



Danby Church News

“Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God”

February 2020





From Our Pastor!

Another Annual Meeting is in the books. This traditional meeting is an important gathering of the church membership, but over the years I've noticed a general decline in interest. It is good to know what is going on with budgets, programs, missions, and ministry and I encourage everyone to attend and pay attention, even if meetings aren't your thing.

As far as annual reporting is concerned, I look forward to seeing what we've accomplished for the Lord. How we spent our money rather than how much we have in the bank is important to me. Money and blessings flow towards ministry in streams of abundance if we follow the Lord's will.

My personal measure of success is how the actions of our Church affect the lives of individuals. How many people have accepted Christ because of our witness? How many disciples are growing in grace and understanding (Matthew 28: 19-20)? Are we showing the community and the world Christ? Do we fulfill the mandate of Matthew 25:31-46 as sheep not goats? Can we lay claim to heeding Micah 6:6-8? I am really thrilled by what we've accomplished last year and excited about what lies ahead in 2020.

This is only my suspicion, but I sense that when examining annual reports people look for signs of vitality and life. A spend plan can indicate we are financially sound and good stewards, but it is secondary to ministry and what we accomplish together. Money pales in importance compared to hope and salvation.

A church with money in the bank with no ministry or outreach is a decorated tomb. A church with a wealth of God inspired ministry is a light to the community and world. Let's keep Danby Community Church a beautiful beacon of Christ's love.

God Bless,

Pastor Ed



What's in this Issue?

From Our Pastor.....	2
A Meeting Minute.....	3
Area Coordinator Reports.....	4
Pester the Pastor.....	5
Better Health.....	7
100 Year Prayer Vigil.....	9
At the Movies.....	10
Calendar.....	11

Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2020

Pastor:	Ed Enstine eenstine@aol.com 607.592.8276
Administrative Aide	Lynn Kingston-Harris office@danbychurch.org 607.272.1687
Administrative Council	
Chair:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.com
Secretary:	Margie VanDeMark margievan@live.com
Treasurer:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.com
Financial Secretary	Judy Cuyle gnatcat87@yahoo.com
Trustees Chair:	Charlene Testut ctestut55@yahoo.com
Area Coordinators	
Hospitality:	Charlene Testut
Spiritual Development:	Sheila Enstine ssenstine@gmail.com
Missions:	Judy & Dale Horton therose8641@yahoo.com
Staff, Pastor Oversight Committee:	
Chair:	Judy Cuyle
Praise Team Leader:	Pup Martinez martinez789@yahoo.com
Webmaster:	Janet Gray jsg4@cornell.edu
Newsletter Editor:	Janet Gray
Facebook:	Janet Gray

**Our Cover picture:
Gloria & Sanford "Butch" Miller**

A Meeting Minute
News from your church leadership meetings

Administrative Council Meeting
January 13, 2020

Present: Pastor Ed Enstine, Sheila Enstine, Margie VanDeMark, Judy Cuyle, Gloria Miller, Charlene Testut, and Paula Nelson. Pastor Ed opened with prayer at 7:00 pm.

CLERK'S MINUTES: Motion by Gloria, second by Judy, to accept the minutes for December. Carried.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: Margie made the motion, second by Gloria, to approve, carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Gloria, second by Judy, to approve the report, carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Margie reviewed all old business in the minutes from 2019. All issues are resolved or in process except for mandated employee training.

NEW BUSINESS: None

REPORTS:

SPOC: No meeting.

SAP: Pastor Ed is attending a training for church interventionists from Feb. 3-5 in Florida. There will be another Natural Church Development (NCD) survey out the first week in March. Pastor Ed is giving thought to card ministries.

Gloria made the motion to adjourn at 7:46 pm, seconded by Margie. Pastor Ed closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Margie VanDeMark/ Church Clerk

Trustee Meeting
January 5, 2020

PROJECTS:

The NYS Inspection of the boiler originally scheduled January 7 is to be rescheduled.

Fellowship Doors: Heritage has looked at and will give us an estimate.

Sanctuary thermostat: We are checking into a way to better control the thermostat in the Sanctuary.

Snow Plowing: Dick Hautala will do snow plowing

New Tables: 10 new rectangular tables have been received.

