



THE FED CONNECTION

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, MAKING DISCIPLES

Federated Church Newsletter

March 1, 2018

At DeWitt's End:

The ground hog predicted 6 more weeks of winter, but that was 4 weeks ago. Now it looks like the worst of winter is behind us (or at least I hope so)! It's not that I hate winter, I'm just ready for a warmer season.

There is a lesson in all of this. Even though we may get tired of certain seasons of life, they are some of the ways God shows His provision and care for us:

"For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so My ways are higher than your ways and My thoughts higher than your thoughts. (10) The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. (11) It is the same with My word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it." (Isaiah 55:9-11)

This passage in Isaiah reminds us that we have a very limited perspective of God and the way He works in our lives and in this world. We cannot always understand why He allows certain things in our lives; things we may perceive as bad. Sometimes God uses these things to help accomplish a greater good like producing much needed fruit in our lives. If we cannot understand God or the way He works, we need to learn to accept and trust that, because God loves us, He has a good plan and is in the process of accomplishing that plan. Certain parts of that plan might be painful or uncomfortable, but the end result will be spectacular and magnificent – just as spring will be beautiful once the snows melt and the temperatures warm up.

God, help me learn to accept your plan and trust in you. Help to calm my soul when I am blinded by worry and teach me to rely on you and trust in you to get me through the uncomfortable seasons of life. Amen!

--Dan

Tuesday Bible Study:

Pastor Dan is leading a study on what the Bible teaches about heaven. The class meets at Lagene Wright's house on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Contact Lagene for more information.

Library News: Several new books for children and adults have arrived in the library. Stop in and see what's new!

Coming Sermons:

Mar. 4 Exod. 2:23-25 "God Hears"

The Israelites suffered unimaginable struggles and assumed God had forgotten them. But God heard. God acted. We may not always understand why He lets us struggle, but He promises to never leave or forsake us in our hour of need.

Mar. 11 Exod. 12:21-30 "The Good News"

The story of God's mercy in "The Passover" is a beautiful picture of the Good News of Jesus Christ. He paid the price so that all may be forgiven. The problem: just like in Egypt, not all accept or receive His gift.

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Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dan DeWitt

Coming Sermons (Cont'd):

Mar. 18 Exodus 13:17-22; Deut. 1:2-3 “Holy Detour”

Following God isn’t always fun. Sometimes His path takes us on some unpleasant detours which forces us to be patient as we follow in faith.

Mar. 25 **Palm Sunday** John:12:1-8 “Honoring Jesus”

Palm Sunday is all about worshiping Jesus. While there are many ways to worship Him, the best worship begins and ends with a desire to honor Him from deep in our hearts.

Bible Reading Plan for March:

Mar. 1 -- Ex. 4	Mar. 10 -- Ex. 12	Mar. 19 -- Ex. 19	Mar. 28 -- Luke 23
Mar. 2 -- Ex. 5	Mar. 11 -- Catch-up Day	Mar. 20 -- Ex. 20	Mar. 29 -- John 13 (Maundy Thursday)
Mar. 3 -- Ex. 6	Mar. 12 -- Ex. 13	Mar. 21 -- Ex. 24	Mar. 30 -- John 19 (Good Friday)
Mar. 4 -- Catch-up Day	Mar. 13 -- Ex. 14	Mar. 22 -- Ex. 32	Mar. 31 -- John 20
Mar. 5 -- Ex. 7	Mar. 14 -- Ex. 15	Mar. 23 -- Ex. 33	
Mar. 6 -- Ex. 8	Mar. 15 -- Ex. 16	Mar. 24 -- John 12	
Mar. 7 -- Ex. 9	Mar. 16 -- Ex. 17	Mar. 25 -- Catch-Up Day (Palm Sunday)	
Mar. 8 -- Ex. 10	Mar. 17 -- Ex. 18	Mar. 26 -- Luke 21	
Mar. 9 -- Ex. 11	Mar. 18 -- Catch-Up Day	Mar. 27 -- Luke 22	

CWH-Children’s Worship	TBS-Tues. Bible Study	EPIC-Youth Group	FF-Community Fellowship Feast
MG-Men’s Group	CC-Chancel Choir	LBS-Ladies Morning Bible Study	WBS-Women’s Afternoon Bible Study
SCUG-Sandwich Computer Users Group		HOW-Heart of Worship	FMC-Facilities/Ministry Committee

Sunday March	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 7:00 am-MG
4 9:30 am-Worship/CWH	5 3:30 p.m.-WBS	6 7:00 p.m.-FMC	7 9:00 am.-Lenten Breakfast 5:30-7:00 pm-EPIC 6:00 pm-HOW 7:00 pm-CC	8 7:00 pm-Session	9	10 7:00 am-MG
11 9:30 am-Worship/CWH	12 3:30 p.m.-WBS	13 7:00 p.m.-TBS	14 9:00 a.m.-Lenten Breakfast 5:30-7:00 pm-EPIC 6:00 pm-HOW 7:00 pm-CC	15	16	17 Happy St. Patrick’s Day! 7:00 am-MG
18 9:30 am-Worship/CWH	19 3:30 p.m.-WBS 7:00 p.m.-Quilters	20 7:00 p.m.-TBS	21 9:00 a.m.-Lenten Breakfast 5:30-7:00 pm-EPIC 6:00 pm-HOW 7:00 pm-CC	22	23 8:00 pm-9:30 pm Feed My Starving Children Packing in Aurora	24 7:00 am-MG
25 Palm Sunday Luca Battaglia/Ryker Shumway Baptisms 9:30 am-Worship/CWH	26 3:30 p.m.-WBS	27 4:30-6:00 p.m. – Community Fellowship Feast 7:00 p.m.-TBS	28 9:30 am-LBS 5:30-7:00 pm-EPIC 6:00 pm-HOW 7:00 pm-CC	29 Maundy Thursday	30 Good Friday	31 7:00 am-MG

