

September worship

Sunday, September 6, 2020 <i>Communion</i>	9:30a.m.	Worship at Kirkbride Park	Pastor Doug Dent
Sunday, September 13, 2020 <i>Rally Day</i>	9:30a.m.	Worship at Kirkbride Park	Pastor Doug Dent
Sunday, September 20, 2020	9:30a.m.	Worship at Kirkbride Park	Pastor Doug Dent
Sunday, September 27, 2020	9:30a.m.	Worship at Kirkbride Park	Pastor Doug Dent

Directory Photo Session Canceled

Unfortunately Lifetouch photography has decided as the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve, that it is in the best interest of Lifetouch staff to postpone church photography. Everyone who is scheduled for September 22, 23, 29, and 30 will be canceled. When Lifetouch is available to reopen and resume photography programs, they will let us know.

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. 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 August, we were able to help 6 families or individuals from the local mission fund. We gave a total of \$400 for food and emergency needs.





*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19*

When God speaks these words to Isaiah, God's people are overshadowed by Babylon. They are a conquered people, trodden down, grieving, life is disrupted, and nothing is as it was.

Sound familiar? COVID-19 is our Babylon. Life is disrupted. Nothing is as it was. Nor is it likely to be "normal" anytime soon.

But into this despair, God speaks a word of hope: "Behold, I am doing a new thing!" The deliverance from Babylon is foretold, but there is reference to greater events. The redemption of sinners by Christ, the conversion of the Gentiles, and the recall of the Jews from exile, are described.

Into our despair God still speaks a word of hope: "Behold, I am doing a new thing." What that new thing is and what a post-pandemic world will look like remains to be seen. While we may not perceive God's plan – yet – God assures us that God is making "a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." We cannot know what God is doing through this turmoil, we believe that God is working out God's purpose – somehow!

Which means we are living in the "time between": the time after God initiates God's plan and the time before we understand what God is doing. Caught in this "time between," we are discovering new ways to work and worship, to do school, to shop and recreate, to stay connected and to support one another.

All these "new things" we are doing may just be part of the "new thing" that God is doing.



Church News

Rally Day:

Rally Day is set for Sunday, Sept 13th! Take a look at our fun filled schedule:

At 9:30am

- Worship
- Blessing for the School Year
- K and 4th grade will receive Bibles

At 10:30am

- Lunch: Pulled Pork BBQ sandwiches, corn on the cob, Cole Slaw, chips and cookies.
- Big Trivia contest between the groups of tables.
- Scavenger hunt for the young children
- Lots of prizes! There will be trivia contest prizes, scavenger hunt prizes, and also drawings for door prizes.

The Church Office is closed Monday, September 7th for Labor Day. The office hours will remain the same until further notice. We will be open M-TH from 10am-2pm and F from 9am-12pm.

Women's Bible Study:

Women's Bible Study will continue at 11:30am on Tuesdays via Zoom.

Mission Committee: Meals by Wheels

Federated Church is scheduled to deliver Meals-by-Wheels Monday-Friday, October 5-9 and 12-16. 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 (218)731-2255.

Christian Education News:

What a summer this has been! If your family is like ours, there was definitely a slow-down in activities for everyone! Over the past several weeks Doug and I have been exploring ways to structure our autumn children's and youth activities, and after discussing options with the Christian Education committee, we have come up with some tentative plans.

Kidz Club:

- The theme this year will focus on **"Who Is God"** and will consider many of the qualities of our Creator!
- We will set **October 7th** at the regular time of 3:45-5:30 as the target date to begin Kidz Club. This later beginning will allow families the opportunity to see how the school year rolls out, allow us to formulate the best health practices, and give us a chance to see how transportation will work on Wednesdays.
- Do to health restrictions, we **WILL NOT** be providing a meal after Kidz Club at the onset of our programming. This will hopefully change as the year rolls on, since this is a great time of family, fellowship, and fun!
- If challenges arise at the beginning of our during the school year, KIDZ CLUB will meet remotely using ZOOM or YOU-TUBE, with email/snail-mail activity sheets and devotions for families, beginning the week of **October 7th**. We will provide information for families in the event that this occurs.

Sunday School:

- We are still assessing the comfort level of our wonderful volunteer teachers. But a few have already expressed enthusiasm about teaching their classes this fall!
- We plan to begin Sunday school on **October 4th**, while mindfully accessing the opening of the schools.
- Doug plans to teach an Adult Bible study on the prophet Habakkuk.

Confirmation:

- Confirmation will begin either on **September 30th or October 7th** - letters will go out to families with the exact date in a few weeks.
- As Wednesdays are a "no one at school day" for this age-group, we will not be able to rely on bus transportation. Therefore we will begin the year on Zoom. This may occur at an earlier time of the day in order to free up Karen and Doug to serve during KIDZ CLUB. Our 9th grade class will also begin the year on Zoom, also on Wednesdays. (Time TBD)
- Our retreat is tentatively rescheduled from **September 18th-20th to January 15th-17th, 2021**. It will be a new adventure to meet in the winter! And so much fun!!!

Senior High Youth group:

- I will be communicating with parents and youth to determine comfort levels of meeting in-person and/or scheduling special activities.
- Molly Stoddard and I met with some youth for a kayaking event in August and hope to do so again in September - it was WONDERFUL!!

It is our hope to continue to provide quality ministries for our children and youth during this uncertain time, and we will continue to access and discern safety and health concerns!





Federated CHURCH

224 North Union Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Time sensitive information
Please deliver by September 1st

Stewardship Report For August

General Fund Report	
Revenue	\$31,555
Expenditures	\$31,617
Year to Date Pledge Offering	
Budgeted	\$217,767
Actual Received	\$251,033

Grocery Receipts THE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Service Food	
August	\$3,549.52



September Birthdays

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-------|----------------------|
| 09/02 | Jake Wendland | 09/23 | Ruth Aulds |
| 09/04 | Lucinda Dix Echel-berger | 09/23 | Russell Larsen |
| 09/05 | Teri Nygaard | 09/24 | Gail Green |
| 09/05 | Alex Jensen | 09/25 | Wesley Beske |
| 09/06 | Wade Ugstad | 09/25 | Jean Bowman |
| 09/07 | Mark Becker | 09/26 | Amanda Mandelke |
| 09/08 | Erika Mariotti | 09/27 | Tim Hunt |
| 09/08 | Iona Saunders | 09/28 | Christopher Anderson |
| 09/10 | James Underdahl | 09/29 | Carolyn Anderson |
| 09/12 | Janice Borowski | 09/30 | Ben Schierer |
| 09/12 | Jessica Nelson | | |
| 09/13 | Makiya Cavalier | | |
| 09/14 | Nicole Krohn | | |
| 09/14 | Troy Anderson | | |
| 09/14 | Erin Smith | | |
| 09/16 | Peg Kalar | | |
| 09/17 | Chad Nelson | | |
| 09/18 | Lizzy Thiel | | |
| 09/18 | Amy Underdahl | | |
| 09/19 | Paige Undseth | | |
| 09/19 | Leo Schierer | | |
| 09/20 | Donna Ohe | | |



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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