



A Christian Church for all People

3600 Erie Blvd. E.

DeWitt, NY 13214

315-445-0331

OCTOBER newsletter

IN PERSON WORSHIP

Reserve your seat at dewittchurch.org/reopen

On Sundays for 11:00 AM in-person worship, please arrive 15 minutes early to check-in and have your temperature taken. Worshippers will enter from the sanctuary double doors at the front of the church, facing Erie Boulevard. Other church entrances will not be available for entry or exit.

In-person worship will require everyone masked, temperature checks upon entering the building, reservations via website or telephone to the church office, no social congregating inside the building, no hymnals, no Bibles, no bulletin, no congregational singing, separated seating to maintain a distance of at least six feet, ushers to seat individuals and families, and orderly entrance and exit of the sanctuary. There will be instrumental and solo singing for worship music. There will be no child care.

October Worship

Not So Fast!

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, October 3

Sunday, October 4

5:30 PM YouTube & Facebook

9:00 AM YouTube & Facebook

11:00 AM Sanctuary

God and/or Country

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, October 10

Sunday, October 11

5:30 PM YouTube & Facebook

9:00 AM YouTube & Facebook

11:00 AM Sanctuary

Discovering God and Finding Ourselves

Rev. Alan R. Rudnick

Saturday, October 17

Sunday, October 18

5:30 PM YouTube & Facebook

9:00 AM YouTube & Facebook

11:00 AM Sanctuary

Senior Minister Candidate Weekend

God Has This Covered

Rev. Alan R. Rudnick

Saturday, October 24

Sunday, October 25

5:30 PM YouTube & Facebook

9:00 AM YouTube & Facebook

11:00 AM Sanctuary

Senior Minister Result Announcement

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

My hope is years from now we will look back at the 2020 and be thankful that somehow we found a way to get through it. It certainly is a time of uncertainty and confusion. As we move in to October, it is also a time of expectation and excitement as we look to the future.

On the weekend of September 27, we heard a report from Rich Taylor who serves as the chair of the Senior Minister Search Committee announcing that they will be recommending the call of Reverend Alan R. Rudnick as our next Senior Minister beginning September 19, 2021. On Sunday October 18, Alan will be giving a sermon as a candidate for the position and there will be a vote that day as well. You will find much more detailed information in this newsletter and you will also receive the specific details by mail.

I want to personally thank the Search Committee for all of their work that was involved in coming to this decision. I've had a lot of experience working with a wide variety of different search committees over the years, and I have to say that our search committee was one, of if not the best, I have encountered. We owe Dave Pridgeon and the Nominating Committee a huge thank you for putting together such an excellent group to make this important decision.

If the vote goes as I expect, I look forward to doing everything possible in my final year to ensure that the transition in leadership is both smooth and seamless.

One additional note that I would like to add, voting for the senior minister is reserved for those who are formal members of the congregation. If you are not sure on your membership status, please call the church office. I will be offering an online Membership Gathering on Thursday, October 8 and on Tuesday October 13 for those interested in membership. To sign up, please call the church office at 315-445-0331.

Stay Safe and May God Bless



Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Senior Minister



We will be offering online (Zoom) Membership Gatherings on Thursday, October 8 at 7PM and on Tuesday, October 13, at 7PM. To sign up, call or email the church office. Please remember that membership is required to vote on any church business including the selection of a new senior minister.



Message from the Board President:

"The sluggard does not plow in the autumn; he will seek at harvest and have nothing." -Proverbs 20:4

While it appears at times that COVID-19 completely shut the world down, that is not true. Life continues, and humans are nothing if not adaptable to change. The world looks very different than it did in February, but it goes on nonetheless.

We at DeWitt Community Church have adapted and moved forward as well. Church leadership quickly adapted to a virtual service that has been very well received. Furthermore, after much planning, we are so pleased to offer a live service again. We believe the efforts we have undertaken will provide the safest possible experience for those who are ready to resume in-person worship.

We were unable to have our annual meeting in June due to the shutdown, but we are planning to have a socially-distanced annual meeting on October 14. We will be

livestreaming it as well for those who would like to participate but are unable to attend in person.

