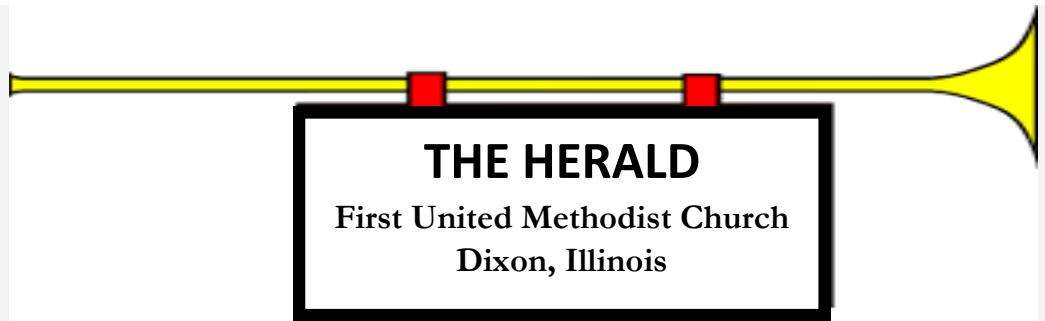


March 2020



Upcoming Events:

- Mar 4, 9:00 UMW
- Mar 6, Day of Prayer
- Mar 7, 8:00 UMM
- Mar 9, 7:00 Priscilla Circle
- Mar 10, 4:00 Prayer Team
- Mar 10, 6:30 Trustees
- Mar 12, 6:30 Finance
- Mar 12, 7:00 Matters Circle
- Mar 16, 5:30 Faith Develop.
- Mar 17, **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- Mar 19, 9:00 Anna Circle
- Mar 19, 6:30 Worship Comm.
- Mar 24, 6:00 Staff- Parish
- Mar 25, 1:00 Smississippi
Healthy Family
- Mar 26, 6:30 Green Team
- Mar 31-Apr 2 Pastor Tim Out
of Office



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

Greetings to the brothers and sisters of Dixon First UMC,

On Saturday, February 1, 25 of our church leadership gathered for our annual Leadership Summit. We gathered in the parlor for a day of worshiping, learning, sharing, breaking bread and vision casting for the future of our church. It was a great day! During our time of sharing we celebrated 2019. We thanked God for the blessings that we saw through the life of our congregation. We praised God for the overflowing generosity of our church family who supported the vibrant life of our church through their generous financial support. We met all our bills, we supported the United Methodist Church through paying a 100 % of our apportionments and we gave almost \$80,000.00 in second mile giving to support many local, national and international needs. The presence of God was seen in mighty ways in 2019 through the willingness of God's people at Dixon First. If I could do cartwheel and backflips to celebrate what we accomplished I would. I may not be able to do them physically but I was surely doing them mentally and spiritually! WAY TO GO CHURCH!!!!!!

Being a leader in our church carries a great responsibility! Our leaders represents you and they represent God. I celebrate our leadership for their continuing dedication and faithfulness. I gave each leader a reading assignment this year. They had to read four chapters of the book, **God Dreams**, by Will Mancini. In the book Will Mancini presents 12 vision templates to help a church begin their long range visioning process. Or what Will refers to as the church's **Beyond the Horizon Vision**. They were asked to evaluate the 12 vision templates and answer 4 question for each template. At the Summit we had wonderful conversation about which of the two templates best described our church. We determined that the two the best described the DNA of our congregation were: 1. Spiritual formation and 2. Need Adoption.

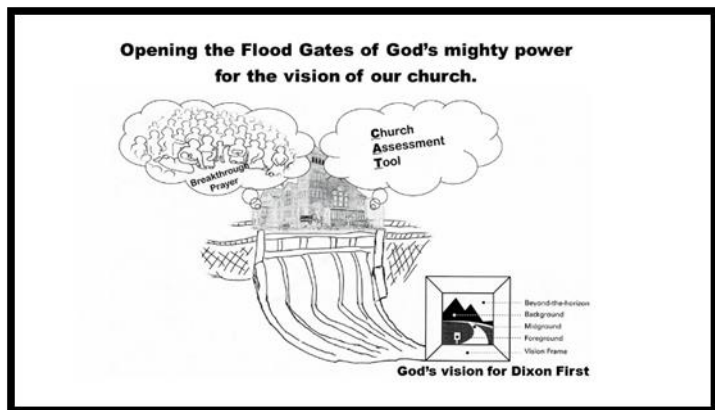
I love how **God Dreams** provides the 12 vision templates to help a church begin its visioning process. I find the way that Mancini breaks down the 12 vision templates into understandable and descriptive categories helpful moving a church forward to build its **Beyond the Horizon Vision**. I have been looking for a visioning process that works for a long time. As much as I like **God Dreams** visioning process, I think it falls short and this was evident during our discovery time during our Leadership Summit. It is easy for the process to become a very human driven process.

