



DANVILLE

Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



*Mural at the Eastern Market, Detroit, MI
Photo by Steve Neavling*

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

July 6, 2025

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 visitor? Welcome to Danville Congregational Church! We are glad you are here with us today. Please register your attendance in the Blue Pew Book located in the pew and share whatever information you would like us to have about you. 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 Community Life Commissioner. We look forward to meeting 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

*They'll Know We Are Christians
(We Are One in the Spirit)*

arr. Albert Mendoza

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

Rhonda Reed & Patricia Harbinson

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

One: Holy one of Many Names, we gather to worship you.

All: A diversity of your people, each of us loved and called by you.

One: You, oh God, are our everlasting light!

All: You are our glory!

One: As we gather, our hearts are pained at the state of the world.

**All: Oh God, cause violence, desolation, and the destruction to cease.
Bring our days of mourning to an end!**

One: Comfort us—make peace our leader and righteousness our sovereign.

All: Inspire us to rise to the level of love to defeat evil systems!

One: Let there be peace among us,

All: and let us not be instruments of our own or others' oppression.

One: We praise you, God, for the beauty and power of your love.

All: Let us radiate your love inside and beyond this sanctuary.

*Based on Isaiah 60:17–20; Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's 1957 sermon "Loving Your Enemies;"
and Bishop Barbara Harris, the first woman ordained a bishop in the Anglican Communion.*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Matthew Bassett

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

*OPENING HYMN

Christ Your Words Of Love Confound Us

Christ, your words of love confound us, even as we give you praise,
for the lessons that you teach us seem so far from this world's ways.
How can we love those who hate us? How can we love enemies?
What of people who abuse us? How can we love even these?

Make us mindful: love is action, not a feeling that uplifts.
In each daily situation, love's the greatest of all gifts.
It's the wiser, stronger person who will break the chain of hate.
Love can usher in redemption; love can make a people great.

Faced with those who seek to hurt us, make us confident and free:
you don't call us to be helpless but to stand with dignity.
Lord, when others are demanding, may we know they matter more
than our money or possessions. May we share, not keeping score.

If we love just those who love us, where's the giving? Where's the grace?
Even sinners try to do this; they have friends that they embrace.
May we do, Lord, unto others as we'd have them also do.
You have shown us: Love is action. May we love, and make things new.

– Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Pastor Todd

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

Peter and John were still speaking to the crowd in the yard of the temple. Then some priests, the leader of the police in the temple and some Sadducees came to them. They were angry because of the things that Peter and John were teaching the people there. They were teaching that Jesus had become alive again after his death. The Jewish leaders did not agree that dead people could become alive again. So they took hold of Peter and John. They put them in prison, because by then it was evening time. They put them in the prison until the next day. But many of the people who had heard Peter's message believed what he said. There were now about 5,000 men who believed in Jesus.

The next day, the Jewish rulers and other important Jews met together in Jerusalem. The teachers of God's Law met together with them...and made Peter and John stand in front of them. They began to ask them questions. They said, 'How did you cause that man's legs to become strong? Who gave you the power and the authority to do it?'

Then Peter became full with the Holy Spirit and he said to them, 'All you men are rulers of the people and important Jews. Today you are asking us questions about the good thing that we did for this man. Before that, he could not walk. You are asking us how we caused his legs to become strong. Now I need to tell you and all the people of Israel what is true. Then you will know how this happened. This man is standing here in front of you and he is well. His legs are strong because of Jesus Christ of Nazareth and his authority. You fixed Jesus to a cross so that he died. But after that, God caused him to become alive again.

Then Peter said, 'Only Jesus can save people. There has never been another person in the world that could do this. God has not given any other man the authority to save us.'

The Jewish leaders saw that Peter and John were not afraid of them. They also knew that they were not special people. They had not been to any school. So the leaders were very surprised about how Peter and John spoke. They understood that Peter and John had been friends with Jesus.

The man who was now well stood in front of the Jewish leaders. They could see that his legs had become strong again. So they could not say anything against Peter and John. They told Peter and John to go out of the room where the leaders were meeting. Then they talked together to decide what they should do. 'What should we do with these men?' they said. 'Everyone who lives in Jerusalem knows about this miracle. They know that Peter and John did a great thing for that man. So we cannot say that they did not do it. But we do not want any more people to know what has happened. So we must say to these men, "You must stop using the name of Jesus. You must stop teaching people about him."'

