



Lent 2022: Full to the Brim

a Seasonal Publication of
Danville Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

This Lenten season, we are invited to become “Full to the Brim.”

The scriptures for this Lenten season (in the *Revised Common Lectionary, Year C*) are filled with parables and promises of God’s abundant and expansive grace. Jesus as a mother hen, a prodigal son welcomed home, a fig tree nurtured with care and hope, precious oil poured out lovingly and freely, stones shouting out with praise—these sacred texts are brimming with a gospel of grace. We’ve done nothing to deserve or earn this grace, and yet, like water, it spills over. Full to the Brim is an invitation—into a radically different Lent, into a full life. It’s an invitation to be authentically who you are, to counter scarcity and injustice at every turn, to pour out even more grace wherever it is needed. It disrupts the scarcity mentality that capitalism, oppression, or hierarchy can plant inside of us. When we allow ourselves to be filled to the brim with God’s lavish love, that love spills over. It reaches beyond ourselves; like water, it rushes and flows, touching everything in its path.

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We recognize that traditional iterations of Lent often emphasize restraint, confession, and piety. The origins of Lent were that one was to leave their old life behind to fast and prepare to be baptized into a new way of living.

In essence, this was a practice of stepping away from the rat race, corrupt power, scarcity mentality, and empty rituals in order to live a more expansive and full life of faith. And so, Full to the Brim trusts the promise of our

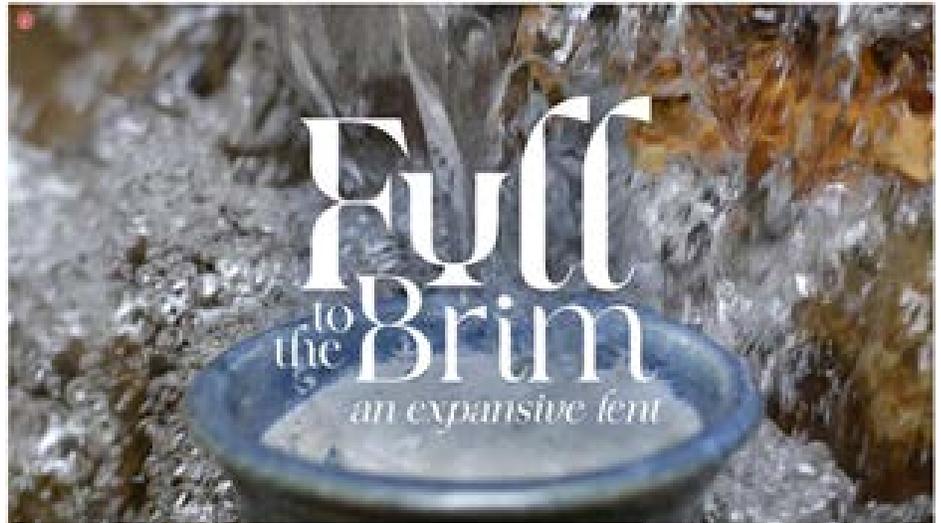
baptisms—God has already claimed us as God’s own and nothing we can do will ever change or erase that.

Full to the Brim doesn’t ignore or deny sin and suffering. It doesn’t absolve accountability for wrongdoing. Instead, it contextualizes our faith. If love is our beginning, how can we live our lives led by love’s promises? It reminds us to live fully—as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude. And so, this Lent, let us trust—fully—that we belong to God. Let us increase our capacity to receive and give grace. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us.

These are the scriptures and themes that we will draw from each week.

- **Ash Wednesday: With all that you are** (Matthew 6:16, 16–21, Joel 2:12, 12–17)
- **First Sunday in Lent: Even in the Desert** (Luke 4:1-13)
- **Second Sunday in Lent: Under God’s wing** (Luke 13:31-35)
- **Third Sunday in Lent: You are worthy** (Luke 13:1-9)
- **Fourth Sunday in Lent: Prodigal Grace** (Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32)
- **Fifth Sunday in Lent: Brazen acts of beauty** (John 12:1-8)
- **Palm/Passion Sunday: Even the stones cry out** (Luke 19:28-40)
- **Maundy Thursday: Take off your shoes** (John 13:1–17, 31b–35)
- **Good Friday: A Cup of Sorrow** (John 19:1–30)
- **Easter Sunday: An Expansive Life** (Luke 24:1–12)

To join in weekly and daily spiritual practices, visit our [web site](#).



A Word from Pastor Todd

By the time you read this, our beloved Pastor Eric will be back with us! *Hallelujah*—we made it! Together, DCC journeyed through a beautiful Advent season and many folks were able to return to the sanctuary for Christmas Eve candlelight services (while many others shared their light virtually!). Through January and February, we experienced a rich Epiphany series, filled with a variety of voices singing, preaching, and speaking and a translation of the sacred scriptures that foregrounded feminine names for God and the experiences and perspectives of women.

[\[Read the recent *Christian Century* interview with Dr. Gafney here.\]](#)

I have admired how the church really leaned into this long Epiphany season—one in which we needed to retreat to virtual worship (again!) for a couple months; one that foregrounded women; and one that focused on the complex history of Black Americans. It felt important that we spent *eight weeks* intentionally reflecting on what that light born on Christmas morning means for us in our day and time...to diversify the voices who embody the light...and to focus on how we reflect—*shine!*—that light into the world around us.



And I am so proud of our young people! What an outstanding expression of their youthful exuberance and keen insight regarding the world around them—and their place in it. Our young people are not only our future, they are our *right now*. They are certainly a reflection of their families, their Godly Play teachers, the youth advisors and pastors who accompany them, of this church, and most of all, the God-breathed uniqueness and beauty within each of them. Thank you for being a part of ensuring there's a place like DCC for young people.

