



Lent/Spring 2020

# Into the Wilderness: Our Lenten Journey

It feels like just yesterday we were singing Joy to the World, lighting candles, and watching our children tell the story of Christmas in their annual Christmas pageant. Now we find ourselves just under a week away from ushering in the season of Lent on **February 26** with our **Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m.** in DCC's sanctuary. Similar to last year, we will observe Ash Wednesday through a simple service of Taizé. If you were unable to attend last years' service, I hope you will join us this year. Taizé is a style of worship grounded in the singing of distinctive and much-repeated prayer chants. Taizé music highlights simple phrases, usually lines from the Psalms or other pieces of scripture, repeated or sung in canon. Taizé was designed with the intention to help meditation and prayer, and will center us and invite us into our journey of Lent.

Our Lenten journey for 2020 will be guided by the theme of *Wilderness*. Within scripture, Lent begins in the wilderness—the “state of the wild.” In the wilderness we find Jesus for forty days and forty nights. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle.

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Yet in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is reminded of who he is and to whom he belongs.

In the same manner, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leanings of the Spirit. The interesting thing about surrendering, however, is that we rarely do it willingly. To surrender implies that one is no longer in control.

However, I believe that if we surrender and dare to go into the wilderness, we will discover, and thus, remember who we are and whose we are. There is no wilderness experience or space that is too harsh or too dangerous for the love of God to be present.

In worship throughout the season of Lent, we will be guided by a set of scripture readings inspired by the Revised Common Lectionary along with poetry written by multiple authors around the theme of wilderness. Our worship experience will be enriched through various visuals including an art installation on our Communion table along with an art gallery installation along the back walls of the sanctuary. Outside of worship, you are invited to continue the journey at home. A devotional will be made available on the first Sunday of Lent for pick-up after worship and our children and youth will have their own at-home activities.

The culmination of our wilderness wandering begins on **April 5, Palm/Passion Sunday**. Throughout our Lenten season, we will find that the state of the wild can be isolating and lonely, and sometimes it is filled with crowds. On Palm Sunday, we find our place in the crowds, and our task is to wonder where we stand. This year's Palm/Passion Sunday service will be led intergenerationally and will be focused on simply telling the story through a series of dramatic readings.



On **Maundy Thursday, April 9**, we discover that there is no quick or easy way out of the wilderness. Our mid-Holy Week service invites us to slow down, to face and feel the painful events of Jesus' last days—for in these stories we may recognize glimpses of our own. Our service on this evening will be musically focused to invite us to sing through the wilderness journey to the cross.

Finally, on **Easter Sunday, April 12**, we hear the story of the women leaving the empty tomb, filled with shock and surprising joy. It's in this moment that they begin a new journey. As people with Easter faith—the death does not have the last word, but ultimately life wins—for us, the journey never ends.

My desire for you dear friends during this most holy of seasons in the Christian tradition, is that you will create space in your life to experience a little wilderness wandering. It's not too often in our busy and overscheduled lives that we are invited to surrender and to *just be* in a moment. Allow yourself just a single hour each week for six Sundays to surrender, and like Jesus, be reminded of who you are and to whom you belong—a beloved child of God.

See you in church,

Pastor Eric

# An Update from Pastor Todd

Over the past several months, it's been a pleasure to witness the greater visibility of our young people in worship. Hearing them share the words of ancient texts and contemporary poetry and having them lead us in some of our rituals illuminates the beauty of community and inspires hope in the collective work we are doing here.



Furthermore, the youth group has certainly benefitted from not only delicious homemade meals provided by members of DCC but also their companionship in our activities and lessons. And our young ones are finding joy in engaging with some of our members by baking them cookies and making them valentines. This kind of intergenerational interaction benefits us all and blesses our church!

It's also been heartening to see our youth engage in service opportunities. Four of our youth joined several other DCC members, giving up part of their holiday to participate in the recent MLK Day of Service. They worked hard and with great joy and enthusiasm! We head back to GLIDE Memorial Church in the City to attend worship and serve lunch on March 8.

