

A Christian Church for all People



January Worship

Mission of the Month - In My Father's Kitchen

"New Year, New You: Building Up Your Spiritual Muscle"

Rev. Cindy Mapstone

Saturday January 5

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

Sunday, January 6

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Mission of the Month

"The Freedom of Baptism"

Rev. Dr. Brian Konkol, Dean of Hendricks Chapel

Saturday January 12

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

Sunday, January 13

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

"Good and Angry"

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday January 19

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

Sunday, January 20

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Communion at all 3 Services

"Riding the Waves of Change"

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday January 26

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

Sunday, January 27

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

12:15 PM Congregational Luncheon in Miller Commons

Download Our New FREE Church App TODAY!!!

We didn't have an app for our first 100 years as a church and we were doing fine, but the world has slightly changed over that period of time and we figured it would be neat to help you access more of our resources wherever you are. We've got 3 reasons why you should join us in downloading the DeWitt Community Church App:

- 1. Do you have an iPhone or Android phone? Our app's for you then!**
- 2. Events calendar, plus bulletins and newsletters. Quickly see what events are coming up, and check out some of our latest news.**
- 3. Latest sermon recordings. Review our pastors' Sunday teachings whenever it's convenient to you..**

- Android users:** Search DeWitt Community Church in the GOOGLE PLAY STORE
- Apple users:** Search Sharefaith in the App Store, download that app and when it loads search DeWitt Community Church!!!!



IN THIS ISSUE

Looking Ahead	2
From the Senior Minister	3
A Note to the Congregation	3
NEW STUDY: Discovering The 12 Disciples	3

Pastor On-Call

One member of our Pastoral Care Staff will be on call 24/7, 365 days a year to respond to crisis situations or emergencies in our church family. The emergency phone number is: (315) 303-2308. Please leave a message and your contact information and the pastor on-call will return your call as soon as possible.



*Connecting people with Christ through community
Helping people grow in faith
Serving God by using our gifts to serve others*

COMING SOON

WEEKLY IN JANUARY

Please check the Weekly Announcements for any changes to the Church schedule.

SUNDAY

9:00 AM

Chapel Service (Miller Commons)
Nursery (Room 10)

10:00 AM

Adult Bible Study (Room 42)
Bible Study w/ Alan (Room 6)
Confirmation Class (Room 8)
Nursery (Room 45)

11:00 AM

Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Youth Worship (Room 7)
Nursery – Ages 0-3 (Rm 45)
Children's Sunday School
(Miller Commons)

MONDAY

3:00 PM

Disciple Bible Study (Parlor)

7:00 PM

Embassy Bell Choir (Choir Room)

TUESDAY

1:30 PM

Program Staff Meeting (Library)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM

Bible Study (Rm 42/Parlor)

10:45 AM

Stay & Play (Gym)

THURSDAY

6:00 PM

Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

7:00 PM

Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Choir Room)

FRIDAY

9:00 AM

Bulletin Inserts (Library)

SATURDAY

5:30 PM

Chapel Service (Miller Commons)

Sunday, January 6

• 12:00 PM
DCC at the Samaritan Center
(Offsite)

Monday, January 7

• 9:30 AM
WA Steering Committee
Meeting (Room 42)

Tuesday, January 8

• 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Parlor)
• 12:00 PM
All Staff Meeting (Parlor)
• 6:00 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Library)

Thursday, January 10

• 9:00 AM
Ruth Circle of Friends meeting
(Room 42)
• 9:30 AM
IF:EQUIP Women's Bible
Study (Miller Commons)
• 12:00 PM
Stewardship Team Meeting
(Library)

Friday, January 11

• 5:00 PM
WylLife Pasta Dinner
Fundraiser (Gym)

Sunday, January 13

• 12:00 PM
Gab & Gather Women's
Fellowship (Miller Commons)
• 12:00 PM
Starting Point (Library)
• 12:00 PM
Youth Committee Meeting
(Room 7)

Wednesday, January 16

• 5:30 PM
Advisory Dinner (Library)
• 6:30 PM
Property Management
Committee (Room 42)
• 6:30 PM
Trustees Meeting (Room 6)

