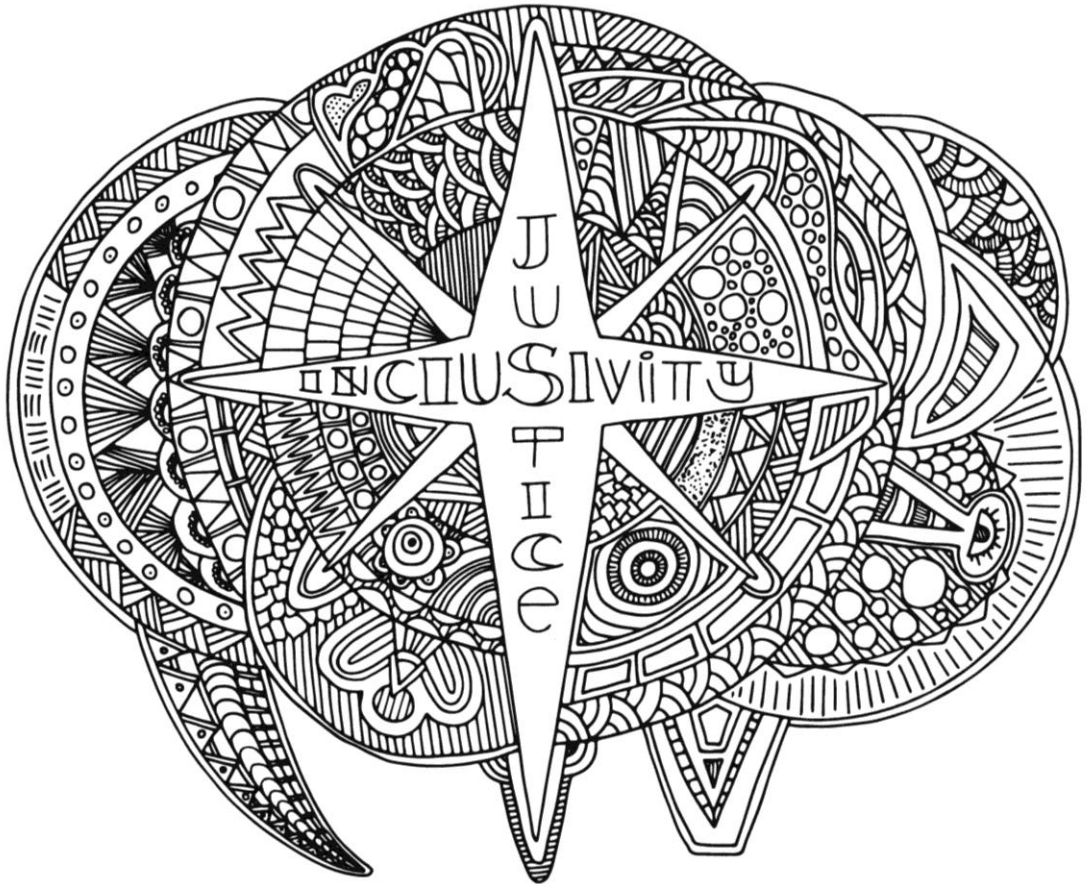




DANVILLE

Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



Day of Pentecost
Third OWL Sunday

May 24, 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

PRELUDE

Come Down, O Love Divine

Don McAfee

WELCOME

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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Joy Davis

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

One: Look! Here comes by beloved—
leaping across the mountains, bounding over the hills.

All: We race towards one another in joy; for the Holy delights in our pleasure!

One: Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing springs forth,
birdsong blesses the land.

All: We relish in the vibrancy of the world; for the Holy delights in our pleasure!

One: My beloved spoke and said to me,
“Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me.”

All: The Divine greets us as a lover—

One: enamored, giddily, playfully;

All: for the Holy delights in our pleasure!

—enfleshed, adapted from Song of Songs 2

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Joy

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

*OPENING HYMN

Come In, Come In and Sit Down

See pages 4–5.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Amy Johnson

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

Come In, Come In and Sit Down

(Part of the Family)

Refrain (Unison)

G Am D

Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the

G C G Am D

fam - ily. We are lost and we are found, and we are a

D G C G Fine D G

part of the fam - ily.

1 — You know the rea - son
2 — God is with us
3 There's life to be shared in the
4 There's rest for the wea - ry and

Am D7

why you came, — yet no rea - son
in this place, — like a moth - er's
bread and the wine; — we are the branch - es,
health for us all, there's a yoke that is eas - y, and a

PART OF THE FAMILY
Irregular with refrain

Words: James K. Manley 1984, alt.
Music: James K. Manley 1984, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987
Words and music copyright © 1984 James K. Manley. Arrangement © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People.

