

About Living Well Church

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

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Outreach/Church Planting Pastor

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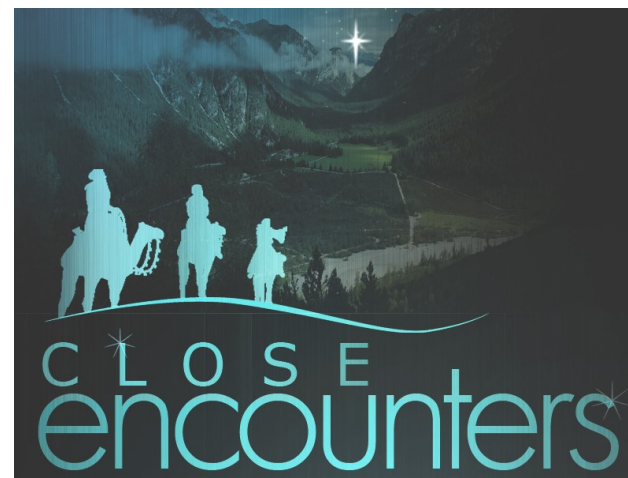
Now Live Streaming small groups and sermons on Living Well's website.

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



Dec. 3rd, 2017

"Drink from the water / give" ~ Jesus



Today's Sermon: Getting Real - When God Offers His Plan for My Life

by Pastor John Trotter

Downtown Dixon

116 East First Street

Dixon, Il. 61021

Sunday Mornings

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

Wednesday Evenings

Prayer Service—7pm

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

A blessed Advent to all! Welcome to worship as we prepare for Jesus' birth and second coming.

Order of Service

December 3rd, 2017

Welcome/Call to Worship: **Psalm 116:16-17** Lisa Janes

Song: No Not One

Song: God With Us

Scripture Reading: **1 John 3:18-19**

Song: Christ is Enough

Pastoral Prayer: Amy Jo Higgins

Offering:

Sermon: Getting Real - When God Offers His Plan for My Life

Communion

Closing Joy to the World

Announcements: Jeanette

Doxology

Dismiss: Steve Scott

Greeters: Jay and Alberto Valdez

Ushers: Jace and Anthony

Worship Team: Bill, AmyJo, Carter, Steve

Frindship Café Leader(s):

Computer Brad Larson

Sound Tech: Tod Carlock

Camera Tech: Mark Ellis

LiveStream Tech: Mike Janes

Counters: Pam Ellis, TBD

Preparation for Worship

When you come in glory, Jesus, to gather your elect (Mark 13:26-27), by your grace and love may I be counted among them. Amen.

My Take Away for Today



Coming Events

- Men's group Sat. mornings @ 6:30 at John's Barbershop
 - Prayer Service - 7:00pm on Wednesday nights
- December 14th - Open House at the Trotters 6-8pm
 - January 7th - Next Communion

A Holiness Invasion

“Advent” means “coming,” of course, and the promise of Advent is that what is coming is an unimaginable invasion. The mythology of our age has to do with flying saucers and invasions from outer space, and that is unimaginable enough. But what is upon us now is even more so — a close encounter not of the third kind but of a different kind altogether. An invasion of holiness. That is what Advent is about.

—Frederick Buechner, *The Clown in the Belfry*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS**Totals for 11/19/17**

Tithe: \$807

Water: \$23

World Evangelism Fund: \$185

Total: \$1015

Totals for 11/26/17

Tithe: \$726.63

World Evangelism Fund: \$10

Total: \$736.63

Total for November: \$3767.63

Special Dates in December

- First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2017
- Second Sunday of Advent, December 10, 2017
- Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2017
- First day of winter, December 21, 2017
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 24, 2017
- Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2017
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, December 31, 2017

The Giver

Many Christian families struggle with what role — if any — Santa Claus should play in their Christmas celebrations. No matter what you decide, it's fascinating to know the history of the real-life St. Nicholas.

Born about 270 A.D., Nicholas was a bishop in Myra, or modern-day Turkey. In the year 325, he was part of the Council of Nicaea, which produced the Nicene Creed.

Nicholas, known for his generosity, often gave away his money anonymously. According to tradition, he secretly provided dowries for the three daughters of a bankrupt merchant. Nicholas threw two bags of gold through open windows and placed the third in a stocking hanging by the fireplace to dry. Thus began the Christmas tradition of placing gifts in stockings.

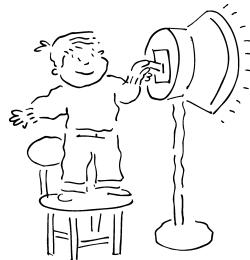
St. Nicholas is quoted as saying, "The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic God's giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves."

Don't Switch Off the Light

It happened at a children's Christmas pageant. A boy was assigned the task of controlling the lights. At a certain time in the program the lad was supposed to turn off all the lights except the one in the little manger.

That light, of course, was to represent the baby Jesus.

As might have been expected, when the time came for the lights to go out, the boy mistakenly turned off all the lights including the manger light. Quickly, another boy dressed as a shepherd, whispered rather loudly to the controller, "Hey! You switched off Jesus!"



Make Your Preparations 'Advent'-urous

Advent — the first season of the liturgical year — includes the four Sundays and weeks prior to December 25. Advent dates from the fourth century, when it lasted 40 days and included fasting and solemnity, much like Lent.

Advent is from Adventus, Latin for “coming,” referring to Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem and also his second coming. The traditional colors of Advent are purple for penitence or blue for hope.

Observing Advent is a meaningful, adventurous way to prepare for Christmas. Buy or make an Advent wreath and use candles of your choice: four blue, four purple, or three blue or purple and one pink. If you have a fifth spot, add one white Christ candle. During meals or devotions, light only one candle the first week. Add another for each new week (the pink candle traditionally marks the third week), concluding with the white candle (if you have one) on Christmas. The increasing light reminds us we’re getting closer to celebrating Christ’s light coming into the world.

“The only blind person at Christmastime is he who has not Christmas in his heart.”

—Helen Keller

Christian Symbol - Branch (Tree) of Jesse

Isaiah used the image of a new tree growing from what appears dead to foretell God’s redemption of Israel: “A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit” (Isaiah 11:1, NIV). During Advent, this prophecy assures us of the coming of the Messiah, descended from King David, and thus his father, Jesse.