Then the Jewish leaders told Peter and John to come back into the room. They said to them, 'You must not use the authority of Jesus to teach people any more. You must not speak about him.' Then Peter and John replied to the leaders, 'What do you think God wants us to do? Should we obey you? Or should we obey God? You decide! We know what is right. We must continue to speak about these things. We must tell people about the things that we have seen and heard.'

The Jewish leaders were angry. They told Peter and John that they must obey them. Then they let Peter and John go free. All the people there were praising God because of the miracle. So the leaders could not decide how to punish Peter and John. The man who became well because of this miracle was more than 40 years old.

After the Jewish leaders let them go free, Peter and John went back to the group of believers. They told them what the leaders of the priests and the important Jews had said. The believers listened to what Peter and John told them. Then they all prayed together. They said to God, 'You are the Lord who rules over everything. You made the sky, the earth and the sea. You also made everything that is in them.

Lord God, you know that the Jewish leaders want to punish Peter and John. We are your servants. Please help us not to be afraid. Help us to speak your message to people without fear. Show people that you are strong. Cause sick people to become well. Do other powerful things to show that you are God.

It is the authority of your holy servant Jesus that will make these things happen.'

The believers finished praying. The house where they were meeting together shook. God filled them all with his Holy Spirit. That made them very brave and they spoke God's message clearly to people.

All the believers agreed completely with each other about how they should live. They wanted to help each other. Nobody kept anything only for themselves. They let the other believers use it. The apostles continued to teach about the Lord Jesus.

Everyone had as much as they needed. Some believers had land or houses, which belonged to them. They sold those things and then they took the money to the apostles. Then the apostles gave the money to any of the believers who needed it.

One of the believers was called Joseph. He was from the family of Levi. He was from the island called Cyprus. The apostles called him Barnabas because he liked to help people. Joseph sold a field that belonged to him

He took the money from this and he gave it to the apostles. He wanted them to use the money to help other believers.

MODERN LESSON

Mexican Proverb | Dinos Christianopoulos

Rhonda

Quisieron enterrarnos, pero se les olvido que somos semillas.
They tried to bury us. They didn't know we were seeds.

SERMON

They Cannot Bury Us

Pastor Todd

ANTHEM

We Shall Not Be Moved
Thrive Choir (Oakland, CA)

African-American Spiritual

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Todd

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Prayers of the People

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

Matthew

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,
text the word give to 855-940-3756.*

Offertory

Imagine

John Lennon

*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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Based on a liturgy shared by Jonny Baker

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Pastor Todd & Minister Elana Bolds

SURSUM CORDA

One: God be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift up our hearts to God!

One: Let us give thanks to God.

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

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Gardener God

Inspire us to plant and nurture the seeds you have given us;

to remain vigilant against weeds that so easily take root

and choke out intention and love;

to nurture the seedlings of hope planted by others

as we partner in the blooming of love and justice on this earth.

Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Todd

*CLOSING HYMN

All Together We Have Power

See next page.

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Todd

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All Together We Have Power

Isaiah 58:12

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "All to - geth - er we have pow - er, ris - ing up a - gainst all the wrong; all to - geth - er we have pow - er, ris - ing up to sing free - dom songs." The score ends with a "Fine" marking.

All to - geth - er we have pow - er, ris - ing

up a - gainst all the wrong; all to - geth - er we have

pow - er, ris - ing up to sing free - dom songs.

Fine

Words: Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Music: African-American spiritual; arr. Larry E. Schultz.

Words © 2017 Jann Aldredge-Clanton; Music arr. © 2018 Larry E. Schultz.

FEEL THE SPIRIT

Irregular

1. The Spir - it in us feels so strong,
 2. When we are sti - fled and op - pressed,
 3. When things a - round us don't feel right,
 4. The Spir - it in all brings new birth,

D.C. al Fine

giv - ing us hope to la - bor long.
 we will all share our deep dis - tress.
 we will re - sist with all our might.
 mov - ing with love through all the earth.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:30am–10:30am Worship (In-person and Zoom)
10:30am–11:00am Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout rooms
After worship Summer Picnic with Visions of Hope Outreach

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. Thank you!

