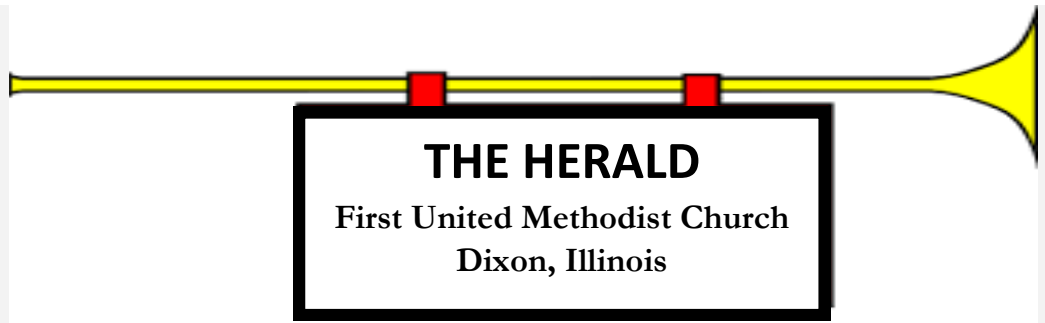


February 2020



THE HERALD

First United Methodist Church
Dixon, Illinois

Upcoming Events:

- Feb 1, 8:00 UMM
- Feb 1, 8:30 Leadership Summit
- Feb 1, 8:30 Faith Christian Pancake Breakfast
- Feb 5, 9:00 UMW
- Feb 10, 7:00 Priscilla Circle
- Feb 11, 10:00 Imitation of Christ
- Feb 11, 4:00 Prayer Team
- Feb 11, 6:30 Trustees
- Feb 13, 6:30 Finance
- Feb 13, 7:00 Matters Circle
- Feb 17, 5:30 Faith Develop.
- Feb 18, **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- Feb 18, 7:00 Leadership
- Feb 20, 9:00 Anna Circle
- Feb 20, 6:30 Worship Comm.
- Feb 25, 10:00 Imitation of Christ
- Feb 25, 6:00 Staff-Parish
- Feb 26, **ASH WEDNESDAY**
- Feb 27, 6:30 Green Team

Greetings to the faithful at Dixon First UMC,

It is hard to believe that we have already finished one month in 2020. January is in the books! One month of the new decade, is gone! I hope you have had a great January. This is a very important year for the future of Dixon First. We are beginning our visioning process for the next 10 years. We are seeking God's direction for our **Beyond the Horizon** vision that will propel our congregation forward to an awesome place. Into God's preferred future for our church. For the past four or five years we have said these following words when describing our church:

*Our mission statement says **FUMC where:** Our mission is making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by Faithfully Uplifting the Message of Christ. **FUMC** is a place that wants to be known as the "Go-To" church in our community. A place where all are welcome regardless of the commitment or strength of their faith. In our people they will find a welcoming and generous group committed to Gathering, Growing and Going in their relationship with Jesus Christ. By Faithfully Uplifting the Message of Christ we are joining with God to make the biggest Kingdom impact possible. The purpose of the "Church" is to share the Good News of Jesus with one person at a time so that all people in our community have the opportunity to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. I want to celebrate a couple of ways that we have been the "Go-To" Church in our Community.*

These words are words that I put together after asking the question of our Leadership Council: "What does our church do and want to be?" They may be God's vision and mission for our church or they may just be what I thought sounded good. That is why it is so crucial for us to go through the vision process. We must find God's vision for our congregation. Not only will we be finding God's vision through a visioning team we will we begin a church wide process of **Breakthrough Prayer** to bath, immerse and surround our visioning process in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The First step in the process begins with our **Leadership Summit** on Saturday, February 1st. The theme for our Summit this year is: "**Having 20/20 Vision in 2020.**" I know it is corny but it is so appropriate for the work that God calls us to do this year and for the new decade. At the summit we will begin the process of determining our "**Beyond the Horizon Vision.**"

The second step will be beginning a **Breakthrough Prayer Initiative** that will be using the power of directed pray for our church to guide the work that we do developing our "**Beyond the Horizon Vision.**" Throughout Lent 2020, which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26th we will learn about the five Breakthrough prayers will help us to have ultimate reliance on our Triune God to not only lead our



Worship Services:

Saturdays:

5:00 pm in the Chapel

Sundays:

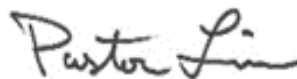
10:00 am in the Sanctuary
2nd Sunday of month, family day
8:30 Bible Study, Ruth Room
8:30 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Powerhouse Kids
(Except 1st Sunday of month)
2:00 AGAPE Youth

church but our own lives.