[\[Watch the Youth Sunday service here.\]](#)

Having experienced two liturgically rich seasons in the life of the church, we now ease into a more contemplative season as we journey into Lent. Rooted in the abundance all around us—*not the least of which is God's grace which spills over!*—we will be invited to reflect on our capacity for receiving that grace—and expressing it. Let us discover together the expansive life God dreams for us.

[\[Join in these church-wide shared spiritual practices!\]](#)

And finally—though one season in the life of the church is coming to an end, we do not merely stop paying attention to the experiences of women; we do not stop paying attention to the contributions and struggles of Black people; we do not stop listening to our children and young people. Friends, we continue to listen, continue to show up, continue to be the kind of church informed by a multiplicity of voices, of understandings of God, and compelled to continue journeying in solidarity to co-create the kingdom we pray, every week, is birthed into our midst.

May it be so!

In abundant hope,

Pastor Todd

About this Resource

Lent is a season that invites us deeper into intentional living. This tool is designed to help you do just that. Use this worksheet to help you reflect on where you are in your life and how you hope to grow throughout this Lenten season.

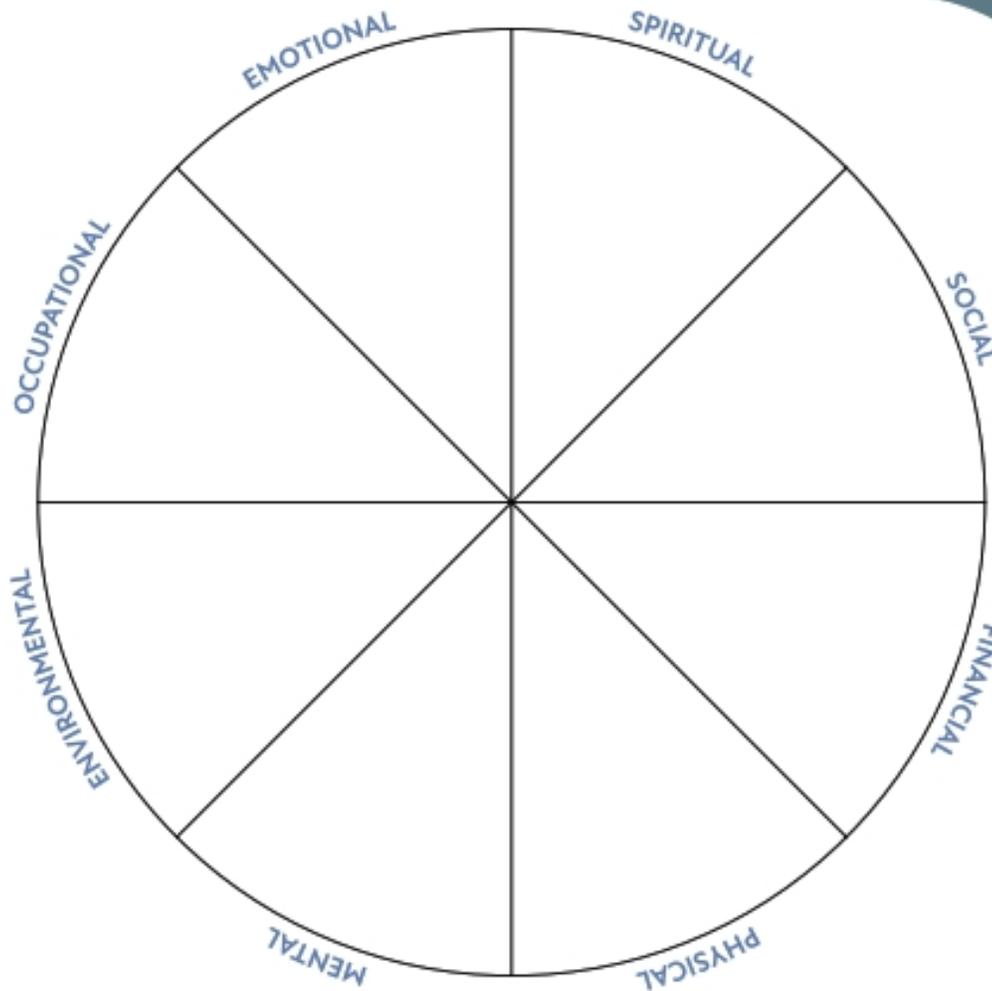
What is an Expansive Life?

ex-pan-sive

The formal definition of expansive is extensive or wide-ranging, spacious and all-embracing. From a spiritual standpoint, we add to that definition. Expansive living is a life that reflects the fullness that comes from right relationships with God, yourself, and others. This will look different for everyone, but might be marked by awe and gratitude, a sense of self-worth rooted in God's love, meaning and purpose in one's life, loving relationships, and joy that comes from using your God-given gifts.

Wellness Wheel

Wellness wheels have been used as a meaningful reflective tool for years. By inviting ourselves to reflect on individual components of our life, we see a more holistic image of ourselves, which allows us to live more intentionally.



Within each section of the wheel, respond to the following prompts:

- **EMOTIONAL:** What emotions do you feel day to day? Which are prominent?
- **SPIRITUAL:** Where are you in your faith journey? Do you have practices nurturing your faith? How are you living from your values?
- **SOCIAL:** What are the positive and healthy relationships in your life? Where would you like to grow? Where do you need to draw boundaries?
- **FINANCIAL:** What is your current financial state, and what emotions or desires does that bring up?
- **PHYSICAL:** How are you taking care of your body? What does your body need?
- **MENTAL:** Are you mentally stimulated? Learning new things? Honing new skills? Curating the information you take in from social media or the news?
- **ENVIRONMENTAL:** Does your home and/or work environment allow you to thrive? Does where you live feel like home?
- **OCCUPATIONAL:** How does your current work use your gifts? How satisfied are you with your vocation? What is your calling?

