

# OCTOBER

## newsletter



Just as CPR helps you assist an individual having a heart attack, Mental Health First Aid helps you assist someone experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis. In the Mental Health First Aid course, you learn risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, strategies for how to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations, and where to turn for help. Friday evening will start with a light dinner at 5:30 in Miller Commons, with the workshop running from 6-8 pm. Saturday's session will run from 9 am-4 pm, with a continental breakfast and lunch provided. The cost for participants is \$25 per person. If the cost is prohibitive, scholarships are available. If you would like to attend the Mental Health First Aid Workshop, please contact the Dewitt Community Church Office @ 315-445-0331 or [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org). Come and join us in discovering the resources which will be a source of support, encouragement and hope to all those who participate.

## October Worship

Mission of the Month - Fellowship of Christian Athletes

### *"Playing the Hand that You're Dealt"*

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

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

Mission of the Month

COMMUNION AT ALL SERVICES

### *"The Church as a Safe Place for Healing"*

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, October 12	5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 13	9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
	11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

### *"Taking Care of the Temple"*

Rev. Alan R. Rudnick

Saturday, October 19	5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 20	9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
	11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

### *"Soul Food"*

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Mapstone

Saturday, October 26	5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
Sunday, October 27	9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons
	11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

## 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.





## *From the Senior Minister*

As many of you are probably aware, I announced my intention to retire as your senior minister in September of 2021. I began serving as a youth director when I was a college freshman and have been on a church staff since the fall of 1975. That will equate to 46 years on a church staff at the time of my retirement; 42 years' full time and 37 years since ordination. While much has changed over the years, my belief in the church as God's hands and feet has not changed. While I am well aware of the imperfections that churches have because they are comprised of imperfect people (like me) we gather to worship God and do God's work to the best of our ability. I have had a ring side seat to witness the transformational power of the local church, when we get things right...which we do, quite often.

The retirement conversation began with key leaders in 2017, when I informed them that my intention was to retire after Easter, 2020. After a series of conversations with church leaders in 2018, three different scenarios were presented to the Board of Trustees at their meeting in December 2018. The scenario approved by the board extended my retirement date to September 2021. As part of that scenario I was granted the opportunity to take a sabbatical leave for a few months this spring, which was a part of my original agreement, that a sabbatical would be considered after 7 years of service. I was also extended additional vacation time.

It often takes 18 months to 2 years or longer to secure a senior minister, so this scenario provides the church with time for a thorough search process; conducting a self-study and to identify the core competencies needed for the next senior leader, and to conduct a search. For a non-denominational mainline congregation such as ours, this process is often more challenging as we lack the pool of candidates that denominations are often able to provide.

In this time where many congregations are struggling, especially mainline congregations, I feel we are in a good place and that the future of this 208-year-old congregation is bright. Over the past decade, we have grown younger, more diverse and we see many more people involved in hands-on ministry. We have completed over two million dollars in capital projects, upgrading our facilities and added over one million dollars to our endowment fund which allows us to expand our ministry in the community.

In the past two fiscal years, our general fund income has been at its highest level since 2001. In addition to all of this, I believe we have an excellent staff that is very gifted and committed to helping us live out our mission; **Connecting** people to Christ, **Growing** people to Spiritual Maturity, and using our gifts **Serve** God, by serving others.

While there are a several things that I want to see us address as a congregation in the next two years, a smooth transition to the next senior leader is among the most important. On Thursday evening, October 10, there will be a congregational dinner followed by an informational session and time for questions and answers.

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work during the summer and will be presenting their recommendations to the Board for a 12-member Senior Minister Search Committee (as the Church Constitution requires) along with 6 alternates. The Nominating Committee has been very deliberate to assure that the committee is diverse in its make up, both in gender and age along with church experience and backgrounds.

As we move into this time of transition, I believe it is essential to trust in the process and the work of the committee. I encourage you to pray for them, that God's spirit might guide them in this process. My guess is that they will be seeking feedback for the congregation at an appropriate time. Again, I think it is important for all of us to trust the work of this committee and avoid pushing individual agendas.