Our 6-month Our Whole Lives (OWL) Lifespan Sexuality course that began in October ends on March 22. Over these many months, our



youth have done some great work learning how to make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior and how to live healthy and full lives. We are super grateful to DCC members **Steve Paroli** and **Jenn O'Neal**, who along with guests Bonnie Violet and Romeo Jacinto, were part of a panel conversation with our nine high school youth who have been participating in OWL. The stories of these folks were a profound blessing to our youth!

Later this spring, we plan to offer Godly Play training to folks who would like to begin working in this program or for folks who would like to brush up on their skills. We're so grateful for the team of folks who week-after-week help shape the spiritual formation of our children and are always looking for folks who want to share in this special ministry. Watch for announcements soon about our **summer half-day camp**, which will be held in early June.

In June, the youth group is invited to travel to Tucson, AZ for an immersion experience rooted in the issues, stories, and struggles at our southern border. And Camp Caz offers a great summer camp option for youth of all ages. **One in particular is Caz Junior Camp for incoming grades 4–6. Amy Furber-Dobson will be the camp director and I will be serving as camp chaplain.** Senior High camp will be held July 12–18 and Middle School/Junior High Camp will be July 19–25.



I remain super-grateful for a faith community who values the spiritual formation of its young people as DCC does and for each person involved in our shared work.

Blessings to you all,

Pastor T

# DCC News & Notables

Sunday, February 23

## All-Family Pancake Breakfast



Do you know about the marathon race where participants have to flip pancakes? One racer's trick was to wrap the pancake in Saran Wrap with weather stripping to survive nearly 6,000 flips over 26.2 miles. Fortunately for us at DCC, no one will have to run or bring a spatula to enjoy a pancake breakfast. On **February 23**, following church service, the

Emmaus Leadership Team will host its second All-Family Pancake Breakfast. Come prepared to enjoy ham and flapjacks cooked up and served by our church cooks and youth.

Friday, March 6

## Get Ready for TGIF Gatherings



Please mark your calendars for our new season of TGIF celebrations. John and Joyce Klassen will host these gatherings at their home in San Ramon from 6-9pm. All are welcome for these super casual, end-of-week, supper get-

togethers! Watch the weekly emails for more details as we get closer to the next TGIF date of **March 6**. You can also add to your calendar subsequent gatherings set for **April 3 and May 1**.

## Flowers for Worship

The Emmaus Committee is taking sign-ups during Fellowship Time for anyone who would like to provide flowers for Sunday worship service. This is a wonderful opportunity to remember someone, to honor a special occasion, or just to add beauty to the altar. If you are interested in providing flowers one Sunday, please contact Nancy Dowell or Nan Karns.



## Memorial Service Committee Forming

To more effectively provide support for memorial services at DCC, and to engage more DCC members, DCC is announcing the formation of a Memorial Reception Committee. This committee will function much like an Emmaus Team, where members would be contacted to support the service when available. This team would support all aspect of memorial service planning and day-of-service support, including reception and service set up, ushering, and other tasks.

Service on this committee would be a great way to honor the memory of the deceased as well as family and friends. Anyone interested in serving on this committee or learning more about it can contact Peggy Gierke or Diane Stein.

## Reflecting on Black History Month

Sunday worship service in February has considered our role in "Building Beloved Community," a society based on justice, equal opportunity, and love of one's fellow human beings.



Poetry, readings, and music created by people of color and moments of prayer and reflection, have presented an opportunity to reflect on our role in being a part of the UCC mission and vision to be an anti-racist church that works toward a more just world for all people. The program will conclude the last Sunday in February with a service led by our youth.

