



## A Space For Kids To Build Their Faith - Children's Ministry

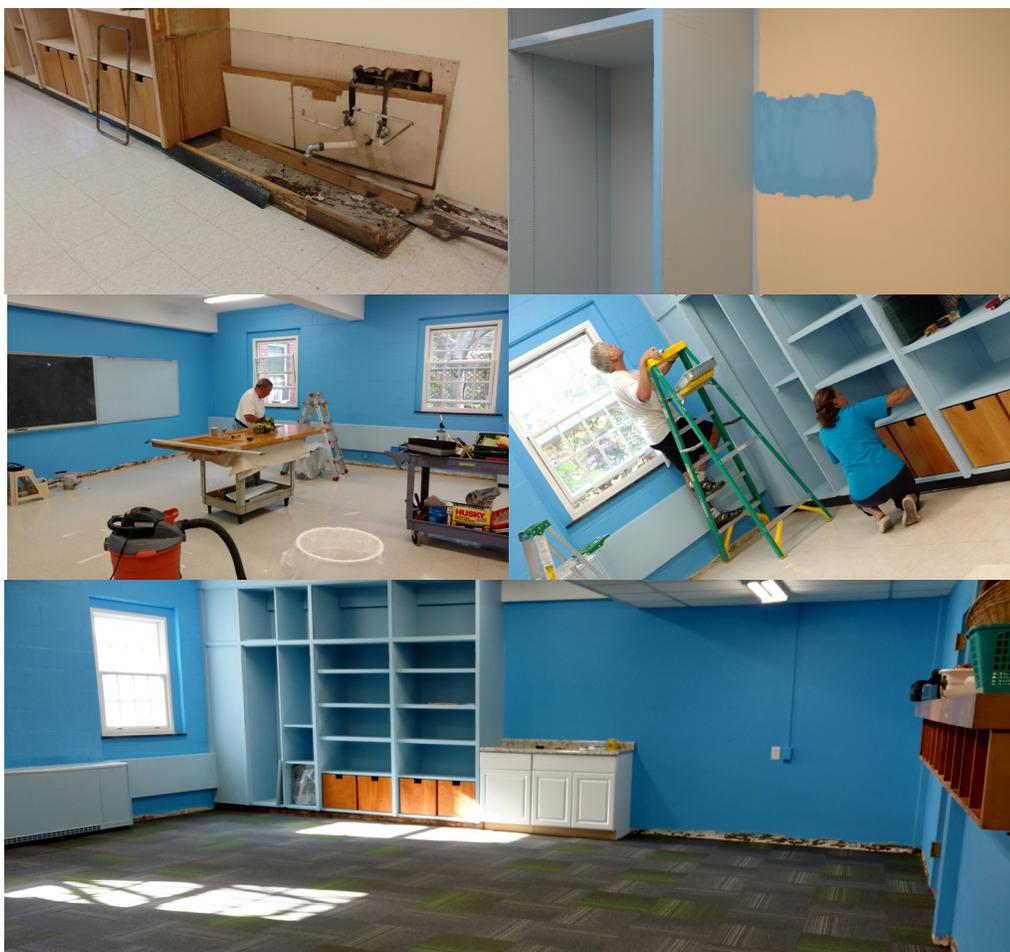
From small beginnings come great things. It all began with a dream. Pastor Mark had a vision of one day having a Children's Room next to Miller Commons. He wanted this room to be used for child care during our Saturday evening services and other events. That dream was then further cultivated by our beloved congregant, former Children's Ministry Director, and inspiration, Kristen Seamans. Heck, our Executive Minister, Pastor Alan, even wrote about the concept back in 2015 before he was even a staff member at our Church (check out his blog... [alanrudnick.org/2015/03/20/myth-elite-young-athlete/](http://alanrudnick.org/2015/03/20/myth-elite-young-athlete/)). For many years, the thought of this room remained but a dream. However, after a great deal of hard work by a number of selfless believers, we are so proud to be unveiling our newly renovated Room 10! This room will primarily be used for child care and Sunday School during our Saturday evening 5:30pm service!

Here at the DCC, one of our main missions is to help people walk with the Lord. But there always seems to be a reason not to come to Church! In

order to accomplish our goal, we need to remove as many barriers as we can in today's hectic world! With pressure of what I call "Youth Sport Sundays" mounting, it was important to our staff to provide a Saturday evening child care option for our congregants. We felt that if child care were provided on Saturday evenings, more families would attend the service and share in fellowship!

