



DANVILLE

Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 5, 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

God Bless America

Irving Berlin
arr. Edgar Girtain

WELCOME AND GATHERING PRAYER

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Todd

**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

Doug Leich

One: Calling all citizens of heaven: exiled dreamers and disciples of love,

All: God is close to the outcast and faithful to all.

One: Calling all pilgrims of the Spirit, carried by the winds of hope,

All: God is everywhere at all times, compassionate to all.

One: Calling all travelers between worlds, who translate compassion into peace,

All: God makes neighbors of strangers and kin of the forgotten.

One: Come to worship and be renewed for this long journey.

All: Strangers in a strange land, we have come to worship the creator of all.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND LIBERATION

Rev. Lauren Jewett

One: Let us confess the ways we fall short of God's dream for humanity.

All: God of freedom, we confess that our pursuit of liberty is too often limited by our borders, our prejudices, and our privilege. We confess the ways we contribute to systems that oppress, marginalize, and exclude. Forgive our apathy in the face of injustice. Free us from the chains of judgment, fear, and division so we may truly love our neighbors as ourselves.

One: Hear the good news: In Christ, we are liberated and forgiven.

The old ways of division are broken down.

We are set free to be agents of healing and justice in a hurting world.

All: Thanks be to God!

St. 1, Katharine Lee Bates, 1893; alt.
St. 2, 3, 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1 How beau-ti-ful, our spa-cious skies, our am-ber waves of grain;
2 In-dig-e-nous and im-mi-grant, our daugh-ters and our sons:
3 How beau-ti-ful, sin-cere la-ment, the wis-dom born of tears,
4 How beau-ti-ful, two con-ti-nents, and is-lands in the sea

our pur-ple moun-tains as they rise a-bove the fruit-ful plain.
O may we nev-er rest con-tent till all are tru-ly one.
the cour-age called for to re-pent the blood-shed through the years.
that dream of peace, non-vi-o-lence, all peo-ple liv-ing free.

A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God's gra-cious gifts a-bound,
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God grant that we may be
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God grant that we may be
A-mer-i-cas! A-mer-i-cas! God grant that we may be

and more and more we're grate-ful for life's boun-ty all a-round.
a sis-ter-hood and broth-er-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.
a na-tion blessed with none op-pressed, true land of lib-er-ty.
a hem-i-sphere where peo-ple here all live in har-mo-ny.

Tune: MATERNA C.M.D.
Samuel A. Ward, 1882

On her first trip west in the summer of 1893 the distinguished New England educator Katharine Lee Bates was inspired to write "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies." One hundred years later Miriam Therese Winter wrote new stanzas to clearly include all of the Americas.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SURSUM CORDA

One: The Creator be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the One who liberates us.

One: Let us give God thanks and praise.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**All: We have gathered at this Table to remember those we are first—
not citizens of a nation, but your beloved people.
Here you remind us which union is shaping us.
Teach us to love our country well by loving you first,
and our neighbors as ourselves.**

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

HYMN

*In This Time of Great Reflection
Verse 1*

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

In this time of great reflection on two hundred fifty years,
We remember, as a nation, times we've prospered, times of tears.
"We shall be," a preacher told us, "as a city on a hill" —
not to praise us but to warn us: We've a duty to fulfill.

Hear the LORD! Listen to him, you people on the earth! Listen carefully because the LORD has spoken! Oh! Israel, you are a nation of people who do not obey me. The people are guilty of many evil things. They have turned their backs against God.

The LORD says, “All your sacrifices are not important to me. I have received too many sacrifices that you have burned as gifts to me. They do not give me any pleasure. You come to worship me in my temple. But are you doing what I want?

Do not bring any more useless gifts to offer to me! I do not like your incense. You like to have feasts at new moons, or on Sabbath days. But because of your sins, I hate all your holy meetings. They have become like a heavy load for me. I cannot carry it any longer! When you lift up your hands to pray to me, I have to look away.

