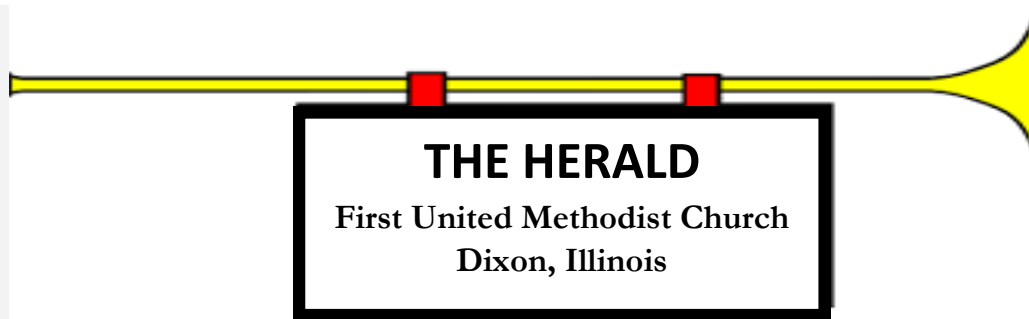


May 2019



THE HERALD

First United Methodist Church
Dixon, Illinois

Greetings,

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Amen!

Where do we go from here? I mean where do we go from the empty tomb and the announcement that Jesus is alive? How does this new reality affect our lives? These are very important questions that as followers of Jesus we have to answer. As Christians we call ourselves disciples of Jesus Christ. Which begs us to define what it means to be a disciple. What does it mean to be a disciple of the Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

According to Webster's Dictionary a disciple is: "one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another: such as in *Christianity*: one of the twelve in the inner circle of Christ's followers according to the Gospel accounts." So, that means that only one of the original 12 are disciples? So, I am off the hook! Not so fast! In the gospel of Matthew 28:19 Jesus says: "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*" So Jesus told the original disciples and the other followers to go into the world and make disciples. That is us! We are a new generation of disciples.

So what is a disciple? The Hebrew word for disciple is "Talmidim." Talmidim were disciples of a rabbi. During Jesus' earthly life he was called a teacher or rabbi by his followers. So, as his talmidim, the 12 disciples were totally devoted to becoming just like the rabbi. They were committed not just to learn the teachings of Jesus but to become just like Jesus. So, today as a follower of the risen Jesus we are his talmidim, his disciples. That means that we are to become just like Jesus. How are you doing?

That can be a hard question to answer when you don't have anything to base your answer on. I invite you to find your answer to that question of how you are doing becoming just like Jesus during our next worship and study series called: **Journeying with Jesus**. The theme of this series is: "*Exploring the path to becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ.*" We are going to learn the 5 attributes of a disciple. By the end of the series you will be able to self-evaluate yourself in each of these 5 attributes in a range of six stages: From a seeker to a maturing disciple. Once you have evaluated where you currently are you will be able to see which attributes you need to strengthen so that you can become more like Jesus.

Our mission as a church is to: **Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by Faithfully Uplifting the Message of Christ.** During our series **Journeying with Jesus** we will introduce our Discipleship

Upcoming Events:

- May 1, 9:00 UMW
- May 4, 9:00 UMM
- May 5, 10:00 Confirmation
- May 9, 6:30 Finance
- May 9, 7:00 Matters Circle
- May 11/12 Blanket Sunday
- May 13, 7:00 Priscilla Circle
- May 14, 4:00 Prayer Team
- May 14, 6:30 Trustees
- May 14, **Newsletter Deadline**
- May 16, Anna Circle
- May 16, 6:30 Worship Comm.
- May 21—June 1

Pastor Tim Gone

- May 21, 7:00 Leadership
- May 23, 6:00 Green Team
- May 27-31, Meals on Wheels
- May 27, **OFFICE CLOSED**
- **Memorial Day**
- May 28, 5:00, Faith Develop.
- May 28, 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

Pathway Program. This program will be the foundational piece to fulfilling our mission. Our Discipleship Pathway will help us develop our classes, programs and strategies that we need to help our congregation to grow into the most dynamic and on-fire disciples of Jesus Christ. The pathway will help new people to plug into our church and connect with others on their journey to becoming a maturing disciple of Jesus Christ. I am so excited to bring this new system to our congregation. I look forward to sharing and talking with you about our Discipleship Pathway.

