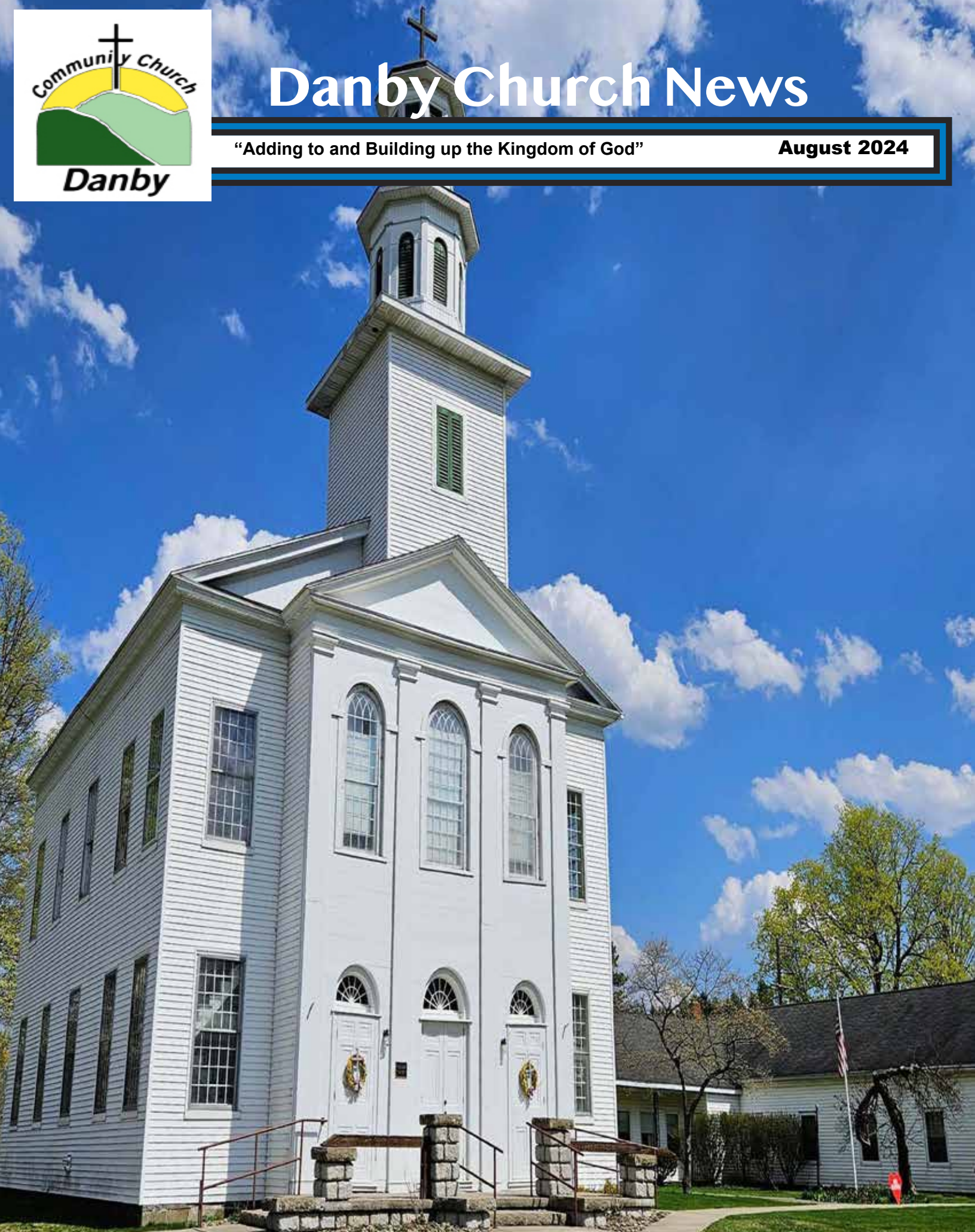




Danby Church News

"Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God"

August 2024





From Our Pastor!

Sometimes familiarity dulls our perception of the world around us. We look at our surroundings without focusing on what's really there.

A case in point is our steeple at Danby Community Church, an 85-foot tower that hardly anyone actually looks at with a critical eye. It had become increasingly apparent that something was wrong with our sacred steeple. In the last several years, slats from the green shutters kept showing up on the lawn after stormy weather. More recently, bits and pieces of roofing material were found hung up in our shrubbery.

Guess what, the steeple was losing its fight with 30+ years of increasingly bad weather. Did we see it? No! If we noticed the steeple at all, it seemed okay from the parking lot.

Consider that I can look good from a distance—if people squint.

We just weren't aware of the damage inflicted over time until the evidence started raining down onto the lawn. The good news is that by the time you read this, the shutters will be repaired, repainted and put back. Rotting boards and decaying roofing material will already be removed and replaced.

We will pass along a secure steeple without worrying over leaks or bats in our belfry. The next major repairs will be up to the next generation who occupies our building.