Takeaway Reflections

1. What did you learn about yourself in this process?
2. What are you bringing with you into this Lenten season?
3. What areas of your wellness wheel feel expansive and beautiful, and what areas do you want to focus on in the future?

Expansive Life

You've filled out the wellness wheel. You have a picture of what your life looks like currently. Now, imagine how your life might become more expansive. What does a "full to the brim" life filled with meaning, purpose, faith, awe, beauty, and relationships look like for you? How would you describe a life that full of goodness? In order to live an expansive life, what needs to change? What do you need to take on? What do you need to let go of? Draw or write your reflections below.

Next Steps

Name three small things you want to focus on this Lent to help you draw closer to God and the wildly beautiful life God invites you to lead:

Closing Prayer

God of new life,

We know that you want more for us than the rat race of work-sleep-eat-repeat.

In our fiercely independent and competitive world, living a life any other way feels almost impossible.

Remind us that you ate meals around tables.

Remind us that you demonstrated radical generosity.

Remind us that you took quiet time on the mountainside by yourself.

Remind us that you opened doors and said, "Come on in!"

Remind us that you created friendships that transformed.

This is the life you modeled, and it's the life we long to lead.

Holy God, help us tap into this deeper and more expansive way of living.

Help us use this season of Lent as an intentional one.

Starting today, help us build a life not measured by to-do lists, but measured by love.

With hope we pray, amen.



DCC News & Notables

Book Lovers News

By Barbara DeBarger

Did you know that our church has a library? Indeed we do! It is a wonderful resource room filled with all kinds of books relating to our faith including different versions of the Bible and other religious texts, books for children, books about religious concepts, and secular books relating to spirituality and faith communities. It's located in the side hallway next to our sanctuary.

We are so pleased that a group of DCC members (Heidi Bridgeman, Mary Kay McClure, Janis Jang and Donna Lenhart) have stepped up to re-vamp and refresh our library—over the next few months, they will be getting rid of obsolete items (VCR tapes, duplicate and outdated books), as well as refreshing the space, developing lists of new resources to buy and organizing the check out system. Dave Hill has been serving as an advisor to this project, having organized the library in the past, and has graciously outlined steps for the group to take in this process. Right now they are not taking any donations during the refresh process, but will compile a list for consideration for the future.



While many people look to the internet or public libraries for print material, we still see a need to have a resource room at our church for our members to use—for personal reflection as well as group needs. Anyone and any group can have access to the materials. Indeed, during non-COVID times, the room can also host groups who can have ready access to materials for study. If you have a specific book or resource you would like to recommend to the group for consideration during this library refresh, please email Heidi Bridgeman at heidibridgeman@att.net.

DCC Named Best Place to Worship— Fourth Consecutive Year!

For the fourth year in a row and in thanks to your support, Danville Congregational Church has been recognized as "Best Place of Worship" by the *East Bay Times*. This honor would not be possible without all the wonderful members of our congregation. We are once again humbled and honored by this recognition. Thank you! Be sure to check out the list in the March 27th issue of the East Bay Times.



Nominating Committee Seeking Leaders

Hello friends,

Wasn't it great to be back together in person and on zoom last Sunday? The added bonus of course was hearing from the young people of our church!

Two weeks ago I asked in chat about your gifts. I LOVED reading the responses: working with kids, science, math, organization, music, teaching, volleyball, wondering, creating art, organization, loving others, figuring things out, understanding what people are trying to say, telling stories, knitting, exploring, solving puzzles. I invite you to think of your gifts and ask you to wonder where you can best serve in our DCC community.

The nominating committee includes Heidi Bridgeman, Kathie Hixon, Syd Dent, Richard Stein, Shii Stickler, Pastor Todd, Pastor Eric, and me and we are working to fill roles and we'd love to have you! Please reach out to any of us to explore where you can best fit.

I don't know about you, but I feel that the last two years have proven one thing—my church, DCC, means a lot to me and my family. Helping to be a part of its continued success and growth is important.

What role will you play?

Leadership?
Tech/sound ministries?
Community/activity/party planning?
Youth?
Children?
Worship?
Finance?
Endowment?
Buildings & Grounds?
Tenant relations?



We hope to hear from you!

Amy Furber-Dobson, Moderator

Anti-Racism Team Recognized for Efforts, Plans Election Series

By Barbara DeBarger, Doug Leich & Kristin Chambers

COMMITMENT TO ANTI RACISM

The DCCAnti-Racism Team has been very active this quarter, continuing to learn more about how anti-racism and justice intersect with our faith as Christians. Keeping the UCC vision in mind-- “A Just World for All”--we have continued to seek knowledge about our role in the world, and how we can help advance justice for all.

We wrapped up our book study in November of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi’s work, *How to be an Anti-Racist*, learning more about the ways racism manifests itself within all systems of power. There were opportunities for discussion about the ways racism impacts all of us, and the group was particularly struck with the concept of policy change as the way to disrupt racist systems. Towards that end, we will be planning a series of information sessions around upcoming elections later this year so we are all informed about policies and policymakers when we vote.

We were blessed with a wonderful Learning Series opportunity to learn from Dr. Lori Watson in December, who led us on a journey of self-reflection around how to talk about race with ourselves and others. We also were invited by Anti-Racism Team member Bette Felton to hear from her again through an AAUW session in January. Bette Felton partnered with local activist Veronica Benjamin in February to talk about how relationship and conversation can lead to “epiphanies” and transformation. [[You can watch it here.](#)]

And we are delighted that the story penned by Pastor Todd about DCC’s antiracism journey, “[As We Worship, So Will We Live,](#)” is now featured on the United Church of Christ’s new [Join the Movement web page!](#)

As always, the DCC Anti-Racism Team is always open to members attending our meetings and learning sessions. Look for information in the weekly emails and bulletins for information, and be sure to visit [our webpage](#) on the DCC website!



