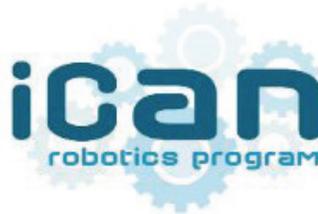


DeWitt Community Church

A Christian Church for all People



Mission of the Month - Mercy Works



Mercy Works is a nonprofit agency that's been helping teens develop vision for their lives while teaching them workplace skills.

It started 16 years ago, after Abundant Life Christian Center's founder, Pastor John Carter, read to students at Blodgett Elementary School on the Near West Side. Aghast at the library's condition, he asked his Cicero-based congregation to build the school a new one.

Carter created Mercy Works, a non-denominational non-profit to promote the church's urban mission: to give Syracuse youth a sense of purpose.

In time, Mercy Works has grown into a unique effort: A suburban church applying hard-headed business principles to the city's toughest problems.

Mercy Works is dedicated to identifying and meeting the needs of individuals and groups of people that are currently going unmet by traditional public, private and social service agencies within our community. People of faith, sharing the love of God, through actions, not words.

Building upon a reputation for delivering quality programming and facilities, and utilizing an effective network of corporate, institutional and individuals in partnership, Mercy Works continues to meet the needs

of urban youth with excitement and enthusiasm.

On May 18, 2006, local community leaders joined Mercy Works staff, administration and volunteers to celebrate the opening of The Vision Center on South Salina Street in downtown Syracuse. An abandoned building that was an eyesore for years was turned into a state-of-the-art facility, complete with high speed internet, networked computer learning centers and the opportunity for area kids to enlarge their vision of what their lives could be.

Middle school, high school and young college students come for an array of programs. Among them:

iCan - Students build, program and test Lego Mindstorms NXT robots.

Teen Tech - Students learn about computer hardware and are trained in Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher and PowerPoint. Students create fictitious businesses and compete for a cash award by giving the best business presentation. On graduation, each student receives a free computer. More than 600 students have received one.

Synergy - This provides paid summer internships for college-bound students at places like Upstate Hospital, National Grid

and the state Attorney General's Office. Nearly 300 have been through the program, which trains youth in leadership, time and financial management, conflict resolution and communication skills.

The Vision Center's programs blend a worldly, hard-nosed savvy with altruism and charity. There's no preaching, no religious slogans. Inspirational quotes on walls come from cultural icons. One is from Maya Angelou: "Nothing will work unless you do."

In eight years, nearly 1,900 students have been through a Mercy Works program. Six hundred have taken home computers.

You can help develop youth in our community by making a financial investment in the Vision Center. Your contribution, regardless of size, will be used to deliver the highest possible quality of service to our young people and their families. By making a monthly contribution you can help to insure the continuity of our programs. But, whether you become a one time or ongoing contributor, know that your support counts and is appreciated!

Find out more at www.vcsyracuse.com/



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

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OCTOBER

WEEKLY IN OCTOBER

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

SUNDAY

9:00 AM

Chapel Service (Miller Commons)

10:00 AM

How to Read the Bible (Room 6)
Adult Bible Study (Rm 42)
Financial Peace University (Library)

11:00 AM

Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Nursery – Ages 0-3 (Rm 45)
Children's Sunday School (Rooms 46-48)
Youth Worship (Room 7)
Confirmation Class (Rm 8)

MONDAY

9:00 AM

Town of DeWitt Senior Program (Gym, Rooms 6, 7, 8, 10)

5:30 PM

Women's Bible Study (Miller Commons)

TUESDAY

1:30 PM

Program Staff Meeting (Library)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM

Bible Study (Rm 42/Parlor)

9:30 AM

Stay & Play (Gym)

THURSDAY

6:00 PM

Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

7:15 PM

Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

FRIDAY

9:00 AM

Bulletin Inserts (Library)

SATURDAY

5:30 PM

Chapel Service (Miller Commons)

