

August newsletter

Worship Schedule

In-Person VBS is BACK at DCC!!!

Calling all kids! Vacation Bible School is in person **August 8-12, 9AM-12PM**. We hope your kids (or your grandkids or neighbor's kids) will join us for a week of fun as we learn about the love of Jesus.

Go to www.dewittchurch.org/vbs for information. AND...We are still looking for volunteers to help us that week. Youth and adults are welcome to help guide the kids as they experience Jesus' love. Please **contact Anne Stock at vbs@dewittchurch.org** for details.



SAVE THE DATE
Vacation Bible School!!
VBS will be held IN-
PERSON August 8-12, 2022
from 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Finding Faith In Hard Times

Rev. Alan Rudnick

Saturday, August 6	5:30 PM Courtyard Service
Sunday, August 7	9:30 AM Sanctuary & Live Stream on Facebook and YouTube

God: Faithful, Not Perfect

Rev. Alan Rudnick

Saturday, August 13	5:30 PM Courtyard Service
Sunday, August 14	9:30 AM Sanctuary & Live Stream on Facebook and YouTube

Made for God's Purpose

Rev. Dr. Cindy Mapstone

Saturday, August 20	5:30 PM Courtyard Service
Sunday, August 21	9:30 AM Sanctuary & Live Stream on Facebook and YouTube

Access vs. Excess

Rev. Dr. Cindy Mapstone

Saturday, August 27	5:30 PM Courtyard Service
Sunday, August 28	9:30 AM Sanctuary & Live Stream on Facebook and YouTube

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) 303-2286. Please leave a message and your contact information and the pastor on-call will return your call as soon as possible.





Digital Disciples

A few weeks ago, I received a call in the church office from someone asking about joining DeWitt Community Church as a member. The request for membership was truly unique. The person could not come to our church because of a medical condition but wanted to join as a member. This individual had kept up with worship every week on YouTube, connected with our weekly online music on Facebook, and inquired about our Zoom small groups/Bible studies.

This sparked a thought. Can we welcome people into membership who cannot physically attend because of medical reasons but want to be a part of our community of faith? Can we see our church community as equipping disciples both in person and digitally? This situation is the emerging ministry that churches are accepting using lessons learned from ministry during a pandemic.

According to a 2021 study conducted by Pew Research¹, researchers found American's use of technology to be quite pervasive:

- 96% of adults own a cell phone, and of those, 81% are smartphones
- Nearly 75% of adults have a computer
- Around 50% of adults have a tablet or e-reader

Young or old, the technology to connect and discover information is right at our fingertips. A growing segment of the population is using phones and computers to access video. Our congregation has a growing library of video and information from the last two and a half years of worship, devotionals, Bible studies, and music on YouTube and Facebook. That spiritual content is there and people access it every day.

Just as the early church grew in its capacity to reach people with the transforming message of Jesus Christ, our new emerging capacity within this framework of digital discipleship requires us to make new investments in technology, train our staff and our lay people to utilize technology to equip, uplift, and inspire people to go deeper in their faith. Churches such as Rev. Adam Hamilton's Church of the Resurrection in the Kansas City area have had online or digital pastors for years because their congregation saw how their online ministry could reach new people.

For DeWitt Community Church, we as a congregation will continue to embrace how people can grow in their spiritual journeys where they are, whether that be at a distance, local to the Syracuse area, at home, at work, or right here on our church campus. Just as Saint Paul utilized the growing technology of Rome's network of roads, bridges, and waterways to send letters to emerging Christian communities, we too can utilize our web-based society to connect and grow Christians in their faith in 2022 and beyond.

Love and Grace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Rudnick".

Rev. Alan Rudnick, Senior Minister

¹ <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/fact-sheet/mobile/>

A Message from the Board President

Summer is in full swing and I am continually amazed how fast our summer days, actually all days, pass by. With that in mind, we should be planning how we use our time. One of my favorite words is balance, and I am routinely reminding people I work with that we all have to balance our activities, especially between work and family, but also in the activities in which we choose to participate.

That said, I would ask you to prayerfully consider your involvement at church. Although we have an excellent staff, no church can be successful without a variety of volunteers. It seems that people in general have not returned to their pre-pandemic volunteerism, and that is hurting our church. Whether volunteering in Sunday School, the choir, on a committee, or the chair of a committee, we need you. 1 Peter 4:10 tells us "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

Please pick an area to support at church, or reconsider a position that you may have been asked to previously fill, and let Alan or Cindy how you want to be involved. We have a wonderful church that needs you to be active in our ministry.

I hope you have a fun and safe end of the pre-Labor Day summer. Thank you.

Dave Schneckenburger
President

Christian Caring Committee - Reaching Out To Friends In Need

We hope that you are all enjoying the beautiful weather that we have had so far this summer! And hopefully I didn't just jinx it....

