



The Season of Creation

Dear Church,

Throughout this season of Creation Tide 2023, we have been reminded of our sacred duty to cherish and protect the precious gift of our planet. This season, observed by many faith communities around the world, has offered us a unique opportunity to reflect on our role as stewards of God's creation and to address the pressing issue of climate change.

Creation: A Divine Gift

In the book of Genesis, we are reminded of God's divine act of creation, where God lovingly formed the heavens, the Earth, and all living creatures. This beautiful gift has been entrusted to our care, and it is ours to nurture and safeguard for neighbors near and far; neighbors known and unknown.

Climate Change: An Urgent Crisis

The signs of climate change are becoming increasingly evident, from rising global temperatures and extreme weather events to the loss of biodiversity and the acidification of our oceans. The scientific

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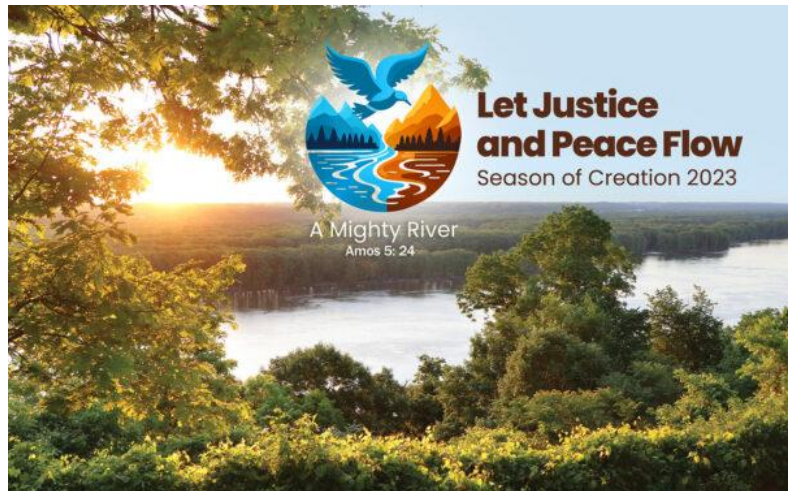
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consensus is clear: human activities, such as burning fossil fuels and deforestation, are driving this crisis. It is no longer a distant threat; it is happening now.

Climate Justice: A Moral Imperative

As people of faith, we are called to seek justice and act with compassion. Climate change is not just an environmental issue; it is also a matter of justice. The impacts of climate change disproportionately affect the world's most vulnerable populations, including the poor and exploited.



The Impact on the Vulnerable

- **Poverty:** Climate change exacerbates poverty by disrupting food and water supplies, displacing communities, and increasing the frequency of natural disasters. The poor are often the least equipped to adapt to these changes.
- **Exploitation:** Many vulnerable communities are exploited for their resources, leading to deforestation, pollution, and habitat destruction. Indigenous peoples, in particular, face the loss of their ancestral lands and cultures.
- **Global Disparities:** Climate change widens the gap between rich and poor nations, as those who contribute least to the problem suffer the most from its consequences. This is an injustice that calls for action.

Our Call to Action

As people of faith, we are called to take a stand for climate justice:

1. **Reduce Our Carbon Footprint:** We can reduce our impact on the environment by conserving energy, reducing waste, and supporting sustainable practices.
2. **Advocate for Change:** We can use our voices and influence to advocate for policies and practices that prioritize climate justice and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
3. **Support Vulnerable Communities:** We can stand in solidarity with those most affected by climate change by supporting organizations and initiatives that work towards climate resilience and justice.
4. **Prayer and Reflection:** Take time during this Creation Tide to pray for God's guidance and to reflect on how we can be better stewards of creation.

As we conclude this Season of Creation, let us remember that the call for climate justice is a call rooted in our faith and our commitment to the well-being of all God's children. Let us be inspired to take action, advocate for change, and work together to protect and heal our beautiful planet. In doing so, we answer the call to love and care for our neighbors, especially those who are most vulnerable in the face of this urgent crisis.

May our actions be a testament to our faith and a beacon of hope for a sustainable and just future for all.

Blessings,
Pastor Eric

Like A Tree Planted by Water

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

Jeremiah 17:7–8

By the time you're reading this, we're well into the start of a new academic year—and so close to a new church year beginning; Advent is nigh! [Somewhere "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" is already playing...]

Over the summer months, we shared several special moments together as a community. [Read details about what our community, kids, and youth were up to elsewhere in this newsletter!] What stands out to me in all of this is that *God provides!* I can't imagine missing any single experience—whether it was a carnival, a service trip, mornings with our young friends and adults who love them, retreats, Godly Play training—all of which *were made possible through the gifts of this community!* [We are especially grateful for all the adults who helped with camp and the service trip and to (now seniors) Michael Do Amor and Craig Seiler for their contributions to our community!]