We are absolutely overjoyed to open the doors of this room to all of our children. A huge shout out goes to our Facilities Director, Mick Thorpe. Over the last month, he has worked tirelessly to make sure this project was completed by early November, and the room looks AMAZING! Thank you, Mick! I would also like to thank Chuck Doolittle, Terry Doolittle and Lynn George. Without the hard work and dedication of these fine people, this project would not have been possible. Keystone City fires me up! I think this one deserves a double YEEEEEOOOOW!

*And he took the little children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. - Mark 10:16*



*Connecting people with Christ through community  
Helping people grow in faith  
Serving God by using our gifts to serve others*

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### WEEKLY IN NOVEMBER

Please check the Weekly Announcements for any changes to the Church schedule.

#### SUNDAY

**9:00 AM**

Chapel Service (Miller Commons)  
Financial Peace University (Library)

**9:45 AM**

Children's Choir (Room 9)

**10:00 AM**

Adult Bible Study (Room 42)  
Toughest Bible Teachings Tackled (Room 6)

**10:20 AM**

Treble Makers (Room 7)  
Young Ringers (Room 9)

**11:00 AM**

Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
Youth Worship (Room 7)  
Nursery – Ages 0-3 (Rm 45)  
Children's Sunday School (Room 44)

#### MONDAY

**3:00 PM**

Disciple Bible Study (Parlor)

**6:30 PM**

**7:00 PM**

Embassy Bell Choir (Choir Room)

#### TUESDAY

**1:30 PM**

Program Staff Meeting (Library)

#### WEDNESDAY

**9:00 AM**

Bible Study (Rm 42/Parlor)

**10:45 AM**

Stay & Play (Gym)

#### THURSDAY

**6:00 PM**

Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

**7:00 PM**

Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

#### FRIDAY

**9:00 AM**

Bulletin Inserts (Library)

#### SATURDAY

**5:30 PM**

Chapel Service (Miller Commons)

**Sunday, November 5**

**Daylight Savings Time**

**Ends - Fall Back 1 Hour**

**Tuesday, November 7**

• 3:00 PM

Election Day Pasta Dinner (Gym)

**Saturday, November 11**

**Veteran's Day**

• 8:00 AM

Red Cross Blood Drive (Gym)

**Sunday, November 12**

• 12:00 PM

Starting Point (Library)

• 5:00 PM

Sweet Hour of Sound (Sanctuary)

**Tuesday, November 14**

• 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM

Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Room 42)

• 9:30 AM

IF:EQUIP (Miller Commons)

• 12:00 PM

All Staff Meeting (Parlor)

**Wed, November 15**

• 5:30 PM

Advisory Dinner (Library)

• 7:00 PM

Trustees Meeting (Library)

**Thursday, November 23**

**Thanksgiving Day**

**Office Closed**

**Friday, November 24**

**Office Closed**

**Saturday, November 25**

• 9:15 AM

Parlor Christmas Tree Preparation (Parlor)

**Tuesday, November 28**

• 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM

Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Room 42)

• 9:15 AM

Parlor Christmas Tree Preparation (Parlor)

• 9:30 AM

IF:EQUIP (Miller Commons)

• 12:00 PM

**Sunday, December 3**

• 12:15 PM

DCC at the Samaritan Center (Offsite)

#### Samaritan Center Volunteers

We need 4 volunteers to arrive at 10:30 AM for prep work, and for the rest of our volunteers to arrive at 12:15 PM. If you can volunteer, consider bringing a friend. What better way to get into the holiday spirit by serving with a friend! If you are interested in volunteering for our next trip to the Samaritan Center, or would like to be contacted about future opportunities to serve, please email Craig Mabbett at [cmabbett@twcny.rr.com](mailto:cmabbett@twcny.rr.com), or call 315.436.0429. If you need transportation arrangements can be made. **Upcoming dates: December 3, February 25, April 22, June 17, July 15.**

#### Parlor Christmas Tree

The DCC Cross Stitch Guild invites everybody to help us "put-up" the Parlor Christmas Tree!

