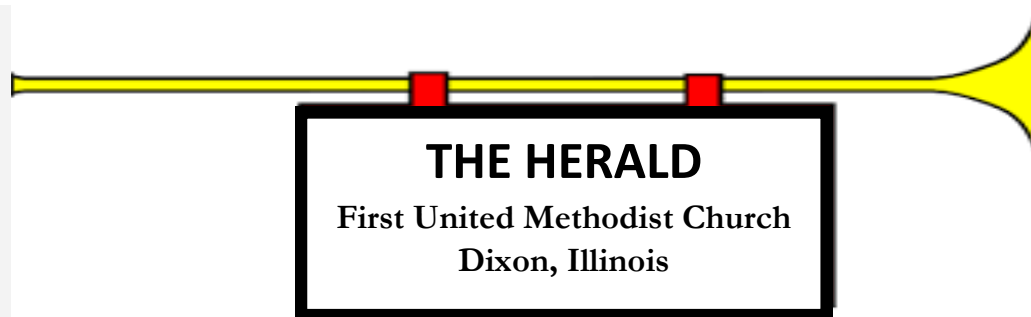


February 19, 2019



THE HERALD

First United Methodist Church
Dixon, Illinois

Greetings,

I think I have forgotten how to handle a real winter! The snow doesn't go away and it keeps on coming. Because of the slippery road conditions I have to be careful wherever I drive, making sure that I give myself extra time. But, that is the way life is isn't? Each day is a new day with its own challenges and its own experiences. We can either complain or rejoice in the opportunity to live life. I choose to rejoice knowing that I have God in my life. Through my relationship with Jesus Christ I get to experience the wonder and continual amazement of the works of God. I am grateful for the Holy Spirit's presence to help me see God at work, even in the middle of a snow storm. Last Sunday when I woke up there was snow on the ground as I let Wrigley outside. I got my phone out and turned on our heated side walk so the snow would melt by the time Sunday school started. I love technology! As the sun came up it was snowing in such a beautiful and gentle way that I had to thank God for the beauty.

Many people chose to stay home last week because of the snow and slippery road conditions. I completely understand your choice. We missed you being with us. Again I have to thank the Lord for technological advances and for our Tech team that faithfully broadcasts our worship service each week on Facebook. There is a growing faithful community of people who tune in each Sunday morning to participate in worship. Sometime on Sunday evening I will go to the post so I can read the comments and watch parts of the service. I love the interaction between the regulars that tune in. I wish that I could interact with you live during worship. If you can't make it to church on Sunday you can still be a part of church by tuning into the live broadcast on Facebook. If you can't watch it on Sunday you can tune in whenever you have time. Listen to the music. Listen to the message. You can be a part of the church 24/7.

Ray and Meg Schmidt shared with me a picture of Ray's Mom's pastor from the 1950's. It showed the pastor with his reel to reel tape recorder visiting a shut-in so they could hear the Sunday service. Wow, that recorder must have weighed 20 pounds! Times have surely changed. In this case for the better. Technological advances can make our lives better. Technology is also changing the way people view and participate in church. You can get church anytime, anywhere! All you have to do is use your smart phone. You can find a biblically based message or Christian song with a few taps on the screen. You don't have to have all that messy interaction with people!

For many people today it is not Jesus they dislike but it is the people sitting in the pews that they struggle with. They have this unrealistic view that we Christ followers have our lives all together. That if we say we follow Jesus then our lives should be a perfect reflection of how Jesus lived. What they don't

Upcoming Events:

- NO Let's Deal
- Mar 2, 8:00 UMM
- Mar 6, 9:00 UMW
- Mar 11, 7:00 Priscilla Circle
- Mar 12, 6:30 Trustees
- Mar 12, Newsletter Deadline
- Mar 14, 6:30 Finance
- Mar 14, 7:00 Matters Circle
- Mar 19, 7:00 Church Council
- Mar 21, 9:00 Anna Circle
- Mar 21, 6:30 Worship Comm.
- Mar 26, 5:00 Faith Develop
- Mar 26, 6:00 Staff-Parish