Trustee Report continued on page 4

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

Outdoor Sign: We are checking into Cayuga Signs for an estimate.

BUILDING USE:

The Trustees have recommended that the Kingdon Business Apostolic Church may use our church for a period of time, since the building they used had been sold.

Tai Chi

Food Pantry

Senior Citizens

Senior Strength Training

AA

Danby Youth Program will use our facility for a cooking program, except on Food Pantry Day.

Cheerleaders will no longer be using our facility.

Chicken & Biscuit dinners will resume, starting Friday, January 10.

The Annual Meeting will be in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, January 19 starting at 12:30 p.m.

Area Coordinator Reports

Hospitality Update from Charlene Testut

We survived the busy Christmas Season and now we are on to continuing to carry out our Mission. January brought the first of the Chicken and Biscuit Dinners. We served between 150 -160 Dinners. A big thank you to all those that helped cook, serve, clean and welcomed the Community. The next dinner is February 14th.

Thank you, Lorena Miller and Michelle Dunning, for decorating the church for the Christmas Season. Each week there was something new added to the Sanctuary. Doug and Holly Nash added the beautiful flower arrangements for Christmas Eve.

We are always looking for activities to welcome the Community. If you have an idea, please see one of the Coordinators so that we can help you.

Missions Update from Judy & Dale Horton

There really isn't much to report for January. The Samaritan's Purse project went well and the Giving Tree was a great success.

The 15th Annual Women's Holiday retreat was held Decemeber 8th and held at our church. This is an interdenominational one day retreat and is a special outreach effort for all women in the surrounding area. Nearly 80 women attended and 2 women made decisions for Christ that day. Praise God ! A clothing request for St. Joesphs Indian School will be announced soon.

All of the other support that we give to various places will be reported as they happen.

Judy's Joke Corner

What do they call pastors in Germany?

German shepherds!

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

Sampson.....he brought the house down!

Area Coordinator Reports continued on page 6



Pester the Pastor



Question: Why is baptism important to Christians?

There are two sacraments commonly found in most Protestant churches, and in the Danby Community Church, Eucharist (Communion) and Baptism. This month we consider Baptism.

First, it is important to know the meaning of sacrament. Simply put from a dictionary definition: “A religious ceremony or ritual regarded as imparting divine grace, such as Baptism or the Eucharist.” In the sacrament rite we find contact between ourselves and God. As a sacrament, Baptism has always been considered an initiation while Communion is a memorial.

Baptism can be viewed from a number of different understandings, but for the sake of time and space we will consider the meaning of the sacrament, who should partake, and the mode.

The simplest explanation is that Baptism is an external expression of an internal and external truth. In this rite we are submerged into the death and resurrection of Christ by emersion. Other groups understand that our sins are washed away by the symbolic sprinkling or pouring holy water over our heads. Obedience to the rites of our church can be an act of initiation into membership and even regeneration. In some denominations the emersion is seen as the point where salvation is imparted. Which is correct? They all are, depending on who you’re talking too.

Who should be baptized? Now, this can get ugly! Wars have been fought, people have been imprisoned, and even executed over this question.

Most denominations do not allow or at least discourage multiple baptisms; once is sufficient. Some churches only baptize adults after examination of faith. Some encourage infant Baptism with later rituals of Confirmation when the child reaches an age of accountability. Some allow both, depending on the situation and needs of the people involved. Most all churches expect a profession of belief in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ and a desire to live a Christian life in obedience to scripture.

How you are baptized can be by full emersion or by pouring/sprinkling over the head of the recipient. The process can be as private or public as needed. Most denominations dictate that clergy officiate when possible, but any believer can baptize in cases of emergency.

Scripture does not give us a clear guide on how, when, or where to be baptized, but it is an important sacrament and should be done according to Jesus, see Matthew 3:13-15 and 28:19.

Perhaps over the last couple of thousand years, theologians and clergy have complicated what the Lord commanded as simple and straight forward. We are called to believe, repent, and be baptized.

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 @jsg4@cornell.edu and your question (and answer) may appear in the next Danby Church News

Spiritual Development Update from Sheila Enstine

Adult Small Groups: On January 19th, the Sunday morning adult study group began a 13-week study on the Books of Judges and Ruth. The group meets from 8:45-9:45 am. All adults are welcome. The Women's mid-week study group will begin a Lenten study on Friday, February 28th. They will meet on Fridays from 1pm to 3pm. The group is open to all women.

