



# Danby Church News

“Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God”

**April 2024**





## From Our Pastor!

April begins with “Fools’ Day”. What a concept, a day to play pranks and spread all manner of hoaxes, an official silly day to let imagination run riot. It’s not my favorite day of the year and ironically, in 2024, it follows directly after my favorite day, Easter Sunday.

The origins of a special time for this unofficial “people’s” holiday can be traced back to ancient Rome when several days were set aside at the end of March for the festival of Hilara (latin for joyful). People dressed in costumes that mocked local officials and had a good time pretending to be above their station.

For a brief period, New Year’s Day was declared to be April 1 in 1582, but that switch didn’t stick because many folk ignored this novel twist on their new Gregorian calendars. Eventually April 1 became the official date for no other reason than, why not? January 1 went back to being New Year’s Day for no other reason than tradition.

By the way, Easter will be on April 1, 2029. Just a note: we will have church that Sunday, only in the late afternoon...just saying.

Because Easter and April Fools’ Day are close together this year, it’s worth thinking about how the wisdom of God measures up against the foolishness of humankind. The Apostle Paul gives us a holy standard for wisdom and a description of human foolishness in 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. It would be a good thing to study and live out this section of scripture throughout the year.

Today foolishness seems to be a serious pursuit, but perhaps even worse, business as usual. We are constantly tossed about by what culture and society believes to be the wisest course of action. We’ve all heard loud and clear that we need to look out for Number 1! Every “social influencer” on the internet is a case for enlightened self-interest, which runs counter to the heart of Christianity.

The Church that Jesus established on earth is a very foolish place from the world’s perspective. It always has been and I pray it always will be. We are here for everyone inside the Kingdom and out. While we cannot endorse every one’s actions or discussions, we hold every per-

*From the Pastor continued on page 3*

## What’s in this Issue?

From Our Pastor.....	2
Trustee Meeting Minutes.....	3
Spiritual Development Report.....	4
Admin Council Minutes.....	5

## Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2024

<b>Pastor:</b>	Ed Enstine eenstine@aol.com 607.592.8276
<b>Administrative Aide</b>	Lynn Kingston-Harris office@danbychurch.org 607.272.1687
<b>Administrative Council</b>	
Co-Chairpersons:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.com Sheila Enstine ssenstine@gmail.com
Secretary:	Dave McDermitt davidmcdermitt@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.com
Financial Secretary:	Dave McDermitt davidmcdermitt@gmail.com
Trustees Chair:	Charlene Testut ctestut55@yahoo.com
<b>Area Coordinators</b>	
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Charlene Testut
<b>Spiritual Development:</b>	Sheila Enstine
<b>Missions:</b>	Suzanne Walker suzrwalker@yahoo.com
<b>Staff, Pastor Oversight Committee SPOC:</b>	
Chair:	Katy Prince
<b>Praise Team Leaders:</b>	Katy & Tommy Prince
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Janet Gray jsg4@cornell.edu
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Janet Gray
<b>Facebook:</b>	Janet Gray

## On the Cover!

**Katy and Tommy Prince**

son worthwhile. Everyone is a potential sister or brother in Christ.

Romans 12—the whole chapter—instructs us how to be holy while surrounded by an unholy, hostile world. Who would dare to provide for, pray for, and be at peace with the face of hatred and opposition? Christians do! And yet we are considered fools as judged by the world.

The good news is that if we live by the teachings of our faith, following the Bible and heeding the Holy Spirit's leading, we will live fruit-filled, meaningful lives in ways the world cannot help but admire, even as they resist exploring Christ's instruction and salvation. Ours is the foolishness of wisdom!

I think that this time in history is an eye opener in many ways. Listening to the news makes one hope that every day is April Fools' Day and the talking heads are only kidding. My prayer is for every day to reveal the Easter message of the cross and the empty tomb, grace and peace, freedom from sin, and hope for tomorrow to people everywhere. We make life better for as many as possible by the power of godly wisdom as it overwhelms worldly foolishness.

### **Trustee Meeting Mintues March 18, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Charlene Testut, Gloria Miller, Ed Enstine, Linda Hansen, Tom Prince, Doug Nash, Diana Benson

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Ed.

#### **BUILDING USE:**

Senior Citizens group  
Kings Cemetery group  
Curtis Road Cemetery group

#### **FUTURE PROJECTS:**

- \*New outdoor sign. Charlene & Ed will continue to work on estimates from different companies.
- \*Kitchen & Fellowship floors. Considering tile, laminate or polished concrete. Tommy Prince will look into pricing on the different options.
- \*Projector in Sanctuary needs updating.
- \*Hot water in the kitchen, continues to be an issue. Possibly consider an on-demand unit.
- \*Water softeners in the church & parsonage may need to be replaced.
- \*Steeple - slats keep falling out. Tommy Prince will check with Kanga Roof.