I want to close with this. Even with the challenges that churches of all kinds are facing at this time of dramatic cultural change, I believe that this congregation has a unique ability to be a game changer for Christ in Central New York. It will require us to continue to be focused on mission, and creative in our approach. It will not be dependent on finding some "super pastor" who makes everything happen, but on using all of the gifts of everyone to be salt and light, to be game changers, for Central New York and beyond.



## Message from the Board President:

*"Don't you know that I heard it through the grapevine  
Not much longer would you be mine  
Oh, I heard it through the grapevine  
Oh, I'm just about to lose my mind"*

-Norman Whitfield and Barrett Strong

This past month, during Homecoming weekend, our Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Mark Sommers announced his intention to retire from the ministry in September 2021 – two years from now. The Board of Trustees and church staff had advance notice of this announcement and so you may have heard rumors that are now confirmed. We have been fortunate to have our Senior Minister for over ten years, and even more fortunate to have this advance notice. Two years can seem a long time, but not too long to find a new minister. We now have the opportunity to conduct our search without resorting to an interim pastor, and to plan for an orderly transition.

I would like to briefly explain the search process as it is laid out in our Bylaws. The first step will be the formation of a Ministerial Selection Committee of twelve church members. The Chair of Personnel, Jim Opgenorth, and myself are automatic members. The Nominating Committee will recommend the other ten

members who, among other criteria, are to “reflect the broad diversity” of our church and be willing “to consider the key challenges in our current church life.” Nominating has already been considering members for the Selection Committee and will present their recommendations to the Trustees for approval at our October 9th meeting.

We expect the Ministerial Selection Committee will start their work in November, most likely with a period of “self study” to determine our needs and develop the criteria for choosing our next Senior Minister. This will be followed by the search for candidates. Ultimately the Selection Committee will recommend a candidate to the Board who received a “super-majority” three-fourths vote of the committee. The Board in turn will vote on this candidate, and again a super-majority is required for approval. The final step will be a special congregational meeting where a three-fourths majority vote of members present is required for approval. If all goes well, we will be celebrating our transition to new leadership during Homecoming weekend 2021.

There is a great deal of work to be done, and we hope for your support during the entire process. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers at our Congregational Dinner on Thursday October 10th, and I encourage you all to attend.

Blessings to you all!

Eric W. Witschi, President

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10  
5:30 PM IN MILLER COMMONS  
DELICIOUS MEAL BY NICK LOZOPONI  
SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH Q&A

CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

HOMEMADE SQUASH SOUP  
ROASTED FALL VEGETABLES WITH ROASTED PORK  
TOSSED SALAD AND BREAD  
DESSERT AND DRINKS



# IF:Equip Women's Bible Study

October 10, 24, November 7, 21, December 12, 9:30-11:00 AM in Miller Commons

For some of us the Fall is not only the start of school but the start of the holiday season hustle and bustle. Our calendars and commitments during the holidays suggest we may be too busy preparing for Christmas that we miss out on preparing for Christ's birth. What if this year we covenant with each other to "Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, Love All?" To learn more please contact Chrissy at [chrudnick@gmail.com](mailto:chrudnick@gmail.com).

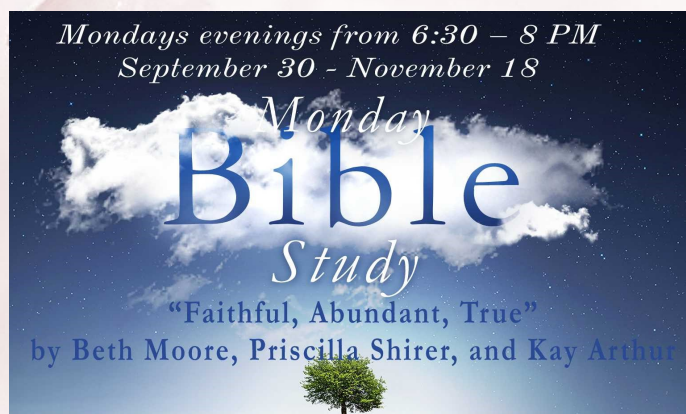


All women of the church are invited to attend a Fall Soup and Salad luncheon on Oct. 17. Punch will be served at 11:30 AM in Miller Commons with lunch happening at noon. Kim Buchanan will be speak on her time in South Sudan. There will be sign-ups the weekend of Oct. 6 and Oct. 13 or RSVP to [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org) or call 315-445-0331. – Please join us – a time for great food and fellowship!