Youth Church: For February 2020, Youth Church will meet on February 9 and February 23. Group One is for children ages 6 through 10. This group uses either TeachSundaySchool.com curriculum or Rotation Model lesson plans. Group Two is for youth aged 11 through 13, and uses lesson plans published by David C. Cook.

Prayer Chain: Please contact Judy Cuyle at gnatcat87@yahoo.com or call 279-5089 if you would like to participate in this essential prayer ministry.

Prayer Vigils: During Lent, which begins on Wednesday, February 26th the Church will host a series of three prayer vigils. They are scheduled for Thursdays - March 5th, March 26th, and April 9th from 5pm to 8pm. Prayer vigils are a time for intentional and focused self-examination and intercession, and Lent is a fitting season for this spiritual discipline.

Resources for Individual Growth: The Church offers several print resources. You will find them on display in the hallway to the sanctuary, on the table near the secretary's office, and the brochure rack in the fellowship hall. The publications include:

- The Upper Room daily devotional
- Pockets (monthly magazine for youth – please note, Pockets will end publication with the February 2020 issue.*)
- One-year Bible reading plan pamphlets
- Care Notes booklets
- Today's Christian Living monthly magazine

Congregational Care: We have several avenues available for serving your church family and the local community. This includes providing transportation for shopping or appointments, homemaking, and meal preparation for families and individuals going through difficulties.

LaWanda Cook and Lyn Aiosa visit shut-ins by phone, and Paula Nelson works with Doug Nash to deliver floral arrangements, in celebration as well as in sympathy. Please let Sheila know if you are aware of someone we could bless with a prayer shawl or if you'd like to deliver a shawl yourself.

*According to the Upper Room website, Pockets is discontinuing because of changes in the print publishing industry, especially the proliferation of content on the Internet and other digital resources.

Welcome HOME

a place where you belong

Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10 am

Sunday Adult Education Class on Joshua @ 8:45am

Youth Church @ 10:30am every other week

Tuesdays, Pastor's Bible Study @ 7pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays, Communion, Conversation and Prayer 5-6pm

Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm

Sweet Hour of Prayer, Saturday, 8am

Better Health

By Janet Gray

What if I told you I know the secret to better health? It's not a pill or a vitamin, not a special diet or exercise program and it is free! It will lower your heart rate and blood pressure and you will feel relaxed and have a better outlook on life. Science is beginning to verify advice given by spiritual leaders, those wise moms and dads, and the Bible, that nursing grudges against those that have done you wrong will hurt you worse than it hurts them. Forgiveness is a key to better health and now is the ideal time to save your heart by forgiving those who have trespassed against you.

In an article called "Forgive Their Trespasses" written in 2001 for WebMD, Psychologist Michael McCullough, PhD was quoted, "Interest in forgiveness is a reaction to a 'culture of victimization' that appears at times to encourage dwelling on grievances. Culturally, people have begun to wonder whether there is something more positive we can do."

McCullough goes further to say, "Research on forgiveness suggests it can lead to better health and holding a grudge could be bad for your heart and health."

In McCullough's study, 71 volunteers were asked to think about someone who had hurt them significantly and to reflect on that person in both forgiving and unforgiving ways. During both the forgiving and unforgiving reflection, a host of bodily reactions, including heart rate, blood pressure, perspiration, and facial patterns were monitored. During the unforgiving reflection, volunteers had a higher heart rate, higher blood pressure, increased perspiration, and increased frowning.

The study also found that people who are really good at forgiving are people who are able to generate tenderness, warmth, and sympathy for the offender.

Is it wrong for Christians to hate those who wrong them? Certainly, when we are wronged we have feelings of hatred toward the person who hurt us. How we handle those negative feelings, instead of wallowing in the guilt because of them, will help us move beyond and resolve them in realistic and constructive ways through forgiveness.

Let me illustrate with a story I once read. While driving to Bethel Baptist Church in White Plains, New York, John Greene, a black man was forced off the road by two white men who reeked of sweat and alcohol. The two men attacked him because of the color of his skin. They beat him to the pavement and caused life threatening injuries. Only through God's mercy did Mr. Greene pull through. All his life he tried to live as a godly man. His parents died when he was two and he went to live with his grandfather. While on his grandfather's knee he learned that he was a child of the king; he didn't know about skin color and hatred.

