

We believe God is the source of life and all truth and that we were lovingly created to live in relationship with Him. We believe the Bible is the Word of God and offers help and healing to people in every area of life including the spiritual, physical, emotional, mental and relational. We believe that all truth is God's truth and value relationships with all people including Agnostics, Atheists, adherents of non Christian faiths and followers of Jesus. We believe the church is people not property. Currently we meet in the former Ames Furniture Building downtown Dixon IL., and have an active online community. We started Sept .11th 2005 in a hotel conference room, have held services in a movie theater, a cafe and have now moved to our current location in June of 2016. We do not claim the space we meet in as "ours" or "sacred" but rather see it as a neutral place we share with our community. We encourage you toward the life changing power of knowing Jesus and to experiencing the joy of being a catalyst of His help and healing in the lives of others.

What we do: Living Well Church exists to lead in the discovery and application of God's truth for every area of life. Seeking to live out the value God places on relationships in practical ways, we provide our community space for life skills training, relationship building and fun.

Getting To Know Us

LISTED BELOW IS OUR CHURCH STAFF. SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT LIVING WELL, OR ANY OF OUR MINISTRIES PLEASE CONTACT US. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO TALK WITH YOU.

Lead Pastor

John Trotter

815 973-5981

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Outreach/Church Planting Pastor

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Now Live Streaming small groups and sermons on Living Well's website.

Go to www.livingwellchurch.org and click on the Livestream tab.



"Drink from the water I give" ~ Jesus



Today's Sermon: The Life and Light
By Pastor John Trotter

Meeting Sunday Mornings

Downtown Dixon

116 East First Street

Dixon, Il. 61021

Small Groups—9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Friendship Café—10:30 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.

Worship—11:00 a.m. to 12:00

815 973-5981

www.livingwellchurch.org

[facebook/livingwellchurch.org](https://facebook.com/livingwellchurch.org)

livingwellchurch@gmail.com

Mission Statement

Lead in the Discovery and Application of God's truth in Every Area of Life.

Words of Welcome

In the words of the apostle Paul: "To all God's beloved ... who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7, NRSV)

Preparation for Worship

Amid this sometimes crazy season, quiet my heart, Lord. Help me find Christmas peace in you.

Order of Service

December 11th 2016

Preservice music: Joy To The World

Video: What Christmas Is

Welcome and Announcements: Lisa Janes

Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-2

Song: Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

Song: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 7:14

Song: Jesus Messiah

Pastoral Prayer: Mike Janes John 1:14

Offering: Video: What If

Sermon: The Life and Light, Pastor Trotter

Closing song: Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Doxology

Pastoral Blessing/Dismiss: Galatians 4:4-5

Greeters: Ernie(Jay) Fuller and Austin Fuller

Ushers: Jace and Jayden Valdez

Worship Team: Steve, Renata, Jeseña, Carter, Bill, John

Friendship Café Leader(s):

Computer Tech: Brad Larson

Sound Tech: Devin Scott

LiveStream Tech: Mike Janes

Counters:

← My Take Away for Today →

The first colored electric Christmas lights on outdoor evergreen trees appeared in Denver in 1914. The tradition began thanks to a sick boy bedridden in the top floor of his home. Ten-year-old David Sturgeon couldn't see his family's Christmas tree downstairs, so his grandfather, a pioneering electrician, painted some light bulbs red and green and strung them on a tree outside David's window.

Not only did the lights brighten what would be David's last holiday, but residents throughout the city came by to admire the display. Just as David's innovative grandfather brought light into the boy's dark times and joy to the whole community, God revealed the true light by sending Jesus into our dark world. For "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5, NRSV).

A Broadcaster Writes of Christmas

The late Harry Reasoner of CBS's Sixty Minutes penned some thoughtful words about the meaning of Christmas, a smattering of which are as follows: "Almost nobody has seen God, and almost nobody has any real idea of what he's like, and the truth is that ... the idea of seeing God suddenly and standing in the very bright light is not necessarily a completely comfortable and appealing idea."