## Women's Community Bible Study

*Mondays from 6:30-8 PM in the Library, 9/30 through 11/18*

“Faithful, Abundant, True” is a Bible study presented by not one, but three powerful speakers: Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, and Kay Arthur. This study is comprised of 7 sessions that were taped at the Orlando “Deeper Still” women's event. The messages presented by these beloved authors are divided into six sessions, two from each author. We encourage all to pray and consider inviting someone you know to this nondenominational study in a friendly environment. **Email Kym Staab, [kstaab1@aol.com](mailto:kstaab1@aol.com), to register.**



## Gab and Gather Women's Fellowship Sunday, October 6

Gab and Gather is starting its second year. We'll be in Miller Commons from Noon to 1:30 PM, but you are always welcome to come for a shorter period. A light lunch and dessert will be served; and of course there's always coffee. No RSVP, no cost, just come! Meet some new faces, and catch up with long-time friends. We especially hope women who attend Saturday and early Sunday services will make a return trip to church just for the fun of it! Childcare available with one week's notice; please contact Petie Rein @ [petie7471@yahoo.com](mailto:petie7471@yahoo.com).





# Women's Association Fall Retreat

*Saturday, November 9, 9 AM-2:30 PM  
in Miller Commons*

The Women's Association invites you to attend their Fall Retreat featuring author and speaker Yvonne Conte. Yvonne is the creator and director of the Annual Day of Joy Conference. She will speak on "the Positive Power of Humor." Lunch and snacks will be provided and childcare is available. Feel free to bring a friend! RSVP using the form below.



## YVONNE CONTE

Motivational Speaker, Humor Advantage, Inc

BY CARMEN E. ZAFAR | PHOTO BY KELLY KANE

"How am I gonna make people laugh at the Rochester Club at noon?"

Comedian and motivational speaker Yvonne Conte asked herself this exact question more than 17 years ago when she stumbled upon what she now understands to be her true calling, public speaking. "I never aspired to be a speaker," she said. "I never thought about being a speaker." Conte, now a Syracuse resident for many years, said her attitude changed when a miscommunication led to a speaking engagement in front of 150 area fund-raising executives representing several colleges and businesses.

She had less than two weeks to prepare for this impromptu presentation so she went to the local library and checked out every piece of material pertaining to humor, laughter and joy and how each aspect related to one another. Conte felt out of her comfort zone as she was primarily interested in doing standup comedy. She still laughs today because the "Rochester Club is not a place where you would do standup comedy." Nevertheless, she created a 20-minute presentation with a humble flipchart. "There were 150 people dressed in business suits, and [they were] real stiff," she said. "I'm thinking, this is going to be a disaster."