That is where the **Breakthrough Prayer Initiative** is so crucial. For me the whole visioning process is about a church finding the vision that God has for that particular and specific church. That is why prayer is essential in finding God's voice and direction. It will be through our church praying together as the body of Christ in Dixon that God will speak to us. We want God to direct our thinking, our words and finally through the **Beyond the Horizon Vision** direct our actions into our mission for our community and the world. What we have done in the past may not be what God wants us to do in the future. Breakthrough prayer will help surround and embed the Holy Spirit in all that we do throughout this process.

We began our **Breakthrough Prayer Initiative** with the **202 Breakthrough Prayer**. I asked the church to begin praying the following prayer daily at 2:02 pm (202 Peoria Ave. is the street address of the church): **God of love and power send your Holy Spirit to challenge us to Dream Big and to pray hard for your amazing**

breakthrough in our lives and in our church. Fill us with the grace, mercy and power of Jesus Christ. Help us to discern where the Spirit is leading us into a new season of faithfulness and fruitfulness for your Kingdom. Open the Flood Gates of your amazing love and power to give us the boldness and courage to step into the rushing waters of your overflowing Spirit. We pray in the mighty power and grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

I invite, encourage and ask that everyone in our church pray this prayer daily at 2:02pm. What a powerful witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ we will show when God hears the collective prayer of hundreds of people praying the exact same prayer. I am confident God will open the floodgates of His amazing power to guide us to an awesome and amazing **Beyond the Horizon Vision**. There is one more part to the process that we need to implement before our Visioning Team can build that awesome, amazing, God breathed **Beyond the Horizon Vision**. We need to participate in the Church Assessment Tool (CAT) again. Here is a conceptual drawing of how I envision the process of creating our **Beyond the Horizon Vision**.



The CAT will provide our team with very important information regarding how our congregation see our church and its future. We have participated in the CAT before as I was beginning my ministry with you. Doing the CAT again with help us to assess the progress we have made as a church in the last 6 years and help us to add to the important work of our Visioning Team. I will talk more about the CAT in the coming months as we get ready to participate in filling out the tool.

As I bring this letter to a close I want you to know that our denomination the United Methodist Church is in a critical time in its history. Pastor Heewon and I haven't talked much about the

turmoil that is flowing through the church. We believed that being God's church on the corner of Second Street and Peoria Ave. was more important than what was or was not happening in our denomination. But now is the time to have discussions on the future of the United Methodist Church and where our church fits into that future. I want you to know I believe that God has great plans for Dixon First UMC. The **Beyond the Horizon Vision** that God will bless us with will take us 10, 20 50 years into the future!

Blessings

Pastor Lin



Congratulations to Emma Dempsey on her baptism on Sunday, February 16 2020



Power House Kids

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

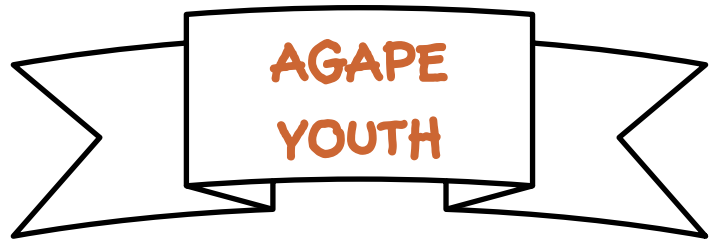
March 8	Jesus Miracles
March 15	Last Supper
March 22	The Cross
March 29	He Lives

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 or other opportunities to serve in Power House Kids



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

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

March 8	Open Café 5th –12th grade Just have fun. No lesson plans on Open Café Days
March 15	6th—12th Grade
March 22	6th—12th Grade
March 29	6th—12th Grade

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.

JOY CAMP JUNE 2020 Contact Pastor Tim for more details

- Camp is \$495 this year
- Thanks to our generous church family and 52 club donors our youth only need to pay \$50 of that amount.
- There will be a clean up day at Camp Reynolds, so the youth may earn the \$50.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

- The date in March will be set for the youth to raise funds and sell off the remains of the last White Elephant sale.
- The Easter Bunny will be there for photo opportunities.
- Watch for signs this March
- No donated items for the sale are being accepted.

VBS JUNE 9-12th 9am-noon

- We are always looking for more volunteers. Contact Laura at 815-421-3279

Green Notes:

Genesis 2:15; The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and to take care of it,

Spring is coming and people are starting to plan their gardens and other plantings. God created people to care for the Earth and its inhabitants—plant, animals and humans. As you plan your spring plantings, please consider planting a tree or two and/or milkweed. We need trees to remove carbon dioxide from the air and replace it with oxygen. Monarch butterflies need milkweed to reproduce.

