

**First United Methodist Church
December 31, 2022 & January 1, 2023**



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*

A Covenant Service in the Tradition of Wesley

Adapted from *The British Methodist Service Book*
and *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

Prelude:

Prayer of Adoration

Let us adore the Father, the God of love. He created us; continually preserves and sustains us. He has loved us with an everlasting love, and given us the light of knowledge of His glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

You are God; we praise you; we acknowledge you to be the Lord.

Let us glory in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though He was rich, yet for our sakes He became poor. He was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin. He went about doing good and preaching the gospel of the kingdom. He became obedient to death, death on a cross. He was dead and is alive forever. He has opened the kingdom of heaven to all who trust in Him. He sits at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. He will come again to be our judge.

You, Christ, are King of Glory.

Let us rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life. By Him we are born into the family of God, and made members of the body of Christ. His witness confirms us. His wisdom teaches us. His power enables us. He will do for us far more than we ask or think.

All praise to you, Holy Spirit.

***Opening Hymn:**

"Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine"

#606 UMH

Confession of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins to God. God our Father, you have set forth the way of life for us in your beloved son: we confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, our reluctance to bear the cross.

Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.

We confess the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibilities in your service, our imperfect stewardship of your gifts.

Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.

Let each of us in silence make our own confession to God.

Continue in a Time of Silent Confession

A Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

This is the message we heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His son, cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Response

Father, you have appointed our Lord Jesus Christ as Mediator of a new covenant. Give us grace to draw near with fullness of faith and join ourselves in a perpetual covenant with you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

Passing of the Peace

First Reading from Scripture: 2 Kings 23:1-3

Then the king directed that all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem should be gathered to him. ²The king went up to the house of the LORD, and with him went all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the LORD. ³The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to follow the LORD, keeping his commandment his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant.

***Hymn**

"Jesu, Jesu"

#432 UMH

Second Reading from Scripture: *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Message:

Full Speed Ahead!

Rev. Timothy Mitchell

The Covenant

In the Old Covenant, God chose Israel to be His people and to obey His laws. Our Lord Jesus Christ by His death and resurrection, has made a New Covenant with all who trust Him. We stand within this covenant and we bear His name.

On the one side, God promises in this Covenant to give us new life in Christ. On the other side, we are pledged to live no more for ourselves but for Him. Today, therefore, we meet expressly, as generations of our fathers have met, to renew the Covenant which bound them, and binds us, to God.

****(Please stand as you are able.)***

Beloved in Christ, let us again claim for ourselves this Covenant which God had made with people, and take the yoke of Christ upon us. To take His yoke upon us means that we are content that He appoint us our place and work, and that He himself be our reward.

Christ has many services to be done; some are easy, others are difficult; some bring honor, others reproach; some are suitable to our natural inclinations and material interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and in others please ourselves. Yet the power to do all things is given us in Christ, who strengthens us.

Therefore let us make this Covenant of God our own. Let us give ourselves anew to Him, trusting in this promises and relying on His grace.

****(Please be seated)***

Lord God, Holy Father, since you have called through Christ to share in this gracious Covenant we take upon ourselves with joy the yoke of obedience and for love of you engage ourselves to seek and do your perfect will. We are no longer our own, but yours.

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesley Tradition

I am no longer my own but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you or laid aside for you, exalted for you or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the Covenant now made on earth let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

SIGNED _____

Telling of God's Activity and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

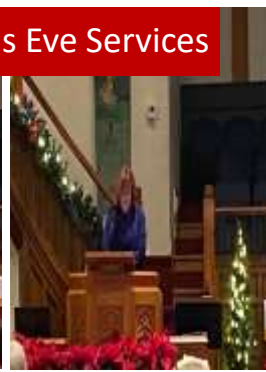
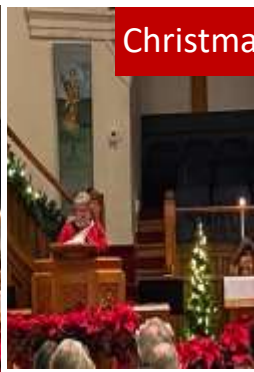
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

***Closing Hymn:**

"Go, Tell It On The Mountain"

#251 UMH

***Sending Forth with a Blessing**



Christmas Eve Services





Congratulations to **EVA MAZRIMAS** for completing the Connect Card and entering it in the drawing for the December Business of the Month. Eva won a \$25 gift certificate to **Oliver's Corner Market!**

Announcements

Prayers: Katie Kromeke (Willey), Denny Arjes, Dalton Smith, Cindy Gabany, Karen Hundrieser, Bill Maass (Phyllis Doan's brother), Travis Malston, Glenn Kersten, Carla Anderson, John Cramer, Jean Reed & Karlie Cox.

AGAPE YOUTH See you in 2023 on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11:30am in the youth lounge.

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 from 8:30 to 2:30 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. There will be a potluck lunch!

DON'T MISS THIS MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY STARTING IN 2023!

*******Connect Card update!!*******

Supporting local businesses is a part of our mission and vision statement. We can all be a part of guiding ourselves, our families and everyone in our community and the surrounding area *"into a loving and life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ"* by building relationships with others and with our local business owners.

So...in the new year, please continue to fill out the Connect Card to help us stay connected and build relationships. As an added incentive to filling out the card and turning it in every service, each card will be entered in a monthly drawing for a **gift card/certificate** to a local business. What better way get to know and support our local businesses and help others flourish too!

JANUARY 2023
BUSINESS OF THE MONTH:



CULVER'S OF DIXON

DISTRICT TRAINING EVENT - Saturday, January 21 we will host the **Prairie South District Training Event** from 8:30 to Noon. **Volunteers will be needed to help host!**



**PRAIRIE
SOUTH
LEADERSHIP
TRAINING**

January 21, 2023 9:00 am - Noon
First UMC in Dixon 202 S. Peoria Ave, Dixon, IL
Cost \$10 each Up to \$30 per church

Schedule: 8:30 am: Registration
9:00 am: Worship (with communion)
9:45 am: Break
10:00 am: Classes
12:00 pm noon: Dismissal

Classes: Pick 1 Class

- **SPRC** - led by Rev. Arlene Christopherson
- **Intentional Discipleship**
- led by Rev. Caleb Hong and Karen Bonnell
- **One Board Model** - led by Rev. Timothy Mitchell
- **Anti-Racism**
- led by Rev. Jeremiah Thompson & Rev. Luis Reyes
- **Congregational Care Ministry**
- led by Buzz Wheeler and Pastor Marcia Peddicord
- **Blessing Your City** - led by Pastor Jim Miller
- **Creating a Culture of Call** - led by Rev. Jim Bell

Registration: www.umcnic.org/calendar/prairie-south-leadership-training

Questions? Contact Marcia Peddicord
fumcsecretary@gmail.com



Staff Phone Numbers

**DON'T
FORGET TO
FILL OUT
YOUR
CONNECT
CARD AND
DROP IT AND
YOUR PEN IN
THE BINS
INSIDE THE
SANCTUARY
DOORS!**



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



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