



DANVILLE

Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

BLACK

LIVES

MATTER

Trinity Sunday

June 7, 2020

Zoom Worship

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Lines 14–16 of the Preamble of the Constitution of the United Church of Christ read:

It [the United Church of Christ] affirms the responsibility of the Church in each generation to make this faith its own in reality of worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God.

After an overwhelming week of emotions, social media newsfeeds, protests, pain, grief, and demands for justice, your worship leadership team (Pastors Eric and Todd and John Kendall Bailey) reflected on these words, and wondered together about our responsibility right now *to make this faith our own, collectively, in reality in worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God.*

After prayerful discernment, and after listening to our Black siblings, along with everyone calling for justice, we believe that right now we as white people, and as a primarily white congregation, are being called to *listen*—to listen to the voices of the Black community.

In worship this morning, we are taking a step back as we listen together to the amplified voices and stories of Black people—our Black siblings in faith. This moment in our collective history demands such a response from us.

Beloveds, this is our moment to be present.

Let us be present.

Let us listen with open hearts and open minds.

And let us pray and work for the transformation of our church and world.

PRELUDE

[*Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child*](#)

Performed by Odetta, Carnegie Hall, 1963

Traditional
African-American
Spiritual

Sometimes I feel like a motherless child.
Sometimes I feel like a motherless child.
Sometimes I feel like a motherless child,
a long ways from home, a long ways from home.

Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone.
Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone.
Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone,
a long ways from home, a long ways from home.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Eric Sherlock

CALL TO WORSHIP FOR #GEORGEFLOYD

Miguel Atkins-Whitley

One: As we gather in worship, let us say his name:

All: George Floyd.

One: Let us say his name:

All: Ahmaud Arbery.

One: Let us say her name:

All: Breonna Taylor.

One: Let us say her name:

All: Sandra Bland.

One: Let us say his name:

All: Vonderrit Meyers.

One: Let us say his name:

All: Michael Brown.

One: We say these names so that we do not forget the violence of the state.
We say these names so that we remember these beloved children of God.
We say these names because black lives matter.
We also know that we live in an unjust world. A world rife with hate and prejudice.
A world of racism and violence. And so we say:

All: Lead us to a place of justice for all people.

One: Again.

All: Lead us to a place of justice for all people.

One: Again.

All: Lead us to a place of justice for all people.

One: We believe that we are not safe until all are safe. We are not saved until all are saved,
and so, with our own beings as a part of this community, we say our own name:

All: [say your own name]

One: Our own name.

All: [say your own name]

One: Our own name.

All: [say your own name]

One: God, take these names and remind us of the challenge set before us.
The challenge from the prophet Micah to do justice, love kindness, and act humbly.
Let us each be a vessel of your love, moving this world toward more mercy and less
persecution, toward more community and less selfishness.
Let us be the community of your people, now and always.

All: Amen.

Inspired by the May 30, 2020
#expectus rally in St Louis/Clayton, MO
By Rev. Meredith Jackson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another with waves and smiles
and pass the peace of Christ using the chat feature.

OPENING HYMN

[There Is a Balm In Gilead](#)

Chanticleer & Bishop Yvette Flunder

African-American
Spiritual

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again.

Don't ever feel discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,
who, if you ask for knowledge,
will never fail to lend.

If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus,
who died to save us all.

How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

RESPONSE

[*I Just Want to Live*](#)

Keedron Bryant

I'm a young black man/ doing all that I can / to stand
Oh, but when I look around/ and I see what's being done to my kind/ every day,
I'm being hunted as prey/ My people don't want no trouble/
We've had enough struggle/ I just want to live/ God, protect me/
I just want to live/ I just want to live.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 22:1-2

Miguel Atkins-Whitley

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me,
from the words of my groaning?
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

[*Life Doesn't Frighten Me*](#)

Performed by the Reader's Theatre Project
Children's Museum of Los Angeles

[*Poem by Dr. Maya Angelou*](#)

Paintings by
Jean-Michel Basquait

SERMON

[*The Cross and the Lynching Tree:*](#)
A Requiem for Ahmaud Arbery

Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III

ANTHEM

[*Lament*](#)

words by
Mark Miller & Adam Tice,
music by Mark Miller

My heart is breaking, my fury shaking
My soul is tired, my breath is gone
I cry, "How long, Lord, this evil season?"
Unending pain and tears.