Stop doing evil things! Instead, learn to do what is right. Be honest and fair in what you do. Help people who are in pain. Make sure that widows and children who have no family receive justice.”

That is what the LORD himself has said.

HYMN

In This Time of Great Reflection
Verse 3

Caroyn Winfrey Gilette

We recall our nation’s story. Keep us honest, God above!
In our quest for wealth and glory, we have injured ones you love.
Through enslavement, through displacement, we have chosen ways of sin.
We’ve been violent. We’ve stayed silent. So our light of love stays dim.

SECOND READING

Miguel Atkins-Whitley

What to the American slave is your Fourth of July? I answer, a day that reveals to him more than all other days of the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mock; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are to him mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy—a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation of the earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of these United States at this very hour.

An excerpt from “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?” by Frederick Douglass

HYMN

In This Time of Great Reflection
Verse 4

Caroyln Winfrey Gilette

Will we work for racial justice? Will we turn from fear and hate?
What is now the public witness that you call us to create?
As we celebrate our country, help us, Lord, to understand:
All of us must share the bounty and the goodness of the land.

THIRD READING

[Luke 19:41–44](#)

Tahir Mahmood

As [Jesus] came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”

HYMN

In This Time of Great Reflection
Verse 2

Caroyln Winfrey Gilette

Here is what holds us together: Mercy, love, community.
We're to seek to care for neighbors in a just society.
If we fail to help the needy and to build a land that's just,
we will simply be a by-word as the world looks on at us.

FOURTH READING

[Psalm 145:8–14](#)

Sandra Lepley

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The LORD is good to all,
and their compassion is over all that GOD has made.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,
to make known to all people your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
The LORD is faithful in all their words
and gracious in all their deeds.
The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.

HYMN

In This Time of Great Reflection
Verse 5

Carolyn Winfrey Gilette

In this time, O God, restore us to the land we're called to be—
where all people here among us know your blest community.
May we seek to be that city, not with pride but as a prayer.
May we love and serve you humbly, in our land and everywhere.

SERMON

Becoming a Different Kind of Union

Pastor Todd

ANTHEM

[American Tune](#)

Paul Simon
Rhiannon Giddens, Paul Simon

*Many's the time I've been mistaken
And many times confused
Yes, and I've often felt forsaken
And certainly misused
Oh, but I'm all right, I'm all right
I'm just weary to my bones
Still, you don't expect to be bright
and bon vivant
So far away from home
So far away from home*

*I don't know a soul who's not been battered
I don't have a friend who feels at ease
I don't know a dream that's not been shattered
Or driven to its knees
Oh, but it's all right, it's all right
For we've lived so well so long
Still, when I think of the road we're traveling on
I wonder what's gone wrong
I can't help it, I wonder what's gone wrong*

*And I dreamed I was dying
I dreamed that my soul rose unexpectedly
And looking back down at me,
smiled reassuringly
And I dreamed I was flying
And high up above, my eyes could clearly see
The Statue of Liberty sailing away to sea
And I dreamed I was flying*

*We didn't come here on The Mayflower;
We came on a ship in a blood red moon;
We come in the age's most uncertain hour
And sing an American tune
Oh, and it's all right, it's all right, all right
You can't be forever blessed
Still, tomorrow's going to be another
working day
And I'm trying to get some rest
That's all I'm trying to get some rest*

TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Time of Silence and Reflection

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren

The Lord's Prayer

Adaptation from the *New Zealand Book of Prayer*

**Eternal Spirit, Life-giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-maker,
Source of all that is and that shall be
Mother and Father of us all, loving God in whom is heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.
The way of your justice be followed by the people of the world.
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings.
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope
and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In time of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

TIME OF GIVING

Doug

Invitation to Giving

For those of you who have already made a gift by check or automated giving, we are grateful. If you would like to make a gift today, please place it in the offering plate or give using our web site or donate using your mobile device, using the QR Code on the back cover.