**Saturday, November 25 at 9:15 AM we will assemble and light the tree.**

**Tuesday, November 28 at 9:15 AM we will decorate the tree and Parlor.**

**We need tall people, young people, and "sitters".**

**Questions? Call Julie Rimel: 315.682.5483**

#### Starting Point

We know it can be easy to get lost in the crowd, so we created an event just for you. Starting Point is the place for getting acquainted with DeWitt Community Church - finding a small group, learning about our ministries, and meeting church staff. Starting Point lasts for approximately 20 minutes and children are welcome to attend. Please feel free to grab some refreshments and join us in the Library. If you plan to attend Starting Point, please contact the church office: 315-445-0331 or [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org).

**Starting Point sessions will be held on: November 12, December 10, January 28.**

#### Church Membership

If you have been attending DeWitt Community Church for a while and would like to know more about Church Membership please let us know by contacting the church office: 315.445.0331 or [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org).



# FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER



There are two words that you will hear often around DeWitt Community Church in the month of November and those two words are THANK YOU!

There is an incredible power to those two words for both the giver and receiver. Having an attitude of gratitude is the difference between taking things for granted or receiving what comes our way with gratefulness.

With that, I want to say THANK YOU for the cards and gifts and notes that came my way during pastor appreciation month (October). It makes such a difference to know that my service to you is appreciated. It energizes me to sense your appreciation and it helps me realize just how thoughtful our congregation is as a whole. So, in response, I want to say THANK YOU to all of our pastors and staff, and to all of the people who give countless hours to carry out the mission and ministry of DeWitt Community Church. It truly takes a village of people with a multitude of differing gifts to do what we do. Again, THANK YOU.

In the month of November, we will be focused on God's Gifts to Us and on THANKS - GIVING SUNDAY November 19. It will be a time

where those who are actively involved at DeWitt Community Church will be asked to make an "estimate of giving" for 2018. Knowing what financial resources we will have to work with will help us in planning and budgeting for the year. But much more than that, it will help us to focus on our gratitude to God. Our gifts to God is one way we express our appreciation and love for God. Our offerings are a part of our worship and love for God. They are a physical response expressing our gratitude to God.

November 19, after the 11 AM service, there will be a THANKS-GIVING LUNCHEON where we will celebrate our life together. There will also be a time for us to pack Thanksgiving boxes for those in our community who are in need. Our response to God is an important way for us to say thank you and as we serve our neighbors in need, God uses our generosity to be a blessing to others.

Rejoicing Always!

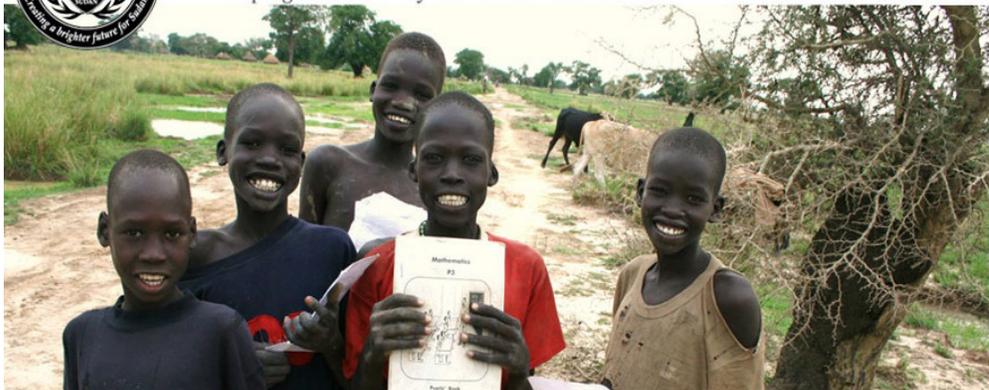
Dr. Mark E. Sommers  
Senior Minister

## Mission of the Month - HOPE for Ariang



### HOPE for ARIANG

Helping Offer Primary Education for Sudan



HOPE for Ariang Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing South Sudanese with inclusive access to education, opportunities, and resources, with a special focus on women and girls, one village at a time.

#### Our Mission

We believe in the transformative power of literacy education to enable people to reach their full human potential and human development.

#### What We Do

HOPE is primarily involved in improving the

access to and quality of education in Ariang. To achieve these, HOPE provides additional social services such as clean water, health care, and economic opportunities, which if left unattended, pose a barrier to villagers' educations. Finally, HOPE raises awareness in the US and abroad about the current situation in South Sudan and the need for a better education system in South Sudan.