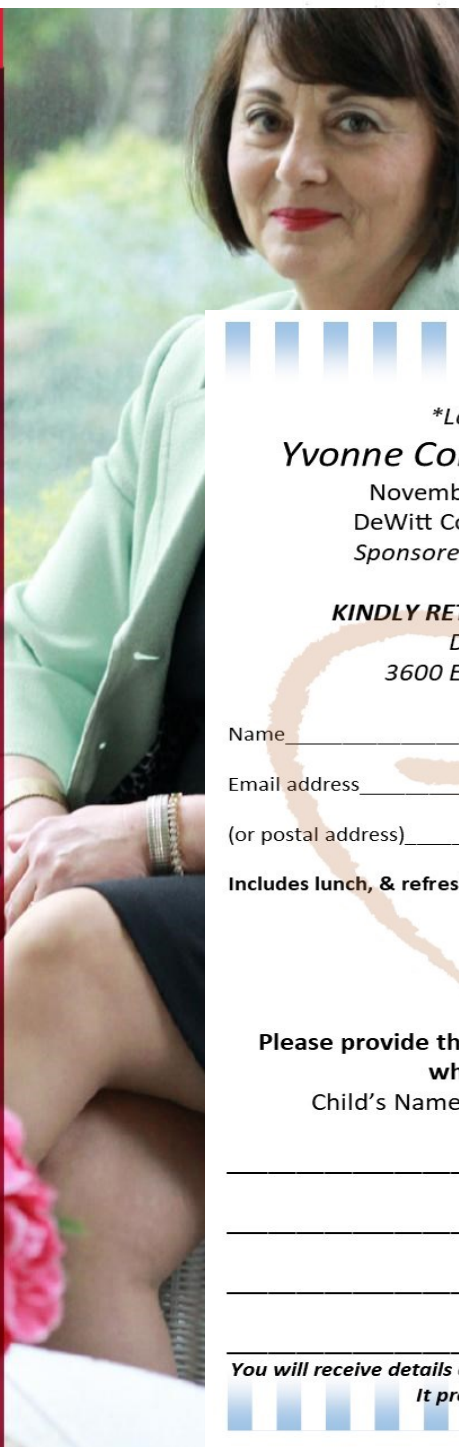
She added much of her comedy routine since it contains several family stories that turned into handy anecdotes for her presentation on laughter and joy and how it affects our minds and everyday life. "[At the end] they were on their feet and everyone wanted my business card! I said I forgot them, but of course, I didn't have any."

The next day, her career as a speaker began. After her success at the luncheon, Conte was highly recommended and booked for a speaking engagement that included five performances, airfare, hotel and all other accommodations. At this time, she was going to school full time at Monroe Community College and doing standup gigs at night. She arranged her appearances to be in December during her break from classes. After all arrangements and (generous) salary for the speaking engagements were settled, Conte knew this was no fluke. "I thought this is no accident, this is what God wanted me to do. I seem to be good at it."

Another memorable speaking engagement out of the gate was when she spoke in front of numerous professors at Keuka College. "Here I am, barely a high school graduate, never had any education just started school myself and I'm standing in front of these people who have a long line of letters after their names and great education and they give me a standing ovation." This appreciation from a large pool of professors taught her that all people need to hear about humor and understand how to relieve stress and enjoy their lives more.

Moments like this have brought Conte to even deeper understanding about her own life and how she views the people around her. "How can you change your life? By changing the way you look at life," she said. "I realized this was a very important subject, not just funny, and the business grew."

Conte has written six books about using humor as an advantage in everyone's lives and has had every inch of her business grow because of her client referrals. "This is the kind of business where nobody is going to hire you to speak unless they hear you speak or someone they really trust has heard you speak."



## LIFT\* Retreat

*\*Ladies in Fellowship Together*

**Yvonne Conte - "The Power of Humor"**

November 9, 2019 -- 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
DeWitt Community Church Miller Commons  
Sponsored by the DCC Women's Association

**KINDLY RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO**

DeWitt Community Church,  
3600 Erie Blvd. East, DeWitt, NY 13214

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

(or postal address) \_\_\_\_\_

**Includes lunch, & refreshments. Please indicate any food allergies below.**

**Please provide the information below if you need childcare  
while attending LIFT Morning:**

Child's Name

Child's Age

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**You will receive details about the childcare after your children are registered.  
It promises to be a great day for them!**





## Giving Mental Health Awareness the Right Place in the Church

-Rev. Alan Rudnick

Recently my Facebook feed was full of expressions of grief, support, and lament over two very public deaths. Both people were active in bringing a focus on mental health issues. One was a professor of counseling, and the other was a well known West Coast Pastor Jarrid Wilson. Both died by suicide. These two people join the list of very public suicides of fashion designer Kate Spade, chef Anthony Bourdain, and comedian Robin Williams.