You are also invited to attend a series of conversations on race organized by the Northern California Nevada Conference of the UCC to be held on Thursday evenings from **February 20 to March 26** at several locations across the Bay Area. You can attend in person or join online through Zoom. There is no cost to attend the pilot program, but you must register by contacting Rev. Davena Jones ([davena@ncncucc.org](mailto:davena@ncncucc.org)).

## DCC Member Information Sessions

Visitors and friends of DCC are invited to join Pastor Eric after church on **Sundays March 8 and March 15** for DCC information sessions, where you can learn more about joining the DCC family. If interested, please contact Pastor Eric ([eric@danvillechurch.org](mailto:eric@danvillechurch.org)).

## Youth Group: A Special Experience

by Nan Karns and Nancy Dowell

Energy, appreciation, youthful fun, and a spiritual message is what we experienced one Sunday evening attending the DCC Youth Group. We prepared baked potatoes and homemade chili, with lots of tasty condiments. To top it off, we brought chocolate chip cookies for dessert, and they were a hit!

We weren't just the chefs, though. We also joined in the fun, playing a name game to start the night. Standing in a circle, we called out someone's name and tossed a small soft stuffed toy to them. There was a trick to this, though; there were about 10 of these going at the same time!

We encourage others to get their chef's hat on and have some fun, too, by signing up to provide a meal and join in some fun with our youth one Sunday night soon. Contact Pastor Todd for more details.

## A Nursery Makeover: Join Us!

Our nursery needs some freshening up! We're putting together a small team of folks to:

- Sort through our current toys and books. We'll keep the things that are age appropriate and in good condition and donate the rest
- Give the room a fresh coat of paint
- Purchase a few new toys and storage items
- Make a cozy, safe and fun space for our children birth through 3 years and the people who care for them.

Contact Kim Michaud if you'd like to help.

## Wanted: Easter Baskets

Signs up to provide Easter baskets for the Rainbow Community Center and Hope Solutions (formerly CCIH) will begin on **Sunday, March 15**. Baskets will be due by **Wednesday, April 8**.

This is DCC's 32<sup>nd</sup> year of providing baskets! Watch for a flyer with more details, coming soon. For more information, contact Kathie Hixon ([kathiehixon@comcast.net](mailto:kathiehixon@comcast.net)).



## Dinners Provided to Shelter Inc.

by Doug Leich



DCC volunteers provided dinners at Shelter, Inc.'s Mountain View Emergency Family Shelter in Martinez for three nights in February. The shelter housed nine or ten families, with 13 adults and 20 children, half of them age 5 or under.

On Tuesday, February 4, Bette and Jim Felton, Jen Faught and Nancy Snyder provided and served a dinner of meat loaf, macaroni and cheese, and salad, followed by dessert provided by Bethany Picone. Joyce Klassen provided tri-tip, barbecue sauce and coleslaw for Wednesday's dinner, while Mary Kay McClure pitched in with grapes, salad and brownies, and the serving team of Sally Baca, Tom Sonnemann and Bob Howell provided sandwich rolls, sausage links, milk and more brownies.

Michiyo Laing cooked and served a generous pot of beef chili for Thursday's dinner, helped by Doug Leich, who also provided a vegetarian chili option. Karen Kawaguchi's cornbread was the perfect complement for the chili. Joyce's coleslaw made a second dinner appearance, and dinner was topped off with cookies provided by Marsha Mak. The shelter families were thankful for the good food we provided and for our presence in serving dinner for those three nights.

DCC's next round of dinners for homeless families will be in May, when the rotating Winter Nights Shelter comes to San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church in Alamo. Our next dinners at the Mountain View Emergency Family Shelter in Martinez will likely be in November.

# Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer and help improve their communities.

In response, DCC members of all ages came together on Monday, January 18 to provide service to our brothers and sisters in the East Bay. In partnership with Hope Solutions (formerly CCIH), we helped to refurbish several homes in the San Ramon Valley area, including upgrading furniture, cleaning carpets, planting flowers, performing yard work, cleaning gutters, and more.



