

**THE**  
**Federated Church**  
**OF SYCAMORE**



**A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ &  
Unitarian Universalist Association**

# ***YOU* ARE WELCOME HERE!**

## **A warm WELCOME to those visiting or checking out Federated Church!**

We're glad you're here! Are you looking for more information about who we are, what we do, or how to get involved? Would you like to meet with Pastor Eric or get connected to others? Fill out our brief online [Connection Form here](#), and we will be in touch with you soon!

## **Federated Church is an Open & Affirming Community**

In a time of deep division and vitriolic rhetoric around issues of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality, and where the dignity of people living with disabilities or mental health issues are often ignored, demonized, or turned into a joke, we promise to:

*Welcome all people of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith expression, marital status & family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, physical ability, mental or emotional condition, economic and social status, and educational background to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our church family.*

**The Rainbow Flag:** We proudly display a rainbow flag at the front of our sanctuary as a visual declaration of God's extravagant and inclusive love, as well as of our own "promise of welcome" to all people. Our prayer is that all can be their truest selves here. This flag serves as a particular signal that our church is a safe and affirming space for LGBTQ persons to be, to belong, to lead, to question, and to grow in faith.

## **Order of Worship | June 15, 2025**

*All music can be found at the back of the bulletin.*

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

One: May we find joy in the presence of God.

**Many: May we draw strength from the power of God.**

One: We pray together this morning for fathers who try to balance the stresses of marriage, children, and work keenly aware of both joy and sacrifice.

**Many: We pray for fathers who, lacking a model of what a good father might be, try to be better fathers themselves.**

One: We pray for fathers who, by their own account, weren't around very much for their children, but who continue to offer now-grown children love and support.

**Many: We pray for fathers who, despite divorce, still play a wholesome part in children's lives.**

One: We pray for stepfathers and foster-parents whose understanding has offered healing.

**Many: We pray for fathers who've lost a child, yet hold that dear one, still, in their hearts.**

One: We pray for all those who've never had children, but guide the next generation as their own.

**Many: We pray for those about to become fathers; may they delight openly in their children.**

**All: We pray for fathers who have died, but live on in memory, whose care continues to shape what we are and can be.**

### **Passing the Peace**

*We invite you to like the video and/or say "Hi!" in the comments to let us know you're here.*

### **Gathering Hymn**

"Bring Many Names" (p.3)

## **Prayers of the People**

### **Sharing Prayers of Joy & for Healing**

#### **Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father/Mother/Parent who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kin(g)dom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we  
forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from  
evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

#### **Sung Response**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (p.4)

#### **Scripture**

[Mark 5:21-43](#)

#### **Sermon**

"Little girl...wake up!"

#### **Musical Meditation**

#### **Our Shared Life & Offering**

##### **Offering Opportunities**

##### **Offertory**

##### **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God, all creatures here below.*

*Praise God for all that Love has done.*

*Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

##### **Prayer of Dedication**

#### **Sending Hymn** "Peace I Leave with You, My Friends" (p.5)

#### **Benediction**

#### **Postlude**

*Thank you for worshiping with us today!*

† † †

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

While Pastor Eric is on vacation, we are so grateful to have the Rev. Joe Gastiger leading us in worship! In addition, those serving us this morning are:

**Pastor:** Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Ministers:** All of us! | **Director of Music:** Gary Mattin  
**Children's Church Director:** Bill O'Hagan | **Childcare Support:** Janis Schnurr-Trebe  
**Liturgist:** Nancy Renfer | **Ushers:** Pam & Nate Kitterman, Linda Mason & Allison Stahl  
*Ushers for Sunday, June 22: Paula von Ende, and Bev & Skip Schramer*

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# “Bring Many Names” by Brian Wren

*Unison*

1 Bring man-y names, beau-ti-ful and good, cel-e-brate, in  
 2 Strong moth-er God, work-ing night and day, plan-ning all the  
 3 Warm fa-ther God, hug-ging ev-ery child, feel-ing all the  
 4 Old, ach-ing God, grey with end-less care, calm-ly pierc-ing

par-a-ble and sto-ry, ho-li-ness in glo-ry, liv-ing, lov-ing God.  
 won-ders of cre-a-tion, set-ting each e-qua-tion, gen-i-us at play:  
 strains of hu-man liv-ing, car-ing and for-giv-ing till we're rec-on-ciled:  
 e-vil's new dis-guis-es, glad of good sur-pris-es, wis-er than de-spair:

Hail and Ho-san-na! bring man-y names! great, liv-ing God!  
 Hail and Ho-san-na, strong moth-er God!  
 Hail and Ho-san-na, warm fa-ther God!  
 Hail and Ho-san-na, old, ach-ing God!