Sister Parish Updates

By Bob Howell & Carrie Stengel

DCC/San Antonio Catholic Church, Joint Prayer Ministry



School is set to open on February 14. The kids in San Antonio have not had in-person classes or virtual classes since the pandemic started. They have been learning through work packets. The pandemic will exacerbate the inequalities in access to education in San Antonio as it has in the U.S. and throughout the world. The Ministry of Education in Guatemala is working on new protocols for the schools given the omicron wave currently underway here, so although schools are scheduled to open, that may change.

The Catholic Church in San Antonio is planning for the annual mass to bless the families' seeds to be planted in April or May. They will let us know the date and time of the mass, so you can say a special prayer.

Carrie, the Executive Director of the Sister Parish Program in Guatemala, has sent prayer requests from our sisters and brothers in San Antonio which have been included in our Prayer Requests section.



Dayspring Happenings

*By Barbara DeBarger
Dayspring Preschool Board Chair*

Dayspring Enrollment Increasing

After months of low enrollment, our wonderful Dayspring Preschool has had a dramatic increase in the number of students! After a slow start to the school year, due to COVID fears, families have begun to enroll in the school at a rapid pace. Part of the success of this new trend is due to the creativity and ingenuity of our director Sonna Dhamrait, who has recently opened a new 2 year old program at the school--students as young as 2 years old (previously our license was for age 2 years, 9 months) can participate! This is an untapped market in our area, and families have rapidly filled up this class over the last two months. We anticipate more families enrolling over the course of the remainder of the school year, bringing our student numbers back up to our normal operating levels. This is good news for not only Dayspring, but for our DCC church, who relies on the tuition fees to support our annual budget. Additionally, Dayspring Preschool was named "The Best Private School in the East Bay-2022" by the East Bay Times, thanks to great endorsements by parents and church members. We are grateful to everyone for their patience and support over these last few months, and to our wonderful Dayspring staff.

Friends of Dayspring Seeks Volunteers

The Dayspring Preschool Board is looking for DCC members to serve as a part of the "Friends of Dayspring" group--this is an ad hoc group of enthusiastic cooks, helpers and supporters who can be contacted to help with a variety of events at our preschool. Examples include: baking a dozen cookies for our holiday party, helping direct parents during Open House, or serving as a greeter for new families. There are perhaps 3-4 events during the year where you'd be contacted, and there are no meetings involved. If you are newly interested in joining this group, please email Jim Conning at jconning@yahoo.net to be added to our list. We really appreciate this group for their support!



Children's Ministries: Service, Spreading Love, and Sock Puppets...one day!

*By Jen Faught
Children's Ministry Commissioner*

In January, in honor of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., our children participated in a wonderful morning of service at DCC, building furniture and trimming trees. It was truly enjoyed by all, especially when Mr. Miguel brought donuts!

February brought a Valentine's Day card-making party, to spread God's love beyond our church walls.

We have also done some closet cleaning and supply organizing, so that we'll be ready to resume Godly Play once a month in March, if we're back in person!

Finally, our sock puppet making activity is coming! Date TBD, check the eNews for more information as it becomes available.





Youth Group in Action



MLK Day Of Service 2022

On January 17, 40 members of DCC gathered to build furniture and putting together furniture for homes of people served by for Hope Solutions. In addition, DCC members and friends collected 50 bags full of grocery items for Hope Solutions.





Social Justice Fair



Saturday, February 19th

Social Justice Fair Reflection

Dear Friends of Danville Congregational Church,

On Saturday the 19th, amidst prayer, sunshine, community, and conviction to act in love for all our neighbors, Conscious Contra Costa and NAMI Contra Costa were honored to hold Danville's first-ever Social Justice Fair in your beautiful Kairos Hall. As the event opened, Pastor Todd Atkins-Whitley led us in prayer, our friend Mary Taylor led us in libations for those who have come before us, and two young women from the north part of the county, Olivia Spencer and Kayla Johnson, delighted our ears with their song. We were also grounded in purpose by the words shared by Jennifer Arboleda-Leong, the sister of Laudemer, and Taun Hall, the mother of Miles Hall. This fair was the result of nearly a year of observing and connecting in the aftermath of the police shooting of Tyrell Wilson in Danville on March 11th 2021. As a community organizer stuck between prior commitments in another country and a duty to respond to police violence and racism in my hometown, I have been navigating an unclear path towards a sustainable response. The need to build a community of committed residents, across school and church affiliations, became clear. Fortunately, early on I was connected with the Danville Congregational Church and several other organizations where work was already being done. It is fitting that this Fair was hosted by the DCC, one of the church communities in our area most committed to equity and inclusion. Learning that such a community even exists in Danville has helped me heal and have faith that our area can embrace change.



During the fair, while I was immersed in a whirlwind of coordination and moving the program along, there were many aspects of the day I missed and only see in reviewing the photographs. People engaged with each other; smiles lighting up faces young and old; acquaintances from various spheres of organizing are conversing. Some people are perhaps meeting for the first time or after many years. By the end of the program, people's patience had been tested, but there was still a bustling feeling of connection and purpose until the last minute. The day was a success in my eyes based on all this and the palpable responses to the presentations by the Vera Institute of Justice, the Safe Return Project, POOR Press, Concord Communities Alliance, and the Free Press Project. New perspectives, stories, and data for our area were actually heard and I pray the seeds of further action were planted.

We might need those seeds to sprout soon, with the upcoming sentencing of Deputy Andrew Hall on March 4th (Martinez), Tyrell Wilson's Remembrance Day on March 8th (Martinez), and a local demonstration to mark one-year since Tyrell lost his life in our town (TBD on March 11th or 13th). There are two grieving families whose fate has been intertwined with ours and I hope we can continue to show up for them as a community, as we are able to.

I am grateful to walk this path of compassionate engagement with all of you.

