

THE FED CONNECTION

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, MAKING DISCIPLES



Federated Church Newsletter

Aug. 15, 2016

At DeWitt's End

I have a book on my desk entitled, "The 10 Greatest Struggles of Your Life." I plan to bring a series of sermons in September which addresses the primary topics of that book. It's a great book that I enjoyed reading. But this morning it was the sub-title of the book which caught my attention: "*Finding Freedom in God's Commands.*"

Freedom. Those of us who call the United States of America our home LOVE freedom. We call this great country the land of the free. Those who have served in the military have fought to help preserve the freedoms we enjoy in this land. We take those freedoms seriously. Freedom of speech. Freedom of assembly. Freedom of religion. These freedoms are important to us.

But I doubt most of us think of the word "freedom" when we think of obeying God's commands. We might think of other words such as obligation, or duty, or, if we are really honest, we might think of words like unpleasant or difficult or even "no fun." But freedom? Not likely.

How could obeying God's commands bring us freedom? The freedom comes when we realize that God's commandments were intended to help us avoid the pitfalls and traps we can fall into when we follow any path other than the path of God. God didn't give us His commands in an attempt to keep us from having a good time. God wants to set us free from being a slave to the tyranny of sin and the burden of living with regret. Free to serve God in holiness and in purity and, as a result, free to receive His blessings in our lives. Now THAT is freedom!

I hope you are able to enjoy the freedom of serving God this week!

In His love,

Dan D.

Understanding the Old Testament

Pastor Dan and Linda are hosting a fellowship group in their home on **Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** They are using a portion of Francis Chan's book, "Multiply" as the primary resource. This class is designed to give you a general overview of the Old Testament. It would be a great class for those who would like to gain a better understanding of the central themes of the Old Testament.

WANTED: Additional Praise and Worship Team members!!!

If you, or someone you know, plays an instrument or would like to sing with the Heart of Worship group, contact Kristin Duffield, our new Praise and Worship Team director.

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Office email: fedconnection@gmail.com

Pastor's email: pastordandewitt@gmail.com

Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 a.m.

Pastor: Dan DeWitt

Coming Sermons

Aug. 14 “Seek and Save The Loss” Matthew 16:44-46

The sermon today will be by **Nate Reutter**, grandson of Betty French. Nate and his wife Ruth are missionaries with PAZ in Japan. They are a part of a team of several families that are church-planting in the Tokyo area. They have 4 kids, Rebecca, Anna, Sarah and Joshua. You can learn more about them at their website, www.ReutterFamily.com.

21 “What Does It Mean to Love God?” Matt. 22:36-38

The Bible says we are to love God. If asked, most of us would *SAY* that we love God. We might even say that we love God with all our heart, soul and mind. But I wonder: do we really know what that means?

28 “An Inconvenient Truth” Luke 10:25-57

There are some truths we sometimes choose to ignore if they are too difficult or unpleasant. It may be a truth about our family, our friends, ourselves, or even the Bible, but if it too inconvenient we might just choose to ignore it and pretend it isn't there. Here is a truth you may have chosen to ignore: we are to love our “neighbors” – even if it is inconvenient!

Sept. 4 “Wisdom Begins With God!” Proverbs 2:6; 9:10

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|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 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 | AS-Adult Study | 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>August</u> | 1 | 2 7 pm-AS | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 7am-MG |
| 7 9:00 am-Worship 10:30 am-AS 6 pm-EPIC | 8 | 9 7 pm-AS | 10 | 11 7 pm-Session | 12 | 13 7am-MG |
| 14 9:00 am-Worship 10:30 am-AS 6 pm-EPIC | 15 | 16 7 pm-AS | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 7am-MG |
| 21 9:00 am-Worship 10:30-AS 6 pm-EPIC | 22 | 23 7 pm-AS | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 7 am-MG |
| 28 9:00 am-Worship 10:30 am-AS 2 pm-Nursery Shower 6 pm-EPIC | 29 6:30 pm-CE | 30 4:30-FF@Union 7 pm-AS | 31 | | | |

Ministry of Prayer

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Pastor Terry Jensen
- Florence Miller's mom, Corrine Ohlevine & Violet
- Bill Griffiths' daughter, Diane Casurella
- Cindy Morris' father, Jim Murray
- Carol and Tom Gowdy
- Linda DeWitt's mother, Val Skupa
- 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.
- ◆ Judy Roher
- ◆ Tia O'Neill



Homebound, Nursing Homes & Assisted Living:

June Bannister, Irma Grady, Ruth Breunig, Tia O'Neill, Lois Peterson, Russell Wahlgren, G.L. Hartman

New Worship Time-The Session met on Thursday evening, August 11, and voted to change our Sunday morning worship time to 9:30 a.m. beginning on Sunday, Sept. 4. We will no longer have different worship times in the summer and in the winter. We will keep 9:30 a.m. as our Sunday morning worship time all year round

Nursery Shower

August 28, 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a wrapped gift for the nursery. Gift registry at Target, listed as Sheryl McAlearney & Federated Church.

Sermon Series on 10 Commandments:

Some of the small groups in the church will be studying the book, The 10 Greatest Struggles of Your Life, by Colin S. Smith, after the Sandwich Fair. Pastor Dan will coordinate his sermons beginning September 18, to address the topics covered by these groups each week. The 10 topics of this book are based on the 10 Commandments. He will attempt to address the topics on the Sunday prior to the week the small groups will address each chapter. Even if you are not part of these small groups, you may want to pick up a copy of the book and read along!

New Choir Director

It is with delight that the Worship Ministry Team announces that Brian Miller will be our new Adult Choir Director. Brian has been a part of our music ministry for quite some time. We think he will do a wonderful job. If you are interested in being a part of our choir, contact Brian Miller for more information about choir practice and about coming performances.

Wanted: Nursery Childcare Worker

We are looking for a reliable and experienced person to care for children (birth through 4 years) at The Fed on Sunday mornings. We are seeking someone who is a committed Christian, who understands childcare as a ministry, and is able/willing to be an extension of the Church's ministry to children and families. If you know of someone who might be a good fit, contact Sheryl McAlearney.

Happy Birthday to You!



- 8-2 April Skorup
- 8-4 Shannon Stahl
- 8-6 Bill Keele
- 8-8 Eileen Weber
- 8-18 Ellie Wiegman
- 8-19 Florence Miller
- 8-24 Dale Hamilton &
Betty French
- 8-26 Butch Babos, Wanda Goff &
Ben Harrington,
- 8-28 Joy Cunningham
- 8-29 Barb Scheidecker,
Cherri Gustafson,
Linda Holley & Cathy Owens
- 8-30 Roberta Troeger

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:00—12:00

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m.



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Federated Church of Sandwich

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Sandwich IL 60548