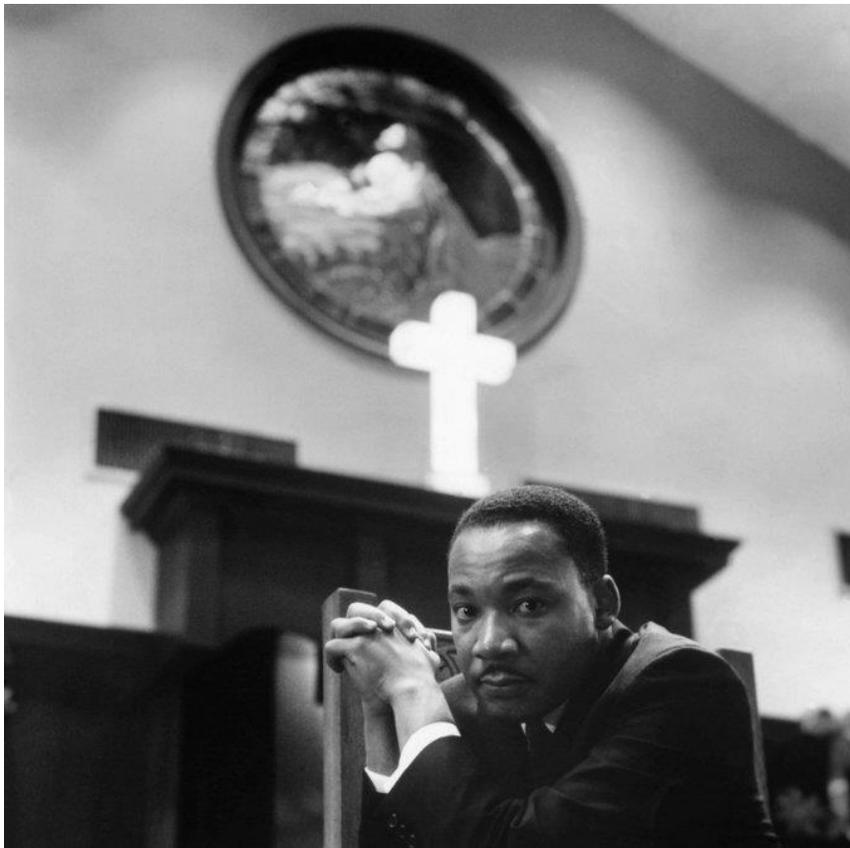




DANVILLE

Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Getty Images

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 15, 2023

OUR PURPOSE

Love God • Love Each Other • Be God's Love in the World

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.

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.

A NOTE TO WORSHIPERS

At DCC, wearing a mask during worship or inside the building is optional; please do whatever is comfortable for you. Please be aware of others' personal space and space yourselves out in the sanctuary accordingly. Please invite consent before shaking hands and hugging. The left-hand section of pews as you enter the sanctuary has been designated for those who are free of scents and perfumes.

Please silence your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary.

If you would like to use one of our listening assistance devices, please see the sound technician in the back of the sanctuary.

First-time visitor? Welcome to Danville Congregational Church! We are glad you are here with us today. Please register your attendance in the Blue Pew Book located in the pew and share whatever information you would like us to have about you. If you are interested in learning more about DCC, please see one of the pastors or designated greeters after worship in the narthex (lobby). We look forward to meeting you!

*The DCC sanctuary is available for meditation and quiet prayer
during the week during normal business hours.
Please feel free to come by any time — enter through the office.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Today We Are Called to be Disciples

arr. Jason W. Krug

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

To offer a joy or concern, please fill out a Prayer Card, which will be collected during Prayer Time.

If you are joining us online, type your prayer request using the chat feature.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Miguel Atkins-Whitley

**All are invited to rise in body, mind, or spirit.*

One: Come and see the lamb of God!

**All: A lamb, spotless and without blame,
the one whom God sent for us!**

One: Come and see the one upon whom the Spirit descended like a dove!

**All: The Chosen One of God in whose name
we have been baptized with the very same Spirit!**

One: Come and see the one who takes away the sin of the world!

**All: The sin that separates us from one another.
The sin that begets poverty, racism, hatred, indifference.**

One: People of God: What are you looking for?

**All: We look for the Lamb, the Chosen One of God,
the one who liberates and sets us free!**

One: Come, people of God! Let us worship Holy God—

All: The One who sent us a Savior, sibling, and friend!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Miguel

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another and pass the peace of Christ.

*OPENING HYMN

Will You Come and Follow Me

¹“Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown;
will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you
and you in me?”

² “Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you
And you in me?”

