



## DCC March Newsletter

March 2018

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

*"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well." Psalm 139:14*

### 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
- Wednesday Nights 7:00pm Family Night/Bible Study
- SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY  
Dates for spring 2018: March 3rd, 17th (SOCIAL AND STUDY TIME WILL BE REVERSED) & 31st, April 14th & 28th, May 12th.  
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.

From the Pastor's Desk-Rev. Dan Vraa

♣ "Happy St. Patrick's Day!" ♣

Celebrated through parades, leprechauns, and green beer, Patrick of Ireland has spawned whimsical fables from Dragon-Slayer to Snake-Banisher. However, Patrick is the genuine historical Christian Missionary who brought the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the pagan Celts of the Emerald Isle. We feel the effect of his life and ministry to this day.

Born into a Christian family in southern Wales in 389, Patrick was a nominal Church-goer ("Pew Potato") with no particular fervor for his faith or his God. At 16 years old, he was kidnapped by Irish pirates, and spent the next 8 years as a slave in Ireland with other abducted children.

During his enslavement, Patrick turned to God for help, surrendered his life to Jesus Christ, and became a man full of faith, fervor, and hope. At one point, he received a vision in a dream that he would eventually escape. At 24 years old, that vision came true, and he escaped and traveled 200 miles on foot to a port, where he took a boat across the Irish Sea to his family in Wales.

Patrick was a changed man, deeply committed to Jesus Christ and His work on earth. He soon was ordained into full-time ministry as a bright man full of zeal and promise. Bishop Germanus noticed and mentored him, ultimately sending Patrick back to Ireland in 432 – to the very people who had once enslaved him – this time as a prisoner of Christ.

The last 30 years of his life, Patrick evangelized and converted the pagan tribes of Ireland. He worked to conciliate warring chieftains, establish schools to educate children, ordain monks and nuns, found monasteries, and establish a See in Armagh. He united the thinly scattered Christian Church in Ireland, connecting it with the larger Church on the Continent.

## Deacon's Corner

- Communion will be served on March 18th.
- Refreshments will be served in the Narthex on March 25th.
- Deacons meeting March 27th 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.

## Women's Ministries Update

March 17th - Women's Breakfast at Miranda's House at 9:30 am. Come early for Bible Study at 8:30 am.

Secret Sister September - More information coming over the summer.

October 5th-7th - "Fear Not!" SAVE THE DATE FOR RETREAT. More details to follow. Estimated cost per person of \$125.

God, in His Sovereignty, sent Patrick back to the place of slavery, to bring true Christian liberty to his former captors. God, in His Sovereignty, later used Patrick's legacy to bless Europe for the next 1,000 years – a legacy that continues today.

For the next 200 monastic zeal and scholasticism flourished in Ireland. During these centuries, much of Europe relapsed into paganism after the fall of the Roman Empire in the West. In a Providential twist, God sent Irish Missionaries, the descendants of Patrick who evangelized Ireland, to re-evangelized Europe! Columba, Aidan, Gallus, Columbanus, and countless others went to the various ethnic groups of Europe, with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

They built centers of Christianity and learning as far as Switzerland, Austria, Italy, and central Europe. Their Lay-centered ministry awoke and involved every-day folks. Eventually, this grassroots Christianity swept again across the face of Europe. Their monasteries served as islands of civilization and education for almost 1,000 years through "the Dark Ages," until the dawn of the Age of Enlightenment and the Protestant Reformation.

St. Patrick's honor is well-deserved, and his legacy is a gift from the heart of God. God did miracles for Patrick, and God did even more miracles through Patrick. A pitiful prayer offered by a helpless child, led to his salvation; to the rejoicing of his family; to the conversion of his former captors; and eventually to the redemption of an entire continent for a new millennium. Western civilization still rings with Patrick's song.

Do you feel insignificant? I'm sure that Patrick felt insignificant as he labored in anonymity and slavery. But God did not see him as insignificant, nor does God see you as insignificant.

You are so loved by God, that he sent His Son Jesus Christ to die on the Cross for your sins, and resurrect from the dead so you can enjoy abundant and eternal life with Him. Like Patrick, you can call out to Jesus in faith. Your honest prayer is not too small for God to hear and answer. The blessing He will give you will change your life. God will also bless others through you, perhaps for a millennium after you. Give Christ your life and love today; the life and love He returns will be a thousand times better than you have ever known.

## Reveal

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



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 11th - Felix Baby Shower -** After service in the Fellowship Hall. Join the Felix Family in celebrating the impending arrival of their newest bundle of joy. Light refreshments will be served. If you would like to bring a gift, please bring a gift certificate.
- **March 16th Movie Night -** Bring a sleeping bag, chair, or travel lounger and your favorite snacks/drink. Set up and reserve your space at 6:00 pm. Mingle until the movie starts at 7:00 pm. We'll provide a nice G rated movie for everyone to enjoy (Mary Poppins). Babysitting will NOT be offered. Contact Delain Finley with any questions.
- **March 30th - GOOD FRIDAY -** Potluck in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm. Special Educational Opportunity in the Sanctuary after dinner. See below for more information.
- **April 1st - EASTER -** See below for schedule of events.

## Contact DCC

707-678-1981

[www.dixoncc.org](http://www.dixoncc.org)

## GOOD FRIDAY SPECIAL SERVICE

When we believers look at the cross, we see the greatest display of God's grace and saving love. But how do we explain what happened there to a contemporary community that is preoccupied with its material needs and skeptical of spiritual things? And who is the person that Jesus would refuse to save? On Good Friday, Rev. Rick Hull will tackle both questions, as we prepare for the good news of the Easter Resurrection.

## EASTER SERVICES AND EVENTS

- **6:30 am - All Churches Sunrise Service at Hall Park (meet at DCC if it is rainy)**
- **7:30 to 9:45 am - Easter Breakfast in Dixon Community Church Fellowship Hall**
- **10:00 am - Worship and Celebration of Jesus Christ's Resurrection**
- **11:30 am - Easter Egg Hunt for all children**