



**DANVILLE**

Congregational Church

*United Church of Christ*

# Annual Report 2017-18



# Annual Report

## 2017-18

Danville Congregational Church  
*United Church of Christ*  
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Janice Inman	<a href="mailto:info@dayspringpreschool.org">info@dayspringpreschool.org</a>

### *STAFF*

The Rev. Eric Sherlock, Senior Pastor  
John Kendall Bailey, Music Director  
Mary Deauclaire, Handbell Director  
Blair Hansen, Office Administrator  
Elizabeth Setlak-von Thury, Operations Coordinator  
Janice Inman, Dayspring Preschool Director

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## OFFICERS

	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>
<b>Moderator</b>	Kristina Kelchner	Kristina Kelchner
<b>Vice Moderator</b>	Charlie Hasselbrink and Kyra Kennedy	Kyra Kennedy
<b>Clerk</b>	Kim Michaud	Kim Michaud
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Syd and Leslie Dent	Syd and Leslie Dent
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bob Britt	Bob Britt

## COMMISSIONERS

<u>Commission</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>
Buildings and Grounds	Alice Donovan	Diane Hardy
Children's Ministries	Amy Furber-Dobson	Amy Furber-Dobson
Church Family	TBA	Joyce Klassen
Faith Journeys	Trish Moosbrugger	Trish Moosbrugger
Membership	Steve Paroli	Joyce Klassen
Outreach	Alene Riley	Doug Leich
Stewardship	Heidi Bridgeman	Heidi Bridgeman
Worship	TBA	Janis Jang
Youth Ministries	Judy Gestring	Steve Paroli

## PRESCHOOL BOARD

<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>
Janet Apostolo - <i>Treasurer</i>	Janet Apostolo - <i>Treasurer</i>
Nancy Dowell - <i>Friends of Dayspring</i>	Penny Davis
Nicole Noga - <i>Council Liaison</i>	Nicole Noga
Judy Halden - <i>Council Liaison</i>	Charlie Hasselbrink
Sandra Lepley - <i>Chair</i>	Sandra Lepley - <i>Chair</i>
Janice Inman - <i>Director</i>	Janice Inman - <i>Director</i>
Anne Seiler - <i>Secretary</i>	Laura Beaver

## DIACONATE 2017-2018

Life Members  
Peggy Gierke  
Nancy Hill

Elected by Council  
Larry Berlin  
Dee Brook  
Carol Gerich  
Bette Felton  
Janis Jang  
Mary Kay McClure  
Anne Seiler  
Richard Stein  
Diane Stein

## MINISTERS

Michel A. Vallon, Minister	1/1/55 to 1/15/67
Ronald Barton, Minister	1/1/68 to 6/30/75
Paul L. Forman, Minister	10/1/75 to 11/15/90
Betty Burns Beckner, Associate Minister	6/1/85 to 10/ 2/88
Ann Lougee, Christian Ed. Consultant and Interim Minister	11/1/88 to 2/15/90
Karrie Brain-Marsh, Minister of Christian Education	2/1/90 to 9/30/90
Ann Lougee, Interim Minister	11/15/90 to 2/16/92
Elizabeth Felts, Minister	3/1/92 to 10/1/99
Catherine A. Bohrman, Associate Minister	7/1/97 to 7/12/98
Lee Cruise, Interim Minister	10/1/99 to 8/31/01
Alan Kelchner, Senior Minister	9/1/01 to 6/24/12
Laura Barnes, Associate Minister	11/8/2003 to 10/31/2012
Roberta H. McReynolds, Transition Minister	10/1/2012 to 4/14/2013
Anton DeWet, Senior Minister	4/1/2013 to 8/31/2015
Eric Sherlock, Associate Minister	8/1/2015 to 1/14/18
Gail Doering, Interim Senior Minister	1/16/2016 to 1/14/18
Eric Sherlock, Senior Minister	1/14/18 to Present

## MODERATORS

John J. Heck	01/02/55 to 01/27/57	Joseph Acorn	06/11/95 to 06/02/96
Charles Huestis	01/27/57 to 01/26/58	Dave Hill	06/02/96 to 06/08/97
Martin Reite	01/26/58 to 01/25/59	Bert Wells	06/08/97 to 06/07/98
Richard Allen	01/25/59 to 03/21/60	Bette Felton	06/07/98 to 06/13/99
William Nicherson	03/21/60 to 01/29/61	Dee Brook	06/13/99 to 06/04/00
Frank Dilling	01/29/61 to 07/02/61	Howard Spinner	06/04/00 to July 2000
Ward H. Alter	07/02/61 to 01/27/63	Dave Halseth	July 2000 to 06/10/02
Dr. J. C. Forsyth	01/27/63 to 01/26/64	Dave Hill	06/11/02 to 06/08/03
Dr. H. R. Packard	01/26/64 to /65	Randy Jang	06/09/03 to 06/13/04
Pete Snyder	/65 to 01/26/69	Doug Howell	06/13/04 to 06/12/05
Tom McGovern	01/26/69 to 01/ /73	Kyra Kennedy	06/13/05 to 06/11/06
Pete Snyder	01/ /73 to 01/ /75	Joyce Klassen	06/12/06 to 06/09/07
Paul Rechenbach	01/ /75 to 01/21/76	Tim Seiler	06/10/07 to 06/07/08
Ilo Maynard	01/21/76 to 01/13/78	Nancy Wander	06/08/08 to 06/13/09
Bill Well	01/13/78 to 01/12/79	Richard Stein	06/14/09 to 06/12/10
Bill Bodenman	01/12/79 to 01/10/80	Trish Moosbrugger	06/13/10 to 06/11/11
Margy Donhowe	01/10/80 to 01/16/81	James Orris	06/12/11 to 06/09/12
Bob Baird	01/16/81 to 01/15/82	Betty McCabe	06/10/12 to 06/08/13
Bonnie Powers	01/15/82 to 01/14/83	Syd Dent	06/09/13 to 06/10/14
Orlin Donhowe	01/14/83 to 01/20/84	Joy Grant	06/11/14 to 02/22/15
Bruce Blair	01/20/84 to 01/25/85	Dave Hill	03/01/15 to 06/13/15
Frank Simmons	01/25/85 to 01/17/86	Bob Hardy	06/14/15 to 06/10/17
Jim Price	01/17/86 to 01/30/87	Kristina Kelchner	06/11/17 to Present
Bruce Bartels	01/30/87 to 01/22/88		
Susan Johnson	01/22/88 to 01/20/89		
Doug Leich	01/20/89 to 02/04/90		
Wayne Snyder	02/04/90 to 06/09/91		
Dave Sheldon	06/09/91 to 03/15/92		
Tara Mikesh Steele	03/15/92 to 06/06/93		
Richard Schuster	06/06/93 to 06/12/94		
Connie Wadsworth	06/12/94 to 06/11/95		