You give so generously to support our children and youth—donating and volunteering time and time and time again so that our young people can feel supported, affirmed, and so they have the chance to understand how they can help repair God's world...how they can be God's love to the world around us...how God loves them so unconditionally. ***What a gift!***

And as we head into the lovely season of autumn, we continue to be met with opportunities to grow together and grow outward—like a tree planted by water (or a decades-old wisteria vine).

Here's what's coming up:

- **Sunday, October 1: Pet Blessing**—Bring a photo of your pet(s) for a special St. Francis-style blessing during worship.
- **October 6–9: Family Campout on Mt. Diablo** Families of all configurations are invited to gather on Mt. Diablo any time between Friday afternoon and Sunday morning (even if you just come for campfire breakfast and worship) to take in God's glorious creation. [And s'mores!] [RSVP here](#).
- **Saturday, October 28: Monster Mash**—The DCC Dance returns with fun and music for all ages. Reach out to Carrie Hrousis for details.
- **Sunday, October 29: Parents & Children's Ministers Meeting**—After worship, we invite parents of kids through grade 5 to gather with Children's Ministry commissioner Jen Faught and Pastor T to discuss plans for the winter and spring, including the introduction of a Godly Play-style anti-racism curriculum.
- **Sunday, November 5**—We will observe All Saints Sunday during worship. Bring a photo of loved ones you want to remember during this special moment in the life of the church.
- **November 19: Pageant Rehearsals begin** Yes, it's that time again! We'll start learning music after worship. The pageant will be held December 17.
- **Sunday, November 26: Greening the Church and Changing the Seasons**—While the grown-ups help "green the church," our young friends are invited to help us put out the Advent wreath and nativity in anticipation of the first Sunday of Advent on December 3.

Our roots run deep here at DCC! And through seasons of blooming, rest, and gentle pruning, we bear witness to new growth and an abundance of life-giving fruit that blesses us, our children, and the world around us. Thanks be to God!

With great joy,
Pastor T
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DCC Church Council Kicks off the New Year!

*By Barb DeBarger
DCC Moderator*

The Church Council enjoyed a morning of fellowship and goal setting at our annual retreat in August. We spent the time discussing our working relationships and styles, and drafted goals for the coming church year. We are excited to share with the congregation some of our ideas:

- Holding quarterly all-church gatherings to not only enjoy each other's company, but to share information and updates more regularly from council.
- Rolling out a new marketing strategy for Weddings and Events to help increase our exposure in the community and create new revenue streams.
- Creating opportunities for learning for our congregation and the wider Danville community, including anti-racism activities and adult faith formation.
- Updating our church bylaws to include current practices and ideas.

We look forward to sharing with you all we have in store as we begin our work. If you have any ideas or want to share updates with the Council, please contact our Co-Moderators, Barb DeBarger and Kyra Kennedy.



Weddings and Events at DCC

*By Kyra Kennedy
DCC Moderator*

Welcoming the wider community to hold weddings, memorials, and other events in our lovely Sanctuary and Kairos Hall is a goal we discussed at our annual meeting. This creative initiative will increase our visibility and ties to the wider community and generate additional revenue to support our general fund. A mighty team, which includes Barbara DeBarger, Nicole Noga, Heidi Bridgeman, Bette Felton, Jennifer ONeal, Carol Gilliland, Deborah Daily, Penny Atkin, Eric Sherlock, and Kyra Kennedy, has been assembled to create and market the new event package. Here are some of the things the team has been working on and toward the past few months:

- Jenna Fry, a wedding planner and friend of Heidi Bridgeman, toured DCC with the wedding team to share her impressions and suggestions of how to offer our lovely facility as a wedding venue. Jenna was impressed with our lovely sanctuary and large functional Kairos Hall. The main attractions she cited are location, combined facilities, affordability, and scheduling flexibility.
- Package pricing has been developed for use of the Sanctuary, Kairos, and Koinonia. The package pricing was developed to make money for the general budget as well as funds to maintain our facilities and hire reliable contractors (or hire staff) who could assist with set-up, cleaning and host the events. We do not want to depend on volunteers from DCC to put on these events. We are currently looking for reliable and affordable contractors.
- The website will be updated to showcase our venue, our offer, and will include a FAQ section to address common questions. We plan to have the website updated by the end of September. Once that is done, we will develop a marketing plan to get the word out that we are ready for business.

This is an exciting new project, that with creative ideas, patience and persistence could establish our church as a sought-after event venue. If you have questions or ideas, please contact anyone on the team.





Handbell Corner

By Janis Jang
Handbell Choir Coordinator

Zephyr Point *Music* (not Handbell) Conference 2023



Karen Kawaguchi finally made it to ZPHC except they renamed it Zephyr Point **Music** Conference AND she doesn't ring with Celebration Bells anymore.

After years of saying she wanted to participate, Karen moved. This summer, Karen flew in to fulfill her promise. *Thanks Russ!*

Karol Mead became her roommate while my sister, Julie Chew, roomed with me.

