

THE HERALD

First United Methodist Church
Dixon, Illinois

OCTOBER 2022



Greetings to the faithful at Dixon First UMC,

Wow! What a month September was!! Throughout 2022 we have been celebrating people responding to God's love through their relationship with Jesus Christ. Whenever someone stepped out and became a servant, serving others, we celebrated with them. We gifted them with a **Just Say YES to Jesus** t-shirt. If you happened to miss the front page of this Herald you missed over one hundred people celebrating **Just Saying YES to Jesus** on Sunday, September 18th.

Check out the beautiful pictures of the celebration!!!!

Whenever someone responds to the love of God found in Jesus Christ it is a time to celebrate! We will always find ways to celebrate stepping out and serving others in the name of Jesus!

Becoming One

Throughout the month of September, I have been introducing our *Beyond the Horizon Vision (BTHV)*. Our *BTHV* is where God wants us to be in 5 years. God wants everyone to flourish, to become the best self that God sees. God has called our church to be guides in helping people come to know Jesus as their guiding light so that they can flourish and thrive. Through our *Discipleship Pathway*, we are all invited to grow Jesus-shaped lives that reflect God's character and God's values. As we grow Jesus-shaped lives we Become One with God and One with our neighbor.

One Board Model

I want to invite all our people in leadership to attend a special presentation on a new and exciting way to lead our church. The Rev. Dr. Jaye Johnson, Director of Congregational Excellence for the Iowa Annual Conference of the UMC will be presenting: **Creating Momentum Through Effective Leadership Structures** – The traditional organizational structure of our churches with an Ad Board, Trustees, SPPRC, Finance committee, and a plethora of other committees can hinder missional alignment, slow down decision-making, and work against creating momentum for change. This alternative structure makes spiritual leaders who disciple others, helps a church's mission focus, streamlines decision-making, and frees people from committee meetings so that more people can use their time in hands-on ministry.

Charge Conference

Finally, I want to announce that our Annual Church Conference will be Sunday, December 11 after worship. Our Annual Church Conference is a time of celebration of what God has done in our midst over the past year. It is when we announce and set our leadership. We will also approve our 2023 budget. If you have never been to one of our Church Conferences, stay after worship and experience what it is all about.

I am so excited and energized by what God is doing at Dixon First UMC. God is raising up our church and its people to make a difference in our community, our nation, and our world. Continue to pray our 202 Breakthrough Prayer for 2022. Continue to thank God for the blessings in your life. I look forward to seeing you around the church or in our community.

Blessings,





Green Notes

Micah 7:13 “The earth will become desolate because of its inhabitants, as a result of their deeds.”

Have you noticed the recent climate changes? There are record high temperatures, sustained droughts, and massive wildfires in the western parts of North America. Tornadoes and hurricanes are becoming more frequent and more severe. Torrential rains cause floods, mudslides and massive destruction. Things will only get worse unless we do something to reverse this trend.

The Board of Global Ministries, Council of Bishops, and other United Methodist governing bodies are beginning a campaign called Net-Zero by 2050. They expect all United Methodist churches and their members to reduce their carbon footprint to as close to zero as possible by 2050. Here are several solutions to consider:

- use geothermal and/or solar energy-including community solar
- drive electric or hybrid vehicles and drive less
- eliminate the use of styrofoam
- use china, silverware, glassware, cloth napkins instead of paper or plastic products
- eat less meat
- compost
- plant a butterfly or water garden
- collect rain water to water flowers and/or gardens
- repair, refurbish, refinish, recycle

These are just a few suggestions for reducing your carbon footprint. Please begin implementing what you can as soon as possible. 2050 is not that far away. We must begin at act now to heal our planet. This is the only planet we have. REMEMBER: The world is in our hands — GO GREEN!

Greetings to the loving brothers and sisters in Christ of Dixon First UMC!

Recently one of my friends posted a picture of his family on his Facebook taken at the college in California that his daughter entered this year. In the post, he expresses his amazement and gratitude for his daughter's physical and spiritual growth through the years since his family came to the US when she was 6 years old. He expresses his indescribable gratitude toward God who he believes has given her to him as blessings and grown her in that mature way both physically and spiritually. God is the one who has been constantly working on all the growth of our body and soul since the Creation through our lives even in the midst of troubles and turmoil that would make us feel uncertain and frustrated.

The Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 3:6-8 regarding this work of growth made by God.

⁶ I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. ⁷ It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. (1 Corinthians 3:6-8, NLT(New Living Translation))

This is what I was feeling and reflecting on when I was meeting with children coming back from their long summer vacation and joining Powerhouse Kids worship resumed on the second Sunday of September 11th. While I was leading the worship and watching their responses to my acts and questions, I could recognize the growth of the children both physical and spiritual. With basis on my experience of parenting my own three children and my niece as a single-mom, I can imagine how much effort their parents have been making during the summer to nurture them with good food and experiences they need to be grown into a good person God is pleased with.