## 2017-2018 COMMISSION MEMBERS

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

**Alice Donovan, Commissioner**

John Bassett  
Dee Brook  
Brett Clark  
Judy Halden  
Tom Sonnemann

### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

**Amy Furber-Dobson,  
Commissioner**

Dee Brook  
Mariah Callison  
Claire Conger  
Carolyn Courtright  
Barb DeBarger  
Nancy Dowell  
Bette Felton  
Nancy Halseth  
Dave Halseth  
Janis Jang  
Randy Jang  
Nan Karns  
Karen Kawaguchi  
Doug Leich  
Kim Lawrence  
Sereen Mahmood  
Kim Michaud

Trish Moosbrugger  
Cheryl Pierson  
Angie Ruhlin  
Priscilla Spinner  
Anne Seiler  
Bill Williams  
Many of our high school  
youth

### **FAITH JOURNEYS**

**Trish Moosbrugger,  
Commissioner**

Chris Evans  
Bette Felton  
Charles Hartman  
Dave Hill  
Bob Howell  
Dottie Howell  
Bruce Lohmann  
Bill Williams

### **MEMBERSHIP**

**Steve Paroli, Commissioner**

Wilson Jackson  
Karen Kawaguchi  
Diane Stein  
Larry Berlin  
Joyce Klassen

### **OUTREACH**

**Alene Riley, Commissioner**

Claire Conger  
Kathie Hixon  
Doug Leich  
Richard Stein  
Donny Woo  
Marianne Clark

### **STEWARDSHIP**

**Heidi Bridgeman,  
Commissioner**

Bruce Hixon  
Penny Atkin  
Nan Karns  
Steve Mico  
Bob Britt

### **YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**Judy Gestring, Commissioner**

Syd Dent  
Rachel Pickett  
Anthony Huerta  
All DCC families with Youth

# 2017-2018 DCC COMMITTEES

## Committees of the Congregation

### Nominating Committee

Kristina Kelchner, *Chair*  
Larry Berlin  
Bette Felton  
Janis Jang  
Richard Stein

### Endowment Fund Committee

Penny Atkin  
Dee Brook  
Bruce Hixon, *Chair*  
Bob Kovach  
Caryl Krotz

### Pastoral Relations Committee, Senior Pastor

Laura Beaver  
Judy Halden  
Alex Hasselbrink  
Christopher Callison

## Committees of the Council

### Circles Committee

Nan Karns  
Kim Michaud – *Committee Chair*  
Judy Schreib

### Finance Committee

Tahir Mahmood, *Chair*  
Syd Dent, *Co-Financial Secretary*  
Leslie Dent, *Co-Financial Secretary*  
Bob Britt, *Treasurer*  
Janet Apostolo, *Dayspring Preschool Board*  
Heidi Bridgeman, *Stewardship Commissioner*  
Betty McCabe, *At-large*  
Grant Marston, *At-large*  
Kristina Kelchner, *Moderator*

Committee for Justice Ministries

Bob Howell  
Doug Leich  
Bruce Lohmann  
Bill Williams, *Chair*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Gail Clark  
Marianne Clark  
Nicole Noga  
Judy Schreib  
Elke Torgersen

Sister Parish Ministry Team

Dylan Bretschneider  
Rudy Bretschneider  
Ryan Bretschneider  
Bette Felton  
Jim Felton

Charlie Hasselbrink  
Krista Hixon  
Bob Howell  
Dottie Howell  
Bruce Lohmann  
David Marshall  
Betty McCabe  
Trish Moosbrugger  
Linda Reeve  
Jessica Rudisill  
Rev. Eric Sherlock

Tenant Relations Committee

Penny Atkin, *Chair*  
Judy Halden  
Randy Jang  
Elizabeth Setlak-von Thury  
Pat McGrath

## NEW MEMBERS AND STATISTICS June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

**Active Membership on June 1, 2017: 238**

**New Members: 5**

Affirmation of Faith: 1  
Confirmation: 0  
Letter of Transfer: 1  
Reaffirmation of Faith: 3  
Reinstated from Inactive: 0

**Loss of Members: 17**

Move to Inactive: 14  
Deceased: 3

**Active Membership on May 31, 2018: 226**

**New Members:**

Bob Britt  
Jennifer Faught  
Jerry Mulchahy

Steve Mico  
Rachel Pickett

**Baptisms:**

Jackson Conning  
Jayden Conning

Jennifer Faught

**DCC Members Who Have Died**

Britta Cascio  
Doug Howell

Alan Wadsworth



# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

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## 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

DCC Annual Meeting 2016-2017

Meeting time – 11:00am, Sunday, June 11

Location ~ Kairos Hall

### Welcome

1. 11:00 hrs. Meeting called to order – Bob Hardy
2. Opening Prayer – Gail Doering
3. DCC Church Covenant – read by Rev. Eric Sherlock
4. Establishing a quorum for the meeting – Bob Hardy counted 62 members present; a quorum was established.
  - a. Propose to Approve the 2016-17 Congregational meeting minutes was requested by Bob Hardy. Meeting minutes were provided in the Annual report, Page 9.
  - b. Betty Felton proposed to accept the minutes. Seconded by Betty Atkin.
  - c. No discussion or questions were asked
  - d. Motion to approve the meeting minutes was approved; no opposition or abstentions
5. Recognition of Outgoing Commissioners by Bob Hardy and Volunteers recognized by Gail Doering
  - a. See slate of outgoing commissioners, listed in the Annual report, page 6.
  - b. Bob Hardy acknowledged each commissioner with a gift and acknowledged the members who were unable to attend.
  - c. Presentation to Bob Hardy for his service for the past two years as Moderator. He was presented with the gift of a meditation retreat where he will enjoy some rest and recovery.

### Financial

1. Bob Hardy introduced the Presentation of the 2017-18 Budget summary by Betty McCabe
  - a. See "Budget Summary", Slide 5.
  - b. While pledges came in ahead of the 5% increase requested, the lower number of giving units resulted in a small budget shortfall.
  - c. Betty communicated a tabulation of proposed increases/decreases; See Expenditure details, Slide 6. Of primary note was the recommendation to keep the salary increases
  - d. Question: Was there any budget for the Ministers' search committee?  
Answer: No; but expenses will need to be covered out of operating expenses or 'miracle money' [sic]
  - e. Second Question: Tim Seiler was concerned about the reduction in the membership budget; Answer: this was necessary to correlate to the trends in membership