Thursday, January 17

• 3:00 PM
Sweet Frog Thursday Youth
Meet Up (Fayetteville Sweet
Frog)

Saturday, January 19

• 6:30 PM
Glowhard Capture the Flag
(Miller Commons)

Monday, January 21

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Office Closed

Tuesday, January 22

• 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Parlor)
• 1:30 PM
Program Staff Meeting
(Library)

Thursday, January 10

• 9:30 AM
IF:EQUIP Women's Bible
Study (Miller Commons)
• 10:00 AM
Cut-Ups (Room 6)

Sunday, January 27

• 12:00 PM
Quarterly Congregational
Luncheon (Miller Commons)

Monday, January 28

• 6:00 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Library)

Syracuse University Chaplin to Speak

Brian Konkol who serves as Dean of Hendricks Chapel at Syracuse University will be speaking at all three services on the weekend



of January 12 & 13. Brian is responsible for guiding, nurturing and enhancing religious, spiritual and ethical life at the University and across its extended community. Appointed in 2017, Konkol works to strengthen the role of the chapel as the spiritual heart of the campus and a model for diversity and inclusion of philosophies and religions. Konkol arrived on the Syracuse campus from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, where he served as chaplain of the college since 2013.

Konkol, an ordained minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), has a diverse and global background of service, ministry and teaching.

We look forward to having Brian with us and the opportunity to strengthen the ongoing relationship between Syracuse University and DeWitt Community Church.

International Students and Fellowship of Christian Athletes

As we continue to reach out to students at Syracuse University, LeMoyne College and Onondaga Community College we are looking for individuals and families who would like to play a part in helping these students feel at home in the Syracuse area. It may be helping with an event, adopting a student or two, or a willingness to host a dinner during holidays for students unable to travel home. If you are interested, please let us know.

For International Students, contact Jane jhahn@dewittchurch.org **For Athletes**, please contact Mark drmarkes@umich.edu.

FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER



One of the things that has become a ritual for me each January is to catch up on all my filing. I keep a file on every service, every message, every baptism, wedding and funeral that I participate in. All of the files are numbered, cataloged and enter both into a spreadsheet and in my "Pastoral Record Journal" which predates personal computers and spreadsheets. My first sermon was entitled "Under New Management" and delivered in May of 1977 in Anderson, Indiana where I was an undergraduate student.

As you can imagine, there are now quite a few files by now, with over 1,600 sermons, 254 weddings, 175 baptisms, 147 funerals which are all kept in 5 files cabinets that I keep in a basement office. Now I'm not quite sure what I will do with all of these files when my time in ministry comes to a close, but for now, every year when I update all my files I take the time to look back at a few files from each category and recall the memories associated with each situation.

As I look through wedding files I will recall the couple and my interactions with them. When I look through a funeral file I remember the time I spent with families. When I look through old

sermons, some of them still speak to me even though some were written 30 years ago...and some, I look at and wonder what I was thinking. (Must have had an off Sunday).

As I look back over these files, I am reminded what an amazing opportunity I have been given to play a role in so many people's lives...and I am both humbled and thankful.

I also recognize that in many ways, our lives are like those file cabinets, filled with memories and experiences of our interactions with people that change and impact our lives and on the lives of people we have touched and changed.

As we enter this new year, my prayer for you is that you will recognize, appreciate and give thanks for the opportunities that you have had to connect with people and make a difference in their lives, and also recognize the many people who have contributed to yours.

May 2019 be a wonderful year of growing in spiritual maturity and in using the gifts God has given to you to serve others.

Rejoicing Always!



Dr. Mark E. Sommers
Senior Minister

NEW STUDY: "DISCOVERING THE 12 DISCIPLES" —



You probably can name and remember facts about disciples like Peter, John, and Judas... but what about the others? In this study, we will examine what the Bible tells of each of these 12 leaders of the early Church and learn some traditions concerning their life after what the New Testament records. Using discussion, discovery, and video you take away a great greater understanding of the 12 Disciples.