The above names and their stories are anecdotal evidence of statistics that are shocking. According to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, in the United States alone in 2017, there were more than twice as many suicides (47,173) as there were homicides (19,510).<sup>1</sup> According to the National Institute of Health 9.8 million adults had serious thoughts of committing suicide, 2.8 million adults made suicide plans, and 1.3 million attempted suicide in 2017.<sup>2</sup> These are genuinely alarming numbers. The national suicide rate has increased by 33 percent between 1999 and 2017.<sup>3</sup> This is a public health crisis.

Not only are adults affected but young people are experiencing the pain. Among 10 to 18-year-olds, suicide is the second leading cause of death in the United States.<sup>4</sup> Jean M. Twenge, PhD, a professor of psychology at San Diego State University, wrote about the growing trend of anti-social behavior, teen suicide, depression, and changes in the emotional state of young people. Her research led her to publish the book: *iGen: Why Today's Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy --and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood--and What That Means for the Rest of Us*. Dr. Twenge discovered that:

Psychologically... [the iGens, 8-17 year olds] are more vulnerable than Millennials were: Rates of teen depression and suicide have skyrocketed since 2011. It's not an exaggeration to describe iGen as being on the brink of the worst mental-health crisis in decades. Since 2007, the homicide rate among teens has declined, but the suicide rate has increased. As teens have started spending less time together, they have become less likely to kill one another, and more likely to kill themselves. In 2011, for the first time in 24 years, the teen suicide rate was higher than the teen homicide rate.<sup>5</sup>

Coupled with the rise of suicides, the opioid epidemic has gripped America's cities, suburbs, and rural areas. It seems that the research by Princeton University economists Anne Case and Angus Deaton is true: America's economy, with the atrophy of the middle

class, has led to a rise in mental and physical anguish.<sup>6</sup>

As Christians, we must recognize that these trends, statistics, and facts have severe implications for our children, adults, and families. This is a moral problem that requires Christians to respond. In our culture and in our churches, there is a stigma attached to people who need to see a counselor, therapist, or psychiatrist.

I find that most people in church keep their mental health needs secret. They do not want to even share their struggles with close friends for fear of judgment. Men, especially, are reluctant to disclose their troubles because they do not want to be seen as "weak". Many Christians want to keep a face or appearance of "everything's great" but do not have the capacity or opportunity to say, "Help!"

Jesus was someone who was in constant connection to those in anguish, despair, and turmoil. For those who sought out Jesus, we read that they were looking for wholeness and good news. Some were outcasts, lepers, the "unclean" according to Jewish law, people suffering untreatable medical conditions, and the economically vulnerable. As Christians, we must not overlook the need to bring mental health at the forefront of our ministries to those in our church and our community.

As a church, we must seek respond with grace, compassion, and love to those who are struggling with difficult times. Here at DeWitt Community Church, we have a robust support system of pastors, Steven Ministers, small groups, Compassion Cooks, and ministries that seek to support people in their time of need.

In October, our preaching series "Healthy! Mind, Body, and Spirit" is aimed at bringing concerns of mental, physical, and spiritual health to the forefront. I hope you will join us each weekend to engage these topics. Also, we will hold a special workshop, "**Mental Health First Aid Workshop**" on October 18 & 19 (see page 1), that helps individuals respond to challenges related to caring and assisting loved ones, friends, and family through challenging times.

1-<https://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/leadcause.html>

2-<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/suicide.shtml>. Figure 9.

3-<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db330.htm>

4-Ibid.

5-<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/09/has-the-smartphone-destroyed-a-generation/534198/>.

6-<https://www.pnas.org/content/112/49/15078.short>.



# 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.

## Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are lay persons who have completed 50 hours of training to learn how to come alongside someone experiencing a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness,

## 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.

relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness.

Stephen Ministers meet with their "care receiver" at least once a week for pastoral care with all conversations entirely confidential. Stephen

## 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.

Ministers are also available after services to pray or talk with people who have concerns. Do you feel God tugging at your heart to find out more about being a Stephen Minister? Call the church office at (315) 445-0331.