Below are a few comments from DCC members who shared what the work that day meant to them.

*I loved volunteering with other DCC friends on MLK's Day of Service. The highlight was chatting with one of the women who lived there. We talked for probably 15 minutes and I learned she loved gardening, her church, and being outside. She missed her family who are all gone. She walks or rides the bus because her car was stolen. Then she taught me to make gnocchi. While she said it was easy, I'm pretty sure I'll need another lesson or a YouTube video before I tackle that. We hugged as I said goodbye. We did important work in those ladies' yard that day but bringing a smile to their faces was the best part. I won't forget it.* 

– Amy Furber-Dobson

*Working with CCIH was a powerful experience because we were able to improve the lives of our own community members. By manicuring a lawn of a CCIH home, we were able to instill a sense of pride in a new and improved backyard for our community.* 

– Abby Hasselbrink

*Volunteering on MLK Day with church friends felt good "doing" something for others. I hope our weeding, cleaning*

*and flower planting lifted the spirits of the four women who live there.* 

– Mary-Marie Deauclaire

*It brought a warm feeling to my heart to see my church serving out in the community doing great work. This is how our church will grow, by putting ourselves out more and more in our community!* 

– Miguel Atkins-Whitley



*I have always wanted to volunteer on the Day of Service. An opportunity to serve with our church made it even more special. We all grew closer working side by side. It truly was a blessing to accomplish something for others as an intergenerational group from DCC.* 

– Janis Jang

# DCC in action: MLK Day of Service



# Mid-Year Financial Update

by Syd and Leslie Dent, Financial Secretaries

As of January, DCC was slightly ahead on its yearly commitment returns. Many people have paid their commitments in full and a large portion of commitments are made automatically. Our funds for operation have been ample for all expenses, planned and unplanned.

Looking ahead, we are on target to make \$285,000 of our \$298,000 commitment goal. While that larger goal counted on commitments that we did not receive, our expenses are low. Our receptionist moved on and we have not replaced him. That change along with other cost saving measures has kept our expenses well below target, so DCC is tracking ahead of budget. The finance committee did not feel that any mid-year adjustment was needed to stay on budget.

Dayspring Preschool started the fiscal year with significant challenges in enrollment and finances. Last year it ended with a deficit in its budget, which was covered by reserves. DCC gave Dayspring some relief in its commitment to support the preschool so it would have adequate funds to make important changes.

Today, Dayspring is reorganizing and revitalizing its program. With the commitment relief and changes combined with new enrollments, Dayspring is ahead of its financial plan and on track to meet its yearly budget in June. It will start next year in a much stronger position to fulfill its mission of quality, loving preschool education.

On to the DCC Endowment Fund, which benefited from a strong market in 2019. The finance committee changed some investments to move funds out of an equity fund into a more conservative balanced fund. This will provide better long-term stability in income. The Endowment has a large sum of money available for children's and youth ministries, which will help Pastor Todd and DCC meet the needs of growing programs. There is not as much unrestricted money this year but that should improve with the shift in funds. The Endowment will continue to be an important source of funds to help DCC continue its mission to love God, love each other and bring that love into the world.

## Service to Contra Costa County

Advisory boards, commissions seek committed citizen volunteers



In a recent communication, our Contra Costa County (CCC) Supervisor Candace Andersen listed 30 different opportunities to serve for citizen oversight and policy development. These include CCC Council on Homelessness, the Hazardous Materials Commission, the Iron Horse Corridor Management Program, the Workforce Development Board and the First 5-CC Children and Families Commission. These are often boards that meet only every two months, but provide volunteers amazing insight into county-wide services and strengths.

DCC member Bette Felton is supporting the effort to identify volunteers for Contra Costa County advisory boards and commissions. Bette served on the Workforce Development Board for many years, where she learned a tremendous amount about labor and employment and met remarkable people who work in this area. "I recommend these opportunities for any our members and friends," she said.