Use our anger to melt the swords of hate.
Use our tears to water thirsty ground.
Give us courage to love all you create.
Come to us and turn your world around.
Come to us and turn the world around.

Our hearts are breaking, our fury shaking.
Our souls are tired, our breath is gone.
We cry, "How long, Lord, this evil season?"
Unending pain and tears.

TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

*(Email your requests to Pastor Eric or type them in the chat window.)***All: Hear our prayer**

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using these words or the words most familiar to you)

Our Loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TIME OF GIVING

Invitation to Giving

During this time of virtual worship, we invite you to give online: <http://bit.ly/donatetodcc>.

Offertory

[Weeping Angel](#)

William Grant Still

Antoine Garth, Tenor; John Ferguson, Pianist

Weeping angel with pinions trailing
And head bowed low in your hands.
Mourning angel with heart-strings wailing,
For one who in death's hall stands.

Mourning angel silence your wailing,
And raise your head from your hands.
Weeping angel on your pinions trailing
The white dove, promise, stands!

Doxology **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen**

feat. Alton Eugene

Offertory Prayer

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Davena Jones, presiding

CLOSING HYMN

[Lift Every Voice and Sing](#)

Lyrics by James Weldon Johnson

Abyssinian Baptist Church

Music by

Introduction by Rev. Dr. Calvin Butts

James Rosamond Johnson

Lift ev'ry voice and sing
'Til earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on 'til victory is won

Stony the road we trod
Bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died
Yet with a steady beat
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered
Out from the gloomy past
'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast

God of our weary years
God of our silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee
Shadowed beneath Thy hand
May we forever stand
True to our God
True to our native land

BENEDICTION

Pastor Eric

POSTLUDE

[Give Me Jesus](#)

arr. Marilyn Thompson

Performed by Ryan & Ryan

Worship Notes

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child (or simply *Motherless Child*) is a traditional African American spiritual. It dates back to the era of slavery in the United States. An early performance of the song dates back to the 1870s by the Fisk Jubilee Singers. Commonly heard during the Civil rights movement in the United States, it has many variations and has been recorded widely. The song is an expression of pain and despair as it conveys the hopelessness of a child who has been torn from her or his parents. Under one interpretation, the repetition of the word “sometimes” offers a measure of hope, as it suggests that at least “sometimes” the singer does not feel like a motherless child.



Odetta Holmes (December 31, 1930–December 2, 2008), known as Odetta, was an American singer, actress, guitarist, lyricist, and a civil and human rights activist, often referred to as “The Voice of the Civil Rights Movement.” Her musical repertoire consisted largely of American folk music, blues, jazz, and spirituals. An important figure in the American folk music revival of the 1950s and 1960s, she influenced many of the key figures of the folk-revival of that time, including Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Mavis Staples, and Janis Joplin. Time magazine included her recording of “Take This Hammer” on its list of the 100 Greatest Popular Songs, stating that “Rosa Parks was her No. 1 fan, and Martin Luther King Jr. called her the queen of American folk music.” Her performance of *Motherless Child* is from her album “Odetta at Carnegie Hall” (1963) with Odetta accompanying herself on guitar and Bill Lee on string bass; Choir from Church of the Master; Director, Dr. Stent.

There is a Balm in Gilead

In the Old Testament, Gilead was the name of the mountainous region east of the Jordan River. This region was known for having skillful physicians and an ointment made from the gum of a tree particular to that area. Many believed that this balm had miraculous powers to heal the body. In the book of Jeremiah, God tells the people of Israel that though many believe in the mysterious healing power of this balm, they can’t trust in those powers for spiritual healing or as a relief of their oppression. He reminds them that He is ultimately in control, and only He can relieve their suffering. In the New Testament, God answers the suffering of His people by sending His own son to take our place. Jesus becomes our “balm in Gilead.” It is Him we are called to turn to in our times of trial for healing and comfort. We sing this song with that assurance: no matter our hardships or supposed shortcomings, Jesus loves us enough to take our suffering upon Himself.



