



APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 7

Receiving and Believing

John 20:19-31 / Dr. Alan Rudnick

9:00 AM Miller Commons

11:00 AM Sanctuary & Livestream

Sunday, April 14

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Hebrews 12:1-3, 12-15 / FCA Athletes and Coaches

9:00 AM Miller Commons

11:00 AM Sanctuary & Livestream

Sunday, April 21

El Salvador Mission Trip

1 John 3:16-24 / El Salvador Mission Team

9:00 AM Miller Commons

11:00 AM Sanctuary & Livestream

Sunday, April 28

The Love of God

1 John 4:7-12 / Dr. Paul Bailey

9:00 AM Miller Commons

11:00 AM Sanctuary & Livestream

Easter is More Than One Day

Easter Sunday is the Super Bowl victory parade of Christianity. It is the celebration of victory – Jesus’s victory over death and sin to give us redemption and everlasting life. And the celebration did not end there. We read in scripture the appearances of Jesus:

- † We remember that Jesus appeared to Peter (Cephas) near Jerusalem later that day (Luke 24:34, 1 Corinthians 15:5).
- † To two disciples going to Emmaus that day (Mark 16:12, Luke 24:13-31).
- † The evening at Jerusalem to the apostles except Thomas (Mark 16:14, John 20:19-25).
- † Sunday evening (April 16) at Jerusalem to all the apostles, especially Thomas (John 20:26-29).
- † To seven disciples fishing on Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-13).
- † To eleven disciples on a mountain in Galilee (Matthew 28:16-18).
- † To over 500 disciples at once (1 Corinthians 15:6).
- † To James --location uncertain (1 Corinthians 15:7).
- † To the apostles (and probably others) during forty days before his ascension (Acts 1:2-3).

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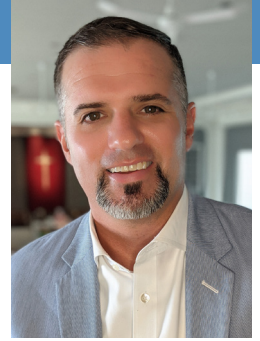
MUNSON & PERKINS **Scholarships**

Application deadline
April 30

Both of these scholarships are awarded to high school graduating seniors who will be continuing on with their education. To apply for these scholarships, visit <http://www.dewittchurch.org> and download the application form listed under resources. Applicants for these scholarships must:

- Be a church member.
- Be going on to further study of some kind.
- Demonstrate a level of activity within the church.

FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER



Easter is More Than One Day

The Christian church remembers these appearances in the lectionary readings on the Sundays following Easter, which makes Easter a season of 50 days. The season of Easter helps us remember to proclaim the good news. Christian scholar N.T. Wright wrote about how the message of Easter must be shared not just one day but at all times in his book, *The Challenge of Easter*:

“Our task, as image-bearing, God-loving, Christ-shaped, Spirit-filled Christians, following Christ and shaping our world, is to announce redemption to the world that has discovered its fallenness, to announce healing to the world that has discovered its fallenness, to announce healing to the world that has discovered its brokenness, to proclaim love and trust to the world that knows only exploitation, fear and suspicion.”

At DeWitt Community Church, we share the Easter message every day and in as many ways as possible. We have two exciting opportunities to hear how we are partnering with Christian organizations to share the good news:

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Sunday, April 14 – In worship at the **9 AM** and **11 AM** services, we will hear from Syracuse University athletes about how God has made a difference in their lives. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, one of our mission partners, coordinates Bible studies, gatherings, service projects, and supports athletes who desire to walk with Christ daily. Several times a year, we provide dinner for the weekly huddles, which includes over 50 athletes.

El Salvador Mission Trip Sunday, April 21 – DeWitt Community Church and dozens of other churches in Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo sent over 80 youth and adults to Bajo Lempa, El Salvador, to serve and support villages. At the **9 AM** and **11 AM** worship services, you will hear from our DCC El Salvador team about the mission trip and how they worked on building stable housing, improving sanitation, working at a medical clinic, offering a shoe drive, and the impact the mission trip had on the local people.

I hope you will join us on these special Sundays to learn how we create an Easter world as an Easter people. Perhaps you will want to participate in our efforts at DeWitt Community Church through one of our partner mission ministries to make the Easter message a reality in our world.