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pastor Wayne Edwards (KY)
Pat Ammons
Julianna and her baby Autumn
Lisa Augustine
Hailey Clairmont (Lynn Brooks' grandbaby)
Patti and Chuck Fox
Lee Legner
Linda DeWitt's mother, Val Skupa
Family of Walt Droppa
Carol Pruski
Vicki Damato & Joyce Mackie
G. L. Hartman
John and Diane Klene
Donald Alderman (Kara Johnson's dad)
Keith Spears (Florida friend of Johnson family)
Todd & Marcy - for family healing

Jim (neighbor of Roger & Kristin Duffield)
Florence Miller's sister, Violet
Nancy & Jim Mitchell
Helen Kitner (sister-in-law of Glenda Potter)
Bev Anderson
"Missy" (Niece of Pat Redden's friend)
Judy Rohrer

Homebound, Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:

June Bannister, G. L. Hartman, Lois Peterson,
Doris Waldrop

Updated Addresses:

G. L. Hartman	Doris Waldrop
Michealsen Health Center	Willow Crest Pavilion
831 N. Batavia Ave.	515 N. Main St. - Rm. 117
Batavia, IL 60510	Sandwich, IL 60548

The 2018 Lenten Breakfast Series continues Wednesdays through the Lenten Season from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. at Federated. The first session on February 14th had 61 in attendance, with an offering of \$133.00 for the Good Samaritan Fund.

The second session on February 21st had 78 attendees, and an offering of \$109.65. Remaining sessions are as follows:

- February 28: Letting Go And Loving - Pastor David Johnson, Somonauk Baptist Church
- March 7: Deciding To Love - Pastor Anne Hoflen, Somonauk United Presbyterian Church
- March 14: Loving In The Midst of Adversity - Pastor Matthew Jones, Sandwich Church of the Nazarene
- March 21: The Healing Power of Love - Rev. Bill Lupole, retired pastor of Lisle Bible Church

Our Sincere Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Walt Droppa. Walt went into the presence of Jesus on February 13th, and his services were held at Federated on Saturday, February 17th.

Note of Thanks: Dear Federated Family, We deeply appreciate all the kindness you have expressed to our family on Walter's passing. Your prayers, cards, flowers, food, lovely luncheon, and inspirational service have meant so much to us. God Bless you all, The Droppa Family.

World Day of Prayer: All ladies are invited to World Day of Prayer, sponsored by Church Women United. It will be held March 2nd at the Union Congregational Church in Somonauk. Registration starts at 9:15 a.m. There will be a continental breakfast served, followed by a program. Reservations can be made by calling Laurinda Kidd at 815-495-2742.

Open Door Health Center of Illinois invites our congregation to attend the National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS Luncheon Tuesday, March 6, from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at The Little Home Church By The Wayside in Wayne, IL. If interested in attending, RSVP before March 4 at odhcil.org/prayer.

Baptisms: We will have two baptisms on Palm Sunday, March 25 – that will make it a special day of celebration! If you have been thinking about being baptized, or having your child baptized / dedicated, contact pastor Dan.

Feed My Starving Children: As we did last year, EPIC is planning a trip out to Feed My Starving Children in Aurora to pack food for the organization. Packing date is Friday, March 23, from 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. 40 spots have been reserved. As last year, two other churches will be participating. If interested in going, sign up on the website: (link: <http://volunteer.fmsc.org/Register/Group/JoinGroup.aspx?gid=1327062> or use the join code: 1327062), or contact Autumn Battaglia at 815-685-8448, or BattagliaAN1@gmail.com

Community Fellowship Feast: The March Fellowship Feast will be held Tuesday, March 27th, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. at Somonauk Baptist Church, 315 E. North St., Somonauk. We are asked to provide veggies. If you would be willing to help, please sign up on the sheet outside the sanctuary, or call the church office.

Fellowship Schedule: If you would be willing to provide the snacks for a Fellowship time in March and/or April, please sign up on the sheet posted in the lobby, or contact Florence Miller.

Missing Key: If anyone knows the whereabouts of a FireKing file cabinet key, please contact the church office.

- 3-2 Jessica Williams
- 3-10 Sean Williams
- 3-14 Trisha Williams
- 3-14 Tristan Shumway
- 3-18 Spencer Wiegman
- 3-19 Cassie Weber
- 3-22 Rebecca Plante
- 3-23 Steve Carlson



Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30 - 12:30
Sunday Worship
Children's Worship
Hour
9:30 a.m.

**SPRING BASEMENT SALE TO BENEFIT OPEN DOOR
COMING SOON!**

Loving God, Loving Others, Making Disciples

Federated Church of Sandwich

403 N. Main Street
Sandwich IL 60548