



DANVILLE

Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Third Sunday after Pentecost
Second Sunday of PRIDE Month
New Member Sunday

June 14, 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

We Stand Together (improvisation)

J.K. Bailey

WELCOME

Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

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

Bette Felton

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

One: Surrounded by hatred, we dare to proclaim that
love is the holy path of renewal and healing.

**All: Surrounded by cruelty, we dare to proclaim that
love is the ground of kindness and compassion.**

One: Surrounded by exhaustion, we dare to proclaim that
love is the revitalizing force that invites us to try once more.

**All: Surrounded by despair, we dare to proclaim that
love is the prophetic call to pursue justice
even in the face of unbearable odds.**

One: Surrounded by violence, we dare to proclaim that
love is the beating heart of peace.

**All: Surrounded by greed and selfishness, we dare to proclaim that
love is the fuel that lights the fire of generosity and hospitality.**

One: Surrounded by white supremacist Christian nationalism, we dare to proclaim
that love is the way of inclusion that welcomes all people, lifts up the devalued,
and offers a feast for everybody.

**All: Surrounded by the sound of insults, taunts, and threats,
we dare to proclaim that love is.**

Surrounded by doubt and fear, we dare to proclaim that LOVE IS.

—Dr. Amanda Udis-Kessler, Vista Grande Community Church UCC, Colorado

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Bette

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

*OPENING SONG

For All The Children

See next page.

For All the Children



1. God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2. Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3. Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4. God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the pro-mise of Your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide, can live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will
that they nev - er have a rea - son to doubt that they are
May the mess - age now be ban - ished that Your love is for the
As they grow in strength and sta - ture, may they join us hand in



be, when your chil - dren will be free.
blest. May they, in Your love, find rest.
few, may their faith in You re - new.
hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.



O, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e-nough for ev-'ry-one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Following the Reception of New Members, children are invited to meet their teachers in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Pastor Todd, Joyce Klassen

*Elana Bolds (with Carrie Hrousis); Jon McKinsey (with Joy Davis);
Ina Nierotka (with Sandra Lepley); Sally Train (with Bette Felton)*

COVENANTAL PROMISES

One: Today we make a covenant with each other.
Before God, we make promises to one another,
so we know we can depend on one another. And so now we ask you:

PROMISES FROM THE NEW MEMBERS

One: Do you affirm your place in the faith and family of Jesus Christ?
If so, please say I do.

Candidates: I do.

One: Do you promise to be Christ's disciple, to do your best to follow
in the way of Jesus; to resist oppression and evil;
to walk in the ways of love, mercy and wonder;
and to be a witness to the healing ministry and the loving message of
Jesus Christ as best you are able?
If so, please say I promise, with the help of God.

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

One: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in your faith,
furthering the justice work of Jesus in all the world?
If so, please say I promise, with the help of God.

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

One: Do you promise to participate in the life and work of this
particular family of God's people: to show up, to step up,
to give as you are able, and to grow?
If so, please say I promise, with the help of God.

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

PROMISES FROM THE CHURCH

One: Now, to the members of **the DCC Community**:
Do you promise to help these new members find their place
in the body of Christ, to pray with and for them,
to welcome them fully in holy friendship,
to be angels for them in times of distress and
servants to them in times of need? If so, please answer,
We promise, with the help of God.

Congregation: ***We promise, with the help of God.***

One: Every person who enters our fellowship makes their own
particular mark on it and strengthens it.
Do you promise, even as you share our time-honored traditions,
to listen closely for the voice of the Still-Speaking God and
to welcome the gifts of those joining this community?
If so, please answer,
We promise, with the help of God.

Congregation: ***We promise, with the help of God.***

WELCOME

Then let us, the members and friends of Danville Congregational Church,
express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ
by recommitting to our church covenant and offering a blessing:

**All: We hold it to be the mission of the church to proclaim the gospel
to all humankind; to exalt the worship of the one God;
labor to advance knowledge, promote justice,
further the reign of peace; and realize our common humanity,
depending, like the faithful before us,
on the continuing guidance of our Creator to lead us all into truth.**

**We work and pray for the transformation of the world into
the kingdom of God.**

**We promise to sustain and cherish our spiritual home,
to take part in its worship, seek its increase,
and share its work in faith, hope, and love.**

**We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church.
We promise you our friendship and our prayers as we share your hopes
for spiritual renewal. And we enfold you with our love and care.
Let us mutually encourage each other to love God, love each other,
and be God's love to the world.**

BLESSING

One: We now offer you this blessing: Loving God, give to these, your beloved people, strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the comfort of faith, love that cannot die, joy in the company of friends, and the hope of new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

Friends, please join me in welcoming these new members of Danville Congregational Church United Church of Christ.