#### Who We Serve

HOPE serves the people of Ariang village and neighboring rural communities. The nation has been destroyed by twenty-two years of civil war with the North, which has

resulted in the deaths of more than 2.5 million people and the displacement of more than six million. In addition, what little infrastructure existed prior to the conflict has since been decimated. The organization places special attention on overcoming the economic and societal barriers that affect women and girls, and recognizes the importance of providing education to reduce the gender gap. HOPE seeks to create a sustainable model in Ariang that can be replicated to empower people in other regions of the country.

#### Donate

With your generous support we can help educate a new generation of children, giving them the opportunity to live a life free from the ravages of war and poverty in Sudan. Whether you provide a one-time gift, commit to a monthly donation, or contribute your time to educate others about HOPE for Ariang's mission, we thank you. Visit [hopeforariang.org](http://hopeforariang.org) to learn more.

To make a financial gift to Hope for Ariang, please use the contribution envelopes available in the pews and check "Mission of the Month."

# YOUTH/CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## From the Children's Ministry Director



Friends and Believers,

Come as you are. And be loved! This month I thought that I would share the mission of our Children's Ministry Program here at the DCC! I want to also give every family a glimpse at what a typical Sunday looks for a child in the Children's Ministry Wing!

### What is the mission of our Children's Ministry Program?

We actually have two missions here in Children's Ministry at the Dewitt Community Church!

1. To help everyone that enters our Church have a closer relationship with the Lord...in any and every way that we can. Providing adequate childcare options for adults, introducing our youngsters to the Lord with a basic knowledge of God's Word, and getting children excited about coming to Church every Sunday are the three main methods we use to accomplish this goal! If Children are excited to come to our Church, they'll usually bring their parents with them! Yeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeow!

2. To change the trajectory of every child's day for the better! This one is near and dear to my heart. I want children to feel comfortable coming into our Children's Ministry Wing. I want them to feel excited. I want each child to feel welcome and free to express their individual identity. People face many internal struggles and fight battles on a day in and day out basis. But every interaction with another human being has the potential to positively charge an individual! That's what we want to do in our Children's Ministry. We want to change lives for the better! There's nothing more powerful than a smile!

### What does a typical day look like in Children's Ministry?

We provide childcare during the 9AM Service for children of all ages. All are welcome. During this hour, our students usually participate in social "free play" with their classmates. This includes activities in both our Children's Wing and with large motor activity in the gym.

During the 10AM Education hour, we have a plethora of options available in our music program. From Children's Choir, to Handbells, to Christmas Pageant rehearsal, there is something available for every one of our youngsters. However, if someone does not feel comfortable participating in musical activities, we provide a childcare program similar to the 9AM hour as well!

We spend the first 15 minutes of the 11AM Service Hour in Miller Commons for a group opening with our Children's Choir Director, Gloria Trode. Around 11:15 AM, we split up into groups. We have five categories at this point: Nursery, Preschool, Kindergarten/1st grade, 2nd/3rd grade, and 4th/5th grade. The Nursery, Preschool, and K/1 groups stay in their designated rooms with teachers and volunteers. The 2nd/3rd grade and 4th/5th grade groups spend 20 minutes in Bible study and 20 minutes with a gym activity for some kinesthetic movement! We switch groups at the halfway point, so that each group gets to experience both aspects of the format. At the end of the hour, we usually invite all the children down to the gym for some free play to finish up the day!

"Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love." —Mother Theresa

**Ben Rayland**-Children's Ministry Director

**Amy Bell**-Assistant Children's Ministry Director

**Gloria Trode**-Director of Children's Music and Handbells

**childrensministry@dewittchurch.org**

**SUNDAY** 9AM-Child care available during the early service

10AM-Child care available during the Education Hour

11AM-Nursery and Sunday School for all ages

## Sunday Music Ministry for Young People

**Dewitt Community Church Children's Choir** 9:45-10:15AM

All children Elementary through Grade 8 (able to read words)

The children will grasp music concepts, while exploring worship and spiritual truths: God made us creative beings! Weekly rehearsal attendance will prepare the children to share their musical offering in worship.

*Director, Gloria Trode      Accompanist, Laura Enslin*

**Treble Makers** 10:20-10:50AM

All children Kindergarten through Grade 3

The group rehearses every Sunday during the school year and periodically performs at Sunday services.