Saturday, October 1

•All Day
Confirmation Retreat at Camp Talooli

Sunday, October 2

•12 PM
Starting Point (Library)
•12 PM
Confirmation Luncheon (Miller Commons)

Monday, October 3

•9:30 AM
Women's Association Steering Committee Meeting (Room 42)
•7 PM
LIFT Meeting (Room 46)

Wednesday, October 5

•7 PM
Christian Caring Committee Meeting (Library)

Saturday, October 8

•9:30 AM
Altar Guild Meeting (Miller Commons)

Tuesday, November 2

•7 PM
Christian Caring Committee Meeting (Library)

Saturday, November 5

•9 AM
Women's Association "LIFT" Meeting (Miller Commons)

Sunday, November 6

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Tuesday, November 8

•7 AM - 9 PM
Election Day Voting
•6 AM - 10 AM
Continental Breakfast
•12 PM - 8 PM
Spaghetti Dinner
•12 PM
All Staff Meeting (Parlor)
•2 PM
History Committee Meeting (Room 42)
•9 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision

Sunday, October 9

•12:45 PM
DCC @ The Samaritan Center

Monday, October 10

•Columbus Day
Office Closed

Tuesday, October 11

•9 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Parlor)
•12 PM
All Staff Meeting (Parlor)
•2 PM
History Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 12

•5:30 PM
Advisory Meeting
•6:30 PM
Property Management Committee Meeting
•7 PM
Trustee Meeting

Saturday, October 15

•8 AM
Stephen Ministry Workshop

COMING SOON

Wednesday, Nov. 9

•5:30 PM
Leadership Dinner (Miller Commons)
•6:30 PM
Property Committee Meeting (Library)

Thursday, November 10

•9 AM
Circle of Friends Meetings (Room 42)

Saturday, November 12

•5 PM
Communion

Sunday, November 13

•9 AM & 11 AM
Communion
•12:30 PM
DCC @ The Samaritan Center

Tuesday, November 15

•5:30 PM
Open Finance Committee Meeting (Miller Commons)
•7 PM
DeWitt Cemetery Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, October 18

•5:30 PM
Finance Committee Meeting

Saturday, October 22

•5 PM
Communion

Sunday, October 23

•9 AM & 11 AM
Communion
•12:15 PM
Quarterly Congregational Meeting (Miller Commons)

Tuesday, October 25

•9 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Parlor)

Wednesday, October 26

•6:30 PM
Youth Pumpkin Carving/ Costume Contest (Room 7)

Friday, October 28 to

Sunday October 30

Rochester Folk Art Sale

Monday, October 31

•Halloween

Sunday, November 20

•12 PM
Soul Food Sunday Fellowship Luncheon for Youth & Families (Miller Commons)

Thursday, November 24 &

Friday November 25

Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed)

Sunday, December 4

•12:30 PM
Women's Association Free Ladies Luncheon

Saturday, December 10

•10 AM
Artisans Against Hunger Craft Show (Gym)

Sunday, December 11

•12:30 PM
DCC @ The Samaritan Center



FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER



The other day I had a church member come up to me and say, "I invited a co-worker of mine to visit **your** church."

First of all I think it's great that one of our members is making that invitation because a personal invitation is the absolute best way of helping people to connect with a community of faith. Churches do all sorts of things to invite guests to attend; newspaper ads, bill boards, mailers, social media, but by far the most effective invite is from a current member. Best yet is the invitation to sit with you, and introducing them to others.

Second, I corrected this person by saying it is not **my** church, but **our** church; a place where God has called **us** to worship together and do ministry. God has given each of us different gifts and different roles but we are **all** a part of the body we call DeWitt Community Church.

Third, I want us to think about the **WHY**. Seriously, why is it important to invite people to church? Is it for institutional survival? We need more people and resources to keep doing what we are doing? I certainly hope not! We invite because we sense God is doing something here. We invite people to join our family of faith. We invite people because we are excited about vibrant worship and our children's ministry...and youth ministries...and adult groups...and our service to the community around us. We are excited about what God is doing in our community of Christ followers that we call DeWitt Community Church.