HEBREW LESSON

[Proverbs 31:8–9](#)

Bette

Speak out for those who cannot speak,
for the rights of all the destitute.
Speak out; judge righteously;
defend the rights of the poor and needy.

GOSPEL LESSON

[1 John 4:7–8, 11](#)

Bette

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

MODERN LESSON

A poem by Rev. Eli Anthony

Jenn O'Neal

Radically pro transgender
I want to hear trans people laugh
and
Celebrate. I want to call someone
By their new name and see their
face
Fill with delight. I want to bring
A trans person to the thrift store
And help them find the clothes
That they only ever dared to
Wear behind closed doors.
I want to call someone by the
Pronouns that their soul
Has been longing to hear.
I want trans people in my churches,
In my classrooms, in my grocery
stores.
I want trans people in nature.
I want trans people in my life.
I want to shout in the streets
How much I love trans people
how much each trans person

I've known has taught me
something
About love and beauty and
becoming
How each trans person taught me
Something I didn't even know
That I didn't know.
How each trans person gave me
language
To step into a new shape of myself
I love trans people
I love how I can look into the eyes
Of someone who is trans
And understand there is a different
kind of knowing
A different kind of belonging
A way of being seen and loved
That is beyond words.
I love trans people
I love trans people
I love trans people
And I will never be quiet about it.

*CALL TO ACTION LITANY

Miguel Atkins-Whitley, Emily Luther, Megan Luther, Robin Taylor, Barb DeBarger,
Larry Berlin, John Klassen, Jon McKinsey, and Joyce Klassen

Excerpted from the LInC [2026 Multi-Faith Call to Action](#)

Miguel: **We call upon people of faith everywhere** to rise in courageous, boundary-crossing solidarity. Faith must never be a weapon used to wound. Let our traditions be sources of healing, not harm; of courage, not fear; of liberation, not control.

Emily

& Megan: **We call upon communities of faith, conscience, and solidarity** to courageous, sustained action. To:

- Create visibly safe, brave, and affirming spaces.
- Deepen relationships across communities.
- Build solidarity with those facing heightened harm.
- Become sanctuaries of compassion, activism, and truth-telling—not passive spaces of welcome, but bold places of accompaniment.
- Engage in public witness that reflects shared values.
- Educate about threats to LGBTIQ+ safety and democratic participation.
- Name the violence and uplift stories of resilience.
- Advocate for protective policies.
- Partner with organizers and LGBTIQ+ and other community organizations.

Robin: **We call upon faith leaders** to amplify transgender and gender-expansive voices, theologians, and truth-tellers. Let pulpits, classrooms, and sacred spaces ring with the wisdom of those most impacted. Let faith be a force that protects, uplifts, and liberates.

Barb: **We call upon all people of conscience** to hold leaders accountable. LGBTIQ+ rights are being contested in legislatures and courts, and public rhetoric has emboldened harassment and violence. Democracy cannot survive selective freedom. We must demand policies that protect LGBTIQ+ lives, expand access to health care, and safeguard civic participation.

Larry: **We call upon political and community leaders** to protect LGBTIQ+ rights, reject dehumanizing rhetoric, ensure safety in public spaces, expand access to health care, and uphold democratic participation.

John: **We call upon the public—people of any or no faith—**
to show up with solidarity, challenge misinformation,
participate in public events, support LGBTIQ+ organizations,
and advocate for inclusive democracy.

Jon: **We call upon all people to embrace joy as resistance.**
In a world that weaponizes despair, joy becomes a revolutionary act.
Pride is not frivolous; it is a declaration of life. Let us dance, celebrate,
and live loudly — not as escape, but as testimony to our resilience
and our refusal to be diminished.

