



April Worship

Mission of the Month-ARISE On The Farm

Life Changing Encounters: A Different Kind of Greatness

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday April 6 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, April 7 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Mission of the Month

Palm Sunday: Guilty As Charged

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday April 13 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, April 14 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday - Remembering the Last Supper

Rev. Alan R. Rudnick

Thursday, April 18 7:30 PM Worship Service/Miller Commons
Communion

Good Friday

Friday, April 19 12:00 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 7:30 PM Good Friday Concert
 "Seven Last Words of Christ"/Sanctuary

EASTER: Breakthrough

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, April 20 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, April 21 9:00 AM Early Service/Sanctuary
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

The First Sunday of Easter

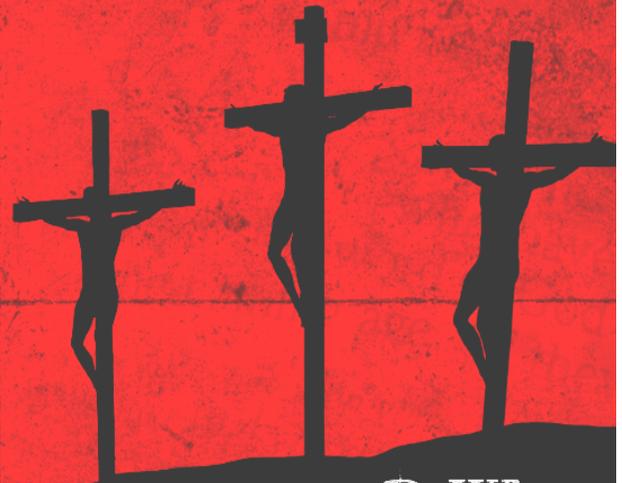
Rev. Cindy Mapstone

Saturday April 27 5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 Sunday, April 28 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

**GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19 7:30 PM
 DEWITT COMMUNITY CHURCH**

SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

BY MICHAEL JOHN TROTTA



DeWitt
 Community Church
A Christian Church for all People

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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 APRIL

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

5:30 PM

Disciple Bible Study (Parlor)

6:30 PM

Community Bible Study
(Miller Commons)

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)

Monday, April 1

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

Wednesday, April 3

• 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM
Christian, Not What You
Think Study (Parlor)

Thursday, April 4

• 6:00 PM
Wyldlife Middle School Youth
Club (Gym)
• 12:00 PM
Starting Point (Library)

Sunday, April 7

• 12:00 PM
Congregational Meeting
(Miller Commons)

Monday, April 8

• 6:00 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Room 42)

Tuesday, April 9

• 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Parlor)
• 7:00 PM
Christian Caring Committee
(Parlor)

Wednesday, April 10

• 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM
Christian, Not What You
Think Study (Parlor)

Thursday, April 11

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

Sunday, April 14

Palm Sunday
• 12:00 PM
Starting Point (Parlor)

Monday, April 15

• 11:30 AM
Sub Shop & Friends (Parlor)

Tuesday, April 16

• 7:00 PM
Cemetery Association Annual
Meeting (Parlor)

Wednesday, April 17

• 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM
Christian, Not What You
Think Study (Parlor)
• 5:30 PM
Advisory Dinner (Library)
• 6:00 PM
Property Management
Committee (Library)
• 7:00 PM
Board of Trustees Meeting
(Room 6)

Thursday, April 18

• 7:30 PM
Maundy Thursday Service
(Miller Commons)

Friday, April 19

• 7:30 PM
Maundy Thursday Service
(Miller Commons)

Monday, April 22

• 6:00 PM
Stephen Ministry Peer
Supervision (Room 42)
• 6:00 PM
Compassion Cooks (Miller
Commons)

Tuesday, April 23

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

Wednesday, April 24

• 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM
Christian, Not What You
Think Study (Parlor)

Thursday, April 25

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

Saturday, April 27

• 9:00 AM
WA Craft Sale (Gym))

PALM SUNDAY Pretzel Sale

Sunday, April 14, we'll be holding our annual Confirmation Pretzel Sale for Palm Sunday. All confirmation students are required to attend and help out but if any other youth want to volunteer to help we'd love to have you! Contact Mary to let her know if you're able to volunteer, 315.247.0060 or mchirello@dewittchurch.org.

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 April 14

WE WENT ICE SKATING!!!

And if you couldn't make it, here's a look at the FUN!!!!

FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER



During this season of Lent, we as a congregation have been focused on the life changing encounters that different Biblical characters had with Jesus and how those encounters might speak into our lives. Each of these encounters were "spiritual breakthroughs" that had a transformational impact.

