

DeWitt

Community Church

A Christian Church for all People



CHRISTMAS

 ChristmasInTheCuse.com

 [ChristmasInTheCuse](#)

 [@MerryCusemas](#)

IN THE CUSE

A Holy Celebration & Syracuse Tradition

Christmas is our favorite time of year. We invite you to celebrate the coming of the Christ child with us every weekend this Advent, and on Christmas Eve as well. We have numerous services with atmospheres ranging from excitedly expectant to quietly contemplative. And you can help us share the Christmas spirit by visiting our special "Christmas in the Cuse" website and Facebook feed. All month long we will be sharing tidings of comfort and joy, something for the whole family!

Advent weekend worship:

Saturday night chapel service 5:30PM in Miller Commons,
9AM Sunday Chapel service in Miller Commons (child care),
11AM Traditional Service in the sanctuary (child care).

Christmas Eve:

4:30PM Family Service
Candlelight Services @ 7PM, 9PM, and 11PM.



IN THIS ISSUE

Looking Ahead	2
From the Senior Minister	3
A Note to the Congregation	3
We Have A Moral Imperative to Stop Hate	7

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 DECEMBER

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

SUNDAY

9:00 AM
Chapel Service (Miller Commons)
10:00 AM
Adult Bible Study (Room 42)
Parable Study w/ Alan (Room 6)
10:55 AM
Pageant Rehearsal (Gym)
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, December 2

• 12:00 PM
Women's Fellowship Meeting (Miller Commons)

Monday, December 3

• 9:30 AM
WA Steering Committee Meeting (Room 42)
• 11:30 AM
Sub Shoppe & Friends (Parlor)

Wednesday, Dec. 5

• 5:30 PM
Christian Caring Meeting (Library)
• 7:00 PM
Board of Trustees Meeting (Room 6)

Thursday, December 6

• 4:30 PM
Pageant Rehearsal (Gym)

Saturday, December 8

• 8:00 AM
Artisans Against Hunger Craft Show & Sale (Gym)
• 9:00 AM
Meals On Wheels Bottle Drive (Cemetery Parking Lot)

Sunday, December 9

• 9:00 AM
Basket Bazaar and Chili Lunch (Gym)

Monday, December 10

• 6:00 PM
Compassion Cooks Packing Boxes (Miller Commons)

Tuesday, December 11

• 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Parlor)
• 9:30 AM
IF:EQUIP (Miller Commons)
• 12:00 PM
Staff Holiday Party (Off-site)
• 6:00 PM
All Ages Christmas Caroling (Off-site)
• 6:00 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Library)

Thursday, December 13

• 9:00 AM
Ruth Circle of Friends meeting (Room 42)
• 6:30 PM
WyldLife (Gym)

Saturday, December 15

• 9:15 AM
Pageant Dress Rehearsal (Gym)

Sunday, December 16

• 12:30 PM
Children's Christmas Pageant (Gym)

Wednesday, Dec. 19

• 6:30 PM
Property Management Committee (Library)

Thursday, December 20

• 2:00 PM
Christmas Eve Family Service Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Monday, December 24

• 4:30 PM
Family Christmas Eve Service
• 7, 9 & 11 PM
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day Building Closed

Thursday December 27

• 10:00 AM
Cut Ups (Room 6)

Tuesday, January 1

New Year's Day Building Closed



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.

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

Next Middle Adult Group Gathering

Friday, December 23 at 6PM at the Home of Mark & Kathlyne Sommers

The Middle Adult Group is generally comprised of people who are in their 40's/50's and 60's. We gather every few months in different homes for dinner, conversation and a brief devotional thought. It is a casual and relaxed time where people can meet new friends and continue to build supportive relationships. Usually the host home provides the main dish and everyone brings a dish to pass. For more information and to RSVP please email office@dewittchurch.org or call 315.445.0331.

FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER



One of the reoccurring themes in my personal study, in our staff devotional time, and even in our series on Living Abundantly is this idea that busyness equates to fulfillment.

Most of us are constantly attempting to cram more into our already busy lives... yet that often only leave us exhausted and empty. And during this Christmas season where we celebrate the birth of our Savior,

doesn't it often seem that our schedules speed up rather than slow down to reflect on God's love incarnate.

This years I want to invite you to examine all that you are doing and encourage you to trim your schedule and your lists so that you can focus more on God's love for you and for this world. The message of Jesus was not to work harder but to accept the love of God

which is a gift given, not earned through busyness and hard work.