Joyce: **And we call for rest, nourishment, and healing.**
Movements cannot survive on urgency alone. Our bodies, our spirits,
and our communities deserve care. Rest is resistance. Healing is holy.

**All: This is our charge.
This is our sacred work.
This is the future we are called to build, together.
Beloved, let us love one another.**

ANTHEM

The Village

Wrabel

Wrabel & Trans Chorus of Los Angeles

*No, your mom don't get it and your dad don't get it, Uncle John don't get it,
And you can't tell grandma 'cause her heart can't take it and she might not make it
They say, "Don't dare, don't you even go there
Cutting off your long hair, you do as you're told"
Tell you, "Wake up, go put on your makeup
This is just a phase you're gonna outgrow"*

Chorus:

*There's something wrong in the village, in the village, oh
They stare in the village, in the village, oh
There's nothing wrong with you, it's true, it's true
There's something wrong with the village, with the village...*

*Feel the rumors follow you from Monday all the way to Friday dinner
You got one day of shelter then it's Sunday hell to pay, you young lost sinner
Well, I've been there, sitting in that same chair
Whispering that same prayer half a million times
It's a lie, though, burying disciples
One page of the Bible isn't worth a life (Chorus)*

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Todd

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.

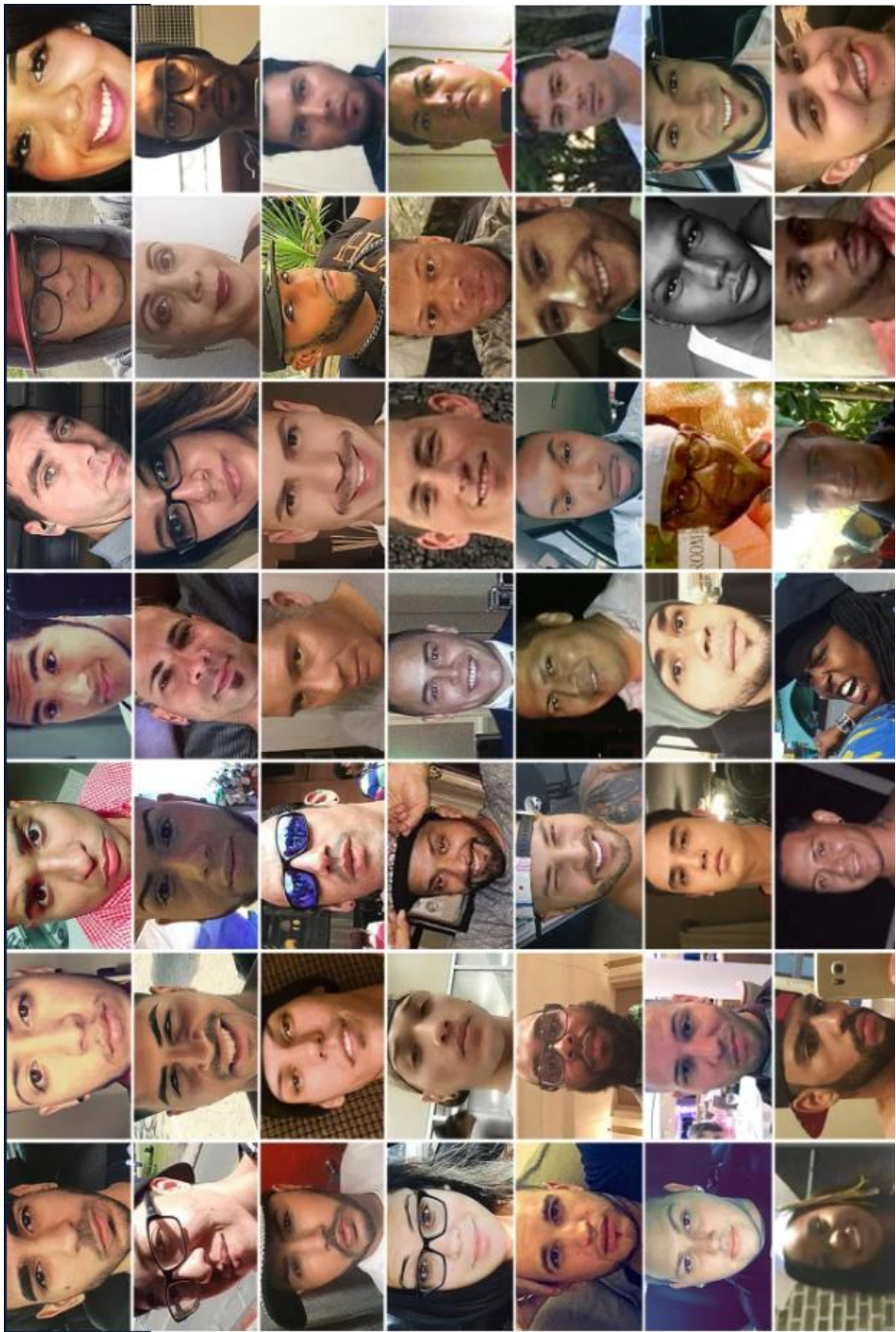
For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TIME OF GIVING