- f. Third Question: Tenant relations is not showing an income. Tenant relations has a cost due to the need for a person who ensures the property is set up and cleaned up. While these may be covered by income, the income is shown in a separate accounting line. See 'Building Use and Weddings' on Budget Summary
  - g. Fourth Question: Buildings and grounds budget is going up. Yes, the expenses for maintenance are going up, consistent with the aging facility needs:
    - i. HVAC is going to be installed in the sanctuary this year
  - h. Staff and Contractors? This shows a reduction; but this is only due to a reconciliation of existing staff with an old staffing chart. Positions that are no longer needed are shown removed this year.
  - i. Betty requested call for approval of the budget as proposed.
  - j. Moved by May Kay McClure to approve the budget; Bill Armstrong seconded.
  - k. Vote was unanimously approved to adopt the budget.
2. Dayspring Preschool report – See slides 8-18 in the presentation, attached
- a. Charlie Hasselbrink reviewed and thanked all the volunteers of Dayspring.
  - b. He reminded the meeting about the FY17 Objectives a reviewed the scorecard for results of the year. See attached dashboard, "FY17 Objectives and Results"
  - c. Charlie also reviewed the Safety and Security dashboard; to highlight the 'no violations' result from an unannounced site visit
  - d. Enrollment is being impacted by Transitional Kindergarten program that has just been introduced, but is expected to recover.
  - e. Budget review: see "Change in Net Assets" even though it shows a net income as -14K, the endowment was funded for two years; if this had not been done, and it would be showing a net income on a 1M overall budget.
  - f. Financial position; see "Financial Position as of 31-May-2017"
  - g. Staff Turnover report indicates that people are making life changing transitions; not a result of working with Dayspring. FY18 budget is being increased in order assure that the school remains competitive for teachers in this type of career.
  - h. Transitional Kindergarten Challenge offers competition to the Dayspring market base, but there are several factors that differentiate the school, including full day, year-round schedule, STEM curriculum, and low teacher / student ratio.
  - i. Conclusions: The Dayspring preschool is a financially solid, well attended preschool and has a promising future for next year.
3. Endowment report

- a. Dee Brook provided the Endowment report. She thanked Bob Hardy for his support of the Endowment Committee for the past two years. She welcomed Chris Rauen in supporting the Committee next year.
- b. Dee commented on the difference between restricted and unrestricted endowment funds.
- c. Unrestricted funds were used to support the Sister Parish trip to Guatemala.
- d. Restricted funds were down this year; but were used to repair the piano. Dee encouraged people to contribute to the endowment fund in the future

### Ministers Message

1. Reverend Gail opened by acknowledging the Associate Pastor, Eric Sherlock and herself, Interim Pastor.
  - a. Gail introduced the "Discovery Team Share-out to the DCC Congregation". See "Defining the DCC Experience, What we are building together". The image of the "Trillium Flower" is used to describe the "Emerging DCC Vision" and the "DCC Vision in Action" [Slides for this topic in the presentation attached]
  - b. Gail focused on "What we stand for..." and "How we show up..." This report-out will be provided to the Congregation at times when the majority of the members can be present.
  - c. Gail wanted to ask, "When we receive this output are we going to be surprised by the output of the report?"
    - i. For example, would we discover that we are Presbyterian? Alternatively, Fundamental? No, we are consistent and articulate about who we are and what we stand for.
  - d. What we stand for
    - i. Spirituality, "We listen for God"
    - ii. Action, "We walk together in faith"
    - iii. Community, "We care for our communities"
  - e. Reverend Eric reviewed the "How we show up" with detailed examples of these three elements:
    - i. Spirituality, "We listen for God"
      - Discovering Jesus in our modern times
      - Finding the face of God in all people
      - Allowing the space for grace
    - ii. Action, "We walk together in faith"
      - Welcoming all sojourners
      - Sharing our faith through practice
      - Taking a stand for others
    - iii. Community, "We care for our communities"
      - Nurturing deep relationships

- Making our journeys with others
  - Ministering to those in need
- f. A key finding is that members of our community may not always feel free to share. This is a topic that warrants more attention, going forward.
  - g. Gail Doering introduced the members of the Discovery team and invited the Meeting Guests to thank them. The attendees applauded.
  - h. Gail then transitioned into the installation of the new Council by describing the challenges of Church leadership: call each other to accountability, develop transparency, while protecting the leadership from the pot-shots that come from sectors of the community.

#### Installation of Council for 2017-2018

1. Reverend Eric introduced the new slate of Council Members:
  - Moderator: Kristina Kelchner
  - Vice Moderators: Charlie Hasselbrink and Kyra Kennedy
  - Clerk: Kim Michaud
  - Financial: Syd and Leslie Dent
  - Treasurer: Steve Bridgeman
  - Buildings and Grounds: Alice Donovan
  - Children's Ministries: Amy Furber-Dobson
  - Church Family: TBA
  - Faith Journeys: Trish Moosbrugger
  - Membership: Steve Paroli
  - Outreach: Alene Miskovetz
  - Stewardship: Heidi Bridgeman
  - Worship: TBA
  - Youth Ministries: Judy Gestring
2. Eric read the installation questions
3. Reverend Gail offered a prayer for the new Council members.

#### Committee Elections for 2017-218

1. Kristina Kelchner introduced the Committee member leaders
  - a. Finance Committee Three new members were named:
    - Betty McCabe (Chair)
    - Tahir Mahmood
    - Grant Marsten
  - b. Preschool Board
    - Janet Apostolo - Treasurer
    - Nancy Dowell – Friends of Dayspring
    - Judy Halden – Council Liaison
    - Janice Inman - Director
    - Anne Seiler - Secretary
  - c. Nominating Committee
    - Larry Berlin
    - Betty Felton

Janis Jang  
Richard Stein

2. A motion was made by Kristina Kelchner to elect the new Committee members
3. Priscilla Spinner seconded the motion;
4. The Motion was approved; no opposition or discussion.

#### Pastor Search Team

1. Kristina Kelchner introduced the slate of the Pastor Search Team members. Slide 35
  - a. Members of the Pastor Search Team are:
    - Kim Lawrence
    - Deborah Dailey
    - Barb DeBarger
    - Jim Felton
    - David Fetherstonhaugh
    - Bob Hardy
    - John Klassen
    - Allison Seiler
    - Nancy Snyder
  - b. A question was asked whether there were going to be any alternates on the Committee; Kristina answered, "No; there are enough to cover attrition since the bylaws only require eight members." If needed, a new committee member opening would be introduced to fill any vacancies.
  - c. Connie Wadsworth motioned that the Pastor Search committee be approved. Dave Hill Seconded. Motion carried.

#### New Moderator

1. Bob Hardy introduced Kristina as the New Moderator. He provided her with four tokens of transition:
  - a. the handbook for the Council from 2016-2017
  - b. The executive key to the church
  - c. The graphic that describes the current church organization, with the idea that this may evolve, but it illustrates the congregational view of how the Church is organized.
  - d. Finally, Bob handed over 'the baton' to Kristina. Everyone applauded the notion that the Moderator is 'Leading the Band'.
2. Kristina Kelchner stepped forward to offer a few words: She mentioned that she is looking forward to leading such a strong team; but there are challenges ahead.
  - a. We talk a lot about what we are not; and she invited us to learn to find our voice about why we attend DCC; that all God's creatures have a voice.
  - b. She feels we are called to remind us all that "God is Love" and "You don't have to believe to belong".
  - c. She invited everyone to recognize the leadership, and the opportunities to serve going forward.

#### Closing

Kristina Kelchner invited a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Vote to Adjourn the meeting at 1225hrs was unanimous.  
Reverend Eric Sherlock offered closing prayer

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane L Hardy for Kim Michaud

**DANVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**Congregational Meeting Minutes**  
**December 17, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Kristina Kelchner.

A quorum was established by the Clerk, Kim Michaud.

