
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November Birthdays

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 11/01 Sammy Ebert | 11/18 Donna Solin |
| 11/02 Andrew MacFarlane | 11/19 Tessa Becker |
| 11/04 Maximillian Jensen | 11/20 Maury Skogen |
| 11/07 Brandon Truax | 11/22 Ross Johnson |
| 11/07 Mike Walls | 11/22 Molly King |
| 11/08 John MacFarlane | 11/23 Landon Link |
| 11/09 Lance Nygaard | 11/24 Brayden Aasen |
| 11/10 Ann Porter | 11/24 Michelle Loomer |
| 11/10 Laurie Skogen | 11/24 Katelyn Sperling |
| 11/11 Bailee Griego | 11/25 Elaine Snyder |
| 11/11 Mark Sundberg | 11/26 Meg Garrahan |
| 11/12 Austen Tabbut | 11/26 Franklin Schierer |
| 11/13 Bill Nead | 11/29 Duane Rose |
| 11/14 Dennis Bergerud | 11/29 Erik Loomer |
| 11/14 John Lindholm | |
| 11/14 Erik Lindholm | |
| 11/14 Alexandria Haas | |
| 11/15 Karen Hauck | |
| 11/15 Rick Schara | |
| 11/15 Tommy Bowman | |
| 11/16 Terry Harrington | |
| 11/16 Charlie Schlepp | |

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

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

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