Worship Services:

Saturdays:

5:00 pm in the Chapel

Sundays:

10:00 am in the Sanctuary
2nd Sunday of month, family day

8:30 Bible Study, Ruth Room

8:30 Adult Sunday School

9:45 Powerhouse Kids

(Except 2nd Sunday of month)

2:00 AGAPE Youth

realize that we are imperfect people who make mistakes. Who mess up and stumble all the time. Who are trying to experience the transforming power of God through our relationship with Jesus Christ. We believe that if we can get a little more of Jesus into us then we will be better today than we were yesterday. As good United Methodists we are going on to perfection. Perfection is something that will most likely take beyond our earthly lives to obtain. But that doesn't stop us from exposing ourselves to a community of faith where we can be challenged and loved by people who are journeying in the same direction as we are. We see Jesus as who he is, the Son of God and God himself who in his perfection invites us into a life-long relationship of learning how to become like him.

I want to remind you of our church goals for 2019.

- A. Increase Worship attendance >2% (4-5 people)
- B. Increase Website hits >10%
- C. Increase Facebook views >25%

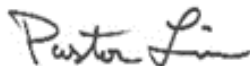
Personal Goals

- Share faith
- Get to know new people
- Make ONE new friend.

The reason I want to remind you of our goals is to encourage you to make a new friend this year. Be a good friend and then as part of growing in your discipleship and going on to perfection invite them to church with you. The people you meet each day need a compelling reason to come into our church to check us out. The compelling reason is you! Make a friend, be a good friend and bring a friend to Christ.

See you around the church or on Facebook when you can't make it!

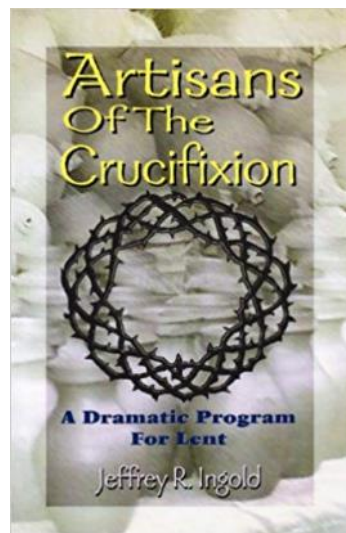
Blessings,



Community Lenten Services 2019

Join the Dixon Community during Lent this year as we gather to worship, learn and grow together. Services begin at 6:pm

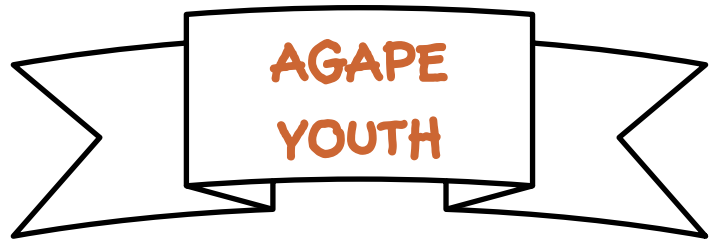
- March 10 *First UMC of Dixon*
- March 17 *Grace UMC*
- March 24 *First Presbyterian*
- March 31 *First Baptist Church*
- April 7 *TBA*





Power House Kids

(2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sunday of the Month at 9:45 am.
Nursery: Infant-Age 3. PHK: Age 3-6th Grade.



***CONNECT *GROW *SERVE *SHARE**

Youth in 6th grade-college age are invited to join us for lesson, games and snacks.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| March 3 | Agape Youth |
| March 10 | Intro to Youth
Agape Youth |
| March 17 | Agape Youth |
| March 24 | Confirm 11
No Agape Youth |
| March 26 | Subway Lunch at Riverfront
High School Lunch A and B |
| March 31 | Confirm 12
(Stay until 4:00 for Youth Service Pro)
Agape Youth |



Service Opportunities

Agape Youth has the following service opportunities

* Adults who will come speak to the youth, help them with service projects, or teach them a skill or just spend time with them

Contact Kendra Wadsworth for more information on these or other opportunities to serve in Agape Youth

PHK and Agape Youth Newsletters are available in the church Narthex and by the PHK sign-in table.