There were **numerous changes** this year.

- Three conferences merged into one - conducting, choir, and handbells.
- Theoretically, we could take classes from each discipline.
- The Intermediate and Advance groups practiced in different rooms.
- Guest choir/conductor clinician, Dr. André Thomas, gave a stirring lecture to the whole group.
- All classes for handbells were in the same location making it easier to discern the location. (Hallelujah!)
- Instead of a Root Beer Social, it was S'mores.

It was requested that we bring/wear some appropriate clothes for the concert. There were two days of "concerts" instead of "final rehearsals."

Wednesday: **Chamber Ensemble Concert** with the Chamber Choir and Advance Handbells

Thursday: **Grand Concert** with the Choir and Intermediate Handbells

The Advance Handbell group accompanied the choir in one song for the first time.

One piece was learned that day in two sessions and played that evening at the concert. (No pressure.)

An extra day was added this year extending our stay to five days. About ten overflow people stayed at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino and had transportation by tram. (Lesson learned: Don't register late next year!)



It was such an honor to have Nancy & Wayne Snyder and Kim Michaud drive up to attend our Thursday Grand Concert!



Our "official" DCC picture



Somehow, Kim and Karen made it down to nearby Lake Tahoe (No time for that!)



About 35 handbell ringers out of 100 (COVID years lowered our numbers tremendously!)

Tenant Relations Committee Needs Your Help

Are you looking for a way to help DCC with ongoing operations but have limited time? There could be a spot for you on Tenant Relations. This committee is charged with setting rules and rates for those who use our space and general liaison with all of them to make certain everything goes well.

We are looking for a couple of people to join the committee. No auditions necessary. Meetings are often on Zoom, occasionally in person and usually once every month or two. Right now we are scheduled for the end of October and January, and may add additional meetings if circumstances dictate.

Please consider this option. If you have questions, contact any member.

Penny Atkin, chair

Bette Felton

Judy Halden

Carol Bassett

Randy Jang



Back to School with Backpacks!

*Dianne Dorn and Doug Leich
Outreach Commissioners*



Thanks to everyone who donated school supplies and backpacks to Hope Solutions and Shelter, Inc. These much-needed school tools aid children of homeless, formerly homeless, and at-risk families now living in Hope Solutions and Shelter, Inc. housing. Donations were also made to Eden United Church of Christ, which is in the Hayward Cherryland neighborhood, to help disadvantaged children.

Many thanks to our Danville Congregation for supplying ten backpacks with school supplies to ten Shelter, Inc. students, and two backpacks with supplies donated to Hope Solutions. There were also twelve \$50 gift cards given for uniforms and shoes. The Shelter, Inc. backpacks were delivered on July 20th, and the Hope Solutions backpacks were picked up on July 27th.

A carload of 451 school supplies were delivered to Eden UCC in July. Eden was very grateful for DCC's generosity. All our glorious thanks to the Danville Congregation for giving your time, talent, and treasure to students so they have everything they need to begin a successful school year. God's blessings on all of you!

Children's Ministry Happenings

Jen Faught
Children's Ministry Commissioner

Children's Ministries has enjoyed some wonderful experiences recently. During Godly Play time during summer, we worked the Operation Restoration curriculum, learning how to be menders of God's world through feeding, healing, forgiving, praying, and resting. We expanded that learning in our 3 days of camp, where we had a lot of fun hearing stories, doing crafts, making music, building bird feeders, stirring up some friendship bread, learning different ways to pray, doing some restorative yoga, eating yummy snacks, and more! Many thanks to all the adults who helped with our special days. This summer, adults also were able to benefit from a half-day Godly Play refresher class put on by a true expert. It was very enlightening. A special highlight of our summer was the awesome carnival put on by Michael Do Amor for our kids and guests. Kairos was decorated to the hilt and there were games, prizes, a cake walk, a delicious picnic menu, and tons of fun! Then it was time to go back to school, and our kids came to the sanctuary in August to receive their special and heartfelt back to school blessing.

Looking to the future, we are excited to start working on Pastor Todd's vision of creating a playground between the two buildings. We also look forward to meeting with parents to discuss and demonstrate the "Tell Me the Truth about Racism" program, especially created for Christian communities and based on the belief that each and every person is a child of God. Finally, we do need more Godly Play teachers and welcome others, especially parents *and including those with little or no experience*, to join us!

With love,
Pastor Todd and Jen



Youth Ministry is Gearing Up

Carrie Hrousis
Youth Commissioner



My friend was looking at our website to figure out my schedule. I just told her I was teaching at church on Sunday. She is rather resourceful and wanted to know when I was available. She commented . “You go to a very busy church” I am here to tell you, it’s a happy form of busy. Especially for our young people.

This year we are trying to create a schedule that will encourage more participation. Sometimes things can be more fun if we get to do them with more people.