Blessings ,

Pastor Lin



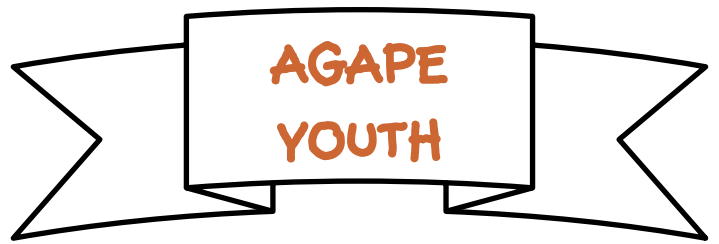


Power House Kids

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

May 26

Last PHK of the School Year



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

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

May 5

End of the Year Youth Party for All Youth

May 5

Confirmation Sunday



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.

"We Are the Church!"

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus!

Yesterday, I was in a committee meeting. One of the agendas we talked was about how we're going to take some following steps after we received the ALICE training last month and one that we also did in the previous year. For those of you who didn't take the ALICE training, it is to help people proactively respond against active shooter events. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate (A-L-I-C-E). As we know, last year there were more than three hundred mass shootings that occurred in our country. Many fires occurred in public areas like schools, churches, parks, etc. Hate crime against different religion or ethnicity has rapidly increased. In response to such frequent shooting violence, our church had to take actions to try to protect ourselves as much as we can. So we took the training session that helps us to come up with ways to be more proactive at any possible occasion. While sharing ideas, one idea was to close every church door before church service starts. Another idea was to have armed officers during church service. All the plans we shared on the night just made sense to everyone. At the same time, we couldn't help but sighing out our grief the world we live in now. Well, somehow our United Methodist's core motto is ***"Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors."*** But the world we are living in seems to force us to stop using the slogan or at least modify it like ***"Open doors only before service starts..."***

Even though the world threatens us not to be the church as we're supposed to be or as we've been before, I've seen a lot of things happening in this congregations that witness to the world saying that, "No matter what, we are the United Methodist Church having that same slogan, ***"Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors!"***

"What?" I was uncomfortable to myself when I heard from the youth leader six years ago when she said, "They are all in our mission trip team. And they will get supported no matter whether they are members of our church or outside the church!" I thought to myself, "No way! They should be our church members or member's child if they want to receive this support" Nobody has to do a qualification process to receive this benefit. I've never attended a church service in my life. Still, can I go on a mission trip? The answer is "YES." It's like the passages from Isaiah 55 that I preached weeks before,

***"Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost."***

Our church has faithfully been practicing this passage to our youth. If you are a youth under 18, pay fifty or sixty bucks for the registration and join us! In most cases, a person's cost for a mission trip is about \$350-\$400 which means our church has been supporting the whole expenses of our mission trip while asking each youth to pay \$50-60. If you cannot afford to register, still you are fine because we'll bring you on our trip anyway!

This year, it will be my sixth mission trip in a row at FUMC of Dixon. And every time I bring our teenagers to unknown places we've never been to, I am so grateful to my church family that made this trip possible for us to experience Christ's love. It is such a lavishness that God has shown to us through Jesus Christ as the Ephesians 1:8 says, ***"...according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us...."*** Will they understand what this means in someday? I hope so, not that they will appreciate our generosity, but that they will experience the riches of God's mercy and love through your love so that they can also follow Jesus by serving the church and support its ministry as you do so that the people in the church might be touched as they did.

In our Book of Discipline, part four in section six, it says ***"Called to Inclusiveness...Inclusiveness means openness, acceptance, and support that enables all persons to participate in the life of the Church, the community, and the world...therefore, inclusiveness denies every semblance of discrimination..."***

As a cross-cultural / cross-racial pastor, I am so proud of this church that this church has experiences of serving God with other cross-cultural / cross-racial pastors in the past. Spiritual maturity is not measured by how much you read your Bible daily or how long you pray to God every day. It is also measured by how you treat others, especially when they don't look like us. Your maturity in working for Christ in our differences makes a difference in this community and the world. Though I sometimes feel limited in terms of mingling with people because of our different culture and language, your kindness and consideration for my family and me touch me and teach me what inclusiveness means as Christians. Your inclusive maturing heart even expanded to our youth ministry in ways that they feel welcomed and supported no matter who they are. This love enables us to go on another mission trip this year. Thank you for your support. We don't know who will we meet and what will happen, but we are sure that there is Jesus who is already there, sharing his great love and grace just as the resurrected Jesus waiting for his disciples in the Sea of Galilee. And yes, we'll be participating in the work that God has already begun. This story tells us what Easter means. Whether you think you are ready to celebrate the risen Christ or not, Jesus is alive and he came into our lives, and he is present among us. Remember! You are the one who is making another Easter story through your love and support for someone. May the joy of Easter be with you all! Hallelujah! Christ has risen!