But that night he did feel hatred and contempt for his assailants as he lay in the hospital room. He wondered what he could tell his own two-year-old grandson. Would he listen and be influenced by the harsh events that happen that night or would he remember to listen to the love and compassion of his own grandfather's voice that opened the door to the kingdom? He knew he couldn't hate back. It was not God's way. He was taught to pray for his enemies and pray he did. A miraculous thing happened, the men pleaded guilty.

Mr. Greene asked the judge to sentence the men not to jail, but to community service. After the sentencing, one of men approached Mr. Greene and asked him for forgiveness. He answered, if I had not forgiven you, you would be in jail.

The Bible contains many stories and lessons concerning forgiveness. In Matthew 18: 23 –35, Jesus tells of the man who begs the king not to punish him by selling him and his family to pay his debt. The king takes pity and releases him and forgives his debt. But when the man confronted another man who owed him, instead of forgiving him or giving him time to pay, he has the man thrown into prison. When the king hears about it, he has the man he had forgiven thrown into the torture chamber until every last penny is paid.

In verse 35, Jesus says, "So shall my heavenly father do to you if you refuse to truly forgive your brothers, he gives this mes-

Better Health continued on page 8

sage several times.” In Matthew 6:14-15, “...your heavenly father will forgive you if you forgive those who sin against you, but if you refuse to forgive them he will not forgive you.” The Lord’s prayer asks God to forgive our trespasses as we forgive our trespassers. Holding back forgiveness is a terrible sin that can widen the gulf between you, God and his blessings.

This leads to our next question. Should you forgive a person even if he has not repented? Absolutely! Making our forgiveness dependent on the other person sets us up to be injured again. We will have given power over our lives to the injurer. Choose to forgive and change the situation.

In a Bible study I attended on Tuesdays at work, a friend of mine asked for prayers. At a recent family function she was confronted by her two sisters-in-law who belittled her, complained to her, and complained about her. This was evidently a common occurrence within the family. Feeling rejected and at her wits end, she didn’t know how to handle the situation. We talked about forgiveness and how she needed to forgive them for how they acted. She needed to ask God to wrap his arms around them and to keep forgiving and asking every time a hurtful thought came to mind.

Now she didn’t go to them and say I am going to forgive you, you can imagine how that would have turned out, but by the end of the week a miracle had happened. My friend’s perspective changed, she didn’t harbor those bad feelings about her sister-in-laws and you know what? One approached her and apologized and the other made her amends. This probably won’t be the last time she needs to forgive, but now she knows how.

Should we always forgive and forget? That can be a hard one. Suppose an unfaithful spouse asks forgiveness and you forgive and reconcile with them. To remember this past injury is not helpful and may destroy the relationship. In this case, it is wise to forgive and forget. But say you have a friend that drinks and you ride with him while he is intoxicated and he has an accident. You forgive him. On another day he is drinking again and wants you to get in the car with him. You refuse, not because you have not forgiven, but because you have learned from the experience and choose not to repeat it.

How often should we forgive? In Matthew 18:21-22, when Peter asks Jesus how many times to forgive a brother who sins against you.... Seven times? Jesus replies, no seven times seventy.

So, forgiveness is a journey; it may be sudden and profound or slow and revealing, replacing feelings of anger and resentment with love, empathy and compassion. It can be liberating, freeing us from the ill effects of vengefulness and opening ourselves to receiving God’s divine gift of mercy and grace. This journey begins with you making a choice to forgive, to pray, to look within yourself and to share.

How is it with you today? Is there someone that needs your forgiveness? Are you letting feelings of resentment and anger come between you and God?

In the words of Colossians 3:12-15, “Forgive each other just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.”

Forgiveness! It’s the healthy thing to do!



The 100-Year Prayer Vigil

By Sheila Enstine

If “the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective” (James 5:16b), what would be the effect of an entire congregation praying together in agreement? Judging from the Moravian 100-year prayer vigil, the effect would be explosive and world changing!