Trustees will get estimated costs on the above and then decide on how to proceed.

We have kept up with all fire inspections and have passed.

There was a problem with rodents in the food pantry closet which was successfully addressed.

#### **FUTURE EVENTS:**

Frannie Mason Memorial Service March 16.  
String quartet rehearsal in the sanctuary March 23.  
Ginny & Doug Dean service April 13.  
A harpist would like to do a concert in our sanctuary in May.

*Trustee Mintues continued on page 4*

Many thanks to Tommy Prince and Tom Gray for fixing the heating and plumbing issue in the hallway and backroom.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned a 8:02 p.m. with prayer by Ed.

Gloria Miller

## **Spiritual Development Update** *from Sheila Enstine*



### **Important Dates for April and May 2024:**

The Great Fifty Days, also known as Eastertide or Easter Season, begins at sunset on Resurrection Eve and continues through Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday.

Ascension Day is the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Christ's resurrection and therefore it's always on a Thursday. This year Ascension Day is Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Ten days later we celebrate Pentecost, May 19<sup>th</sup> in 2024.

The Great Fifty Days is a season of feasting and celebration of three great displays of God's redemptive love. God's love is shown in Christ's Resurrection, His Ascension into heaven, and the coming of the Holy Spirit, Who empowered and still empowers the Church for ministry.

### **Adult Small Groups:**

**The Sunday morning group** is studying the Book of Psalms. The class meets on Sundays at 8:45 am. Let Sheila Enstine know if you're interested.

**Tuesday Evenings at 7 pm**, Pastor Ed leads a study of John Kimball's "Low Hanging Fruit". Kimball offers practical advice on how to prepare for sharing our faith and how to build redemptive relationships.

**The Wednesday night Praise and Fellowship** gathers at 7 pm with the praise team. After worship, we have a time of fellowship and prayer.

**The Thursday evening Bible Study** begins at 7 pm. Pastor Ed is leading a study on the Gospel of Matthew.

**The Friday afternoon Women's Bible Study** is studying a book about Mary Magdalene. The group meets at 1 pm.

**Nursery:** The nursery is available every Sunday for babies and children through age five.

**Children's Church:** After the first set of worship music on Sundays, children ages 6 through 10 (about 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are welcome to attend Children's Church

### **Prayer Opportunities:**

- **In-person Prayer:** Tuesday afternoons from 5:30 to 6:30 PM.
- **Prayer Chain:** Contact Katy Prince at [katyprince96@gmail.com](mailto:katyprince96@gmail.com).
- **Church Prayer Calendar:** The April prayer calendar will feature praying for Holy Spirit empowered living, sharing our faith, deliverance from addictions, and the immigration crisis.

*Spiritual Development continued on page 5*

**Do you have a question you would like to ask Pastor Ed? It can be about God, Jesus, the Bible, faith, the church, religion. Send your questions to Janet Gray at [jsg4@cornell.edu](mailto:jsg4@cornell.edu) and your question (and answer) may appear in the next Danby Church News**

**Congregational Care:**

Thank you to Paula Nelson and Doug Nash for faithfully arranging for flower deliveries.  
If you have other ideas for studies, prayer or congregational care, please contact Sheila Enstine.

**Danby Community Church  
Administrative Council Meeting  
March 11, 2024**

**Present.** Pastor Ed Enstine, Sheila Enstine, Charlene Testut, Gloria Miller, Katy Prince, Paula Nelson, Suzanne Walker, and David McDermitt.

**INVOCATION.** Pastor Ed opened with prayer at 7:02pm.

**CLERK'S MINUTES.** Motion to approve February's meeting minutes (Katy), second (Gloria), carried.

**FINANCIAL SEC'Y REPORT:** Motion to approve February income report (Gloria), second (Charlene), carried.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Paula paid the church mutual insurance which is \$1,500 every quarter and covers all areas of concern. Motion to accept Treasurer's report (Katy), second (Gloria), carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Partnership forms still being accepted and processed. They go to Pastor Ed.
- The audit - Sheila is working on options to either do this in part herself or have someone do it.
- The church directory is finished. Contact Janet for info.

**NEW BUSINESS:** See individual reports.

**REPORTS.**

**Hospitality.**

- A service and repast for Franny Mason will be held at the church this Saturday, March 16 beginning at 1:00pm. There will be a light reception at the family's request.
- Our 2<sup>nd</sup> chicken & biscuit dinner was held this past Friday, 3/08. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and last one will be held Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Vegetable garden. The wood (200 board feet) is being donated. Topsoil and fencing will be looked into.
- Movie night - Friday, March 22 at 7pm, 'The Case for Christ'.
- People are welcome to share their ideas for events.

