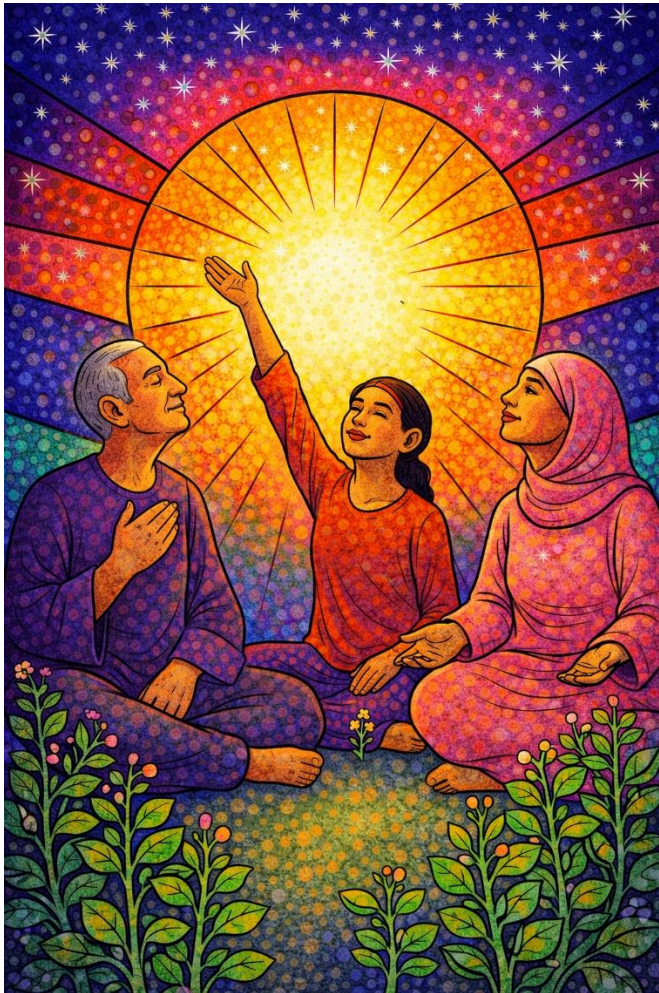




DANVILLE

Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



Third Sunday in Easter
Stewardship Sunday

April 19, 2026

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 guest? Welcome to Danville Congregational Church!

We are glad you have joined us today. We would love to share with you what is happening here. Please leave your information – name, email/phone in the Blue Pew Pad that is passed around early in the service. 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 Welcome Commissioner. We look forward to connecting with 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

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Rev. Lauren Jewett

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.

EMBODIED PRACTICE

Led by Coke Tani

TAIZÉ MOVEMENT

O Lord Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

The first system of musical notation is in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and then a series of chords. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords in the left hand.

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff melody includes a chromatic descent from B4 to A4, G4, and F4. The bass staff accompaniment remains consistent with the first system.

Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff melody ends on G4. The bass staff accompaniment provides a final harmonic support.

This chart from the Taizé Community in France is provided with two sets of words, either of which can be used as best suits the occasion. The first text is based on Psalm 102:1-2, and the second is an amalgam of phrases drawn from Psalms 118:14, 25:5, 36:9, and John 4:14.

HEAR MY PRAYER
5.5.6.D

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1982, 1991
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982
Text and Music © 1982 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Alene Riley

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

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

TAIZÉ MOVEMENT

O Lord Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alene

One: We gather to worship on this, the Lord's Day.

All: What will God accomplish among us in this time?

One: We have come together for Sabbath rest and renewal.

All: What will God accomplish among us in this place?

One: We are here to offer our praise and thanksgiving.

All: What will God accomplish among us in our hearts?

One: Confident of God's work among us at all times and in all places,

All: let us worship God.

—Beth Merrill

*OPENING HYMN

Take My Life, O Lord, Renew

See next page.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Anne Seiler

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

TAIZÉ MOVEMENT

O Lord Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Take my Life, O God, Renew



Take my life, O God, re - new, con - se - crate my heart to you,
Take my wealth, all I pos - sess, make me rich in faith - ful - ness.
Take my mo - ments and my will, all your pur - pose to ful - fill.
Take my love; my God, I pour at your feet its trea - sure store;



take my mo - ments and my days; let me sing your cease - less praise.
Take my mind that I may use ev' - ry pow'r as you should choose.
Take my heart - it is your own; it shall be your ro - yal throne.
take my - self, and I will be yours for all e - ter - ni - ty.



Surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord.¹

For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether they have enough to complete it? Otherwise, when they have laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule them, saying, "This person began to build and was not able to finish."²

Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God— what is good and acceptable and perfect. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.³

Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.⁴
Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.⁵

¹Jeremiah 29:11–14; ²Luke 14:28–30;

³Romans 12:2, 9–13; ⁴Proverbs 16:3; ⁵Isaiah 40:31

TAIZÉ MOVEMENT

O Lord Hear My Prayer

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.*

Holy Presence: We remain. Through trial, through labor, through the terrors and beauties of this world, we're still here. Hearts drumming, lungs expanding. Help us remember that to simply go on is a triumph. Drive off the beast of anxiety that lurks in the corridors of our soul.

Let us examine each day in truth, not as a ritual of self-hatred, but as a commitment to our inner life and how our selfhood has engaged the exterior world.

Remind us that what we have given today is enough, that we might move toward rest without apology or guilt.

Remind us of the mysterious regeneration of our bodies, that we might marvel at our own renewal in the sacred dark.

Make us dreamers, our imaginations liberated into a space without constraint. Let our spiritual imaginations be a portal to worlds known and unknown to us.

Amen.

— Cole Arthur Riley in *Black Liturgies*, adapted

TAIZÉ MOVEMENT

O Lord Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

HOMILY

Working Toward the Future with Zeal Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren

Introduction

Anthem

Mi Shebeirach

Debbie Friedman

Mi shebeirach avoteinu

M'kor hab'racha l'imoteinu

May the source of strength

Who blessed the ones before us

Help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing

And let us say Amen.

Mi shebeirach imoteinu

M'kor hab'racha l'avoteinu

Bless those in need of healing with r'fuah sh'leimah

The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit

And let us say Amen.

Prayers of the People

All: Hear our prayer.

Time of Reflection

TAIZÉ MOVEMENT

O Lord Hear My Prayer

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.*

The Lord's Prayer

**Loving Creator we honor you, and we honor all that you have made.
Renew the whole world in the image of your love.
Give us what we need for today,
and a hunger to see the whole world fed.
Strengthen us for what lies ahead; heal us from the hurts of the past;
give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
For your love is the only power, the only home,
the only honor we need,
in this world and in the world to come. Amen.**

—Adapted by Sarah Dylan Breuer

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Barb DeBarger

TIME OF GENEROSITY AND PRAYER

Alene

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, using the QR Code on the back cover.

TAIZÉ MOVEMENT

O Lord Hear My Prayer

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.*

*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

WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Lauren

CLOSING HYMN

God, Re-new Us by Your Spir-it!

See next page.

CLOSING BREATH PRACTICE

Pastor Lauren

Holy One, fill me with your breath.

I receive your love and release my insecurity.

I receive your joy and release my unhappiness.

I receive your peace and release my anxiety.

I receive your patience and release my impulsiveness.

I receive your kindness and release my indifference.

I receive your goodness and release my ungodliness.

I receive your faithfulness and release my disloyalty.

I receive you gentleness and release my severity.

I receive your self-control and release my self-control.

–Sheridan Voysey

BENEDICTION

Pastor Lauren

POSTLUDE

Renew

Brad Jacobsen

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

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God, Renew Us By Your Spirit



1 God, re - new us by your Spir - it.
2 God, re - vi - tal - ize our mis - sion!
3 God, re - vive each con - gre - ga - tion!
4 God, re - fresh your whole cre - a - tion!



Come in glad - ness, hearts con - sole. Grant us joy so
Bless your church from pole to pole. May we o - ver -
Be our cen - ter and our goal. Help us join in
Time - less is sal - va - tion's role. Grant us bound-less



we may share it. Oh, re-store us; make us whole.
come di - vi - sion. Oh, re-store us; make us whole.
ad - o - ra - tion. Oh, re-store us; make us whole.
cel - e - bra - tion. God, re-store us; make us whole.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

8:30am–9:15am	Choir Rehearsal
9:30am–10:45am	Worship (In-person and Zoom)
10:45am–11:15am	Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout room
After worship	Stewardship Kickoff Luncheon
1:00pm–3:00pm	Celebration Bells Rehearsal

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.

