

DeWitt

Community Church

A Christian Church for all People



Celebrating 10 Years of Ministry Together

On Sunday, March 3 we will have a special service at 11 AM to commemorate Pastor Mark's 10th anniversary of ministry at DeWitt Community Church. A delicious buffet meal will follow in Miller Commons.

We encourage you to invite your friends and relatives who were married or baptized by Pastor Mark. If you would like to share a remembrance or message of encouragement please email office@dewittchurch.org or call 315-445-0331.



February Worship

Mission of the Month

American Red Cross: The Pillowcase Project

"Who's The Greatest?"

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday February 2 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, February 3 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary



Mission of the Month

"Go Away God! I'm a Hot Mess!"

Rev. Alan R. Rudnick

Saturday February 9 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, February 10 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary



"Love is a Choice"

Rev. Cindy Mapstone

Saturday February 16 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, February 17 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 February 23 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, February 24 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

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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 FEBRUARY

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, February 3

• 12:00 PM
Gab & Gather Women's
Fellowship (Miller Commons)

Monday, February 4

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

Wednesday, February 6

• 7:00 PM
Christian Caring Committee
(Library)

Thursday, February 7

• 2:30 PM
Wyldlife at JD Middle School

Friday, February 8

• 5:00 PM
IF:EQUIP Retreat Weekend
(TBD)

Saturday, February 9

• 9:00 AM
IF:EQUIP Retreat Weekend
(TBD)

Sunday, February 10

• 12:00 PM
Starting Point (Library)

Monday, February 11

• 11:30 AM
Sub Shop and Friends (Parlor)
• 6:00 PM
Compassion Cooks (Miller
Commons)
• 6:00 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Room 42)

Tuesday, February 12

• 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)

Wednesday, February 13

• 6:30 PM
Property Management
Committee (Room 42)

Thursday, February 14

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

Sunday, February 17

• 6:00 PM
Wyldlife Middle School Youth
Group at DCC (Gym)

Monday, February 18

President's Day - Office
Closed
• 5:30 PM
Stephen Minister Team
Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, February 19

• 7:00 PM
DeWitt Cemetery Association
Meeting (Library)

Sunday, February 24

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

Monday, February 25

• 11:30 AM
Sub Shop and Friends (Parlor)
• 6:00 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Room 42)

Tuesday, February 26

• 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Parlor)

Wednesday, February 27

• 7:00 PM
Board of Trustee Meeting
(Room 6)

Thursday, February 28

• 9:30 AM
IF:EQUIP Women's Bible
Study (Miller Commons)
• 10:00 AM
Cut-Ups (Room 6)
• 12:00 PM
Stewardship Team Meeting
(Library)
• 6:00 PM
Gab and Gather Volunteer
Meeting (Library)

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.

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 SENIOR MINISTER



One of my favorite professors in Seminary, Gam Shae, began each of his classes on Biblical interpretation by assigning three specific books. Each book offered a different perspective with competing ideas. He then assigned each student to write a paper supporting and defending each of these books. We then had open debates where we had to both present and defend these competing perspectives. The assignment challenged us to think outside of our own understandings, and at least consider alternative points of view.

John Wesley used a principle for Biblical interpretation that we now call the Wesley Quadrilateral, which includes Scripture, tradition, experience and reason. These four factors are to be considered when attempting to translate the words of Scripture and apply them in our modern world.

So often, I see (on Facebook) or hear people use a particular Scripture passage in order to defend their position without considering the history, context or the varying viewpoints of scholars relating to that text. The emphasis seems to be on winning an argument rather than being faithful to what the Scripture actually is addressing.

In this time where we find our culture increasingly divided, this idea of using Scripture as a weapon, is at best, counter productive. We need to be reminded that when Jesus was cornered and asks to identify the greatest commandment, he immediately went to the Old Testament passage from Deuteronomy 6:5-9 Love the Lordy our God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

While it is tempting and even fun at times to get into debate ideas, we need to be reminded that loving God and loving others is far more important that winning arguments.