To learn more about volunteering for an advisory body, please see: [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/3418](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/3418) To apply on line, click on the 'Apply' button on the right side top of the page. For more information, you can call Supervisor Andersen's office at 925-957-8860.

# Bells Toll for Easter

By Mary-Marie Deauclaire, Handbell Director



Celebration Bells will start learning new Easter music on Sunday March 1. We practice every week after worship from 12 noon to 2pm. Interested? Come join us!

Celebration Bells is our handbell ensemble that plays during Sunday worship throughout the year, approximately every six weeks. Besides playing for the congregation, we have had the privilege of attending handbell festivals, conferences, and workshops, and performing for retirement communities. We have an enthusiastic team of anywhere from six to 12 musicians (depending on how many people can faithfully commit to rehearsals for that six-week module). Each ringer is assigned specific notes to play (specific bells to ring). If a ringer is absent and we can't find a substitute, then those notes are left out. That can make the sound of our music full of holes!

Our instrument is 4-1/2 octaves of Schulmerich handbells and 4 octaves of Malmark chimes. We have played a variety of musical styles, from traditional and contemporary sacred and hymn tunes to classical, pop, and just-for-fun arrangements. The music is chosen to be appropriate for the particular Sunday we will play (Lent, Easter, Advent, etc.), and it accommodates the specific number of ringers and their levels of experience. The director considers all of these variables each time we play. In recent years we've had a range of ensembles, including 12 ringers who played fairly advanced music. Other times we've had as few as six or eight ringers playing simpler music. Regardless of the numbers and ability, Celebration Bells is always a great group of folks with the desire to share their love of music with each other and with the congregation.

Again, "CB" rehearses on Sundays from noon to 2:00 pm. We will play for worship on Easter, with rehearsals running from March 1 to April 5. If you'd like to know about our ensemble, please contact me.

## DCC Church Council Report

By Trish Moosbrugger Moderator

The DCC Church Council met in January to hold a roundtable discussion about our ministries and commission work, sharing stories and hopes for the coming year. Throughout the spring, the Council will be translating those stories and hopes into a budget for the 2020-21 calendar year. We'll also be inviting members to serve in leadership roles, and setting our fundraising goals for the coming year.

This is a natural rhythm for our church and we're pretty good at making things run smoothly at DCC. But the transformation happening in our ministries is far from business as usual. Our families, youth and children's ministries are blossoming with ideas generated from within and supported and encouraged by Pastors Eric and Todd.

Our Diaconate and Worship teams continue to explore new ways to enhance and support our spiritual experiences. Dayspring Preschool continues on its remarkable journey into the future. And our DCC Community continues to engage outside our comfort zones to be *God's Love in the World*.

# Children's Ministry Report

*By Kim Michaud, Children's Ministry Commissioner*

Our DCC children continue to make valuable contributions to their fellow church members. Most recently, they demonstrated their creativity in making valentine's during Godly Play. These were sent to some of our friends who haven't been able to attend Sunday service lately.

Last December, some of you joined with our youth for our cookie party/ministry. Making the cookies was fun! And delivering them was a really special treat. We delivered boxes of cookies to ten of our friends whom we haven't seen in some time. Everyone enjoyed the experience and we received many lovely thank you notes.

Then, there was our Christmas Pageant, another wonderful multigenerational experience. Over 40 people participated, young in age and the young at heart. Thanks to everyone who helped and to all of our participants for telling this sacred story about a journey that was not just back then....it is also now.

Looking ahead, we hope many of you will make it to the pancake breakfast right after church service on Sunday, February 23. The Emmaus Team is already at work planning this second annual all-church family activity.

Finally, look for more information coming soon about a Children's Choir for Easter and the annual Easter Egg hunt at the Felton's. If you have questions, thoughts, or suggestions about these church activities, please share them with Pastor Todd or me.

# Worship Commission Report

*By Janis Jang, Worship Commissioner*

Your Worship Commission met near the end of January, where we had the privilege of planning worship services for February and March.