*Music Assistant, Lauren Mosier*

**Young Ringers** 10:20-10:50AM

All Children and Youth Grades 4 and up

Children and teens who have played an instrument or have been in chime choir or young ringers for at least a year are invited to join this fun group.

*Gloria Trode, Director      Lauren Mosier, Music Assistant*

**Praise Kids!** 10:55-11:15AM (Sunday School Opening)

All Children Kindergarten through Grade 5

Praise Kids is a gathering time of celebration and song.

*Led by Gloria Trode, Lauren Mosier and Ben Rayland*

## Coming to DCC on December 17:

Sergeant Sabbath is charged with keeping the peace in the sleepy little town of Bethlehem, and he likes things QUIET! When word reaches him that a band of rowdy shepherds is inbound from the fields outside of town, boisterously celebrating with wild tales of angels and such, he is determined to get to the bottom of this case! Of course, what he discovers is no simple "disturbing the peace" complaint. It seems he's stumbled upon the caper that changed the world! Sign up sheets with character descriptions and rehearsal schedules at information tables in Miller Commons and Children's Wing. We've had a terrific response so far, we're waiting for you!



# NEWS & NOTES

## Special Guest Speaker November 25 & 26

We are excited to have Kevin Frank as our guest speaker on the weekend of November 25 & 26. Kevin serves as the Executive Director of the Brady Faith Center which is one of our mission partners. Kevin directs the Summer Servant program which is housed at DeWitt Community Church and involves many of our young people. Prior to serving the Brady Faith Center Kevin served as a pastoral associate at St. Lucy's Church. Kevin has extensive experience working in the urban community and is a fantastic communicator.

The Brady Faith Center's mission is to meet the spiritual, educational, and social needs of individuals and families in the Southwest Community of Syracuse. The Ministry maintains a presence throughout the neighborhood, serving residents of all ages through Eucharistic liturgies, human development, and educational and religious programs. Services are provided at the Brady Faith Center on South Avenue, as well as through visits to the sick, the incarcerated, families in their homes, and wherever support is needed.



## MOWEOC Pasta Dinner

**Tuesday, November 7, 3-8 PM - Gym**

Meals on Wheels of Eastern Onondaga County (MOWEOC) is pleased to announce our 4th Annual Election Day Pasta Dinner, with a delicious meal again being provided by Carrabba's Italian Grill! The event, which is open to the public, will be held in Gym at DeWitt Community Church on Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 3-8 PM, with dine-in or take-out options. The cost is \$11/adult, \$9/seniors 65+, and \$6/children 8 years and under. This is a great way to benefit your local Meals on Wheels and support its 150 volunteers who provide such a valuable service to many of our friends and neighbors. We hope you'll take the time to vote at your polling place and then come enjoy dinner with us. There will also be a gift card raffle!

## Middle Adult Group Gathering

**Friday, November 17, 6 PM at the home of Joel & Kym Staab**

The Middle Adult Group is generally comprised of people who are in their 40's, 50's and 60's. We gather every month to six weeks in different homes for dinner, conversation and a brief devotional thought. It is a casual and relaxed time where people can meet new friends and continue to build supportive relationships. Usually the host home provides the main dish and everyone brings a dish to pass. We will be coming together this month at the home of Joel & Kym Staab. 7428 Gates Road Jamesville, NY 13078-9633 Please sign up by e-mail: [office@dewittchurch.org](mailto:office@dewittchurch.org) or by calling the church office 315-445-0331.

## Consider Joining the Worship Team

We are very fortunate here at DeWitt Community Church to have such a rich worship experience to share with the community. Have you ever thought about joining in? There are a number of ways that you can get involved but first you may need to put aside some of your preconceived notions about the level of time commitment and required skills needed to participate.

**Chancel Choir:** The chancel choir is made up of four section leaders and a dedicated group of volunteers. They meet on Thursday nights from 7pm-8pm and provide vocal leadership as well as singing an anthem each week at the 11 AM service. There are no requirements for this group except that you enjoy singing and making music with others. We are always accepting new members. You don't have to join at the beginning of the program year or be available every Sunday. Perhaps you could consider trying it out for Advent or joining us for the Dubois "Seven Last Words of Christ" which we will present on Good Friday.

**Adult Bell Choir:** The Bell Choir is made up entirely of volunteers. They meet on Thursday nights from 6-7 PM in the choir room and present special music at the 11 AM service once a month during the program year. We have all levels of ability in the choir. Perhaps you are not able to commit to each week. Would you be willing to fill in for a member of the choir at rehearsal or on a Sunday if someone is away?