1st and 3rd Sundays of each month will be youth group

On the **3rd** Sunday, we will encourage parents to meet and connect as well.

2nd and 4th Sunday of each month will be Donuts and Devotions during church for anyone 6th grade and over. I will be looking for people to join us and share their perspective with the youth. No preparation necessary, Todd and I will handle that. All you have to do is participate in the discussion and activities and eat or resist donuts. Here’s your chance to connect with our young people and see how amazing they all are.

2nd and 4th Sundays of each month Owl meets from 11:30 am–1:30pm for grades 7–9.

The Magical **5th** Sunday? What might we plan for that? Stay tuned.



Recently we all have been blessed by **Michael Do Amor’s** work on the Back to School Carnival. What fun we all had together cake walking and playing carnival games. (I convinced my kids to grill hot dogs.)!

Craig Seiler has been busy building benches for our church to put around a play area meant for our little ones during coffee hour. Parents will be able to watch their kids play and talk to actual adults during coffee hour. Thanks Craig!

Please save the date for two great events in October. The family campout will be October 6th–8th and the Monster Mash Dance on October 29th.

Praying that those of you that are young at heart will come join our youth. Show them that we know how to Camp and Dance. Please text me with song suggestions 1970’s to present at (925) 337-5426.

Meet our Sound Tech Team!

Alene Riley
Worship Commissioner

Many volunteers work behind the scenes to support our church. One group that literally works in the background is our amazing Sound Tech team!

The sound technicians volunteer each Sunday to ensure that worship participants can hear what is going on during the service – whether in person or on Zoom. The sound tech mutes or adjusts volume/tone and monitors the level of each source at the soundboard. Listening devices are available for individuals who need additional amplification.

Five team members rotate each week and cover all duties, such as lighting, room temperature, and even refilling the candle fluid.

Randy Jang has been a sound tech since the mid 1990's! A funny thing that happened to him one Sunday: he noticed a few honeybees in the closet where he went to get the microphones. He closed the door – when he returned after the service, there was a thick cloud of bees in the closet! They had to hire a bee expert to rip open the wall and remove the bees.

Brett Clark has also been a tech for several years. He finds the most challenging part of the job to be incorporating the Zoom broadcast. He must communicate with the tech minister across the sanctuary using hand signals if the audio signal needs adjustment.

The Sound Tech job is complex, requiring operation of sophisticated and expensive equipment. Our worship experience would definitely not be the same without this talented and dedicated crew! Many thanks to the men below who make sure all are able to enjoy all aspects of our Sunday service. They also assist when the sanctuary is rented by other parties.

Please thank our sound tech members when you see them on Sunday mornings!



Our wonderful sound techs: Jim Felton, Randy Jang, Brett Clark, Steve Bridgeman, and Dave Michaud (not pictured)

Emmaus Teams and Circles

By Anne W. Seiler
Emmaus Teams Chair

Happy September, church family & friends. The local public schools have been in session for about a month now and it feels good to still have church to help start the week off on a good note. For those of you who haven't been able to worship in person with us, you're missing out on a new "feel" of the sanctuary. We are sitting in a Circle, enabling us all to see each other's facial expressions versus just the backs of heads. It's a "warm" feeling, making the church feel smaller in size, more intimate, and closer to the focal point/altar which is now in the middle as opposed to the front of church.



Tim & I recently went to our last *Back to School Night* and we learned that the school is strengthening their environment based on CIRCLES:

Community
Integrity
Responsibility
Courage
Love
Empowerment
Service
😊

When I help customers at McCaulou's get new Boy Scout uniforms, I like to teach them a song I learned in Girl Scouts. It is a song that should be remembered by everyone when venturing outside of their comfort zone:

(You'll) make new friends,
but keep the old,
some are Silver & the other Gold.
A Circle's round,
it has no end
that's how long I'd like to be your friend.

Thank you to the Emmaus Team group leaders: Chris Callison, Nan Karns, Trish Moosbrugger, Kathie Hixon, Carol Bassett & Joy Davis. We now have **six** teams of Sunday Church Service helpers! Friends, whether it's your team's turn or not, I hope the warmth of your bodies soon fills our church CIRCLES.

Sister Parish Updates

Carrie Stengel
Executive Director Sister Parish

On June 11th, San Antonio Catholic Community celebrated the feast day of their patron saint St Anthony of Padua. Community members spent months planning for the event and afterward, Pancha said, "We had a lovely celebration. We shared a delicious lunch of stewed chicken and tortillas with all the people we had invited and all the different groups in the church. A local band played. We are so grateful to God that everything went well." Watch the event on Facebook live: [Video part 1](#), [Video part 2](#)

Guatemala's general elections in June and the presidential run-off in August have garnered international attention, after center-left, anti-corruption presidential candidate Bernardo Arévalo of the Semilla party unexpectedly won. People were celebrating in the streets. Unfortunately, the election has been marred throughout the process by certain powerful groups' attempts to control the result, including blocking certain candidates from running. Now President-elect Arévalo has denounced an "ongoing coup" in motion to prevent him from taking office in January. Read more: [Article 1](#) / [Article 2](#)



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

Prayers of Healing and Strength for...