By the end of the year we will have in place our *“Beyond the Horizon Vision”* that will help us to determine our 3 year, 1 year and 90 day goals so that we can accomplish all that our loving God wants us to accomplish. I am excited about this process and for the future of our church! Praise be to our God three in One!

Speaking about the future many of you have been following the recent news that the United Methodist Church is splitting. This may or may not happen. It will not happen tomorrow. What was talked about on National TV was one of many proposed pieces of legislation that will be presented at our upcoming General Conference, May 5 – 15, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. At General Conference delegates from around the world will convene to discuss the future of our denomination. After their deliberations and amendments they may vote on one of the plans of separation that will be presented. If that is the case then and only then will our denomination move forward to creating new expressions of the United Methodist church. I have included some places for you to go to gain better clarity about what we are facing as a denomination. The recent Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation is being lifted up as one of the most thoughtful and loving ways for our denomination to move forward. Take some time to read and watch the links below and let us have dialogue about where we as a church fit into this process so that we can move forward into God’s preferred future boldly and unafraid.

Blessings



The Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation

This is the proposal that was talked about on National News and referred to in our Bishop’s post on Facebook and the Conference Website.

Article from the Wesleyan Covenant Association – A very clear and helpful article explaining the protocol.

<https://wesleyancovenant.org/2020/01/02/jan-2020/>

Video presentation from UM News Service talking with the group who developed the protocol.

<https://www.umnews.org/news/um-news-to-interview-protocol-developers>

You can go to our conference website and read what our bishop is saying about the protocol and the upcoming General Conference: <https://www.umcnic.org/news/bishop-dyck-column-road-to-reconciliation>

Our General Conference will be May 5-15, 2020 in Minneapolis

Links to all the legislation: <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>

UMW BAZAAR THANK YOU

The United Methodist Women would like to thank all of you for your generous support of our 79th Bazaar. We can't begin to tell you all the hours put into making crafts. We are so thankful for our "Ham Loaf Angel" for providing the meat. This has been going on for years! All the food, including salads, is all made at the church for the bazaar. The cookie room is run by the members of Priscilla Circle and others who donate 10 doz. cookies each to sell. The baked goods and candy room items are all donated by the people of our church. Special thanks goes to Kevin Stach for selling the Gourmet nuts, which he has been doing this for several years. The youth have a White Elephant room where many things are donated. We can't forget the men who help in the kitchen and make coffee and Melissa Reynolds who makes our posters and tickets and Keith Gabany for his help setting up all the tables and chairs. The Lord has blessed us with your support. **THANK YOU SO MUCH for all your support the day of the event, we cleaned up in record time and are very thankful for all the helpers we had!**



Power House Kids

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

- February 2 Family Sunday—we all gather as a church family
- February 9 Lesson 12 of Deep Blue Curriculum
- February 16 Lesson 13 the last day of Deep Blue Curriculum for now
- February 23 We begin a new adventure with Jesus (Jesus loves the little children is our theme) and we plan for our Easter Program

Bible Memory Verse for February: The LORD see into the heart (1 Samuel 16:7)

Did you know over 1/2 of all Jesus miracles had to do with children! That is how important the ministry to children is to Jesus. Sign-up today to be a part of our next adventure thru the Bible! Sign-up in the Narthex or on the 3rd floor at the sign-up table.

Service Opportunities

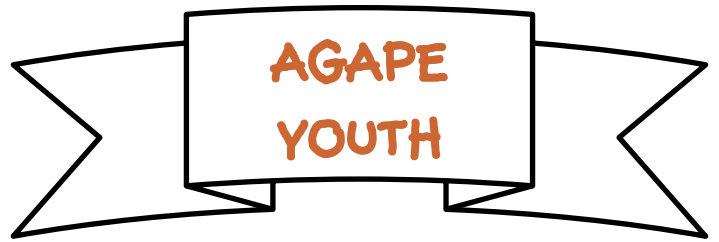
Volunteers are needed. Agape Youth mentors are welcome to join.

Contact Laura Anderson for more information on these

VSB— It will be decided on the 3rd Monday in February if there will be one.