Those of us who have been follower of Christ for any period of time probably can identify "breakthrough" experiences where where we began to see and understand life at least a little differently. What I'm talking about are those uh-ha moments where something becomes suddenly clear to us. Maybe it was during a time of prayer or in worship. Maybe it was meditating on Scripture or serving at the Samaritan Center. Perhaps it was even during a sermon, where you suddenly experienced a new way of seeing things.

This year, the theme of Easter weekend at DeWitt is focused on this idea of Spiritual Breakthroughs, where we suddenly see or understand differently because of our encounter with God. We live in a time and in a community where people have often distanced themselves from God and the transformational power of faith in Christ.

My hope is that each of us will reach out and invite a friend, neighbor, coworker or family member that does not attend church. Invite them to come with you to one of the three Easter services. It may just be your invitation that becomes the catalyst for spiritual breakthrough and a life changing encounter.

Rejoicing Always!

Dr. Mark E. Sommers
Senior Minister



NEWS & NOTES

NEWS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee at DeWitt Community Church is responsible for finding and involving volunteers in the leadership of the church. The committee seeks to match volunteer gifts skills and abilities with the strategic needs of the church. If you have an interest in any of the open positions please contact Dave Pridgen dave.Pridgen@coldwellbankerprime.com and Dave will set up a time to meet and discuss the openings and the skills required for the position.

Current Needs for the 2019-20 program year as of March 15, 2019

Church Clerk:

- Keeps minutes at Board of Trustee and Congregational Meetings. Keep accurate records of church transitions. Requires attendance at 6-8 Trustee Meetings per year plus quarterly and Annual Meetings.
- Gifts / Skills Writing skills, attention to detail and follow up. Wisdom and discernment as this person is involved in strategic decision at the Board level

Missions / Christian Caring:

- 3 People Needed
- Meets 8-9 times a year. Interviews potential Mission of the Month Candidates. Reviews and approves funds for mission projects. Serves as a catalyst to involve member of the congregation in hands on involvement.
- Gifts / Skills Discernment, Compassion, Strategic Decision Making, Ability to listen. Passion for volunteerism and serving others

Treasurer for Missions

- Works with Church Book Keeper on tracking and reporting Missions funds.

Women's Association Arts & Crafts Sale

Saturday, April 27, 9 AM to 3 PM - Gym

Just in time for Mother's Day. Come and shop, and bring a friend. Over 50 local artists and crafters will be selling their amazing products. Chose from jewelry, birdhouses, paintings, photography, knitted crocheted and quilted items, handmade bags & totes, handmade soaps and lotions, greeting cards, baby items, home decor, Avon, woodworking, repurposed items, yard art and much more. Along with the Arts & Crafts Show will be our Spring Bake Sale. There is something for everyone.



Operation Northern Comfort Needs Help

Come and join the fun by helping Operation Northern Comfort's Crawfish/Clam Festival on Saturday May 4th in Clinton Square. This is ONC's only fundraiser and Syracuse's first outdoor festival of the year. We expect to sell 4000 pounds of crawfish, 2000 clams, gumbo, jambalaya and beignets to 8000 festival goers. About 200 volunteers are needed. Operation Northern Comfort is a non-profit that helps those in need in CNY by fixing homes, building wheelchair ramps, painting and helping other no-profits in the area. Most volunteers work 2 to 4 hour shifts selling tickets, preparing, cooking and serving food, helping with setup and cleanup, working at children's games and other odd jobs. We are especially in need of volunteers that can help with cleanup at the end of the day. Volunteers will receive a \$5 food voucher and everlasting gratitude. Call Warren Machell at 315 457 6868 or 315 935 5593 anytime



IF: EQUIP ♡

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
Present OVER Perfect
LEAVING BEHIND FRANTIC FOR A SIMPLER, MORE SOULFUL WAY OF LIVING
SHAUNA NIEQUIST
FOREWORD BY BRENE BROWN

**9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
SECOND AND FOURTH
THURSDAYS DURING
APRIL, MAY, AND THE
FIRST HALF OF JUNE IN
MILLER COMMONS**