Fourth, as we invite people into our community of faith, I want you to think for a minute how intimidating it can be to walk into our building for the first time. One of the things we have been talking about with increasing regularity is this idea of **Radical Hospitality**. How do **WE** respond to guests? Do we make people feel welcomed and comfortable without being overbearing?

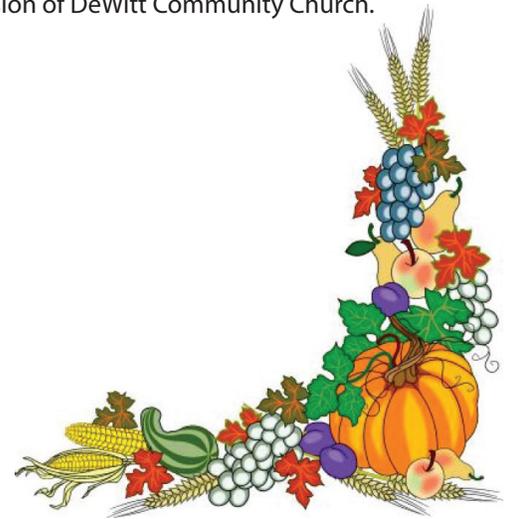
There are a number of things that we have done in the last few months that are designed to help guests connect and hopefully become a part of our family of faith.

Our new Website is a big step forward in helping people to get a sense of who we are. New parking areas have been put into place for first time visitors, expectant moms, families with young children, and special parking for seniors who are less mobile. We removed the special parking spots for pastors; Alan, Bill and I have no problem parking at the mall and hoofing it across Erie Boulevard on Sunday mornings. Soon we hope to have new building signage up to help people navigate the building. It's all about being welcoming and practicing radical hospitality.

In all of these things we have one purpose, and that is to help people to connect and hopefully become a part of the body, the ministry and the mission of DeWitt Community Church.

Rejoicing Always!

Dr. Mark E. Sommers
Senior Minister



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.

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.

NEWS & NOTES

LIFT* Morning: "Women of Faith Wanting More" Saturday, November 5 - 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM

All women of DeWitt Community Church are invited to come for coffee and conversation. LIFT Morning will be held in Miller Commons where we will enjoy a video and panel presentation that is sure to enlighten! Consider new ways to enhance the way you live your faith as you learn from others. Enjoy worship and fellowship with other DCC women. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Child care will be available for a nominal fee. Registration begins October 8. *Ladies in Fellowship Together



Samaritan Center

The Samaritan Center is an, interfaith effort of community members committed to serving the hungry and those in need in order to promote their welfare, dignity and self sufficiency. Since 1981 Samaritan Center's mission has fought hunger in the greater Syracuse community by providing nutritious hot meals to anyone in need 7 days a week – no questions asked. Our next opportunity to serve a meal to the guests of the Samaritan



Center is on Sunday October 9, 2016. We are looking for 16-18 additional volunteers. Please contact Nancy at nl7109@aol.com if you are available to serve with us.

Clothing Donations Needed

We are seeking donations for In My Father's Kitchen during the month of October. The Children & Youth of DCC will be collecting new and very gently used children and teens winter clothing (all sizes, male and female, newborn to adult sizes). The adults of DCC will be collecting new and very gently used bedding (all bed sizes). Please no stained or torn items.

Donations may be placed in the laundry baskets in the Narthax, as well as those located in the children and youth areas of DCC.

Donations will be collected through October 30th, and will be delivered to In My Father's Kitchen the first week of November. Have questions? Contact Dot Hall at dhallmarathon@gmail.com. To learn more about this organization, please visit their website at inmyfatherskitchen.org/



Young Adult Kick Off Gathering

October 23, 4-6PM, Alan & Christine Rudnick's

All young adults (20's, 30's, early 40's) and young adult families are invited for food, cider, and fellowship at Alan and Christine Rudnick's home (4485 Huntington Ln. Manlius) This will be our first gathering of the year as we kick off our new young adult group. RSVP chrudnick@gmail.com or 692-2292.



