



DANVILLE

Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 24, 2025

OUR PURPOSE

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

Danville Congregational Church acknowledges that the land this house of worship sits upon is the traditional, unceded land of the Ohlone and Bay Miwok people. We offer this land acknowledgment as a sign of respect, with the knowledge that this land was sacred before we ever arrived.

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

Please take note of the emergency exits around you and locate the nearest one to you.

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 after worship in the narthex (lobby) or contact Joyce Klassen (joyce.klassen@comcast.net) our Community Life Commissioner. 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

Near to the Heart of God

arr. Jeannette M. Smith

WELCOME

Rev. Carol Barriger

Please sign the sheet in the blue pad, pass it to another, and place it in the offering plate.

To offer a special prayer, please fill out a Prayer Card, which will be collected during Prayer Time.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Doug Leich

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

One: From the first light of spring to the stillness of winter—

All: God's love remains constant.

One: When joy overflows or sorrow lingers—

All: God's faithfulness does not fail.

One: Today, we bring our whole selves to worship—

All: Trusting in the steadfast love of the Lord.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Doug

One: Peace be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

*OPENING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

See next page.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Lauren Jewett

Following the Time With Children,

children are invited to meet their teachers in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Jeremiah 9:24](#)

Doug

God delights in loving-kindness, justice, and righteousness. Rejoice when you see these things evidenced in this world and in your life because you know your Father is pleased.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13

Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
 2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
 3 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blessed,
 4 Mor-tals, join the might-y cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open-ing to the sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 Bound-less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
 Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, teach us what our praise should be.
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.



Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this

Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
 Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

Our hearts are powerful sages, which embody the wisdom, intuition, and compassion of the ages. They know, on a soul level, what is loving and nurturing, and the heart also deeply understands what connects us to the Divine. Given the chance, our hearts have the ability not only to help us become more loving, but also to find fulfillment, peace of mind, increased, creativity, and optimum health.

Intuitively, both the enlightened and the ordinary among us have known that love's transformative power can actually conquer all, and we believe that our hearts speak a different, more caring language than do our minds. But being believers does not automatically make us doers. Activating the power of our hearts takes practice and consistent intention, but we can tap into the mysterious energy of love for which our spirits thirst.

From *The Woman's Book of Soul: Meditations for Courage, Confidence, and Spirit*
by Sue Patton Thole

SERMON

God Delights in Me?!

Jenn O'Neal

ANTHEM

I Can't Do Everything
Jennifer O'Neal, ASL Interpreter

Michael Mclean

*I can't do everything. I know because I've tried.
I told myself I could, then found out I lied.
I believed with all my heart that I should do it all.
But I can't do everything, and when I try I fall.*

*I can't please everyone. I know because I've tried.
I needed their love so much, sometimes I compromised.
But the more I live and learn, the more I clearly see...
that I can't please anyone until I'm pleased with me.*

*So here I am asking with all my heart
for the feeling I have been dreaming of.
Just fill empty space that keeps us apart
And help me find myself in your love.*

*Because I can't do anything without some help from above.
And I can't please anyone until I know I'm loved,
and I believe I'm loved.*

TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing our Joys and Concerns
All: Hear our prayer
Prayers of the People

Pastor Lauren

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

Doug

Invitation to Giving

For those of you who have already made a gift by check or automated giving, we are grateful. If you would like to make a gift today, please place it in the offering plate or [give using our web site](#) or donate using your mobile device, text the word give to 855-940-3756.

Offertory

When I Consider How the Father Loves

Penny Rodriguez

*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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Carol

***CLOSING HYMN**

For Everyone Born

See pages 7–8.

*BENEDICTION

Jenn O'Neal

Please remain in your pews until the light has been taken out of the Sanctuary. Thank you!

Special thanks to our guest guitarist, Dave Schroeder, for the music before and after today's service.