- Prayers to our daughter, **Cassi**, as she faces health challenges. *(From Nancy and Wayne Snyder)*
- Prayers for a successful hip replacement surgery for my friend, **Kamal**, on Tuesday. Prayers for **Joy Davis**, who returned home from her cruise with the gift of Covid. *(From Dianne Dorn)*
- Prayers for discernment and strength for my lifelong friend, **Marilyn**, as she continues in her role as the decision-maker for her brother, who has Alzheimer's. *(From Diane Stein)*
- Prayers of safe travels for **Allison** who is traveling to Europe with her college friend, Emma. They started in London with train ride to Paris, Barcelona, Nice, Florence, and will fly home from Rome. *(From Anne and Tim Seiler)*
- Prayers for a childhood friend of Tim's, **David Jones**, who has bladder cancer. Prayers for a college friend of Anne, **Mickey Smith**, who has breast cancer. *(From Anne and Tim Seiler)*
- Prayers for our friend, **Vic Lan**. *(From Amy Furber Dobson)*
- I would like prayers as I enter the **third week of school**. *(From Hazel Furber-Dobson)*
- **Emma** is having surgery to remove her adenoids and tonsils this Monday (due to severe nasal blockage). Please pray that the surgery goes well with no complications, that she recovers quickly, and that her mamas' anxiety is calmed. *(From Megan & Emily Luther)*
- For Brett's brother **Craig** who has returned to the hospital with slurred speech and a blood clot. He's been receiving chemo for colon cancer for the last couple of months after surgery. Please pray for a speedy recovery. *(From Brett & Gail Clark)*
- Prayers of healing for my friends **Pamela** and **John** who have been recently diagnosed with cancer. May they feel encouraged by the doctors and the love of their families and friends. *(From Barb DeBarger)*
- Prayers for the **San Ramon Valley school board** who will hear from "Moms for Liberty" at Tuesday's meeting. *(From Bette Felton)*
- We pray for all our students—DCC and children of our Sister Parish community—who are returning to school this week, and for all their parents, guardians, caretakers, and teachers: **Tomas, Jasmine, Kaya, Yoselin, Aria, Matteo, Magdalena, Jackson, Zoe, Hazel, Domingo, Jayden, Julia, Leslie, Haley Grace, Tomas, Max, Bode, Mauricio, Serena, Pedro, Joshua, Michael, Maria, Zane, Oliver, Juana, Trent, Lily, Jairo, Craig, Ana, Emma, Raquel, Sabrina, Tomas, Keira, Emilio, Francisco, Enzo, Lily, Elvis, Ashley, Luca, Cole, Dahvy, Finn, Mark, Catarina, Edgar, Luci, Alison, Ada, Zaido, Paloma, Pedro, Malia, Gavin, Lupita, Cora, and Paloma** and all of our graduated students who are starting or returning to post-high school education and vocational training.
- Prayers for the medical team working on **Alice Donovan's** hip surgery this week on Tuesday. Prayers for Alice for successful surgery, fast healing, and good health.
- Prayers for **Marcela Itzep**, Sister Parish Community member, who is very ill and in her final days. Prayers for her family and community as they accompany and support her in these tender moments.

Prayers of Healing and Strength for...(continued)