"But everyone has seen babies, and most people like them. If God wanted to be loved as well as feared, he moved correctly here. If he wanted to know his people as well as rule them, he moved correctly here, for a baby growing up learns all about people. If God wanted to be intimately a part of [humanity], he moved correctly, for the experience of birth and familyhood is our most intimate and precious experience."

"So it comes beyond logic. It is either all falsehood, or it is the truest thing in the world. It is a story of the great innocence of God the baby, God in the power of man; and it is such a dramatic shot toward the heart that if it is not true, for Christians nothing is true.

"So, if a Christian is touched only once a year, the touching is still worth it. And maybe on some given Christmas, some final quiet morning, the touch will take."

The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. Wishing you a joyous Christmas and blessings in the coming New Year

Coming Events

- **Men's group Sat. mornings @ 6:30 at John's Barbershop**
- **Women's Group Wednesday's at 6:30pm Community Room**
 - **Next Church Board Meeting December 22nd**
 - **Audience Of One at Lost Lake, December 25th 9:30am**
 - **Next Communion January 1st**
 - **Spark Retreat for Children's Leaders - March 2-4, 2017**
 - **General Assembly - June 13-21, 2017**



ON THE SERMON HORIZON



Today - The Life and Light John 1

December 25th - Audience of One, The Word Became Flesh John 1

Join us onsite, or via Live Stream @ livingwellchurch.org

"The Word must come in human form, in God's redemptive plan. A Babe takes every heart by storm, but who will heed the Man?"

—Fred Pratt Green, "The Word Became Flesh"

~ Stewardship Update ~

Totals for 12/11/16

Tithe: \$1767

Total: \$1767

Total for December: \$2680.81



New Small Group Study Starting Today

There are two things that are non-negotiable when you read the New Testament: We are first called to be disciples of Jesus and then called to make disciples of Jesus. Many times, though, the idea of discipleship is something weak, shallow or elusive for Christians. However, one of the earliest concepts introduced by Jesus was the idea of His leadership and our "followership."

The Influential Disciple, is a deep dive into five specific dimensions of discipleship...

1. Spiritual Formation
2. Personal Wholeness
3. Healthy Relationships
4. Life Mission
5. Economics and Work

Join Living Well Church in our exploration and application of true discipleship according to the New Testament. Series will be live on site in Dixon and also livestreaming during our small group time.



"Our Daily Bread" is a daily devotional that is part of a ministry that began in 1938. Each booklet contains a months worth of devotionals. Feel free to grab a copy of Our Daily Bread that are located on the information table before you leave today.

SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE BULLETIN CONTENT THIS WEEK



Each One Disciple One is our Ministry Theme for 2017. Please begin praying about personal spiritual growth in two areas: #1 your personal growth as a fully devoted disciple and #2 As one who then also follows the instructions of Jesus to make disciples; your role as you help others in their walk with Christ.

Discipleship is important in the Nazarene Church. It is part of our core. We understand it as absolutely central to the Gospel. The mission of the Church of the Nazarene is: To make Christ-like disciples in the nations. If you attend any Northwest Illinois District events you will recognize it as a recurring theme. By God's grace and for His Glory as a district church we envision 3,000 disciplemakers gathering in 300 churches with 15,000 Christlike disciples and 30,000 worshippers by 2030. Please allow me to recommend a resource written by Stan Toler and Louie Bustle titled Each One Disciple One – it serves as A Complete Strategy for Effective Discipleship. The book is a wonderful resource designed to introduce new Christians to the essentials of the Christian life and also serves as a valuable tool for more mature Christians seeking to disciple new Christians. The book can be purchased in printed form or as a download at our Nazarene Publishing House. www.nph.com

Blessings as we follow Jesus together,
Pastor John

Combined Christmas Service at Lost Lake Community Church

We are planning a combined service on Christmas Day at 9:30 at Lost Lake Church where we plan to be livestreaming to an anticipated record number of online participants. While we are still working out a high speed internet connection at Lost Lake to make that possible, the plan now is that we here at Living Well will join Lost Lake Church there at Lost Nation at 9:30a Christmas Morning for the live concert with our own Audience of One! The church is located just east of Lost Nation at: 90 W Flagg Rd, Dixon, IL 61021