



**DANVILLE**

Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

**SEEN.**  
**ACCEPTED.**  
**LOVED.**

@nakedpastor

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Fourth Sunday of PRIDE Month**

*June 28, 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](mailto: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

*If God Be For Us, Who Can Be Against Us*

G.F. Handel

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.*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jon McKinsey

*\*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.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jon

One: To know the warmth of love,

**All: To have the assurance that someone cares,**

One: To be confident of our worth,

**All: To be bold to love in return,**

One: To be washed over with grace,

**All: To be accepted as we are:**

One: This is to know a bit of God.

**All: Then let us worship our good and gracious God!**

—Rev. Beth Merrill Neel, adapted

\*OPENING SONG

*For All the Children*

See next page.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Casey Tinnin

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

# 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.

© 2007 David Lohman Music  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DavidLohmanMusic.com

Text: David Lohman  
Music: David Lohman

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. Large crowds followed him, and he cured them there.

Some Pharisees came to him, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that the one who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." They said to him, "Why then did Moses command us to give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?" He said to them, "It was because you were so hard-hearted that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries a divorced woman commits adultery."

The disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." But he said to them, "Not everyone can accept this teaching, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let anyone accept this who can."

Then children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them, but Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

SERMON

*Let the Children Come*

Rev. Casey

ANTHEM

[We'll All Be Free](#)  
Q Christian Fellowship

William Matthews, Lisa Gungor

*There's a world at war, caught in suffering  
Silent casualties - Oh, God, grant us peace.  
In these sleepless nights I can hardly breathe  
Despite brutality - I know that we'll be free.*

*[Chorus]*

*Let the light in, keep a-shinin'  
Let it break into the darkness  
All the love dares us to see  
We'll all be free.*

*In these desperate times, love will hold us here,  
Love will join our hands, teach us to have no fear  
So we lay our hate down to wash their feet  
When we see our brother - Oh, we'll all be free [Chorus]*

*We'll be free, free - we'll all be free... [Chorus]*

TIME OF PRAYER

Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

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

Kyra

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

*Seen, Accepted, Loved*

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 Todd

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Here I Am, Lord*

See next page.

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Casey

POSTLUDE

*Seasons of Love* from *Rent*  
Broadway Cast, 2008

Jonathan Larson

Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand moments so dear  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes  
How do you measure, measure a year?

In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee  
In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife  
In five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes  
How do you measure a year in the life?

How about love?...  
Measure in love, Seasons of love.

Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand journeys to plan  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes  
How do you measure the life of a woman or a man?

In truths that she learned, or in times that he cried  
In bridges he burned, or the way that she died  
It's time now to sing out, though the story never ends  
Let's celebrate, remember a year in the life of friends

How about love?  
Remember the love, you got to remember the love  
You know that love is a gift from up above  
Share love, give love, spread love  
Measure your life in love.  
Seasons of love...

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

## 69

## I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

## Here I Am, Lord

G Am D G C G D  
Leader or All

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.

HERE I AM (Schutte)  
7.7.7.4.D with refrain

TEXT: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981, alt.  
MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011  
Text and Music © 1981, 2000 OCP

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:30am–10:45am      Worship (In-person and Zoom)

10:45am–11:15am      Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout room

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

## TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

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

Greeters: Dianne Dorn and Anne Seiler

Ushers: Kristin Chambers, Nancy Halseth, and Nicole Noga

Liturgists: Kyra Kennedy and Jon McKinsey

Flowers: Mary Kay McClure

Fellowship: Eileen Ackley and Joy Davis

Sound Tech: Brett Clark

Tech Minister: Carol Bassett

Lock Up Duty: Brett Clark

**Godly Play:** Pastor Lauren and Nan Karns

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Todd will be out of the office Monday, June 29th and Tuesday, June 30th. He will return to the office on Wednesday, July 1st. For immediate pastoral concerns during this time, please contact Pastor Lauren.

## Ethnic Storytelling Feedback Sought

The Anti-Racism Team are interested in participant feedback regarding the Ethnic Storytelling series that we participated in April and May this year, and hope you can take some time to participate in either a survey (see link below) and/or to come to our next **Coffee Chat on July 5th** following the service, in Kairos Hall, to discuss how it went and what you might be looking for next from the Anti-Racism team. Please take a moment to reflect on what you took away from the series. Thank you!