With love and friendship,

Veronica Benjamin, Ph.D.
Conscious Contra Costa
NAMI Contra Costa

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 January 2022. They have been updated as we receive additional information.



Prayers of Healing for...

- Please pray for our daughter **Jennifer** as she awaits her second surgery to get rid of the rest of the cancer. She will be having Mohs surgery later this week in an effort to achieve clean margins. May this be successful and may she heal quickly and easily. We pray also for her mother and father as they await a successful result. *(From Brett & Gail Clark)*
- Please pray for my friend **Carol** as she is at the end of her life. Help her to know how important her life was to those that know and love her. *(From Amy Furber-Dobson)*
- Continued prayers for **Cheryl Beck** as she continues to recover from cancer surgery last December, and for her children **Chelsey** and **Cameron**.
- Prayers please for my 92 year young **Aunt Valerie** in Lexington, KY who continues to live with the lingering pain of shingles. She is a woman of strong faith, but this pain is truly wearing her spirit down. *(From Cheryl Pierson)*
- Prayers and blessings for our **son and daughter-in-law** who are facing multiple challenges. Prayers of gratitude that they have each other. *(From Nancy & Dave Halseth)*
- Prayers for Healing from Skin Cancer... **for me**. (I hate to ask for myself but it is starting to scare me.) *(From Vickie Lanini)*
- It is with great disappointment that I have to report that Jennifer's surgery was canceled this past week due to Covid. We are very thankful to everyone for keeping us in their prayers. Hopefully, the surgery will be rescheduled soon. Please keep **Jennifer** in your prayers. *(From Brett & Gail Clark)*
- Prayers for my nephew **Craig Rowe** who was diagnosed with colon cancer. *(From Caryl Krotz)*
- Please pray for **Holly Hartman**, the sister of our neighbor. Holly has melanoma and it has invaded her body; she now has tumors in her brain. Please pray for love and support as she makes her way through this horrible disease. *(From Brett & Gail Clark)*
- Prayers for **healing of my left knee injury flare-up**. My joy is that my boyfriend Jesse is here watching over me. *(From Dianne Dorn)*
- Many in the family have Covid. Please pray especially for **my son and his 9 month old baby** who also has Covid. *(From unnamed)*
- Yes prayers of hope and grace **to those with covid**. A number in my family have fallen under its symptoms so prayers for all. *(From Christopher Wang)*
- Prayers for those **persons on hospice service and their families**, that they may lean in together to each other with Jesus at the center of their journeys. *(From Rev. Melissa Tumaneng)*
- Prayers for **my mom and family** as we figure out what happens next. *(From Syd and Leslie Dent)*

- Please pray for our friend **Vic** with pancreatic cancer. *(From Amy Furber-Dobson)*
- Asking for prayers of support for us as **Laura** is going on day 5 of isolation after testing Covid positive. So far the others are negative and we are trying to keep it that way. Laura is feeling okay—like a bad cold and tired. Despite our whole family being vaccinated, Laura caught it after being exposed to a friend who unknowingly had it. Thank goodness for the vaccine which I'm sure made this a relatively mild illness for me. May our family grow through this. *(From the Beaver Family)*
- Prayers for Dave's sister, **Laurie**, who has been recovering in New Hampshire from injuries and surgeries since early November. God willing she may be able to return home to LA next Friday. *(From Dave & Nancy Halseth)*
- Please remember my brother **Michael**—he has covid 19. Can you please pray for him because he means everything to me? *(From Mark O'Neal)*
- Prayers of strength and renewed health for **Walt**. He has been ill with Covid since early December. *(From Brett & Gail Clark)*
- Prayers of healing for all of **those at DCC that are suffering an affliction**, and prayers for all others to stay safe and remain healthy. The Lord knows you are all precious. *(From Larry Berlin)*
- Prayers, please, for my neighbor **Carole**. She goes in tomorrow for a 2nd surgery near her right eye to correct the damage done during the 1st surgery to remove the cancerous melanoma cells. *(From Cheryl Pierson)*
- Prayers of strength and comfort for **Dave & Jennifer** who lost their home in the Colorado fires. They had been here celebrating Christmas with family; then returned to nothing. Be with all those who lost homes, and pets in this tragic fire. *(From Dave & Nancy Halseth)*
- Prayers, please, for my Mississippi cousin, **Rev. Michael Johnson**, who has been diagnosed with stage 3 cancer. *(From Cheryl Pierson)*
- Prayer for **safe travel** to visit Jim's family and a healthy visit. *(From Amy Furber-Dobson)*
- Prayers for **all who are alone or feeling lonely**. *(From Kim Michaud)*
- Prayers of healing for cousin **Christi** recently diagnosed with breast cancer. *(From Eileen Ackley)*
- Please keep the **Oldfather's family** in your hearts as Christine's mom passed away this week. *(From Jenn & Carol)*
- Prayers of loving memories for my mother **Margaret Mead** who we laid to rest a year ago today. She'd love the music today. *(From Karol Mead)*
- Prayers for strength and support for **my daughter and son-in-law** as they say goodbye to Justin's dad Gary, as they turn off the ventilator support today. *(From Karol Mead)*
- Continued prayers for our friend **Marillo** who now has to undergo six months of chemotherapy. May the Lord completely heal her. *(From Sereen Mahmood)*
- Prayers for comfort and healing for **Gail** who was hospitalized again for persistent infection. [Update: Gail is home and recovering.] *(From Brett & Gail Clark)*
- Continued prayers for our sister-in-law **Tami**, as she heals from her recent breast cancer surgery. *(From the Synders)*
- Prayers for **their sons** who have emigrated and continue to struggle with addiction. Please hold them and their family, especially their children, in your prayers. *(From Tomas and Maria in San Antonio)*

Prayers of Sympathy for...