Promise

All people at Dixon First United Methodist Church are very special to me. And Rosemary Snider was a special person to me, too. She was a beloved child of God, worshipping the Lord at our Saturday evening worship service. Until she received a call by God to transition to her eternal home, she had a clear consciousness and we always had a good talk. If I had had an opportunity to officiate or just to participate in the celebration of her life, I would have wanted to say something. Sadly, such a chance didn't happen. Instead of losing the chance, I'd like to share here what I wanted to say because she was also dear to all of us.

Whenever I visit Rosemary, she told me that her only wish was to get out of the room in which she had been hospitalized for a long time in the nursing care facility, so that she can go back to her home. For the past few years, Rosemary fought with herself in that small room with loneliness, sense of isolation, powerless, loss of routine she enjoyed, and people whom she interacted. One day, I said, *"Rosy, you will make it through and you'll get there!! Let's get out of here! Let's keep it up! Don't stop eating! Okay?"* She said, *"Yes! I will!"* The way I prayed for her was likely that such hope will become a reality by the power of God. It seemed like a promise made by between me and Rosy. However, when I received a phone call from Sue that Rosy is not very doing good, I visited and saw Rosemary who was nothing but skin and bones. Fighting back my tears, I couldn't say anything for minutes. The only thing I found to say to her was *"Don't stop eating."* And a few days later her only wish didn't come true. And yes. A pastor's earnest prayer seemed not working.

We make promises every day. Do we always keep our promises? How about this? When a man and woman get married, they usually make promises to one another. They say something like, *"I promise to love you for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health as long as we both shall live."* Unfortunately, we may have to admit that we fail in keeping our promises somewhere along the line. How fragile our promises are? The promise we hoped or a wish we have may not come true.

Does God always keep God's promises? Yes, God does. Jesus said, ***"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."*** (Matthew 24:35) and ***"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ."*** (2 Corinthians 1:20) I remember the last time I visited Rosy and the prayer I did with her together. After I prayed for her with the promises God had for her (and of course for all of us), she exclaimed, ***"Amen"*** out of her small scrawny body. And I came across that her ***"Amen"*** became ***"Yes"*** because God promised her eternal life and eternal home for her rest and peace and Rosemary was in Christ. So, they are ***"Yes"*** in Christ although our wish in our physical world seemed not come to pass. And I real-

ized that the prayer I prayed for her is not my own prayer but it is the prayer between God and her, affirmed by God's promise for her. This realization brought me joy and comfort from deep inside of my heart. I am glad that Rosy had the faith to say with a loud voice **"Amen"** to it.

When you pray, remember we pray in the name of Jesus. There is power in the name of Jesus, not in the person who prays. In Jesus, there are many promises God has in store for you in the Bible. So, we have to read the Bible and praying with it. Because praying God's word reminds us of God's promises. God doesn't need to be reminded of what God has promised, but we often do. When you pray and say in faith **"Amen"** to it, they are all **"Yes"** in Christ our Lord. Trust in God and God's promise my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Blessings,



Pastor Heewon

Agape Youth Group is collecting items to send to the Philippines. We will collect items until May 1st and then send a box to Bible Witness Camp, so they can send it to the Philippines.

Item Ideas:

- *Small Individually packed treats (cookies, crackers, chips...no chocolate)
- *Boxes of Macaroni and Cheese
- *Toiletries (hair brushes, combs, travel shampoo, soap, conditioner, hair barrettes)
- *Small Toys
- *Books
- *School Supplies (pencils, colored pencils, erasers, scissors, pens)
- *Anything else small that you think others might like (if they aren't able to be sent to the Philippines, Bible Witness Camp will be able to use them)

Items can be dropped off in the Youth Room or by the Welcome Desk in the narthex

Employment Opportunity: Dixon FUMC is looking for a person to become part of our staff to direct and develop our children and youth ministries. He or she will vision, plan and advocate with the Faith Development Committee for our children and youth, ensuring that they are considered and included within the life of the congregation. We are looking for someone with a passion for children's and youth ministry, with a genuine interest in responding to the hopes and concerns of children, youth and families in our community. This is a part time position. If you are interested, please contact SPRC chair Nancy Burnett nancy.burnett@comcast.net or phone 815-285-2511.