Search Committee members John Klassen, Deborah Daily and David Fetherstonhaugh shared briefly about why the committee recommends Rev. Eric Sherlock as Senior Pastor.

Jim Felton moved to call Rev. Eric Sherlock as Senior Pastor of Danville Congregational Church. Carol Gilliland seconded. There were no questions.

Voting was done by paper ballot and the votes were counted by Steve Bridgeman, Leslie Dent and Kim Michaud, members of Council. **There were 125 votes. YES: 123; NO: 2.** Motion carried.

Rev. Eric Sherlock accepted the call with a grateful heart.

Richard Stein moved to adjourn the meeting. Dee Brook seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned and everyone was invited to brunch in Kairos Hall.

Respectfully submitted by  
Kim Michaud, Clerk

**DANVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**Congregational Meeting Minutes**  
**April 8, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM by Moderator Kristina Kelchner.

A quorum was established by the Clerk, Kim Michaud. More than 36 active members were present.

Kristina explained that Council looked at many different staffing models before deciding to recommend that we call a part time associate pastor. Council has worked closely with the Finance Committee and the Stewardship Commission on budgeting for this position. Kim introduced the nominees recommended by Council.

Bob Hardy moved to elect Ben Beaver, Mariah Callison, Barb DeBarger, Finn Fetherstonhaugh, Kyra Kennedy, Trish Moosbrugger, Richard Stein and Rev. Eric Sherlock to the Associate Pastor Search Committee. Dee Brook seconded. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

Norm Palmer moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Michaud, Clerk

## SENIOR PASTOR

*'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.'*

Mark 12:30-31

Beloved friends, it is with a deep gratitude as well as a humble awareness that I write my first annual report as your Senior Pastor.

On December 17, 2017, you all took the courageous step of calling a now 30-year old pastor, with under five years of ordained professional experience to pastor and serve this vital congregation in the San Ramon Valley. Therefore, I do not take my responsibility or privilege of writing this annual report lightly. It is out of sincere thankfulness for you and God that I have been called to this place during this moment in your remarkable history.

It is no mystery that Danville Congregational Church has been in a period of transition since 2012. And with any transition comes change and sometimes a little fear. We're now in a settled place; a place of peace and calm. But as Rev. Dr. Patricia Kogut reminded us at my installation service, "we cannot get too comfortable or complacent."

This past year, building on the work of the Discovery Team, Council along with many in the congregation engaged in a book study of *Scattering Seeds: Cultivating Church Vitality*, which reminded us of the work and ministry we called to do as a church. We learned that the business we are called to be in is that of cultivating and deepening the relationships we have with God, one another and neighbor.

The crux of the Discovery Team's work supported this call for our congregation because we learned through the process that the primary reason people choose to come to DCC is out of a longing for sacred community – a place to be in relationship with God and neighbor, and to learn how and what it looks like to love God and neighbor. The practice of coming together in sacred community week-after-week helps us build the muscle of seeing the face of God in not only those we enjoy being with in community, but those we are challenged and called to join with in community.

Love God and love neighbor: it's that simple, right? Well, not exactly.

Loving God and loving our neighbor, whomever our neighbor might be in the moment, is not an easy task that should be taken lightly, which is why it takes practice. The practice of showing up and coming together weekly helps us all practice seeing the face of God in each other, which only nourishes and strengthens us to go out and be God's love in the world.

Recently, I was reading through a study conducted by the United Church of Christ entitled, "FACTs on Growing Congregations." The study examined UCC congregations that reported at least 2% growth in average weekly worship attendance from 2009 to 2014. Many of these congregations shared similar characteristics or attributes when compared with congregations that did not experience similar levels of growth. Among the list included: worship filled with a sense of God's presence, nurturing people's faith,



innovative, LGBTQ affirming, emphasis on social justice, etc. One characteristic that stuck out to me was this: had a clearer sense of mission and purpose.

Mission and purpose, sounds like church-y language. However, I believe (along with much smarter people) this contributes to connection and growth of any church: a clear sense of mission and purpose that is supported, valued and lived by the congregation.

The work of the Discovery Team has helped us get closer to what our mission and purpose is as a congregation, and I believe the study we did of *Scattering Seeds* cleared up any misconceptions out there about what God calls us to as a church: the work of cultivating and deepening relationships with God, one another and neighbor. Now, over the course of this next year, I hope we can focus in on these two questions: who are we and where is God calling us to go?

As we continue to discern these two questions as a congregation, I hope we can live into three core practices:

1. Spirituality - Loving God and one another by deepening our spiritual life and relationships with one another and God by talking with one another more about our faith life.
2. Action - Loving our neighbor by supporting our connection to the wider community by increased local outreach.
3. Community - Being God's love in the world by strengthening our sacred community with more opportunities to better know one another and our wider community.

I can't wait to join you all in this work and ministry that God has called us to as a church.

In faithful love,  
Reverend Eric Sherlock, Senior Pastor

## MODERATOR

*If we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.*

1 John 4:12

Recently DCC Clerk Kim Michaud shared with me a story from *Life's Journeys According to Mister Rogers: Things to Remember Along the Way*. Fred Rogers tells of a monk who explained the gradual decline of his once-thriving monastery in this way:

"We did everything right, but somewhere . . . we lost the most important thing of all, the thing that was so contagious and attracted people to us: We lost the naked love. Little by little the success replaced the love... Sure, you can have love *and* success, but the love must remain first – always first. . . . Love and success, always in that order. It's that simple and that difficult."

Love first. It's that simple, and that difficult. In his book, *The Most Loving Place in Town*, Ken Blanchard tells a fable about a church who came to realize that although they were succeeding in terms of numbers and programming, they had lost their way. They had lost sight of loving God and one another as their defining priority. They had drifted into prizing efficiency and excellence at the expense of nurturing and cherishing their relationships. The story is about how they refocused all their efforts on truly knowing and loving each other, and the vulnerability, humility, forgiveness, and grace they experienced along the way. Similarly, in *Scattering Seeds: Cultivating Church Vitality*, Stephen Chapin-Gardner reminds us that if the core work of God's church is about deepening relationships with God and each other.

The Discovery Team's work reminded us that in fact the number one reason people come to DCC is to seek *sacred community* – a place to be in relationship and practice with others who are also seeking God. This yearning stems from a recognition that when we truly see each other -- past our all-too-human frailties, egos, and fears – we learn to see God's love.

At DCC we have renewed our commitment to nurturing a deeper relationship with God and each other. One of the practices we've begun is to start every meeting with prayer and sharing. Before any business is done, each person shares a challenge or sadness (a "Pow"), a joy or celebration (a "Wow"), and how they've experienced God (a "How"). What we've found through this "Pow Wow How" exercise is that by putting our relationships first, our shared church life becomes lighter, easier, and more filled with God's grace. In the past year DCC has seen more movement and renewal than we've seen in several years. In January we said thank you and Godspeed to Interim Senior Minister Gail Doering, and welcomed our beloved Rev. Eric Sherlock as our settled Senior Pastor. We also welcomed two new talented staff members to the church office, and ushered in more than a dozen new lay leaders, nearly all of whom will be continuing to serve in leadership next year.