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
Tuesday	4:00pm–6:00pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday	10:00am	Wednesday Morning Prayer
Wednesday	4:00pm–5:30pm	Anti-Racism Team Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday	1:30pm	Journeys in Faith Commission Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday	7:00pm–8:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	6:00pm–8:00pm	Council Meeting
Saturday	10:00am–noon	Stewardship Coffee and Cake

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

Today's Emmaus Team is **Team 6.**

Greeters: Laura Beaver, Kristin Chambers, Dianne Dorn

Ushers: Eileen Ackley Nancy Halseth, and Jon McKinsey

Liturgists: Steve Bridgeman, Tahir Mahmood, Kim Michaud, and Alene Riley

Flowers: Mary Kay McClure

Sound Tech: Reuben Shank

Tech Minister: Doug Leich

Lock Up Duty: Tom Sonnemann

Godly Play: Nan Karns

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Come Join Godly Play this Sunday!

Each Sunday during this Easter season we will hear a story about how people came to know Jesus in a new way after his death. This week we walk the road to Emmaus with the disciples — and wonder together about what it meant when they sat down and broke bread together. All children are welcome!

FOCUS
on



our
future
stewardship 2026

Today after worship in Kairos Hall Stewardship Kickoff and Luncheon

Our Annual Stewardship Luncheon and Congregational Meeting are happening this Sunday, after worship in Kairos Hall. We will enjoy a delicious catered lunch, followed by an update from our Long-Range Planning Task Force, proposed Budget for the 2026-27 church year, and Stewardship envelopes.

This

Sunday's Stewardship Moment

During our Stewardship Campaign, we will hear from DCC members about why they contribute to the work of DCC with their time, talent, and treasure. This week, **Barb DeBarger** will be sharing the Stewardship Moment.

As we **Focus on our Future**, we are continuing to be rooted in love, committed to justice and trusting in the abundance of God's love to guide our path forward. Your generosity of time, talent, and treasure makes a difference, and we are grateful for your ongoing support as we journey together in faith.!



Wednesday, April 22nd from 4:00pm–5:30pm via Zoom **Anti-Racism Team Meeting**

There will be an Anti-Racism Team planning meeting on Wednesday, April 22nd, 4:00pm–5:30pm, via Zoom. All are welcome to attend! We'll be discussing the current Ethnic Storytelling workshops, indigenous peoples and immigrant justice, Visions of Hope, antiracism field trips (past and future) and more.

[Anti-Racism Team Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 892 1616 3521

Passcode: Justice





Sunday, April 26th and May 3rd after worship **Congregation Safety Training**

As we have announced previously, DCC considers safety training and preparedness to be an important part of our commitment to love each other. Much has been going on behind the scenes to ensure that our congregation and church campus, including Dayspring Preschool, are trained and prepared to respond to an emergency. In-person training of key individuals (employees, church members frequently at worship/onsite) has taken place. **The next important step is to provide training for the congregation in the event of an emergency.**

Immediately following worship on the following two Sundays, we will run through brief preparedness drills to ensure that all are aware of the available exits and important steps to follow in the event of an emergency.

- **April 26**
- **May 3**

Please make every effort to attend worship in person if possible, and stay for the brief training afterward.

With everyone's help, we will be more prepared to respond in the unlikely event of an emergency. If you have any questions, please contact Alene Riley.

ETHNIC STORYTELLING

Everyone has a story...

A DCC Anti-Racism Spring Workshop

Concludes April 26th

All-Church Spring Workshop Series –Ethnic Storytelling

Join us after worship as we continue our *Ethnic Storytelling* workshop series with **the Rev. Riana Shaw Robinson**. Workshops will be held during Second Hour

(lunch will be provided): For more information, reach out to [Barb DeBarger](#) or [Pastor Todd](#).

Friday, May 1st from 5:30pm–8:00pm

TGIF at the McGrath's home



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 and Pat McGrath – Danville. Full address is in the church directory. Contact Kyra with any questions.
- Open house from 5:30pm to 8:00pm – 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.



Friday, May 1st and Wednesday, May 6th Winter Nights

As part of a program called **Winter Nights** several churches and other faith communities in Contra Costa County open their facilities for lodging and meals during the winter and spring months for families that would otherwise be homeless. San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church in Alamo is one of those churches. **Friday, May 1st and Wednesday, May 6th** have been set aside for **DCC** members and friends, working with members of SRVUMC to provide and serve dinner to these families.

