

# July newsletter

After much prayer, conversation and consultation with other churches in our area, we've decided to host a Virtual VBS this summer. While this will look a bit different than we are used to, we choose to see it as an opportunity to stretch ourselves as we take the necessary precautions in light of the recent COVID-19 outbreak. Since we draw many children as well as volunteers each year, we deemed it important to make sure that no one was put at risk, hence our decision to go virtual.



Our goal is to continue to provide resources that help guide children on their path to faith in Jesus Christ as we partner with parents to provide this type of faith filled environment.

## Videos & Take-home Kits

Videos for VBS will be uploaded every Wednesday from July 21 to August 18, 2021. Your child may view these videos on Wednesday morning or at any time deemed convenient. Each video will feature a Musical Opening & Closing, a Bible Adventure Story, a Kid-Vid Section and an Imagination Station Craft which they can assemble along with the presenters. All necessary materials will be provided in the take home kits.

Each Child will need to have a take home kit with supplies for all five days. These materials will allow each child to have hands-on interaction with all of the video segments. It is therefore important to register as soon as possible to insure that all the supplies are available. Please call 315-445-0331 or email [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org) with any questions.

**Registration must be completed online by July 9th!!**

**Register at [www.dewittchurch.org/vbs](http://www.dewittchurch.org/vbs)**

## Church Events

### Finding Strength In Our Hearts

Rev. William Carlsen

Sunday, July 4      9:00 AM YouTube  
10:00AM Facebook  
\*10:00 AM Sanctuary

### Celebrating Well

Rev. Alan Rudnick

Sunday, July 11      9:00AM YouTube  
10:00AM Facebook  
\*10:00 AM Sanctuary

### Being a God's Servant

Rev. Dr. Cindy Mapstone

Sunday, July 18      9:00AM YouTube  
10:00AM Facebook  
\*10:00 AM Sanctuary

### True Friendship

Rev. William Carlsen

Sunday, July 25      9:00AM YouTube  
10:00AM Facebook  
\*10:00 AM 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



### What's Next for DCC?

Just last month, I met with pastors and church staff in another state and asked them, "What's next for your church?" I was expecting to receive answers like, "we are going to bring back..." or "restart..." or "reopen our..."

What I heard back was, "We have been so disconnected, disjointed, and disrupted by the pandemic. We have to focus on examining and enriching what makes us, us." I was glad to hear they expressed what I have been feeling: our church, community, and our lives have been so dis- (fill-in-the-blank).

As we emerge from the pandemic, our equilibriums of life patterns have changed, and new ones are emerging? What are these patterns? We know some (virtual connection, online experiences, need for personal relationships, etc...) but don't know others (What will happen in 6 months?).

This time is an opportunity for us to start looking at what we do at DCC. This is an opportunity for us to enrich in the following areas of our spiritual life:

**Life-Changing Intentional Gathering:** One-on-ones, small groups, and larger groups for connection, sharing life, and building friendships.

**Life-Changing Spiritual formation:** How we grow in our spirit-filled life with God. We do this personally and together in study, prayer, reflection, worship, and learning.

**Life-Changing Worship:** How we give God (not ourselves) praise, adoration, thanksgiving, hope, yearning, and love in our song, music, singing, word, and deed.

**Life-Changing Service to Our Community:** How we use our hands and feet to be the transformation of Jesus Christ in our community and word.

In these weeks of summer, I hope you will join me in prayer and discernment in how God is leading us out of this pandemic. This fall, you will hear about some opportunities to join and how to lead some of these four life-changing areas of focus, and here's the kicker: things will be different. How? It will take our collective discernment to ask God how God is leading us into our new future. I ask that you will join with DeWitt Community Church in prayer and participation.

Love and Grace,

Rev. Alan Rudnick  
Senior Minister

### 2021-2022 Mission Of The Month Schedule

The Christian Caring Committee would like to share with you the Mission Of The Month schedule for 2021-2022. Four organizations were selected to start a new three year rotation, which are Restart, Interfaith Works/Refugee Resettlement, CNY Diaper Bank and In My Father's Kitchen. CNY Diaper Bank and In My Father's Kitchen previously were Missions Of The Month and were selected again.

Your Christian Caring Committee members are Betsy McNany, Ann Brothers, Shari Buskey, Erica Johnson, Warren Machell, Larry Gordon, Jim Fayle and Craig Mabbett.

July – Road2Recovery CNY  
August – McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy Center  
September – Restart  
October – Anthony House  
November – In My Father's Kitchen  
December – Manlius Senior Center and Francis House (Co-Missions Of The Month)  
January – CNY Diaper Bank  
February – Sleep In Heavenly Peace  
March – Syracuse Young Life  
April – Fellowship Of Christian Athletes  
May – Interfaith Works/Refugee Resettlement  
June – Hope For Ariang



### Severe Blood Shortage—Give Now!

Donors of all blood types are needed now to help avoid delays in lifesaving medical care for patients. Schedule your appointment today!

