

LEADING TODAY'S **CHURCH**

WITH THE BARNA GROUP

ADDRESSING THE SPIRITUAL CLIMATE IN THE NORTHEAST

Come join us at Dewitt Community Church on two consecutive Wednesdays, March 25 and April 1, 2020 in Miller Commons to understand how to effectively respond to the trends effecting our church.

Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM with the presentation running from 6-7:30 PM.

DeWitt Community Church will partner with Northeasten Seminary to offer an opportunity to be part of the Leading Today's Church event with the Barna Group. The Barna Group will take us on a deep dive into the key spiritual, cultural, and generational trends that are influencing the Christian faith in the Northeast United States. As we continue to confront challenges in our efforts to reach our neighbors in a post-Christian culture, it is more important than ever to be equipped with the information that will help us to understand the people in our communities.

Please RSVP to the church office at office@dewittchurch.org or by phone at 315-445-0331 by March 22, 2020.

Session Details:

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

Leading Today's Church with the Barna Group

Take a deeper look into the spiritual, cultural, and generational trends that are influencing the Christian faith in the Northeast United States with Mark Matlock, Barna insights leader. Mark Matlock, is a facilitator of innovation and impact, helping para-church ministries, denominations, businesses and non-profit organizations adapt to changing times by turning research-based insight into action.

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Mobilizing the Church for Mission Webinar

Chris Backert, Fresh Expressions National Director, provides a step-by-step guide for how church leaders in a post-Christian landscape can develop new expressions of a Christian community.

March Worship

Mission of the Month: Honor Flight Syracuse

Jesus On: Being Blessed

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, February 29 Sunday, March 1

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons 11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Jesus On: Making a Difference

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, March 7

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons Sunday, March 8 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Mission of the Month

Jesus On: Saying No

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, March 14 Sunday, March 15

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Communion at all 3 services

Jesus On: Being Rich

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, March 21 Sunday, March 22

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons 9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons

11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

Jesus On: How We Look to Others

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons Saturday, March 28 Sunday, March 29 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

This year, during the season of Lent, our focus in worship will be on portions of Jesus' great Sermon on the Mount. It is a collection of sayings and teaching that come directly from Christ.

This great sermon from Jesus follows his time of fasting and temptation in the desert and as he began his public ministry preaching in Galilee. The sermon, which is contained in chapters 5-7 in the Gospel of Matthew contain many of the central tenets of the Christian faith.

While some folks like to believe that the Sermon on the Mount sets up ethical standards that are impossible to reach, and that we are not to take his words literally, Jesus' great desire was for us to live the Sermon on the Mount just as Jesus, himself did. In other words, Jesus was serious about living out his words.



While it is humbling and appropriate to have some skepticism about our ability to live as Jesus taught, we are not dependent upon our abilities alone, but are dependent on the empowerment of

God's Spirit. The Sermon on the Mount is not about putting on plastic smiles and pretending to be something that we are not, it is about our growing into the image and likeness of Christ, from the inside out. It is about letting God's spirit empower us to live differently than the world around us, and become aligned with how God designed us to live.

I hope that you will join us for the message series: "Jesus On," during this season of Lent as we seek to live more as Jesus taught, both as individuals and in our life together as a congregation.

Rejoicing Always!





Message from the Board President:

"Desert sky Dream beneath a desert sky The rivers run but soon run dry We need new dreams tonight" -Bono, U2

My journeys during a recent week were a study in contrasts. I had occasion to travel to Arizona for a business meeting – a short break from my normal routine. After flying into Phoenix I drove several hours through the desert. The land looked parched with stony mountains, dormant grasses, sage and cactus. The warmth of the day gave way to chilly nights. Morning frost on the car reminded me of home. Several of the people I met were transplants from distant states who chose this land to live their dreams. I returned to the region I chose and made a Catskill trip – driving through a land of rounded mountains, bare trees, snow and ice. Though different, both landscapes now sleep waiting to bloom again with life.

Choices lay before us in the coming months. Currently, the Ministerial Selection Committee is soliciting feedback from the congregation though a survey with questions about what we want to be as a church, and characteristics of our future Senior Minister. I hope you're inspired to participate and share your thoughts.