## 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](mailto: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.**

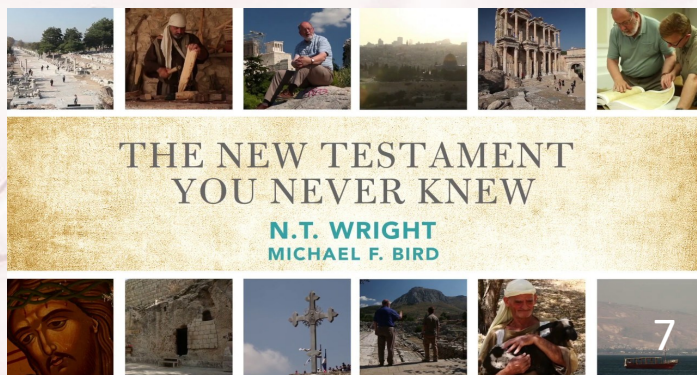
In order to ensure the integrity of church communications, we are not able to consider anonymous letters. The pastoral staff is always open to discussion of issues and concerns in a spirit of Christian community and respect.

## *New Study: The New Testament You Never Knew*

**With Pastor Alan, Sundays @ 10 AM, Room 6**

Do you know the real story behind the New Testament? We all share a fascination for discovering 'the rest of the story.' We enjoy learning the behind-the-scenes facts about seemingly familiar events. In this eight-session video Bible study, well-known Bible scholars N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird team up to take you on a tour of the story behind the explosive story of the New Testament. You will discover things you never knew about Jesus' baptism and journey into the wilderness, the meaning behind his parables and miracles, the significance of his death and resurrection, the incredible expansion of the early church into the Greco-Roman world, and how the transforming mission of Jesus can still turn the world upside down today. Through reading the New Testament we continually discover that God indeed keeps his promises, but those

promises don't always look like what people expected. Especially when it comes to Jesus. Sessions include: The Books of the New Testament, The World of Jesus and the Apostles, The Life and Death of Jesus, The Resurrection of Jesus, The Ministry of the Apostle Paul, The Early Christians and the Church, The Mission of the Church, The Creation of the New Testament. Sign up today: [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org).







# PASTA DINNER

DEWITT COMMUNITY CHURCH

ELECTION DAY  
★★★★★★

**NOVEMBER 5TH, 2019**

3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Eat in or take out

CATERED BY



American  
Red Cross

Thanks  
for Giving

Donate blood  
and help save a life



**Blood Drive**

**Dewitt Community Church**

Fellowship Hall  
3600 Erie Blvd. East - Syracuse

**Saturday, November 2, 2019**  
**8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Co-sponsored by the DeWitt Rotary

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or use app  
(sponsor code DEWITTCC) to schedule appointment.

Appointments encouraged, walk-ins welcome.

Ask about Power Reds if type O-, A-, B-, or O+.



All presenting donors will be entered to win a \$50 VISA  
gift card to use towards their Holiday feast! One winner  
each day in November.

Download the Blood Donor App | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

© 2016 The American Red Cross | 2016-APL-01402

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. If you plan to attend Starting Point, please contact the church office: 315-445-0331 or [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org).



We need 35 volunteers total. Children 12 and over can help out front with the meal serve, and children under 12 can help in the kitchen doing dishes as long as they are accompanied by an adult.

Sign up at [dewittchurch.org/Samaritan](http://dewittchurch.org/Samaritan). If you need a car pool ride from the church and back, we will make arrangements for you.



## Family Ministry Schedule

Nursery Rm 10, 9-10:45 AM, Rm 45 10:45 AM-12 PM Ages Birth - 4 yrs

### Music Ministry for Young People Sunday Morning Schedule

9:45-10AM	Music Makers	Room 9	Pre-K through Grade 4
10:00-10:30AM	Young Singers	Room 9	Grades 2-7
10:30-11:00AM	Music Makers	Room 7	Grades 2-4
10:30-11:00AM	Young Singers	Room 9	Grades 5-7 and up
11-11:15AM	Praise Kids	MC	Pre-K through Grade 4

Preschool and Elementary age children will meet in Miller Commons for a group opening and then proceed to classrooms for age appropriate instructions.