Rejoicing Always!
Dr. Mark E. Sommers
Senior Minister

WELCOMING OUR NEW MEMBERS



Christine Smith:

I grew up in Pennsylvania, but have now lived in central New York longer than anywhere else. I'm self-employed as an

art director/designer. I work with a diverse mix of mostly local clients, but some national and international. Before moving here I lived in Santa Monica, California with my husband, now a professor at Syracuse University. We have two grown sons. Since much of my work is solitary, I enjoy volunteer opportunities that involve helping people and put me around people (and animals). I enjoy being an usher at church, working at the Samaritan Center, Red Cross Blood Drives, Helping Hounds, Kltty Corner and working in the inner city with young people.



Ramsay and Michelle Farah have been married for 16 years. They have 3 children, Mona (11 years old), Yara (9 years old) and Fouad (6 years old). Ramsay has been living in Syracuse since the age of 7 when his family immigrated from war-torn Lebanon in 1976. Michelle, also an immigrant from Lebanon, moved to Fulton with her family in 2002. Ramsay is blessed to have started his professional career as dermatologist by working with his father Fouad, who has retired 5 years

ago, but the blessing continues in that he works with his sister Joyce, also a dermatologist. Michelle received her doctorate degree in Biochemistry and Genetics from SUNY Upstate, and has in the past taught at Lemoyne college; she now currently manages the dermatology practice where both Joyce and Ramsay work, in addition to their teaching commitments to Upstate. Michelle and Ramsay are busy parents with the three kids, with all that involves, but the family particularly enjoys its activities centered around playing music in the family band, skiing and playing golf and tennis together. Michelle and Ramsay feel especially blessed to be surrounded by both sets of parents and the fellowship of extended family as well and look forward to being a part of the DCC church family.

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.



Fouad, Mona, & Ronnie Farah:

We, the Farah Family, immigrated to the U.S. from Beirut, Lebanon in 1976. Syracuse has since become our home. All four of our children were educated at Upstate Medical University, where their father was a professor in Dermatology and Medicine, actually establishing a dermatology program there, as well as founding a private practice, Farah Dermatology and Cosmetics, where Mona was office manager until 2016. Ronnie has been with the Veterans Administration as a radiologist since returning east after spending the eighties in San Diego, pulled back by family and our wonderful four seasons!

Stewardship News - Gifts From God, Gifts To God

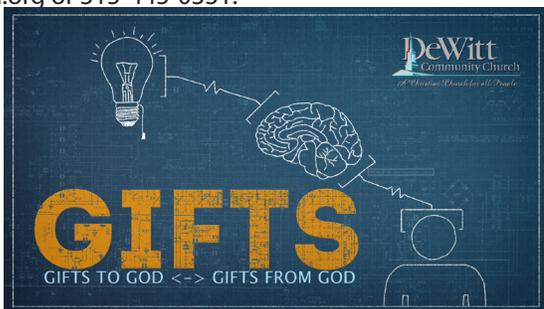
Many thanks to those who have returned a 2019 estimate of giving. Your planning has made it possible for us to frame our ministries for 2019 at DeWitt Community Church, in our community, and around the world. Your financial gifts make it possible for us to spread God's hope and love inside our church walls and outside to those in need. We thank you!

To date, we are behind our goal for 2019. We are in need of more funds to continue our important work, to recognize our outstanding staff, and to move our ministries forward in meaningful ways. **We are pleased to announce we have a matching gift opportunity for any new estimates or any increased estimates up to \$15,000 received before February 17, 2019!** Can we count on you to help us take advantage of this exciting opportunity and to help us reach our goal? Every amount helps--if you can give just a little, or even a little bit more, we can make great things happen with those resources!