While some of our efforts slow down during July and August as we catch up and reset our focus, we continue to plan and support many of our Christian Caring partners. There never seems to be an end to the needs that our neighbors and friends experience on a daily basis. Their issues simply don't take a summer vacation. I urge you all to look for ways to reach out to those around you who may need a little extra help. Family members, neighbors, community members, etc. Perhaps a perfect stranger that you encounter. Loving and helping others is what we are called to do and is such an important part of our Community Church core values.

Many opportunities, with multiple scopes, will be defined for us all once we rev things back up as we approach September. As previously mentioned, we will need a lot of support and assistance from YOU in order to accomplish the things we are planning within Christian Caring. Please join us as we look to increase our efforts for those who need us.

Enjoy the rest of your summer & God Bless

Rick Hall

Altar Guild Interest Meeting

The Altar Guild is seeking new members to help keep our sacred space beautiful. Responsibilities include decorating seasonally, working with Director of Worship Arts to coordinate visual elements of worship in Miller Commons and the sanctuary, and coordinating flower donations for the altar. An interest meeting will be held on Sunday August 21st in the Parlor immediately following the 9:30 worship service. For more information please contact Abel Searor at asearor@dewittchurch.org.



The **Central New York Diaper Bank** is a nonprofit that was created to assist social service organizations in the Syracuse area distribute diapers to families in need. Our mission is to ensure all Central New York families have access to an adequate supply of diapers, and to build awareness of diaper need in our community. The organization was started by Michela Hugo after realizing that families who received assistance getting other essential items had nowhere to turn to get diapers. They aren't stocked by food pantries and they aren't covered by WIC or food stamps.

The CNY Diaper Bank is holding its fourth annual "Make a Mother's Day" Diaper Drive this month. We believe all babies deserve the best possible start in life and diapers are a basic need they simply cannot go without.

The goal is to collect 100,000 diapers. The diaper bank collects disposable diapers and distributes them to food pantries and other organizations that help struggling families.

The CNY Diaper Bank is 100% volunteer-run and we would love for you to join us. We need your energy and your ideas as we continue to expand our reach and build our capacity to assist more families. Would you like to be more involved with the CNY Diaper Bank? We need people with lots of different skills including accounting, inventory management, volunteer coordination, and grant writing. If you'd like to be a bigger part of this effort, contact us at volunteer@cnydiaperbank.org.

Donating dollars makes the biggest impact. With your dollars, we can purchase two to three times the number of diapers you can in a store.

\$7 PROVIDES A ONE-MONTH DIAPER SUPPLEMENT FOR A BABY

\$35 PROVIDES MONTHLY SUPPLEMENTS FOR 5 BABIES

\$50 PROVIDES MONTHLY SUPPLEMENTS FOR 8 BABIES

\$200 PROVIDES DIAPERS FOR 32 BABIES

\$500 PROVIDES DIAPERS FOR 77 BABIES



To make a financial gift to the CNY Diaper Bank, please use the contribution envelopes available in the pews and check "Mission of the Month."

Summer Worship Hours and Saturday Night Service

Our Summer Worship times will continue through Labor Day Weekend.

Our 5:30 PM Saturday service meets in the courtyard. If there is inclement weather the 5:30 PM Saturday service will be held in Miller Commons.

Our Sunday morning summer worship service begins at 9:30 AM on Sundays in the sanctuary.

Family Ministries

Family Ministries is taking a break for the summer and will resume Sunday School for all ages on **Sunday, September 11th**. In the meantime, we are looking for volunteers to help with in person Sunday School during the school year.

Teaching opportunities are available in a multi-age classroom at 9am and at 11am for the following groupings:

Nursery Care (birth to 2)

Pre-K (3 & 4 years)

Kindergarten & Grades 1

Grades 2 & 3

Grades 4 & 5

Middle School

High School

If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities, please contact children's ministry at childrensministry@dewittchurch.org or call the church office at (315) 445-0331.

Vacation Bible School "Monumental" - In-Person - August 8-12, 2022 - 9:00AM to 12:00PM



Youth News

Young Life Opportunity: Campaigners

Campaigners is held on several Mondays throughout the summer, from 7-8:30pm at the Kaisers (7696 Clark Ln, Manlius). Rising Freshmen are invited to this as well! For those rising Freshmen who may be unfamiliar, Campaigners is closer to a small group bible study for high school students. We play some games and then talk about some verses from the bible together and how to apply it to our lives.

Remaining Dates for Campaigners are **August 1st, August 8th, August 15th, August 22nd, and August 29th**.

Contact Marge: mpalmer@syracuse.younglife.org or (774) 392-3952 for questions or information.