**Instrumentalists:** We are always happy to have additional instrumentalists at any of our three services. From time to time we need an additional instrumentalist to play with the chancel choir and enrich the music at our 5:30 PM and 9 AM services.

**Worship assisting:** Our worship assistants help provide leadership at each of the three services. They lead the congregation in responsive readings and prayers. Volunteers typically assist about once a month on a rotating schedule based on their availability. They receive the scripture for the week along with the theme of the sermon and hymns for the week to help them to prepare for the weekend.

**Communion Prep team:** This is a group of volunteers that comes in about once a month to prepare the elements for the three services on weekends where communion is celebrated. We are also looking for people to help clean up after communion.

**Tech team:** As we continue to expand our earlier two services, we are looking for volunteers to help run their technological elements, specifically the sound and screens. Interested volunteers do not need any experience with sound equipment and only minimal experience with computers to run the presentation program. We are seeking individuals willing to serve for one service once a month, but we always welcome a greater commitment. To inquire about these positions, please talk to or contact Nic MacLane at [nmaclane@dewittchurch.org](mailto:nmaclane@dewittchurch.org).

**Contemporary worship musicians:** We are excited to offer more opportunities in our earlier services for the congregation to engage in worship. Our music team is looking for singers and instrumentalists to help lead both hymns and contemporary songs during our earlier two services. Any and all instruments are welcome! Potential volunteers are asked to commit to both a 5:30 PM and 9:00 AM service once a month, though a greater commitment can be considered. Sheet music is available upon request.

**If you are interested in more information or in participating in any of these ministries please contact Abel at [asearor@dewittchurch.org](mailto:asearor@dewittchurch.org)**

# COMPASSION MINISTRY

## COMPASSION COOKS & CHRISTMAS COOKIES

### 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 contact Nancy Bond, [nancybond3@gmail.com](mailto:nancybond3@gmail.com) for yarn and patterns.

### 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 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](mailto:paulsenk@dewittchurch.org).

Anyone can participate in the Compassion Cooks cookie exchange. On Friday, December 8, 6 PM, Miller Commons, we will be packing tins of cookies for delivery to our shut-ins and those who live alone with no family nearby. **Bring your own container and 4 dozen cookies, plus a few for group tasting :-).** You can take some cookies home as well as make a difference for those who are isolated during the holidays. We are seeking volunteers who would deliver the cookie tins and take time to make a short visit as well. Please contact Kay Paulsen at [paulsenk@dewittchurch.org](mailto:paulsenk@dewittchurch.org);

## Stephen Ministry Training Class: January 16 — May 22

Are you a naturally a nurturer? Do people tend to seek you out to talk about their problems? God may be tugging at your heart to find out more about becoming a Stephen Minister. Contact Dr. Kay Paulsen, 315.200.5650 or [paulsenk@dewittchurch.org](mailto:paulsenk@dewittchurch.org) The 2018 Stephen Ministry Training Class will be held Tuesday evenings 6-8:30 PM, January 16 through May 22.

## Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are lay persons who have completed 50 hours of training to learn how to come along side someone experiencing difficulty or life change. Stephen Ministers meet with their "care-receiver" at least once a week for pastoral care and all conversations are entirely confidential. Stephen Ministers are also available in the Prayer Room Sundays 9:45-10:45am (private times can be arranged by contacting Kay Paulsen)

## COMPASSION COOKS 2017-2018 Project Dates

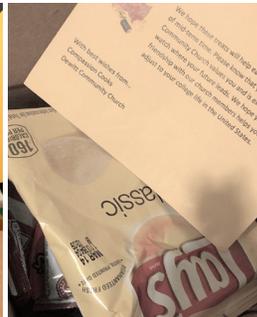
**Friday, December 8, 6-7:30pm**, room 10, Pack cookie containers for Nursing Homes and those living alone without family nearby.

**Friday, February 23, 6-7:30pm**, Pack soup supper bags for those living alone without family nearby.

**Tuesday morning, March 27**, Bring your contribution for the Staff Appreciation Brunch to the church. Volunteers needed for set-up and clean-up.