Bette

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.



The 49 PULSE Victims

Could hold a gun and hold your heart
 Could put out fires or make 'em start
 Skin and bones and flesh and blood
 With all this nerve, how did we get this numb?

They can hurt, they can heal, they can give back or they can steal
 They can break the world or they can change it too

Chorus:

Oh, hands, hands, hands, hands
 They can love or they can take
 They can fight up until they save
 They can break the world or they can change it too

Doesn't matter who you love, all that matters is your love
 I've been watching news, seeing all this hate
 Tell me is it wrong to want a little change?

They can hurt, they can heal, they can give back or they can steal
 They can break the world or they can change it too

(Chorus)

If a million hands can build a wall, a million hands can break it down...

Could hold a gun and hold your heart
 Can put out fires and make 'em start
 I've been watching news, and seeing all this hate
 Tell me is it wrong to want a little change?

(Chorus)

Just take my hand baby, everybody's in love
 (All that matters is your love) (Change it or break it)
 (They can love or they can take it, take it all)

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

*Offertory Prayer

*CLOSING HYMN

Rise Up

See next page.

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Todd

POSTLUDE

Pride Unbroken

J.K. Bailey

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



Since its release in 2017, **Wrabel's "The Village"** has proven to be a culturally reverberating anthem for the trans community and beyond. Originally penned after a powerful conversation between Wrabel and two transgender fans, the track remains just as prescient, if not more so, today. Now, Wrabel shares a profound new version recorded with the **Trans Chorus of Los Angeles**, who came together with producer Drew Pearson (Kesha, One Republic) at Los Angeles' iconic Village Studios, along with a moving music video featuring footage from the magical and

cathartic day. Wrabel writes, "I wrote 'the village' in 2017 in response to federal protections for trans students being removed from public schools. Since its release, hundreds of anti-trans bills have been passed in the US. It breaks my heart that in 2024, this song is more relevant now than ever. But that's where I find the hope and the love. This song has continued to live on. Its intention has been so clear from the start."



"Hands" is a 2016 all-star charity single recorded by music artists and celebrities to honor the victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida. The track and its accompanying music video were spearheaded by Interscope Records and LGBTQ advocacy group [GLAAD](#) to raise funds for the Equality Florida Pulse Victims Fund. The song was conceptualized and organized by hit songwriter Justin Tranter, who was inspired to act immediately following the tragedy and flew to Orlando to volunteer. Tranter co-wrote the ballad alongside Julia Michaels and BloodPop.. All proceeds from the sale of the single directly supported the victims' families, medical costs, and local community outreach.



Lavender Interfaith Collective (LiNC) The Lavender Interfaith Collective (LiNC) is a vibrant and diverse community of LGBTQ* and allied faith leaders, united across a rich tapestry of religious traditions and spiritual practices. In advance of the recent World Pride held in Washington, DC, the collective issued a powerful call to action on behalf of LGBTQ people globally. This call to action begins: Across faiths, identities, and nations, we are united by one unshakable truth: every person is worthy, every voice sacred, every body divine. Our unity is not rooted in a single tradition but in a collective belief in

the sacred worth of every person. We uphold the fundamental principle of religious freedom, recognizing that no faith should dictate the governance of our nation. We reject all attempts to impose religious values, symbols, or authority upon our shared civic life, united in our commitment to a society where all traditions — and those who follow none — are equally respected. In the face of forces that seek to divide, erase, and harm, we unite as one — rooted in justice, driven by love, and committed to a future where liberation is not just an ideal but a lived reality.

