

THE FED CONNECTION

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, MAKING DISCIPLES



Federated Church Newsletter

April 15, 2016

At DeWitt's End

You probably don't spend a lot of time thinking about dragons or worrying about being attacked by one. Dragons are mythical creatures. As far as I know, there are no giant, fire-breathing lizards with armored scales on the loose in Illinois. You might see them in movies like Dream Work's, "How to Train Your Dragon;" And you might encounter them in literature like C.S. Lewis' book "Voyage of the Dawn Treader." But in Illinois? Not likely. At least, not literally.

But I suspect you have encountered your share of people who have a similar impact on inter-personal relationships as a dragon might. There are lots of "fire-breathing" people out there who seem to have a knack for reeking havoc in the lives of those around them. They may not have literal fangs and claws that can tear a house apart, but they can, through their words and attitudes, tear your life apart. I've encountered them; so have you. It hurts. It can be devastating. It can literally rock your world.

How can you survive when a dragon attacks? Good question. It is so tempting to respond like a dragon yourself and go after the attacker. But that only brings pain and destruction in our lives and in the lives of others. God has a different plan for us: forgive and live in peace.

God wants you to forgive. God expects you to forgive and allow Christ's peace to rule in your heart. Our lives, our church will never truly be all it could be if we keep the fires of resentment simmering in the back corners of our hearts. Forgive. Show Love. Seek Peace. Don't be a dragon.

Have you been carrying the burdens of constant attacks from dragons? Have you been carrying the burdens of resentment and bitterness in your heart? Is the poison from your bitterness choking the life out of you? It is time to give it up. It is time to lay it aside. Take it all to God; seek His help; let your problems become His problems. Let Him set you free. Turn it all over to Him and let Him deal with the dragons in your life.

And while you are waiting on God to help, follow the advice of King Solomon:

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." (Proverbs 15:1 NIV)

Serving with you,
Dan DeWitt

If you have a high school or college graduate this year, please let Kim know in the office.

Coming Sermons

April 17 Are Some Sins Worse Than Others? From a human perspective, some sins may seem to be less acceptable than others, but what does God think? Are some sins worse than others or are they all the same in God’s eyes?

This will mark the end of my “Collisions” sermon series and I will begin a new series:

Change Is Coming!

God has a purpose for this world, for our lives, for His church. God’s purpose is not concerned with our comfort, our ease or our traditions. God’s purpose requires change. Earth-shattering change. Fundamental, to-our-core change. God is working out His purpose. Change is coming!

24 Where is It All Going?

Although we can’t always see God’s hand as we look around us, God is actively involved in leading and guiding the world and our lives. He has a singular purpose for it all: change. Transformational change.

May 1 May Day! May Day!

It was special. God used it in a mighty way. It’s only natural that we would want to honor it and keep it as a way of remembering what God had done; what had been. But the tool God used to heal them became a source of infection that almost killed them. Time for change.

CC-Chancel Choir	CE-Christian Education	CSS-Children’s Sunday School	EPIC-Youth Ministry
FF-Fellowship Feast	FG-Fellowship Group	HOW-Heart of Worship	LBS-Ladies Bible Study
MG-Men’s Group	SCUG-Computer Group	SG-Small Group	SLM-Spiritual Life
SS-Adult Sunday School	WBS-Women’s Bible Study	WMT-Worship Ministry Team	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>April</u>					1	2 7am-MG
3 9 am-CSS & SS 10:30 am-Worship	4	5 7 pm-FG Trustee’s	6 9am-Wed. Friends 6 pm-HOW 7pm-CC	7 3:30 –WBS 6:30-Luke & Torey	8	9 7am-MG
10 9 am-CSS & SS 10:30 am-Worship 6 pm-EPIC	11 7 pm-Finance	12 7-FG	13 9:30am-LBS 6 pm-HOW 7pm-CC	14 3:30-WBS 7-Session SCUG	15	16 7am-MG 9am-ABW Meet.
17 9 am-CSS & SS 10:30 am-Worship 6 pm-EPIC	18	19 FF @ Salem 7-FG	20 9:30-LBS 6 pm-HOW 7pm-CC	21 3:30-WBS 7pm-WMT	22	23 7am-MG 8:30 am-Spring Clean Up
24 Bike to church 9 am-CSS & SS 10:30 am-Worship 6 pm-EPIC	25	26 7-FG	27 9:30-LBS 6 pm-HOW 7pm-CC	28	29	30