**We will reconvene in Miller Commons for pick up. Immediately following the 11 AM service.**

If you should have any questions or would like to find out more about volunteer opportunities, please call the church or email children's ministries at [childrensministry@dewittchurch.org](mailto:childrensministry@dewittchurch.org).

**Youth Sunday School grades 5-12 - Sundays from 11 AM to Noon**

**Join us in room 7 for games, snacks, music, and Bible study.**



**JOIN US AT THE DOME AS SU TAKES ON BOSTON COLLEGE**  
**PREGAME GATHERING AT HENDRICKS CHAPEL & ACTIVITIES ON THE QUAD**  
**AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A PHOTO ON THE FIELD AFTER THE GAME!**



# A Look Ahead

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		<b>1</b> 1:30 pm Program Staff Meeting (Library)
<b>6</b> 9:00 am Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) 9:00 am Nursery (Room 10) 9:45 am Music Makers PreK-Grade 4 (Room 9) 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) 10:00 am Alan Bible Study (Room 6) 10:00 am Confirmation (Room 8) 10:00 am Young Singers Grades 2-7 (Room 9) 10:30 am Music Makers Grades 2-4 (Room 7) 10:30 am Young Ringers (Room 9) 10:45 am Nursery (Room 45) 11:00 am Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 am Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7)	<b>7</b> 9:30 am WA Steering Committee Meeting (Room 42) 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Room 10, Room 42, Room 8) 7:00 pm Embassy Bells (Choir Room)	<b>8</b> 12:00 pm All Staff Meeting (Parlor) 1:30 pm Program Staff Meeting (Library) 3:30 pm Stephen Ministry/Peer Supervision(Parlor)
<b>13</b> 9:00 am Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) 9:00 am Nursery (Room 10) 9:45 am Music Makers PreK-Grade 4 (Room 9) 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) 10:00 am Alan Bible Study (Room 6) 10:00 am Confirmation (Room 8) 10:00 am Young Singers Grades 2-7 (Room 9) 10:30 am Music Makers Grades 2-4 (Room 7) 10:30 am Young Ringers (Room 9) 10:45 am Nursery (Room 45) 11:00 am Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 am Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7)	<b>14</b> Office Closed 12:00 pm Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Parlor) 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Room 10, Room 42, Room 8) 7:00 pm Embassy Bells (Choir Room)	<b>15</b> 1:30 pm Program Staff Meeting (Library)
<b>20</b> 9:00 am Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) 9:00 am Nursery (Room 10) 9:45 am Music Makers PreK-Grade 4 (Room 9) 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) 10:00 am Alan Bible Study (Room 6) 10:00 am Confirmation (Room 8) 10:00 am Young Singers Grades 2-7 (Room 9) 10:30 am Music Makers Grades 2-4 (Room 7) 10:30 am Young Ringers (Room 9) 10:45 am Nursery (Room 45) 11:00 am Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 am Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7) 12:00 pm Starting Point (Library)	<b>21</b> 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Room 10, Room 42, Room 8) 7:00 pm Embassy Bells (Choir Room)	<b>22</b> 1:30 pm Program Staff Meeting (Library)
<b>27</b> 9:00 am Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) 9:00 am Nursery (Room 10) 9:45 am Music Makers PreK-Grade 4 (Room 9) 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) 10:00 am Alan Bible Study (Room 6) 10:00 am Confirmation (Room 8) 10:00 am Young Singers Grades 2-7 (Room 9) 10:30 am Music Makers Grades 2-4 (Room 7) 10:30 am Young Ringers (Room 9) 10:45 am Nursery (Room 45) 11:00 am Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 am Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7) 12:00 pm Samaritan Center (Samaritan Center)	<b>28</b> 11:30 am Sub Shop and Friends (Parlor) 12:00 pm Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Room 42) 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Room 10, Room 42, Room 8) 7:00 pm Embassy Bells (Choir Room)	<b>29</b> 1:30 pm Program Staff Meeting (Library)