Love and Grace,

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

Dr. Alan Rudnick
Senior Minister

NEW MEMBERS GATHERING

Interested in membership at DeWitt Community Church? Pastor Alan will hold a membership gathering in April or May to guide potential members through the membership process. In addition, we will discuss information on the church's organization, ministries, opportunities to serve or lead, and any questions potential members may have. Please contact Pastor Alan at alan@dewittchurch.org or **315-445-0331** to learn more about the new members gathering.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN CARING CHAIR

DCC Easter Meals - WE DID IT!! And MORE!!

I want to take the opportunity to extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our initial DCC Easter Meal distribution an absolute success. This effort, spearheaded by Amy Dupell and Dot Hall, surpassed our initial target of 50 meals and ended up at 65 meals to those in our community in need of a little assistance. Beyond the normal foodstuffs (veggies, fruit, produce, olives, pickles, rolls, gift cards for meat, etc.) these meals included Easter gifts to children (sidewalk chalk, coloring books & crayons, Peeps, and candy). In addition, each meal included drawings from our DCC Sunday school children, a handwritten card of inspiration from our very own Ann Brothers, and the schedule of our Holy Week services. It was our way to reach out to our friends with a DCC "spin" and make it much more personal. We truly care about each and every one of the families that receive these meals, and we hope that it shows with these meaningful touches. We consistently talk about being the hands and feet of Christ, and this is another example of how we live it at DCC.

In my opinion this was a stellar result for a first-time effort and was made possible by the response and support of the entire congregation. **Thank you!** As always, the leadership and hard work of our incredible Christian Caring Team allowed all of this to happen. **Thank you!** We had a nice turnout to physically pack and queue the meals for pickup. **Thank you!** And once again, our wonderful staff was beyond helpful and supportive to make all of the necessary little details happen. **Thank you!** WE at DCC made Easter a much nicer holiday for over 250 people and, hopefully, brought the love of Jesus into focus for them at this incredibly impactful time of year. **THANK YOU!**

God bless you all,

Rick Hall
Chair, Christian Caring Team
rhrhall7@gmail.com



A NOTE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



There is much anticipation of the total eclipse of the sun next week. That phenomenon doesn't happen often or in a place that many of us in the Northern Hemisphere can easily see. My wish is that you get to witness this experience for all its glory and history; I think these events are often gifts from God to remind us of the awe and beauty of His creation.

When I researched the word "eclipse" in the dictionary...I was struck by the thought of how it may also affect our thinking when it comes to our call to service. To eclipse means to block, cover, obscure, hide, conceal or veil. Do we sometimes hide behind excuses when we are asked to help with teams or committees? Do we hesitate to volunteer because we think someone else is better qualified? Do we conceal our fears or insecurities by putting on veils that hide our strengths and talents?

The Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee are working hard to find volunteers to step into roles on serve teams and committees throughout our church and ministries. I encourage you to pray about where you can step out behind the curtain...to stretch, to grow, to see the light once you get involved. We need more people to help us lift and spread our reach....to serve the hungry, to lift the vulnerable, to walk alongside those in need. Let's talk about where you can contribute. The time of the total eclipse is short—but the light following is awesome. Join us.

Blessings,

Dot Hall
President, Board of Trustees

MARCH MISSION OF THE MONTH: RESTART

Restart is an outreach ministry of Syracuse United Methodist Ministries that supports individuals and families who are restarting their lives. Some move out of shelters, while others move from places that were condemned, caught fire, or had other difficulties. Often Restart must move quickly to assist as these people begin their new lives. Restart collects household items such as furniture, dishes, bedding, and appliances. Since Restart's first delivery in 2018, the program has received over 200 donations and has enriched the lives of over 350 individuals and families.

Lack of housing across the nation continues to be a major issue for countless people so when housing becomes a reality, Restart can be there to help furnish rooms and apartments. They also work closely with other charities like Sleep in Heavenly Peace and In My Father's Kitchen.

Restart is extremely grateful for the assistance from DeWitt Community Church. Your financial assistance helps buy fuel for the U-Haul vehicles used to deliver and pick up donations. Restart can always use bedroom, living room and dining furniture along with bathroom and kitchen linens, kitchen dishes, silverware, pots and pans, and mattresses and box springs that are in good condition.

To arrange a donation pick up, call **Evelyn Disinger** at **315-857-7634**.

DCC *Women's* ASSOCIATION

Hello all. I hope everyone had a good Easter and is enjoying some spring weather. I hope you all have a chance to see the eclipse, carefully of course, with dark glasses.