With this foundation of leadership and love, next year we will continue to discern God's calling for DCC, working with three core practices: (1) deepening our spiritual life by talking to each other about how we see God in our lives; (2) supporting our connection to the wider community by increasing local outreach; and (3) strengthening our sacred community with increased opportunities to better know one another. We hope you'll walk with us as we continue our journey of being the church God calls us to be. We're so glad you're here!

Kristina Kelchner, Moderator

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIACONATE

Deacons at DCC meet monthly with the ministers, and are charged by the Church By-Laws to "aid and advise the ministers and the Council, stand with and listen to persons in the congregation and provide special ministries of reconciliation, comfort, and inspiration."

Ministries of the Diaconate include:

- A ministry of presence. In cooperation with our ministers, we call this 'being there' for members – with home visits, prayer team participation, recognition of special acts of kindness,
- Planning and coordinating memorial services, and maintaining and disbursing a growing number of memorial funds - money given in memory,
- Assisting in planning and coordinating weddings and receptions,
- Coordinating with the Prayer Shawl Ministry to deliver shawls and baby blankets and maintain records,
- Identifying and acknowledging members of the congregation who have gone above and beyond for DCC, sending cards each month,
- Keeping connected to, and serving our students who are 'in care,' or in college,
- Monitoring, and maintaining the DCC active member list, and reaching out to members who have been absent for a while,
- Supporting our ministers by serving communion at DCC or in member homes, helping with Services of Godspeed, Baptisms, and other events.

Diaconate members meet monthly with the minister(s). The By-laws indicate: "Deacons are appointed by Council for a one-year term and are eligible for three consecutive years. Persons are eligible for reappointment after a year's absence from the Diaconate."... "Life Deacons are elected by the congregation after being nominated by the Diaconate and reviewed by Council."

In 2017-18 Diaconate members included Life Deacons Peggy Gierke and Nancy Hill. Continuing Deacons, and Deacons appointed by Church Council for the year are Diane Stein, Mary Kay McClure, Bette Felton, Dee Brook, Carol Gerich, Anne Seiler, Janis Jang, Larry Berlin, and Richard Stein.

Each year new deacons are appointed by Council to replace those leaving service. For the year 2018-19 Carol Bassett, Karen Kawaguchi, and Cheryl Pierson were approved as new Deacons. Carol Gerich, Mary Kay McClure and Bette Felton will be completing terms.

Bette Felton,  
Diaconate

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DAYSPRING PRESCHOOL BOARD

This has been a challenging and rewarding year for Dayspring. We ended on a high note by hiring 2 new part-time teachers, ending the year with a projected surplus of approximately \$9,000, after contributing \$25,000 to the Endowment Note Principal Payment, and generating \$350,000 for DCC operations; and allocating \$30,000 to our Staff Retention and Development Fund.

Other highlights include:

- Maintained full enrollment, replacing a limited amount of vacancies very quickly due to the high community interest and support of the preschool.
- Experienced Limited staff turnover – 2 FT staff positions along with 2 long-term medical leaves were a challenge to cover, but state-required staff/child ratios were maintained with substitutes, additional hours and assistance from the director. Due to the director's recruitment efforts, the 2 PT positions have been filled.
- Facilities have been maintained to a very high standard. A couple of projects were the purchase of a new shade umbrella (the old one was repaired and is being used over the sand area), and the original lighting was replace with LED to provide an appropriate light level for the classrooms.
- The Dayspring facility, along with the DCC building, now have sufficient automated external defibrillators (AEDs) installed and staff has been trained to provide additional safety and security for the preschool and DCC communities.
- Dayspring has begun the process of aligning accounting procedures with those used by DCC. Quickbooks has been implemented, an on-line payroll system will be fully implemented by July 1, and an accounting manual is in the development process.
- Best of all – parents continue to be very impressed with the staff's commitment to excellence in instruction and character development as evidenced by a 5-Star rating on YELP and many positive reviews, and by enrolling their second, third or even more of their children at Dayspring!

Sandra Lepley,  
Dayspring Preschool Board, Chair

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMISSION

DCC Bylaws state that Buildings and Grounds (B&G) shall be responsible for planning and carrying out the care, maintenance, and improvements of the church's buildings, fixtures, equipment, and grounds. The 2018-19 Stewardship Narrative reminds us that "Our DCC campus has grown through the years from a small chapel to the beautiful facility where we gather today. Our inviting buildings and grounds offer places for worship, education, music, meetings, celebrations, and fellowship. Our campus also serves as a gathering place for many community groups."

The B&G Commission is comprised of a small, dedicated group (John Bassett, Dee Brook, Brett Clark, Judy Halden, Tom Sonnemann, and myself) that is very generous in donating time and talent to fulfill the commission's responsibilities. There is never a shortage of maintenance and repair tasks for the church and pre-school that are largely attended to by these members. Our emphasis on conservation last year is resulting in reducing water, sewer, and electric bills. The B&G budget does not include discretionary funds for aesthetic property improvements or enhancements. Such efforts are accomplished with volunteer labor and endowment funds or specific monetary donations for materials.

However, the upcoming budget does propose an allocation for Long Term Maintenance. This is very significant because, with our aging facility, we have already experienced replacement needs (e.g. dishwasher, disposal, microwave, roofing, HVAC's, refrigerator, and freezers) and more needs are anticipated. It is only prudent to set aside funding for these "known unknowns."

The B&G Commission offers service opportunities, especially for those with mechanical, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, or landscaping skills. However, anyone interested in just doing "odd jobs" or learning more about potential projects is encouraged to attend the B&G Commission meetings.

Alice Donovan,  
Buildings and Grounds Commissioner

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES COMMISSION

The Children's Commission has been busy connecting with old and new young families of DCC. During Advent we held our second annual Christmas Plug-in Pageant. Families were encouraged to sign up and join in the fun. The best part was getting a couple of kids the day of the event who wanted to join us! The kids enjoyed being a part of the Christmas story.

We are grateful to all our Godly Play and Holy Moly volunteers who make learning Bible stories so meaningful!

The Children's Commission wants to adapt to the needs of our current families so we are hosting our first "Friendship Friday" Camp in June 2018. We have been busily planning and are looking forward to building community with the children, youth and their parents.

Amy Furber-Dobson,  
Children's Commissioner

## FAITH JOURNEYS COMMISSION

As many of you have noticed and commented, this has been a year of transition for the Faith Journeys Commission. After a number of years hosting a full and enriching line up of 2<sup>nd</sup> hour speakers and presentations, we experienced a decline in attendance during 2<sup>nd</sup> hour programs. We also heard the desire of many DCC members and friends to have more time to connect with each other on Sundays after worship. To be honest with you all, for these reasons, I initially declined to chair Faith Journeys this year. After some discussion with the Nominating Committee, our pastors, and the Moderator team, I accepted the role, with the intention of "holding the space" for Faith Journeys to evolve into its next chapter of ministry. We're still in the early days of this evolution and we pray for patience and insight as we discover God's plan for the next leg of our Journey in Faith.