# October 2019

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>2</b> 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library)	<b>3</b> 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)	<b>4</b> 6:00 pm AA (Room 6) 6:00 pm Wyldlife (Gym)	<b>5</b> 5:30 pm Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons)
	<b>9</b> 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library) 3:00 pm Youth Service Project (Offsite)	<b>10</b> 9:30 am If: Equip (Miller Commons) 10:00 am Ruth Circle of Friends Meetings (Room 42) 2:30 pm Wyldlife (JD Middle School) 5:00 pm Quarterly Congregational Dinner (Miller Commons) 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)	<b>11</b> 6:00 pm AA (Room 6)	<b>12</b> 11:00 am Mid York Doll Club (Room 6) 5:30 pm Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons)
	<b>16</b> 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library) 6:30 pm Property Management Committee (Room 42)	<b>17</b> 11:00 am WA Luncheon (Miller Commons) 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)	<b>18</b> 6:00 pm AA (Room 6) 6:00 pm Mental Health Seminar (Miller Commons)	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Mental Health Seminar (Miller Commons) 5:30 pm Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons)
	<b>23</b> 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library)	<b>24</b> 9:30 am Cut Ups (Room 6) 9:30 am If:Equip (Miller Commons, MCK, Nursery) 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)	<b>25</b> 6:00 pm AA (Room 6)	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Stephen Minister Retreat (Cortland, NY) 5:30 pm Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons)
	<b>30</b> 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library)	<b>31</b> 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 		



# Get Involved!

There are so many ways to get involved with the worship life here at DeWitt Community Church. As we prepare to start the program year give some thought to becoming a part of one of the many groups that helps to enrich the worship experience here at the church.

## • Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir rehearses on Thursday nights at 7pm starting in September and helps to lead worship at the 11am Sunday service as well as a number of other times during the year. This group is made up of volunteers as well as four section leaders. There are NO requirements for joining the choir. You do not have to be able to read music. You do not have to be able to come to every rehearsal and every service, there is no attendance policy. What we are looking for are people that enjoy singing and want to be a part of enriching the music at the 11am service.

## • Bell Choir

The Bell Choir rehearses on Thursday nights at 6pm starting in September and plays about eight times a year at the 11am worship service. Reading music is helpful in this group but it primarily relies on an understanding of rhythm. All of the special “ringy things” that we do are things that we can teach you. Most importantly, you have to have a sense of humor.

## • Worship Team

We are hoping to enrich the worship at the 5:30 and 9am services with additional musicians - both vocalists and instrumentalists. This group would meet at mutually agreed upon times to rehearse music and create a schedule that meets the needs of those involved. Any musician at any level is welcome.

## • Worship Assistants

Worship assistants generally serve about once a month at one of our three services. They help to lead the congregation through the service and lead the time of prayer. The schedule is created around your availability and tailored to meet your needs. If you are interested in getting involved with any of these ministries or have questions please ask. You can email me at: [asearor@dewittchurch.org](mailto:asearor@dewittchurch.org) or Nic MacLane at [nmaclane@dewittchurch.org](mailto:nmaclane@dewittchurch.org) or come talk to us before or after a service.

## Mission of the Month: Fellowship of Christian Athletes



The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is touching millions of lives... one heart at a time. Since 1954, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ. FCA is the largest interdenominational, school-based, Christian sports organization in America. FCA focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ.

We pursue our vision and mission through the strategy of to and through the coach. We seek ministry first to coaches hearts, marriages and families. Then, when ready, we minister through coaches to their fellow coaches, teams and athlete leaders. Billy Graham said, “A coach will impact more people in one year than the average person will in an entire lifetime.” With the influence of a coach, FCA recognizes the most strategic way to reach more athletes is to first reach the coach.