Ministry of Prayer

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Laurel Li Mack's niece, Tracey Brewer
- Carolyn Meier's mom, Vi
- Sheryl McAlearney's uncle, Dick Stow
- Carol Pruski
- Walt Droppa
- Gloria Gilbertson's daughter, Sonja
- Vicki Damato & Joyce Mackie.
- ◆ Kim McGuire's sister, Carmen.
- ◆ Judy Roher
- ◆ Tia O'Neill



Homebound, Nursing Homes & Assisted Living:

June Bannister, Irma Grady, Ruth Breunig, Tia O'Neill, Lois Peterson, Russell Wahlgren

Pastor Dan is offering two different adult Study / Fellowship Groups this summer:

- A 10 week group that meets in Dan and Linda's home on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. Each evening we will have a brief time of prayer and reflecting on our love for God. We will also have a lesson / discussion on the topic of "Understanding the Old Testament." Dan will use a portion of Francis Chan's book: "Multiply" as a primary resource. This group will meet from June 11 – August 27. If the group is too large to fit in their home, the group will relocate to the church chapel. You do not need to sign up ahead of time.
- A 8 week group that meets in the church chapel this summer, on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. We will spend 4 weeks looking at **what it means to be a Presbyterian** and 4 weeks looking at **what it means to be a Baptist**. You will need to sign up by May 29 so Dan can prepare materials. This group will meet from June 12 – August 14.

Bike to Church Day-April 24th will be the first ever "Bike to Church" event sponsored by the Community Health Network. Starting at 9:00 am, there will be two bicycle rides scheduled to leave from the church parking lot. The two routes will be a 2.8 mile long ride and a 1.5 mile short ride to accommodate riders of all ages. Come and ride with friends in Christ, learn about bike safety and GET MOVING!

Saturday, April 23rd-8:30 a.m. until done. Bring gloves and a rake for outside clean up. Other tasks will be performed as needed. Join in the fun, fellowship and donuts—see you there!

American Baptist Women's Meeting-The Fed will be hosting "The Spring Spiritual Feast" on April 16, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. It is a meeting of the some of the American Baptist women in this area. This will be a great opportunity for us to meet some of the other Baptist women and learn more about what the Baptists are doing in this area. Coffee and rolls will be served at 9:00 a.m.

Church Softball-The Federated Church Softball season at the Crossroads Christian Youth Center in Big Rock begins league play on **Monday, April 18th**. The season is starting early this year and will end prior to July 4th. The team will play 2 or 3 games each Monday night. Talk to Sean Williams or Steve Skorup for more information. Schedules will be available soon. **Softball practice is Sunday, April 17th @ 2:00 pm behind Sandwich High School.**



Happy Birthday to You!



- 4-1 Ed Plante
- 4-2 Nathan Allen
- 4-4 Joyce Kaufman
- 4-6 Alan Langguth
- 4-7 Cindy Albright
- 4-9 Judy Roher & Dick Rothlisberger
- 4-12 Fallyn McCaslin & Karen Babos
- 4-17 Ula Greenwood, George Van Kampen & Robin Langguth
- 4-18 Bob Knight
- 4-21 Ashley McNurlan & Nancy Hougham
- 4-22 Alex Burgin
- 4-24 Dean Potter
- 4-25 Carol Pruski
- 4-28 Ian Burgin

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:00—12:00

Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship

10:30 a.m.



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Federated Church of Sandwich

403 N. Main Street
Sandwich IL 60548

PLACE
STAMP
HERE