While we may have seen fewer formal Second Hour programs this year, DCC has continued to sponsor or host programs that enrich our faith, including:

The Men's Luncheon Group

Several Women's Faith Formation groups.

Book study and 2<sup>nd</sup> hour discussion groups – *Scattering Seeds, Cultivating Church Vitality* by Stephen Chapin Garner with Jeffrey Thornell

Co Hosting Author/Speaker with Rakestraw Books: Reza Aslan, author of [Zealot – The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth](#) and author of a new book [God- A Human History](#) and Kelly Corrigan, [Nantucket Neighborhood Project](#)

Mission Moments and Second Hour Q&As, co-sponsored with Outreach Commission reconnecting with longtime community partners; Rainbow Community Center, Shelter, INC., and Contra Costa Interfaith Housing.

Faith Journeys partners in Ministry: Dave Hill, Richard Stein, Betty Felton, Kim Michaud, Bill Williams, Doug Leich, Carol Gilliland, Outreach Commission, DCC Leadership team and our Pastors.

Trish Moosbrugger,  
Faith Journeys Commissioner

## MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION

This year the Membership Commission has been on a journey to discover what new and interesting ways membership can be of service to our Church. You would think the name says it all, membership... But what does that entail exactly? Membership has been exploring the question of what it means to be a member? We've found it to be an interesting philosophical, generational, and personal discussion. While we don't have an answer, it is worth asking yourself the question to see how you would answer it.

We certainly didn't want to change the foundation of what membership does for the Church. We were very excited to open our doors to five new members and we're getting ready to bring in new members again this year. It is always a joyous time in the Church to be able to do this. Wilson Jackson continues to diligently help us with an accounting of our visitors and new attendees, so we are able to understand who continues to visit us and potentially become new members. Along with the Red Bags offered to our first-time visitors allowing them to learn what our Church represents and giving us the opportunity to make a personal connection with the them. Arlene McCulloch magically keeps the credenza filled with bags ready for us to hand out.

Diane Stein and Karen Kawaguchi continue to offer support and their long-time experience with the Church helping to continue with our successful potential members informational meetings where participants receive information about the history of the Church, how it operates and what we believe. Newcomers lunch; when members who have joined in the past two years are invited to have lunch with potential members, matching members with Friends in Faith and new members joining Sunday. Anne Seiler shared a wonderful story how she met her husband, Tim at one of the membership commissions "newcomers" dinner parties back when her Dad (Alan Wadsworth) was the membership chair. As Anne says "Proof that good things do come around, especially when you go to church!!"

Through Rakestraw books Outreach and Membership worked together to bring Reza Aslan the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Zealot* to speak at our Church to talk about his new book *God a Human History*. It was Reza's only East Bay appearance and we were able to provide the space and volunteers to run the community event with our Church as the venue.

As we do every year we also placed an ad in the East Bay Times for our Easter Services. It's good to have a presence in the paper surrounded with other ads showing we are the place to be for open and affirming worship services. Membership has turned some of its attention to the question of what we can also do for our current members. With Joyce Klassen at the helm, she has worked in membership to create TGIF, a totally intergenerational fun gathering, wherever you are on your Friday journey into the weekend, join us for warm fellowship, catch up, connect, or reconnect with our church family.

This year we're looking at continuing to take care of our members and reaching out to more seekers by live streaming our worship service. This idea came about with our desire to be able to offer our service to our members who may be at home on a Sunday but still want to be a part of worship. A number of churches currently do this. This will allow DCC to keep up with the times using technology to allow us to spread our message to our members at home and anyone else on the internet who may find us.

Steve Paroli- Membership Commissioner



## OUTREACH COMMISSION

Committee Members: Alene Riley (Commissioner), Marianne Clark, Claire Conger, Carol Gerich, Kathie Hixon, Doug Leich, Richard Stein, Bill Williams, Donny Woo. The mission of the Outreach Commission is to plan and carry out efforts to bring our church and its ministries to the community and the world through word and deed.

During the year, our church highlighted and supported many non-profit organizations operating within Contra Costa and Alameda counties. We also supported the UCC Northern California Nevada Conference and interfaith groups and activities within our communities. A fall backpack drive was supported by over 60 members of the congregation and resulted in 31 backpacks delivered to youth in need, and over 20 gift cards. DCC volunteers prepared, delivered, and served meals at the Mt. View Family Emergency Shelter and at the Winter Nights temporary shelter. During the Christmas Season, DCC provided 95 Christmas gifts and over \$800 in gift cards in participation with "Christmas for Others." 21 Easter baskets full of delicious food and goodies were delivered to Rainbow Community Center. We continued the practice of Ingathering Sunday - the 3rd Sunday of the month - to collect non-perishable food items to support the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano.

In addition to the outreach above, the Outreach commission organized donations for victims of the Napa fires, collected pillows and blankets and holiday hygiene kits for RCC, and raised funds for the youth by staffing a bake sale table at a Fall Crafts Faire held at the church.

Outreach worked with Faith Journeys Commission to hold three "Mission Moments" beginning in Lent. Speakers from organizations supported by DCC provided a brief explanation of their community work in worship, followed by a second-hour of more discussion, question & answer. The three organizations highlighted were Rainbow Community Center, Shelter, Inc. and Contra Costa Interfaith Housing.

Several special offerings were held during the year which benefited local programs as well as UCC mission projects. Our Thanksgiving offering benefitted the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties, as well as the UCC Disaster Relief Fund.. Our Christmas offering was divided between White Pony Express and the UCC Christmas Fund. The Easter offering recipients were Winter Nights and the Rainbow Community Center. Special offerings were also held to benefit hurricane and fire victims. Other UCC Mission Offerings collected this year were Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and One Great Hour of Sharing. This year the commission designated \$500 of discretionary giving funds to Axis Community Health in Pleasanton. Our support of the UCC Northern California Nevada Conference continued on a quarterly basis.

As always, Outreach could not have achieved any of the above efforts without the loyal support of so many members of DCC. It is truly a labor of love and a group effort, and I am humbled to be part of a church family that tirelessly and generously "reached out" to many in our community.

Alene Riley,  
Outreach Commissioner

# STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION



This year's stewardship theme "Sharing Our Story, Building Our Future, Growing Our Dreams" kicked off a new approach to the annual stewardship season. We offered a Stewardship Narrative booklet as a way to celebrate the past year's journey. Our church family's adventures, changes, growth and mission were captured in word and photos. However, the words and photos were not meant to demonstrate what we've done with our commitment dollars but rather reflect what God has done with the gifts so generously given to us.

**Sharing Our Story:** Each of us has a different perspective of DCC's story. For some it is a 50-year relationship, while others it is their first visit a week ago. This is what makes our story so rich: the young, the old, the in-betweens, those who are visible, and those who are mighty in their soft voice. This is the story of who we are, how we worship God, grow into and through our faith and build relationships within our church family and the community.