D7 G

can ex - plain, so share in the laugh - ter and
 warm em - brace. — We're all for - giv - en
 Christ is the vine. — This is God's tem - ple, it's
 bur - den that's small. So come in and wor - ship and

Am D7 G C G

cry in the pain, for we are a part of the fam - ily.
 by God's grace, for we are a part of the fam - ily.
 not yours or mine, but we are a part of the fam - ily.
 an - swer the call, for we are a part of the fam - ily.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1: 26; 31

Dianne Dorn

The Inclusive Bible translation

Then God said, “let us make humankind in our image, to be like us.”
 God looked at all of this creation and proclaimed that this was good—
 very good.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 13:34-35

Dianne

First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament

“I am giving you a new road to journey on,” he said. “In the same way I have
 loved you, you are to love each other. This kind of love will be the sign for all
 people that you are journeying along the road with me.”

In less than ten seconds
 I fell in love with the eagle
 before it founded the corner
 and disappeared.
 Sometimes,
 easier to love
 that which moves quickly
 through our lives.
 Harder to love
 what stays long enough
 to disappoint, to hurt, to betray—
 harder to feel disenchanting
 and love anyway.
 I've seen an eagle
 carry prey that weighs
 more than it does.
 Makes me want to believe
 I, too, can carry more—
 like a love bigger than I am.
 Like forgiveness beyond
 what my thoughts can think.
 Like willingness to keep loving
 long after I'd rather rest my wings.

~*Bald Eagle* by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

OWL TESTIMONIAL

Lily Sonnemann

SERMON

Journeying Along the Road

Rev. Amy

ANTHEM

Hidden Hallelujah

Christopher Grundy

*There's a hallelujah hidden in a hotel room
 Where a teenage girl is prisoner tonight
 She will float above her body when the customers come
 But there's still a flame inside her burning bright
 There's a hallelujah hidden in a downtown cell
 Where a brown-skinned boy is waiting for his mom
 In that school-to-prison pipeline they will let you drown
 But he's praying for a way to carry on
 They're both reaching for the music
 The faintest whisper of that kin-dom come*

Chorus:

*They're all reaching for that hidden hallelujah
Straining hard to hear those bells of justice ring
And though it's bad as it can get
They're not giving up just yet
'Cause it ain't over 'til the angels sing*

*There's a hallelujah hidden in a crisis home
Where a shy transgender teen puts on their shoes
All the frightened stares will cut today, and the insults burn
But they'll rise again tomorrow, just like you*

*We're all reaching for the music
The faintest whisper of that word of grace (Chorus)*

TIME OF PRAYER

Rev. Amy and Pastor Lauren

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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

Alene Riley

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, using the QR Code on the back cover.

Offertory

Peace For All Bodies (Improvisation)

J.K. Bailey

*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

Where You Go (I Will Go)

See next page.

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Amy

POSTLUDE

All Bodies Into One Body (improvisation)

J.K. Bailey

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

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TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER



Rev. Amy Johnson serves as Minister for Sexuality Education and Justice in the national ministries of the United Church of Christ, where she oversees the Our Whole Lives and Sexuality and Our Faith ministries, both in the U.S. and internationally. Our Whole Lives, partnership between the United Church of Christ and the Unitarian Universalist Association, is a comprehensive and inclusive lifespan sexuality education curriculum, focused on bodily autonomy, gender justice, and healthy relationships, recognizing knowledge as helpful, not harmful. Amy is the co-author of the second edition of *Our Whole Lives for Grades 4-6* (i.e. ages 9-12) and is a trainer for all seven levels of Our Whole Lives/Sexuality and Our Faith. She has led trainings across the U.S., as well as in the Philippines, Sweden, Tanzania, and Rwanda. In addition, she has recently begun working with the Multi-Faith Advisory Council to the United Nations International Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development to develop material that brings faith voices to support sexual and reproductive health and rights globally. Amy is passionate about helping faith communities provide high quality, comprehensive and inclusive sexuality education as part of being and becoming healthier places to belong, and as part of creating communities of care and justice.