Our Stewardship has been in full action at DCC already in 2019! Just since January 1st, we have prepared and served a meal to hundreds at the Samaritan Center, we have started a new bible study group with Pastor Alan, the women's IF Group has started a new book study, our Gab & Gather group has met for fellowship, and our small groups have kicked off the new year with many fun events! Our Stephen Ministry is strong and quietly walking along side many in need. Your financial gifts make all this possible.

Thank you for all you do! To make a new estimate or to increase your current estimate, please contact Jane Hahn in the Church office at office@dewittchurch.org or 315-445-0331.

The Stewardship Team:
Kim Buchanan, Rick Hall, Rachel Stewart, Pastor Alan Rudnick, Dot Hall



Gab & Gather

Sunday, February 3, 12 to 1:30 PM in Miller Commons.

What's the best way to get warm on a deep winter's day? Hot comforting soup! Come on by Gab and Gather on Sunday, February 3. All DCC women are invited. No sign-up, no agenda, just come when



it's convenient for you and stay as long as you like. We'll be in Miller Commons from Noon to 1:30. Feel free to bring a friend. This month we have something new and fun planned for you (besides the menu)! Need childcare? We can provide that with one week's notice. Questions? Want to volunteer? Contact Petie Rein petie7471@yahoo.com or 315-637-0510. Hope to see you there!

Sing with the Choir on Good Friday

The Chancel Choir will present Michael John Trotta's setting of Seven Last Words of Christ this year on April 19th (Good Friday.) The piece is a spectacular new setting of the familiar final words of Christ scored for choir, soloists and orchestra.

I am very excited for the opportunity to present this new piece to the congregation but would also love to have new people to help present it. We will rehearse the piece from 7-7:30 on Thursday nights in the choir room before working on our Sunday morning anthems.

If you are interested in joining us for this piece, the only "requirement" is a willingness to sing. We are always happy to have new members and this is a great opportunity to try out the choir. If you have any questions please contact me, Abel Searor, at asearor@dewittchurch.org.

DCC's Mission Trip to Africa: Countdown & Update

In less than 5 months Dewitt Community Church will be sending out 4 ambassadors, to partner with HOPE for Ariang, on the inaugural mission trip to Kenya and South Sudan. The team of Kim Buchanan, Erica Johnson, Elizabeth Wimer and Quinn Wimer will travel during the last two weeks of June to represent the church in learning and service. In addition to the ambassadors, committee members Elizabeth Chapman and Chrissy Rudnick have been planning and fundraising for this trip. Your support has been a critical part of our fundraising efforts. You have eaten at Panera and UNO's, bought jewelry and Delta Sonic gift cards, participated in the Pancake Breakfast and Peddling with Pastor, and made individual donations that contributed in total over \$1500 to the trip. The team needs about \$16,000 to fund the first mission trip and, thanks to support from the Christian Caring committee as well as financial investments made by each traveler, there is only about \$5,000 left until the trip is fully funded.

You can show support by simply asking any of the committee members for an update – your interest in the developments encourages the team as they work for the final few thousand dollars. In addition to your prayers, specifically praying for financial needs to be met, please pray for God's peace to settle into both those traveling and their friends and family who remain at home. Please remember Gabriel & Liz Deng, as well the staff and family on the ground in Africa who have been instrumental in planning for this partnership and will be critical in working with the team during the visit. Your continued financial support is welcome – either by donating directly to the mission trip (clearly designate your donation for the "Africa Mission Trip") or by participating in Spring fundraisers that will include another dining out evening at Panera on Valentine's Day (2/14), an ice skating event in March and more! Stay tuned to the church bulletins and check the church app for details on upcoming events.