We meet on Sundays @ 10 am, starting Jan. 13, in Room 6. All are welcome, please join us.



Love and Grace,

Rev. Alan Rudnick

A NOTE TO THE CONGREGATION



*"Memory, turn your face to the moonlight
Let your memory lead you – open up, enter in
If you find there the meaning of what happiness is
Then a new life will begin."*

-Andrew Lloyd Webber

January is a doorway between the year past, and the year to come. Traditionally we take time to remember the past and consider our future. Memories can be like Christmas ornaments – held for a time as we put them away – remembering happy times, family and friends, children grown or growing, loved ones we've lost. After all is carefully packed away there's time to rest and space for something new.

At DeWitt Community Church we'll take time this winter to look back at all the positive accomplishments we've made together in the past decade, and also commemorate Rev. Dr. Mark Sommers tenth year of ministry with us. Looking back will provide needed

perspective as we plan for the future. We plan to celebrate on March 3, 2019 – so save the date!

Looking forward, the Board of Trustees will decide how to address our outstanding debt. At our October meeting we discussed a wide range of options, and the time has come for resolution. In other news, at our December meeting the Board approved a sabbatical leave for Rev. Dr. Sommers for both rejuvenation and study. Discussing sabbatical leave was part of our Senior Minister's agreement from ten years ago. Detailed planning will take place early this year, including preparing a grant application, and we anticipate a two or three month sabbatical in 2020.

As our long winter nights turn into memories, dream with us of a bright future.

Wishing a Happy New Year to you all!

Eric W. Witschi, President



QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH

Sunday January 27 at 12:15PM in Miller Commons

There will be a taco bar and other lunch food and we will have the opportunity to hear a few updates as to how we are doing as a congregation as well as look at upcoming plans. The event will be kid friendly so families with young children are encouraged to attend. We promise that we will rap up no later than 1:15. Hope to see you there!



IF:EQUIP Daytime Bible

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, January 10 through April 11 in Miller Commons:

The study is It's All Under Control by Jennifer Dukes Lee. The 7 Thursdays will be comprised of an opening session (January 10) and 6 'weeks' of lessons. We'll break over Holy Week and Spring Break and reconvene in May and June (study topic/book TBD) for a few weeks to finish out the spring. All women are invited to participate. Please RSVP to office@dewittchurch.org.



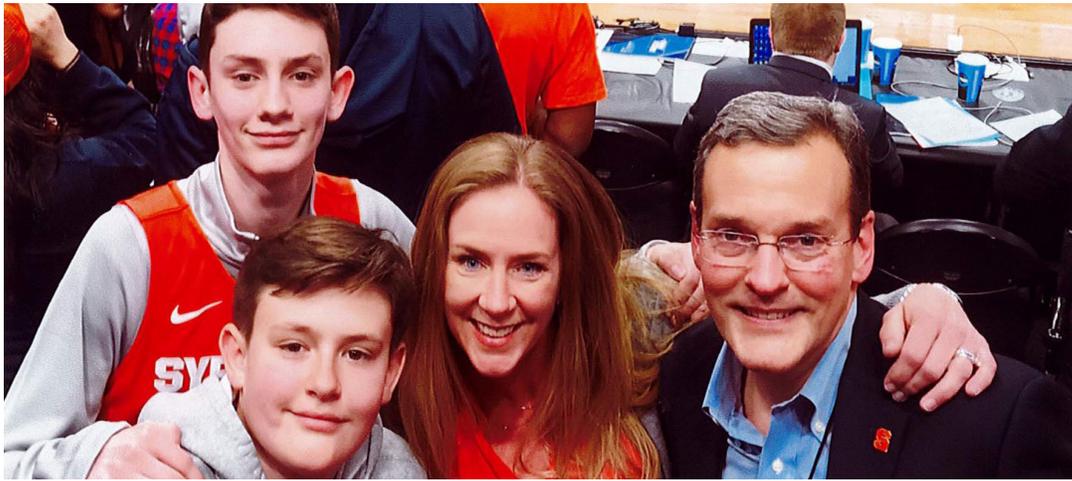
Gab & Gather

Sunday, January 13, 12-1:30 PM in Miller Commons

DCC Ladies, we have a new name for our monthly fellowship – Gab and Gather! What is Gab and Gather, you ask? It's a casual gathering open to ALL women of DCC: come by for coffee, a bite to eat, and enjoy some conversation. Only have half an hour to spare? Come on by! You can come one month, but not the next? No worries, just come when you can.