Survey link: <https://forms.gle/G5fDpVBpBd56Ggwq8>



## Sunday, July 5th Strengthen the Church Offering

On Sunday, July 5th, we will receive our annual [Strengthen the Church Offering](#), which reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively strengthen the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, just as ours was planted in 1955 with help from Eden UCC in Hayward, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Please give generously by writing "Strengthen the Church" on your check made out to DCC or on your offering envelope. Or you may give online via the [DCC Donations web page](#), selecting Strengthen the Church/Donate.

Blessings,  
Outreach Commissio

## Sunday, July 5th at 11:30am Monthly Lunch Bunch

Come join the lunch bunch gathering on Sunday, July 5th. We'll be gathering at **11:30am** (or whenever you get there) at [Kaia's Island Kitchen & Tiki Bar](#), 480 Hartz Ave, in downtown Danville (just in front of Bridges Restaurant on Hartz/Church). Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal with check, cash, Paypal or Venmo. Thanks! Please RSVP to Sharon Brockman at 916-214-3070, or email her at [seb9229@aol.com](mailto:seb9229@aol.com) to let her know you'll be attending.





## Meet Our New Deacons – Randy Jang

In each of the coming weeks, we will spotlight each of our four new deacons. This week we spotlight **Randy Jang**.

Randy is a Bay Area person. He was born in San Francisco and raised in Oakland.

When Janis and Randy married, they moved to Danville in 1977. At the time, they both taught. Randy mostly taught high school chemistry. They are now both retired. Members at Danville Congregational Church might remember their children, Justin and Corinne, who have blessed Randy and Janis with a wonderful daughter-in-law, son-in-law, and five grandchildren with an age span of 6 – 14. Janis and Randy will be celebrating their 49th wedding anniversary this June. May 30th marked 33 years as members at DCC for them, having joined on 5/30/1993.

Raising their kids with a faith community closer to home was important to them. They found DCC in the early 1990s from a recommendation of neighborhood friends. They have worshiped here ever since. Randy has been on Council when he was in the Education, Church Family, and Worship Commissions. He was a Co-Commissioner in the last two commissions mentioned. He also served as Moderator once and a Deacon twice. Presently, he rings with the bell choir. His other current ministry experiences include being a sound tech for many years, and a member of both the Tenant Relations and Worship Commission. He enjoys cooking and has flipped countless pancakes for church breakfasts. In his spare time, he enjoys playing tennis.

Randy notes that it will be an honor to serve as a Deacon once more.

## 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.



## 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 are the remaining adoptees:

| Child's Name | Gender | Age | Grade | Favorite Color/Character |
|--------------|--------|-----|-------|--------------------------|
| Zamire       | Male   | 9   | 5th   | No choices made          |
| David        | Male   | 13  | 8th   | Red/Spongebob            |

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](#).

## Pictures of the Week



It was a glorious PRIDE Sunday worship service! The Rev. Derek Terry was at the pulpit, Elana Bolds shared her musical talents, special guests Salgu Wissmath and Nicole Santamaria served as liturgists, and we bid Godspeed to Ina Nierotka.

*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](mailto:anne-marie@danvillechurch.org)*



**DANVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PRESENTS**

# **PARTY WITH A PURPOSE DANCING UNDER THE STARS FOR HOPE SOLUTIONS**

**FOOD | MUSIC | DANCE**

- ★ Saturday, August 1, 2026
- ★ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- ★ Supporting Hope Solutions
- ★ Live Music by Other People's Money
- ★ Heavy appetizers & soft drinks, wine and beer included
- ★ Address: 989 San Ramon Valley Blvd, Danville

To buy tickets, scan the QR code  
\$50 in advance / \$65 at the door  
Free admission for kids under 18  
Questions: [office@danvillechurch.org](mailto:office@danvillechurch.org)

**HOPE**  
SOLUTIONS

100% of proceeds benefit families and  
individuals experiencing homelessness  
[hopesolutions.org](http://hopesolutions.org)



[HTTPS://2026DCCPWP.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://2026DCCPWP.EVENTBRITE.COM)

# Valley PRIDE

## Pride Flag Raising and Community Event

---

---

As we continue to observe PRIDE Month approaches, we 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](http://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](http://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](http://danvillechurch.org); [ucc.org](http://ucc.org)),*

*Anuradha Gupta, President, PFLAG Danville-San Ramon Valley ([srvpflag.org](http://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](http://www.dayspringpreschool.org)**



Scan QR code above to Give



Scan QR code above to Connect with Us



**Danville Congregational Church**

*a Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

989 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, Danville, CA 94526-4020

Phone: (925) 837-6944

**[www.danvillechurch.org](http://www.danvillechurch.org)**

