



DCC January Newsletter

January 2018

Dixon Community Church 955 E. A St., Dixon, CA 95620

“Everyone whose heart God had moved—prepared to go up and build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem.” Ezra 1:5

Join Us for our Weekly Ministries

- Sundays 9:00am The Well for youth, 9:45am Meet and Greet, 10:00am Church Service
- Women’s Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:00 am Room 2 - NO BIBLE STUDY ON January 2nd!
- Wednesday Nights 7:00pm Family Night/Bible Study
- Saturday Bible Study resumes January 20th. More info on page 2.

From the Pastor’s Desk-Rev. Dan Vraa

Winter

The other day, I noticed the twigs. With no leaves or flowers to distract, I can see the trunks, branches and the twigs. The sycamores are a blinding white, and the oaks a dull brown. The twigs on the trees create a particular haze: some gray, others 'mocha,' some yellow, dull red, bright coral or greenish. The net effect is an unexpected tapestry. The fissured trunks and gnarled branches stand naked and unashamed in the woods. Asleep and stripped by the cold and dark, we see their permanent shape and stature. The truth is there for all to see.

As our personal 'tree rings' add up, winter tends to arrive with great regularity. When the cold and dark arrive, we often feel cold, lifeless and colorless: no longer in leaf, no longer in flower; nothing to catch the sun, nothing to entice the living to ourselves, little to give and little to receive.

Winter is when our true character shows through. Pretty flowers fade, leaves last a year, but the real “you” remains and grows. Your trunk, twisted and bent, yet strong and upright. Your branches gnarled and stunted in places, yet held out to others and lifted in praise to God. Your twigs are the numerous words and deeds revealing the true colors of a lifetime.

God sees our inward parts. God loves us, and cares about the person we are, not merely the product we produce. We glorify God by being someone, not by doing something. Don't get me wrong, the Bible does say we are to produce abundant fruit -- but that was not the primary reason Jesus came to earth, died on the Cross and rose from the dead. Jesus came to give us life abundantly. He delights in us, not merely in the notches on our Bibles.

As winter strips you of leaf and flower, what do you see? Is there integrity of an upright trunk? Are there far reaching branches freely extended toward God and neighbor? Do your twigs have a noticeable glow? Do you stand naked and unashamed before God? The truth is there.

Whether or not you like what you see, God loves the person you are. It is God who made you to stand strong against the wind and tide, and God can shape and re-shape you into a beautiful sculpture. It is God who made you to grow and become a blessing beyond your roots and shade. It is God who crafts and appoints your relationships and adventures, which add to the color and tapestry of character and personhood.

Winter reveals the hardship, victory, and growth of the year. Winter reveals the hand of God working within the saint. Grow deep into this God, lean upon Him, and allow Him to form the person you are created to become in Christ.

~Love in Christ, Pastor Dan.

MINISTRY NEEDS

Deacon's Corner

- Communion will be served on January 21st.
- Deacons meeting January 30th at Finley's House.
- Please consider signing up for Deacon's Meal Ministries. You do not need to be a Deacon. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Contact Miranda if you have questions about Meal Ministries, or are in need of meals.

Reveal

Check out our Student Ministries at <https://www.facebook.com/REVEALdcc/>

Contact DCC

707-678-1981
www.dixoncc.org

**Children's ministries is in need of volunteers.
Please contact Christy Cuchetti directly
for more information and to volunteer.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **January 13th - Men's Breakfast - 8:00 am in the DCC Social Hall**
- **January 28th - Annual Budget Informational Meeting - Approx. 11:30 am in the Sanctuary. Lunch will be served in the Social Hall between service and the meeting.**
- **February 10th - Valentine's Dinner - 6:00 pm in the DCC Social Hall - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.**
RSVP to Miranda
by e-mail at barbermiranda@sbcglobal.net
or by text at (707) 301-1184.
Volunteers for child care service needed!
Please contact Miranda.
- **February 11th - Annual Congregational Voting Meeting - - Approx. 11:30 am in the Sanctuary. Lunch will be served in the Social Hall between service and the meeting.**

SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Dates for spring 2018: January 20th, February 3rd & 17th, March 3rd, 17th & (possibly) 31st, April 14th & 28th, May 12th.

Spring study will resume at Isaiah 11.

Social/Breakfast time is from 8:30 am to 9:00 am.

Study time is from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.

This study meets at Miranda Barber's house.