My prayer for you during this season of Advent and Christmas is for you to make time to take time to focus on the love of God expressed through the gift of the Christ Child. My hope is that during this season you will take the time to go for a walk, meditate, worship and spend time with loved ones and families. My hope is that you will cherish this time to focus not on all the things you have to do, but on what God has done and is doing in your life and in the world.

Rejoicing Always!

Dr. Mark E. Sommers
Senior Minister



A NOTE TO THE CONGREGATION

*"Oh! Quand j'entends chanter Noël
J'aime revoir mes joies d'enfant
Le sapin scintillant, la neige d'argent
Noël mon beau rêve blanc"*

- "Noël Blanc" (White Christmas), Irving Berlin

This is a story of an unexpected joy. In my line of work sales representatives periodically visit us to present their latest building products, fixtures, lighting, etc. Often they share samples and literature, but sometimes they come bearing some inexpensive tchotchkes to leave behind. Some years ago, around this time of year, the gift was something different.

After their presentation a systems furniture manufacturer shared a compilation of Christmas music from around the world. My first reaction was both thankful and curious, but with only modest expectations. When I got a chance to listen however I found that I

really enjoyed the eclectic selections! In particular I was moved by the French version of "White Christmas" sung by Dalida (Yolanda Gigliotti, 1933-1987). This popular tune that I had heard so often before was made new again. Although I understand only a few words in translation, the music and voice is enough to convey the wistful longing of the song. After many years this small and unexpected gift is still a personal favorite.

So, I would encourage all of you, in this busy Christmas season, to be open to whatever small joys come your way. Whatever moves you - whether it's fresh snowfall, a random kindness, carols by candlelight, sharing with others - embrace joy where you find it and remember the greater gift we received so long ago in Bethlehem.

Des bénédictions à tous!

Eric W. Witschi, President

Mission of the Month - J-D Ecumenical Food Pantry

The mission of the Dewitt Food Pantry is to provide emergency food to local households whose income is below 185% of the Poverty Income Guidelines established each year. The pantry serves our neighbors who live in the Jamesville-DeWitt School District and local area surrounding DeWitt Community Church. The Dewitt Food Pantry is the result of a collaborative effort by members of the congregations of the Dewitt Community Church, Eastern Hills Bible Church, Holy Cross Church of Dewitt, St. David's Episcopal Church, and the staff of the Springfield Garden Apartments.

DeWitt Food Pantry accepts monetary donations as well as donations of non-perishable

food. Specific needs include canned tuna, pasta, rice, pasta sauce, canned vegetables, canned fruit and healthy cereal. Donations may be dropped off on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 - 1:00 PM, and Third Saturdays, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. It is located at 6486 East Seneca Turnpike, Jamesville. To schedule a time to drop off donations outside of the

pantry's regular hours, call the On-site Coordinator, at (315) 469-5093.

How to help: To make a financial gift, please use the contribution envelopes available in the pews and check "Mission of the Month." These will be collected during the Offertory or can be sent to the Church Office.



NEWS & NOTES

Stewardship in Action: Gifts From God: Gifts To God

Advent is a great time to think about Stewardship. As we prepare again to celebrate Christ's birth, it is good to examine what we're celebrating in this season. As Jesus showed in his life, he was born amongst the poor and pursued riches of non-financial sorts: he pursued riches of love, not wealth. Throughout his life, he called us to serve, to respect, to let go of possessions.

Let's look at a few places where DCC has served others with our gifts and stewardship recently:

Connecting with our community:



- Supporting our community by answering difficult questions by a local TV station about the Tree of Life synagogue shooting.
- Hosted an Election Day fundraiser for Meals on Wheels of Eastern Onondaga County.
- Holding a community women's bible study.

Serving others:



- Preparing and sending 50 Thanksgiving boxes to families in need in our community.
- Raising much-needed funds for Meals on Wheels Eastern Onondaga County, Mercy Works, Blessings in a Backpack, Operation Northern Comfort, and Honor Flight Syracuse.
- Compassion Cooks serving meals to two families in need, as well as delivering a meal to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Syracuse University.
- Serving lunch at the Samaritan Center in November.

Growing our faith:



- Starting a new women's fellowship group.
- Having a confirmation class of 15 youth.
- Holding several fun youth activities in the Fall.
- Studying Politics and Faith, and learning about the Parables with Pastor Alan Rudnick.
- Starting a new women's bible study.