- We continue to pray for **Sally Baca** who lost her daughter Valerie recently. May our compassionate God hold her closely during these days of deep grief.
- Prayers for the family of long-time DCC member **Dolores Thomas** who passed away January 25 at age 103. Dolores joined DCC in 1977 and also worked for several years in the church office. She moved to San Luis Obispo in 2008 to be near family.
- Prayers for **Joyce Boehmert and the entire Boehmert family** as they grieve the passing of Ken, who transitioned from this life during his sleep.
- Asking prayers for **my family** in our time of grief and stress. *(From Joy Davis)*
- Prayers of love and support to the **Ergun brothers** as they mourn the loss of their father. *(From Brett & Gail Clark)*
- Prayers of comfort and peace for my friend **Eppie Encabo**, who lost her brother Patricio. And for my friend Sandy who lost her son-in-law, leaving behind a wife and two young children. *(From Joy Davis)*
- Thank you for your prayers this past week for my dear friend **Eva**, age 99. She passed away peacefully. *(From Cheryl Pierson)*

Prayers for the World..

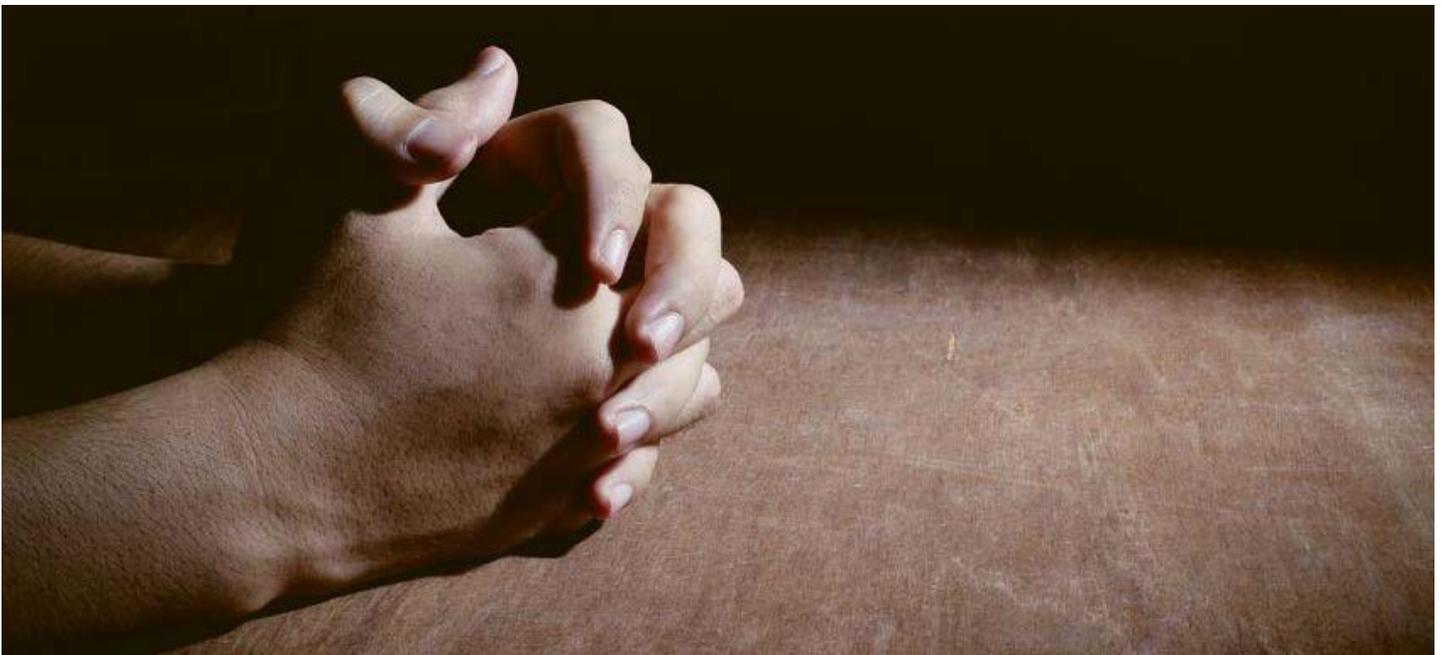
- Please pray for the **people of Tonga** as they rebuild from the volcanic eruption several weeks ago. *(From Chris & Stephanie Taddeo)*
- We hold the **Ukrainian people** in our hearts today. *(From Mary Marie Deauclaire)*
- Prayers for much needed **rain**. *(From Chris & Stephanie Taddeo)*
- Prayers for **rain for our west coast**, and for those areas impacted by fires. *(From Alene Riley)*
- Prayers for **peace and level heads**, not war, in the Ukraine and everywhere else. *(From Larry Berlin)*
- Please pray for the **children in our Sister Parish in Guatemala** who begin school on February 14. The kids in San Antonio have not had in person classes or virtual classes since the pandemic started. *(From Carrie Stengel and Bob Howell)*
- I want to lift up the **sacred work that women do at home**. The caring for family and home, whether you are healing or still in need of healing, is sacred, and can also bring identity and healing to anyone. *(From Bette Felton)*
- Prayers for the **coastal environment of Big Sur** that is burning to the ground. May the world notice and awaken to global warming. *(From Mary Marie Deauclaire)*
- Continued prayers for the **people of Louisville and Superior** in Boulder County, Colorado. They are very much in need of help. *(From Eileen Ackley)*
- Prayers for **dear friends** who have lost everything in the Louisville fire. *(From Nancy Hill)*
- Prayers for all who are **homeless** due to floods, fire, storms, and the cruelty of war. *(From Mary Marie Deauclaire)*
- For the **people of Mayfield**. *(From Bob & Dottie Howell)*
- Prayers for all of the **victims and families of the tornadoes** that struck Illinois, Kentucky, and elsewhere. Let the victims and families feel your love. *(From Larry Berlin)*
- Prayers for their mass in March to **bless the seeds** that will be planted this year. May the harvest be bountiful. *(From The Catholic Community in San Antonio)*
- Prayers for **her and her children**. They will hopefully be starting in-person school on February 14 for the first time since the pandemic started. *(From Pancha in San Antonio)*

Prayers of Thanks and Gratitude for...