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
11:15am–12:15pm	Embodied Wisdom Second Hour in Kairos

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	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal

Where You Go (I Will Go)

Shoshana Jedwab

A

Straight 8ths $B\flat$ $E\flat$ $1+3$ $B\flat$ Gm

Where you go I will go Be lo ved where you go I will go
Where you lie I will lie Be lo ved where you lie I will lie

2+4 Cm F $B\flat$

where you go I will go and
where you lie I will lie

B

$B\flat$ $E\flat$ $B\flat$ $E\flat$

your peo ple are my peo ple your peo ple are mine

11 $B\flat$ $E\flat$ Cm F

your peo ple are my peo ple your di vine my di

14 1. $B\flat$ 2. $B\flat$

vine and vine

Where you go I will go, **Children/Ancestors**

Where you lie I will lie, **Children/Ancestors**

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

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

Greeters: Joy Davis and Dianne Dorn

Ushers: Kristin Chambers and Nancy Halseth

Liturgists: Dianne Dorn, Nicole Noga and Alene Riley

Flowers: Mary Kay McClure

Fellowship Hosts: Eileen Ackley, Kyra Kennedy, Nicole Noga, and Alene Riley

Sound Tech: Brett Clark

Tech Minister: Carol Bassett

Lock Up Duty: Brett Clark

Godly Play: Barb DeBarger

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Church office will be closed on Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

Meal Train Support for the Steins

DCC would like to show caring support for the Steins with meals for Richard while he cares for Diane. If you are able to help, click [here](#). Please contact [Carol Bassett](#) if you have any questions.



Come Join Godly Play Today!

Each Sunday during this Easter season we will hear a story about how people came to know Jesus in a new way after he died. Today we remember when the Holy Spirit rushed in like a mighty wind and the disciples felt like their tongues were on fire. There will be lots to wonder about! All children are welcome.

Today after worship

Embodied Wisdom 2nd Hour with Rev. Amy Johnson and Pastor Lauren

Join us for an interactive time of considering an arc of how we have learned and continue to learn about bodies, relationships, and sexuality—and how Our Whole Lives continues to evolve as a tool to support our growth.

Sunday, June 7th at 11:45am

New Member Interest Lunch



Curious about joining the DCC family? If so, a time of fellowship for potential new members is planned for Sunday, June 7th at 11:45am. We'll gather at the home of John & Joyce Klassen in San Ramon for lunch and the opportunity to get to know DCC and each other a little better. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Joyce Klassen, Welcome Commissioner at joyce.klassen@comcast.net.



Sunday, June 7th at noon

Monthly Lunch-Bunch –Please join us!

Come join the after-church-lunch-bunch on Sunday, June 7th. We'll be gathering at noon at Melo's in Danville, just south of Lucky's on the Boulevard. Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal with check, cash, PayPal, or Venmo. Thanks!

Please RSVP to Wilson Jackson at 925-819-0222, or email him at wrlachev@netzero.com to let him know you'll be attending.

Proposed Change to By-laws

*This notice serves as the required two-week notification of a congregational meeting. The 2026 DCC Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 14, at 11:15am** (immediately following the service) in **Kairos Hall**. During this meeting, the **slate of 2026–27 officers and commissioners** will be presented for a congregational vote.*

A proposed change to the church by-laws will be presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting on June 14th. The new language being added appears in the highlighted section of the document; all other wording remains unchanged.

This update comes as a joint recommendation from the Moderator Team and the Church Council. To support transparency and discussion, Pastor Todd hosted a Second Hour conversation on May 17th for the congregation to review and ask questions about the proposed change.

Article V - Membership

1. Qualifications:

We welcome into membership any who wish to take part in the church's worship, seek its increase and live a Christian life, sharing its work in faith, hope and love.

2. Transfer and Reception:

Members may be received by letter of transfer from another church, **or by reaffirmation of faith, or by making a commitment to join the church as a part of one's spiritual journey and take part in the life and mission of the church, sharing its work in faith, hope, and love.**



Exciting Pride Events in June!

The LGBTQIA Action Team at DCC are excited to share that we have TWO community Pride events that we will directly be involved with this year in addition to our own Pride Weekend offerings! Built on the great success of the last two years of hosting the Pride event on our campus, we are thrilled to be taking this to a much wider community. The Town of Danville is sponsoring us by providing the Community Center and lawn area for the event! We feel this will give much greater visibility to the event and make it more approachable to people who may not feel comfortable coming on a church campus.