A NOTE TO THE CONGREGATION



*"Cold winds blowin'! Snow is drivin' everyone insane.
Hard rain's fallin'! Pitter-patter down your windowpane.
If precipitation is spoilin' all your plans,
Just call information up - ask for the weatherman"*
-Delbert McClinton; from "Groundhog Day"

The middle of winter is rapidly approaching - accompanied by another arctic blast. At times the winter seems endless. I'm reminded of the movie "Groundhog Day," the story of a weatherman Phil Connors sent to report on the groundhog forecasting festivities in Punxsutawney, PA only to become trapped in an endless time loop. Phil is a bit of a jerk (to put it mildly). As he realizes he's reliving the same day over and over again, he initially reacts with reckless behavior, destruction and depression. Eventually, he becomes less selfish and uses the time to improve himself, and his relationships - thereby escaping the loop. As the movie reviewer Roger Ebert so eloquently wrote "Tomorrow will come, and whether or not it is always Feb. 2, all we can do about it is be the best person we know how to be. The good news is that we can learn to be better people."

One month from now, on March 3, we'll have an opportunity to look back and celebrate our accomplishments at DeWitt Community Church. Through the years we've continued to work towards making our church better. We've maintained traditional worship while also creating a chapel service in the more casual atmosphere of Miller Commons. Ten years ago there was no Stephen Ministry to provide support for people experiencing a difficult time or loss. Children and youth programs, adult gatherings, bible study, volunteering in the community are just a few of the ways to connect and grow at church. The church building has seen improvements as well including interiors, roof replacement and new boilers.

Ultimately though, it's the people who make the church. Let it be said that the warmth of our hearts at DeWitt Community Church will see us through our long and lustrous winter.

Blessings to you all!

Eric W. Witschi, President

ARE YOU SPIRITUALLY FLOURISHING?



In life, we tend to talk about success, victory, or awards as an affirmation of a job well done. We say, "Oh, that artist is really flourishing." Or, "She is really flourishing in her field." However, does that translate to your spiritual life? When do you ever get a sense of "well-done" in your faith?

As I have journeyed in the past year and a half, I have been a part of the Fuller Theological Seminary spiritual formation cohorts for pastors, chaplains, and ministry leadership. Through spiritually led retreats, we have journeyed through spiritual, emotional, physical, and mental practices that lead to human spiritual flourishing. Human spiritual flourishing is not about us, it is about God. That is, what practices that when coupled together (e.g. prayer, meditation, rest, reflection, exercise, service, retreat, study, etc...) help with our whole being for healthy and spiritual living?

Unfortunately, we tend to have a dual-thinking mind. There is my spiritual life and then there is the rest of my life. Or, there is my work and then family. Or, there is what I do at church and what I do outside the church. Spiritual author Richard Rohr speaks to a type of dual thinking as:

"The dualistic mind is essentially binary, either/or thinking. It knows by comparison, opposition, and differentiation. It uses descriptive words like good/evil, pretty/ugly, smart/stupid, not realizing there may be a hundred degrees between the two ends of each spectrum. Dualistic thinking works well for the sake of simplification and conversation, but not for the sake of truth or the immense subtlety of actual personal experience. Most of us settle for quick and easy answers instead of any deep perception, which we leave to poets, philosophers, and prophets. Yet depth and breadth of perception should be the primary arena for all authentic religion. How else could we possibly search for God?"

Rohr is quick to point out that there is some need of dual thinking, but it only gets us so far:

"We do need the dualistic mind to function in practical life, however, and to do our work as a teacher, a nurse, a scientist, or an engineer. It's helpful and fully necessary as far as it goes, but it just doesn't go far enough. The dualistic mind cannot process things like infinity, mystery, God, grace, suffering, sexuality, death, or love; this is exactly why most people stumble over these very issues."

Seeing our whole life as our spiritual life is critical to human spiritual flourishing. If we think about our life separated with the "non-God stuff" and "churchy stuff", then we embody a duality that leads to separating all of yourself from God. Fuller Theological Seminary center for spiritual life sees human spiritual flourishing this way:

"This embodied spiritual flourishing can only occur in communities of persons, most particularly the church. Therefore, we must recognize our responsibility for one another, and we must be open to let others be responsible for us! However, because of our usual bent toward individuality, it is too easy for us to let the church become only a means of individual spiritual nourishment that is nice if you can make it, but not critical to spiritual life. When spirituality becomes disconnected from a community, the church, it ends up being a form of heroic quest in which each individual travels alone in his or her own inner spiritual world."