- Grateful for the presence of **our children and young people in our church** and especially for hearing their voices in worship today!
- Prayers of joy for **John**—today is his birthday(*From Joyce Klassen*)
- **Zac Furber-Dobson** turns 18 on Tuesday! And **Oliver Beaver** turns 12! (*From Amy & Hazel*)
- Grateful for the **many gifts of this loving community**.
- Prayers of Thanks for all the **cards and prayers** this week, we are so Blessed to have such a Loving Church Family. (*From Vickie Lanin*)
- Thank everyone for their prayers last week for **Karl's Pace Maker Implant** procedure. All went well. He is feeling so much better already. It is amazing. He has started rehab and they say the healing will take about a month. (*From Karl & Judi Weisgraber*)
- Prayers of gratitude for **all those walking with me in my journey**. (*From Joy Davis*)
- Prayers of deep gratitude for the life and example of **Thich Nhat Hahn**, who embodied kindness and worked for peace and understanding for his whole long life. He passed yesterday morning. (*From Jen and Max*)
- Joy in having **Thich Nhat Hanh** as a teacher on this earth for so many years. May his passage from this earth be peaceful. (*From Cheryl Pierson*)
- I am most grateful for your prayers this past week for my **niece Lisa**. Her surgery went well, and the biopsies of her lymph nodes were negative for any cancer. (*From Cheryl Pierson*)
- **Megan, Emily, and especially Emma** are feeling so much better! Thank you to all of our DCC friends for the prayers, texts, emails, and meals. We cannot thank you all enough for taking care of us during this scary, exhausting, and humbling time. We love you all! (*From the Luther Family*)
- An update this morning on **Cheryl Beck**, who had extensive cancer surgery in December. Chelsea and Cameron Beck say “it has been a long haul but mom is now home. We could not have gotten her home without all your love, help, positive messages, prayers and support.”
- We pray with gratitude that the **hostages taken yesterday at Congregation Beth Israel** were released unharmed and for the soul of the one who held them. And we earnestly pray for an end to anti-Semitic thoughts and deeds—because they are not of you, oh God, and serve only to strike fear into the hearts of our kin.
- We pray with thanksgiving for the life of the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** whose life reminds us ever still to interrogate our faith to discover our role in peace-making and building the Beloved Community.
- Prayers of gratitude for the safety of **our family in Colorado**. Our son, Shawn’s home did not burn in Louisville. He and family are staying in our condo until they can return to their home. Our daughter Brittany and family are safe too. Prayers for all those who have lost their homes. Yesterday it snowed and was 4 degrees outside. (*From Nan and Dick Karns*)
- A prayer of gratitude for spending part of Christmas with my youngest sister **Priscilla** in person and my middle sister **Elizabeth** by Zoom after so many years apart. My brother's death has somehow brought us all together. (*From Mary Courtenay*)
- Praying with joy and expressing gratitude to God on **Randy Jang’s** 70th birthday today. (*From Janis Jang*)
- Prayers of thoughts and gratitude for the heartfelt music presented to us by **the choir**. We are so blessed. (*From Judy Schreib*)
- Thank God for the courage and sacrifice of the **hundreds of thousands of brave men and women** who answered the call 80 Decembers ago to defeat Imperial Japan, the Nazis in Germany, and the fascists in Italy. (*From Tim Seiler*)
- Joy and thanksgiving for this beautiful array of music ~ **singers, musicians on guitar, oboe, violin and piano** ~ and all within an historical perspective. (*From Cheryl Pierson*)

- So wonderful to have **Karol, Nancy, David, Gabrielle, and Heidi** featured. The choir is so lovely today. Thank you John. You are such a gift. *(From Mary Marie Deauclaire)*
- Thank you God for a 3-hour home visit by **Mark** yesterday. To hold my child, to smile at my child, to say I Love You to my child and look in his eyes and hear the words returned. Thank you God for blessings and the hope I need to struggle through this very difficult time. *(From Jennifer O'Neal)*
- **Grandma Pat** loves Chewy and Chewy is grandma's forever dog. *(From Hazel Furber-Dobson)*
- Prayers of thanksgiving for the **wonderful women who are taking care of my mom**, and for all of the tender yet hardworking people who take care of our elders across Danville and across the country. They are blessings to all of us. *(From Kristin Chambers)*

If you have a request for prayer, please contact the pastoral staff, members of the Diaconate, or the church office.





ADVENT 2021

Lent Activities

- Ash Wednesday March 2
- OWL (215-4) March 6
- Youth Group (5-7)..... March 6
- Men’s Lenten Lunch March 10
- Diaconate March 10
- Daylight Saving Time Begins March 13
- Commission Meetings March 13
- OWL (215-4) March 13
- Youth Group (5-7)..... March 13
- Finance Committee March 15
- Prayer Shawl Ministry March 16
- Men’s Lenten Lunch March 17
- Youth Group (5-7)..... March 20
- PFLAG Meeting March 21
- Council Meeting March 22
- Prayer Shawl Ministry March 23
- Men’s Lenten Lunch March 24
- Youth Group (5-7)..... March 27
- Men’s Lenten Lunch March 31
- Youth Group (5-7)..... April 3
- Men’s Lenten Lunch April 7
- Palm Sunday April 10
- Commission Meeting..... April 10
- Maundy Thursday..... April 14
- Diaconate April 14
- Good Friday.. April 15
- Easter Egg Hunt April 16
- Easter Celebration April 17
- Youth Group (5-7)..... April 17
- PFLAG Meeting April 18
- Finance Committee April 19
- Prayer Shawl Ministry..... April 20
- OWL Mini-Retreat April 22–23
- Youth Group (5-7)..... April 24
- Council Meeting April 26
- Prayer Shawl Ministry April 27