Known by many for her prophetic preaching and commitment to radical inclusivity, **Bishop Yvette Flunder** is a world renowned gospel music artist who traveled, performed and recorded with “Walter Hawkins and the Family” and the Love Center Choir and is the voice known for “Thank You Lord” and “Special Gift”. Her other gospel music recordings include “There’s Power” with the City of Refuge Praise Ensemble, “We Won’t Be Silent Anymore” with The Fellowship Mass Choir, and “How Sweet the Sound”, with the Grammy Award winning Chanticleer.

Bishop Yvette Flunder is also a native San Franciscan and 3rd generation preacher with roots in the Church of God in Christ. Bishop Flunder has successfully united the message of the gospel with social justice ministry and action for over 30 years. This call to blend proclamation, worship, service and advocacy on behalf of the most marginalized in church and society gave birth to [City of Refuge UCC](#), our sister congregation here in the Bay Association, which Bishop Flunder founded in 1991 and continues to be a growing and thriving congregation in East Oakland. She writes, “Trying to establish a relationship with a God that barely tolerates you but cannot truly accept and certainly will never celebrate you can do incredible damage to one’s self esteem. The tortured historical and theological view that suggests that some people are just flawed or born to be the underclass and should never expect to be on God’s ‘A’ list, has been the convenient method used to hold women, immigrants, the poor and LGBT people in chains of self-depreciation. We all need community. When access to existing communities is not available, marginalized people must seek to develop community for and among themselves. We at City of Refuge UCC are giving birth to a fresh, emerging Christian community. We believe that now, as in the time of Jesus’ earthly ministry, seemingly marginalized people respond to a community of openness and inclusivity, where other people from the edge gather. City of Refuge UCC welcomes people to be who they are by embracing a theology of acceptance—a radical inclusivity that leaves no one behind.”



With civil rights advocacy in his DNA, **Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III** built his ministry on community advancement and social justice activism. As Senior Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Moss spent the last two decades practicing and preaching a Black theology that unapologetically calls attention to the problems of mass incarceration, environmental justice, and economic inequality.

Dr. Moss is part of a new generation of ministers committed to preaching a prophetic message of love and justice, which he believes are inseparable companions that form the foundation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He was recently recognized as one of the “12 Most Effective Preachers in the English-Speaking World” by Baylor University’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary. As part of his community engagement through Trinity United Church of Christ, Dr. Moss led the team that came up with the “My Life Matters” curriculum; which includes the viral video, **“Get Home Safely: 10 Rules of Survival”** created in the aftermath of Michael Brown’s death at the hands of Ferguson, Missouri police.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Moss is an honors graduate of Morehouse College. He earned a Master of Divinity from Yale Divinity School and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Chicago Theological Seminary. He returned to Yale in 2014 to present the famed Lyman Beecher lectures. The three-day event included an in-depth discourse on the subject of “The Blue Note Gospel: Preaching the Prophetic Blues in a Post Soul World.” The lectures, which demonstrated a homiletic blueprint for prophetic preaching in the 21st century, were the foundation of his latest book, *Blue Note Preaching in a Post-Soul World: Finding Hope in an Age of Despair*, published in 2015.

Dr. Moss was named to the inaugural Root 100, a list that “recognizes emerging and established African-American leaders who are making extraordinary contributions,” according to the publication’s website. Honorees range between ages 25 to 45 and their accomplishments and successes transcend media headlines or statistics.

With a unique gift to communicate across generations, Dr. Moss’ creative Bible-based messages have inspired young and old alike. His intergenerational preaching gift has made Dr. Moss a popular speaker on college campuses, at conferences, and churches across the globe. He is highly influenced by the works of Zora Neale Hurston, August Wilson, Howard Thurman, Jazz, and Hip-Hop music. The work and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the pastoral ministry of his father, Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr. of Cleveland, Ohio, have been primary mentors for his spiritual formation.