This is your chance to relax and get to know that lady in the next pew, or more ladies from another worship service. You might learn more about a church outreach program or an upcoming Bible Study. You might be enlightened by listening to someone from another generation. And for sure, you will enjoy! If you need childcare, kindly give us one week's notice. And I'm happy to answer any questions (or sign you up as an occasional volunteer)! Please contact Petie Rein at petie7471@yahoo.com, or 315-637-0510.

WELCOMING OUR NEW MEMBERS



John Wildhack

Dad to Michael (27), Tommy (15) and James(13) and husband to Amy. I am also proud to be Director of Athletics at Syracuse University, my alma mater. I have a genuine love for Syracuse as my father, sister and brother are fellow alums and my sister-in-law is about to be a doctoral graduate. After 37 years at ESPN there was only one position that would move me (and my family) and that was to lead SU athletics. My recent church involvement has been guided by my wife and two younger sons, and I am happy to have found DeWitt Community Church.

Amy Wildhack Bio

I am mom to Tommy (15) and James (13) and have been involved in Christian Education since my boys were toddlers at our church in Farmington, Conn. After moving to Syracuse in 2016 with my family (the boys and husband, John) I am thrilled to have found DeWitt Community Church where I am looking forward to getting involved in church life again. I spent 4 years working in communications with ESPN (where I met John) and previously, and another four at Turner and CNN sports. I was a VIP tour Guide at Walt Disney World and am still an avid Disney fanatic!

Tommy and James Wildhack

Both are involved with the Confirmation Class here at DeWitt Community Church. They are growing with Christ and are enjoying Confirmation. They will be confirmed members in May of 2019.



The Buchanan Family - lived in Syracuse for many years after moving from Canada. Ron's work took them to Connecticut in the 80's. They chose to retire to Fayetteville and Barbara followed them later. Ron and Ruth have 3 children and 2 grandchildren.

Ron Buchanan

- retired from Bristol-Myers-Squibb, having worked as a research scientist and then licensing executive
- was very active in their previous church in CT, serving as Clerk of Session and as a Stephen Minister
- remains active in the Stephen Ministry program at DCC
- other activities include as much golf as possible, yoga and volunteering at the Northeast Medical Center.



Barbara Buchanan

- moved here from CT about 2 years ago
- works at Wegmans
- lives in Dewitt, sharing her apartment with 2 guinea pigs
- sang in the choir at our previous church in CT and has greatly enjoyed joining our wonderful choir here at DCC
- she enjoys bowling and has recently joined a league in Fayetteville



Ruth Buchanan

- taught high school math and science in Canada
- was active in many civic organizations in Syracuse
- was both an Elder and Deacon in the Presbyterian Church, running Stewardship Campaigns, Craft Fairs and Auctions.
- enjoys creative activities and has contributed many of the permanent floral arrangements throughout DCC.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you like to knit or crochet? Consider joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry. You can create shawls for those who are ill or experiencing loss or a square for military to wear in their helmet. For more information contact Nancy Bond, nancybond3@gmail.com for yarn and patterns.

Prayer Request Cards

Prayer Request Cards are available at various locations in the church. If you have a prayer request you would like to share, please fill out the yellow card and drop it in a communication box or leave it in the office.

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is a group of members who commit to pray consistently for requests that come in the form of an e-mail. If you would like to receive prayer requests or no longer receive them, please alert Kay Paulsen, paulsenk@dewittchurch.org.