God gifted people in our congregation and on our staff with skills to respond to these needs, organize appropriate resources, and the energy to make them happen. Our financial gifts make it possible for us to even consider them.

As we complete our stewardship season, we humbly ask you to prayerfully consider how you can use the gifts God has given you to serve others through serving with Dewitt Community Church. Many thanks to those who have already submitted an Estimate of Giving for 2019. We know your life will be abundantly blessed by your generosity. If you haven't yet done so, you can still return your estimate of giving information to the church office.

Kim Buchanan, Rachel Roney, Rick Hall, Pastor Alan Rudnick & Dot Hill



Dec. 2, 9, & 16 @ 10 AM, Room 6

During Jesus' earthly ministry, one of the primary ways He would instruct His disciples was through parables. People would gather from far and wide in order to listen to what Jesus said. In this study taught by Pastor Alan, we will uncover: 1. What does God want us to learn from these parables? 2. What do these stories have to do with me and what can I learn? 3. How can I apply these truths and parables to my life? 4. What is the background to these stories? Each session is stand alone - don't worry about "signing up", just come!

Starting Point

Starting Point is the place for getting acquainted with DeWitt Community Church - finding a small group, learning about our ministries, and meeting church staff. Starting Point lasts for approximately 20 minutes and children are welcome to attend. Please feel free to grab some refreshments and join us in the Library. If you plan to attend Starting Point, please contact the church office: 315-445-0331 or office@dewittchurch.org.

The next Starting Point is January 13

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: January 6, February 24.**

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.

FAMILY MINISTRY



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

Young Singers, Young Ringers, & Treble Makers on hiatus. Resume regular schedule on January 6, 2019

Music Ministry for young people currently in rehearsal for annual Christmas pageant. Contact Gloria Trode for information.

Family Ministry Sunday Schedule

Nursery Rm 10, 9-10 am /Rm 45, 10am-12pm

Confirmation Rm 9, 10-11am

Pageant Rehearsal Gym, 10am-12pm

Sunday School Miller Commons, 10:55am-12pm

Parents: Please note that drop off and pickup for Sunday School pre-k through 5th grade is in Miller Commons.



Mary Chirello-Youth Ministry Director
Email: mchirello@dewittchurch.org
Call/Text: 315.247.0060

YOUTH NEWS & EVENTS!

Youth Chili Lunch

Join Us for our annual Youth Chili lunch Fundraiser!(Coinciding with the women's basket bazar) All chili will be \$5.00. We'll also have to-go containers as well! We hope you can join us!

Attention Middle School Students!

DCC partners with Wyldlife and hosts a wildlife club in the DCC gym. If you're in 6th-8th grade, please join us on December 13th, 7-8:30 for games, snacks and a bible lesson with lots of other kids your age.

Intergenerational Christmas Caroling

If you'd like to get into the Christmas spirit, please join us on Tuesday, December 11th for Caroling around our community. All ages welcome! We'll be meeting in Miller Commons at 6PM and carpooling to locations close by the church.

Calling all Bakers

We are looking for all those interested in baking or bringing cookies or a dessert items for our children's Christmas pageant on the 16th. The pageant begins at 12:30 so we kindly ask that all items are dropped off to the gym kitchen by 12PM.

Rev. Cindy Mapstone

Family & Congregational Care Minister
cmapstone@dewittchurch.org



From the Pastor of Family Ministry

Holiday Greetings,

Advent is a time of waiting in great expectation for the Christ child to be born. Christmas shows us just how deep God's love is for us in that the Son of God became human and came to earth. Jesus came not as a king, but as a lowly infant born in a manger. He was willing to experience human life with all its joys and sufferings, ups and downs, excitement and challenges. Jesus became human and fully embraced what it means to be fully human while still fully divine.

Each year as we remember God's great display of love, we should be mindful of all the ways we are able to show love to one another. We have many opportunities to come together as a church family to celebrate the birth of Christ. Please bring your friends and family and join us in the numerous opportunities to celebrate this Christmas season.

Here is a list of scheduled events for Christmas:

THE KING AND ME

Sunday, December 16th

We will present our annual Children's Christmas Pageant! Gloria Trode, our talented Children's Music Director is working hard with the children for this thrilling event. Lunch will be provided in the gym after the 11 am service with the pageant beginning at 12:30 pm.