Rise Up

Words and Music By
Kim Williams

♩ = 92

Chords: Em, Em/D, Cmaj7, B, Em, Bm/D

1. Rise up to - day and
 (2. Reach) out to all hu -
 (3. For) some the day has
 (4. Re -) ceive God's love that

6 Em/C B Am9 B Em Bm/D

stand as one in love and u - ni - ty. Let's rec - og - nize each
 man - i - ty for we de - fine the church. May we look in - ward
 now ar - rived, the truth no long - er hides. The chains of hope in - less -
 nev - er fails, no rid - i - cule or blame. A love that will not

10 Em/C B Am B Em Am

child of God cre - at - ed beau - ti - f'ly. En - graved up - on God's
 at the heart to see each per - son's worth. Our lov - ing - kind - ness
 ness and fear, re - placed by joy and pride. May we rise up, to -
 let us go, an ev - er - last - ing flame. Re - gard - less of i -

14 Em/G Am/F# B C

lov - ing hands, each one of us by name. Com - plete - ly known and
 brings great hope to those in deep de - spair. We're called to be great
 geth - er strong, em - brac - ing hu - man hearts. Pro - claim - ing God's the
 den - ti - ty or sex - u - al - i - ty, Christ died for all and

18 D2 Am9 Baug

1, 2, 3.
Em

loved by God, each beat - ing heart the same.
 light of Christ, a bea - con ev - 'ry where.
 love for all, with free - dom to im - part.
 wel - comes all in - to e - ter - ni -

*Optional
vocal interlude
(Rise

21 Em Em/D Cmaj7 B

4.
Em

up! Rise up! In love and u - ni - ty!
 Reach For Re - ty.

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

Elana Bolds has lived in Richmond her whole life. She is the sibling of 10 . She is a mother, grandmother , God mother and community mom. She went to school in Richmond and Pinole. She studied Early Childhood Development in College and completed Careers With Children, and Theological Education at The Pacific School of Religion. She is also the founder of Visions of Hope Outreach where she works closely with families affected by Gun Violence and other life changing Ministry. Her dream is to open a community center for children and adults to learn and thrive.



Jon McKinsey was born in Taiwan and grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. He moved to California to attend graduate school at UC Berkeley where he studied computer science education and education technology. He taught high school and college students programming, object-oriented design, mathematical logic and ethics. He has worked in the software engineering field at large organizations and small startups like JPL/NASA, Oracle, HP and Coursera. He is currently the Engineering Director for Games Player Experience at The New York Times where he is able to combine his passion of growing people and building products that bring people joy. Jon loves spending time with his 3 little children: Wyatt, Lexi and Nolan. In his free time, Jon enjoys reading, exploring the outdoors, cooking and baking.



Ina Nierotka is SF Bay Area born and raised, currently living at home with their supportive parents. They went to U.C. Berkeley for undergrad, and through their entire life held a massive passion for dance, especially ballet. Unfortunately, increasing health issues led to them losing dance, then slowly becoming housebound. Still, they were able to successfully complete a master's from Cornell virtually and this period of uncertainty and illness significantly shifted their life, and not all for the worse. While baptized, Ina was not raised by a very religious family and even had periods of significant doubt in God and distrust in the church. However, in the lowest point of their life, they found spirituality is what allowed them to keep fighting to stay alive, and ultimately receive proper diagnosis and treatments.



Ina found their way to DCC through the many appointments they attended at Sutter just next door, and one day wandered through the gates and was awed to find pride flags hanging in a church in Danville outside the month of June. Seeing that sign felt like a lightbulb clicking into place, a beacon calling them home, a sign that there is a church that truly embodies God's unconditional love. Since then, they joined the DCC choir, reigniting an old passion for singing and has become a regular member of the community, even if unofficially. They are about to begin a 5-year management and organization behavior PhD program researching workplace neurodiversity with York University in Toronto. Though Ina will be moving away soon, they wanted to take this step to formalize their relationship to the church and celebrate the joy, hope, community, and inspiration this congregation has brought them

Sally Train is a retired UCC minister living in Walnut Creek with her husband and young adult daughter. As a part time "retirement career," she tutors children who struggle with reading and spelling. She enjoys hiking, knitting, reading, playing with her Australian Shepherd, and spending time with friends.