The founder of Unashamed Media Group, a justice centered, faith-based agency committed to producing and curating stories to inspire the heart and challenge the mind, Dr. Moss is the recipient of a 2016 NAACP Image award for his work, which includes providing biblical context and theological support to a myriad of groups and causes, including the #BlackLivesMatter and the #Occupy movements.

His earlier publications include: **Redemption in a Red Light District**, and **The Gospel According to the Wiz: And Other Sermons from Cinema**. He co-authored **The Gospel Re-Mix; How to Reach the Hip-Hop**

Generation with three other contributors, and **Preach! The Power and Purpose Behind Our Praise**, with his father.

His sermons, articles, and poetry have appeared in publications such as **Sojourners Magazine** and **The African American Pulpit Journal**. Those works include: **Power in the Pulpit II: America's Most Effective Preachers**, **Joy To The World: Sermons From America's Pulpit**; **Sound The Trumpet: Messages of Hope for Black Men**; and **The Audacity of Faith: Christian Leaders Reflect on the Election of Barack Obama**. His work has also been featured on **HuffPost**, **Urban Cusp**, and **The Root**.

Dr. Moss is an ordained minister in the Progressive National Baptist Convention and the United Church of Christ. He is on the boards of **Auburn Seminary** and **Faith-In-Place/Action Fund**, and chaplain of the Children's Defense Fund's Samuel DeWitt Proctor Child Advocacy Conference. Additionally, Dr. Moss is a Senior Fellow in the Auburn Senior Fellows Program.

He is married to his college sweetheart, the former Monica Brown of Orlando, Florida, a Spelman College and Columbia University graduate. They are the proud parents of two creative and humorous children, Elijah Wynton and Makayla Elon.



Rev. Davena Jones is Associate Conference Minister for the Northern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Davena was born in the Oceanview/Ingleside District of San Francisco to Luther and Myrtle Creer. Her nickname is Chippie/Chocolate, given because her Aunt Lilli said she looked like a piece of chocolate the first time she saw her.

Of her upbringing, Davena says, "We lived in a two-bedroom home. My sisters and I shared a bedroom. I have an older sister and a younger sister. Being the middle child had its challenges, but I love my sisters very much. And from them, I have four nephews and a niece. And I am also a great-aunt of one great nephew and three great nieces. What a joy

they all are."

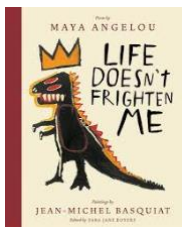
Davena married her high school love Theron Jones four years ago and is a mother of four adult children: Eugene, Theron, Matthew and Mikayla, and is MeMa to two grandsons and two granddaughters. And no, she says, she is not that old!

Davena began as Associate Conference Minister in November 2015. She is a longtime member of Pilgrim Community Church (UCC), San Francisco with her husband who is a deacon in the congregation. A graduate of Pacific School of Religion, Davena is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry program of San Francisco Theological Seminary, and her dissertation project is "Resources for Churches Around Intimate Partner Violence."



12 year old **Keedron Bryant** wrote *I Just Want to Live* with his mother Johnetta and recorded the song at his family's home in Jacksonville, Florida, during a daily devotional period. [His Instagram video has over 3,000,000 views](#). When asked about the song, he said, "I felt sad that I have to sing that because it's unfair that we can't go out and, like the song says, live. I just want to live. We can't go out and enjoy life and not be afraid, fear that something is going to happen to us, so it was really sad to have that feeling. This is my dream and this is what God has

called me to do. I feel that we could all change the world." To young people, Keedron said, "Don't be afraid to speak up."