At DeWitt Community Church lay leadership plays an important role, both in governance, and the helping hands that make our missions possible. Here various leadership opportunities are open to the congregation. In February the Board of Trustees approved the nomination of Elizabeth Wimer to fill a vacant "At Large" position on the Board, and we welcome her participation. This March 22 at 12:15 PM in Miller Commons we will hold our first "Council on Ministries" to provide a forum for our various committees to report on their activities and share ideas. Finally, we will host two video seminars, along with dinner, on Wednesday evenings – March 25 and April 1 at 5:30 PM. The seminars will explore current culture and generational trends that influence our Christian faith, and fresh ways to mobilize the Church for mission. The seminars should be informative and I encourage your attendance.

I believe we live in a time of transition. In the coming months, as we make choices for both our Church and our larger community, may we have the courage to dream new dreams.

Blessings to you all!

Eric W. Witschi, President

Council on Ministries

March 22, 12:15 PM Miller Commons

Last year we made a bold move to reduce the size of our Board of Trustees from 35 people to 15. A significant part of our reason for doing so was to comply with New York state laws that regulate churches. The other compelling reason was to move to a more strategic board rather than a board that focuses mainly on "reporting out."

As part of that decision, we also created a new organizational structure to coordinate and provide communications between the many different committees of the church. Our first meeting of this new Council on Ministries will be on Sunday, March 22 at 12:15 in Miller Commons. We will share a light lunch and then hear brief reports from each committee and take a quick look at upcoming events and plans.



Family Ministry Team



Rev. Dr. Cynthia Mapstone

Family and Congregational

Care Minister

cmapstone Ddewittchurch.org

Family Ministry Sunday Schedule Nursery Rm 10, 9-10:45 AM, Rm 45 10:45 AM-12 PM Ages Birth - 4 yrs

Confirmation Class

10-11 AM In Room 8

Youth Sunday School (grades 5-12)

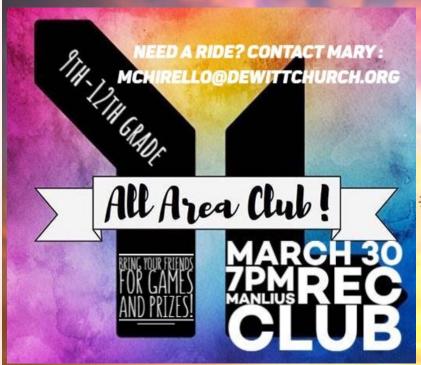
11 AM to Noon Room 7



Mary Chirello
Youth Director
mchirello@dewittchurch.org









We hope you'll join us as we celebrate our 2020 confirmands on Sunday, May 17 at 11 AM in the sanctuary. A light reception is to follow. If you would like to donate cookies for the occasion, please let Mary know.

315-247-0060 or mchirelloadewittchurch.org

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





We Can Use Your Help in Family Ministry

Nursery Volunteers Sundays at 9 or 11 AM
Contact Borb Turner: https://dewittchurch.or

Contact Barb Turner: bturner@dewittchurch.org

Elementary Sunday School Teachers Sundays at 11 AM

Contact Rev. Dr. Cynthia Mapstone: cmapstone@dewittchurch.org

Middle & High School Teachers Sundays at 11 AM

Contact Mary Chirello: mchirello@dewittchurch.org

We offer 11 AM Sunday School classes most Sunday mornings staffed by amazing teachers. Nursery care is also provided for those 6 weeks to 3 years old during both Sunday morning services. Child-care is also provided during many of our adult education classes. If you have an interest in working with youth, are gifted in childcare, or feel a stirring to participate more in the family ministry at DCC, please contact the individuals listed above.



July 19 - 23

This 5 day service event is open to all students in 9th-12th grade! Spend a week serving your community, spending time together growing with your friends in Christ, eating some amazing food, and having one of the best weeks of your life! Registration will be filling up quickly, so sign up with Mary ASAP- 315-247-0060/mchirello@dewittchurch.org

March Elementary Sunday School Schedule

March 1 Jesus Feeds the 5,000

March 8 Jesus Walks on Water

March 15 Nicodemus Reborn

March 22 Jesus Crucifixion

March 29 Palm Sunday - Easter Egg Hunt

Children (4 years- 4th grade) meet in Miller Commons at 11 AM.

Parents pick up children in Miller Commons after the 11 AM worship service.