For February, in honor of Black History Month, we focused on understanding how to build a "beloved community." That began with the Beatitudes, which opens the door to freedom and civil rights. Then, on the following Sunday, we had the opportunity to learn about experiences in Guatemala from members of our congregation.

On the last Sunday in February, our Youth Group will lead us in worship. You don't want to miss this special service. The following week is the first day of Lent; this year falling on Wednesday, February 26. That evening we will have an Ash Wednesday service.

March will be full of special activities at DCC. They include an Easter performance from our handbell choir, a guest speaker, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday service, and, of course, our Easter Sunday service. This is always a special time of year at DCC, and all of us on the Worship Commission are honored to play a role in planning these activities. All of you are invited to attend our meetings to participate in the planning and provide input and feedback.

Meanwhile, looking back, we experienced special moments over the Christmas season and on into the new year. These included the Greening of the Church, Music Sunday, the Intergenerational Christmas Pageant, Christmas Eve, Carols and Poems Sunday, Epiphany Sunday, and Baptism Sunday. Which of these services was especially meaningful to you? We would love to get your responses and feedback, so that we may preserve traditions that you hold dear. Email or join us at our next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 10a.m. in the Music Room, and let us know what is important to you.

# Our DCC Children & Youth @ Work



# The New CCIH: Hope Solutions

In 2008, Danville Congregational Church joined with more than 20 other faith community partners to help Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH) address homelessness in our community. Since that time, we have partnered with CCIH to create Garden Park Apartments and many other effective solutions to ending homelessness for our most vulnerable neighbors. Many members of our congregation have been integral in growing the impact of this organization in our community. That includes Carol Gilliland, who currently serves as Chair of the Board.

To start 2020, CCIH has some exciting news. As part of its five-year strategic plan, CCIH will now have a new name and identity



**The Heart of Housing and Services**

And there's a new website: [www.hopesolutions.org](http://www.hopesolutions.org)

Hope Solutions envisions a future in which everyone has a place to call home and the support of a strong community so that those who are served can live with dignity and reach their full potential. The mission is to heal the effects of poverty and homelessness by providing permanent housing solutions and vital support services to highly vulnerable families and individuals.

This new name carries the organization into the future and reinforces its position as a heart-centered organization focused on providing quality housing, ongoing support, and the courage to hope. CCIH, now Hope Solutions, always welcomes your help. To get involved please visit [www.hopesolutions.org](http://www.hopesolutions.org).

## DCC Members Attend Ruby Slippers



*DCC members at Hope Solutions' annual gala, Ruby Slippers: There's No Place Like Home held Saturday, February 8 at the Blackhawk Auto Museum. A big congratulations to Hope Solutions' Board Chair and DCC member Carol Gilliland for all her hard work guiding this organization!*

# We Pray for...

At DCC we believe in the power of prayer and in a God who hears us. The prayers below have been collected from our prayer time each Sunday and made available to the church office going back through late December 2019. They have been updated as we receive additional information.

## Prayers of Healing for...

- The **nephew of Gail and Brett Clark, Jay**, as he receives chemo for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. When he finishes chemo, he will receive a bone marrow transplant.
- The **parents of Nancy Halseth**, as they face health challenges.
- For our **sister parish in San Antonio** from community conflict.
- **Kayden, 3**, whom **Carol Gerich** mentioned completed his seventh surgery for cancer in January. Prayers of comfort for his mother and grandmother.
- For **Sue and Lee**, longtime **friends of Jim and Bette Felton**, as they negotiate illness together.
- **Halie, Deborah Daily's niece**, whose unborn baby has a hole in her heart.
- For **Gretchen Rauen**, sister of Chris, who prepares for surgery and treatment of breast cancer, and will need assisted living guidance post-surgery.
- Son of a **friend of Amy Furber Dobson, Nolan Rocha-Buel**, who was hit by a car.
- **Anna Elaine**, born 9 weeks early to **Gail and Brett Clark's nephew Jeff** and his wife on Valentine's Day. Baby and mother are doing fine. Anna will be in the NICU for several weeks as she weighs just over 4 pounds.