**Monday, June 18, 6-8pm**, place TBA, end of year potluck celebration.

*Thank you to Compassion Cooks for your beautiful work of sending those care packages to our International Students. The students were full of happiness and excitement Thank you for working on this! You are such a blessing to all of us!*



## A NOTE TO THE CONGREGATION

Hello Friends,

November is a time for giving thanks and that makes this the perfect time to say thank you to all of you for being such an important part of the DCC family. We simply would not be the same church without you. Whether you run the place or always offer a smile and hello you are a critical part of the whole and we are blessed to have you in our congregation. So a very heartfelt THANK YOU to each and every one of you.

November is also an important time for our church as we keenly focus on our stewardship efforts. We need everyone to willingly continue to give just a little bit more. Of your time. Of your talents. And, of course since I am the Board President, of your money. We cannot get to where we are called to go without you. The ministry of this beautiful old church is so incredibly important to so many people. DCC does truly change lives. We minister to the sick, lonely

and hurting. We console one another and our neighbors when we are needed. We join together and donate generously to those in need. We bring so much joy and inspiration through our musical offerings. We celebrate baptisms and weddings and mourn with the families as they bury their loved ones. The community looks to us to provide all of this and more. With over 200 years of experience we still have more to learn and certainly more to do. Together we can accomplish things well beyond our individual talents and abilities. Together we can continue our missions and ministries. I respectfully ask each of you to prayerfully consider "stepping it up a notch" and give of yourselves as generously as you can.

Thank you again and God bless you all

Rick Hall

President DCC Board of Trustees

# WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU

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Believe it or not, there is more to DeWitt Community than just what you see on Sunday morning! We have Bible study studies and small groups that meet weekly in and outside of our church. Children and parents from our community gather for connection and friendships. Our ministries go out into the community to make a difference. Children and youth gather to grow and learn into being more faithful disciples of Christ. The choir and music ministry rehearse, plan and practice their musical offerings. We host community groups and non-profits who utilize our church for meetings and connection. Stephen Ministers meet with care receivers in order to help others through challenging times.

All of these things are planned and prepared by leadership and staff who are deeply committed to our becoming who it is God is calling us to be. The ministry and mission of our church take place because of the spiritual and financial gifts our members and friends choose to offer. These are the resources that fuel our mission; and yes, it does cost real money to provide these spiritual things!

The decision to give a gift is a choice, but as a follower of Jesus, we give of our time, talents, and treasure out of thanksgiving for what God has done, and as a sign of faithfulness and commitment to be a part of the good

things that God is continuing to do in our world.

If you are not giving to the church, please consider how even small gifts make an impact. To make that gift means making a decision to give something away that you might use for something else. To do that may require choosing to not buy a fancy coffee, or deciding to carry a sack lunch into the office once a week instead of buying lunch. The amount may seem insignificant, but did you know that gift of just \$10 every week can give 6 scholarships for children to go to Vacation Bible School? A gift of \$25 a week can provide the training for a Stephen Minister to be equipped to lead and care for others in our congregation. A gift of \$48 a week completely supports one of our Missions of the Month. As you grow in your generosity please consider making the commitment to giving generously every week, month, every quarter, or give a large once a year financial gift. Prayerfully consider giving to the church a percentage of your income: 5%, 6%, 7%, 8%, 10% or more.

My prayer is that you will be with us during the weeks of October 29 to November 19 for our stewardship series "Thanks-Giving". And, we hope that you will and that you will join us for the for our Thanks-Giving and Commitment weekend on November 18 and 19. Please fill out and bring your estimated giving card to worship for our Commitment weekend because we will have a special time in worship to dedicate our gifts. In addition, we hope you will join us for our free Thanks-Giving lunch immediately after 11AM worship in Miller Commons.

The gifts we bring make good things happen. Thank you for being a part of it. The practice of exercising financial stewardship is a spiritual discipline and a way to grow our faith. There is joy to be found in practicing generosity and it begins with a simple step of a commitment to contribute.

We know your gift matters – it matters to you as the giver, and to the church which utilizes it as a resource for mission. I thank you for all that you give - your time, talents, gifts, and financial resources to DeWitt Community Church. This church could not be a church with you!

Love and Grace,

*Alan Rudnick*

Rev. Alan Rudnick

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

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### The Van Slyke Family

Dave is the Dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

Wendy is an instrumental music teacher. She is involved extensively in a range of community volunteer activities.