The WA has a busy April lined up, starting with a Fellowship Gathering in the Parlor on **April 7** at noon. We'll follow that up with a breakfast on **April 21** (look for something tasty & exciting)! And lastly, another Fellowship Gathering on **April 28**.

Then May looks to be just as busy with a Fellowship Gathering on **May 5** and a Mothers' Day thank you the next week. To finish out May we'll have our annual Memorial Day Plant Sale. Look for our signs and plant displays to help plan your flower gardens and Memorial Day planting. We will again partner with the Circle Garden so you have opportunity to support the Circle Garden as well as the Women's Association.

As always, if anyone would like to help with the Women's Association Fellowship Gatherings or other events, we would love to have you.

Angela Todisco
Chair, Women's Association
315-430-0220 / Atee1@twcny.rr.com



MEET THE BOARD: ELLEN BUTLER ***NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR***

Ellen first walked through the DCC doors the same day that Rev. Mark Sommers did his visitation sermon. She had accepted an invitation from her close friend, Jill Hayward. Since then, Ellen has been involved in our Youth Committee, including serving as a confirmation sponsor, VBS volunteer, and on fellowship and hospitality teams. Ellen joined one of our youth mission trips to Queens, NY. She currently serves as an usher and the Chair of our Nominating Committee.

Ellen also worked for DCC as our Office Manager, bringing her organizational skills to the team and a welcoming smile to all who entered our church building. For the past five years, Ellen has worked at Morgan Stanley as a Registered Customer Service Associate.

For fun, Ellen enjoys being outside hiking, biking, or kayaking. She also loves live theater, live music and traveling.

Ellen and her husband, Keith, moved to the Syracuse area in 1997. Their two daughters, Allie and Joanna, live in Salt Lake City, UT. Allie is an RN currently working as a Transplant Coordinator and Joanna works in hospitality sales.

PRESCHOOL/ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

4/7 - Peter Visits Cornelius

4/14 - Lydia Believes in Jesus

4/21 - Spring Recess - Church School Break

4/28 - Priscilla and Aquila Help Apollos

GET READY TO DIVE INTO FUN!

Every summer, DCC hosts Vacation Bible School to teach local kids about Jesus. This year's theme is *Scuba: Diving into Friendship with God*. Mark your calendars for fun on the mornings of **August 12-16**. Kids ages 3 and up can participate, because once they are too old to be campers, they can help! We are also looking for adult volunteers. Registration will open **April 15**. For more information, contact vbs@dewittchurch.org.



Summer Servants is an immersion service experience for teenagers that happens in Syracuse, NY. It is designed to empower teens to reach out to those who may be close in proximity, but who live in poverty or in the margins of our society. The week is coordinated by the Brady Faith Center, and the teens are housed here at DeWitt Community Church. Summer Servants will be doing a variety of work, such as working with children from low-income housing, working on urban farms and community gardens, helping at summer programs such as vacation Bible school, serving the hungry, creating community art, working with the elderly, and completing minor home repairs.

For more information, visit summerservants.org.



VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need:

Station leaders willing to lead worship, games, crafts/science experiments, Bible adventures, snack, preschool.

Crew leaders willing to spend time with a group of kids, leading them from station to station.

Check-in team leaders who are organized and can help families register and check-in and out for the day.

Behind the scenes, we need shoppers, decorators, set-up/break down help, supplies donated/loaned (stay tuned for a list!)

If you are interested in volunteering for VBS, please contact the DCC Office at 315-445-0331, or contact VBS Director Anne Stock at vbs@dewittchurch.org.



STAY & PLAY

WEDNESDAYS, 9:45 AM - 11:15 AM

Come to Stay & Play to stay active and make new friends! Parents and caregivers, bring your littles.

We meet on **Wednesdays** from **9:45 - 11:15 AM** and play, play, play in the **Gym!** We have lots of toys in a clean, safe environment. We hope you'll join us and invite a friend!

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

DCC GOLF FELLOWSHIP

The 2024 DCC Golf Fellowship is ready to tee off! We will gather each **Wednesday** morning during the golf season at **8:30 AM**. We will begin the **2nd week of April** (weather permitting!). We will play several area courses: some easier (Olde Oak), some more challenging (Green Lakes). Some players play 9 holes, some 18, some walk, some use carts. None of us are “excellent” or probably even “very good” golfers, but we enjoy the outdoors and each other’s company. Please consider joining us. Early each week an email will be sent confirming the course for that Wednesday.