[Maya Angelou](#)'s brave, defiant poem ***Life Doesn't Frighten Me at All*** celebrates the courage within each of us, young and old. From the scary thought of panthers in the park to the unsettling scene of a new classroom, fearsome images are summoned and dispelled by the power of faith in ourselves. Angelou's strong words are matched by the daring vision of artist [Jean-Michel Basquiat](#), a Black queer artist whose childlike style reveals the powerful emotions and fanciful imaginings of childhood. Together, Angelou's words and Basquiat's paintings create a place where every child, indeed every person, may experience his or her own fearlessness.



Mark A. Miller: "I composed [Lament](#) on Friday, May 29, 2020 in response to the murder of George Floyd. I owe a debt to our ancestors and the unknown bards who created what we today call the Negro Spirituals. I wanted to express the outpouring of heartbreak, anger, grief, and loss so many are experiencing right now. May we know Peace with Justice." Mark serves as Assistant Professor of Church Music at Drew Theological School and is a Lecturer in the Practice of Sacred Music at Yale University. He also is the Minister of Music of Christ Church in Summit, New Jersey. Mark received his Bachelor of Arts in Music from Yale University and his Master of Music in Organ Performance from Juilliard.



Coretta Scott King: As a young child growing up in Marion, Alabama, I remember my pastor at Mt. Tabor Church responding to the racial abuse of one of our congregation by saying, "God loves us all, and people will reap what they sow. So just keep on praying. Don't worry. God will straighten things out." I believed he was right then, and I believe it still.

My parents made sure that prayer would be a regular part of my life, and it has been to this very day. Prayer is how we open our hearts to God, how we make that vital connection that empowers us to overcome overwhelming obstacles and become instruments of God's will. And despite the pain and suffering that I have experienced and that comes to all of our lives, I am more convinced than ever before that prayer gives us strength and hope, a sense of divine companionship, as we struggle for justice and righteousness.

Prayer was a wellspring of strength and inspiration during the Civil Rights Movement. Throughout the movement, we prayed for greater human understanding. We prayed for the safety of our compatriots in the freedom struggle. We prayed for victory in our nonviolent protests, for brotherhood and sisterhood among people of all races, for reconciliation and the fulfillment of the Beloved Community.

For my husband, Martin Luther King, Jr. prayer was a daily source of courage and strength that gave him the ability to carry on in even the darkest hours of our struggle. I remember one very difficult day when he came home bone-weary from the stress that came with his leadership of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. In the middle of that night, he was awakened by a threatening and abusive phone call, one of many we received throughout the movement. On this particular occasion, however, Martin had had enough. After the call, he got up from bed and made himself some coffee. He began to worry about his family, and all of the burdens that came with our movement weighed heavily on his soul. With his head in his hands, Martin bowed over the kitchen table and prayed aloud to God: "Lord, I am taking a stand for what I believe is right. The people are looking to me for leadership, and if I stand before them without strength and courage, they will falter. I am at the end of my powers. I have nothing left. I have nothing left. I have come to the point where I can't face it alone.

Later he told me, "At that moment, I experienced the presence of the Divine as I had never experienced Him before. It seemed as though I could hear a voice saying: 'Stand up for righteousness; stand up for truth; and God will be at our side forever.'" When Martin stood up from the table, he was imbued with a new sense of confidence, and he was ready to face anything.

from Standing in the Need of Prayer: A Celebration of Black Prayer



Dr. Howard Thurman (1899–1991) was an African-American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader. He served as the first African American dean of chapel at a traditionally white American university and co-founded the first interracial interfaith congregation in the United States—The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in San Francisco in 1944. As a prominent religious figure, he played a leading role in many social justice movements and organizations of the twentieth century. Dr. Thurman remained a prolific writer and a popular speaker until his death. Among his many books are *Deep River* (1945), *Jesus and the Disinherited* (1949), *Meditations of the Heart* (1953), *The Creative Encounter* (1954), *The Inward Journey* (1961), *Disciplines of the Spirit* (1963), and *With Head*

and Heart: The Autobiography of Howard Thurman (1979).

Source: *britannica.com*



William Grant Still, Jr. (May 11, 1895 – December 3, 1978) was an American composer of nearly 200 works, including five symphonies and nine operas. Often referred to as the "Dean of Afro-American Composers", Still was the first American composer to have an opera produced by the New York City Opera. Still is known primarily for his first symphony, *Afro-American Symphony*, which was until 1950 the most widely performed symphony composed by an American.