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E Leader or All

1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

E A2 Bsus B

for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,

F#m7 E/G# A2 Bsus

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

E Bsus E Bsus

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver-head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

Refrain

B All E E/G# A2 Bsus B

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and

E E/G# A2 Bsus B

joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,

C#m C#m/B A2

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

Bsus B (E) Fine A2 E Bsus B

jus-tice and joy!

WORSHIP NOTES



Jenn O'Neal (she/her) has been attending DCC for almost 15 years. She raised her three children at DCC: Rachel, Michael and Mark. She delights in being a parent to these three amazing humans. She is also a Dog Mom to Fritter French Fry who is a personal and close dog pal with Joe-Joe!

Jenn holds a Master's degree in Marriage, Family, Child Counseling, a Bachelors degree in Human Development, and a certificate in Addiction Studies. She currently is a Professor of Psychology at Las Positas College and Diablo Valley College, on the adjunct list at St. Mary's College, and working in the Special Education Department at San Ramon Valley High School. This year, Jenn was selected by the San Ramon Valley District as Employee of the Year. She is beyond humbled to receive this award.

Jenn's passion is helping people become the best versions of themselves. In addition to intrapersonal work, Jenn enjoys reading, coloring, painting rocks and spreading glitter-filled joy wherever she is! (everything is better with glitter) Jenn just finished her very first UCC camp experience at Mt Tamarack. When others have asked her why she went to camp her response has been "Todd asked me to go!" It was an amazing experience, and she can't wait to go next year!

Jenn has now become a Member in Discernment here at DCC as she begins to pursue her dream to work in Ministry. She feels called to work in the intersection of ministry and support families with children who have special needs. "God Delights in ALL of us"



Dave Schroeder knew early on that playing the guitar would be the focus of his professional career. He studied music as a major in college while attending Northern Illinois University and California State University Long Beach. After moving to California, he was fortunate to study with Ron Eschete, one of the leading Jazz Guitarists in the world. He has worked in numerous group situations, including trios, small groups, and big bands, and has wide experience with solo playing and backup guitarist for all instruments within the Jazz field. While in Long Beach, he became a member of a group named JiDaDo Jazz Trio To learn more about Dave, please visit his website www.davejazzguitar.com

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:30am–10:30am	Worship (In-person and Zoom)
10:30am–11:00am	Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout room
11:15am–12:30pm	Anti-Racism Team Workshop
5:00pm–7:00pm	Youth Group Kickoff Pool Party at the Feltons'

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 the Opening Hymn. All children are invited to participate in Godly Play.

THIS WEEK AT DCC

Tuesday	9:00am	Men's Coffee and Donuts
Wednesday	10:00am	Wednesday Morning Prayer
Thursday	4:00pm–5:30pm	Anti-Racism Team Zoom Meeting

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

Today's Emmaus Team is **Team 1**. Next week's Emmaus Team is **Team 2**.

Greeters: Don Brockman and Sharon Brockman

Ushers: Barb DeBarger and Tahir Mahmood

Liturgist: Doug Leich

Flowers: Sandy Leich

Fellowship Hosts: Dee Brook, Nancy Dowell, Sandy Leich and Sereen Mahmood

Sound Tech: Brett Clark

Tech Minister: Eileen Ackley

Lock Up Duty: Brett Clark

Children's Ministers

Godly Play: Nan Karns and Jen Faught

ANNOUNCEMENTS



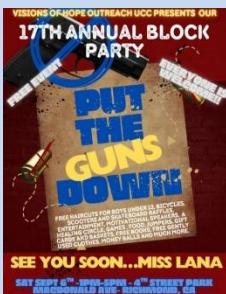
Third Workshop today at 11:15am Anti Racism Summer Workshops

Join Barb DeBarger, Bette Felton and Doug Leich during second hours today and September 21st from 11:15am–12:30pm to learn more and practice anti-racism activities. Any questions? Ask Barb, Doug or Bette. We hope to see you there!