A Look Ahead

| | Sunday | | Monday | Tuesday | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1 | 3 a a. j | 2 | | 2 | | | |
| 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:45 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am | Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) Nursery (Room 10) Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) Alan Bible Study (Room 6) Confirmation (Room 8) Nursery (Room 45) Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) Sunday School (Miller Commons) Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7) Gab and Gather (Miller Commons) | 2 9:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | WA Steering Committee Meeting (Room 42) Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Parlor, Room 10, Room 42) Embassy Bells (Choir Room) | 3 1:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm | Program Staff Meeting (Library) Selection Committee Meeting (Room 6) Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor) | | |
| 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:45 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am | Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) Nursery (Room 10) Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) Alan Bible Study (Room 6) Confirmation (Room 8) Nursery (Room 45) Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) Sunday School (Miller Commons) Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7) Samaritan Center | 9 12:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Parlor) Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Com- mons, Parlor, Room 10, Room 42) Embassy Bells (Choir Room) | 10 12:00 pm 1:30 pm 3:30 pm 5:30 pm | All Staff Meeting (Parlor) Program Staff Meeting (Library) Stephen Ministry/Peer Supervision(Parlor) Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor) | | |
| 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:45 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am | Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) Nursery (Room 10) Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) Alan Bible Study (Room 6) Confirmation (Room 8) Nursery (Room 45) Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) Sunday School (Miller Commons) Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7) Membership Gathering (Parlor) | 16 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Parlor, Room 10, Room 42) Embassy Bells (Choir Room) | 17 1:30 pm 5:30 pm | Program Staff Meeting (Library) Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor) | | |
| 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:45 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am | Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) Nursery (Room 10) Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) Alan Bible Study (Room 6) Children's Music (Room 9) Confirmation (Room 8) Nursery (Room 45) Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) Sunday School (Miller Commons) Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7) Council of Ministry (Miller Commons) | 23 12:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Parlor) Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Parlor, Room 10, Room 42) Embassy Bells (Choir Room) | 24 1:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm | Program Staff Meeting (Library) Selection Committee Meeting (room 6) Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor) | | |
| 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 10:45 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am | Early Worship Service (Miller Commons) Nursery (Room 10) Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) Alan Bible Study (Room 6) Confirmation (Room 8) Youth Popcorn and Pretzel Sale (Narthex) Nursery (Room 45) Late Worship Service (Sanctuary) Sunday School (Miller Commons) Youth Sunday School Grades 5-12 (Room 7) Gab and Gather (Miller Commons) | 30 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | Monday Night Bible Study (Miller Commons, Parlor, Room 10, Room 42) Embassy Bells (Choir Room) | 31 1:30 pm 3:30 pm 5:30 pm | Program Staff Meeting (Library) Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Parlor) Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor) | | |

March 2020

| Wednesday | | Thursday | | Friday | | Saturday | |
|--|--|---|----------------------|-------------|---|---|--|
| 9:00 am 10:15 am 12:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm Christian Caring Committee Meeting (Library) (Library) | 5 6:00 pm 7:00 pm | | 6 6:00 pm | AA (Room 6) | 7 5:30 pm | Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons) | |
| 9:00 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library) 5:30 pm Baby Boot Camp (Gym) | 9:30 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | Parlor, Library and Sanctuary | 13 6:00 pm | AA (Room 6) | 14 7:00 am 11:00 am 5:30 pm | Red Cross Blood Drive (Gym) Mid York Doll Club (Room 6) Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons) | |
| 9:00 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library) 5:30 pm Baby Boot Camp (Gym) 6:30 pm Property Management Committee (Roc 42) 7:00 pm Board of Trustee Meeting (Room 6) | 19 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm | Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) WildLyfe (Gym and Room 7) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) | 20 6:00 pm | AA (Room 6) | 21 5:30 pm | Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons) | |
| 25 9:00 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 42) 10:15 am Stay and Play (Gym) 12:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Library) 5:30 pm Baby Boot Camp (Gym) 5:30 pm Leading Today's Church Program (Mille Commons) | 26 9:30 am 9:30 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | Cut Ups (Room 6) If: Equip (Parlor, Parlor Kitchen, Nursery) Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) DCC Pickleball League (Gym) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) | 27 6:00 pm | AA (Room 6) | 28 5:30 pm | Saturday Night Chapel Service (Miller Commons) | |
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The winter weather is upon us again in Syracuse. During these wintry days we are often asked for hats and gloves from Samaritan Center guests who come to have a meal. Currently our supply of gloves and hats is running low. We appreciate if you can share that gently used or new winter gloves and hats are needed to restock our supply - preferably men style but child and women styles are welcomed too. Drop off to the shopping cart by the bathrooms on the upper level. Thank you for your kindness.