Meals-on-Wheels Election Day

Continental Breakfast and Pasta Dinner

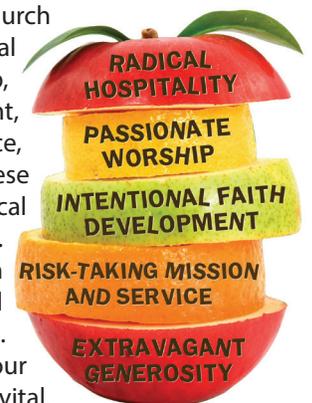
Please support the FM-JD Area Meals-on-Wheels on Tuesday November 8 by staying for a meal after you vote. Breakfast is served from 6-10 AM and a pasta dinner is available from noon-8 PM. Prices are: Adults \$8; Seniors 65+ \$6; Children 10 and under \$4. Dinner includes: Pasta, Meatballs, Salad, Bread, Dessert, and a Beverage. Dine-In or Take-Out! Your support allows us to provide hot, tasty, and nutritious meals to members of our community who might otherwise go hungry.

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

Sundays 10:00AM-10:50AM, October 23-November 20

People are searching for a church shaped and sustained by Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. These fundamental practices are critical to the success of congregations. Their presence and strength demonstrate congregational health, vitality, and fruitfulness. Come, learn, and discover how our church can be more fruitful and vital.

Book study and DVD. Contact Rev. Alan Rudnick for more info, arudnick@dewittchurch.org



Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief: Caring in a Distinctively Christian Way

The national office for Stephen Ministry is offering an educational workshop at DCC Saturday, October 15. Registration is 8 to 9 AM, and the workshop is from 9 AM to 1 PM. Participants will learn about the grief process—the stages of grief and how to support a grieving person in a distinctively Christian way. Churches within a 75 mile radius of DCC are invited to participate for a nominal fee. **Anyone who wishes to attend from DCC may do so free of charge** by registering with Judi Wilson or Kay Paulsen. Volunteers are needed in the areas of publicity, registration, directing traffic in the parking lots, a presence in the hallways to direct participants to Miller Commons, food prep and set-up/clean-up. If you are interested in helping and/or attending, contact Kay Paulsen (paulsenk@dewittchurch.org).



YOUTH/CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Youth Group

Youth group and most youth events will be held on Wednesday nights this year. Feel free to e-mail Mary Chirello for more details. mchirello@dewittchurch.org.

Apple Picking



Youth and families alike are invited to share an afternoon in fellowship, apple picking at Beak and Skiff orchard. We'll meet at DCC to carpool at 2 PM on October 16th and return to church by 5 PM. If you'd like to attend, please e-mail Mary Chirello by October 12. mchirello@dewittchurch.org

Youth Committee

We're still on the hunt for new youth committee members. We're looking for teens and adults alike. If this sounds exciting to you or someone you know, please contact Mary Chirello mchirello@dewittchurch.org.

Pumpkin Carving & Costume Contest

On October 26 we will celebrate Halloween during Youth Group with a Costume Contest and Pumpkin Carving. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited. Wear your craziest costume and join us for a spooktacular evening. For details please contact Mary Chirello mchirello@dewittchurch.org.

Fellowship Committee

Fellowship Committee helps out with events at church and has a great time joining in fellowship to do so. If interested in helping with Fellowship Committee, please contact Mary Chirello mchirello@dewittchurch.org. Youth ages 16+ may volunteer.

Hospitality Volunteers Needed

We're looking to form a hospitality committee. If you're interested, please contact Mary Chirello mchirello@dewittchurch.org. Youth ages 14+ are welcome to volunteer.

FALL STUDY GROUPS

How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth

Rev. Alan Rudnick, Sunday 10-10:50 AM, Until October 16. Room 6

Have you always wanted to understand the Bible more? Do you have questions about how to interpret parts of the Bible? Do you want to learn some basic tools to read the Bible? We will cover how to read the Old Testament and New Testament in light of genre, common misunderstandings, Gospel parables, and learn basic principles to help guide interpretation. Please bring a Bible.