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	Annual Meeting and Potluck Lunch

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
Wednesday	10:00am	Wednesday Morning Prayer
Wednesday	4:00pm–5:30pm	Anti-Racism Team Meeting
Thursday	2:00pm–3:30pm	Spirited Sisters
Saturday	5:00pm–8:00pm	Divine Identity Artist Talk and Reception

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

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

Greeters: Miguel Atkins-Whitley, Linda Elsdon, and Ron Elsdon

Ushers: Miguel Atkins-Whitley and Ron Elsdon

Liturgists: Bette Felton and Jenn O'Neal

Flowers: Bette Felton

Sound Tech: Reuben Shank

Tech Minister: Doug Leich

Lock Up Duty: Carol and Matthew Bassett

Next week's Emmaus Team is **Team 5**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026-2027 New Deacons

Please welcome our new deacons in the class of 2026-2027: **Sharon Brockman, Ron Elsdon, Judy Halden, and Randy Jang**. In each of the coming weeks, we will spotlight one of these deacons. Please thank the outgoing deacons for their service to DCC: Carol Bassett, Syd Dent, Donna Lenhardt, and Chris Sonnemann.

**COMMITMENT
TO ANTI
RACISM**

Wednesday, June 17th from 4:00pm–5:30pm via Zoom
Anti-Racism Team Meeting

There will be an Anti-Racism Team planning meeting on Wednesday, June 17th, 4:00pm–5:30pm, via Zoom. All are welcome to attend! We'll be discussing Anti-Racism Team goals, 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

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. Please bring a dish to share (main, side, salad)—dessert will be provided by the Emmaus Team on duty.

The Annual Report is linked [here](#) for those who cannot make it in person. We will have copies at the meeting.

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.**



Wednesday, June 24th from 1:00pm–3:00pm
Pastor Bible Study

In advance of the United States Semiquincentennial, Pastor Todd will be hosting a special **Pastor's Bible Study** on **Wednesday, June 24th, 1:00pm–3:00pm**. We will be discussing how people of faith can faithfully respond to America's 250th Birthday and the blight of 'Christian' Nationalism.



Though we have celebrated another successful Valley Pride, there's still a lot going on during PRIDE MONTH to celebrate and make your allyship visible.

Sunday, June 14—After our Pride Kick-off worship and Call to Action that morning, you are invited to the fifth annual [Drag Church in the Streets](#) in the Castro at 6pm. The service features area drag artists leading participants in song, sacred texts, and an inclusive communion ceremony. The Rev. Blessya Hartz will be offering the homily. Email Pastor Todd if you'd like to join us.

Friday, June 19—Join Pastor Todd and Miguel at 7pm in Oakland (location TBD) to experience a concert performance by [Flamy Grant](#), drag queen and Christian music performer. [Her song "[Good Day](#)" was featured in worship on May 31.] Email Pastor Todd for ticket info when it's available.

Saturday, June 20—**DIVINE IDENTITY** Artist Talk and Reception at DCC, 5pm–8pm

Sunday, June 21—Our rainbow-hued special PRIDE SUNDAY worship promises to be a rich celebration of God's unconditional love for all their children—featuring guest preacher the **Rev. Derek Terry**, executive director of the [UCC's Open and Affirming Coalition](#); guest vocalist **Minister Elana Bolds**; **Nicole Santamaria**, executive director of [El/La Para TransLatinas](#); and photographer **Salgu Wissmath**.

Friday, June 28—Join Pastor Todd, Miguel and other allies lifting up and celebrating the Trans community at the annual **SF Trans March**. We gather at 5pm in Dolores Park for the 1-mile march to the Transgender Cultural District. Email Pastor Todd if you'd like to join us.

Sunday, June 30—The **Rev. Casey Tinnin** returns to DCC as our guest preacher for the final Sunday of Pride Month.