Other needed repairs and replacements are more obvious. A new, attractive and versatile LED sign will serve us better than our present, aging signage. The fellowship and kitchen floors are badly in need of attention. It is hard to even imagine how many people have walked over those tiles. The fellowship hall windows are also in serious need of replacement, with units that provide better insulation and ease of cleaning.

From the Pastor continued on page 3



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Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2024

Pastor:	Ed Enstine eenstine@aol.com 607.592.8276
Administrative Aide	Lynn Kingston-Harris office@danbychurch.org 607.272.1687
Administrative Council	
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
Area Coordinators	
Hospitality:	Charlene Testut
Spiritual Development:	Sheila Enstine
Missions:	Suzanne Walker suzrwalker@yahoo.com
Staff, Pastor Oversight Committee SPOC:	
Chair:	Katy Prince
Praise Team Leaders:	Katy & Tommy Prince
Webmaster:	Janet Gray jsg4@cornell.edu
Newsletter Editor:	Janet Gray
Facebook:	Janet Gray

On the Cover

Danby Community Church

And the list goes on and on. We are blessed with a very active church, but activity means wear and tear. It is our responsibility to keep up with repairs and maintenance.

Some of the items that need attention are things we just don't see. But new folks joining us will definitely notice. A well-maintained facility says a lot about our respect and care of our church home.

Obviously, this all takes money and we've raised about 25% of what we need from a few generous people. I invite you to pray about contributing. Pray first, and go with how you are led to participate. No one is going to twist your arm, whether you give a lot of money or nothing at all. Everyone is served and loved equally by our fellowship. We all have a part to play—from the widow's mite to the rich person's plenty. Your presence and prayers are the most important contribution you can make.



**Together we can
make it happen!**

When we see the Kingdom of God in that light, we see rightly. In the meantime as stewards over this beautiful center of worship, always keep in mind: "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to people, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ" (**Colossians 3:23-24** NKJV).

Trustees Report

by Charlene Testut

By the time you read this, the shutters on the steeple should be fixed and replaced. When removing the shutters, we found that the small roofs surrounding the steeple were also in need of replacing. This is only one of the items that need repair or replacing on the church building.

Here is the list of projects that are on this list, starting first with those things that need to be done by winter.

- Steeple Shutters – These were taken down and repaired. The roofs around the steeple sections were repaired.
- Sign – Replacing the sign with a digital sign. This will allow posting information about upcoming events in a timelier manner. We'll be able to program the new sign from inside the building, eliminating the need to stand outside – especially in the winter – to change the information
- Fellowship Windows – New windows will be more energy saving. The Fellowship Hall is being used more and more for church and community activities. New windows will help with heating this space.
- Sanctuary Front Doors – Repair or possibly replace the doors. The current doors have a crack in the panel and are difficult to open.

The following things can be accomplished in colder weather:

- Kitchen and Fellowship Hall Flooring - The kitchen, especially, is missing some tiles and others are chipped. The Fellowship Hall is beginning to show wear at as well.
- Smaller projects that we discovered – such as the roofs on the steeple.

Right now we estimate the cost of these repairs at about \$40,000. As Pastor Ed has said, what is needed is prayer – prayers for wisdom as we accomplish these repairs. Ask God what you can do to help. Pray, pray, pray

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

Danby Community Church
Administrative Council Meeting
July 8, 2024

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

INVOCATION. Pastor Ed opened with prayer at 6:57pm.

CLERK’S MINUTES. Motion to approve June’s meeting minutes (Katy), second (Gloria), carried.

FINANCIAL SEC’Y REPORT: Motion to approve May income report (Gloria), second (Katy), carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Paula presented the report. Motion to accept Treasurer’s report (Dave), second (Gloria), carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Internal Audit. Reminder: please remember to use the church’s tax-exempt form when shopping for the church. The audit is on pause for the summer.
- Pastor Ed sent a copy of the church newsletter which had the updated list of people who have served the church as pastor to the family of Pastor Koontz.
- Community Garden. The posts and gate are up and in concrete. Since it’s now July, we may want to buy mature plants if we want to have produce this summer.

NEW BUSINESS:

- There will be no Council meeting in August. Otherwise, no new business except what is reported below.

REPORTS.

Hospitality.

- We had a reception following the service for Charlotte Mayo.
- We will have a reception for Nancy Weitzel this Saturday; the service is 1-2pm at the church.
- The monthly coffee & donut is on pause for the summer.
- Wings & Wheels will be on July 20th. We’ve been advised to buy 50lbs of wings!
- The first of three ‘Sundaes on Wednesdays’ is later this month.

Spiritual Development. The church is in the season of Ordinary Time – the longest of the liturgical year. It is centered on Jesus’s parables of His coming Kingdom. The liturgical color is green signifying new growth.

Council Minutes 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 and your question (and answer) may appear in the next Danby Church News

Current Small Groups:

- Sunday morning group 8:45-9:45am. This is on hiatus until the fall.
- Tuesday night group. 7:00pm. Pastor Ed is leading a discussion of John Kimball's "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: The group is studying the book, 'A Layman Looks at the LORD's Prayer' by W. Phillip Keller. Please see Suzanne with questions.