Birthdays and Anniversaries

March

- 3 Sandy Leich
- 3 Jim Conning
- 6 Justin Jang
- 9 Bruce Lohmann
- 14..... Anne Seiler
- 16 Jen Faught
- 16..... Ken Daily
- 19 Chris Sonnemann
- 21 Bode Lawrence
- 24 Jasmine Conning
- 28 Gilbert Posadas
- 31 Kim Lawrence

April

- 1 Brett & Kim Lawrence anniversary
- 6 Hal Leach
- 8 Brett Clark
- 10 Barb DeBarger & Judy Gestring anniversary
- 12 Dave & Nancy Halseth anniversary
- 15 Spencer Daily
- 18 Peggy Gierke
- 23 Eric Sherlock
- 29 Jon Heinson
- 30 Luci Beaver

Note: If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact the church office.

Preaching Schedule

- March 3..... Pastor Eric & Pastor Todd
- March 6..... Pastor Todd
- March 13..... Pastor Eric
- March 20..... Pastor Eric
- March 27..... Pastor Eric
- April 3..... Pastor Todd
- April 10..... Pastor Eric
- April 14 (Maundy Thursday) Pastors & Youth
- April 17 (Easter) Pastor Eric
- April 24..... Pastor Todd

Did you know you can go back and watch or listen to our sermons, special music performances, and other special events on our [website](#) and our [YouTube channel](#)? Check it out!

989 San Ramon Valley Blvd
 Danville, CA 94526

www.danvillechurch.org
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 in person & via Zoom

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
 Hugh Klassen, Youth Intern
 Liz Setlak-von Thury,
 Office Manager
 Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam
 Communications Specialist
 Sonna Dhamrait, Preschool Director

Church Officers

Amy Furber-Dobson, Moderator
 Shii Stickler, Vice Moderator
 Christopher Callison, Treasurer
 Deborah Daily, Financial Secretary
 Heidi Bridgeman, Clerk

Commissioners

Open, Buildings and Grounds
 Jen Faught, Children's Ministries
 Joyce Klassen and Karen Kawaguchi,
 Community Life Ministry
 Janis Jang and Doug Leich, Outreach
 Open, Stewardship
 Karol Mead, Worship
 Jennifer O'Neal, Youth Ministries

Preschool Board

Jim Conning, Barb DeBarger, Kyra
 Kennedy, John Klassen, Nicole Noga,
 Sonna Dhamrait, Director

Rev. Eric's

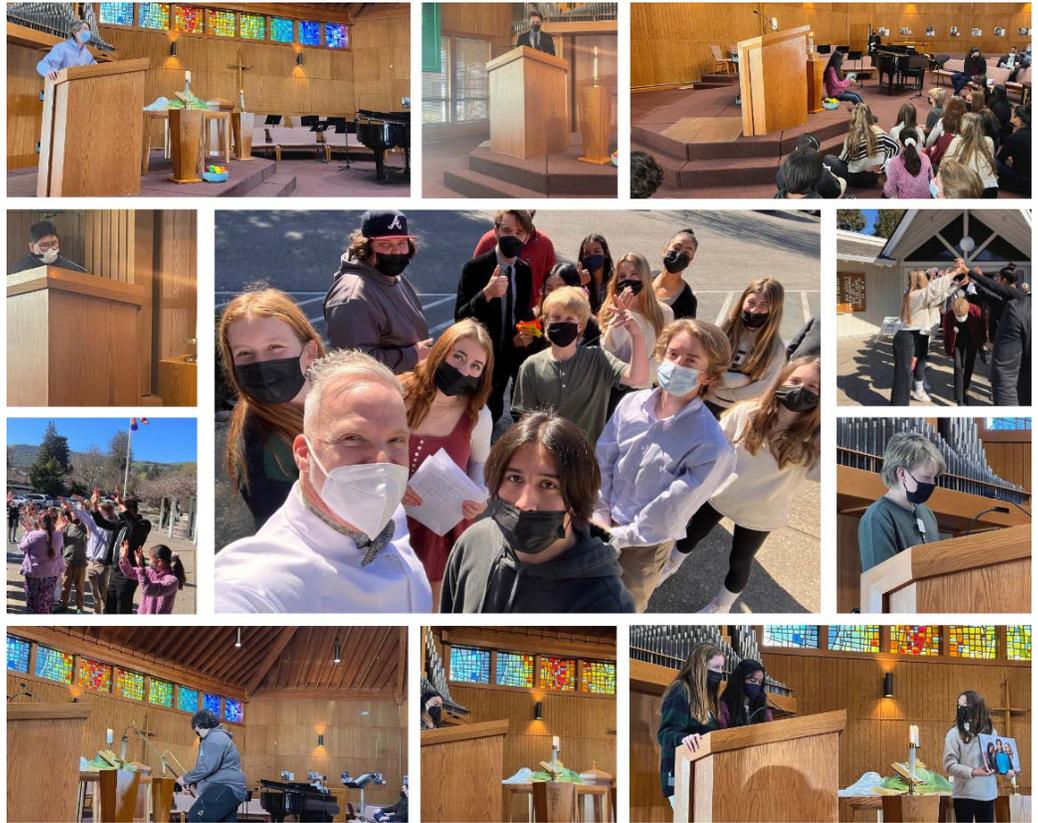
Pastoral Relations Committee

Carol Gilliland (chair), Bette Felton, Kim
 Michaud, Kristina Kelchner, Steve
 Paroli

Rev. Todd's

Pastoral Relations Committee

Mariah Callison, Barb DeBarger, Mary-
 Marie Deauclaure, Jenn O'Neal, Cheryl
 Pierson, Richard Stein



Youth Sunday 2022