- Prayers for **Tim Booher**, former DCC member, who was in a recent five-car accident on the freeway, tearing back and neck muscles and Achilles tendon. His truck was totaled and he is having a challenging time with panic attacks, his husband, Bill, reports. May all heal quickly for this loving family.
- Please pray for the **family and friends of Helen Trahan** as she nears the end of her life. May they find peace and joy in remembering her 99-year life. *(From Brett and Gail Clark)*
- Watch over my granddaughter **Mira** on her mission trip to Tijuana to help the young orphans there. *(From Carol Gerich)*
- Prayers for their friend and sibling **Bonnie Violet**, a trans drag queen, who is preaching this morning at Bethany UMC in San Francisco. May her sermon on grace be an inspired word to those who hear her. *(From Todd & Miguel)*
- Prayers for a friend, **Stephen**, who is battling illness and glaucoma. *(From Alene Riley)*
- Prayers of summer fun to **Craig** who is headed off to Kennolyn Camp on Monday for three weeks as a junior counselor. **Allison** is there all summer as women's head counselor. *(From Anne & Tim)*
- Prayers for my **nephew Craig** whose colon cancer has returned. *(From Caryl Krotz)*
- Prayer for my **cousin Judy** as she moves from hospital to home hospice care. May she not suffer too much pain and may she find peace. Prayers for Judy's children and sister that they may find the strength that is needed in this difficult time. And prayers of love and appreciation for my sister, Elizabeth, who has helped Judy every step of the way. A true and loving friend to Judy. *(From Mary Courtenay)*
- Prayers of healing for friend **Matthew Howe**, who recently had a possible stroke; recovering at home now. *(From Eileen Ackley)*
- Prayers of patience for **me and my family** as I wait for treatment for my back. And thanks to the church for the support I have gotten. *(From Syd Dent)*
- Blessings on my dear friend **Keith** who just sold his home in San Leandro. We have been close friends since our spouses passed ten years ago. *(From Dianne Dorn)*
- Prayers for my sister, **Elizabeth**, who was in a serious car accident yesterday, sustaining a concussion and other injuries when her car rolled over four times. She is home now, facing a period of recuperation. Luckily, her brain and her sense of humor remain intact. *(From Mary Courtenay)*
- Prayers for **Rev. Sharon MacArthur**, who is in the hospital after suffering a stroke. Prayers of mercy and peace. *(From Joy Davis)*
- Prayers of healing for my **30-year-old nephew** experiencing heart problems. *(From Nancy Halseth)*
- Emily's autoimmune disease became active again. Please pray for **her and the baby's health**, and that this flare will resolve soon. *(From Megan Luther)*
- Prayers for **our brother, Jack** who was in an auto accident last week. He has two broken legs and cracked ribs. He will be in rehab for 3 months. *(From Sally Baca and Chris Sonnemann)*
- Dear God, we lift up our sister, **Nancy Snyder**, and ask for her healing. You have given Nancy such amazing musical talent and her absence leaves a gap in our group. Our rainbow has a color missing. Please restore Nancy to good health and the exuberance and vitality we love to see in her. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. *(From the Celebration Bells)*
- Prayers of healing for my brother **Richard** who on top of other health issues, just came down with Covid. *(From Larry Berlin)*

Prayers of Sympathy for...

- Prayers for the **Michaud family** as they grieve the passing of their sweet dog, Piper. She was a loving and loyal companion for 14 years and will be deeply missed. *(From Kim Michaud)*
- Prayers for my **Aunt Nenita** as we celebrate her one year death-aversary this weekend. She is reunited with her younger sister, my mom. May they RIP. *(From Melissa Tumaneng)*
- Blessing for **two friends** for more than 70 years of friendship who are living their final days. *(From Jim Felton)*
- Prayers of comfort and strength for our son-in-law **Roy and his family** as they mourn the loss of their mother and our grandchildren's other grandmother. *(From Nancy Hill)*
- Please pray for our dear friend **Harish** with the passing of his dad. *(From Amy Furber-Dobson)*

Prayers for the World...

- Prayers for the **people of Morocco** in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. May the Lord give them strength and courage. *(From Sereen and Tahir Mahmood)*
- Prayers of love, peace, and support to the **earthquake survivors in Morocco**. May the injured heal quickly and the grieving be comforted. *(From Kristin Chambers)*
- Prayers of healing for the **victims of the racist killings in Jacksonville**. May the families and community find peace. May we prune racism from our nation. *(From John Klassen)*
- Prayers for the **people of Maui**. *(From Sally Baca)*
- Prayers for the **residents of Maui**—prayers of strength, comfort, and resilience as they pick up the pieces and cope with their grief after the terrible fire there. *(From Kristin Chambers)*
- Prayers of comfort, healing, peace, and hope for the **people of Hawai'i**, and especially Lahaina in Maui, in their time of loss. *(From Eileen Ackley)*
- Help us to discern, with God's help, how we can bravely **engage with those around us** who would be blessed by our concern, care, and action. *(From Bill Williams)*
- Prayers for courage and strength for the **people of Guatemala** after the surprise election of anti-corruption candidate Arvelo. He will face legal challenges until January 14, when he takes office. *(From the Sister Parish Team)*
- I pray that the Lord instills in the hearts of all humankind a sense of **love and respect for all**. Let the extremists of all types calm their hearts and move towards acceptance of all. *(From Larry Berlin)*
- Prayers for those in **France** who are enduring significant social upheaval. Let them find peace and love, and safety.
- Prayers for the **healing of the hearts of those that use "Christianity" to hate and harm others**. Let their hearts be filled with the true love and joy of Jesus. Let those on the receiving end of that hatred know that they are loved by us and their creator. *(From Larry Berlin)*
- Let us please pray for the safety and joy of **those out celebrating Pride today** across this Nation and the World. Let it truly be peaceful. *(From Larry Berlin)*
- Prayers that the **seeds of love, kindness, and hope** are planted in the hearts of those that wish to harm and discriminate against others and that the love grows and chokes out the weeds. *(From Larry Berlin)*
- Prayers of traveling mercies for **those attending the NCNC UCC Annual Gathering** this week as people come from near and far. May our time together bring deep connections and joyful reunions. *(From Joy Davis)*
- Prayers for **Gabriel Sicá, Pedro and Guadalupe's son, from San Antonio** for your prayers as he faces debt.
- We unite in prayer with our sibling **community of San Antonio** in Guatemala as they celebrate their patron saint feast day this Sunday in honor of St. Anthony of Padua, the patron saint of the lost. May the Lord guide and protect all who are lost today, and may the Lord accompany the community of San Antonio in their joys and sorrows as they honor their patron saint.
- Please hold **Marcela Itzep** in your prayers as she deals with serious illness, while also caring for the grandchildren under her care. *(From Carrie Stengel)*
- Please pray for the **San Antonio church community**, for unity and full participation. May our members be called to participate so that we may feel the joy of being together. *(From Carrie Stengel)*
- Please pray for the **immigrants that are supporting our church community**, may they continue to support us in our activities. *(From Carrie Stengel)*
- Please join us in a prayer of thanks that the **immigrants from our community are still in the United States**, even with all the news and speeches about forcing immigrants to leave the country. *(From Carrie Stengel)*
- Please pray that **my son** find decent work, since he has decided to leave school. *(From Pancha)*