Friday, July 17th starting at 6:00pm
Come see Carousel with DCC



Join us for Food, Fun, Music, Fellowship as we watch Woodminster's production of "Carousel" on Friday, July 17th. We will start with a potluck at 6:00pm, the performance begins at 8:00pm. Group tickets are \$35. Kids 15 and under are free. Please RSVP by June 12th to Alene Riley (aleneriley04@gmail.com). For more information visit www.woodminster.com More info on carpooling, location of tables will be provided when number of attendees is confirmed. See Alene with any questions!

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](#).



Summer Backpack and School Supplies Drive

It’s time for our annual **Summer Backpack and School Supplies Drive** to provide new backpacks stuffed with school supplies for children of homeless, formerly-homeless and at-risk families now living in **Shelter, Inc.** and **Hope Solutions** housing.

Shelter, Inc. has provided us with the names of ten students for “adoption” by folks (individuals, families or groups) at DCC who are ready to shop for a new backpack for him or her and a [complete set of grade-appropriate school supplies](#). Completed backpacks should be **delivered to DCC by 11:00am Sunday, July 19th**, and the Outreach Commission will take care of delivering them to Shelter, Inc. Here is the list of adoptees:

Child's Name	Gender	Age	Grade	Favorite Color/Character
Leah	Female	2	Pre	Pink/Hello Kitty
Alford	Male	4	K	Black, Green, Blue
Unique	Female	5	K	Pink/Yellow
Angelo	Male	6	1st	Red/Bluey
Zamire	Male	9	5th	No choices made
Awmari	Male	10	5th	Blue, Black, Red, Purple / Pokemon, Charzard
David	Male	13	8th	Red/Spongebob
Kina	Female	15	10th	Yellow, Blue, White, Light Pink, Black, Light Purple / likes beauty
Wesley	Male	16	11th	Black, Blue
Devin	Male	17	12th	Blue, White, Black, Green

If you want to “adopt” one of these Shelter, Inc. students, please contact [Doug Leich](#) or [Eileen Ackley](#) to select your student and they will provide you with Shelter, Inc.’s checklist of recommended items to include in the backpack.

Shelter, Inc. is also requesting **\$50 gift cards** (Target or Kohl’s) for uniforms or clothing and shoes, and you can sign up for these separately. Donations of any amount by check made out to DCC, with “backpacks” in the memo line will be used to purchase gift cards for Shelter, Inc. students. Shelter, Inc. also has online sign-ups [here](#) and [here](#) to provide separate school supplies and [here](#) to provide a monetary donation.

Hope Solutions also has an option for you to shop for a backpack and items on a checklist of school supplies. Sign up at the [Hope Solutions Backpack Drive 2026](#) sign-up web page (please type “Danville Congregational Church” in the My Comment box) and follow [Hope Solutions’ instructions](#), except that you may **deliver your completed backpack to DCC by 11:00am Thursday, July 9th**, and the Outreach Commission will deliver it to Hope Solutions. Or you may support Hope Solutions’ backpack drive with a [monetary donation here](#).

To sign up, or for more information, look for the backpack sign-up table during our Time of Fellowship after worship. If you have questions, or want to report your participation in DCC’s back-to-school backpack project, please email [Eileen](#) or [Doug](#).



NCNC UCC PRESENTS 2026 **CAMP TAM**

JR HIGH CAMP GRADES 7-9 JULY 12-18

SR HIGH CAMP GRADES 9-12 JULY 19-25

JUNIOR CAMP GRADES 4-6 JULY 26 TO AUGUST 1

COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING CAMP AGE 16+ JULY 26 TO AUG 1

REGISTER ONLINE >>>
WWW.NCNCUCC.ORG/CAMP

Camp Tamarack 2026

Camp Tamarack registration is now live for all weeks of camp. The Early-Bird registration deadline is June 15th, so get your registrations in soon! DCC has additional campership funds available so that camp is accessible to all. Reach out to Pastor Lauren for questions!