Finally, the Search Committee has been very busy during the shutdown. After using the results of the congregational survey for guidance, we completed our self-study and performed an internal search. The Search Committee and the Board of Trustees are proud to present a Call to Alan Rudnick, and we look forward to bringing his candidacy forward for a congregational vote at Candidate Weekend on October 18.

I am excited that so much of the DCC community's diligent work behind the scenes is now ready to harvest. I must admit that until I joined church leadership I did not have a full appreciation for the hard work all of our paid staff and volunteer workers performed behind the scenes. Let's show our appreciation next time we see them. I know many of us are eager to put the Community back in DCC.

Yours in Christ,
Greg Stock



Food donations would gladly be accepted during our open hours 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM on Tuesday and Friday. Our food pantry is located in the back of the old Jamesville firehouse on E. Seneca Turnpike. Checks may be made out to JDEFP and sent to JDEFP, P.O. Box 683, Jamesville, NY 13078. Our phone number is (315) 469-5093.

We are always in need of the following items:
Canned fruits and vegetables, baked beans, cereals, coffee, macaroni and cheese, crackers and snacks, tuna and soup.

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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Attention Knitters and/or Crocheters: Our congregants are always in need of the comfort of our prayer shawls. Patterns and yarn are available. Contact Nancy Bond (nancybond3@gmail.com/315-637-9571) and she would be glad to answer questions or fill your needs. Thank you.

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.

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,

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

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.

SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

Dear DeWitt Community Church members,

When Dr. Mark Sommers announced his retirement, our selection committee was put together to find a candidate for Senior Pastor. We sought a candidate to continue the long legacy of excellence we have enjoyed at DCC and to lead us to a bright future. We sought to give wide opportunities for the DCC community to provide their thoughts and hopes for our future. We received very useful feedback. We are very pleased to present Rev. Alan Rudnick as our candidate for Senior Pastor. The Board of Trustees unanimously affirmed this choice.

Our next step as a church is to have you, our members, vote on his appointment. Traditionally the candidate preaches at the 11 AM service and a vote follows in the church gym. According to DCC by-laws, voting is restricted to the members present. Because of the pandemic, our procedures will be different, but are still aimed at providing as much opportunity for listening and voting as possible. On October 18, Alan will preach. We expect to have the 11 am service in-person as recently outlined. The service will be available via YouTube and Facebook for those who are unable or prefer not to attend in person. Voting will take place in two ways. Those members who are able and wish to vote in

person will go to the gym, cast their ballots, and leave while maintaining proper social distancing. Alternatively, we are planning a drive-up voting option with volunteers to provide ballots to members, gather and return them to the gym. The voting period will be from 12 PM-3 PM.

Please clear your calendars and join us on this special day. More details will be provided.

Finally, on behalf of the Search Committee, we give a special thanks and “shout-out” to the staff who have provided a rich variety of worship and musical opportunities during the shutdown. The staff, both those we see on camera and those we do not see, have stepped out of their accustomed roles, developed new skills, and brought a richness of spiritual activities to us. Thank You!

Blessings,

Rich Taylor on behalf of the DCC Selection committee
Eric Witschi, Jim Opgenorth, Greg Stock, Kay Paulsen, David VanSlyke,
Tracy Avellino, Sanford Gunn, Elizabeth Chapman,
Lauren Suarez Rivera,
Susan Hanselman, Dave Scheckenberger, Tracy Avellino

Please contact Craig Mabbett by email at cmabbett88@gmail.com, or by phone at 315-436-0429. Feel free to call Craig with any questions you have. Please see the details below regarding volunteering.



- Two shifts are needed, and volunteers must commit to a 3 hour shift. The shifts are 9AM to Noon, and Noon to 3PM. 5 volunteers are needed for each shift. The 9AM to Noon shift is for meal preparation, and the Noon to 3PM shift is during meal serving time.
- Volunteers must be 18 years old or older
- Volunteers need to be able to stand for an entire 3 hour shift
- Volunteers need to be willing to wear a face mask at all times
- Volunteers do not have any COVID-19 symptoms or temperature, or have close contact with suspected or positive COVID-19 situation/individual in the previous 14 days
- Volunteers have not recently, within 14 days, traveled to any state which requires a 14 day quarantine on arrival to NYS



Hello again from the Women's Association. Well, we really know it's fall now, from the chilly weather recently and the vibrant coloring of the leaves. And this makes us think of all things fall, including pies!!