Born in Mississippi, he grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas, attended Wilberforce University and Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and was a student of George Whitefield Chadwick and later Edgard Varèse.

Of note, Still was the first African American to conduct a major American symphony orchestra, the first to have a symphony (his 1st Symphony) performed by a leading orchestra, the first to have an opera performed by a major opera company, and the first to have an opera performed on national television.

Due to his close association and collaboration with prominent African-American literary and cultural figures, Still is considered to be part of the Harlem Renaissance movement.

Still's setting of LeRoy V. Brant's text was composed in Los Angeles in 1953. According to Judith Anne Still, her father preferred his original title for the song "Weeping Angel." The song was not commercially published until 1955 by the Oliver Ditson Music Company. However, a copy of the manuscript was sent for copyright registration, processed on June 15, 1953, and subsequently placed in the Music collection of the Library of Congress. The first public performance of the song took place on May 23, 1954 at Villa Montalvo in Saratoga, California. The version we heard today was performed at the Saigon Conservatory in Vietnam, performed by Tenor Antoine Garth performs with American Voices' pianist John Ferguson.

Lift Every Voice and Sing—often referred to as the Black national anthem – is a song written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938) in 1900 and set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954) in 1905. It was publicly performed first as a poem as part of a celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday by Johnson's brother John. In 1919, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) dubbed it “the Negro national hymn” for its power in voicing a cry for liberation and affirmation for African-American people. The song is a prayer of thanksgiving for faithfulness and freedom, with imagery evoking the biblical Exodus from slavery to the freedom of the “promised land.” *Lift Every Voice and Sing* is featured in 39 different Christian hymnals and is sung in churches across North America, including ours today.



Ryan & Ryan is a dynamic father-son piano duo that draws upon classic and contemporary music to create enthralling concert experiences. From Rachmaninoff to Gershwin to Billy Joel, Donald and Barron Ryan combine their talents to create a dazzling blend of old and new schools.

A native of Trinidad & Tobago, Donald came to the United States to study music, earning degrees from Oral Roberts University and the University of Tulsa. He is well known as a master of diverse styles—evidenced by a diploma from the 9th International Chopin Competition as well as his induction into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. Donald has also earned the distinction of being among the most accomplished pianists in the world as a Steinway Artist.

Given his father's profession, Barron's choice of playing the piano is no surprise, and he has been no stranger to the stage since the age of four. He distinguished himself in piano studies at the University of Oklahoma and has been a featured soloist at the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame and the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, among many other venues. Barron has also been a prizewinner in numerous piano competitions, including the Oklahoma Israel Exchange Young Artists Competition in 2011.

They perform *Give Me Jesus*, written by Frances Jane (Fanny) Crosby in 1879 and arranged by Marilyn Thompson, on August 10, 2014 at First United Methodist Church in Tulsa, OK.

For a list of resources to engage in anti-racism work, <https://danvillechurch.org/antiracism/>.

Black Trans Lives Matter
Black Queer Lives Matter
Black Women Matter
Black Men Matter
Black Disabled People Matter
Black Children Matter
Black Undocumented People Matter
BLACK LIVES MATTER



Announcements

Annual Congregational Meeting

Please plan to attend the DCC Annual Congregational Meeting next Sunday. The meeting will be held via Zoom immediately following the church service. The congregation will vote on the 2020–21 budget. We look forward to your participation.

If you would like to submit a prayer concern or joy for next Sunday's Zoom Worship, please email it to Pastor Eric at eric@danvillechurch.org.

To keep up-to-date on news and announcements during this time of social distancing, **please read your email** from DCC thoroughly! All communication related to church news and events will be communicated via email!

Stewardship Update

Stewardship Update: As of June 4, we have **82 commitments—10 NEW**—for a total of **\$294,926!** The average commitment increase is **9.19%**.

If you have not turned your commitment in, please do so as soon as possible!