Dare to Ask Discussion Group

Rev. Bill Carlsen and Dr. Kay Paulsen Wednesday 9-11 AM, Until October 19. Room 42

Do you have questions about your Christian faith that have not been answered? Now is the time to ask. Rev. Bill Carlsen and Dr. Kay Paulsen will lead a discussion group to table a few of those questions like "why God", "how can we interpret the creation story in light of current scientific knowledge", "how can I explain faith, and what are miracles?" Come join us for coffee and stimulating conversation.

Children's Ministry Announcements

Sheana Martin Zombek | Kristen Seamans

szombek@dewittchurch.org | kseamans@dewittchurch.org

SUNDAY 9:00 AM Early Service: Nursery in Room 45

SUNDAY 10:00 AM Education Hour:

Nursery in Room 45 for children of parents taking a class.

Play Hour in Room 44 for Pre-K- 1st grade of parents taking a class.

SUNDAY 11:00 AM - Children's Wing, Upstairs:

Nursery in Room 45

Pre-K in Room 47

K/1 in Room 48

2/3 in Room 44

4/5 in Room 46

Family In Worship Sundays - 10/9, 11/ 27, and 12/25 (no nursery)

Treble Makers

Treble Makers is open to all children in Grades 2-6. The children will experience music by making music with hand chimes, percussion and their voices. We will play music games, pray, and have fun. Weekly rehearsal attendance will prepare the children to share their musical offering in worship at least once every other month, and will also provide opportunity for core leadership in the Christmas Pageant. A curriculum of hymns, songs, movement and instruments teach and reinforce scripture in addition to prompting cooperation and worship leadership. Contact Gloria Trode, gtrode@gmail.com for information.

Praise Kids

All children Pre-K through Grade 5 will meet with their Sunday School teachers at 11:00 AM then gather in Room 9 for a time of celebration and song. This is a time to lift our hearts and voices, as we grow in the knowledge and love of God, following Christ through love for each other and all of God's children. Praise Kids encourages church involvement through musical presentations in the worship service and participation in the Christmas Pageant. Contact Gloria Trode, gtrode@gmail.com for information.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

Anne & Greg Stock, Sunday 9-10:30 AM, Until November 20. Library

We all need a plan for our money. FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more! FPU classes meet for around an hour and a half. The cost is \$92 per membership. Scholarships are available for financial need.

Judges Bible Study

Paul Bakke and Betsy Snyder, Sundays 10-10:50 AM, Room 42

The book of Judges includes several interesting genres; Poetry, Riddles, and mainly Narrative History. Its author is anonymous but it is usually assumed that Samuel, the prophet wrote it in about 1086-1004 B.C. Key personalities include Othniel, Ehud, Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech, Jephthah, Samson, and Delilah. The Book of Judges is a testament to God's faithfulness. Dig deep into the Old Testament with this ongoing study of the book of Judges.

COMPASSION MINISTRY

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 Ministry

At DeWitt Community Church, we have an intercessory prayer ministry because we believe that God answers prayers. Requests are shared with the congregation through e-mail to the Prayer Chain and publication in the weekly Prayer & Care. Prayers are kept confidential, when requested. The DeWitt Community Church prayer chain is committed to praying for you. Our team of intercessors support and care for the deeply personal needs of our church family and those they love. Let us know how we may pray for you by filling out a yellow Prayer Request Card and placing it in the offering plate or putting it in one of the communication boxes.

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is 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.

How To Serve On The Prayer Chain

The prayer ministry continually enlists new people to join our intercessory prayer efforts. Members of the prayer chain receive prayer requests by e-mail and commit to confidentially pray for a request when it is received as well as during their daily prayer time until the request is removed from the prayer list. To become involved in this ministry, contact Kay Paulsen at 315-200-5650, or paulsenk@dewittchurch.org.