³“Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
and do such as this unseen
and admit to what I mean in you
and you in me?”

⁴“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you
and you in me?”

⁵Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you
and you in me.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Pastor Todd

*Following the Time with Children, children are invited to meet their teachers
in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.*

*Middle schoolers (and any other interested teenagers) are invited
to head over to the Agape Lounge for Donuts and Devotions.*

The next day [John the Baptizer] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed. He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

MODERN LESSON

Words from Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mary Taylor

By opening our lives to God in Christ, we become new creatures. This experience, which Jesus spoke of as the new birth, is essential if we are to be transformed nonconformists....Only through an inner spiritual transformation do we gain the strength to fight vigorously the evils of the world in a humble and loving spirit....Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself.

Excerpted from Rev. Dr. King's speeches and sermons included in the collection Strength to Love (1963)

SERMON

Come and See

Pastor Todd

*O Lord, you called disciples, proclaiming, "Come and see!"
And so an invitation began your ministry.*

*Then Andrew called his brother, and Peter came to you;
More men and women followed, and little children, too.*

*O Christ, your invitation has reached from year to year!
Through some who heard you calling, a church was founded here.
As faithful people served you so many years ago,
They soon invited others; your church began to grow.*

*God, by your Holy Spirit, now send us in your name
To serve the lost and outcast, the poor for whom you came.
Through gifts of hope and healing, through loving ministry,
May we reach out, inviting the world to "Come and see!"*

— Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Todd

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive
our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

TIME OF GIVING

Mary Courtenay

Invitation to Giving

To give online, [visit our web site](#) and click "Donate" in the upper right of the screen.

To donate using your mobile device, text the word give to 855-940-3756.

We remain grateful for your generosity.

Offertory

Blackbird

P. McCartney
arr. J.K. Bailey & B. Mehldau

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

*Offertory Prayer

*CLOSING HYMN

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

¹I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

³I'm gonna work so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

²I'm gonna pray so God can use me.
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

⁴I'm gonna sing so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Todd

POSTLUDE

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas A. Dorsey
arr. Daniel Light

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

8:30am–9:15am	Choir Rehearsal
9:30am–10:30am	Worship (In-person and Zoom)
9:35am–10:30am	Godly Play/Donuts and Devotions
10:30am–11:00am	Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout rooms
11:00am–12:00pm	Outreach Commission Meeting
12:00pm–1:30pm	Anti-Racism Team Meeting via Zoom

Our unattended nursery is open for anyone who would like to make use of it during worship. For safety reasons, we request that no child be left on the playground without appropriate supervision. Thank you!

Godly Play (for children ages preschool through 5th grade) is offered immediately following Time With Children. All children are invited to participate in Godly Play

Designed primarily for middle-school youth, **Donuts & Devotions** is offered following the Time with Children in the Agape Lounge in the Hope Center. All middle-school youth (and any interested teenagers) are invited to gather with Carrie Hrousis or Pastor T and one of our DCC friends to explore the deep questions of our faith. We will dismiss by 10:30am.

THIS WEEK AT DCC

Monday	9:30am–12:00pm	MLK Day of Service
Tuesday	7:00pm–9:00pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday	10:00am–2:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Thursday	7:00pm–9:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	5:30pm–8:30pm	TGIF at Kennedy/McGrath Residence
Saturday	8:30am–10:30am	DCC Walking Group at Annabel Lake

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

Today's Emmaus Team is **Team 3.**

Greeter: Judy Schreib

Ushers: Bob Kovach, Trish Moosbrugger, and Richard Stein

Candlelighters: Jasmine Conning and Jim Conning

Liturgists: Miguel Atkins-Whitley, Mary Taylor, and Mary Courtenay

Fellowship Hosts: Randy Jang, Janis Jang, and Bette Felton

Lock Up Duty: Tom Sonnemann

Sound Tech: Jim Felton

Tech Minister: Michael DoAmor

Children's Ministers

Godly Play: Nan Karns & Kim Michaud

Youth Ministers

Donuts & Devotions: Carrie Hrousis & Steve Bridgeman

Next week's Emmaus Team is **Team 1.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note: Announcements for the e-News and bulletin are due **Wednesday** by noon.



Cheryl Lynn Beck

February 20, 1953 – November 19, 2022

Please join us for the loving farewell to celebrate Cheryl's life at a memorial service on

Saturday, February 18, 2023 at 11am

Danville Congregational Church
989 San Ramon Valley Blvd,
Danville, CA 94526

Reception to follow directly after service at the church.