As I said last month, we are so happy to announce that we will be having our annual pie sale, but this year in Nov instead of Sept. Wee are so grateful to Judy Wilson who has agreed to plan the pie sale and she has written up the details for us:

This year the 7th annual Women's Association Pie Sale has been planned with some changes. We will once again be giving the funds we raise to the organ fund.

Order forms will be available online sent through the weekly DCC MailChimp email. You can print that form, complete it and send your payment (checks payable to DCC Women's Association) to the church office. We will be accepting orders from 10/17 through 11/18. All pies will be made in the church kitchens and gym by volunteers wearing gloves and masks. We will remain socially distant as we bake. In the event that we must shut down, your checks will be returned to you.

Pies will be available for pickup at church on November 22, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Normally we ask for donations of supplies from a list, but this year we are asking you to donate grocery store gift cards instead. This way if there is another Covid 19 shutdown, the cards can be used next year and supplies won't spoil.

Anyone with questions or who might want to volunteer to help with shopping pie prep or cleanup should contact Judi Wilson at judilee53@hotmail.com or 315-345-6442.

Judy has been very specific with her information, but if anyone has any questions, please don't hesitate to call either her or me.

As Judy said, we will again use the pie proceeds for the organ fund. Last year our donation was \$1090.

Unfortunately we have decided that the Pie Sale will be our only fundraiser/gathering through the end of the year. It just doesn't seem practical to attempt a Basket Raffle as in the past. (And miss out on that Chili Lunch from the youth group.) We'll all miss it, but is for the better.

On another note, for your information, Jean Eschner still has a supply of Rada Cutlery which has always been a popular gift item. Anyone who is interested should contact Jean through the Church.

That concludes our news from the steering committee for now. I hope to see some of you cutting apples & making pies with me. If anyone would like to help plan our events we would be happy to have you, please call or email. In the meantime, stay healthy.

Angela Todisco, Chair, WA Steering Committee Atee1@twcny.rr.com,

Christians at Our Best: A Guide to Living in the Age of Outrage

Sundays @ 10 AM, led by Rev. Alan Rudnick

Today there are too many examples of those claiming to follow Christ being caustic, divisive, and irrational, contributing to dismissals of the Christian faith as hypocritical and self-interested. What has happened? It seems one short outrageous video or pithy post can trigger an avalanche of comments on social media. Welcome to the new age of outrage. Spend six weeks in this video study discussing what it means to represent the love of Jesus Christ in this new polarized age that pushes people to the extremes. Pastor Alan will lead us through a deep conversation of what it would look like if Christians were at their best? How might our world and our communities be different? Interested? Please contact the church office 315-445-0331 or alan@dewittchurch.org.

Christians at Our Best



**A 6-WEEK GUIDE
TO LIVING IN
THE AGE OF OUTRAGE**

Family Ministry Team



Rev. Dr. Cynthia Mapstone
Family Minister
cmapstone@dewittchurch.org



Abby Young
Youth Director &
Children's Music Director
ayoung@dewittchurch.org



Barb Turner
Nursery Director
bturner@dewittchurch.org

Virtual Sunday School

On Facebook and YouTube

10-10:40 am VBS Style Children's Bible Story and Children's Music for Preschool-4th grade

10 am Youth Sunday School on Zoom for 5th-12th grade

Teaching the same lesson each week at each age appropriate level and making available discussion questions for families to use at home.

Each week we will send out coloring pages and worksheets available for families to print at home.

Each week teens will receive a devotion based on that week's lesson to do some additional reflection at home.

CONTACT
CMAPSTONE@DEWITTCHURCH.ORG



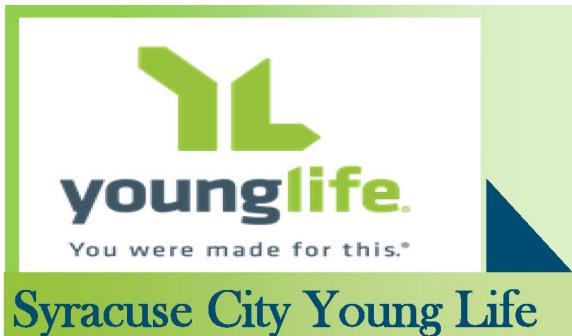
American
Red Cross

Thank you!