### Blood Drive DeWitt Community Church

Miller Commons  
3600 Erie Blvd East- Syracuse

Saturday, July 17th  
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Co-Sponsored by the DeWitt Community Church and the DeWitt Rotary

To schedule your donation, please call 1(800) REDCROSS, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or download the BloodApp. Reference Sponsor Code: DEWITTC

Come to give July 7-31 for a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email! PLUS, a chance to win gas for a year, a \$5,000 value! There will be 3 winners! Terms and conditions apply; visit [rcblood.org/fuel](http://rcblood.org/fuel)

2021-APL-0636

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

Offers are non-transferable and not redeemable for cash. ©2019 The American National Red Cross | 264702-11



## A Message from the Board President:

"Let's hold firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let's consider how to encourage one another in love and good deeds, not abandoning our own meeting together, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near." - Hebrews 10:23-25

I finally decided to take the plunge and attend a live DCC service a few weeks ago. I have to admit I had gotten used to watching Alan and Cindy from the comfort of my couch over the last many months, but it was time for a change. I still marvel at how quickly and effectively DCC pivoted to online worship. Now that it is here, I truly hope it remains as I believe online worship is a great place to reach seekers who may be nervous attending worship in person, as well as established members who due to circumstance are unable to attend live worship. For those who have not yet resumed attending worship, let me share my impressions.

I found everything to be well-planned and logically set up. Church seating was clearly marked, separating families in a socially-distanced manner. Masks will be optional for those who are fully vaccinated, although that was not yet the case when I attended service. However, the temperature of the sanctuary was such that I did not feel inconvenienced by wearing a mask. Short of distancing and masks, the biggest change involved congregational music, which is a pro or a con, depending on how you look at it. It is a negative because people cannot hear my wife sing hymns. It is a pro because people do not have to hear me sing hymns. The quartet was beautiful – their recordings for online worship do not do justice to their talent. It was truly wonderful to hear. Seeing Alan and Cindy leading services from the pulpit felt delightfully normal, almost like it was 2019!

I must say that the best part of attending a live worship was looking around and seeing like-minded people worshipping together. I got to see several people I had not seen in quite some time, and it felt good. Not once did I feel uncomfortable with the way things were being run. I honestly felt much more comfortable worshipping at DCC than I do going to Wegmans or Home Depot at a busy time of day.

We all have our own comfort zones and I do not want anyone to think I am pressuring them to do something they are not ready to do. I do want to let people who think they are ready to take the next step in "re-entering society" to consider attending the next live DCC service. I do not think you will be disappointed.

I pray that our circumstances continue to improve and that I will see more of you worshipping with us at DCC in the near future.

Yours in Christ,  
Greg Stock



As we wind up our year, I want to thank everyone who has supported the Women's Association this past unusual year of seeming to do nothing, but we did have a successful pie sale, thank you to Judy Wilson and group, and plant sale thank you to Linda Bliss.

I had a nice "sit-down" with Pastor Alan this week and got some great ideas. So during the summer I will be working on some new ideas with our steering group (see, already a new word!) and would welcome ideas from any member of the congregation. Please email me [Atee1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:Atee1@twcny.rr.com) or call 315-430-0220.

Now my note is becoming long so will leave you with one very exciting thought - I have been in touch with Yvonne Conte! More on that later

Thank you again for your support so that we can support you!  
Angela Todisco

# 2021 Graduates



Calvin Christman is graduating from Baldwinsville School District. During his time at school he enjoyed many activities. He performed with the Marching Band in the 2020 Tournament of Roses Parade in California. He was a founding member of his school's e-sports team. He ran cross country and track. During this time, he was also an active member of Boy Scout Troop 114. He is a member of the Order of the Arrow Scouting Honor Society and has achieved scoutings highest rank of Eagle Scout. Next year Calvin will be attending West Virginia University to study business.



Ethan Dupell is graduating from Cicero North Syracuse High School. Ethan was baptized at Dewitt Community Church in 2003 and enjoyed Sunday School with Jaylene Moore. He lives with his parents, Amy & Todd and brother Wyatt with whom he plays CNS Varsity Tennis. Ethan will be attending SUNY Oswego in the fall, studying Computer Science.



Abby Ray is graduating from West Genesee High school. She will be attending Northeastern University in Boston. She will be majoring in Ecology and Environmental Conservation. She is daughter to Brian and Allison Ray. She is the granddaughter of Bob and Sue Westlake.



Sarah Hills will be attending Penn State University in the fall and looks forward to attending football games and becoming involved in campus life. She is undecided on a major at this point but is considering education to become a teacher. Sarah has been an active volunteer with the Fayetteville-Manlius Dance Marathon raising money for Camp Good Days and looks forward to participating in the Penn State Dance Marathon which is the largest charity fundraiser of its kind in the country.