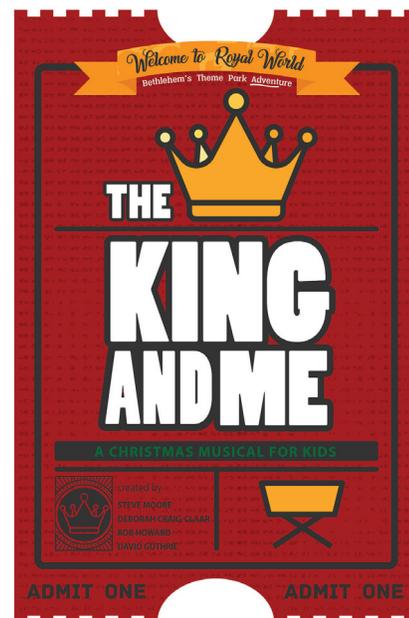
CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE:

Monday, December 24th

Families will gather at 4:30 pm in the sanctuary to celebrate Christmas. Come get in the Christmas spirit with special with music song by the children of our Church.

May God bless you and keep during this festive Holiday Season and throughout 2019.

Pastor Cindy Mapstone



COMPASSION MINISTRY

Compassion Cooks Christmas Cookie Containers

Monday, December 10, 2018 from 6-7:30 in Miller Commons.

We will be packing Christmas Cookie Containers to be distributed to shut-ins, those in Nursing homes and those living alone within our Congregation. If you are unable to attend, your donation of Cookies would be greatly appreciated. They can be dropped off at the church or you can contact Pastor Cindy by email at cmastone@dewittchurch.org to pick them up. If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving cookies, please let Pastor Cindy know.

All Church Christmas Caroling

Tuesday, December 11 from 6-8PM

All are invited to participate in caroling to our local nursing homes and shut-ins. We will be meeting at DCC at 6 PM on December 11th in Miller Commons to share a snack before heading out to sing. If you would like to be a driver or would like to participate, please contact Mary Chirello by December 7th - 315.247.0060 or mchirello@dewittchurch.org.

LOOK FOR THE CHRISTMAS GIVING POLE

This year the JDEFP -Jamesville DeWitt Ecumenical Food Pantry is asking for our help in fulfilling Christmas wishes. These wishes include hats, gloves, scarves, bath towels, fleece throws, sweatshirts, (and children have requested other items). If you wish to DONATE: please take a tag from the Giving Pole, sign up on the list with your name, phone number, email and the tag code number. Please RETURN wrapped gift with tag and code number showing to the office during office hours. After hours, please leave gifts in the bags provided in the Narthex and in Miller Commons. Please return gift no later than MONDAY, DECEMBER 17. Thank you for your generosity! Contact if needed: Craig Mabbett - cmabbett88@gmail.com

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

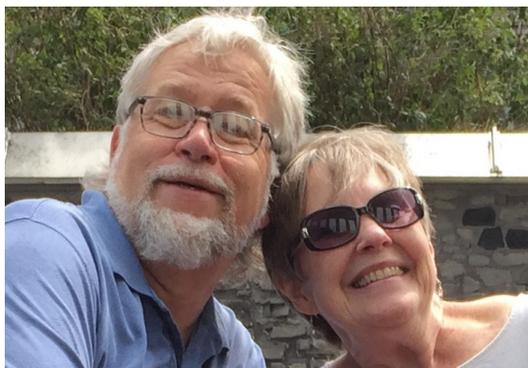
The Prayer Chain is group of members who commit to pray consistently for requests that come in the form of an e-mail. If you would like to receive prayer requests or no longer receive them, please alert Kay Paulsen, paulsenk@dewittchurch.org.

Our dear Dewitt Community Church family,

It is with a great deal of gratitude that we approach this particular holiday season. Bruce and I are enjoying our new bed, a result of the sacrificial gifts you gave in appreciation. Our hearts are touched by your generosity and we have the promise of years of restful, comfortable sleep because of it. We are looking forward to a long weekend away in the spring to Niagara on the Lake also, as a result of your generous retirement gifts. We feel loved and much appreciated. I am personally thankful for ten years of sharing your stories. You have invited me to be a part of some of life's most precious and/or difficult moments. We have shared last moments of life with your loved one, the joys of engagement, marriage, birth of children and grandchildren. We have walked through serious illness, grief and times of questioning. I am fortunate beyond measure as I count my blessings. Thank you for entrusting me with your most vulnerable moments. It is gratifying to see the ministries we began together grow and flourish under the marvelous leadership of Rev. Cindy Mapstone. What a gift she is to our church family. Thank you one and all for all the ways you enrich our life by being who you are.