Meals will be needed for about **17** adults (which includes church members and WN staff) and **15** children. If you would like to be part of this critical outreach program, by providing all or a portion of the needed meals (main dish, kids meal, salad – green salads are preferred, dessert) for one of these two days, we can arrange to pick up your meal item(s) at your home, or you can deliver them directly to the church in Alamo. We will also need a few folks to join the clients and serve these meals. If you would like to sign up, or have any questions, please contact Richard Stein at (925) 200-0051 richardddiane@sbcglobal.net. You can also sign up on Sundays during Fellowship Time.

Visions of Hope Support Needed for May 2nd event

Our partners at Visions of Hope are holding another event to support the Richmond community! Their second annual "Fists Up, Bullying Down" event is designed to give the children in the community a day of fun, learning and love. It will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, from 1:00pm–4:00pm at the Booker T. Anderson community center in Richmond. DCC has been asked to help with a few things for this event:

- New or gently used children's books for all ages, 0-12
- Food for snack bags--granola bars, crackers, fruit snacks, pretzels, etc.
- \$\$ for prizes
- Support at the event to hand out bags, snacks and prizes



If you are able/interested in supporting this event, please contact Barb DeBarger, Carrie Hrousis or Doug Leich, and/or sign up on the signup sheet during coffee hour. If you wish to donate, please do so on the church's donation website--click on "Visions of Hope."

Wednesday Morning Prayer

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



Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center

presents an URGENT half-day conference

Middle East in Crisis

US & Israeli Wars on Iran, Palestine, Lebanon,
International Law & United Nations

Saturday, April 25th
1 pm—5 pm

Orinda Community
Church
10 Irwin Way, Orinda*

Free Admission but
Registration requested
<https://bit.ly/4tFoLmm>

or use QR below



~ TOPICS & SPEAKERS ~

WAR ON IRAN - Bahman Azad, Iranian American professor & president US Peace Council

COST & CONSEQUENCES - Jack Rasmus, author & economics professor

LAW, POWER, AND THE EMPIRE OF IMPUNITY- George Bisharat, law professor, author, and musician

WAR ON INTERNATIONAL LAW- Marjorie Cohn, Dean of the People's Academy of International Law

CHINA'S ROLE IN US WARS - Julie Tang, former Superior Court Judge

HORMUZ AT THE HINGE OF HUMAN HISTORY- Helena Cobban, author and president Just World Educational

RESISTING ILLEGAL ORDERS AND WARS - Gerry Condon, former national president of Veterans for Peace.

*Venue is a 17 minute walk from the ORINDA BART station. FREE ON-SITE PARKING.

Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) - <http://ourpeacecenter.org>

CONTACT: info@ourpeacecenter.org / (925) 933-7850 / 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, California

The American Association of University Women
Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch Presents

The 2026 AAUW DAW Garden Tour



*“Gardens that
Inspire”*

**Friday May 8 and
Saturday May 9
10 am - 4 pm**

- Tour five wonderful private gardens in Danville and Alamo.
- Proceeds support the DAW branch’s initiatives for scholarships, STEM campers, and speaker programs.
- Tickets are \$45 through April 23, \$50 April 24 or later.
- For more information and tickets, visit -
<https://daw-ca.aauw.net/2026-garden-tour/>

AAUW
Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA) Branch



Scan to purchase
tickets

Saturday, May 16th from 5:30pm–9:00pm
The Flourish Collective Cultivate Hope Event



The Flourish Collective invites you to **Cultivate Hope — An Evening of Jazz, Joy & Community Impact** on Saturday, May 16, 5:30pm–9:00pm at Oakstep in Uptown Oakland. Inspired by the 1920s Harlem Renaissance, this elegant evening brings together community for live jazz, gourmet dining, a silent and live auction, and meaningful giving in support of racial justice education and Impact Grants for organizations led by people of color.

This year we are honored to welcome **Jasmin Shupper, Executive Director of Greenline Housing Foundation**, who will share her vision for housing equity and Greenline's powerful work investing in Altadena homeowners who lost their homes in the Eaton Fire — restoring justice one home at a time. Over six years, The Flourish Collective has invested \$332,395 across 23 partner organizations doing transformative work in community development, education, and health outcomes in the Bay Area and beyond.

Tickets are \$140 and include dinner, entertainment, valet parking, and a complimentary welcome drink. Space is limited — reserve your seat today and you're welcome to come dressed in your 1920s Harlem-inspired best.

 [theflourishcollective.org/events](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

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

Stacey Perez, Administrative Assistant

www.dayspringpreschool.org



Scan QR code above to Give



Scan QR code above to Connect with Us



Danville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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Phone: (925) 837-6944

www.danvillechurch.org