Samaritan Center Volunteers

We need 4 volunteers to arrive at 10:30 AM for prep work, and for the rest of our volunteers to arrive at 12:15 PM. If you can volunteer, consider bringing a friend. **Sign up online at dewittchurch.org/samaritan**. If you are interested in volunteering for our next trip to the Samaritan Center, or would like to be contacted about future opportunities to serve, contact Craig Mabbett at cmabbett88@gmail.com, or call 315.436.0429. If you need transportation arrangements can be made. **Upcoming dates: February 24, May 19**

From the DeWitt Community Church Women's Association

A huge "Thank you" is extended to all members of our congregation who supported the Bake and Basket Bazaar held on Dec. 9, 2018. Our profit was over \$1000.00. These projects and their success enable the Women's Association to continue their important work of making our church strong and able to bring the word of God to all. The Women's Association Steering Committee meets the first Monday morning of each month. We invite any interested woman to attend to learn about our Christian Service projects and other activities in which we are involved. The meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. in Rm. 42.

Mission of the Month: In My Father's Kitchen



In My Father's Kitchen, Inc. (IMFK) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. It was founded by John and Leigh-Ann Tumino, and is a faith-based organization offering non-denominational and non-discriminatory assistance to homeless people through direct street outreach. As John and Leigh-Ann build relationships with chronically homeless individuals, they identify and meet the unique needs of homeless people not yet ready to leave the streets, and who refuse to stay in emergency shelters. As a result, IMFK provides food and basic necessities to homeless individuals where they live on the streets, on a consistent and compassionate basis, until the homeless individual is comfortable accepting help and working with community agencies to secure housing. IMFK has one full-time employee, one full-time volunteer, 30-35 core volunteers, and as many as 60 volunteers for community events.



ganizations, IMFK gathers and distributes clothing in four major neighborhood giveaways each year, as well as responding to drop-in requests for food and materials on a daily basis.

UNDER THE BRIDGE STREET OUTREACH

IMFK's 'Under the Bridge' Street Outreach assists chronically homeless individuals who live on the streets of Syracuse and have a disability that prevents them from adequately caring for themselves. These individual's disabilities include substance abuse, mental illness, chronic illness and/or physical disabilities that make them vulnerable to crime, disease, hunger and hopelessness.

The biggest challenge in working with this population is their fearfulness, which is based on a lack of trust of others. Often this is compounded by repeated attempts and failures to improve their health and living situations. IMFK's street outreach overcomes these barriers by consistently and compassionately meeting homeless people where they live on the streets and building relationships with them individually.

IMFK builds relationships by twice-weekly bringing food and emergency supplies to

people where they live, under the city's bridges and overpasses. IMFK staff members build trust that translates into the ability to provide individuals with transportation to, and support with, homeless assistance programs and/or mainstream social services and housing programs. IMFK continues to support these vulnerable people helping them remain in housing.

IMFK staff and volunteers assist homeless individuals on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week in addition to their twice weekly deliveries of meals and necessities to over a dozen locations where homeless individuals congregate on the city streets and under bridges. IMFK maintains regular office hours at their 501 Hawley Ave. facility to accept donations, prepare meals and store clothing and supplies for distribution to those in need.



FAMILY MINISTRY



Gloria Trode-Director of Children's Music
gtrode@dewittchurch.org

Sunday Music Ministry for Young People

Musikgaten 9:00-9:20 AM
Children ages 3-5

Musikgarten introduces children to the joy of music and effectively guides them toward lifelong, active participation in music.

Dewitt Community Church Children's Choir 9:45-10:15AM
All children Elementary through Grade 8 (able to read words)

Young people experience and share their joy of singing, express their love of God, and establish a commitment to excellence through sacred music education and performance. Weekly rehearsal attendance will prepare the children to share their musical offering in worship.

Treble Makers 10:20-10:50 AM

All children Kindergarten through Grade 3

Treble Makers make music in a fun, safe, no-pressure environment. Kids learn the art of handbell ringing, as well as basic note and rhythm reading.

Young Ringers 10:20-10:50 AM

All Children and Youth Grades 4 and up

Children and teens who have played an instrument or have been in chime choir or young ringers for at least a year are invited to join this fun group. They will continue learning bell techniques and music reading.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:55 PM

All Children Kindergarten through Grade 5

Sunday School is a gathering time of celebration and song. We lift our hearts and voices, growing in the knowledge and love of God, following Christ through love for each other and all of God's creation.