Prayers of Thanks and Gratitude for...

- I share the joy of my daughter **Elizabeth's wedding** last weekend. *(From Alene Riley)*
- Prayers of celebration for cousin **Craig**, on his 75th birthday. He has advocated for environmental issues, especially wild fish and unspoiled rivers, for his entire adult life. *(From Eileen Ackley)*
- Prayers of joy and gratitude for closing the chapter of my working life and entering into **retirement** to pursue my passions and joys. *(From Karol Mead)*
- Joy at celebrating **38 years of marriage**. *(From Syd and Leslie Dent)*
- Prayers of gratefulness for my boyfriend **Jesse's** recovery from pneumonia. *(From Diane Dorn)*
- Prayers of gratitude for **our church council** who gathered Saturday—planning for the new year and setting goals that reflect the needs of our church family and our community. *(From Heidi Bridgeman)*
- Prayers of gratitude beyond measure as they celebrate their **62nd anniversary** this week! *(From Dave and Nancy Hill)*
- Prayers of Celebration! **Emilia Ashlyn Davis** is now the official legal name of my granddaughter. *(From Joy Davis)*
- Joy to have my wonderful friend, **Keith**, at DCC today. Keith recently sold his home in San Leandro and is moving to Long Beach. *(From Dianne Dorn)*
- Today, we have a new sense of peace viewing the **quilt made by women of DCC and the chimes from my new place**. *(From Bette and Jim Felton/Kris Lewis)*
- It's so special to be back in church. Thank you for all your **cards and well wishes** as I experienced a "hiccup" in health! I am so much better thanks to all your support. *(From Nancy Snyder)*
- Celebrating 92 years of amazing life for **Eleanor Dent**. Happy Birthday! *(From Syd and Leslie Dent)*
- Blessings to **Sandra Lepley** for all the hours of searching for appropriate music, for hours of practice, for this hour of service. *(From Janis and Randy Jang)*
- Prayers of celebration for my cousin **Ginny** who's turning 98 tomorrow. The family will celebrate at her house. *(From Eileen Ackley)*
- Prayers of thanksgiving and gratitude **for this wonderful church**. You are exceptional at caring for others, as my family found with Dave's illness and passing. Now I'm happy to share that my son and his wife are expecting a baby in January. A spark of hope indeed. *(From Nancy Halseth)*
- Happy 12th Birthday to **Hazel and Aria** this week! *(From Amy Furber-Dobson)*
- I want to **thank you all for your cards and messages** after my John Muir stay last weekend. This is a true church family. I am feeling so much better. The doctors are still uncovering potential causes and I am learning new ways to stay healthy and avoid future strokes. *(From Nancy Snyder)*
- Prayer of celebration as **Janis and Randy** enjoy their 46th wedding anniversary today! *(From Randy Jang)*
- Thanks and praise to God for a **wonderful Conference Annual Gathering** this past week. *(From Joy Davis)*
- **Rachel O'Neal** is the recipient of the 2023 Kenneth Sherill Award that honors the best doctoral dissertation proposal for an empirical study of LGTB+ topics in political science. Praise God for this critical work to make the lives of the LGBTQ+ community to be known and heard! *(From Jenn O'Neal)*
- Thank you **DCC & Rev. Todd** for the awesome rainbow!
- Thank you **clergy and congregation** for wonderful support and participation in San Ramon and Clayton Pride events. *(From Bruce & Kathie)*
- Prayers of joy and congratulations to **Carlos Barojas** and **Allison Seiler** who both graduated last week from Chapman University! *(From Barb DeBarger)*
- In honor of mental health awareness month, NAMI Contra Costa had their fourth annual Community Change event. Our prayers of appreciation for **Stephanie Taddeo** and **Doug Leich** for being honored in the social justice category, in recognition of being strong allies and openly demonstrating their commitment to NAMI's efforts to improve mental health outcomes for residents across Contra Costa County. *(From Joyce Klassen)*