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	11:30am	Men's Luncheon
Tuesday	1:00pm–3:00pm	Diaconate Meeting
Wednesday	10:00am	Wednesday Morning Prayer

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

Today's Emmaus Team is **Team 5**.

Greeter: Carol Gerich

Ushers: Judy Halden, Joyce Klasen

Liturgists: Matthew Bassett, Patricia Harbinson, and Rhonda Reed

Fellowship Host: Carol Bassett

Sound Tech: Jim Felton

Tech Minister: John Klassen

Lock Up Duty: Dee Brook

Children's Ministers

Godly Play: Jen Faught

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The office will be closed next week. For office business that cannot wait until July 14th, you can email Anne-Marie or Pastor Todd.

Pastor Lauren is away the remainder of this week visiting family. Pastor Todd leaves for Kansas City Tuesday for the [Open and Affirming Coalition National Gathering](#) followed by the [35th biennial General Synod of the United Church of Christ](#) which Pastor Lauren is also attending. *Pastor Todd will be available by email/phone/text during this time.* He will have remote office hours on Wednesday, July 16 and return to the office on Thursday, July 17 before leaving for [Camp Tam](#) on July 19, returning to worship on July 27.



Today after worship

Summer Picnic with Visions of Hope Outreach

Please join us after worship today for a church picnic on our patio as we host our friends from Visions of Hope Church in Richmond. Burgers, hotdogs and vegan options will be fresh from the grill courtesy of the Sister Parish Committee and Community Life Commission. Cake and ice cream are on the menu for dessert as well! Bring a salad to share if you'd like to contribute.

Sunday, July 13th and 20th at 11:15am

Journeys in Faith Committee meeting and Second Hour

The Journeys in Faith Committee will be planning our Adult Education programs for the Fall in the music room on July 13th at 11:15am. Carrie Hrousis will be leading a Journeys in Faith Second Hour in Kairos Hall on Sunday, July 20th. Please come and join us for both events.



Sunday, July 13th at 12:30pm

Monthly Lunch Bunch - Please join us!

Would you like to get to know some of your DCC family better? Come join us for lunch after church on Sunday, July 13th. We'll be eating at Katy's Korner in San Ramon this month. 2550 San Ramon Blvd. We would love to have you join us! Note: please come prepared to pay for your meal with cash or check, or via PayPal or Venmo.

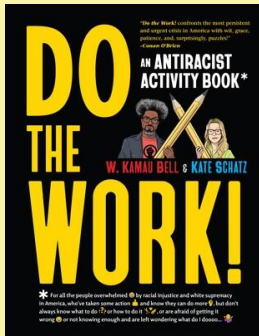
Please RSVP to Kristin Chambers at kristin_chmbrs@yahoo.com or 510-813-2747.

Thursday, July 17th from 1:00pm–2:00pm in-person and Zoom

Bible Study with DCC and San Antonio, Guatemala

Save the Date for a Bible Study with DCC and San Antonio, Guatemala on "The Good Samaritan" Gospel of Luke chapter 10, verses 30–37 ((For a deeper understanding, read all of Chapter 10). It will be held on Thursday, July 17th from 1:00pm–2:00pm in-person in the Sanctuary and on Zoom.

For further information about the opportunity and goals, click [here](#).



Coming this August and September Anti Racism Summer Workshops

Join Barb DeBarger, Bette Felton and Doug Leich during second hours this summer on August 10th, 17th, and 24th and September 21st from 11:15am–12:30pm to learn more and practice anti-racism activities. We'll be studying and using the workbook **Do the Work!** by W. Kamau Bell and Kate Schatz, and will cover a variety of topics, including race, white supremacy, privilege, history, and what you can actually DO as a fellow anti-racist during these troubled times.

Come to some or all of the workshops! Invite a friend to “Do the Work” with you! We will have copies of the workbook to sell during coffee time in Koinonia Hall during the month of July or you can purchase one on your own, or buy it online at Marcus books: <https://www.marcusbooks.com/book/9781523514281>.

Sign up online <https://forms.gle/1PHypSGDezdbNaC9A> or on the clipboard in Koinonia after church. Any questions? Ask Barb, Doug or Bette. We hope to see you there!



Backpack & School Supplies Drive

Our annual **Summer Backpack and School Supplies Drive** continues.