Wednesday, August 27th from 4:00pm–5:30pm via Zoom **Anti-Racism Team Meeting**

There will be an Anti-Racism Team planning meeting on Wednesday, August 27th, 4:00pm–5:30pm, via Zoom. All are welcome to attend! We'll be discussing indigenous peoples and immigrant justice, Visions of Hope sponsorship and the Put the Guns Down event, planning DCC antiracism learning opportunities, and more.

[Anti-Racism Team Meeting Link](#) Meeting ID: 892 1616 3521 Passcode: Justice



Put the Guns Down Event Needs Support *Saturday, September 6th at 1:00pm*

DCC is co-sponsoring Visions of Hope with their annual "Put the Guns Down" event in Richmond on September 6th from 1:00pm–5:00pm. They are asking for volunteers from DCC to help run games and snack distribution, and for donations of bicycles, game prizes and snacks for participants! You can contribute actual items, or funds to purchase them. You can donate electronically via Vanco to our Visions of Hope Sponsorship fund, by check written out to DCC and write VoH sponsorship fund on the memo line. Or Sign Up to purchase items using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0548ACA72D6-57760219-putthe>

For more information, please contact Doug Leich, Barb DeBarger, Chris Sonneman or Carrie Hrousis.

Pastoral Availability

Pastor Carol keeps regular office hours Tuesdays. If you would like to meet with Pastor Carol, please reach out to her via email at pastorcaroldcc@gmail.com

Pastor Lauren is available by appointment. via email lauran@danvillechurch.org or 510-684-9183.

Wednesday Morning Prayer

Pastor Carol facilitates morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10:00am via Zoom. We will engage in centering prayer and then pray for those requests we have received. To join use this [link](#).



New Weekly Spotlight – Meet Our Deacons This Week – Meet Mary Kay McClure

We are continuing our spotlight of DCC's deacons, aka the Diaconate. This week, we spotlight the final of our new deacons, **Mary Kay McClure**.

Born and raised in Altadena, CA. I was active at 1st Congregational Church in Pasadena in the youth choir, attending camp at Pilgrim Pines and teaching Sunday School. I really enjoyed teaching. I attended UCSB obtaining the very last degree offered in Elementary Education in four years. I married and moved to Annapolis, MD in 1967. I got a job teaching 6th grade right downtown. Maryland had just integrated its schools in 1966. The process of integrating students and teaching staffs in a very large district was fascinating. I joined the Annapolis UCC which had been an Evangelical and Reformed congregation changing to UCC after the merger in 1957. I was in Boston at the time of the merger vote where my grandmother was a delegate. I was the first woman to serve communion at that church, was the "Altar Guild" lady and served on the church council. I was a founding mother of the YWCA's Womans' Center in Annapolis where we served the interests of "misplaced homemakers", victims of rape or domestic violence and advocated for the passage of the ERA. I marched in the ERA parade in D.C. I oversaw volunteers that monitored judges' sentences of convicted domestic assailants for two summers in their courtrooms. We tabulated those sentences which were meager to say the least. Things changed as a result of those findings. I was appointed to the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women; chairing its Education Committee with an emphasis on the passage of Title 9 and overseeing placement of information about its benefit in libraries and voting locations. I came home in 1982 and lived in Benicia because I loved it and it had a UCC. I moved to Walnut Creek 1996 and joined DCC at that time. I have served as Stewardship Chair, on Diaconate and am a Antiracism Team member.

Pictures of the Week



Left: Our guest preacher Rev. Casey Tinnin led Time With Children. Right: Conversations at our second Anti-Racism Workshop. If you'd like to submit a picture to be considered for the pic of the week, email anne-marie@danvillechurch.org.

Ministers—The Entire Congregation

Church Staff

The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Lauren Jewett, Minister of Youth & Community Engagement

John Kendall Bailey, Music Director

Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam, Office & Communications Manager

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

Kim Michaud, Administrative Assistant

www.dayspringpreschool.org



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