In gratitude,

Bruce and Kay Paulsen



WE HAD A GREAT TURN OUT AND A LOT OF SUCCESS WITH BREAD BAKING! THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED AND VOLUNTEERED.

RETHINKING MARY AND JOSEPH'S PREDICAMENT



Much is made about Jesus' birth in the Christmas story, but often preachers do not comment on Mary's "situation": an unwed mother who is pregnant - and not by Joseph! How would Mary and Joseph explain this? Scripture does not tell us how the couple broke the news to the broader community. Socially, this would have been disastrous. Mary, most likely just a teenager, is visited by the angel Gabriel to

bring Good News: she is to give birth to the Anointed One of Israel. Luke chapter 1 reads:

"Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

Mary's pregnancy would cause Mary to be shunned out of her community. A scandal! To be pregnant before marriage was grounds for divorce. Within rabbinic Judaism, betrothal was a marriage contract which was a legally binding arrangement in the Jewish culture. Thus, a divorce would have been required. Joseph thought about leaving Mary, but a divine message changed that.

Some background on divorce and marriage may be helpful from the International Standard Bible Encyclopedia:

The advantage was always with the husband, and yet a wife was not utterly helpless, for she, too, though practically without legal rights, could make herself so intolerably burdensome and hateful in the home that almost any husband would gladly avail himself of his prerogatives and write her a bill of divorcement. Thus, though a wife could not divorce her husband, she could force him to divorce her.

Joseph had two options:

1. Joseph could continue the engagement and join Mary in her inexplicable pregnancy and marry her.
2. Following the law, Joseph could accuse Mary of sexual immorality and releasing her from their betrothal contract. The penalty for adultery was stoning.

Upcoming Fundraising Events for Africa Mission Trip

1. BOGO \$5 Delta Sonic Car Wash Gift Cards! Buy one Delta Sonic Gift Card for \$5, and get one FREE! Makes great stocking stuffers, gifts for teachers, neighbors, etc. and a practical gift for yourself and your cars. Look for the table set up in Miller Commons or the Narthex. Get some soon as they are going fast!

2. DINING FOR DOLLARS AT PANERA! On Thursday December 6 from 4-8 pm at the Panera down the road on Erie Boulevard in DeWitt, there will be a dining fundraiser. Eat-in or take-out and 20% of your check will be donated to the Africa Mission Trip. You can even order on-line! Be sure to have a copy of the coupon from this newsletter with you or show it on your phone!

Despite all the social and cultural implications, Joseph stays with Mary. Mary literally becomes the bearer of good news. Mary's faithfulness and strength are to be admired. May with Joseph's help bring God's good news to the world. Their story is a story of how God uses very unlikely people to accomplish God's wonderful plan for salvation. No matter what shame she did or did not feel, Mary still proclaimed of God's goodness in Luke 1:

*My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.*

May you, this Advent and Christmas season be a "bearer" of God's goodness to others in challenging times

Love and Grace,

Alan Rudnick

Rev. Alan Rudnick



DEWITT COMMUNITY CHURCH-AFRICA MISSION TRIP

WHERE 3409 Erie Boulevard East, Syracuse, NY 13214

WHEN Thurs, Dec 6th

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.*

Ordering Online for Rapid Pick-Up or Delivery?*
Enter "PRFUND" as your Promo Code to have a portion of your proceeds donated to your organization.

Learn more at Fundraising.PaneraBread.com

* Gift card purchases and catering orders are excluded and will not count toward the event. Rapid Pick-Up and Delivery only where available.

©2018 Panera Bread. All Rights Reserved.



December Worship

Mission of the Month - JD Ecumenical Food Pantry

"First Sunday of Advent: The Christmas Walk - Walking in the Dark "

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday December 1

Sunday, December 2

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Mission of the Month

"Second Sunday of Advent: The Christmas Walk - Prophet and Promise"

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday December 8

Sunday, December 9

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

"Third Sunday of Advent: The Christmas Walk - Walking the Walk "

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday December 15

Sunday, December 16

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

12:30 PM Christmas Pageant Musical/Gym

"Fourth Sunday of Advent : The Christmas Walk - A Song in Your Heart"

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday December 22

Sunday, December 23

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

"Christmas Eve: The Christmas Walk - Silent Nights"

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Monday, December 24

4:30 PM Family Service/Sanctuary

7, 9 & 11 PM Candlelight Service/Sanctuary

"A Christmas Story"

Rev. William A. Carlsen

Saturday December 29

Sunday, December 30

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

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. 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.