5 Young, grow-ing God, ea-ger,  
 on the move,  
 say-ing no to false-hood and  
 un-kind-ness,  
 cry-ing out for jus-tice,  
 giv-ing all you have:  
 Hail and Ho-san-na,  
 young, grow-ing God!

6 Great, liv-ing God, nev-er ful-ly known,  
 joy-ful dark-ness far be-yond our see-ing,  
 clos-er yet than breath-ing,  
 ev-er-last-ing home:  
 Hail and Ho-san-na,  
 great, liv-ing God!

# "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" by Martin Luther

1 A might-y for-tress is our God, a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing,  
2 Did we in our own strength con-fide, our striv-ing would be los-ing,  
3 And though this world with dev-ils filled should threat-en to un-do us,  
4 That word be-yond all earth-ly powers for-ev-er is a-bid-ing;

Our pres-ent help a-mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.  
But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choos-ing.  
We will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri-umph through us.  
The Spir-it and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us sid-ing.

For still our an-cient foe does seek to work us woe with craft and pow-er  
You ask who that may be? Christ Je-sus sets us free! With might-y power to  
The powers of e-vil grim, we trem-ble not for them; their rage we can en-  
Let goods and kin-dred go, this mor-tal life al-so; the bod-y they may

great, and armed with cru-el hate, on earth with-out an e-equal.  
save, vic-to-ri-ous o'er the grave, Christ will pre-vail tri-umphant.  
dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit-tle word shall fell them.  
kill; God's truth shall tri-umph still; God's reign en-dures for-ev-er.

# "Peace I Leave with You, My Friends" by Ray Repp

*Refrain*

D Em G D F#m

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in

Em Gm D Em G D F#m

all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to

Bm Em G D 1-2 3

you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

D Em G D

1 To share God's love is why I came,  
2 Take my hand and be at peace;  
3 With this love now all will know

F#m Em/G Gm

to show God's kind - ness with - out end.  
the spir - it of our love I send.  
that lone - li - ness is at an end.

D Em G D

Go now, my friends, and do the same,  
And with this love you will be free,  
Re-joice, my friends, al - though I go,

F#m G A7 to Refrain

un - til I come a - gain.  
un - til I come a - gain.  
for I will come a - gain.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Pastor Eric on sabbatical | May 1-July 31**

Pastor Eric is away on sabbatical through July 31. If you're new or visiting during this time, *welcome!* Worship will be a little different than usual during this time. If you have any questions about our community, our ushers handing out bulletins in the back are great folks to reach out to—they'd love to talk with you!

During Pastor Eric's sabbatical, if there is a specific prayer request or concern, please reach out to one of the leaders of our **Caring Ministry**: Suzanne Juday, Karen Hamingson, Linda Babcock, Pam Kitterman, and Malorie Nelson. They will do their best to connect people to a support person and make sure every care need gets met.

In case of **Pastoral Emergency**, including any funeral arrangements, please reach out to Rev. John Dorhauer, Pastor at First Congregational UCC in DeKalb (602-402-6171; 1stdekaltbpastor@gmail.com). You can also reach out to the Caring Ministry, who will then follow up with Pastor John. *Should a memorial service be needed and you would prefer to have me do it, I will of course do so when I return from my leave.*

For other questions, please reach out to either Darlene in the church office or Chris Borresen, our 2025 Church Moderator (cborresen@gmail.com).

## **June Love Offering | Strengthen the Church**

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering in June reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

Donations in any amount are welcome and can be placed in the "offering" plate, mailed to the church office, or given online at <https://bit.ly/GiveFCS>—select the fund: Love Offering. Special STC offering envelopes are available at the back of the sanctuary.

## **Pride Fest Poster Making | TODAY, following worship**

We will create posters following worship TODAY to carry with us during the Pride March. All supplies will be provide...bring your imagination!