Riley Bissetta will be graduating from Fayetteville Manlius High school on June 25th. While at FM she participated in Mock Trial, soccer, crew, and Police Explorers. She plans to attend OCC in the fall. She received JDFA and the District Attorney's Advisory Scholarships. She plans to play soccer at OCC. In her free time, you can find her attending Sunday worship at DCC, working at the Loft (she loves her job), walking her favorite poodle Charlie, hanging out with family, and working out. Riley is excited about the future!



Lillian Coleman is a senior at FM high school. She will be attending Syracuse University in the Fall where she will be studying Nutritional Science.

While at FM, Lilly has been a three sport athlete for all four years of high school playing soccer, basketball and lacrosse. Lilly was awarded the Scholar athlete award in each sport. She is a member of National Honor society, Science Honor Society and Young Life.



Lucy Fowler will be graduating from Fayetteville Manlius High School. She served as the Fayetteville-Manlius class of 2021 Class President for the past three years. Throughout my high school career I have been involved in many clubs and extracurricular activities including Positivity Project, National Honors Society, Science Honors Society, the Fayetteville-Manlius Board of Education student representative, SCAC Athletic Conference, and am an active Unified Club and Sports member. Following graduation, I will be continuing my academic career at Fairfield University.



Drew Thomas Garrett graduated from Canisius College in Buffalo. He is graduated with a Bachelors in Digital Media design and Communications.





Aimee Comanici graduated 2 weeks ago from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Amiee will be working at WakeMed in Raleigh, NC in the cardiac cath lab!



Ashley Van Slyke graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Nursing-Honors from the University of Pittsburgh. She will be moving to Baltimore to start her new job at Johns Hopkins University Hospital.



**SAMARITAN CENTER**  
DCC at The Samaritan Center  
September 12, 2021  
10 volunteers needed

The Samaritan Center is allowing groups like ours to provide volunteers again. Significant safety protocols are in place by Samaritan Center staff for volunteer safety. Meals are provided to clients to go and clients no longer eat their meals at The Samaritan Center. DCC's next serve date is September 12, 2021. If you are interested in participating as a volunteer, please contact Jim Fayle by email at [jfayle@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:jfayle@twcnny.rr.com) or by phone at 315-777-5957. Feel free to call Jim 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 are not on any quarantine or self-isolation directive







# Mission Of The Month



## Road2RecoveryCNY

The nationwide opioid epidemic became very personal when our own son became addicted to heroin. He entered rehab several times, but relapsed each time within months of discharge. We felt helpless as he spiraled downward, losing hope, and dreading the phone call that would confirm his death. When he finally asked for help with his addiction, we knew we had to do something differently. Sending him out of state, to a long-term 12 step program, saved his life. Our health insurance would not pay for his treatment, so we dug deep and paid for it ourselves. This experience changed his life, and ours. Now our son is sober, healthy, and happy.

We are so grateful for his recovery, that we want to pass on this hope and healing to others in the Central New York Community. We started by sponsoring one person, then another, and then another. But there are many more out there who do not have the resources to pay for effective, long-term treatment, and our own finances cannot support all those in need. So we created Road2RecoveryCNY to do just that, and share our story so that people can realize that there is hope for recovery from heroin addiction.

- \$459,000.00 Raised to date  
- 65% of alumni still sober after treatment  
- \$20,325.00 Cost to send one person to treatment  
- 23 lives changed with treatment

We may not be able to change the world,  
but we can do more, right here, right now in CNY.  
With YOUR HELP we can save lives, one at a time.

## 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

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](mailto:nancybond3@gmail.com)/315-350-9844) and she would be glad to answer questions or fill your needs. Thank you.

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

### Prayer Chain / Prayer & Care

Members of the Prayer Chain receive emails of urgent prayer requests, as well as the weekly Prayer & Care bulletin electronically. Participants of this intercessory prayer team commit to confidentially pray for the request when they receive it. Join the Prayer Chain by contacting Rev. Dr. Cindy Mapstone: [cmapstone@dewittchurch.org](mailto:cmapstone@dewittchurch.org).

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.

# July 2021

Church Office Hours for the Summer are:  
Monday Through Thursday: 9:00AM to 4:00PM  
Friday: 9:00AM to 3:00PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31				1	2	3
4 Independent's Day 10:00AM Traditional Worship Service	5 Office Closed	6 1:30 PM Staff Meeting	7	8	9	10
11 10:00AM Traditional Worship Service	12	13 1:30 PM Staff Meeting	14	15 Newsletter Deadline for August	16	17 9:00AM Red Cross Blood Drive
18 10:00AM Traditional Worship Service	19	20 1:30 PM Staff Meeting	21 Virtual VBS	22	23	24
25 10:00AM Traditional Worship Service	26	27 1:30 PM Staff Meeting	28 Virtual VBS	29	30	31