First United Methodist Church November 26th & 27th, 2022



JOIN US FOR "HANGING OF THE GREENS" AFTER CHURCH TODAY!!

First United Methodist Church

www.fumcdixon.org Facebook: FUMC Dixon 5:00 pm on Saturdays; 10:00 am on Sundays

Our mission is making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by faithfully uplifting the message of Christ

Preparing Our Hearts, Souls and Minds

Prelude

Greeting

Bells

"Dormi (Sleep, Sweet Babe, While I Rock You)"

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Reader One: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!" (Psalm 122:1 NRSV)

Reader Two: We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.

Reader One: "Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in Gods paths'" (Isaiah 2:3 NRSV).

Reader Two: We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled. Light the first candle on the Advent wreath.

*Hymn: "O Morning Star How Fair and Bright" #247 UMH

Opening Prayer (unison)

Heavenly Father, we rejoice that we can come into Your house today and worship You with those who love You, too. Thank You for inspiring and leading Your people to establish Your house here in this place. We pray that all who worship here might experience Your love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness. We pray for Your people all the world over, and we pray that they might prosper along with us as we serve You and others. May everyone who trusts in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior find and experience peace with God, others, and themselves. Through Your only begotten Son, we pray, Amen.

Baptism of Axton Lee Craig

Parents: Rebecca and Matthew Craig Grandparents: Linda S. Teachout, Donna Craig, and Randal Craig God parent: Marissa Mitchell (Turn to Page 33 of our United Methodist Hymnal to follow the liturgy) Baptismal Song : "God Claims You" #2249 TFWS
Axton, Axton God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.
1. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be.
Axton, Axton God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.
3. We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way.
Axton, Axton God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Chancel Choir "Thank You, Lord"

Passing the Peace from a Distance

Focusing on God's Call to Us

Preparing to Hear God's Word: *"Here I Am to Worship" (without the bridge) (We will sing this song throughout Advent)*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 11:1-3a

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

Message:	Roots: Advent the Family Story of Jesus	Pastor Tim Mitchell
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Responding to the Call of God

* Hymn of Response:	"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"	#216 UMH
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Congregational Prayers

Telling of God's Activity and sharing Joys and Concerns Silent Prayer Pastoral Prayer Lord's Prayer (unison) Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And f

will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Giving of Ourselves and Our Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)

Giver of all good things, as we offer these gifts to you, open our eyes to see more clearly all that we have been given and all that we have to give. Stretch our capacity to give of ourselves: our love, our companionship, and our material resources, wherever they are needed. Amen.

*Hymn of Going Forth: "Soon and Very Soon" #706 UMH

*God's Blessing

*Postlude

Credits for Liturgy: Pastor Tim, Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Hymnal, Dan Wilt and Nancy Burnett

Going Deeper – Questions for deeper reflection Read: Isaiah 11:1-3a

Reflecting on Pastor Tim's message, is there anything that touch you that you wish to talk about?

1. How have you viewed Advent in the past? Was it a meaningful part of your faith story? What would you like the season leading up to Christmas to become for you?

2. What would it mean for you to begin to "order time" over a year according to the important events in Christ's life? (The book, *The Christian New Year* from Seedbed is very helpful for this.)

3. Have you ever thought of Jesus' family line, and how important it is to the biblical writers that we understand how connected Jesus is to his family story?

4. Isaiah says in the passage above, "The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord." What do you think that means as it relates to Jesus?

Christmas Offering

The Christmas Offering for 2022 is designated for the Food Pantry and the Lee County Council on Aging Senior Center specifically for helping out with the cost of prescription medications.

Christmas Prayers and Blessings for Shut-ins, those in Care Facilities and the Military

Once again the Prayer Team will be collecting and delivering cards for the shut-ins and military of our congregation. Boxes to collect the cards will be placed on the table in the Narthex along with bags of Christmas cards. A list with names and addresses of these people will be available in the Narthex. Please write the name and full address on the envelope and put your return address on it also.

Last day to participate will be **December 11, 2022** so cards can be delivered well before Christmas.

Cards for the military and shut-ins will be mailed or delivered by the Prayer Team on December 13 so please turn in any you wish to distribute before that date.

Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

LET'S HELP RESIDENTS OF LEE COUNTY NURSING HOME EXPERIENCE A "WHITE CHRISTMAS" WITH CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Please put unwrapped gifts in the bags under the tree in the sanctuary starting on December 3^{rd.} We will deliver them to Lee County Nursing home in time for the social director to tag them for the proper residents, before their annual Christmas party. Some suggestions for gifts follow (or you can use your own ideas): deodorant, lotion, soap, writing tablet, pens and pencils, puzzle books (crossword, word search, etc.), crayons, colored pencils, markers, coloring books, candy, chocolates, nuts, perfume, shaving sets, jewelry, lap robe, snow globe, hard sole slippers and books (fiction, inspirational, funny, etc.). They appreciate all the gifts we have provided in past years! It helps brighten Christmas for all. Call the church office at 815-284-2849 with any questions.

Our deadline for "White Christmas Gifts" for the residents is December 18, 2022.

Christmas Angels...Iet's join with **Goodfellows of Dixon** by providing Christmas Angel gifts again this year. The 24 gifts tags with information *for children in need* were made available on Sat., Nov. 19th and Sun., Nov. 20th. There are still a few tags left! Bags for returning gifts to the church will be available. Please notify Cathy Seagren at (seagrenc@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING THESE GIFTS TO THE CHURCH IS DECEMBER 1ST!

Upcoming Advent & Christmas Events at FUMCDixon:



Christmas Eve Services - December 24th at 5, 7 & 9:00pm Christmas Morning Service - December 25th at 10am (no Powerhouse Kids or Agape Youth)



Announcements

Prayers: Katie Kromeke (Willey), Denny Arjes, Dalton Smith, Cindy Gabany, Karen Hundrieser, Bill Maass (Phyllis Doan's brother), Travis Malston, Elsie Macklin (Todd's mother), and Harriet Moore.

AGAPE YOUTH will meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays each month at 11:30AM in the youth lounge on the 3rd floor. They typically share lunch together. Includes 5th grade through high school. See you the 27th!!!

POWERHOUSE KIDS meet every Sunday morning at 10AM in the 3rd floor Arena Room. Join Pastor Tim, Pastor Young Sun and our loving "shepherds" for lessons, activities, snacks, and crafts. Ages toddler through 4th grade.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT Mark Saturday, January 14, 2023 down on your calendar. That will be the day our church leadership and anyone who wants to be a part of fulfilling our Beyond the Horizon Vision will gather. We will spend the first 2 hours talking about the process of discerning and moving toward implementing the One Board model of church leadership. The rest of the time will be spent developing our Ministry Plan to bring our Beyond the Horizon Vision to reality. Having a Ministry Plan in place ensures that we have tangible goals to achieve so that in five years we will be able to have a wonderful celebration as we fulfill our Beyond the Horizon Vision.

DISTRICT TRAINING EVENT Saturday, January 21 we will host the **Prairie South District Training Event.** We will have more information on the classes being taught as soon as it becomes available. It is a wonderful opportunity to gather with other churches and people from across our district to worship and learn together. **Volunteers will be needed to help host this event.**

Sunday is the last day to sign up for Secret Advent Angels.

Secret Advent Angels commit to praying for a person throughout the month of December . If you wish to participate, please respond with your name, email, & mailing address by Nov 27. You may use the signup sheet in the Narthex; call the church office at 815-284-2849; or email dixon1stsecretary@yahoo.com.



CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE IS SUN., DEC. 11 AT 11:30AM. DO YOU HAVE ALL YOUR FORMS TURNED IN?





Another great fellowship opportunity!

The movie "5000 Blankets" is playing at the AMC Rockford Theater on December 12th at 7:00PM. The tickets are \$15. Becky Macklin has graciously offered to arrange purchasing group tickets so we can all sit together. Phone/text Becky at 815-973-7177 or email her at rebeccal1957@yahoo.com to have her purchase your tickets **and** to make arrangements to reimburse her for your tickets. **VERY IMPORTANT!!** We will be dining together at Portillo's before the movie!



Martha Circle and Matters of the Heart Circle will meet together in the Parlor on December 6th at 11:30am for a Potluck lunch. The program will be a Memorial Service and Christmas Celebration.



Advent Sermon Series December 2022

ROOTS -Advent and the Family Story of Jesus



Staff Phone Numbers

Sign-up sheet for Roots Devotional Book is on the Welcome table. Suggested donation is \$13.

Pastor Tim Mitchell, 815-440-0278 Pastor Young Sun Lee, 217-778-7898 Jody Mitchell, 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, custodian, 815-288-5001