In order to attain spiritual flourishing, we must do three things:

1. Be willing to be led.
2. Be willing to open to new experiences.
3. Be willing to do it with others.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will have opportunities for this spiritual flourishing. Look for opportunities at DeWitt Community Church that seek to aid you in the quest for spiritual flourishing: small groups, study, worship, service, and reflection.

Love and Grace,

Rev. Alan Rudnick

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 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.

Help Compassion Cooks Prepare Soup Bags

On Monday, February 11th in Miller Commons from 6-7:30 pm, we will pack soup supper bags for those living alone without family nearby. We are in need of donations of home made soup, fruit that can be transported, crackers, and candy. We also need generous helpers to deliver the bags to those in need. If you if there is anyone who should be added to the distribution list, can help with donations, delivery, or packing the bags please contact Cindy Mapstone: cmapstone@dewittchurch.org or 315.447.0613.

I Get By With A Little Help From My Friends...

We all need a concerned, caring friend at difficult times in our lives. A Stephen Minister can listen and care for you or for someone you know who is going through a tough time. We have available Stephen Ministers to help right now! Contact Pastor Cindy Mapstone at cmapstone@dewittchurch.org or see one of our Stephen Leaders: Judi Wilson, Kay Paulsen, or Dot Hall.

Photos from the Stephen Ministers Holiday Gathering



Mission of the Month: Red Cross - The Pillowcase Project

Origin

The Pillowcase Project was created by the American Red Cross in Southeast Louisiana and implemented in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Kay Wilkins, Southeast Louisiana regional executive, had learned that Loyola University students carried their valuables in pillowcases when they were evacuated for Katrina. This inspired Wilkins and her team to work with an art therapist to create a program in which children living in makeshift communities across New Orleans decorated pillowcases as emergency supplies kits. Soon, The Pillowcase Project became a preparedness education program for elementary school students, and in just a few years was adapted and implemented by several other Red Cross chapters with substantial success. Between 2013 and 2016, the Red Cross redesigned the program, pilot tested it in



American Red Cross
Central New York Chapter

several communities, and expanded it nationwide. The Pillowcase Project is now the signature youth preparedness program for the Red Cross and is available throughout the country.

Vision

The Pillowcase Project will help create a generation of children who understand the science of hazards, are empowered to take action preparing for emergencies, and are excited to help create a prepared community by sharing what they have learned with family and friends.

Learning Objectives

Students who participate in The Pillowcase

Project will be able to:

- Identify the best ways to stay safe during emergencies that can occur in their communities.
- Identify the best ways to prevent and stay safe during a home fire.
- Use coping skills to help manage stress during emergencies and in everyday situations.
- Gain confidence in their abilities to be prepared for emergencies through hands-on activities.
- Use their knowledge to act as advocates for emergency preparedness in their homes and communities.
- Discuss the role science plays in emergency preparedness.
- Understand and communicate the work of the Red Cross in their communities.

FAMILY MINISTRY



Gloria Trode-Director of Children's Music
gtrode@dewittchurch.org
Call/Text: 404-791-7723

"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME; DO NOT STOP THEM; FOR IT IS TO SUCH AS THESE THAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS. TRULY I TELL YOU, WHOEVER DOES NOT RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD AS A LITTLE CHILD WILL NEVER ENTER IT." AND HE TOOK THEM UP IN HIS ARMS, LAID HIS HANDS ON THEM, AND BLESSED THEM."
-MARK 10:13-16 (NRSV).

Where Are We Headed?

Mary Chirello and I have been working with Pastor Cindy since September 2018. I would like to take this opportunity tell you a little bit about what we've been up to.