## Prayers for the World...

- For the safety and success of our brother **Don Pedro**, a leader of our **sister parish in San Antonio, Guatemala**, who risks his life daily while serving to protect the quality of water needed for sustaining life. Prayers, too, for a plentiful harvest this year after years of drought and changing rain patterns that have left many families with little to eat. Unite in prayer with San Antonio that this year's seeds will find more favorable conditions to grow.



- In an overpopulated world approaching the end of growth, pray for children worldwide, the innocent victims of adult conflict. And special prayers for safety and protected growth of **Barira**, who lives in Niger, and **Omar from Mozambique**, whom Charles Hartman supports through World Vision.
- For all of us to faithfully follow our calling to do justice, practice kindness and to walk humbly with God.
- For the **people of Hong Kong** who continue to be faithful in their struggle for democracy.
- For peace in the Middle East in this difficult time.
- For the country and **people of Australia** during the devastating fires.
- For targets of violence just because of their religious beliefs.

## Prayers of Sympathy for...

- The friend of Mary Kay McClure, **Jane in New Mexico**, whose husband is nearing the end of dementia and whose brother is facing serious back surgery.
- The friend of Amy Furber-Dobson, **Echo Brown**, whose brother died suddenly.
- **Laura and Sean Haley**, young adults who lost their mother far too soon.
- **The Madaras family**, whose beloved husband, father, and grandfather Ron died in January.
- Former DCC members **Don and Sue Craudall** as Don declines with severe dementia.
- Former interim pastor **Gail Doering and her husband David**, as they grieve the death of David's father. Prayers also for the challenges they face while Gail and David prepare to move to Kansas.

## Prayers of Sympathy for...

- Son of a close family friend of a DCC member, who committed suicide in January.
- The families of three teenagers killed in Pleasanton on Christmas night.
- Barbara Carrillo on the passing of her brother Richard before Christmas
- The families of Virginia Russell and Jane Croley, the mothers of two close friends of Chris Rauen. They passed away late last year.
- The family of Sharon Gomes, Pastor Eric's aunt, who passed away on Dec. 23. A celebration of her life and funeral Mass was held in South Weymouth, MA.

## Prayers of Joy...

- For the healthy birth of Zora Kalinik's grandson **Marko**, born in January to Gina and Nick. Thanks to all who prayed with Zora's family for his safe arrival.
- Sereen and Tahir Mahmood, who celebrated their daughter **Sheya's graduation** from nursing school. Prayers that she finds the right job for her.
- And gratitude from **Kim Michaud** for her DCC friends, who listen and support her when she needs it most.

- Megan and Emily Luther, in gratitude to the DCC family for the wonderful baby shower. "Our hearts are full. We are humbled by your love and support." Prayers of health and well-being for Emily and baby Emma as the delivery draws near.
- Emma Grace Luther, born to Megan and Emily as we go to press... February 20!



## Continued Prayers for...

- Ken Boehmert
- Mary Anne Prickett
- Barbara and Tom Olwin

*If you have a request for prayer, please contact the pastoral staff, members of the Diaconate, the church office, or fill out a prayer request card during worship.*

## Coming Up

- Youth Sunday ..... February 23
- Second Hour, Pancake Breakfast . February 23
- Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm ..... February 26
- Celebration Bells first rehearsal ..... March 1
- TGIF at Joyce-John Klassens ..... March 6
- Daylight Saving Time begins ..... March 8
- Palm Sunday ..... April 5
- Maundy Thursday Service, 7pm ..... April 9
- Good Friday ..... April 10
- Easter Egg Hunt @ the Feltons ..... April 11
- Easter Sunday ..... April 12