But, as the Apostle Paul mentions in the passage from 1 Corinthians 3, it is God who makes His children grow both physically and spiritually. God has allowed me to witness how God has made my children grow well in the best way of God's plan for them not just through the days of joy and happiness but through the difficulties and troubles they have been experiencing through their lives.

This is what I believe we are expecting to witness through the progress to move on to fulfill Beyond the Horizon Vision as "a community of faith that provides a caring place to thrive and flourish, where we all make sure that being a part of this community of Dixon FUMC is being part of a family, not perfect, but a loving and caring place to call home."

I believe that we have been growing into the way of God's big plan for us through God's constant and strategic work to enable us to fulfill God's vision for us using the spiritual gifts given to each of us to be grown and used as God's hands and feet for His plan. Thus, through our making efforts to fulfill our Beyond the Horizon Vision, we are called to continue to grow in our faith as "building block for life that is essential to flourish" and to be "the compass for guiding hundreds of families into a loving and life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ."

Our ministry of "Just say "Yes" to Jesus" is one way to move on toward the fulfillment of our Beyond the Horizon Vision. We were all witnessing the loving presence and power of our Triune God as we were celebrating this ministry of "Just say "Yes" to Jesus" last Sunday, September 18th, with love and joy by sharing good food and joyful activities together.

May you all experience the growth of your faith in your continuous saying "Yes" to Jesus for whatever you are called to do in your daily living with your love of God and love of neighbors and in your leading a Jesus-Shaped Life through this fall and the rest of the year!

Blessings,

Youngsunlee



Are you interested in a church leadership role or are already serving the church in a leadership role? You won't want to miss this informational meeting. Rev. Dr. Jaye Johnson will be meeting with leadership on **Saturday, October 15th from 9:00am to noon** to discuss a new church leadership model. We will meet in the sanctuary.

Creating Momentum Through Effective Leadership Structures – The traditional organizational structure of our churches with an Ad Board, Trustees, SPPRC, Finance committee, and a plethora of other committees can hinder missional alignment, slow down decision making, and work against creating momentum for change. This alternative structure makes spiritual leaders who disciple others, help a church's mission focus, streamlines decision-making, and free people from committee meetings so that more people can use their time in hands-on ministry. While many conferences use similar models, through a series of trials and some reasonably significant errors, Iowa has adopted the process to make it their own. This session will discuss the theory behind one board, outline the practical steps, and discuss both the positive aspects of the model and the challenge a church might expect if they choose to transition. We will also briefly discuss the difference between a simplified traditional structure and an actual single board. Finally we will discuss what churches need from conference and district leaders to make a single board effective.

Rev. Dr. Jaye Johnson is the Director of Congregational Excellence for the Iowa Annual Conference. He works with the bishop and district superintendents as a cabinet member and is responsible for preparing churches to multiply. Jaye helps pastors, congregations, and communities live boldly into the future God dreams for them by being a coach, consultant, resource, and encourager for gatherings of all sizes. Jaye also serves as an Affiliate Professor of Church Leadership at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.



Power House Kids kicked-off their 2022-23 season **Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 10:00.**

Children of all ages are invited to come. Parents drop their children off in the second floor Arena (Sunday School) Room prior to church & then pick them up after the service.

Pastor Tim or Pastor Young Sun will be presenting the lessons each Sunday like last year, guiding the children into a loving and life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ. Volunteers will be helping each Sunday with activities, snacks and crafts. If you are interested in helping the children in our congregation build their Faith Foundation and would like to volunteer, please contact Susan Mattes at tsmattes@centurytel.net or call 1- 815-440-1815. Volunteers are asked to assist only once every 4 to 6 weeks. The activities, snacks and crafts are all prepared in advance so volunteers are only needed to assist during the Power House Kids sessions.

Pray for the Power House Kids program to grow the community of young Jesus-Shaped lives.

“Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” Mark 10:14

FLU CLINIC

LOCATIONS, DATES & TIMES:

- Lee County Health Department on 10/4/22 from 9am-12pm
- Grace United Methodist Church (Dixon) on 10/8/22 from 8am-12pm
- Amboy Fire Department on 10/11/22 from 9am-11am
- Mills-Petrie Building (Ashton) on 10/13/22 from 9am-11am
- Paw Paw Community Building on 10/19/22 from 9am-11am
- Lee County Health Department on 10/25/22 from 1-4pm & on 11/15/22 from 3-6pm



Invitation to AGAPE Youth Gathering Fall 2022 Dixon First UMC

**Agape Youth will be gathering
On the 2nd and 4th Sunday
of the month this Fall**

**This Sunday, September 25th,
11:30 AM, we gather
after the worship,
upstairs on the 3rd floor
making your own sandwich.**

“Mini” United Methodist Women’s Bazaar

Join us on Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 9:30am to 2:00pm. The Ham Loaf and Salad luncheon will offer two separate seatings at 11:00am and noon. This event will enable us to support local and UMW mission projects.