**Building Our Future:** So much of what we are as a church family is demonstrated by action. We believe that no activity, project and achievement is so small that it doesn't bear a mention or celebration. Listed within the booklet were many examples of how our efforts and love for each other have left their mark.

**Growing Our Dreams:** The warmth and excitement of revisiting our church story and year's accomplishments was only exceeded by our dreams for the future of DCC. Our desire to share God's unconditional love and boundless grace will lead us to do great things.

This year's stewardship message was shared in small group meetings held in four member's homes. The conversations were rich and the fellowship was sincere. A word of thanks to Dee Brook, Bruce and Kathie Hixon, Steve Paroli, Pat McGrath and Kyra Kennedy for opening up their homes for the gatherings. Additionally, we were privileged to hear the personal testimonials of three DCC members, Karen Kawaguchi, Steve Bridgeman and Richard Stein during the worship services in April and May. The production of the booklet was a labor of love. We also would like to thank Bob Britt, Steve Mico, Blair Hansen, Kim Michaud and Karen Kawaguchi for their help, energy and support.

We each have different motivations and capacities for giving, and every gift and commitment is gratefully received. The one hope of your stewardship commission, lay leadership and staff is that your support for our ministries comes from a profound sense of gratitude and joy for all you receive through your relationship with God and the members and friends of our church.

Filled by the Spirit, Nurtured by God's word and Humbly working for justice,

Heidi Bridgeman,  
Stewardship Commissioner

## YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMISSION

The 2017-2018 has been a busy year for D.C.C. youth. In July 2017 many of our youth participated in the Sierra Service Project Mission Trip in San Diego. In addition to working on home repair projects, weeding, painting, and building fences our youth visited the U.S./Mexico border wall and learned about the plight of the people who try to cross the border. It was a wonderful experience!

Throughout the year our youth also actively participated in church services, fundraising, Women's March, Pride Parade, Holiday Boutique, and making holiday centerpieces for Shelter Inc. Their participation built and strengthened friendships between one another, developed a sense of activism, demonstrated their devotion to D.C.C., and learned about a sense of church family.

Sunday Youth Group gatherings have also become a time of connection, fun, and laughter. The time spent with Rev. Eric, Syd, Rachel, and Anthony has become a valuable component of the evening. In addition to Sunday Youth Group gatherings, three youth family parties are held throughout the year: Welcome Back Swim Party, Holiday Gift Exchange, and End of School Year Swim Party.

Eleven youth in grades 7-9 attended Our Whole Lives this year; taught by Rev. Eric, Syd Dent and Ann Sherpik. Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. With a holistic approach, Our Whole Lives provides accurate, developmentally appropriate information about a range of topics, including relationships, gender identity, sexual orientation, sexual health, and cultural influences on sexuality.

Some youth joined the adults from the congregation for the CPR/First Aid training. This training provided them with essential skills for providing childcare in the church nursery during church services. During the past few years D.C.C. has seen an increase in the youth participation at youth group and in other events throughout the life of the church. It is our hope that this continues. The youth provide an energy and optimism that helps our present and future church growth.

Judy Gestring,  
Youth Commissioner

## CIRCLES COMMITTEE

In recent years many of the circles have not been functioning as they were originally intended (with social events, service projects, etc.) and several have had trouble rounding up enough people to do Sunday tasks. So with much prayer and discussion and with the support of Council and Diaconate we created seven new Emmaus teams with the sole purpose of providing welcome and hospitality on Sunday mornings starting on July 1. In welcoming the stranger and in serving each other we are given the chance to have real spiritual connection, just like the two disciples found when they broke bread with Jesus in Emmaus all those years ago. We hope the new Emmaus teams will provide everyone with that opportunity.

A big thank you to all who have served as Circle Leaders, Sunday Tasks Coordinators and Caring Coordinators. Thanks as well to the seven folks who have stepped up to be the leaders of our new teams. Many thanks to the members of the Circles Committee for being open to trying new things, for loving the people of this congregation, and for making our meetings so much fun: Karen Anderson, Penny Davis, Nan Karns, Judy Schreib, and Diane Stein as well as Rev. Eric and Rev. Gail.

Kim Michaud,  
Circles Committee, Chair

## ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

This year the Endowment Committee approved grants that included hiring licensed facilitators for CPR/First Aid training and OWL (youth sexuality education). In addition, we participated with Dayspring Preschool in the purchase and use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) which was installed in Kairos Hall.

The congregation gifted eighteen donations to the endowment fund, mainly during Advent and Easter. Thank you everyone for your generosity and thoughtfulness in memory of and in honoring family, church members, and other loved ones. The income generated by the principal value of the fund provides an ongoing ability to finance activities that might not otherwise be included in our operating and reserve budgets for matters such as youth education, community outreach, and program enhancement.

Naming DCC in our estate is another way of building a legacy and honoring our church relationship. We are grateful for all such gifts that we have received over the years.

Thank you to this year's committee members: Penny Atkin, Dee Brook, Caryl Krotz, and Chris Rauen.

Bruce Hixon,  
Committee Chair

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

We started the year with the 2017-18 budget forecasting a shortfall of \$ 16,583 to be funded through reserves. Happy to report that we ended the year with a surplus of \$32,633 and the committee has recommended to Council that these funds be allocated to the long-term maintenance fund. Reduction in staffing costs is the main contributor to this surplus.

Cash and Investments at fiscal year end totaled \$314,630, an increase of \$66,709 during the year.

The mortgage with American River Bank has an outstanding principal balance of \$3,455,915 and the interest rate on this debt is set to reset higher in 2020 which will increase the interest cost on this debt. The unpaid amount of the Phase II Note which is held by the DCC Endowment Fund is down to \$220,000 with the Dayspring allocation helping to pay off \$25,000 this year.

The committee kicked off the annual budget discussions for the fiscal year 2018-19 in February. The committee worked on the income and expenses forecast for the coming year and requested input from commissions on their projections for the coming year. These forecasts contributed to the exciting new narrative and campaign that the Stewardship committee embarked upon. Whilst the 2018-19 overall budget has a reduced income level compared to previous years, the initiatives undertaken during 2017 on expenses puts the finances of the church at a healthier footing. Two positive outcomes of changes instituted during 2017 is reduced dependence on Dayspring for operating expenses, which is down from \$110,000 in 2017-18 budget to \$ 62,000 in the 2018-19 budget, the second is a projected contribution of \$32,200 to shore up the long-term maintenance fund.

We thank all the members of the Finance Committee for the contribution of their time, talent and expertise and for being good stewards of the church finances.

Tahir Mahmood, Chair  
Syd & Leslie Dent, Financial Secretary  
Bob Britt, Treasurer  
Betty McCabe, At-Large  
Grant Marston, At-Large  
Eric Sherlock, Senior Minister  
Kristina Kelchner, Moderator  
Kyra Kennedy, Vice Moderator  
Janet Apostolo, Dayspring Preschool Board  
Heidi Bridgeman, Stewardship Commissioner

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## The Nominating Committee's responsibility

The Nominating Committee's responsibility is to determine who completed their term as officers, commissioners, and committee participants. We also keep track of who would remain in their positions for the 2018–2019 church year to be compliant with the Church bylaws. Our meetings commenced in January with the purpose of determining positions that will become vacant.