## Preaching & Emmaus Teams Schedule

- February 23 ..... Youth Sunday ..... Pitch-in
- March 1 ..... Pastor Eric ..... ET2
- March 8 ..... Pastor Eric ..... ET3
- March 15 ..... Pastor Eric ..... ET4
- March 22 ..... Pastor Todd ..... ET5
- March 29 ..... Shannon Kearse-High ..... ET6
- April 5 ..... Telling the Story ..... ET7
- April 12 ..... Pastor Eric ..... TBD

## Ash Wednesday

*On Wednesday, February 26, 7pm,  
we usher in the season of Lent through  
our Taizé service.*



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### February

- 1 ..... Cheryl Pierson
- 5 ..... Annalise Northway, Kiko DeBarger-Gestring
- 10 ..... Barbara Carrillo
- 20 ..... Cheryl Beck
- 21 ..... Judy Leach, Karol Mead, Judy Halden
- 22 ..... Oliver Beaver

### March

- 3 ..... Sandy Leich
- 6 ..... Justin Jang
- 9 ..... Bruce Lohmann
- 14 ..... Anne Seiler
- 16 ..... Ken Daily
- 19 ..... Chris Sonnemann

### April

- 6 ..... Hal Leach
- 8 ..... Brett Clark
- 10 ..... Barb DeBarger-Judy Gestring  
25th anniversary
- 15 ..... Spencer Daily
- 18 ..... Peggy Gierke
- 23 ..... Eric Sherlock
- 25 ..... Joan Brandt
- 29 ..... Jon Heinson
- 30 ..... Luci Beaver

## Maundy Thursday

*Plan to join us on Thursday, April 9, 7pm  
for our musically focused mid-Holy Week  
service, as we prepare for Easter Sunday.*





DANVILLE  
Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

989 San Ramon Valley Blvd  
Danville, CA 94526  
[www.danvillechurch.org](http://www.danvillechurch.org)  
[www.dayspringpreschool.org](http://www.dayspringpreschool.org)

*Danville Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming church, welcoming all of God's people—of diverse race, gender, sexual orientation, family status, economic condition, and physical, mental and emotional ability.*

Telephone: (925) 837-6944

Office Hours:

Tuesday–Friday 9am–3pm

**Worship Sunday at 9:30 AM**

*Everyone is welcome!*

#### **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

Liz Setlak-von Thury,

Office Manager

Nicole Doyle, Nursery Attendant

Kelley Mangels, Preschool Director

#### **Church Officers**

Trish Moosbrugger, Moderator

Amy Furber-Dobson, Vice Moderator

Christopher Callison, Treasurer

Syd & Leslie Dent, Financial

Secretaries

Heidi Bridgeman, Clerk

#### **Commissioners**

Open, Buildings and Grounds

Kim Michaud, Children's Ministries

Kristina Kelchner, Community Life Ministry

Open, Faith Journeys

Open, Outreach

Open, Stewardship

Janis Jang, Worship

Steve Paroli, Youth Ministries

#### **Preschool Board**

Janet Apostolo, Betty McCabe,

Penny Davis, Charlie Hasselbrink,

Sandra Lepley (chair), Nicole Noga

#### **Rev. Eric's**

#### **Pastoral Relations Committee**

Carol Gilliland (chair), Bette Felton,

Kim Michaud, Kristina Kelchner,

Steve Paroli

#### **Rev. Todd's**

#### **Pastoral Relations Committee**

Mariah Callison, Mary Marie

Deauclaire, Barb DeBarger, Jenn

O'Neal, Cheryl Pierson, Richard

Stein



#### **DCC: A Vibrant Community in Action**

Intergenerational Christmas Pageant; Christmas Eve Service;  
DCC members attend: Witness our Welcome Interfaith Celebration;  
Project Peace "How to Talk to Children about Race;" a festive Christmas Luncheon;  
Project Peace "The Border is Here"