They have three children, Ryan who is 21 and a senior at Indiana University at Bloomington, Ashley who is 18 and a freshman at the University of Pittsburgh, and Anneke (sounds just like Annika) who is a sophomore at FM.

They live in Manlius.

### Nancy Dowling

I am a single mother of 2 beautiful girls, grandmother of 6 (4 boys and 2 girls), and have 5 great grandchildren. I am a retired registered nurse, having worked at the VA Medical Center for 30 years. After retiring from there I worked as a nursing supervisor at 2 long term care facilities. I truly enjoy caring for our senior population. I fully retired in 2013 to care for 3 great grandchildren. They are now with their parents and doing well. My prayer is that I have helped to give these babies a positive start in life.

Since my retirement I have joined a gym that I greatly enjoy and visit 3 times weekly. I enjoy gardening but have to admit that I don't know that much about it. During the holidays I make a variety of candy and cookies to give as gifts. Above all I enjoy cooking and creating new dishes. I usually give these to neighbors or anyone in need of a meal. I am always available to help a neighbor in need, providing transport to appointments for those that no longer drive.

My newest challenge is assisting Mary Chirello with teaching Confirmation and Sunday School. I am truly excited to begin this new adventure.





3600 Erie Boulevard East | DeWitt, New York 13214  
 315.445.0331 | office@dewittchurch.org  
 www.dewittchurch.org

## November Worship

### Mission of the Month -HOPE for Ariang

*God's Gifts To You: Your Passion*  
 Rev. Alan Rudnick

Saturday, November 4                    5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons  
 Sunday, November 5                    8:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons  
    11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

*Mission of the Month*  
*Daylight Savings Time Begins*

*God's Gifts to You: Your Style*  
 Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, November 11                    5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons  
 Sunday, November 12                    9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons  
    11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

*Communion at all 3 services*  
*Room 10 Dedication*

*Your Gifts to God: Giving With Love*  
 Rev. Dr. Mark E. Sommers

Saturday, November 18                    5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons  
 Sunday, November 19                    9:00 AM Chapel Service/Miller Commons  
    11:00 AM Traditional Service/Sanctuary

*Commitment Sunday*  
*Thanks-Giving Luncheon*

*Mission Partner Sunday:*  
*Special Guest Speaker, Kevin Frank*

Saturday, November 25                    5:30 PM Chapel Service/Miller Commons  
 Sunday, November 26                    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.

### DeWitt Community Church Staff

- Rev. Dr. Mark Sommers *Senior Minister*
- Rev. Alan Rudnick *Executive Associate Minister*
- Rev. William Carlsen *Adjunct Associate Minister*
- Rev. Cindy Mapstone *Adjunct Associate Minister*
- Rev. Edwin "Ted" Taylor *Senior Minister Emeritus*
- Dr. Landrum "Hap" Wooten *Associate Minister Emeritus*
- Dr. Kay Paulsen *Director of Congregational Care*
- Gloria Trode *Director of Children's Music*
- Abel Searor *Director of Worship Arts Principal Organist*
- Nic MacLane *Director of Family Worship*
- Mary Chirello *Youth Director & Hospitality Coordinator*
- Ben Rayland *Children's Ministry Director*
- Amy Bell *Assistant Children's Ministry Director*
- Alyssa Eighmey *Office Administrator*
- Peter Hawley *Communication Coordinator*
- Jane Hahn *Bookkeeper*
- Ellen Butler *Office Assistant*
- Mick Thorpe *Director of Building Services*
- Reinaldo Mercado *Building Staff*
- Liam McDonough *Building Staff*

### Newsletter Article Submissions

Newsletter article submissions can be made by email to [newsletter@dewittchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@dewittchurch.org). Please plan ahead as the newsletter deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thank you.

### Communicating with Church Leadership

The Advisory Committee meets on a regular basis and serves to advise the Senior Minister. All members of the Advisory Committee are members of the Board of Trustees. Input, ideas, suggestions, and comments are always welcome and may be submitted by e-mail to [advisory@dewittchurch.org](mailto:advisory@dewittchurch.org). Those without access to email may place messages in the church's internal mailboxes or mail to Advisory Committee, DeWitt Community Church, 3600 Erie Boulevard East, DeWitt, NY 13214.

In order to ensure the integrity of church communications, we are not able to consider anonymous letters. The pastoral staff is always open to discussion of issues and concerns in a spirit of Christian community and respect.