All ten of our **Shelter, Inc.** students have been “adopted” by DCC folks who are shopping for a new backpack for him or her with a complete set of grade-appropriate school supplies, and another set of DCC folks who are providing \$50 gift cards for uniforms and shoes. Thank you all!

Shelter, Inc. still has many more students who will need backpacks. If you want to provide one, please pick up a Shelter, Inc. backpack checklist from [Doug Leich](#) or Eileen Ackley, choose your grade level, and start assembling your backpack. 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 an [online sign-up to provide separate school supplies](#) and a [Back to School Drive Amazon Wish List](#) for online purchases.

Miraculously, **Hope Solutions** has already met its goal of commitments for 500 backpacks for all grade levels! But as of this writing they have reopened the [Hope Solutions Backpack Drive 2025](#) sign-up web page for backpacks for high-school and college students only. If you sign up for one, follow [Hope Solutions’ instructions](#).. Or you may support Hope Solutions’ backpack drive with a [monetary donation here](#).

All completed backpacks should be delivered to DCC by 11 AM Sunday, July 20th and the Outreach Commission will take care of delivering them to Shelter, Inc. and Hope Solutions

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 [Doug Leich](#).

Saturday, July 27th at 11:30am

Visitor Luncheon

Curious about joining the DCC family? If so, a time of fellowship for potential new members is planned for Sunday, July 27th at 11:30am. We'll gather at the home of John & Joyce Klassen in San Ramon for lunch and the opportunity to get to know DCC and each other a little better. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Joyce Klassen at joyce.klassen@comcast.net.



Wednesday Morning Prayer

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



2025-26 Budget Update

The Stewardship Campaign for fiscal year June 2025 -May 2026 has come to a close – the generous commitments have been posted and the results are amazing!

At the Annual Congregational Meeting, the 2025-26 budget of \$363,800 was approved. The leadership team committed to revising the budget should commitments exceed that amount. Actual commitments received are \$386,400 which represents \$22,600 above and beyond the 7% ask!!!

In mid-June, the Finance Committee and Moderator team met to discuss revising the budget to provide funding for those needs identified by the Commissions and Committees from their initial budget asks, as well as reserving funds to cover unexpected expenses that may occur during the upcoming fiscal year. (Think HVAC, Hot water heater replacements, roof repairs, etc.). As a result of the generous commitments, additional funding was budgeted for Building and Grounds, Worship/Music Commission, Anti-Racism Committee, Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM), and Staffing Salaries and Benefits. \$6,928 was set aside for contingency reserves.

Specific details can be found in the Revised Budget link [here](#). Hard copies are available by contacting Steve Bridgeman.

Should you have any questions, please contact Kyra Kennedy (Finance Committee Chair), Steve Bridgeman (Treasurer), myself, or Alene Riley, (Co-Moderators).

Danville Church members and friends, you are an amazing community!

Warmly,
Heidi

Pictures of the Week



Folks who attended Sunday's workshop on Christian Nationalism engaged in role-play scenarios designed to help us practice engaging in difficult conversations with folks who might hold a different point of view.

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.



Sunday, July 13th at 5:00pm at Orinda Community Church **Poetry Reading and Conversation with Michal Rubin**

Orinda Community Church is hosting a poetry reading and conversation with Michal Rubin on Sunday, July 13th. Rubin is an Israeli-born poet who writes about the war in Gaza.

MOZART TO MENDELSSOHN

JOHN KENDALL BAILEY
MUSIC DIRECTOR



Celebrating Black Composers



JOSEPH-BOLOGNE, CHEVALIER DE SAINT-GEORGES

Symphony No. 1

SAMUEL COLERIDGE-TAYLOR

Idyll | Othello Suite: Dance

JAMES P. JOHNSON

Drums: A Symphonic Poem

WILLIAM GRANT STILL

Symphony No. 2, *Song of a New Race*

SUNDAY, JULY 6
3:00 PM

HERBST THEATRE
401 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco

FREE ADMISSION (DONATIONS ACCEPTED)
www.sfcivmusic.org

To purchase tickets, go to <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/sanfranciscocivmusicassociation/1342958>

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

Kim Michaud, Administrative Assistant

www.dayspringpreschool.org



Danville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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