Camp is put on by volunteer staff in coordination with the NCNC Youth and Outdoor Ministries Committee. This year's theme is *In the Wilderness*. At Camp Tam 2026, children and youth will be exploring this theme throughout their week of camp. Wilderness is a time or place where we encounter what is new, strange, scary, lonely, unknown or mysterious. The wilderness is a wild and beautiful time and place where we can discover the sacred within each person and all creation. The wilderness can inspire us and guide us, assuring us of God's constant presence. As the Spirit guides us through the wilderness, we find what we need to face our

fears and the very real challenges that impact our world. The wilderness teaches us the importance of community and the ways we navigate challenges together. The wilderness reveals our strengths, growing edges, and potential as God equips us for the unknown still to come. The wilderness awaits us all, and God meets us there.



NURTURE THE SOUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2026 JUNETEENTH COMMEMORATION:
In Troubling Times Consult the Ancestors!

Thursday, June 18th | 3:30 PM Eastern

Rev. Dr. Velda Love
Minister for Racial Justice, UCC

Rev. Dr. Cheryl Lindsay
Minister for Worship and Theology, UCC

Rev. Trayce Potter
Minister for Children and Youth Engagement, UCC

Register below to sign up for the webinar:

https://ucc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cnsM--StTKS7fpbQARnmMg#/registration

Pictures of the Week



Another busy weekend here at DCC –
We celebrated Music Sunday with our DCC Chancel Choir, Handbells, and guest musicians.
It was an amazing turnout at Valley Pride this year, the first one hosted in the heart of downtown Danville.

*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*

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.

DIVINE IDENTITY BY SALGU WISSMATH

Artist Reception
Saturday June 20
5 - 8 pm

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



Exhibit Dates & Hours

JUNE 1 - 30, 2026

TUE • WED • THUR @ 10am - 2pm
SUNDAYS • During worship until 12pm



INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN OF MEDIA
FOUNDATION

@SALGUWISSMATH



MOZART TO
MENDELSSOHN
JOHN KENDALL BAILEY,
music director

SUNDAY, JUNE 21
3:00 PM

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401 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco

FREE ADMISSION
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CHOPIN
FANTASY ON
POLISH AIRS

ELSNER
OVERTURE TO
LESZEK THE WHITE

MARNIE
BRECKENRIDGE
soprano



DANIEL
GLOVER
piano



Valley PRIDE

Pride Flag Raising and Community Event

As the observance of PRIDE Month approaches, we prepare to celebrate the presence of our LGBTQIA+ neighbors—those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, asexual, or another identity or orientation.

LGBTQIA+ people are valued members of our communities. They are our children, neighbors, relatives, colleagues, and friends. They come from all backgrounds and ethnicities and are part of families of all configurations. They are part of the populations of our schools, faith communities, and neighborhoods.

Yet all too often, they are misunderstood, excluded, and discriminated against. And tragically many LGBTQIA+ people—especially for our youth—experience violence against their bodies or spirits through bullying in school; discrimination in the workplace or religious spaces; by other community members and officials; or through the healthcare system.

But a strong community values all its members and engages in goodwill for all people, lifting up LGBTQIA+ people with compassion and affirmation. That is the sole reason for PRIDE.

This belief undergirded the third annual VALLEY PRIDE (www.srvalleypride.org) held on Saturday, June 6. This free event—part education, part community building, and part celebration—brought together LGBTQIA+ people and their allies from across the San Ramon Valley. Valley Pride was supported by a coalition of organizations, including the Town of Danville, Discovery Counseling Center, PFLAG Danville-San Ramon Valley, the SRV Diversity Coalition, and DCC.

Through the inspiring stories of LGBTQIA+ people, their loved ones, and allies along with lessons shared by folk who provide support to our neighbors and their families, the community gathered to lift up and proudly celebrate the dignity of these members of our San Ramon Valley communities. Because when we value all our neighbors—regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity or expression—our communities become stronger, safer for our children and all community members, more joyful, and a better place to live.

Sumita Bhandari, ED, Discovery Counseling, www.discoveryctr.net

The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, Senior Pastor, Danville Congregational Church, an open and affirming church of the United Church of Christ. (danvillechurch.org; ucc.org),

Anuradha Gupta, President, PFLAG Danville-San Ramon Valley (srvpflag.org)

Krista Glaser, Steering Committee Member, SRV Diversity Coalition

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



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Danville Congregational Church

a Congregation of the United Church of Christ

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Phone: (925) 837-6944

www.danvillechurch.org