LADIES AND MEN NEEDED THE DAY OF BAZAAR!!!

We meet in the Church Parlor every Thursday from 9:30am to 2:00pm to work on projects. Bring a sack lunch or we also order out. It’s a wonderful time for Fellowship!

FINANCIAL NOTES for AUGUST 2022

August Income	\$ 19,579.17
August Expenses	<u>\$ 28,050.91</u>
August Net	\$ (8,471.74)

Copies of the full financial report are available upon request.



OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>8:30am - Brooks Bible</p> <p>8:30am - Jesus Seekers</p> <p>10am - Powerhouse Kids</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>10am - Stach G2 - P</p> <p>4pm - Pastor Tim G2</p>	<p>4pm - Prayer Team</p> <p>7pm - Trustees, cr</p>	<p>Pastor Tim Outdoor</p> <p>9:30am - UMW-C.R</p> <p>10am - Lynne G2 Group -</p> <p>6pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7:30pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9:30am - Bazaar</p>		<p>8am - UMM, Breakfast</p> <p>5pm - Worship, C</p>
<p>8:30am - Brooks Bible</p> <p>8:30am - Jesus Seekers</p> <p>10am - Powerhouse Kids</p> <p>10am - Worship</p> <p>11:30am - Agape Youth</p>	<p>10am - Stach G2 - P</p> <p>4pm - Pastor Tim G2</p>	<p>4pm - Prayer Team</p> <p>7pm - Trustees, cr</p>	<p>Pastor Tim Outdoor</p> <p>10am - Lynne G2 Group -</p> <p>6pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7:30pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9:30am - Bazaar</p> <p>3:30pm - Finance, cr</p>		<p>9am - One Board</p> <p>5pm - Worship, C</p>
<p>MADISONVILLE, KY MISSION TRIP</p>						
<p>8:30am - Brooks Bible</p> <p>8:30am - Jesus Seekers</p> <p>10am - Powerhouse Kids</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>10am - Stach G2 - P</p> <p>4pm - Pastor Tim G2</p>	<p>9:30am - Martha Circle</p>	<p>Pastor Tim Outdoor</p> <p>10am - Lynne G2 Group -</p> <p>6pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7:30pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9:30am - Bazaar</p> <p>6:30pm - Worship comm</p>		<p>10am - Dixon Scarecrow</p> <p>5pm - Worship, C</p>
<p>8:30am - Brooks Bible</p> <p>8:30am - Jesus Seekers</p> <p>10am - Powerhouse Kids</p> <p>10am - Worship</p> <p>11:30am - Agape Youth</p>	<p>10am - Stach G2 - P</p> <p>4pm - Pastor Tim G2</p>	<p>6pm - Staff Parish</p> <p>7pm - Leadership Council</p>	<p>Pastor Tim Outdoor</p> <p>10am - Lynne G2 Group -</p> <p>6pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7:30pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9:30am - Bazaar</p>		<p>5pm - Worship, C</p>
<p>8:30am - Brooks Bible</p> <p>8:30am - Jesus Seekers</p> <p>10am - Powerhouse Kids</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>10am - Stach G2 - P</p> <p>4pm - Pastor Tim G2</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>H - Hardees</p> <p>cr - conference room</p> <p>FH - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>tc - Town & Country</p> <p>P - parlor</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>R - Ruth Room</p> <p>C - Chapel</p> <p>RE - Rivers Edge</p> <p>BS - Bakers Str.</p>

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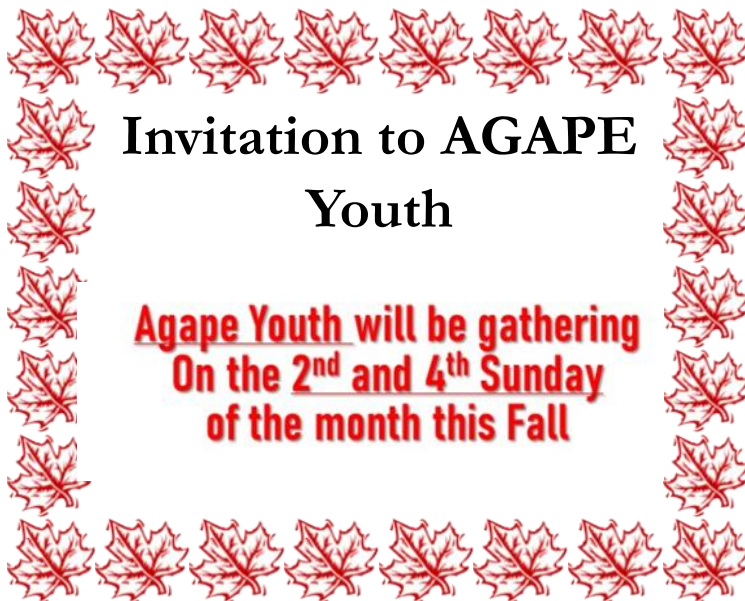
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OCTOBER 2022

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