Regrets only to cameron.d.beck@gmail.com

Pastors' Availability



Pastor Eric keeps regular office hours on Sundays and Tuesday through Thursday. He reserves Fridays for sermon preparation and Mondays and Saturdays as his days off. If you want to meet with Pastor Eric during office hours, please schedule your appointment in advance on his calendar by going to <https://calendly.com/reveric>

Pastor Todd keeps regular office hours Tuesday through Thursday and is available Sunday afternoons and on Fridays by appointment. He is off on Mondays and Saturdays and otherwise reserves Fridays for sermon preparation and professional development. Reach out to him directly to schedule a meeting in person at DCC, off-site, or virtual/phone.



2022 Annual Giving Statements

Your 2022 Annual Giving Statements will be available for pickup this Sunday during Fellowship Hour.

Today from noon to 1:30pm **Anti Racism Team Meeting**

Please feel free to join us today at noon via Zoom as we discuss planning for anti-racism activities and education for 2023.

[Anti-Racism Team Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 854 4289 4676 Passcode: Justice



35% of our goal of 70 bags of groceries met so far.

This Monday from 9:30am to noon
MLK Day of Service

To be of service to our community and honor the life and mission of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the DCC Youth Group and friends (that's all of you! 😊), in partnership with the Outreach Commission and our Anti-Racism Team, will again be assembling 25-40 pieces of furniture at DCC on Monday, January 16th. This furniture will go in the rooms of folx being provided housing security by Hope Solutions. [[More info about them here.](#)]

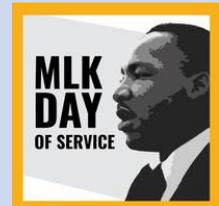


Further, we have been asked to help provide bags of groceries to individuals and families who are experiencing food insecurity, experience more acutely after the holidays. Last year, we collected 40 bags of groceries; **this year, our goal is 70 bags**. We currently have signups for 13 of the 70 bags. Whether you can join us in person on Monday, please consider how your family might be able to bless a family with the gift of food security. [And invite your friends!]

Sign up for service opportunities [here](#). You can bring your groceries the church office during office hours, to worship this Sunday, or drop them off at the church office on Monday morning.

About the MLK Day of Service

While Rev. Dr. King believed the [Beloved Community—a global vision, in which all people can share in the wealth of the earth](#)—was possible, he acknowledged and fought for systemic change. His example is our call to action. Observed each year on the third Monday in January as “a day on, not a day off,” MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities.



Monday, January 16th from 10:30am–11:30am
MLK Public Witness

Mount Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church and the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County invite the community to gather together to provide a public witness of the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 16th from 10:30am–11:30am at Civic Park in Walnut Creek.

Friday, January 20th from 5:30pm–8:30pm

TGIF at the Kennedy/McGrath residence



All are welcome for this super simple, end-of-week, supper get-together! It's a casual time for people to catch up and connect/reconnect with our DCC Community - singles, old/young, families – wherever you are on your Friday journey into the weekend...

- Hosted by Kyra Kennedy & Pat McGrath – Danville. Full address is in the church directory. Contact [Kyra Kennedy](#) with any questions–925-577-1403.
- Open house from 5:30pm to 8:30pm – Drop by for however long it works for you. Kids are very welcome!
- No RSVP necessary–just bring a pizza or dish you'd like to share, enough that covers your family, plus BYO (wine, beer, soda). We'll have salad and dessert.
- If you can't make this one–the next TGIF will be announced soon.

Saturday, January 21st at 8:30am

DCC Walking Group at Annabel Lake

Everyone is welcome to join our DCC walking group for a few trips around the lovely lake at Bishop Ranch. It is flat, partially paved, and easy to navigate for all walking levels.

- Please meet at 8:30am at the main entrance to the lake, inside the gates at [3001 Bishop Drive](#), San Ramon, where the seating areas are, by the [Bocce Ball court](#).
- The entrance is on Bishop Drive (check both the links given to see the location!). You can park in Bishop Ranch or over by Target.
- Contact [Joyce Klassen](#) with any questions–925-518-6439.
- We recognize that we have many weekend commitments, so we plan to start on time at 8:30am and be finished no later than 10:30am.
- We're looking forward to walking, chatting, and connecting and hope you'll join in!



Next Sunday at 11:00am

PFLAG Gender 101 Presentation

PFLAG is offering a Gender 101 presentation at DCC next Sunday during the second hour at 11:00am. The speakers Elisa Tinker and Taylor denBroeder will focus on terminology, challenges, laws, and how to be inclusive and supportive. This presentation has been offered to staff at SRVUSD, PTA, parents, healthcare providers, small businesses, places of worship, and other schools outside of SRVUSD. This presentation is useful for both training and general information. Any questions email Brucehixon@comcast.net or call (925)-683-1728.