Support the preservation or restoration of local plant and animal habitats, eco-friendly legislations and policies, social justice and environmental organizations. Recycle for your own wellbeing, take 10 minutes each day to enjoy nature—God’s creation. Using eco-friendly practices will not only satisfy you, but will improve our planet. As a journey begins with one step, caring for our planet starts with the actions of one person.

Remember: The world is in **our** hands. Go Green!

Reminder: Creation care weekend will be April 18-19. Please prayerfully consider contributing a display, poster, poem or other project to help the congregation better understand how they can contribute to the well being of our planet. Details are listed in the February Herald. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Burris at 815-284-7112. Any contributions you would like to make to Creation Care weekend you can list on your connect card. The Green Team has a mailbox to use too. Thank you!!

JANUARY INCOME	\$ 43,266.41
JANUARY EXPENSES	<u>\$ 36,526.82</u>
JANUARY DEFICIT	\$ 6,739.59
2019 CARRYOVER	\$ 15,549.28
BAL IN GENERAL FUND AS OF 1/31/2020	\$ 22,288.87



Financial Notes for JAN 2020

YTD Income is -\$2,243.85 (-4.9%) LESS than 2019. YTD expenses are \$266.93 (+0.7%) HIGHER than 2019. JANUARY apportionments were paid.

Prayer Team Ministries

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Philippians 4:6. The Prayer Team encourages prayers for one another, for our church and pastors, and for ourselves. We routinely provide cards that focus on specific prayer needs along with Bible reading plans to enrich your daily devotional time. We hope that you will use these tools, along with other opportunities we plan throughout the year, to grow in your faith walk.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

BASED ON THE IMPOSSIBLE TRUE STORY

BREAKTHROUGH

FREE | MOVIE | POPCORN | PIZZA | DRINKS

Saturday, March 21 @ 6:30pm

FUMC Fellowship Hall



#BreakthroughMovie

IN THEATERS THIS EASTER

Greetings to you, my brothers and sisters in Christ!

Last December, my kitchen sink was clogged. I tried to fix it all day long in all the ways I could. But the drain seemed even more clogged. Meanwhile, the unwashed dishes were piling up in the kitchen. The next day, Pastor Tim taught me and let me borrow an augur from the church. Hoping that I would fix it, I pushed and spun the augur into the pipe. After that, I turned on the water. And I saw the water was backing up again from the drain with a bad smell. I felt like I am dumb and miserable. I completely lost the desire to fix it. Thankfully, I had two male angels in my church, *Mr. Harvey and Reed*. I finally called them for help, and they fixed it in one day by calling the plumber person.

Out of this experience, I caught a little glimpse of those who are in a crisis in different situations. But what if this crisis is not a season of life, but life itself? This week, I presided a memorial service for a resident at Jack Mabley Center where I have been serving as a chaplain. I was informed that the person that I would preside was a born blind-deaf person. His entire life must have been very limited in experiencing a variety of life. He would always have been helped and taken care of by caregivers and staff in facilities for the necessities in daily life. But the staff people remembered that he had a contagious laugh and giggles and had such a beautiful smile. His favorite thing to do was to go outside to be in the sunshine and feel the warmth in the air. Then I asked myself, "How often am I in awe at being in the sunshine? How much am I content with the warmth in the air?"

When 90 percent of my life was going well, and 10 percent of the sink clogged got in the way of my life, I found myself being complaining, annoying, unsatisfying, and even depressive. (I should say more "Thank you" to *Harvey and Reed* for rescuing me.) But this person whom I did memorial was able to keep a smile and laughing on his face when 99 percent got in the way of his life, and 1 percent allowed him to go out to feel the warmth of the sunshine. What a simple but profound lesson of life!

The Bible says, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) There seemed to be all kinds of issues and relational struggles among the people of God in Thessalonica. But Paul reminds them of what to remember and do no matter what. Rejoice! Pray! Give thanks to the Lord! Because this is God's WILL for our lives in Christ Jesus. Let us remember that we are **IN CHRIST**. Even though we are in a time of uncertainty around our United Methodist Church, our call and God's will for our church and individual life is to rejoice, pray, and be thankful because we are in Christ. If we focus too much on an issue or thing, we may lose our sight and call that is so much more genuine, fundamental, and ultimate. We are God's children, made a brand new creation every day. That is why I am glad more for our Growth Group, the visioning process with Pastor Tim, the Imitation of Christ group, this upcoming Christian 101 Bible Study, and study group on human sexuality. We can find so much more joy in becoming the children of God together. Even my blind-deaf friend found the most enjoyable and contentable thing in the pure sunshine. We should live in the same manner.

Peace in Christ,



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

MARCH

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First United Methodist Church
202 S. Peoria Ave
Dixon IL 61021

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

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

THE HERALD
MARCH 2020

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 March 17th. 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