*Council Mintues continued on page 6*

This month's issue of the Danby Church News is on the web at <https://www.danbychurch.org/news.html>!

**Spiritual Development.** The church is in the season of Lent which continues through Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> with Easter falling on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

\*There will be a Good Friday service at 7:00pm, March 29th.

**Current Small Groups:**

**Sunday morning group 8:45-9:45am.** Sheila is leading a series studying the Book of Psalms.

**Tuesday night group.** 7:00pm. Pastor Ed is starting a new study of a book by John Kimball called “Low Hanging Fruit: Partnering with the Holy Spirit for Greater Ministry Impact”.

**Thursday night Bible study.** 7:00pm. Pastor Ed continues his study of the Gospel of Matthew.

**Friday Women’s Bible Study:** This group has started a study of the book, “Unveiling Mary Magdalene”.

**Wednesday Night Praise and Fellowship.** Informal weekly gathering at 7pm.

**Nursery and Youth Church:**

**The nursery** is available every Sunday for babies and children through age five, as needed.

**Youth Church** is available for ages 6-10 (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades) if there are students.

Copies of the volunteer schedule including greeters & ushers are on wall above the water cooler and emailed to participants.

**Prayer Opportunities:**

- Prayer Chain: Thanks to Katy Prince who can be contacted at “katyprince96@gmail.com”.
- Tuesday evenings at the church with Pastor Ed and Sheila, 5:30 – 6:30.
- Monthly prayer calendar has re-started. For the month of March, we are praying for municipalities.

Thank you to Doug Nash and Paula Nelson for donating and coordinating flower deliveries.

**Food Pantry**

- 86 households were served last month.

**Trustees.**

- The Trustees developed a list of needs at their recent meeting which includes: a new road sign, sanctuary projector, kitchen floor, possibly a new, larger hot water heater, and bathroom cleaning. Needs were assigned to individuals to look into pricing.
- Regarding the hot water heater, there was an issue with the dishwasher during the chicken & biscuit dinner where it was foaming too much because the water wasn’t hot enough; the hot water heater was turned up, but a larger unit or a second unit may be needed.

**Did you know we are now on Facebook? You can access us from your Facebook page (just search for Danby Community Church) or press the Facebook link on our church website: WWW.DANBYCHURCH.ORG. You don’t need to have a Facebook account to see our Facebook page, but you will need a Facebook account if you would want to “like” our page or post a comment.**



**Missions.**

- We welcomed Suzanne to the position and realized she needs a copy of the position description to understand the role of the position. Things we already do include: support the Heifer fund, Second Wind, and Renovation House, as well as the E. King rd. adopt-a-highway. There was also some discussion about changing the way the noisy offering is collected.

**SPOC.**

- No meeting was held.

**SAP:** Met and discussed the current worship format with Pastor Ed. Following the SAP report, there was some discussion in the Council about our worship music including, for example, a desire to add a keyboardist to the team.

Motion to adjourn (Gloria), second (Dave). Meeting ended at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
David McDermitt, Administrative council clerk

## Spring Gala A Blooming Spring Tea

Has it been a long winter season? Ready for fresh air and flowers and fellowship?

Join us for a Spring Tea for gals of all ages.

There will be delicious food, friends, music and springtime joy at the  
Danby Community Church, Saturday, May 4th, 2-4pm.

Gather your family and friends from church and community and come  
to marvel at and enjoy the spring colors, decorations, activities,  
a spring-y menu and above all friends old and new.

To let us know who and how many are coming, please sign-up at the church or  
call DCC at 607-272-1687 or Suzanne Walker 607-342-1647 or  
Sharon Boda 607-220-6676.



# Welcome HOME

a place where you belong

Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10 am  
 Sunday Youth Church @ 10:30am  
 Sunday Adult Education Class @ 8:45am  
 Tuesdays, Prayer Meeting @ 5:30pm  
 Tuesdays "Sharing Our Faith with Others" @ 7pm  
 Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm  
 Thursdays, Pastor's Bible Study @ 7pm



Danby Community Church  
1859 Danby Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850

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

**Welcome Home!!**

**What's Happening?!? in April/May??**

**Chicken and Biscuit**

**Friday, April 12, 5-7pm**

**Free Coffee and Donuts**

**Mon. 4/15, 5/20, 6/17 - 8am - 10:30am**

**COMMUNITY COFFEE CHAT**

*Spring Gala  
A Blooming Spring Tea*

**Saturday, May 4, 2pm - 4pm**