Sunday, January 29th at 11:00am

Children's Ministry Meeting for Families and Volunteers



Following worship at 11:00am on Sunday, January 29th, we are hosting a meeting with all the families of children through grade 5 here at DCC and all our friends who minister in this area.

As we plan for the current semester and the summer ahead, Jen Faught (our CM commissioner) and Pastor Todd would like to hear from you about DCC's ministry to children—what's worked well, how else we can support you, and your thoughts about some of our ideas for the next few months. We also want to get input from our children's ministers and invite folks new to DCC into this ministry.

We will meet in Kairos Hall; childcare will be provided by teens in our youth group using the Agape Lounge and Dayspring playground.

If you're unable to make it, let us know; we'd still love a chance to check-in with you.

Worship Commission Update

Our team has been busy behind the scenes! Many thanks to our Advent Flower team this year: Carol Bassett, Janis and Randy Jang, Kim Michaud and yours truly. Poinsettias were purchased and lovingly placed in our sanctuary each week, then placed in the church windows to receive the sun they needed and watered weekly. Thanks also to our church members who donated toward the flowers in memory or honor of a loved one.



Everyone is aware of the Greening of the Church - The sanctuary was also "un-greened" the week following Epiphany Sunday. Just as we all put away all of our holiday ornaments and decorations at home, a team of volunteers put away all of the wreaths, swags, ornaments and tree.



Now that the holidays are behind us, I would like to recruit some church members to join our team of Worship Assistants. Important duties are handled once a week in the church sanctuary and office, including straightening and refilling items in pews, organizing name tags, arranging for pick-up of food bank items, and other tasks. Anne Seiler has faithfully completed this job weekly, and I so appreciate her service. We need a few more people to learn the job and share it on a rotational basis. It can be done at a time that is convenient for

you during open office hours at church. Please chat with me after church or contact me at aleneriley04@gmail.com if you would like to support the church in this role.

-Alene Riley



Lent 2023 Good News Article Submission Deadline

We are gearing up to produce the Lent 2023 Good News. **The deadline for article submissions for the Lent 2023 Good News is Friday, February 3rd.** Please submit any articles or information for the Good News to [Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam](mailto:Anne-Marie.Vanniasinkam). Thank you!

Thursdays at 12:30pm Thursdays for the Soul

- Thursday, January 19–[Our Whole Lives and Sexuality and Our Faith: Dismantling Shame and Stigma about Bodies and Relationships](#)
- Thursday, January 26– [Visions of Truth Telling, Reparation, and Forgiveness](#)



Save the Date – February 11, 2023 Hope Solutions Fun-Raiser

DCC will be having an amazing fun-raiser for Hope Solutions. This will be a Mardi Gras party complete with a jazz band (sponsored by the Feltons and Kennedy/McGraths) and complementary food provided by Carol Gilliland of A Loveable Feast! The event is fun with a purpose as this will also be an opportunity to hear the great work Hope Solutions is doing in Contra Costa County.

As most of you know, [Hope Solutions](#) (previously Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, CCIH), provides permanent, supportive housing for the most vulnerable in our very community. And, as we all know, the cost of housing is at an all-time high, which is causing an increase in those unhoused. At the fun-raiser, you will learn how Hope Solutions is taking a unique path to help solve this problem, one house at a time! Plus, dance and eat and have a blast! Mark your calendars now!

All are welcome – childcare will be provided, and you don't have to attend DCC to come!



Danville Congregational Church

MARDI GRAS

PARTY FOR A PURPOSE

Saturday, February 11, 2023

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Danville Congregational Church
989 San Ramon Valley Blvd, Danville

Entertainment by

COOLTONES BIG BAND

New Orleans Style Food & Drink

Kids activities & free babysitting!



SCAN ME

Tickets via EventBrite

<https://DCCMardiGras.eventbrite.com>

\$20 in advance -- \$30 at the door

Generously sponsored by:

Bette & Jim
Felton



Kyra Kennedy &
Pat McGrath

100% of all proceeds benefit families and individuals experiencing homelessness

HOPE

SOLUTIONS

Ministers—The Entire Congregation

Church Staff

The Rev. Eric Sherlock, *Senior Pastor*

The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, *Associate Pastor*

John Kendall Bailey, *Music Director*

Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam, *Communications Specialist*

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

Maria Arroyo, *Dayspring Preschool Director*

www.dayspringpreschool.org



Danville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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

Phone: (925) 837-6944

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