— 2020 VSB Tuesday, June 8th thru Friday, June 11th from 9am-noon. We need 6 more people to run a one-room. VBS sign-up is located in the Narthex (background checks are required)

MISSION TRIP 2020-The white elephant sale in November was a success. The Youth Mission Fund raised \$555.55. Thank you to those that donated and volunteered. Mission Trip 2020 to the Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky will leave at 7am on Fathers day and return on Saturday. The cost is \$250 per person for the week. There will be one free day that attendees will need to have extra spending money. Our Youth have a great fundraising opportunity available this spring. Applications are available at our Agape Youth Meetings ONLY. This allows us to give further details of the mission. Call Laura at 815-421-3279, if you have any questions.



*CONNECT *GROW *SERVE *SHARE

Youth in 6th grade-college age are invited to join us for lesson, games and snacks. 11:30-1:30

- February 2 Family Sunday, no Agape Youth
- February 9 Laura Gone, no Agape Youth
- February 16 Pastor Heewon will lead, lunch will be a special surprise.
- February 23 Pastor Heewon will lead lunch: open fridge/help yourself frozen items and other surprises.

Starting in March, the second Sunday of the month is Agape Youth Café Day, no message, tie to relax and have fun...age 5th-12th grade welcome.

Service Opportunities

College-age mentors are welcome, training packs are available.

Contact Laura Anderson 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.

Green Notes:

Numbers 35:33a "Do not pollute the land where you are."

Good News! FUMC is now recycling dry cell batteries! Bring you're A, AA, AAA, C, D, 9-volt, hearing aid and similar batteries to the collection boxes near the Chapel and in the Narthex. Any leaking batteries should be in a sealed plastic bag. Laura Anderson, Director of Youth, will take them to a recycling center in the Quad Cities periodically. Lets keep these potential harmful items out of our landfills.

Some of you have been discarding your bulletins in the waste baskets after service. Since the church currently is unable to recycle paper, please recycle your bulletins at home. We appreciate your cooperation.

In April, there will be a Creation Care weekend. To prepare for this event, the Green Team is asking for the congregation's participation. Please prayerfully consider making a poster, writing a poem/play, demonstrating, presenting or displaying environmental issues. You may want to use on of these topics for your entry; energy, food, water, transportation, toxic chemicals, community outreach, or resource management. Be creative, you may consider subjects such as composting, endangered species, soil conservation or homemade herbicides. All entries will be displayed. All ages are encouraged to enter. Students may be eligible for extra credit for his/her project with teacher approval. Please use your connect card or the Green Team mailbox with your intended project. We need to allow sufficient space for display. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Burris at 815-284-7112. Thank you for your consideration.

Remember: The World is in our hands. Go Green!

Green tip of the month: Recycle regularly!!!

DECEMBER INCOME	\$ 48,105.47
DECEMBER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 40,514.23</u>
DECEMBER DEFICIT	\$ 7,591.24
2018 CARRYOVER	\$ 13,073.40
BAL IN GENERAL FUND AS OF 12/31/19	\$ 15,549.28



Financial Notes for DEC 2019

YTD Income is \$26,326.37 (+4.1%)
HIGHER than 2018. YTD expenses are
\$7,646.41 (-1.8%) more than 2018. FULL
apportionments were paid.

Prayer Team Ministries

The First United Methodist Church Prayer Team continues to provide opportunities to help attendee's prayer life. The Prayer Team members are Dodie Fetterolf, Sue Stach, JoAnn Sanford, Phyllis Doan, Jeannie Lewis and Susan Mattes. The Prayer Team is always looking for new ideas to enhance our congregation's prayer life please share your ideas with us or even better join us. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00. During the meeting we work to identify activities that will encourage and enhance the prayer.

We will continue to provide a Bible reading plan encouraging scripture reading as part of your prayer life. We will begin reading Genesis in February.

"Devote yourselves to prayer being watchful and thankful..." Colossians 4:2



Greetings to you in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

Happy New Year to you all! Yes, the old year has gone, and the New Year has come. I know that there are people who started this New Year with high expectations of getting married, new jobs, family trips, and so forth. But I also know some church family who had heard unexpected news towards the end of the years. Such as being diagnosed with cancer, being scheduled for surgery, and loss of their loved ones. Outside the church, some families still are separated on the border of Mexico, and many people from the Middle East and other countries seeking asylum to find a place to be safe out of military wars, terror, and their unstable political, economic situation. We all greet this New Year, but very differently. But God gives us hope that is always the same to all as Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." The church is called to share this hope for everyone and must embody the earthly presence of this hope, Jesus Christ.

