



THE FED CONNECTION

Federated Church Newsletter

November 1, 2018

At DeWitt's End:

Dr. Dave Fitch was one of the speakers at the Annual Gathering at the American Baptist Region meeting I went to a couple weeks ago. One of the things he spoke about was the need for Christians to be plugged in to three circles, based in part on Acts 2:46-47:

- (1) the circle which revolves around worship -- which is primarily focused on believers;
- (2) the circle which revolves around fellowship in our homes and neighborhoods – where we can invite non-believers to be our guest and see Christian love and fellowship in action; and
- (3) the circle in which we “go out” to the world around us – in this circle the believer is the guest of those who are not believers and it is an opportunity for us to “shine our light” in potentially dark places.

It is only by being plugged into all three circles that we can fully achieve the ministry God has for us!

Here's my confession: I have spent most of my Christian life focusing primarily on just the first circle. It's easy to just focus on worship. Even when I have met in homes for fellowship, I rarely invite non-believers to join. I've done a good job of “gathering,” but a lousy job of “going.” I have missed a big part of what God wants us to do.

There is a reason Jesus told his followers to “go” (go make disciples) and not just to “gather” in Christian circles. Jesus wants us to “go” outside of our own little circles and do our best to influence those around us who need God's grace. So, let me encourage you to enlarge the circles of your life and faith. Make a concerted effort to include non-believers in your circles so you can help lead them to Christ's love!

--Dan

Coming Sermons:

Nov. 4 “No Worries” 2 Chron. 32:1-21; Mat. 6:25-34

Here is a truth which should give us courage and hope: if we commit ourselves in trust to God, God can help fight our “battles” for us. There is no reason to worry. God is on our side!

Nov. 11 “Cheers & Tears” Ezra 3:10-13

There is a time to grieve over the losses of the past. There is a time to rejoice over the hope of the future. Occasionally, it is time to do both and fill the air with both cheers and tears.

Nov. 18 “Called to Purity” Ezra 9:1-2; 10:1-4; 1 Peter 2:1-5

It can be hard to understand some things in the Bible, like the story of a “mass divorce” in Ezra 9 & 10. Was this really what God wanted? Regardless of how you interpret the difficult passages of the Old Testament, here is a basic underlying lesson: God is calling His people to lives of purity.

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

Coming Sermons (Cont'd.):

Nov. 25 “More Than Pray” Nehemiah 4:1-9

Although God is on our side and will help us when we need Him the most, God sometimes wants us to do more than merely pray. Sometimes God works His miracles through our own blood, sweat and tears.

Bible Reading Plan for November:

Nov. 1 -- 2 Chron. 33	Nov. 11 -- Catch-Up Day	Nov. 21 -- Nehemiah 4
Nov. 2 -- 2 Chron. 34	Nov. 12 -- Ezra 6	Nov. 22 -- Nehemiah 5
Nov. 3 -- 2 Chron. 35	Nov. 13 -- Ezra 7	Nov. 23 -- Nehemiah 6
Nov. 4 -- Catch-Up Day	Nov. 14-- Ezra 8	Nov. 24-- Nehemiah 7
Nov. 5 -- 2 Chron. 36	Nov. 15 -- Ezra 9	Nov. 25 -- Catch-Up Day
Nov. 6 -- Ezra 1	Nov. 16 -- Ezra 10	Nov. 26-- Nehemiah 8
Nov. 7 -- Ezra 2	Nov. 17 -- Nehemiah 1	Nov. 27 -- Nehemiah 9
Nov. 8 -- Ezra 3	Nov. 18 -- Catch-Up Day	Nov. 28 -- Nehemiah 10
Nov. 9 -- Ezra 4	Nov. 19 -- Nehemiah 2	Nov. 29 -- Nehemiah 11
Nov. 10 -- Ezra 5	Nov. 20 -- Nehemiah 3	Nov. 30 -- Nehemiah 12

**DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE:
TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 20**

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
HOW-Heart of Worship	FMC-Facilities/Ministry Committee		

Sunday <u>November</u>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 9:15 a.m.-Church Women United at United Church of Sandwich	3 7:00 a.m.-MG
4 Daylight Savings Time Ends 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH 4:00 p.m.-EPIC	5 3:30 p.m.-WBS	6 ELECTION DAY	7 9:30 a.m.-LBS 6:00 p.m.-HOW 7:00 p.m.-CC	8 7:00 p.m.- Session Meeting	9	10 7:00 a.m.-MG
11 VETERAN’S DAY 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH 4:00 p.m.-EPIC	12 3:30 p.m.-WBS	13	14 9:30 a.m.-LBS 6:00 p.m.-HOW 7:00 p.m.-CC	15	16	17 7:00 a.m.-MG
18 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH 4:00 p.m.-EPIC	19 3:30 p.m.-WBS 7:00 p.m.-Quilters	20 December Newsletter Deadline	21 9:30 a.m.-LBS 6:00 p.m.-HOW 7:00 p.m.-CC 7:00 p.m.- Thanksgiving Eve Service at United Church of Sandwich	22 Thanksgiving Office Closed	23 Office Closed	24 7:00 a.m.-MG 9:00 a.m.- Church Decorating
25 9:30 am-Worship/ CWH 4:00 p.m.-EPIC	26 3:30 p.m.-WBS	27 4:30 - 6:00 pm Fellowship Feast	28 9:30 a.m.-LBS 6:00 p.m.-HOW 7:00 p.m.-CC	29	30	