Offertory

[Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor](#)

Irving Berlin

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

- from The New Colossus, by Emma Lazarus (1883)

*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

Pour Your Freedom Over Me

See pages 10-11.

Pour Your Freedom Over Me

Cheryl Bragg

♩ = 100

C Am

Pour your free-dom o-ver me
 Pour your jus-tice o-ver me
 Come let's stand in un-i-ty
 Let us walk in li-ber-ty

Pour your free-dom o-ver me
 Pour your jus-tice o-ver me
 Come let's stand in un-i-ty
 Let us walk in lib-er-ty

5 Dm C#° Dm E7 Am A7 Dm

— Hand in hand let's make a chain, And to- geth- er pro- claim,
 — Hand in hand let's make a chain, And to- geth- er pro- claim,
 — Hand in hand let's make a chain, And to- geth- er pro- claim,
 — Hand in hand let's make a chain, And to- geth- er pro- claim,

9 C G7(sus4) Am

Land of the brave, home of the free, Pour your free-dom o-ver me
 Land of the brave, home of the free, Pour your jus-tice o-ver me
 Land of the brave, home of the free, Come let's stand in un-i-ty,
 Land of the brave, home of the free, Let us walk in li-ber-ty,

13 Dm C G7(sus4) 1.2.3.4. C

— Land of the brave, home of the free, Pour your free-dom o-ver me.
 — Land of the brave, home of the free, Pour your free-dom o-ver me.
 — Land of the brave, home of the free, Come let's stand in un-i-ty.
 — Land of the brave, home of the free, Let us walk in li-ber-ty.

17 | 5. C Ab7(sus4) Db

Let us walk in li-ber-ty. Now let's sing in har-mo-ny, —
 Pour your free-dom o-ver me, —

21 Bbm Ebm D° E2m F7 Bbm

Now let's sing in har mo-ny Hand in hand Let's make a chain, And to
 Pour your free-dom o-ver me, Hand in hand let's make a chain, And to

26 Bb7 Ebm Db Ab7(sus4)

geth-er pro-claim Land of the brave, home of the free, Now let's sing in har-mo-ny,
 geth-er pro claim. Land of the brave, home of the free, Pour your free dom o-ver me.

30 B2m E2m Db Ab7(sus4)

Land of the brave, home of the free,
 Land of the brave, home of the free,

33 1. Db 2. Db Ab7(sus4) Db

— Now let's sing in har-mo-ny. —
 — Pour your free-dom o-ver me. —

You are like a light for everybody in this world. If people build a city on a hill, then other people can see it easily. Nobody lights a lamp and then puts it under a pot. He will put the lamp in a high place. Everybody who is in the house can then see the light from the lamp. You must be sure that your light shines well. Then you will give light to other people.

POSTLUDE

[This Land is Your Land](#)

Woodie Guthrie

Pete Seeger, Tao Rodríguez-Seeger, Bruce Springsteen

As I was walking that ribbon of highway
I saw above me that endless skyway;
I saw below me that golden valley;
This land was made for you and me.

Chorus: This land is your land, this land is my land
From California to the New York island,
From the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters;
This land was made for you and me.

I've roamed and rambled and I followed my footsteps
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts;
And all around me a voice was sounding;
This land was made for you and me.

(Chorus)

In the squares of the city, by the shadow of the steeple,
By the relief office I saw my people;
As they stood hungry, I stood there whispering
This land was made for you and me.

A great high wall there that tried to stop me.
A great big sign there said "Private Property"
But on the other side it didn't say nothin'
That side was made for you and me.

(Chorus)

Nobody living can ever stop me,
As I go walking that freedom highway;
Nobody living can make me turn back
This land was made for you and me.