Compassion Cooks October Project: Care Packages

Tuesday, October 26, at 6 PM in room 10, Compassions Cooks are gathering for the first time this program year to prepare care packages for our college students and military members. If someone in your family fits that description, please call the office, 315-445-0331, with the name and current address. We welcome donations of items to be included in the packages. Prepackaged items work best, like:

- Packets of crackers
- Individual bags of chips
- Packs of gum
- Individually packaged cookies
- Small packs of tissues
- Halloween candy
- Instant soup packets
- Hot chocolate packets
- Microwave popcorn
- Individual powdered drink packets
- Granola bars
- Slim Jims

We send 36 boxes and postage runs over \$200, donations toward that expense are also welcomed. If you have questions, contact Kay Paulsen at 315-200-5650 or paulsenk@dewittchurch.org. All donations can be left in the office for Kay Paulsen.

Friendship Ministry

Volunteers in this ministry keep regular contact with their assigned friend, a member of Dewitt Community Church who can no longer attend services as often as they would like. Friend assignments can be long term or short term depending on the situation. For information on how you can receive a friend or be a friend talk with Kay Paulsen 315-200-5650, paulsenk@dewittchurch.org.

Mature Seekers Kick Off Cook-Out

Wednesday, October 19, 6 to 8 PM, retirement age folks are invited to a cook-out at the home of Dr. Mark and Kathlyne Sommers, 8223 Verbeck, Manlius, NY 13104. To RSVP, contact Kay Paulsen, paulsenk@dewittchurch.org or call the church office, 315-445-0331 so, we know how much food to prepare. Come for a marvelous time filled with food and fellowship. We will be asking you for your interests and ideas for programs so come prepared to share. See you there.

A NOTE TO THE CONGREGATION

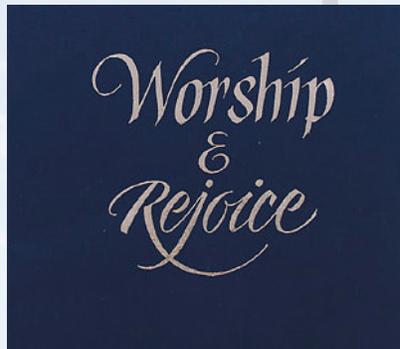
Thank you to the congregation for all of your efforts in supporting some wonderful projects this summer. Here's a look at how far we've come.....

Swimming With Kay



So far Kay has raised \$2,661 towards her \$3,000 goal. These funds will be used to train 2 more Stephen Leaders to serve here at DCC.

Hymnal Sponsorship



So far we have raised \$1,770 towards our goal of \$8,220. That's 118 hymnals sponsored! Please consider dedicating a hymnal in honor of a loved one.

Pedaling With The Pastor



So far Mark has raised \$3,610 towards his \$5,000 goal. These funds will be used complete the renovation of the class room adjacent to Miller Commons.

DEEP ROOTS, FRESH FRUITS



Throughout my childhood and adolescence, my family would visit my grandparents in Kentucky. My grandmother grew black raspberries on a vine. When I was young, the vine was small and barely covered the trellis. My grandmother would say that every year as the vine got bigger and the roots grew stronger, the vine would bear more and more fruit. She was right. Each year the vine produced more berries than the previous year. The key, she said, was strong roots in fertile ground.

One of our many blessings at DeWitt Community Church is strong historical roots. Take a walk down the hall towards the children's classrooms and you can read all about the church's longevity. Since 1811, our congregation has grown and occupied several locations. With such deep roots, God is calling us to bear fresh fruits of spiritual vitality in Jesus Christ.

