

THE FED CONNECTION

Federated Church Newsletter

January 1, 2017



At DeWitt's End

Have you ever tried something and got the results you wanted and then tried the same thing again later on and were disappointed with the results? This happened to Moses in the Bible. The Israelites needed water and God told Moses to strike the rock. He struck the rock and water flowed out freely. Another time they needed water again, and God told Moses, "Speak to the rock." Do you know what Moses did? He went over and struck the rock. He thought, "Hey, it worked last time. It'll work this time." But it didn't. God had a different plan.

The point is that God's plan might change. We have to stay open and make adjustments to stay in tune with God's plan. You can do the same thing the same way you did last time and get different results. It may not be something major, but like Moses, maybe it's just something small. Sometimes a small tweak, a small adjustment can make a major difference in the outcome.

As you head out into the new year, make sure you aren't doing things just because it's the way you always did it before. Instead, listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit of God inside. Follow His leading and stay in sync with the wonderful plan He has for you!

"In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps" (Proverbs 16:9, NIV)

A prayer for the new year:

"Heavenly Father, I submit my mind, will and heart to You. Help me to see clearly what Your plan is for me in this new year. Help me to stay close to You always, not living in the past, but pressing forward to the new things You have in store for me in Jesus' name. Amen."

(Devotion by Christian Outdoor Fellowship of America)

Introducing our new nursery worker

The Christian Ed Ministry Team is proud to announce that Kristen Banks will be working as our new nursery worker beginning in January. She has another obligation one Sunday each month, so will only be with us 3 Sundays a month. Her first Sunday will be January 8. Stop by the nursery and meet her sometime!

Tuesday Bible Study/Fellowship

Pastor Dan and Linda are hosting a Tuesday night Bible study / fellowship time at their home on Tuesday nights at 7:00. The group is taking a break for the month of December but will begin again January 10, 2017. During the months of January and February, Dan will be leading a discussion based on Part I the provocative book "What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be A Christian? A Guide to What Matters Most" by Martin Thielen.

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Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: Dan DeWitt

Coming Sermons

Jan. 1 **“Work To Make It Happen!”** Jeremiah 29:1-11

Today is the first day of a brand new year. It is a time of new beginnings and looking forward to the blessings God has for us in the future. The letter Jeremiah wrote in Jer. 29 shows us that we can each help contribute to a great future if we will work hard together to make it happen!

8 Gideon’s Sunday

We will have a Gideon speaker today who will share with us about the ministry of the Gideons as they place Bibles in schools, hospitals and motels.

Sermon series dealing with the Bible:

During the 2017 year, Pastor Dan’s sermons will have a specific focus. The entire year will be dedicated with a focus on the basics of the Christian faith. In a way, it will be a year of Discipleship 101. We will start the year off by looking at the Bible: What is it and what should we “do” with it?

15 “The Bible is God-breathed” 2 Timothy 3:16a

The book we know as The Bible is more than just a collection of stories written by a variety of men (and women?) over the course of centuries. The Bible is far more than that – the 66 books we know as The Bible is inspired by God. It was literally “breathed” by God through the writings of people who wrote the words God’s Spirit inspired them to write. It is the Word of God. As such, we need to take very seriously the message presented in the Bible.

CC-Chancel Choir	CE-Christian Education	CWH-Children’s Worship Hour	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
WBS-Women’s Bible Study	WMT-Worship Ministry Team	LCM-Leaders Coordination Meeting	
ABC-Adult Baptism Class	TBS-Tuesday Bible Study		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 7am-MG 9:30 am-Take down Christmas
8 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH	9	10 7 pm-TBS	11 9:30 am-LBS 6 pm-HOW & EPIC 7 pm-CC	12 3:30 pm-WBS 7 pm-Session	13	14 7am-MG
15 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH 10:30-Usher & CE Mtg.	16 6:30 pm-Fair City Quilters	17 7 pm-TBS	18 9:30 am-LBS 6 pm-HOW & EPIC 7 pm-CC	19 3:30 pm-WBS 7 pm SCUG	20	21 7am-MG
22 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH	23	24 4:30 pm-FF-St. Paul’s 7 pm-TBS	25 9:30 am-LBS 6 pm-HOW & EPIC 7 pm-CC	26 3:30 pm-WBS	27	28 7 am-MG
29 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH	30 6:30 CE Mtg.	31 7 pm-TBS				

Ministry of Prayer

Please keep the following in your prayers

- Dick & Barb Rothlisberger's aunt Amy
- The Cromwell's friend, Keith
- Patti Fox
- Doris Waldrop
- Wanda Goff
- John & Diane Klene
- Brian Hutchinson
- Pastor Terry Jensen
- Bill Griffiths' daughter, Diane Casurella
- Linda DeWitt's mother, Val Skupa
- Laurel Li Mack's niece, Tracey Brewer
- 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 & G.L. Hartman

Annual Reports

If you are the chair of a Ministry Team or a standing committee, you need to prepare an annual report. The report needs to be given to Kim in the office by January 22.

Annual Meeting

Our annual business meeting this year will be Sunday, Feb. 26, immediately following the morning worship. After the business meeting, we will have a church potluck in the Fellowship Hall.

Kim will be out of the office the week of January 30. If you have something that needs to be in the January newsletter, you need to get it to the office by Jan. 23.

Worship Outreach

Pastor Dan will help lead worship at the Sandwich Rehabilitation Center at 1:50 p.m. and then at the Willow Crest Care Facility at 2:30 p.m. on January 31. If you would like to participate in this worship outreach – maybe just be a smiling face or to help sing – please let Pastor Dan know.



- 1-8 Dave Stahl
- 1-14 Barb Rothlisberger & Colton Watros
- 1-26 Glenda Potter
- 1-29 Sally Coultrip
- 1-30 Bailey Watros
- 1-31 Amanda Miller, David Gustafson & Cara Gustafson

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:00—12:00

Sunday Worship

Children's Worship
Hour

9:30 a.m.

Loving God, Loving Others, Making Disciples

Federated Church of Sandwich

403 N. Main Street
Sandwich IL 60548