(Chorus)

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

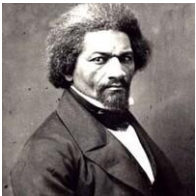
WORSHIP NOTES

In This Time of Great Reflection was commissioned by *Sojourners* magazine for their June 2026 special issue: *A Christian Response to America's 250th Birthday*. It is a hymn that lifts up the theme of the Puritan John Winthrop's 1630 sermon, "A Model of Christian Charity." Winthrop talked about the Massachusetts Bay Colony as "a city on a hill," referencing Jesus' image from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:14. In his use of this phrase, Winthrop wasn't giving a sermon about American exceptionalism, as some later historical figures have suggested. As historian Daniel T. Rodgers explains in *As a City on a Hill: The Story of America's Most Famous Lay Sermon*, Winthrop was actually delivering a warning: The eyes of the world would be on Plymouth to see if the colony would morally succeed in being loving, just, humble, good, neighborly, and kind.

This hymn is a prayer that, as we reflect on our nation's 250th anniversary, we will strive to be a morally responsible and community-building people; that we will repent of our sins and become as loving and humble as God is calling us to be. The hymn tune, RESTORATION (most often used for "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy") is a 19th-century American folk tune, as is the alternate tune, HOLY MANNA. Both tunes come from the shape-note folk music tradition.



Carolyn Winfrey Gillette has been a pastor in rural, small town, suburban, and city churches; she has also served as a hospice chaplain, a hospital chaplain, and a school bus aide helping children with special needs. Carolyn is a gifted hymn writer who has written over 550 hymns. These hymns have been sung by congregations throughout the United States and around the world — from the Washington National Cathedral to St. Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh, Scotland to St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town, South Africa to small town churches and small household congregations; they have also been sung at national church and international ecumenical meetings. She has written four books of hymns and meditations.



Frederick Douglass was an Abolitionist leader born into slavery sometime around 1818 in Talbot County, Maryland. He became one of the most famous intellectuals of his time, advising presidents and lecturing to thousands on a range of causes, including women's rights and Irish home rule. Among Douglass' writings are several autobiographies eloquently describing his experiences in slavery and his life after the Civil War, including the well-known work *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:30am–10:45am	Worship (In-person and Zoom)
10:45am–11:15am	Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout room
After worship	Anti-Racism Coffee Chat in Kairos
11:30am	Monthly Lunch Bunch at Kaia's Danville

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 Communion. 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	2:30pm–3:30pm	CARE Support Group

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

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

Greeters: Barb DeBarger, Shii Stickler, Chris Wang
Ushers: Sandy Leich, Tahir Mahmood and Chris Wang
Candlelighter: Matthew Bassett
Liturgists: Miguel Atkins-Whitley, Linda Elsdon,
Doug Leich, Sandra Lepley and Tahir Mahmood
Flowers: Sharon Brockman
Fellowship: Nancy Dowell, Sereen Mahmood, Karol Mead
Sound Tech: Steve Bridgeman
Tech Minister: Eileen Ackley

Godly Play: Jen Faught

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Today

Strengthen the Church Offering

Today, 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

Today after Worship in Kairos **Anti-Racism Coffee Chat**

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>



Today at 11:30am
Monthly Lunch Bunch



Come join the lunch bunch gathering today at **11:30am** at [Kaia's Island Kitchen & Tiki Bar](#), 480 Hartz Ave, in downtown Danville. There is plenty of parking behind the restaurant by Village Theatre. Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal with check, cash, Paypal or Venmo. Thanks!

OPINION
GUEST ESSAY

I'm Gay, Not Queer. It Matters.

June 30, 2026



Perhaps some of you encountered the recent [Op Ed in the New York Times authored by Matthew Vines](#), an openly gay, former Evangelical whose 2014 book *God and the Gay Christian* became a valuable resource for anyone seeking serious biblical scholarship on the so-called “clobber passages” from the Bible most often used to condemn homosexuality. Vines’ scholarship has helped many Christians (gay and straight) discover a theology that affirms people in same-gender-loving relationships and accept (and welcome) gay and lesbian people into the church.

However, his editorial—published, it should be noted, on the final day of Pride month—not only undermines advances made with respect to inclusivity of LGBTQ+ people in the Church and society but also creates a new opportunity for religious harm. Vines devolves into tactics of “respectability politics” facilitating an interpretation that *some* gay people (those who are “born this way” but *behave* a certain way) are ok; but that “self-identified” *queer* people may not be and are, he theorizes, undermining the experience of inclusivity for a select group of gay people.