We need 35 total volunteers at a minimum. 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, or at early prep work at 10:30 as long as they are accompanied by an adult. If you are interested in helping and volunteering, please email cmabbett88@gmail.com or sign up at dewittchurch.org/Samaritan.



USHERS NEEDED VOLUNTEER TODAY

11 AM Sunday Service in the sanctuary

It is our goal this new year to increase the number of individuals and families that share in the ministry of being church ushers at our traditional service. The commitment can be as little as helping with the offering collection only (~10min), OR as fulfilling as being the welcoming smile and greeter for congregants, handing out service bulletins, collecting offering, and doing a quick after service clean up (~20min before and after the service). Volunteers can serve any Sundays convenient to your schedule- which might mean several times in the fall and spring, OR perhaps a month at a time, OR perhaps once a month- You Choose! Contact Chuck Doolittle at 315-382-5492 or charles.doolittle1@gmail.com

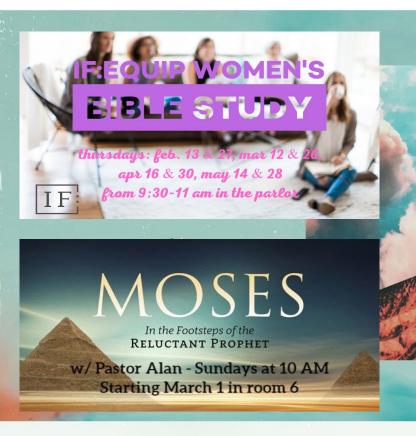
Pickleball @ DCC

March 12 & 26, 6:30 PM-8:00 PM in the gym

In February we started recreational Pickleball in the DCC gym. This will be an all ages and abilities fun pickleball time that will run twice a month to start. If we have more players and desire for other times and days we can offer other opportunities to play. If you have never played or want to play for fun come out and serve up some drop shots. Contact: Pastor Alan, alan@dewittchurch.org.



BIBLE STUDY



IF:Equip Women's Bible Study

Join IF:Equip Women's Daytime Bible Study this winter as we study No Other Gods by Kelly Minte. We'll study scripture from the gospels and encourage each other in actionable practices to make room for Christ in our lives. To learn more please contact Chrissy at chrudnick@gmail.com.

Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet

w/ Pastor Alan - Sundays at 10 AM in room 6

Pastor Alan will lead a new study that retraces the life of Moses from his modest birth and rescue as a baby to the courts of Pharaoh, from herding flocks in Midian to leading his people out of Egypt. Based on Rev. Adam Hamilton's book, we'll journey together with this DVD based study. Utilizing the video, we will retrace Moses' life by walking in his steps in Egypt to Mt. Sinai, the Nile, the Red Sea and the wilderness exploring the sites of Moses' life. Using historical information, archaeological data, and biblical text, this study guides us in the footsteps of this reluctant prophet who grew in his relationship with God and by the end of life had successfully fulfilled the role he was given.



Small Groups: 5 Things God Uses to Grow Your Faith

Imagine how different your outlook on life would be if you had absolute confidence that God was with you. Imagine how differently you would respond to difficulties, temptations, and even good things. This study builds a biblical case for five things God uses to grow BIG faith. When used together, they provide a powerful catalyst for spiritual growth. Groups Start in mid-March, contact Pastor Alan.



Part-Time Facilities/Building Assistant

Dewitt Community Church is seeking a Facilities/Building Assistant to work evenings and weekends, 12-15 hours a week. This position is responsible for building cleaning, set up and takedown of rooms for church events and meetings, snow and lawn maintenance, special projects including painting, light mechanical and electrical, and flooring work. The successful candidate must have a valid drivers' license, demonstrated mechanical and electrical skills a plus, ability to use computer systems, emails, and cell phones, and be able to work evenings and weekends. Able to lift 60 pounds. Demonstrated written and oral communications with the ability to demonstrate compassion, teamwork, and customer service a must. Qualified candidates should send resumes and salary expectations to mthorpe@dewittchurch.org.

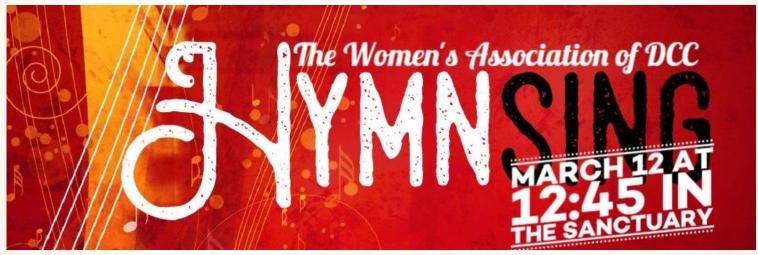


Celebrating a special occasion?
Honoring a loved one?