NEW STUDY: WHY? MAKING SENSE OF GOD'S WILL



Sundays @ 10 AM, Room 6,
April 28-May 19

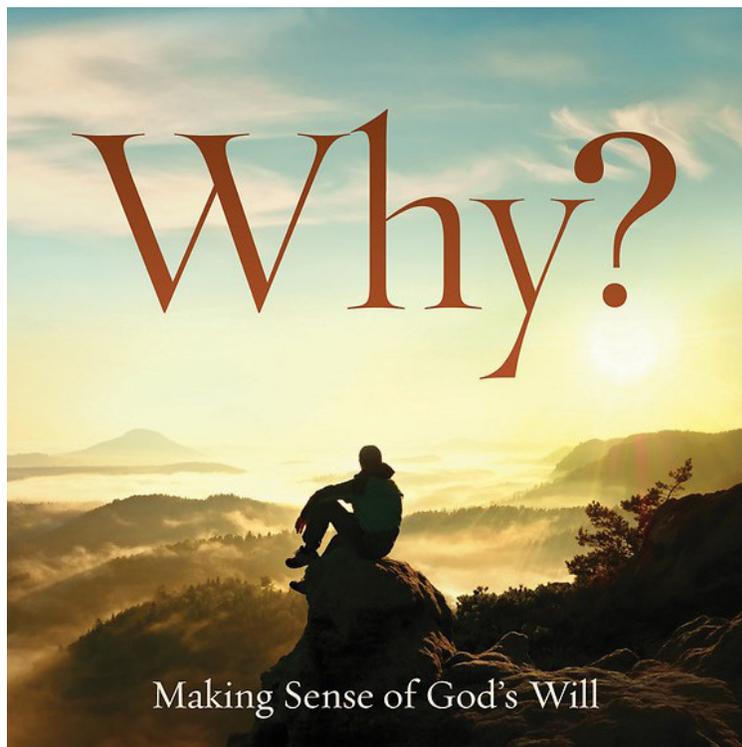
As Christians, we often struggle with making sense of God's will. We see or experience tragedies, pain, or loss and wonder, "Why, God?" When the waters rise, washing away a community's hopes and dreams; when a child suffers neglect

and abuse; when violence tears apart nations where is God? If God is all powerful, and if each one of us is a beloved child of God, then how can God allow tragedy and suffering to mar his creation? In this DVD study based on Adam Hamilton's book "Why?" we will seek to respond to these questions: Why do the innocent suffer? Why do my prayers go unanswered? What can't I see God's will for my life? Why God's love prevails? Join in for this 4-week study as we look past simplistic answers and go deeper into God's word.

Love and Grace,

Alan Rudnick

Rev. Alan Rudnick



Follow along with our Online Lenten Devotional

We are publishing daily devotionals to our email, app, and Facebook users from **Lent For Everyone** by N.T. Wright.

A NOTE TO THE CONGREGATION

Message from the Board President:

*"Little darling, it's been a long cold lonely winter
Little darling, it feels like years since it's been here
Here comes the sun, Here comes the sun, and I say
It's all right"*

George Harrison

The return of longer days brings with it anticipation. I'm impatient for the transformations of spring, but the seasons keep their own time and we must all wait. Never the less, it's not too soon to prepare for the warmer days ahead.

At our recent Trustees meeting the topic of summer worship services (June 23 - September 1) came up for discussion. The Music & Worship Committee recommends eliminating the 8:00 AM outdoor service and moving up the 10:00 AM service to 9:30 AM instead. The Saturday 5:30 PM service would remain unchanged. In fact the early 8 AM service has been only lightly attended – averaging about 23 people each week. Eliminating the early service would also result in some cost savings for soloists and

custodial staff. The Trustees are open to this change; however, we would like to hear from the congregation. Please feel free to share your opinion with me by note or e-mail through the main office. I look forward to your thoughts. We expect to finalize this change at our Annual Meeting on June 12.

During this time of Lent I would like to remind everyone that the work of the church is made possible by your donations and volunteer efforts. We recently had 30 volunteers at the Samaritan Center serving some 300 meals. Another volunteer opportunity to help those in need arrives May 4 with the Crawfish Festival sponsored by Operation Northern Comfort. On the other hand, the past several months have been difficult financially with donations falling behind what we anticipated. We hope the situation turns around this spring. Remember your contributions are welcome no matter how large or small.

Blessings to you all!

Eric W. Witschi, President

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

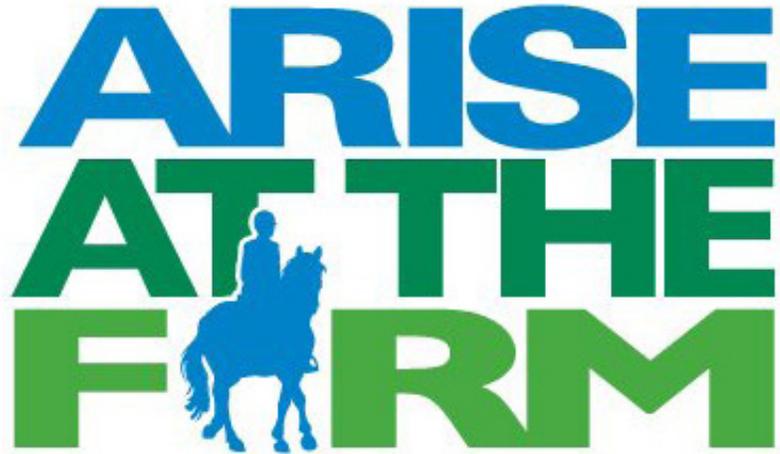
The Prayer Chain is group of members who commit to pray consistently for requests that come in the form of an e-mail. If you would like to receive prayer requests or no longer receive them, please alert Kay Paulsen, paulsenk@dewittchurch.org.

