

THE FED CONNECTION

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, MAKING DISCIPLES



Federated Church Newsletter

June 30, 2016

At DeWitt's End

I love watching the great firework displays that communities put on each year as part of a July 4th celebration. The brilliant colors, the loud booms, the look of awe in children's faces, the great reminders of the privilege we have of living in the United States of America. It makes for a great celebration each year!

I found this light-hearted "devotional" on the Internet this week and thought I'd share it with you. It's a good reminder of the wonderful celebrations God puts on display in the Midwest every night during the summer. We need only look around us and see the wondrous reminders of His power and glory.

Last night I stumbled into a lightning bug convention held on my street. Since it was the day after July 4th, I wondered if they were inspired to compete with the fireworks of the day before. The floating sparks weren't as spectacular as the colorful streamers of Independence, but their simplicity gained my attention just as easily.

Again and again, I watched as the gentle globes gathered together and then dispersed. Everywhere I looked, lights were blinking. They were always on the move. Action – oriented and yet reserved. They were too shy to come near me, yet I still felt welcome.

No motivational speakers, no Power Point presentations, yet they captured my interest as I felt them pointing towards our God who created them out of his power and love for beauty.

"The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display His craftsmanship. (2) Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make Him known. (3) They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. (4) Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. God has made a home in the heavens for the sun." (Psalms 19:1-4)

--Dan D.

What it means to be a Presbyterian / Baptist

Pastor Dan is teaching a class on what it means to be a Presbyterian and what it means to be a Baptist. This class is being held in the chapel at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays after the fellowship time.

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.

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Pastor's email: pastordandewitt@gmail.com
Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 a.m.
Pastor: Dan DeWitt

Coming Sermons

- July 3 **“Pray for Our Leaders”** 1 Timothy 2:1-3
 Our thoughts turn to national pride and patriotism this weekend as we reflect on the great history we have as a nation. We do have a great history and we can have a great future as long as we continue to receive God’s blessings -- but without His blessings we are in trouble. That’s why we need to keep our leaders in prayer. This sermon is intended to encourage you as you try to pray!
- 10 **“Weeds Among Us”** Matthew 13:24-43
 Not everything that glitters is gold. Not everyone in church is really following God. It’s not our duty to identify and eliminate the “weeds” among us – that’s up to God. Our duty is fairly simple: commit ourselves to Jesus and do our best to trust and obey Him!
- 17 **“Spiritual Pickers”** Matthew 13:44-46
 Some people have a knack for finding great treasures by looking through lots of old junk. Not me, I just gather more old junk. But when it comes to spiritual treasures, we can all hit the jackpot when we find the Kingdom of God while picking through the junk of life.
- 24 **Pastor Dan is on vacation.**
 Chuck Johnson is preaching. He will also probably share some of his observations from serving as our Commissioner at the Presbyterian U.S.A. General Assembly.

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
July					1	2 7am-MG
3 9:00 am-Worship 10:30 am-AS 6 pm-EPIC	4 Happy 4th of July Office Closed	5 7 pm-Finance Meeting 7 pm-AS	6	7	8	9 7am-MG
10 9:00 am-Worship 10:30 am-AS 6 pm-EPIC	11	12 7 pm-AS	13	14 7 pm-Session	15	16 7am-MG
17 9:00 am-Worship 10:30-AS Church Picnic	18	19 7 pm-AS	20	21	22	23 7 am-MG
24 9:00 am-Worship 6 pm-EPIC	25 6:30-CE	26 4:30-F@Somonauk Baptist 7 pm-AS	27	28	29	30 7 am-MG
31 9:00 am-Worship 10:30 am-AS 6 pm-EPIC						

Ministry of Prayer

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Mary George
- Carol Gowdy
- Diane Klene
- 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.
- ◆ 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, G.L. Hartman

New Session member

Cherri Gustafson has accepted an appointment to the Session to fill an un-expired term on the Session. Cherri will fill this position on an appointment basis until the 2017 annual meeting when she will have the opportunity to be elected to the position. Cherri is filling the position which was vacated due to Susan Beall's recent resignation. Thank you, Cherri, for being willing to take this position of leadership and service!

WANTED: Additional Praise and Worship Team members!!!

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

Choir director

The Worship Ministry Team is in the process of looking for a new adult choir director. If you or someone you know might be interested in helping to direct our choir this fall, let pastor Dan know or contact Susie Cromwell, Chair of the Worship Ministry Team.



Church picnic

We will hold our annual church picnic at Lake Holiday on Sunday, July 17. The church will provide the meat for the meal. You are encouraged to bring a salad or dessert which can be shared with others.

Change Worship Time?

A group of people came to the Worship Committee and asked that our church consider changing its Sunday morning worship time. The Worship Committee agreed with the proposal and has made a recommendation to Session that we change our Sunday morning worship time to 9:30 a.m. and leave that way all year long rather than having worship at 9:00 a.m. during the summer and at 10:30 a.m. during the winter. The purpose of the proposed change is to better accommodate the needs of young families. The Session has asked pastor Dan to prepare a survey which can be presented to the congregation regarding this question. He will have that survey ready to present to the congregation at the July 10 worship service. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this proposal, feel free to contact any of the Session members (Gene Shumway, Dean Potter, Melinda Neuman, Cherri Gustafson, Dennis Stahl and Lagene Wright).

Happy Birthday to You!



- 7-4 Trey Stahl
- 7-7 Tari Fetty
- 7-9 Bob Ash
- 7-10 Tom Scheidecker
- 7-12 Alana Stahl
- 7-18 John Middleton
- 7-18 Julie Zaeske
- 7-20 Lexi Williams
- 7-24 Alex Zaeske
- 7-28 Karen Beers
- 7-30 Pat Yuvan
- 7-31 Cara Gustafson
G.L. Hartman

Our New Website
www.fedconnection.net

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00—12:00

Sunday School

Sunday Worship
9:00 a.m.

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Federated Church of Sandwich

403 N. Main Street
Sandwich IL 60548

PLACE
STAMP
HERE