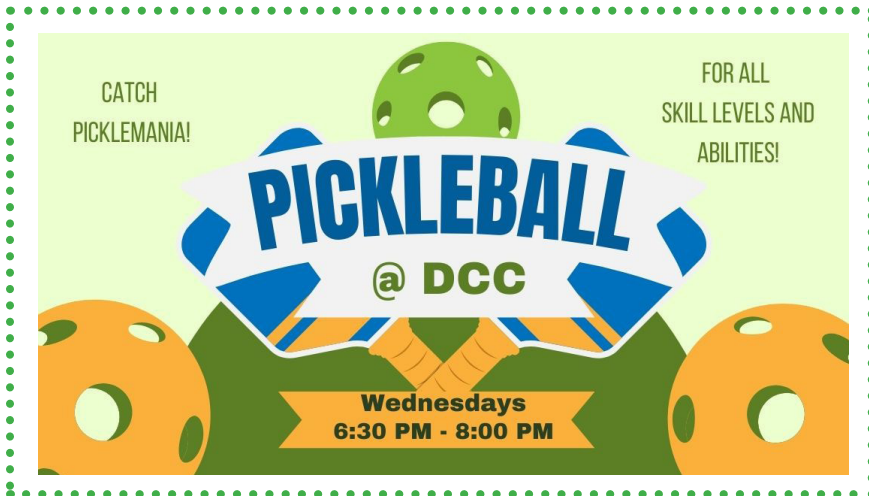
To be added to the email list, please contact Sandy Gunn at **315-632-4753** or **sg2asia@hotmail.com**.

April Schedule:

April 10 - Lyndon

April 17 - Lyndon

April 24 - Woodcrest



PICKLEBALL FOR 2 somethings

FRIDAYS
6:30 - 8 PM
DCC GYM

Bring a friend or come alone and meet someone new!
Equipment provided, fun guaranteed.
No skills required.

DeWitt Community Church Board of Trustees 2023-24 Program Year

Officers:

- President - Dot Hall
- Vice President - Nate Andrews
- Treasurer - Donnie Mabbett
- Clerk - Sue Hanselman

Committees Represented on BOT:

- Finance - Jeff Roney
- Property - Dave Boshart
- Investment - Dave Schneckenberger
- Personnel - Jim Opgenorth
- Stewardship - Sandy Gunn
- Nominating - Ellen Butler

At Large Members:

- Lauren Suarez Rivera
- Lisa Anderson
- Cathy Berry Lozoponi
- Traci Avellino
- Elizabeth Chapman

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Easter Monday Office Closed				630PM 20 Somethings Pickleball (Gym)	10AM VBS Crafting (Rm 9)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9AM Worship Service (Miller Commons) 11AM Traditional Service (Sanctuary) 12PM Fellowship Gathering (Parlor)	7PM VA Basketball (Gym)	1PM Staff Mtg. (Library) 330PM Stephen Minister Peer Supervision (Parlor)	9AM Bible Study (Rm 42) 945AM Stay & Play (Gym) 630PM Pickleball (Gym)	6PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7PM Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)	630PM 20 Somethings Pickleball (Gym)	8AM Meals on Wheels Bottle Drive (Cemetery Parking Lot & Sno-Top)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9AM Worship Service (Miller Commons) 10AM FCA Breakfast (Miller Cmns) 11AM Traditional Service (Sanctuary)	7PM VA Basketball (Gym)	1PM Staff Mtg. (Library)	9AM Bible Study (Rm 42) 945AM Stay & Play (Gym) 630PM Pickleball (Gym)	6PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7PM Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) 7PM/PM BOT Meeting (Miller Commons)	630PM 20 Somethings Pickleball (Gym)	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9AM Worship Service (Miller Commons) 10AM W/A Breakfast (Gym) 11AM Traditional Service (Sanctuary) 12PM W/A Breakfast (Gym) 12PM This is DCC (Library)	7PM VA Basketball (Gym) 12PM Stephen Ministry Hybrid Mtg. (Zoom)	1PM Staff Mtg. (Library) 330PM Stephen Minister Peer Supervision (Parlor)	9AM Bible Study (Rm 42) 945AM Stay & Play (Gym) 630PM Pickleball (Gym)	10AM Cut-Ups (Rm 6) 12PM Blood Drive (Gym) 6PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7PM Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)	630PM 20 Somethings Pickleball (Gym)	
28	29	30				
9AM Worship Service (Miller Commons) 11AM Traditional Service (Sanctuary) 12PM Fellowship Gathering (Parlor)	7PM VA Basketball (Gym)	1PM Staff Mtg. (Library)				