However, how is our church doing? Concerning the different understandings of human sexuality, our church is facing a historic decision in May among our Global United Methodist Church in the world at the General Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Recently, when our denomination released the "Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation," all the news media had already made it as breaking news that the United Methodist Church will be split. But nobody knows until what the General Conference makes decisions. For those who do not know about the Protocol, I'd like to share some of the points that our Bishop Sally Dyck posted on our conference's website. You can go to our website and find her article at www.umcnic.org/news/bishop-dyck-column-road-to-reconciliation

- The United Methodist Church has not separated or split, as many secular press have reported through sensational headlines. The General Conference is the only body that can act on the agreement and that won't be until May 2020, if it happens.
- The United Methodist Church remains intact; in essence, it wouldn't split but allows others to leave if they so desire. The Traditionalists are expected and have negotiated these terms in order to leave. Others such as

progressives could also leave.

- The agreement allows The United Methodist Church to be a "Big Tent" church, not forcing anyone to officiate same-gender weddings but also not penalizing those who do. Likewise, LGBTQ+ persons who already serve among us are not penalized.
- Pensions will continue to be held at Wespath for the UMC as well as any new expressions of Methodism so that there aren't huge liabilities or payments for those who leave.

We are indeed undergoing a hard time of discernment to which way we're going to go. Going back to the early church, it is not surprising that like us, they had a similar (maybe much harder) political and religious context in which they should fight against and deal with. Still, the same Roman Empire that had executed Jesus ruled over their country. The high priests, Sadducees, and religious leaders still bloody-mindedly had been oppressing this new sect of Jesus the Nazarene. In such a time like this, the scripture shows how the genuineness of their church was recognized and approved. The genuineness of their church and faith was prominent by two factors.

1. There was the power of Jesus Christ!

In the name of Jesus Christ, there was a power that can make people repent from their sin so that they may receive God's forgiveness and heal a disabled man by birth. In Acts 3:6, Peter said to the disabled man, "I don't have silver or gold, but I do have something else I can give you. By the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth, STAND UP AND WALK!" You know what happened. The man became strong, jumped up, and walked. The early church people lived out by the power of Jesus, along with the apostles. In the power of Jesus, they had seen God's salvation and praised God!

2. They witnessed what they have heard and seen.

Peter and John said in Acts 3:10-, "We want all of you and all the people to know that this man was made well by the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth...Jesus is the only One who can save people. His name is the only power in the world that has been given to save people. We must be saved through him...We must speak about what we have seen and heard."

Friends, when there are all kinds of trials, and if it seemed so complicated to fix it, let us look at ourselves and ask the two questions. 1. Do I have the same power of Jesus Christ? 2. Am I sharing and witnessing it? Or does my church have the power of Jesus Christ? How passionately do we witness to the world the power of the name of Jesus? Unless I or we can say "yes", I would not try to find other things to fix the challenges before us.

1 Peter 1:7 says that "These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold -though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world."

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us continue to be the church that God has made. Jesus is the only One who can save people. Jesus can save. Jesus can do what we cannot do! If we know this power, we have nothing to fear. That is what we, as a church, have been called.

Blessings,



FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 10am - Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - Stach G2 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - Imitation of 4pm - Prayer Team 6:30pm - Trustees, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - UMW 6pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Ladies 7:30pm - Chancel 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership 8am - UMM, R/E 8:30am - Faith 5pm - Worship, C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Family 10am - Worship 11am - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - Stach G2 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Priscilla Circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Ladies 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Ladies 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emma Dempsey 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Worship 11am - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - Stach G2 5:30pm - Faith 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Ladies 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Ladies 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - Anna Circle 6:30pm - Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - Worship, C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Bible 9:45am - PHK 10am - Worship 11am - Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - Stach G2 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - Imitation of 6pm - Staff-Parish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ash Wednesday 6pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Ladies 7:30pm - Chancel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm - Green 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am - Mens Emmaus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - Worship, C

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First United Methodist Church
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THE HERALD
FEBRUARY 2020

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

Conference website: umcnic.org
District Superintendent, Rev Dr. Brian Gilbert
815-561-8285

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.



Newsletter deadline Articles for the next Herald are due in the church office no later than February 18. 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
Laura Anderson, youth, 815-421-3279