Say it with FLOWERS

Sign up to provide flowers for the altar

Visit dewitchurch.org/flowers



Compassion Ministry

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.

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 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 c o n t a c t N a n c y B o n d, nancybond3@gmail.com for yarn and patterns.

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.

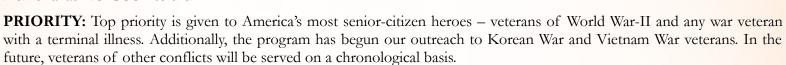
Mission of the Month: Honor Flight

Honor Flight, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization created solely to honor America's Veterans for their many sacrifices.

MISSION STATEMENT: Honor America's veterans by transporting them to Washington, D.C. to visit the national memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice.

GOAL: Help every single war veteran in the greater Syracuse area, willing and capable, to obtain a flight (or a bus-trip) to visit THEIR

memorial at NO COST to them.



MOTTO: "We can't all be heroes. Some of us have to stand on the curb and clap as they go by." — Will Rogers

In May 2012, Syracuse became an official hub in the Honor Flight Network. Since then our founding board and core group of volunteers have built a viable, long-term organization to provide "the Honor Flight Mission" experience to all veterans across all conflicts.



Applications are due by 12 PM on March 25, 2020.

Last year, the Christian Caring Committee decided to dedicate the Mission of the Month for May 2020 towards supporting members of our congregation who are actively serving our community. If you are serving in an organization, either as a volunteer or on staff, that serves our community, we would like to hear from you. An example might be someone who works with literacy and the agency



they work for or volunteer with needs funding with supplies or equipment. Organizations exempt are current Missions Of The Month, and organizations currently being considered as Missions Of The Month for 2020-2021. (those organizations are listed below.) If you have questions or are interested in submitting a grant application, contact Craig Mabbett by email at cmabbett88@gmail.com, or by phone at 315-436-0429. Applications are due by 12noon on March 25, 2020. Recipients will be asked to briefly share their stories during the May Mission of the Month presentations on the weekend of May 2 & 3 at all three services.

There are many members of DeWitt Community Church that serve in our community and this is just one way we can spotlight and support our members as they carry out the work of Christ in Central New York.

Organizations being considered as Missions Of The Month for 2020-2021: Meals On Wheels, In My Father's Kitchen, Sleep In Heavenly Peace, Ontario Bible Camp, Road2RecoveryCNY, Syracuse City Young Life, Interfaith Works-Refugee Resettlement, On Point For College, On Point For College, Exodus 3 Ministry.

Current Missions Of The Month: Anthony House, Blessings In A Backpack, Hope For Ariang, Fellowship Of Christian Athletes, CNY Diaper Bank, American Red Cross, Hopeprint, McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy, Honor Flight Syracuse, Operation Northern Comfort, Arise On The Farm.







Community of Giving

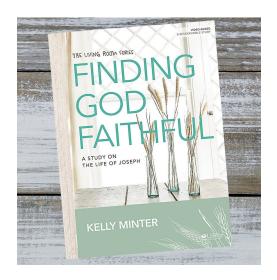
Blood Drive Dewitt Community Church

Fellowship Hall 3600 Erie Blvd. East - Syracuse

Saturday, March 14, 2020 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Yvonne Conte will be presenting her Day of Joy Women's Conference on April 25 at Believer's Chapel on Thompson Rd from 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door, and \$30 for a group of 10+. This includes lunch and 3 speakers including Yvonne. Proceeds are to benefit HW Smith Elementary School in Syracuse. We are in need of someone who would be interested in coordinating reservations and carpools so that we can get a better price on the tickets. If you have any interest in helping us, please contact Angela Todisco at Atee1@twcny.rr.com.



Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30 PM, March 2-April 27 (except for 4/6 for spring break) in the Parlor

We will be studying Kelly Minter's "Finding God Faithful", where we will be reminded of God's sovereignty, trustworthiness and faithfulness in our lives, in spite of our circumstances. This study is open to all women in our community, not just DCC members. Contact Kym Staab for more info @ kstaab1@aol.com or 315-247-1675