If you'd like to help us make our goal, please email your commitment to Syd and Leslie Dent, DCC's Financial Secretaries: syddent@yahoo.com.



Joint Prayer Ministry Appeal Deadline Extended

Much has been happening at DCC with the Stewardship Campaign and so many other positive aspects of our ministry together that we have decided to extend the deadline for receiving prayer requests for the "COVID19 edition of the Joint Prayer Ministry booklet to **Friday, June 12**. In the mean time, we hope you are considering the very serious prayers sent to us from Guatemala by Carrie Stengel. Kindly send your own prayer requests for the upcoming Joint Prayer Ministry booklet to Bob Howell, at roberthowell33@hotmail.com; Subject: Joint Prayer Ministry request. Bob can also be reached by phone at 925-953-3288. Thank you.



The John Bassett Memorial Fund



A memorial fund has been established in remembrance of John Bassett and all his contributions to Danville Congregational Church, especially in Building and Grounds. His accomplishments with an array of projects were legion; his willingness to be of help was remarkable, and his talents were many. Funds donated will be used toward future B & G projects, and John's wife, Carol, will provide input as to what projects will be supported by the monies.

If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to Danville Congregational Church, with the notation "John Bassett Memorial Fund (4601)" and mail to the church office, or you can donate online with the same notation on the *Memorial Gift* line (under the first section, "Donations to the Church").



Our nation is amazingly diverse, representing different cultures and ethnic backgrounds. Yet most of us live in communities marked by sameness, among people who think, act, and look like us. The vision of Pentecost is to experience unity among a diverse crowd. Yet how do we realize this vision?

Through the funds provided by the Strengthen the Church Offering, The Penn West Conference provides a wonderful example. To support youth programming, this year, the Conference awarded grants to First Church in Irwin and First Church in Greensburg to send young people to the National Youth Event (NYE). Conference Minister David Ackerman explains why it matters, saying, “At National Youth Event, our youth get a sense of the width and breadth of the UCC. Most of our youth come from smaller rural churches. At NYE, they meet other youth from different backgrounds and come away with a sense of being united.”

Every UCC conference uses your generous gifts to Strengthen the Church. The grants provided by the Penn West Conference will help young people, at a national gathering, experience God’s dream of a truly united and uniting Church, amid differences in cultures and backgrounds. Every Conference faithfully uses your gift to invest in God’s vision for the Church. Please give generously to the Strengthen the Church Offering on May 31st. Together, we can invest in God’s vision of Church.

How is a minister formed and prepared for ministry at every stage of their vocation?

Ministers are formed like Jeff, who discerned a call to ministry while participating in a UCC-related summer camp. And they are formed like Darrell, who found a home in the UCC as the congregation he founded voted to affiliate with the denomination. And, like Kaji and Jennifer, they are formed in part through a heritage of generational church leadership in the pulpit and beyond. Through it all, the Pentecost Spirit blows where She will, inspiring and calling forth new generations of leaders. Nurtured and challenged in congregations, supported by committees on ministry, and further shaped through educational experiences, these leaders become authorized for ministry in and on behalf of the UCC.

Do you ever wonder how the UCC prepares individuals for ministry and continuing authorization within the UCC?

The Ministerial Excellence, Support, and Authorization (MESA) Ministry Team thinks about ministerial formation and continuing authorization every day. Committed to the vision that every ministry setting deserves gifted and accountable pastoral leadership, MESA shares the Church’s best practices for ministerial formation, authorization, and ongoing oversight through training, resources, and cooperation with Associations and Conferences. MESA’s most recent Manual on Ministry, published a year ago, provides practices and resources to support the UCC in their work to provide discernment, authorization, and oversight of ministers in the UCC.

Please give generously to the Strengthen the Church Offering on May 31, 2020. You will support MESA and help people like Jennifer, Darrell, Kaji, and Jeff respond to the Spirit of God, leading them to new missions and ministries.