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR MARK

I want to thank all of you for being part of the 10 Years of Ministry Celebration on March 3rd. Together we have accomplished a great deal in our time together as Pastor and Congregation. Thank you so much for the many cards and letters, and a special thanks to all who made the dinner and the celebration such a wonderful event. A special thanks to the Lozoponi family for spearheading the dinner, to Mary Chirello and Pastor Cindy for using their superb organizational skills, and to Peter Hawley for the video tribute. It was a fun day and good to celebrate our ministry together. Thank You!



Mission of the Month - ARISE On The Farm



As a non-profit, community-based organization we work to ensure that everyone, regardless of disability, has the power to make life choices and achieve their dreams. Navigating the world of disability services can often be confusing and overwhelming for many families. Whether you have a simple question or have no idea where to start, we're here to help.

Since 1979, we have provided opportunities so that people with disabilities can live freely and independently in the community. Everything we do is based on the independent living philosophy, the belief that people with disabilities have a right to

self-determination – the freedom to make choices and work toward achieving personal goals and systems change.

ARISE at the Farm is our accessible, inclusive recreation center located on a 77-acre working horse farm in Chittenango, NY. Focused on the needs and interests of individuals with disabilities in the Central New York region, ARISE at the Farm is open throughout the year and offers a variety of recreational activities. From therapeutic horseback riding to summer camps, an accessible fishing pond, and a high ropes course, all ARISE at the Farm programs are inclusive and welcome people of all abilities. ARISE relies on

the energy and talent of volunteers to help us accomplish all that we do. Our dedicated volunteers are instrumental as we advocate for the interests of nearly 3,000 people with disabilities and their families each year. With your support, we can help even more people live independently, and can make a greater impact on societal attitudes and government policies.

To make a financial gift, please use the contribution envelopes available in the pews and check "Mission of the Month." Visit ariseinc.org for more information or to volunteer.

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).

Sunday Music Ministry for Young People

Young Singers 9:45-10:15 AM 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

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

SEND YOUR
9TH-12TH
GRADERS ON
A JOURNEY
INTO THE
HEART OF
SYRACUSE!



Learn more & register at www.summerservants.com

**JULY 14-18 COST:\$250 DEADLINE MAY 31
CONTACT MARY**

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



SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:55 AM In Miller Commons
All Children Kindergarten through Grade 5



YOUTH WORSHIP
11 AM In Room 8
Grades 6 through 12
Mary Chirello-Youth Ministry Director
Email: mchirello@dewittchurch.org
Call/Text: 315.247.0060

#Glowhard Capture the Flag is Back!
May 25 from 7-9 PM - DCC

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



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AUGUST 12-16 9AM-12PM

Making Jesus real to kids...

ROAR VBS will be the mane event at DCC this Summer. Come and enjoy our epic African adventure. Sign up the whole herd for an engaging exploration into God's goodness and celebrates a ferocious faith that powers us through this wild life.

Please bring your child between 8:45 and 9:00 each day to ensure a smooth transition at drop-off.

Cost is \$25 for one child, \$50 for two children or more than two children. Kids who have attended Pre-K & Kindergarten through 5th Grade are welcome!

Please contact Gloria Trode if you have any questions (445-0331 gtrode@dewittchurch.org)



DeWitt
Community Church
A Christian Church for all People



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

Holy Week



SERVICES

Palm Sunday Weekend Worship

April 13- Saturday, 5:30 PM (Miller Commons)

April 14 Sunday - 9 AM (Miller Commons) & 11 AM (Sanctuary)

Maundy Thursday - April 18

7:30 PM, Service of Holy Communion (Miller Commons)

Good Friday - April 19

12:00 Noon, Good Friday Service (Miller Commons)

Sanctuary open for Meditation after the service until 3:00 PM

7:30 PM, A musical observance of Good Friday (Sanctuary)

The Seven Last Words of Christ by Michael John Trotta

Easter Weekend Worship

Saturday, April 20 - 5:30 PM in Miller Commons

Sunday, April 21 - 9 AM & 11 AM in the 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.