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Naoma White	Loren Klene (John's brother)
Addie Moore & Boyfriend John	Val Skupa (Linda DeWitt's mother)
Carol Pruski	Renene Hendron
Pastor Don Ridder	Lee Heise Family (friends of the Klens)
Royce Potter Lett	Carolene & Jr. Bell
Judy Rohrer	Mary Plante's brother Donald
Patti Fox	Twin baby girls born prematurely
Lee Legner	Unspoken Request from Lauren & Gary Johnston
Lisa Augustine	Jim (neighbor of Roger & Kristin Duffield)
Corrine Ohlwine (Florence Miller's mom)	Hailey Clairmont (Lynn Brooks' grandbaby)
Tonya (family friend of Judy Rice)	John and Diane Klene
Vicki Damato	Neil (Glenda Potter's brother-in-law)
Joyce Mackie	Keith Spears
Juanita Anderson	Jeff (friend of Lucinda Cromwell)
Erica Ostendorf (Chuck & Kathy Watros' niece)	
Melinda Neumann	

Fellowship Feast:

The next Community Fellowship Feast will be held Tuesday, Nov. 27th, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. here at The Federated Church. We will be responsible for the main meat and beverages. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet outside the sanctuary, or call the church office.

Homebound, Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:

June Bannister, Lois Peterson, Val Skupa

Church Women United will be held Friday, November 2, at United Church of Sandwich, 512 Lions Road. Registration begins at 9:15 a.m. The topic this year is "Celebrating The Community". All women of the church are invited!

Remember to FALL BACK! Daylight Savings ends on Nov. 4. Don't forget to set your clocks BACK one hour.

Special Birthday: Naoma White will be celebrating her 96th birthday on November 10. If anyone would like to send her a card and birthday wishes, you can mail them to her at: 721 E. 6th St., Sandwich, IL 60548

Happy Veteran's Day, November 11, to all our veterans, and thank you for your service to our country!

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes: Everyone can participate in this ministry by packing a box, praying for a box, or paying to ship a box (\$9.00). Remember, no candy or toothpaste, as they attract rodents while being stored in warehouses. Anyone can help! Shoeboxes are due to the church no later than November 18th.

Thanksgiving Eve Service: Our church is participating in a Thanksgiving Eve Service to be held Wednesday, Nov. 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the United Church of Sandwich, 512 Lions Road, Sandwich.

Not Too Early! A Spring Rummage Sale to benefit Open Door is already being thought about! A date will be set in January, but in the meantime, we would be happy to collect things now. So, as you clean and purge, you can move your items straight to the church so you don't have to wait...and forget! Feel free to request tubs and boxes if you need transportation containers, and call the office if you need items to be picked up.

Note From Compassion Child: A note (and picture) has been received from Marlon Calero, the Compassion Child sponsored by The Federated Church, and has been posted on the bulletin board in the lobby. Through an app, we are able to share photos and notes on a regular basis. Please text photos with your name and a short prayer or note for Marlon to Amy Wiegman (cell) 630-862-6295.

Men's Fellowship: Guys: We would love to have you join us on Saturdays at 7:00 a.m. in the church kitchen. We meet for coffee, donuts (?), fun and a time of spiritual reflection. Come join us!

Volunteers Are Needed for Fellowship after worship for December. If you can help, please sign-up on the calendar in Fellowship Hall, or contact the church office.

EPIC Update: For the month of November, EPIC will be meeting at 4:00 p.m. Sundays at Union Congregational Church, 305 S. Gage St., Somonauk. They will still be meeting for a meal, and if you can help, the link for the Meal Train is: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/1505o3>.

Confirmation Class: Pastor Dan will be conducting a Confirmation class in January. This class is geared towards young people who are wanting to learn more about Jesus and who want to take the "next step" in their faith pilgrimage. If you would like to be part of this class, or know someone who might, contact Pastor Dan.

- 11-1 Tom Gowdy
- 11-4 Chuck Johnson
- 11-10 Naoma White
- 11-18 Brody Stahl
- 11-19 Vicky Swenson
- 11-28 Kaylynn Williams





TIME TO DECORATE! We will be decorating the church for the holidays on Saturday, November 24th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Fellowship of coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts will be provided. Your help with this labor of love would be greatly appreciated!

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30 - 12:30

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