TRAYVON PHILANDO CASTILE
 MAR. TIN ERIC GARNER JORDAN DAVIS OSCAR GRANT MICHAEL BROWN
 AMADOU DIABY KIMBERLY GRAY JONATHAN FERRILL ERIC GARNER RENISHA GARNER MCBRIDE
 ALTON STERLING TRAYVON MARTIN MAR. GINIA HURD SUSIE JACKSON MCBRIDE ERIC GARNER ERIC GARNER THOMPSON
 ANIEL MIDDLETON DEWAYNE OSCAR TRAYVON MARTIN
 CLEMENTA PINCKNEY ALTON STERLING JONATHAN FERRILL SHANTONDA COLEMAN SUSIE JACKSON KIMBERLY GRAY ERIC GARNER
 TILWAZA SANDERS AMADOU DIABY

TAMIR RICE OSCAR GRANT ERIC GARNER EMMETT TILL MICHAEL BROWN TRAYVON MARTIN
 ALTON STERLING ETHEL LEE LAQUAN MCDONALD EMMETT TILL
 CAMERON TILLMAN OSCAR GRANT JONATHAN FERRILL CYNTHIA HURD DEWAYNE MIDDLETON
 TAMIR RICE RENISHA GARNER ERIC GARNER MICHAEL BROWN TRAYVON MARTIN
 MICHAEL BROWN TRAYVON MARTIN PHILANDO CASTILE OSCAR GRANT CAMERON TILLMAN KIMBERLY GRAY ALTON STERLING
 COLEMAN SHANTONDA OSCAR GRANT AMADOU DIABY CLEMENTA PINCKNEY TILWAZA SANDERS

MICHAEL BROWN ALTON STERLING OSCAR GRANT LAQUAN MCDONALD ERIC GARNER
 TYWAZA SANDERS KIMBERLY GRAY TAMIR RICE JORDAN DAVIS
 ALTON STERLING ETHEL LEE MERON TILLMAN MICHAEL BROWN PHILANDO CASTILE
 TANISHA GARNER SUSIE JACKSON ERIC GARNER
 PHILANDO CASTILE OSCAR GRANT KIMBERLY GRAY
 EMMETT TILL MICHAEL BROWN TRAYVON MARTIN
 MICHAEL BROWN ALTON STERLING TAMIR RICE TRAYVON MARTIN SHANTONDA COLEMAN CYNTHIA HURD PHILANDO CASTILE JORDAN DAVIS



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 CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



believes that #blacklivesmatter

Upcoming Virtual Gatherings

*To lessen the impact of isolation during this season of social distancing,
you are invited to join these opportunities for community and spiritual practice.*

- **Mid-Day Zoom Devotional**, *Wednesdays at Noon*
<https://zoom.us/j/547683580?pwd=V2FjVk9BskNWOW4vcEttZGo5UT09>
or by Zoom app: **547 683 580**, password **322** or by phone: dial **669-900-6833**
and enter **547 683 580** as the Meeting ID and **322** as the password.
- **Zoom Family Devotional**, *Wednesdays at 7:00pm*
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/800897222>
- **Worship at DCC**, *Sundays at 9:30am*
<https://zoom.us/j/492975948?pwd=bjJqZTNpNGo3S1o0YkNFM3FWQ1dlQT09>
or by Zoom app: **492 975 948**, password **322** or by phone: dial **669-900-6833**
and enter **492 975 948** as the Meeting ID and **322** as the password.

Ministers—The Entire Congregation

Church Staff

The Rev. Eric Sherlock, *Senior Pastor*
The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, *Associate Pastor*
John Kendall Bailey, *Music Director*
Mary-Marie Deauclaire, *Handbell Director*
Elizabeth Setlak-von Thury, *Office Manager*
Nicole Doyle, *Nursery Attendant*

The **DCC Prayer Team** prays daily for those in need of prayers.
If you would like to submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else,
contact a pastor or send an email to prayers@danvillechurch.org.
All requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

Kelley Mangels, *Dayspring Preschool Director*
dayspringpreschool.org



Danville Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
989 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville, CA 94526-4020
Phone: (925) 837-6944
danvillechurch.org