DeWitt Community Church

When you made the decision to host a blood drive, you helped change lives.



Loving kids
regardless of their
responses.

We believe in the power of presence. Kids' lives are dramatically influenced when caring adults come alongside them, sharing God's love with them. Because their Young Life leader believes in them, they begin to see that their lives have great worth, meaning and purpose.

This is the first step of a lifelong journey; the choices they make today, based upon God's love for them, will have an impact on future decisions — careers chosen, marriages formed and families raised — all ripples from the time when a Young Life leader took time to reach out and enter their world.

YoungLives

More than 20 years ago, Young Life answered God's call to run headfirst into the chaos of teenage motherhood with the hope of Jesus ... and YoungLives was born.



Syracuse City Young Life has been in the city for over 10 years now!



Earning the Right To be Heard

YoungLives has never wavered from the original vision to reach teen moms by entering their world, modeling the unconditional love of Christ, and encouraging them to become the women and mothers God created them to be. Through Young Life's time-tested methods and life-on-life mentoring, teen moms are empowered to make positive choices, set and achieve goals, and live a future rooted in Christ.



YL2C

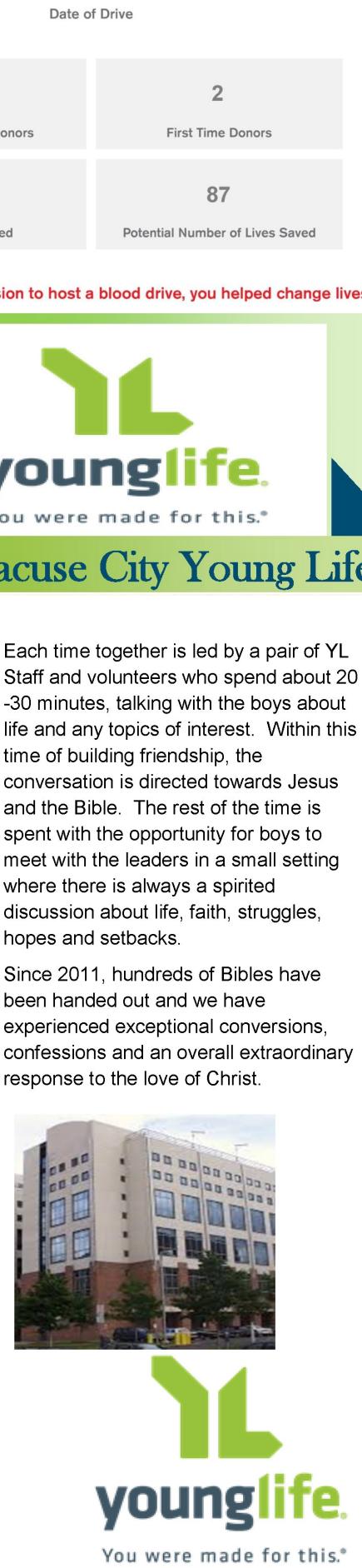
Since 2011, a faithful team of YL staff and volunteers have spent 90 minutes every Thursday afternoon with the incarcerated population of young men at the Justice Center. Roughly 700 14-18 year old boys spend at least 1 night in the non-sentenced facility and under the cooperative branch of incarcerated programming. Young Life is given access to these cherished members of our community. It is our heart to reach EVERY teen with the love of the Lord.

Sponsor Group

Sept 12, 2020

Date of Drive

30	2
Total Number of Donors	First Time Donors
29	87
Units Collected	Potential Number of Lives Saved





Social Media Schedule

FACEBOOK.COM/THEDEWITTCHURCH

MORNING

DEVOTIONS

MONDAY-FRIDAY AT 8 AM
SATURDAY AT 9 AM



MONDAY-THURSDAY
AT 10 AM

Bible STORIES

with Pastor Cindy



Music For KIDS WITH ABBY YOUNG

MONDAY-FRIDAY @ 10:30 AM

12 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

Abel Searor AT THE PIANO

PASTOR'S TIME OF PRAYER

MONDAY-FRIDAY AT 2PM

New SONGS WITH NIC MACLANE

4 pm Daily

EVENING PRAYER

NIGHTLY AT 8 PM

9AM YouTube

sunday:WORSHIP

f facebook 11AM