Children in Worship-we are committed to have children and youth participate in the worship service once a month. When the children are in worship, a children's message is always included in that service. We always meet in Miller Commons at 10:55, the children are brought into the sanctuary by their Sunday School Leaders and return to their Sunday School rooms after the children's sermon.

Did you know that we learn songs and hymns from our new hymnal during our time together in Miller Commons on the remaining Sundays? When the children are confident with a song/hymn we bring have them sing it for the congregation. Even the shy ones, because there is strength in numbers. I call that group "Sunday Praise Kids."

*Sunday Praise Kids sing "This is the Day" Hymn # 652
in Worship @ 11 a.m. on Sunday, February 24, 2019*

Sunday Music Ministry for Young People

Young Singers 9:45-10:15AM in Room 9
All children Elementary through Grade 8 (able to read words)

Treble Makers 10:20-10:50 AM In Room 7
All children Kindergarten through Grade 3

Young Ringers 10:20-10:50 AM In Room 9
All Children and Youth Grades 4 and up

Thank you to everyone who attended our 2018 Christmas Pageant "The King and Me." Lots of families dedicate their time and talents so that we can share the joy of Christ's birth. It warms my heart to hear how much it is appreciated (especially our actors)!

Special thanks to Lauren Mosier who has worked beside me in Music Ministry for Young People since 2015. Lauren has moved to NYC for her final semester as a Musical Theater major at Syracuse University. Lauren is an excellent co-worker who is loved by the children (and me) and will be missed.

Thank you to the children who were able to sing at the 4:30 p.m. Family Worship Service this year. This is the second year that we have been able to present, from memory, three had picked songs from the Christmas pageant. Thank you to their dedicated families, we couldn't do it without your commitment and support.

Young Singers/Young Ringers will present in Worship @ 11AM on: March 31, 2019 , April 14, 2019 & May 19, 2019

Rev. Cindy Mapstone
Family & Congregational Care Minister
cmapstone@dewittchurch.org



SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:55 PM In Miller Commons
All Children Kindergarten through Grade 5

New Sunday School Curriculum

Beginning February 3, 2019 we are using "Feasting on the Word" Curriculum. Designed to encourage cooperative learning across a wide age range, children ages 5-12 will experience Scripture through storytelling, drama, and activities that appeal to various learning styles.

Resources Include:

- Teacher-friendly leader guide
- Comprehensive yet accessible biblical background for teachers
- Reproducible resource sheets for each session
- Age-appropriate activities that stimulate children's discovery
- Child - friendly music incorporated into the lesson outline
- Full-color visuals for each session in the seasonal Color Packs

Important News for Family Ministry:

- **No Youth Worship or Confirmation on February 17th due to Winter Break**
- **Confirmation to Samaritan Center on February 24th instead of class. 12PM-3PM with Pizza to follow**
- **Praise Kids in Worship at 11AM on February 24th**

Please key an eye out for Youth Events coming in February and March!



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





Africa Mission Trip Fund raiser at Fayetteville Panera

It has been said that the way to someone’s heart is through his/her stomach. Well, here’s a chance to show your love and support the Africa Mission Trip at the same time! There will be a dining fundraiser at the Panera in Fayetteville from 4-8 pm on Thursday, February 14th. You can dine in, or order on-line for pick-up or delivery. Simply take the coupon to the cafe or use code “PRFUND” for an on-line order and 20% of your bill will be donated to the Africa Mission Trip. Think about it - good food for a family dinner out, great to take home for the kids and babysitter if you’re heading out for date night, or simply an easy way to support the mission. So mark your calendars and grab the coupon for a lovely Valentine’s Day dinner!



HELP SUPPORT

DEWITT COMMUNITY CHURCH-AFRICA MISSION TRIP

WHERE 530 Towne Drive, Fayetteville, NY 13066

WHEN Thurs, Feb 14th

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.

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.