Yes, 100 years, day and night, rain or shine. It began in August of 1727, in Herrnhut, Germany. Herrnhut, which means “under the Lord’s protection,” was founded by Count Nikolaus Zinzendorf as a place of safety for religious refugees, especially the Moravian Church.

Prayer meetings were a part of the new community, but some refugees formed their own tight-knit groups, causing disunity in the village. With the leading of the Holy Spirit, Count Zinzendorf called a corporate mass and spoke of unity in love. After that meeting, the community saw several outpourings of the Holy Spirit—even among the children—and a commitment among several citizens to unceasing prayer. This commitment was kept through subsequent generations and lasted into the middle of the next century.

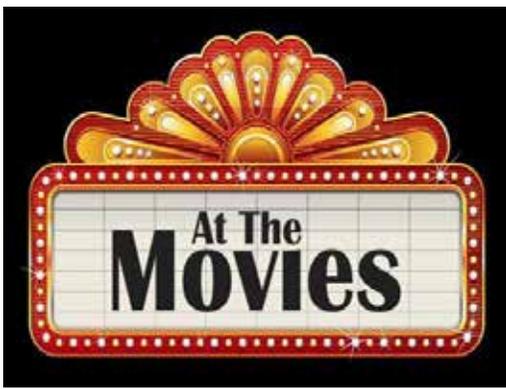
The 100-year prayer vigil provided the spiritual energy for what has been called “one of the biggest missionary movements of the second millennium.” The Moravian influence is still with us as the result of the conversion and sending out of people like John Wesley and William Carey.

Wesley was instrumental in America’s First Great Awakening, and prayer preceded the Second Great Awakening of the early through mid-1800s. Will America ever see another spiritual awakening? I believe it’s possible, but only if this generation of Christians is willing to act on II Chronicles 7:14: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

During Lent you will have the opportunity to participate in a series of three prayer vigils in our sanctuary. They are scheduled for Thursdays: March 5th; March 26th; and April 9th. Each vigil will take place from 5pm to 8pm.

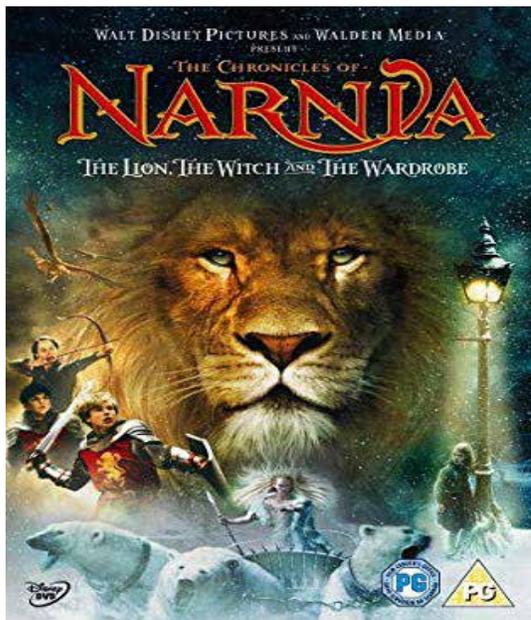
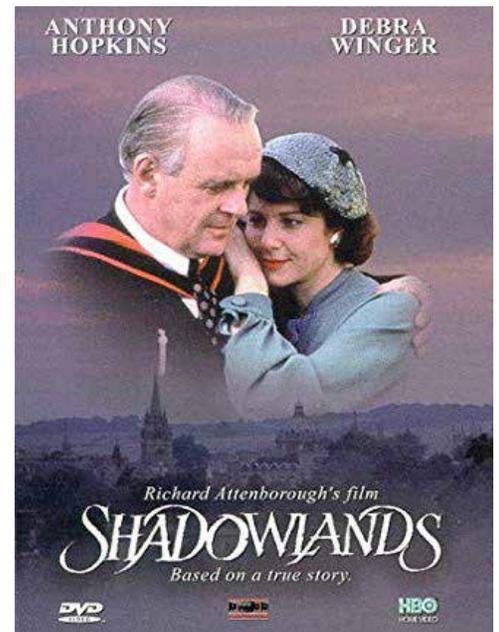
These aren’t 24/7 vigils, but it’s a start. As St. Francis of Assisi said, “Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”