Committee members consider attributes that might include experience, leadership, cooperation, thoughtfulness, commitment, and availability. Group dynamics is also an important factor for each appointment. All this is done with confidentiality.

Meetings convened on various Sundays during Second Hour and sometimes through lunch.

Members of the 2017-2018 Nominating Committee were Larry Berlin, Bette Felton, Kristin Kelchner (Moderator), Janis Jang, and Richard Stein. Assisting the Nominating Committee were Inte or Minister, Eric Sherlock

Our thanks go to those who accept our call. We understand it takes commitment and precious time to fulfill these responsibilities on their part to serve Danville Congregational Church.

Janis Jang

For the Nominating Committee

## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE – Senior Minister

The Pastoral Relations Committee continued to meet with Rev. Eric over the course of the 2017-18 year. The group continues to build close, trusting relationships. In addition, the PRC supported Rev. Eric as he transitioned from his role as Associate Pastor to Senior Pastor. The congregation needs to be reminded that Eric has limited time and resources, he needs to set strong boundaries and take time for his personal life. The PRC is always available to receive feedback from the congregation and to facilitate and provide communication about the ministry of our Senior Pastor.

The Pastoral Relations Committee includes: Laura Beaver, Christopher Callison, Judy Halden and Alex Hasselbrink

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The dedicated women of the Prayer Shawl Ministry made it possible to present 18 prayer shawls to church members, family members and friends of members of the church during time of grief, illness and injuries to express love, prayers and support. We also presented 12 baby blankets to our church members and to parents at Dayspring Preschool. As part of our outreach, we donated over 330 hats and scarves to Rainbow Community Center in Pleasant Hill and San Francisco Health Network for the Homeless Services. Hats/scarves and prayer shawls have also been given to our friends at our sister parish in Guatemala and to our Winter Nights guests.

We were fortunate in 2017 to have enough remaining yarn from previous years that no purchase of yarn was necessary. The yarn used for the hats/scarves is donated mainly by the knitters in the Prayer Shawl Ministry and other church members. We are extremely grateful for these generous donations from our members. Active members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry for 2017 include Gail Clark, Judy Schreib and Elke Torgerson. Marianne Clark also participated by making hats.



## SISTER PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

Danville Congregational Church, Danville CA

Catholic Community of San Antonio, Quiche, Guatemala

Sister Parish exists to foster mutual understanding and commitment to peace and justice among people in the United States and Central America. This objective is pursued through intentional linking between churches and Christian communities in the United States and Central America. Delegation travel to the North and South with home stays is an essential aspect in enhancing awareness and understanding, and nurturing closer relationships.

<https://sisterparish.org/about-us/>

This year, DCC and San Antonio celebrated seven years of relationship between our communities. Since 2011, we have sent 4 delegations (20 different DCC members) from Danville to San Antonio, Guatemala, and have hosted one delegation from San Antonio to Danville. We look forward to sending a delegation to Guatemala in this coming year, and are beginning to plan for hosting a group from San Antonio in 2019-20.

We also reached a significant milestone in our relationship, the completion of our first project together. In August, the San Antonio Committee secured a grant from the Jesuit Foundation in Guatemala for \$5000, to be used to purchase land and complete the structure of their new church building. The Committee submitted a proposal to Sister Parish and DCC to partner in a project to install tile flooring, electric lights and pews. In February, DCC Council accepted the proposal. Sister Parish released \$2410 from previous fundraising and 20 families from DCC contributed to raise an additional \$3481 to see the project to completion. The Catholic Community of San Antonio will dedicate their new church in June, on the Feast of Saint Anthony, a special day of celebration in their community.

The Danville Committee hosted two events. In November, we gathered to have a skype call with Carrie Stengel in Guatemala and with Krista Hixon and David Marshall (two past DCC delegates) in Philadelphia. We signed many Christmas cards to be distributed to families in San Antonio. We heard about Linda Reeve's recent trip to Central America and learned about the scholarship programs she is involved with. During the month of February, the DCC Committee sponsored the "Building Bridges" activity for children and adults of DCC. We read the story ***Brick by Brick*** during the Time for Children, followed by an art and prayer activity during Coffee Hour. Photos and prayer bricks were then sent via DHL to the San Antonio church to display.

We look forward to continuing this relationship, supporting each other in prayer and fellowship, and travelling to visit each other's communities.

Trish Moosbrugger,  
for the Sister Parish Ministry Team

## TENANT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Tenant Relations Committee is happy to report a successful year. We met our budget goals and continue to receive positive feedback from our tenants.

We serve the community by hosting seven recovery groups as well as PFLAG, Gods Way Church, and Valley Oak Senior Respite Center. The value of our outreach by way of reduced rent, etc. is nearly \$200,000. There are many recitals, concerts, and study sessions held in our facility. Please recommend us to anyone who might be interested in a clean, welcoming venue.

Our challenge this year has been the many changes to staff and procedures which required the ability to adapt. The awesome part came with the skills and talents of the new staff especially Liz and Janessa. They seem able to cope with whatever comes to them. We could use more Event Facilitators so anyone who has an interest and a little spare time, especially on Saturdays, should talk with one of us. I thank God for a hand in meeting all the needs of our tenants and the great people who listen and act.

Penny Atkin, Judy Halden, Randy Jang, Pat McGrath

# REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

The Financial Secretary keeps track of member contributions and income. The Financial Secretary provides giving statements at tax season, during annual giving and periodically during the year. The Financial Secretary works with Stewardship in collecting estimates and letting the Finance Committee know how close we are to meeting our goal. And finally, the Financial Secretary makes sure the Sunday collection is counted, deposited and recorded in our accounting system.

Thanks to all of you, we are able to report that we finished our fiscal year 2016-2017 as follows:

2017-2018 Commitment Budget \$311,844 2016-2017 (87 Commitments).

Looking Forward: 2018-2019 We have a Commitment Budget of \$303,425. We currently have 84 commitments of \$289,000.

We are expecting several other members that historically make annual commitments. With these commitments we will reach \$303,425. We have had several members move away and that has had an impact on our commitments this year.

Thanks to Blair Hansen for all the help with quarterly statements and mailings. A special thanks to Bruce Hixon, Larry Berlin, Steve Bridgeman and Tahir Mahmood for their help with the offering process and covering for us when we were not available to count.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sydney Dent and Leslie Dent Financial Secretaries

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# DANVILLE

Congregational Church

## Danville Congregational Church

*United Church of Christ*

989 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville CA 94526-4020

Phone: (925) 837-6944

[www.danvillechurch.org](http://www.danvillechurch.org)

### Our Vision

*At Danville Congregational Church we welcome you to a progressive spiritual community that is open and affirming, celebrates differences, and encourages alternate views. We explore the Bible with curiosity and enthusiasm, taking it seriously but not literally. Taking Christ's call passionately to love our neighbor, we extend our faith into action for the betterment of all. Wherever you are on life's journey, we offer you a place of peace and hope.*