



DANVILLE

Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Service as Worship Sunday

September 6, 2026

OUR PURPOSE

Love God • Love Each Other • Be God's Love in the World

Danville Congregational Church acknowledges that the land this house of worship sits upon is the traditional, unceded land of the Ohlone and Bay Miwok people. We offer this land acknowledgment as a sign of respect, with the knowledge that this land was sacred before we ever arrived.

At Danville Congregational Church, we welcome you to a progressive spiritual community that is open and affirming, celebrates differences, and encourages alternate views. We explore the Bible with curiosity and enthusiasm, taking it seriously but not literally. Taking Christ's call passionately to love our neighbor, we extend our faith into action for the betterment of all. Wherever you are on life's journey, we offer you a place of peace and hope.

Danville Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming church, welcoming all of God's people—of diverse race, gender, sexual orientation, family status, economic condition, and physical, mental, and emotional ability.

A NOTE TO WORSHIPERS

Please take note of the emergency exits around you and locate the nearest one to you.

At DCC, wearing a mask during worship or inside the building is optional; please do whatever is comfortable for you. Please be aware of others' personal space and space yourselves out in the sanctuary accordingly. Please invite consent before shaking hands and hugging. The left-hand section of pews as you enter the sanctuary has been designated for those who are free of scents and perfumes.

Please silence your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary.

If you would like to use one of our listening assistance devices, please see the sound technician in the back of the sanctuary.

First-time guest? Welcome to Danville Congregational Church!

We are glad you have joined us today. We would love to share with you what is happening here. Please leave your information – name, email/phone in the Blue Pew Pad that is passed around early in the service. If you are interested in learning more about DCC, please see one of the pastors after worship in the narthex (lobby) or contact Joyce Klassen (joyce.klassen@comcast.net) our Welcome Commissioner. We look forward to connecting with you!

***The DCC sanctuary is available for meditation and quiet prayer
during the week during normal business hours.
Please feel free to come by any time—enter through the office.***

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

WELCOME

Rev. Lauren Jewett

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Nancy Halseth

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

One: Holy one, there are times when you call us to put things in order and clear out the cobwebs so that your vision for us is clearer to see.

All: Help us to have eyes to see the path you have laid out for us.

One: God, there are times when you call us to quiet our overstimulating surroundings so we can listen better.

All: Help us discern your voice amidst the areas of our church campus that need our attention.

One: God, There are times when we must pause our work in the wider community and attend to the work that needs doing in our own.

All: Help us to enjoy this time serving our own church community.

One: God, there are times when you call us to make space for new things!

All: Help us to honor what is past, let go of what no longer serves us, and imagine what we can do together!

*OPENING HYMN

We Are One in the Spirit

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[1 Peter 4:8, 10](#)
Easy English Bible

Nancy

Continue to love each other very much. That is more important than anything else. If you love people, you will forgive them for any wrong things that they have done. God has helped each of you in a certain way. Think carefully about how to use that gift from God well. Remember that God has given many different gifts to their people so that they can help each other.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SURSUM CORDA

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift our hearts in prayer.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

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

COMMUNION PRAYER
SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: We give thanks to God who equips us for service and leads us into truth.

TIME OF PRAYER Pastor Todd

*CLOSING HYMN *This Joy That I Have* Resistance Revival Chorus

This joy that I have - the world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This strength that I have - the world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This love that I have - the world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This pride that I have - the world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This peace that I have - the world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This joy that I have - the world didn't give it to me (3x)
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away (4x)

*CLOSING PRAYER & BENEDICTION Pastor Lauren

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:30am–10:45am	Worship (In-person and Zoom)
10:45am–11:15am	Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout room
12:00pm	Monthly Lunch Bunch

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.

THIS WEEK AT DCC

Tuesday	11:30am	Men’s Luncheon
Tuesday	1:00pm–3:00pm	Diaconate Meeting
Wednesday	10:00am	Wednesday Morning Prayer
Wednesday	2:30pm–3:30pm	CARE Support Group
Friday	5:30pm–8:00pm	TGIF at the Seilers

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

Today's Emmaus Team is **Team 6**. Next week's Emmaus Team is **Team 1**.

Greeters: Dianne Dorn
Ushers: Joy Davis and Judy Schreib
Liturgist: Nancy Halseth
Fellowship: Eileen Ackley
Sound Tech: Brett Clark
Tech Minister: Carol Bassett
Lock Up Duty: Dee Brook

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Venmo. Thanks!

Today at noon

Monthly Lunch-Bunch gathering. Please join us!

Come join the lunch bunch today. We'll be gathering at noon at Clementine's in San Ramon. Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal with check, cash, PayPal, or

Tuesday, September 8th at 11:30am

Men's Luncheon at Clementine's

There will be a Men's Luncheon on Tuesday, September 8th at 11:30am at Clementine's in San Ramon. Come join the group for good conversation and food.