## **Pride Fest | Saturday, June 21, 1:00-4:00 PM, Van Buer Plaza, DeKalb**

We will be participating in DeKalb County's Pride Fest. In our booth we will proudly proclaim that we are a church where all God's LGBTQIA+ children are beloved, affirmed, celebrated, and supported. Pride Fest kicks-off with the Pride March at 1 pm, from the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> & Locust Sts. Sign up in Dutton Hall to let us know you can join Bill & Ryan at the booth or participate in the Pride March.

**Children's Church** will not be held next Sunday, June 22. Children's bulletins and activity boxes will be available.

## **Recycle/Reuse Bulletin Covers**

We will recycle and reuse these bulletin covers. Please place them in the basket at the back of the sanctuary on your way out. Thanks!



## **Weekly eNews**

Scan this QR code with your phone camera to see the most recent eNews with all these announcements and more! Subscribe tab is at the top.



### **Church Calendar: Coming up at Federated!**

Did you know there is a Master Calendar of church/building related activities? Scan this QR code to see what's going on!

### ***Our Guest Worship Leader, Rev. Joe Gastiger***

We are blessed to have Rev. Joe Gastiger leading us in worship most Sunday's during Pastor Eric's sabbatical.

Pastor Joe served as the Pastor of First Congregational UCC in DeKalb from August 2001 until his retirement in October 2020.

Having grown up in New York, he attended S.U.N.Y Stony Brook and the University of Iowa before completing graduate work at Colorado State University. He came to DeKalb in 1980 to teach English at Northern Illinois University, where he later earned his doctorate.

Ministry was a second-career path for Joe. He first joined First Congregational UCC as a member in July of 1994, noting that he was led to this church by his son, Michael, whose own innocent and profound spiritual questions—which came up while he was playing with toys, or while he and Jean would read to him at night—had reawakened deeply felt concerns in himself. He turned to ministry as a quest for a greater challenge in life and a growing interest to learn more about Christianity and the Bible.

Pastor Joe has served the wider community in numerous ways and at a variety of levels over the years, doing what he can to make DeKalb County a place of greater love, justice, and belonging for all, especially the vulnerable and marginalized.

# OUR FEDERATED VALUES

## **We believe in God**

At the center of our faith is the surprising, unsettling, and deeply personal God found in the Bible, most profoundly revealed in the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus. At Federated, our primary interest is not merely talking *about* God, but in *encountering* the Mysterious Force at the heart of the universe. This is a God who comforts us where we need to be comforted and challenges us where we've become complacent. This is a God who will not be confined to dogmatic teachings, nor even to the Bible. We believe that we are invited to encounter this God everywhere: in nature, science, one another, and in other religious traditions as well.

## **Each person is on a unique spiritual journey**

We value faith as a journey rather than a destination. We recognize that each person is at a different place on their journey, so we focus on “testimonies” of faith rather than “tests” of faith; stories of how we are being transformed, rather than dogmas we must affirm. Here, you are welcome to belong, question, explore, and lead whether you grew up in church and loved it, or you've had a painful relationship with Christianity; you are welcome whether you feel your faith is unshakeable or you're not sure if you believe in God at all. You are welcome to join a community of people “on the way”: encouraging and caring for one another, learning and growing together, and serving alongside each other as we build, in some small way, the world we believe God dreams of.

## **Building authentic community across our differences**

We are an “Open and Affirming” congregation, which is our way of saying that we value diversity. In a time of deep division, we believe it is paramount to gather people from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, and identities in order to build authentic relationships and community. We believe that the simple but courageous work of showing up and being together in this way is one necessary element in healing our nation and world's deep divisions.

## **We believe in peace through justice**

In this congregation, conversations regarding racism, sexism, poverty, war, immigration, homophobia, hunger, abuse, and a host of other issues are commonplace, both from the pulpit and around the table. We know that the Realm of God is not being experienced on earth so long as people are being hurt. With Martin Luther King Jr., we believe that we are all “caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny,” and that “none of us can be free until all are free.” Which means that, as a community, we have a God-given responsibility and mission to work for justice and healing in our neighborhood and beyond. Jesus says: “I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). This work is defined not merely by what we are against, but the vision we are for—flourishing for *all*!

# ***“Welcoming Any, Loving All”***

*The Federated Church is affiliated with two national denominations:  
the United Church of Christ & the Unitarian Universalist Association*



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