We have been working in partnership with PFLAG, Discovery Counseling, The San Ramon Diversity Coalition, and both the Town of Danville and the City of San Ramon to put together these activities and want everyone at DCC to get involved. Here's what's planned:

June 1st, 5:00pm–6:00pm--*Pride Flag-Raising in San Ramon*--speeches, tabling and an opportunity for picnicking on the lawn

June 6th, 10:00am–4:00pm--*Valley Pride 2026!* This is our big, day-long event with the Town of Danville--this year being held in the Town Community Center on Front Street (next to the library). 25+ organizations tabling, flag-raising, speeches, kids' activities, music, picnicking on the lawn, keynote speeches and educational workshops. Check out our new website at www.srvalleypride.org for more details and information!

While everyone is invited to participate and attend our event, our Valley Pride Celebration this year relies on volunteers from DCC and other organizations to help with the set up, operation and clean up of our event. If you can spare an hour or two (or more!) to help, please use this Sign Up Genius Link to see what the opportunities are and sign up! Click on this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0548ACA72D6-64163372-valley>

June 1st–30th--*DIVINE IDENTITY Exhibit in the sanctuary* (More information to come.)

June 20th, 5:00pm–8:00pm--*DIVINE IDENTITY Artist Talk and Reception* (More information to come.)

June 21st -- *Pride Sunday at DCC* featuring the Rev. Derek Terry, Executive Director of the UCC's ONA Coalition as our guest preacher along with other special guests.

Valley PRIDE

Pride Flag Raising and Community Event

Events Schedule:

Community Resource Fair 10:00am-1:00pm

Family-Friendly Activities & Picnic 11:00am-12:00pm

Flag Raising & Speeches 12:00-1:00pm

Keynote Speaker & Kids Activities 1:00-2:00pm

Presenters & Workshops 2:00-4:00pm



For more details,
scan me!

When:

June 6th, 2026, 10am-4pm

Where:

Danville Community Center
(Front St.)

SAN RAMON PRIDE FLAG-RAISING

Bring a Picnic
Blanket and
Food!



When:

June 1, 2026, 5 - 6pm

Where:

Central Park Meadow
(Bollinger Canyon Rd.
and Alcosta Blvd.)



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](#).

Pastoral Availability

Pastor Todd keeps regular office hours remotely on Monday and in the office Tuesday through Thursday. If you would like to meet with Pastor Todd, please reach out to him directly via phone or [email](#).

Pastor Lauren is available by appointment. You can reach her via [email](#) or phone.

Vote! Our Faithful Voice is Needed on June 2nd

Be sure to vote in the June 2nd, 2026 statewide Primary Election, as a matter of faith. General resources are available from the League of Women Voters at <https://www.vote411.org/>, and also at <https://calmatters.org/california-voter-guide-2026/>. Contra Costa Measure B proposes a 0.625% (five-eighths of a cent) temporary sales tax for a period of five years. The revenue generated is intended to sustain essential county services that face increased demand and decreased federal support. See Multi-Faith ACTION Coalition's **Measure B Resource Page**: [Information about Measure B](#).



Friday, June 12th SF Giants Pride Night

On Friday, June 12th, join your DCC friends for a trip to see the Giants on Pride Night and celebrate love, inclusion, and the belief that baseball is for everyone. Stick around after the final out for a spectacular fireworks show set to music by queer artists. Partial proceeds from each Special Event ticket will benefit local LGBTQ+ organizations. A few of us have already purchased tickets for section 324 (row 4). To purchase tickets in this section (\$59 each), go to <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Pridenight566> and select *View Reserve OUTFIELD, Section 324*. Please email the office to let us know you're joining the party!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ADULT DAY CARE

Valley Oak Respite Center, located at 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in Danville has provided adult day care for local memory-impaired adults for more than 30 years. Caring for loved ones with dementia is a 24/7 responsibility. Respite care allows caregivers freedom for four hours a day that they would not otherwise enjoy. The program helps adults with dementia to be more



Danville Dementia Day Care team.

social and outgoing. Activities include games, crafts, painting, drawing, exercise, sing-along music, daily facts and memory joggers. Volunteers assist staff in providing conversation, companionship, and assistance in activities. To volunteer, you must be at least 18 years old. Occasionally, children of volunteers come in with them to experience helping seniors. Volunteers should have a genuine love for older adults.

For more information, or to become a volunteer, please visit valleyoakrespite.org or call 925-915-0095.

Pictures of the Week



DCC was strongly represented at the Planned Parenthood Gala; Sophia and Dan Morris took on candlelighting duties during worship; the Long-Range Planning Task Force held a *Future in Focus* second hour where they presented their research findings to the congregation.

If you'd like to submit a picture to be considered for the pic of the week, send it to Anne-Marie at 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

Stacey Perez, Administrative Assistant

www.dayspringpreschool.org



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Danville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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