Pastor Todd, who is gay but also identifies as queer, is a member of and engages with the Lavender Interfaith Collective (LiNC), a community of allied faith leaders across religious traditions and spiritual practices. This collective aspires to promote a world where LGBTQ+ people—gay and lesbian, bisexual, trans, nonbinary, and queer people—can exist and thrive free from stigma, discrimination, and inequities.

[Read LiNC’s previous statements: the [2025 Call for Bold Advocacy and Radical Solidarity](#) and the [2026 Sacred Worth, Shared Freedom Interfaith Call to Action](#).]

In response to Vines’ editorial, LiNC has released [A Call to Embrace the Queerness of Our Movement for Freedom and Liberation](#), which Pastor Todd has signed onto. This statement insists that queer identity does not threaten the sacred vision of beloved community but clarifies it *and* expands the pursuit of freedom and liberation within a theology that is inclusive of all people regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or sense of queerness.

Reach out to Pastor Todd if you’d like to discuss this topic.



Summer Backpack and School Supplies Drive

We're in the midst of 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, and all ten have been “adopted” by folks at DCC who will provide each student with a new backpack for him or her and a [complete set of grade-appropriate school supplies](#). Additional backpacks for any grade level are also needed. 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.

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.

Time is running out for **Hope Solutions'** backpack drive. 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 Ackley](#) or [Doug Leich](#).

Meet Our New Deacons – Sharon Brockman

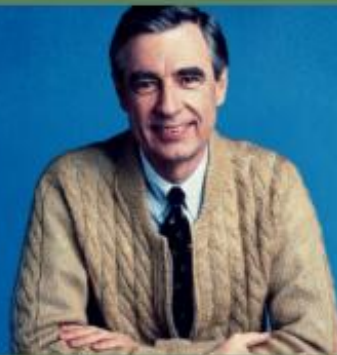


In each of the coming weeks, we will spotlight each of our four new deacons. This week we spotlight **Sharon Brockman**.

Sharon was born in New York but spent all her life in California (so far). After many years of schooling, she has many education credentials and degrees from a number of universities, and a Ph.D. through the University of California, Riverside. She is semi-retired. Her careers were first as a teacher, then university professor, and then as an administrator in a local district. Currently, she works with CSU East Bay to supervise beginning Special Education teachers in their classrooms. Don and Sharon, who joined DCC on 5/19/2024, have one daughter and a son-in-law who live in Elk Grove. They both enjoy traveling and reading. Sharon also enjoys cooking and photography. They have enjoyed getting to know their DCC church family.

It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Spiritual Wisdom
from Fred Rogers



DCC Summer Sermon Series, each week at 9:30am.

Beginning next Sunday

This sermon series created by the Rev. Carol H. Prickett, lifts up the spiritual wisdom of Mr. Rogers, who was both a children's television host and an ordained Presbyterian minister. Tackling tough topics like inclusion, self-doubt, and salvation, this series offers a deeper look at America's favorite neighbor. Over the course of 31 seasons, Mr. Rogers sang his opening song, "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" over 900 times. Each rendition was an invitation for children across the country to enter a world of curiosity, love, and acceptance. That world came directly from Rev. Fred Rogers' Christian faith (he was an ordained Presbyterian minister), and from scriptures that call us to love our neighbor.

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.

Pictures of the Week



Kyra Kennedy and Jon McKinsey served as liturgists, Dianne Dorn highlighted our Strengthen the Church offering that will be happening this week, Rev. Casey Tinnin joined Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren to finish out PRIDE month, and Ron Elsdon, Linda Elsdon, Mary Courtenay, Syd Dent, Carol Bassett, Sally Baca, Janis Jang and Barb DeBarger joined Pastor Todd's Bible Study.

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



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

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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

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