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/315-350-9844)
and she would be glad to answer questions or fill your needs.
Thank you.

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

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,

Stephen Ministry

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.



August Blood Drives

DeWitt Community Church

Miller Commons - Back of church
3600 Erie Blvd. East - Syracuse

Thursday, August 18, 2022
Wednesday, August 31, 2022
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Co-Sponsored by Laurence Segal's Cans for Cancer

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
 or RedCrossBlood.org and enter: **DEWITTCC**
 to schedule and appointment.



Download the Blood Donor App today. Get your digital donor card, schedule your next appointment, track your lifetime donations, view your blood pressure, and follow your donation on its way to a hospital.

Donate Blood in August!

Donors are needed this summer to ensure patients will receive their necessary treatments. Sign up and give blood on Saturday, **August 18th from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM** or **Wednesday, August 31st from 1:00 to 7:00 PM** at DeWitt Community Church and get a \$10 e-gift card to your choice of merchants. PLUS, automatically be entered for a chance to win gas for a year, a \$6,000 value! You could be one of three lucky winners. Sign-up today, or call **1-800 RED CROSS** and reference sponsor code **DEWITTCC**! Thank you for your support of patients in need and our community!

A Note from the Red Cross

Thank you, the DCC and the DeWitt Rotary for hosting the July 17th blood drive at DeWitt Community Church. The turnout was strong and it was a great success, as we collected 35 units on our goal of 32! Attached is the impact statement you can share and save for your records. Please also pass along our thanks to each volunteer who came out to help. The blood drives would not do as well without that support!

Though we are running other dates at the church, the DCC/Dewitt Rotary sponsored future blood drives are confirmed for the following dates from 8am-1pm.

Sat. 9/10/22

Sat. 11/5/22

Sat. 3/11/23

Please share any concerns or feedback and have a wonderful summer!

Katherine Stepanian - American Red Cross Blood Services

Thank You DCC

Thank you to all DCC people and others who either give blood or help at the check-in and hospitality tables. You are a great help to these who need blood and to the smooth running of our blood drives.



American Red Cross

Thank you!



DeWitt Community Church & DeWitt Rotary

Sponsor Group

July 17, 2022

Date of Drive

32	1
Total Number of Donors	First Time Donors
35	105
Units Collected	Potential Number of Lives Saved

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

© 2018 The American Red Cross | 101501

Jamesville Dewitt Ecumenical Food Pantry

The Jamesville Dewitt Ecumenical Food Pantry has a continuing need for donations in this difficult time. They're open weekly on Tuesdays from 10:00am-1:00pm and Thursdays from 10:00-1:00pm to receive food donations. Donations can also be delivered to DCC or the pantry located behind the old Jamesville Dewitt Firehouse. At this time, we could use the following popular items:

- Cereals
- Canned pasta
- Soup (Progresso, Chunky Campbell's)
- Kraft Mac & Cheese
- Knorr Rice & Pasta Sides

These and any other food donations are greatly needed, as families continue to enroll with the pantry. For more information, please contact the church office.



Homecoming 2022 (September 18th)

Please mark your calendars and join us following the 11am service on September 18th for a party to celebrate the kick off of a new program year. Lunch will be served, games will be played and fellowship will be enjoyed by young and old alike.



August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1				11:00 AM - Schneider Memorial	5:30 PM - Outdoor Service (Courtyard)
9:30 AM - Nursery care Birth to Age 4 (Nursery) 9:30 AM - Worship Service (Sanctuary)	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Vacation Bible School (Downstairs)	11:00 AM - Staff Meeting (Library)	9:00 AM - Bible Study (Room 42) 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Vacation Bible School (Downstairs)	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Vacation Bible School (Downstairs)	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Vacation Bible School (Downstairs)	5:30 PM - Outdoor Service (Courtyard)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:30 AM - Nursery care Birth to Age 4 (Nursery) 9:30 AM - Worship Service (Sanctuary)		11:00 AM - Staff Meeting (Library)	9:00 AM - Bible Study (Room 42)	1:00 PM - Red Cross Blood Drive (Miller Commons)	3:00 PM - Wedding (Sanctuary)	5:30 PM - Outdoor Service (Courtyard)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:30 AM - Nursery care Birth to Age 4 (Nursery) 9:30 AM - Worship Service (Sanctuary)		5:00 AM - Election Day Polling (Miller Commons) 11:00 AM - Staff Meeting (Library)	9:00 AM - Bible Study (Room 42)	10:00 AM - Cut Ups (Room 6)		5:30 PM - Outdoor Service (Courtyard)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:30 AM - Nursery care Birth to Age 4 (Nursery) 9:30 AM - Worship Service (Sanctuary)		11:00 AM - Staff Meeting (Library)	9:00 AM - Bible Study (Room 42)			
28	29	30	31			