LENT 2019

Submitting to God

A pilgrimage to the Heart of God

March 9-10: Submitting your Devotion *1 Thessalonians 5:17*

March 16-17: Submitting your Work *Psalms 90:17*

March 23-24: Submitting our Petitions *Matthew 7:7-11*

March 30-31: Submitting our Bodies, Youth Sunday *Mark 12:36*

April 6-7: Submitting our Possessions *Luke 12:48*

April 13-14: Palm Sunday Submitting our Praise *Mark 11:9-10*

Prayer Team Ministries

The Prayer Team works to provide activities to encourage prayer which, in turn, strengthens our faith and trust in God. As a result, we are more open to recognizing God's work all around us.

We hope you will join us in the following opportunities:

~ Due to the positive feedback we received from the New Testament reading plan, we are offering a new plan that will run from March 4 through June 3, 2019. This reading plan will take you through one chapter of all 66 books of the Bible, one chapter per day.

~ Military Prayer Cards will be available soon.

~ An Ash Wednesday Prayer Vigil is scheduled for March 6.

A prayer is like a ripple on a pond - one person prays and that power extends further than anyone could imagine.

JANUARY INCOME	\$ 45,510.26
JANUARY EXPENSES	<u>\$ 36,259.89</u>
JANUARY DEFICIT	\$ (9,250.37)
2018 CARRYOVER	\$ 13,073.40
BAL IN GENERAL FUND AS OF 1/31/2019	\$ 22,323.77



Financial Notes for JANUARY 2019

YTD Income is \$9,414.76 (+26.1%) less than 2017. YTD expenses are \$1,070.35 (+3.0%) more than 2018. Apportionments are paid year to date.

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 10am - Worship 2pm - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm - Solomons 5:30pm - Missions 6pm - G2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - UMW 10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Faith 8am - UMM, R/E 5pm - Worship, C
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Family 10am - Worship 2pm - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Priscilla Circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herald Deadline 4pm - Prayer Team 4pm - Solomons 6pm - G2 6:30pm - Trustees, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Finance, cr 7pm - Matters Circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - Worship, C
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Family 10am - Worship 2pm - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm - Solomons 6pm - G2 7pm - Council 7pm - Leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Anna Circle 9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - Worship, C
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Worship 2pm - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm - Solomons 6pm - G2 7pm - Council 7pm - Leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Anna Circle 9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - Worship, C
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Worship 2pm - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm - Solomons 5pm - Faith 6pm - G2 6pm - Staff-Parish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - Worship, C
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 10am - Worship 2pm - Youth 6pm - Community 						

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First United Methodist Church
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www.fumcdixon.org
Facebook: First United Methodist Church in Dixon IL

Conference website: umcnic.org
District Superintendent, Rev Young Mee Park
815-561-8285

THE HERALD
February 19, 2019

Watching Services online If you want to watch the Sunday worship services that we are recording live, they are available to view on the church Facebook page at First United Methodist Church in Dixon IL. You have the option to see them live or anytime during the week! If you are still confused, please talk to the pastors.

There are cd's of the services available to pick up in the church if you don't have a computer, or you can listen on the church website fumcdixon.org



Newsletter deadline Articles for the next Herald are due in the church office no later than March 12th. Email, bring copy or call me to get your article in! Thanks!

Staff Phone#
Pastor Tim Mitchell, 815-440-0278
Pastor Heewon Kim, 847-912-2808
Pastor Stan Rodabaugh, visitation, 815-973-0307
Melissa Reynolds, office, 815-284-2849
Tommy Whitcombe, music, 815-440-9623
Carla Anderson, organist, 815-590-6698
Jessie Marie Dir, records, 815-288-1326
Sharon Welker, treasurer, 815-652-4384
Keith Gabany, janitor, 815-288-5001
Kendra Wadsworth, youth, 815-549-3045