Blessings to you,
Pastor Heewon



The Northern IL Conference of the United Methodist Church will be collecting items for Personal dignity kits during our annual conference in early June. Our Dekalb District Churches are asked to bring hand towels and wash cloths. There will be a box in the back of the parlor for donations thru May 31.

Church World Services Blanket/Tools weekend offering will be May 11-12. Our donations provide blankets for those left homeless by tornados, hurricanes and other kinds of disasters. \$10 will purchase a CWS blanket. The United Methodist Women appreciate your generous support from this ministry.

The Prayer Team requests your assistance with:

Dixon National Guard soldiers are **currently on maneuvers** in Korea, they will return on May 6. The cards we have available will be distributed upon their return. First United Methodist Church congregation appreciates and supports their service to our country. (Correction from last week) Confirmation Sunday is on May 5. Cards will be available for each of the confirmands the weekends of April 27/28 and May 4/5. We would like you to sign the cards to let them know how proud we are of this important step in their spiritual journey. Thank you!

Faith Development would like to present current 3rd graders with a Bible. Please let the church office (dixon1stsecretary@yahoo.com) know if you have a child currently in 3rd grade. Or if you have a child older than 3rd grade who has not received a Bible from the church, please let the church office know. Please include their first and last name and if not currently in 3rd grade, the grade they are in. The Bible will be presented during a Sunday Service (exact date not yet determined).

Faith Development Committee would like to celebrate our graduates! Please let the church office (dixon1stsecretary@yahoo.com) know if you have a family member who will be graduating Preschool, 8th Grade, High School or College (or other higher education) this spring. Please include their first and last name, grade completing, school completing and for high school/higher education their future plans. Please also include a picture. We will recognize the graduates during a Sunday Service (exact date not yet determined).

PRAYER TEAM MINISTRIES

On April 27-28 and May 4-5, we will celebrate the confirmands as they make their first public statement of their declaration of faith.

There will be tables at both Saturday and Sunday services with pictures of the young people and cards for the congregation to sign. It doesn't matter if you know them or not, we are just trying to support them on their way to faith.

First United Methodist Church Confirmands:

Alex Delashmit

Jacob Delashmit

Karis Erb

Cade Hey

Addie Morley

Katie Shafer

Torie Baker



MARCH INCOME	\$ 32,399.05
MARCH EXPENSES	<u>\$ 37,603.96</u>
MARCH DEFICIT	\$ (5,204.91)
2018 CARRYOVER	\$ 13,073.40
BAL IN GENERAL FUND AS OF 3/31/2019	\$ 9,746.50



Financial Notes for MARCH 2019

YTD Income is \$11,947.63 (+13.1%) less than 2018. YTD expenses are \$1,537.25 (+1.5%) more than 2018. Apportionments were paid thru March.

May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	MAY		9am - UMW 10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel	9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts	7am - Mens Emmaus	8am - UMM, R/E 5pm - Worship, C
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Confirmation 8:30am - Bible 10am - Worship	6:30pm - Boy Scouts	6pm - G2	10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel	9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Finance, cr 7pm - Matters Circle	7am - Mens Emmaus	Blanket Saturday 5pm - Worship, C
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Blanket Sunday 8:30am - Bible 10am - Family 10am - Worship	6:30pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Priscilla Circle	NEWSLETTER 4pm - Prayer Team 6pm - G2 6:30pm - Trustees,	10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel	9am - Anna Circle 5pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Worship	7am - Mens Emmaus	5pm - Worship, C
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Worship	6:30pm - Boy Scouts	Pastor Tim Gone 6pm - G2 7pm - Leadership	10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel	9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts 6pm - Green Team	7am - Mens Emmaus	5pm - Worship, C
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Pastor Tim Gone 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Worship	Meals on Wheels Office is Closed 6:30pm - Boy Scouts	5pm - Faith 6pm - G2 6pm - Staff-Parish	10am - G2 6pm - Ladies 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub 7:30pm - Chancel	9:30am - Bazaar 5pm - Girl Scouts	7am - Mens Emmaus	

[]

[]

THE HERALD
May 2019

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

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

Journeying With Jesus

*Exploring the Path to becoming
a disciple of Jesus Christ*

April 27-28 Worship

May 4-5 *Community*

May 11-12 Spiritual Practices

May 18-19 Generosity and Service

May 25-26 Christ-likeness

www.fumcdixon.org



Newsletter deadline Articles for the next Herald are due in the church office no later than May 14th. 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