#Glowhard Capture the Flag is Back!

January 19 from 7-9 PM - DCC

All 6th-12th graders, save the date for glow in the dark capture the flag. Bring your friends and meet in Miller Commons. You MUST RSVP for this event to ensure we have enough glow materials. Please RSVP to Mary by January 16.

Sweet Frog Thursdays

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join Mary at Sweet Frog frozen yogurt in Fayetteville from 3-4 PM on January 17. If you need a ride, let Mary know!



Rev. Cindy Mapstone

Family & Congregational Care Minister
cmapstone@dewittchurch.org



Mary Chirello-Youth Ministry Director

Email: mchirello@dewittchurch.org

Call/Text: 315.247.0060

YOUTH NEWS & EVENTS!

Needed: Middle School Teacher for Sunday Mornings

If you have a passion for teaching middle school students and are able to volunteer some of your time on a Sunday morning between 11-12PM, our youth committee would love to meet with you. If you are interested, please contact Mary (info above).

January 10th Younglife Pasta Dinner Benefit for Younglife student's mission trip to El Salvador 5-7PM

\$10 adults, \$5 students, 10years and under, free!
Dewitt Community Church Gym

Wyldlife at JD Middle School (6th-8th graders)

January 10- Room 101, 2:40- 3:25PM

Wyldlife Tubbing Night (open to all 6th-8th graders)

January 20- Details coming soon!

Coming Soon to Youth Group in 2019!

Ice skating, high school dinner groups and more!





DeWitt
Community Church
A Christian Church for all People



3600 Erie Boulevard East | DeWitt, New York 13214
315.445.0331 | office@dewittchurch.org
www.dewittchurch.org

**DEE'S
FAMOUS
CHICKEN
RIGGIES**
AND ITALIAN FAVORITES



**PASTA DINNER FUNDRAISER
FOR EL SALVADOR**

SYR → SAL
SYRACUSE → EL SALVADOR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2019

5-7 PM

Food served from 5-6:45 PM

DEWITT COMMUNITY CHURCH

ADULTS \$10 | STUDENTS \$5 | FREE 10 & UNDER

TICKETS FOR SALE VIA TRIP PARTICIPANTS AND AT THE DOOR

**YOUR TICKET TO A DELICIOUS
MEAL AND A GREAT CAUSE**



DeWitt Community Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Mark Sommers *Senior Minister*

Rev. Alan Rudnick *Executive Associate Minister*

Rev. William Carlsen *Adjunct Associate Minister*

Rev. Cindy Mapstone *Associate/Family & Congregational Care Minister*

Rev. Edwin "Ted" Taylor *Senior Minister Emeritus*

Dr. Landrum "Hap" Wooten *Associate Minister Emeritus*

Gloria Trode *Director of Children's Music*

Abel Searor *Director of Worship Arts Principal Organist*

Nic MacLane *Director of Creative Worship*

Mary Chirello *Youth Director & Hospitality Coordinator*

Alyssa Eighmey *Office Administrator*

Peter Hawley *Communication Coordinator*

Jane Hahn *Bookkeeper*

Mick Thorpe *Director of Building Services*

Reinaldo Mercado *Building Staff*

Liam McDonough *Building Staff*

Jim Surdam *Building Staff*

Newsletter Article Submissions

Newsletter article submissions can be made by email to newsletter@dewittchurch.org. Please plan ahead as the newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month. Thank you.

Communicating with Church Leadership

The Advisory Committee meets on a regular basis and serves to advise the Senior Minister. All members of the Advisory Committee are members of the Board of Trustees. Input, ideas, suggestions, and comments are always welcome and may be submitted by e-mail to advisory@dewittchurch.org. Those without access to email may place messages in the church's internal mailboxes or mail to Advisory Committee, DeWitt Community Church, 3600 Erie Boulevard East, DeWitt, NY 13214.

In order to ensure the integrity of church communications, we are not able to consider anonymous letters. The pastoral staff is always open to discussion of issues and concerns in a spirit of Christian community and respect.