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

Nursery and Youth Church:

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

Youth Church is available for ages 6-10 (grades 1-5). If there are students, learning will be centered on 'the Beatitudes'.

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 pm. The time is subject to change to make it a more convenient time for people to drop in.
- The latest monthly prayer calendar organized by Sheila, is in effect.

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

Food Pantry.

- Last month 89 families were served. Turkey orders are beginning to be submitted already for Thanksgiving.

Trustees. A list of proposed renovations was laid out as follows:

- Cupola. The landing below the cupola slats has rotted. The cost for this project, the steeple project, is \$15,000.
- A new electronic road sign will cost \$25,000 (by a company called Stewarts); an alternative was \$44k with a third company not responding.
- New replacement windows for the Fellowship Hall will cost \$6,000.
- New flooring for the Fellowship Hall and kitchen will cost at least \$10,000. The current tiles which contain asbestos will be left in place (entombed) coated with a seal, then layered over with new flooring.
- Repairs to the outside doors to the sanctuary will cost \$1,000.
- Miscellaneous electrical and plumbing will cost \$3,000.

The total for these projects comes to \$60,000. A current proposal is to sell 220 of the church's 300 shares of Exxon-Mobil stock which would raise \$24,000. Combined with money already raised, it's possible the congregation may need to raise \$20-\$30,000. The Trustees will discuss the projects and report back to the Council with their recommended path forward. Charlene made a motion that once the Trustees are notified, they will come to the Council with pricing and details.

Missions.

- We will begin to do mission-specific noisy offerings. This month's offering is going to Samaritan's Purse. Stay tuned for official word on next month's recipient. If you would like your contribution to be noted, please label the envelope with your contribution or something similar so Dave can record it.

SPOC.

- Did not meet, but no issues have been reported.

SAP: Did not meet this month.

Motion to adjourn (Gloria) – no 'second' needed by Robert's Rules of Order and the meeting ended at 8:06 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,  
David McDermitt, Administrative council clerk



Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10 am  
Sunday Youth Church @ 10:30am  
Sunday Adult Education Class Summer Break- return fall  
Tuesdays "Low Hanging Fruit" Study @ 7pm  
Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm  
Thursdays, Pastor's Bible Study @ 7pm  
Women's Bible Study Fridays @ 1pm

**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.**



## Spiritual Development Update *from Sheila Enstine*

### **Important Dates for August 2024:**

We are in the season of Ordinary Time (from the Latin “ordinal” meaning counted), which extends from the day after Pentecost through the Saturday before Advent. Traditionally, the Church emphasizes Jesus’ teachings on the Kingdom of God during this season.

### **Small Groups:**

**The Sunday morning group** is on break from June through August. We expect to reconvene in September.

**The Tuesday evening book study** is postponed until September.

**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 meeting monthly during the summer at individuals’ homes. Dates and locations will be announced at church. The group is studying the book “A Layman Looks at the Lord’s Prayer” by W. Phillip Keller.

**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:**

- **Prayer Chain:** Contact Katy Prince at [katyprince96@gmail.com](mailto:katyprince96@gmail.com).
- **Church Prayer Calendar:** The participation sheet for the monthly prayer calendar will be circulated on the first and second Sundays of each month.
- **An important note regarding in-person prayer:** All of the revivals in the history of the Christian Church came after communal (physically present, in-person) prayer, when believers dedicated themselves to gathering together to agree in intercession for the world around them. Communal prayer is essential if we want to see an outpouring of righteousness, justice, and peace in our culture and the salvation of souls. We are reconsidering the time and day for in-person prayer. Please contact Sheila or Ed if you have thoughts about the time and day of the week when this might be most effective.

### **Congregational Care:**

Thank you to Paula Nelson and Doug Nash for faithfully arranging for flower deliveries and many thanks to those who have prayed for, visited, and delivered meals to recuperating members of our church family.

If you have other ideas for studies, prayer or congregational care, please contact Sheila Enstine.



**Our prayers and condolences are with the family of Ray Mayo. Ray went to be with the Lord after experiencing a car accident. We lost Ray’s beloved wife Charlotte in June. Ray’s funeral and reception is Saturday August 10. Details will be announced soon.**



Danby Community Church  
 1859 Danby Road  
 Ithaca, NY 14850

*www.danbychurch.org*

**Welcome Home!!**

**What's Happening this Summer?**

Danby Community Church  
 invites you to  
**Sundaes on Wednesdays**



**Wednesdays: July 24, August 7 & 14**

6:30 pm **FREE** Ice Cream Sundaes

**FREE Music @ 7pm**

**July 24 - Ithaca Concert Band**  
**August 7 - The Ageless Jazz Band\***

\*Made possible with funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and Tompkins County, administered by the Community Arts Partnership.

**August 14 - Dee Specker**

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