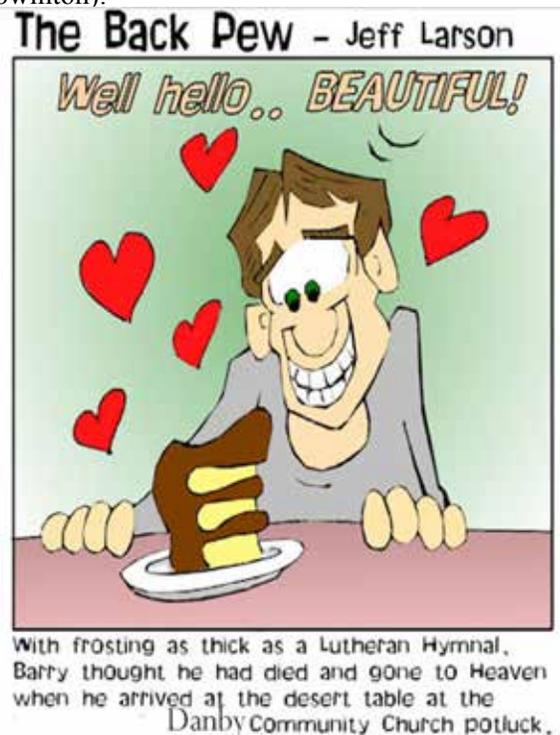
It's the month of love and the month we start the journey to Easter. Here are two movies I'm sure you will enjoy, they are oldies but goodies and can be found to rent on many of the streaming channels.

Shadowlands (1993) C. S. Lewis (Anthony Hopkins), the renowned author of "The Chronicles of Narnia" series, is a bachelor and Oxford University professor who spends his free time debating with fellow academics at a pub. Although he seems entirely uninterested in love, Lewis agrees to marry Joy Gresham (Debra Winger), an American writer who is looking to secure British citizenship. Their arrangement soon becomes a romance, and, when Joy is diagnosed with terminal cancer, their bond grows even stronger.



The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (2005). During the World War II bombings of London, four English siblings are sent to a country house where they will be safe. One day Lucy (Georgie Henley) finds a wardrobe that transports her to a magical world called Narnia. After coming back, she soon returns to Narnia with her brothers, Peter (William Moseley) and Edmund (Skandar Keynes), and her sister, Susan (Anna Popplewell). There they join the magical lion, Aslan (Liam Neeson), in the fight against the evil White Witch, Jadis (Tilda Swinton).

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.DANBY-CHURCH.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.



Danby Community Church

February 2020



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service 11:30am Brunch 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 11am Tai Chi 7pm SAP 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 7pm Pastor's Sermon Study 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Tai Chi 7pm AA Meeting 7pm Music Service 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 	<p>31</p>	<p>Feb 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Hour of Prayer
<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service 11:30am Coffee Hour 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 11am Tai Chi 7pm Trustees Mtg. 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 7pm Pastor's Sermon Study 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Tai Chi 7pm AA Meeting 7pm Music Service 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 12pm Sr. Citizens Mtg. 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Wm's Bible Study??? 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Hour of Prayer
<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service 11:30am Coffee Hour 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 11am Tai Chi 7pm Admin Council 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 7pm Pastor's Sermon Study 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Tai Chi 7pm AA Meeting 7pm Music Service 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Wm's Bible Study 5pm Chicken & Biscuit Dinner 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Hour of Prayer
<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service 11:30am Coffee Hour 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 11am Tai Chi 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 7pm Pastor's Sermon Study 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Tai Chi 7pm AA Meeting 7pm Music Service 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 3pm Food Pantry 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Wm's Bible Study 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Hour of Prayer
<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service 11:30am Brunch 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 11am Tai Chi 7pm SAP 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 7pm Pastor's Sermon Study 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Tai Chi 7pm AA Meeting 7pm Music Service 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Strength Grp. 5pm Pastors Hr @ Sanctuary 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Wm's Bible Study 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Hour of Prayer
<p>Ash Wednesday</p>						



Danby Community Church
1859 Danby Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

www.danbychurch.org

Welcome Home!!

Here's What's Happening in February!

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner, February 14, 5-7pm



Coming in March

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner, March 13, 5-7pm

Prayer Vigils, March 5 & 26, 5pm - 8pm

Red Cross Blood Drive, March 27, 1-6pm