Starting October 23, our congregation will focus on stewardship. Stewardship involves a commitment to manage our time, gifts, talents, money, resources and priorities in relation to God and others. Our stewardship theme this year is "Being Fruitful." Throughout this five week series you'll hear stories, messages, and affirmations that call us to be fruitful in faith and stewardship. Each week we will focus on a different aspect of congregational vitality as described in Robert Schnase's book, "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations":

Radical Hospitality: Churches characterized by radical hospitality are not just friendly and courteous. They're also restless because they realize that so many people don't yet belong to a faith community. They sense a calling and responsibility to pray, and invite, and surprise newcomers with a glimpse of the unmerited gracious love that they see in Christ. Our radical hospitality goes to the extremes, and we do it joyfully, not superficially, because we know our invitation is the invitation of Christ.

Passionate Worship: Passionate worship connects people to God and to each other. It's worship we enter with expectancy, opening ourselves to let God's Spirit change our hearts and minds. It's worship that is alive, profound, authentic, engaging. It can be traditional or contemporary—it takes many different expressions. The motivation for enhancing the quality of worship is not only about deepening our own faith, but also about allowing God to use us all of us to offer hope, life and love to others. Worship is God's gift and task, a sacred trust that requires our utmost and highest.

Intentional Faith Development: Transformation comes through learning in community. Congregational leaders that practice intentional faith development carefully consider the full life-cycle of members and look for ways the church forms faith at every age. They look for gaps, opportunities, and unmet needs to round out their ministries and ask how they can do better. They train lay people to lead small groups, teach Bible studies and coordinate support groups. They realize the power of special topics and interests to attract unchurched people, and they advertise and invite beyond the walls of the church. They form affiliation groups such as grief or divorce recovery, substance abuse, parenting and more.

Risk-Taking Mission and Service: This is the service we offer that stretches us to love in the name of Christ and to serve others in ways we might not do if simply left to our own desires. It's risky because it moves us out of our comfort zone and takes us to places and to people we might not ordinarily encounter. Churches offer risk-taking mission and service through tutoring programs, VIM projects, cross-cultural exchanges, ministries in nursing homes and a multitude of other ministries.

Extravagant Generosity: Churches that practice extravagant generosity speak confidently and faithfully about money, giving, generosity and the difference giving makes for the purposes of Christ and in the life of the giver. They emphasize the Christian's need to give for more reasons than just the church's need for money. They emphasize mission, purpose and life-changing results rather than budgets and institutional loyalty.

These five practices of fruitful congregations call us to look at our church and personal faith life to ask the questions, "Am I being fruitful?" Are we as a church being fruitful?" How is God calling me to live out these practices in my life?" With such deep roots as a church, we are called to produce fresh life-changing fruits.

Love and Grace,

Alan Rudnick

Rev. Alan Rudnick





October Worship

Mission of the Month - Mercy Works

Spiritual But Not Religious:

The Confessional Journey — **Rev. Alan R. Rudnick**

Saturday, October 1 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 2 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Mission of The Month - All Services

Spiritual But Not Religious:

Wandering & Wondering — **Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers**

Saturday, October 8 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 9 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Spiritual But Not Religious:

Finding Your Way Home — **Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers**

Saturday, October 15 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 16 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Being Fruitful: Radical Hospitality — **Rev. Alan R. Rudnick**

Saturday, October 22 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 23 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Communion - All Services

Being Fruitful: Passionate Worship — **Rev. Alan R. Rudnick**

Saturday, October 29 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 30 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

DeWitt Community Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Mark Sommers *Senior Minister*

Rev. Alan Rudnick *Executive Associate Minister*

Rev. William Carlsen *Adjunct Associate Minister*

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

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

Dr. Kay Paulsen *Director of Congregational Care*

Gloria Trode *Director of Children's Music*

Abel Searor *Director of Worship Arts Principal Organist*

Nic MacLane *Director of Family Worship*

Mary Chirello *Youth Director & Hospitality Coordinator*

Kristen Seamans *Children's Ministry Director*

Sheana Martin Zombek *Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Peter Hawley *Communication Coordinator*

Jane Hahn *Bookkeeper*

Ellen Butler *Office Assistant*

Jill Reid *Office Manager*

Mick Thorpe *Director of Building Services*

Reinaldo Mercado *Building Staff*

Liam McDonough *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.