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

Fall Activities

- Choir RehearsalSeptember 24
- Council MeetingSeptember 24
- Youth GroupSeptember 24
- Tenant Relations CommitteeSeptember 27
- Choir RehearsalSeptember 28
- Choir Rehearsal October 1
- Youth Group October 1
- Buildings and Grounds Meeting..... October 4
- Choir Rehearsal October 5
- Choir Rehearsal October 8
- Commission Sunday October 8
- Youth Group October 8
- Diaconate Meeting..... October 12
- Choir Rehearsal October 12
- Ingathering Sunday October 15
- Choir Rehearsal October 15
- Youth Group October 15
- Finance Committee October 17
- Prayer Shawl Ministry October 18
- Choir Rehearsal October 19
- Choir Rehearsal October 22
- Council Meeting October 22
- Youth Group October 22
- Tenant Relations Committee October 25
- Choir Rehearsal October 26
- Choir Rehearsal October 29
- Youth Group October 29
- Buildings and Grounds Meeting.....November 1
- Choir RehearsalNovember 2
- Choir RehearsalNovember 5
- Youth GroupNovember 5
- Diaconate Meeting.....November 9
- Choir RehearsalNovember 9
- Choir RehearsalNovember 12
- Commission SundayNovember 12
- Youth GroupNovember 12
- Prayer Shawl MinistryNovember 15
- Choir RehearsalNovember 16
- Ingathering SundayNovember 19
- Choir RehearsalNovember 19
- Youth GroupNovember 19
- Tenant Relations CommitteeNovember 22
- Thanksgiving.....November 23
- Choir RehearsalNovember 26
- Council MeetingNovember 26
- Youth GroupNovember 26
- Choir RehearsalNovember 30



Birthdays and Anniversaries

September

- 3..... Joshua Shupe-Shellooe
- 8..... Heidi Bridgeman
- 8..... Daniel & Vickie Lanini
- 14..... Bret Lawrence
- 14..... Savannah Ruhlin
- 18..... Jennifer Kawaguchi
- 18..... Nancy Halseth
- 20..... Craig Seiler
- 21..... Chris Rauen
- 22..... Diane Stein
- 22..... Angie Ruhlin
- 25..... Jim Furber-Dobson
- 27..... Karen Kawaguchi
- 28..... Nicole Noga

October

- 3..... Amber Courtright
- 7..... Rene Brucker
- 8..... Janis Jang
- 8..... Carol Gilliland
- 9..... Chris Evans
- 11..... Mary Kay McClure
- 25..... Benjamin Beaver
- 25..... Alice Donovan
- 25..... Tim Seiler
- 27..... Kathie Hixon
- 28..... Alex Shupe-Shellooe
- 29..... Megan Leich
- 30..... Bette Felton
- 30..... Max Faught

November

- 3..... Polly Smith
- 6..... Miguel Atkins-Whitley
- 7..... Dee Brook
- 8..... Dave Michaud
- 11..... Matthew Bassett
- 12..... Nan Karns
- 12..... Barbara Olwin
- 12..... Barb DeBarger
- 14..... Laura Beaver
- 14..... Judy Schreib
- 21..... Wilson Jackson
- 23..... Nancy Hill
- 28..... Claire Northway
- 29..... Karen Anderson
- 29..... Kristin Chambers
- 30..... Amy Furber-Dobson

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

Preaching Schedule

- September 24 Pastor Todd
- October 1 Pastor Todd
- October 8 Pastor Eric
- October 15 Pastor Todd
- October 22 Pastor Eric
- October 29 Pastor Eric
- November 5 Guest Preacher TBD
- November 12 Guest Preacher TBD
- November 19 Guest Preacher TBD
- November 26 Pastor Todd

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

Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-2:00pm

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

Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam
Communications Specialist &
Office Administrator

Maria Arroyo, Preschool Director

Church Officers

Barb DeBarger, Moderator

Kyra Kennedy, Moderator

Steve Bridgeman, Treasurer

Heidi Bridgeman, Financial Secretary

Sandra Lepley, Clerk

Commissioners

Dee Brook, Buildings and Grounds

Jen Fought, Children's Ministries

Kim Michaud, Community Life Ministry

Dianne Dorn, Outreach

Joyce Klassen & Nicole Noga,
Stewardship

Alene Riley, Worship

Carrie Hrousis, Youth Ministries

Preschool Board

Jim Conning, Penny Davis, John

Klassen, Emily & Megan Luther, Nicole

Noga, Shii Stickler,

Maria Arroyo, Preschool Director

Rev. Eric's

Pastoral Relations Committee

Carol Gilliland (chair), Bette Felton, Kim
Michaud

Rev. Todd's

Pastoral Relations Committee

Dee Brook, Jennifer O'Neal, Richard
Stein



Carnival Fun

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!