Please contact Tahir Mahmood if you have any questions. (mahmoods200@hotmail.com or 925-719-7778)



Friday, September 11th from 5:30pm–8:00pm

TGIF at the Seilers home

All are welcome for this super simple, end-of-week, supper get-together! It's a casual time for people to catch up and connect/reconnect with our DCC Community—singles, old/young, families—wherever you are on your Friday journey into the weekend...

- Hosted by Anne and Tim Seiler— Danville. Full address is in the church directory. Contact Anne with any questions.
- Open house from 5:30pm to 8:00pm – Drop by for however long it works for you. Kids are very welcome!
- No RSVP necessary – just bring a pizza or dish you'd like to share, enough that covers your family, plus BYO (wine, beer, soda). We'll have salad and dessert.

Monday, September 14th at 1:00pm via Zoom
Worship Commission Quarterly Meeting

Worship Commission will have its quarterly meeting on Monday, September 14th at 1:00pm via Zoom. Anyone interested in joining the group can get the zoom link from the church office or from Tahir Mahmood mahmoods200@hotmail.com to attend the meeting.



**Fruits of the Spirit:
Cultivating the Beloved Community**

Sundays September through November, starting September 13

Among the mainstays of the DCC communal experience is singing—young and old together—a snippet of scripture that recalls some of the by-products of a spiritual life. Yes—the “Fruit of the Spirit” recorded in Paul’s letter to the church in Galatia set to a now familiar, somewhat quirky “children’s-style” song: *Love. Joy. Peace. Patience. Kindness. Goodness. Gentleness. Self-Control.* Not a comprehensive list, to be sure, but

certainly an aspirational one as we strive to live abundant and faithful lives as an expression of our faith.

The Fruit of the Spirit isn’t primarily a “checklist to become a better person;” it’s really about becoming the kind of people through whom the Spirit can bless the world *and* about our community cultivating what the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. popularized as “the beloved community”—a society based on justice, equal opportunity, and love for all human beings, rooted in radical inclusivity and belonging. These fruits—hallmarks of a Christian life—also serve as evidence of that beloved community.

Our worship this upcoming season is designed to inspire us to continue cultivating the kind of community who experience the Fruit of the Spirit not as virtues to achieve but as the visible expression of lives being cultivated by God’s Spirit. Through worship, sacred texts and modern lessons, prayer, beauty, and spiritual practice, we will explore not simply the fruit we long for, but the roots and conditions from which that fruit grows. Together we will ask, “*What is God cultivating with in us. What kind of beloved community is the Spirit growing among us?*”

Because whether you’re a strawberry, a tomato, or even an ear of corn, each of us bears the capacity for abundance and spiritual transformation—individually and communally.



Spirited Sisters Resumes September 17th!

We eagerly anticipate our next gathering on Thursday, September 17th from 2:00pm–3:30pm in Koinonia Hall. We will continue our discussion of *Cassandra Speaks*, by Elizabeth Lesser, which challenges women to consider the ways in which the stories we have inherited shaped our views and actions over the years. Join us for a lively discussion in a welcoming and safe space. For more information contact Diane Stein or Donna Lenhardt.



Wednesday Morning Prayer

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



Introducing DCC's new weekly e-newsletter, Wingspan, and Our New Bulletin Format

Starting on September 11th, you will notice a change in our e-news and bulletin formats.

Our e-news will now have a new name: ***Wingspan***.

We chose **Wingspan** because it emphasizes a key part of who Danville Congregational Church is. Our church's logo contains a dove in flight. The dove is a symbol of peace, hope, and the Spirit—and the wings of the dove remind us that our faith is not meant to stay in one place.

The wingspan of a bird measures the distance it can reach when its wings are fully extended. In the same way, the mission and reach of Danville Congregational Church extends far beyond Sunday worship. Our wingspan includes the ways we welcome one another, serve our community, grow in faith, and share God's love in the world.

The aim of **DCC's Wingspan** is to help our congregation to stay connected and be the pulse of what's happening in our church and beyond. Each week, you can look forward the Pastor's message with a preview of Sunday's worship as well as invitations to participate in upcoming events and opportunities here at DCC and our community.

We hope **Wingspan** reminds you that each of us are part of something larger than ourselves. We are a community with room to nurture, grow, and to welcome others beneath our wings.
Love God. Love each other. Be God's Love in the world.

In a similar way, our bulletin has been streamlined in an effort to be more eco-friendly, while still providing all the information you need. We have tried to simplify the format and make it easier to find what you need during worship. While the format may look different, our purpose remains the same: creating a welcoming and meaningful worship experience for everyone.

As with any change, we understand it may take a little getting used to. We invite you to take a look, explore the new format, and let us know what you think. These are both a work in progress and we welcome any feedback you have.

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.

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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